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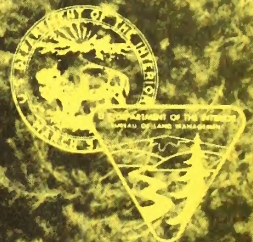
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# PROPOSED WILDERNESS STUDY AREAS



NEVADA BLM  
INTENSIVE  
WILDERNESS  
INVENTORY

APRIL, 1980



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# United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Nevada State Office  
Room 3008 Federal Building  
300 Booth Street  
Reno, Nevada 89509

April 1, 1980

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As promised at the end of our initial wilderness inventory last year, the Bureau of Land Management in Nevada is now releasing its recommendations to the public on which units of the remaining public land acreage under wilderness consideration should be designated wilderness study areas and which units do not possess wilderness characteristics and should be dropped from further wilderness consideration. A 90-day public comment period on these recommendations is now beginning, and will conclude on June 30, 1980.

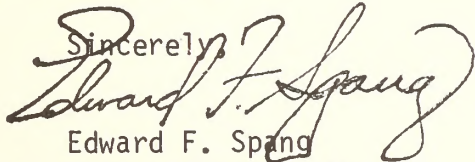
These recommendations are the result of another year's work carefully examining each unit and inventorying specific wilderness characteristics identified by Congress including size, naturalness, outstanding opportunities for solitude or primitive recreation, and supplemental values.

As Nevada BLM State Director, I am now asking you to review these recommendations and provide me with your comments. At this stage of our wilderness review process, I need any additional information that you may have concerning the presence or absence of wilderness characteristics in these particular units. Information on other resource values within the same area, such as mineral values, other recreational values, livestock grazing values, etc. will be useful during the next phase, called the study or planning phase. At that time, we will again ask your assistance in weighing the wilderness resource identified in wilderness study areas against other values that may exist in the same area.

Right now and during this comment period, I hope you will find the time to review these recommendations on wilderness study areas and provide us with your comments as early as possible. To assist you in this effort, open houses are planned in each district office and a series of statewide sessions are scheduled to give you access to all our information. You will be notified about these meetings very soon.

Finally, I would like to make a special request. You do have until June 30 to supply us with your comments, but because of the Bureau's emphasis on completing the inventory as quickly as possible and my desire to utilize your comments as completely as possible, I ask that you submit your comments to us as soon as you can, hopefully well before the final deadline. That will ensure we are able to give your comments thorough review and consideration.

Your help thus far has been tremendous. I certainly appreciate your effort and request your continued assistance and involvement.

Sincerely,  
  
Edward F. Spang  
State Director, Nevada



*Save Energy and You Serve America!*

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

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## INTRODUCTION

This book contains summary information about the Bureau of Land Management's intensive wilderness inventory conducted in Nevada over the last year. This inventory is a requirement of the 1976 Federal Land Policy and Management Act. This book also contains the State Director's proposed decisions on which public land units should be designated wilderness study areas and which units should be dropped from further wilderness consideration. The BLM is now asking for your review of these findings and recommendations and your comments over the next 90 days ending June 30, 1980. Your comments will be used by the State Director in making his final decisions on wilderness study areas. We expect to issue those decisions by Sept. 30, 1980. Detailed reports of the intensive inventory conducted on each area are available for review in the district office that administers the land. Reports on all areas inventoried in the state are available for review in the Nevada State Office in Reno.

It is important to note that a positive decision on a unit as a wilderness study area means that the area is found to possess wilderness characteristics as identified by Congress in the 1964 Wilderness Act: namely, size, naturalness, outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation, and supplemental values such as geological, archaeological, historical, ecological, scenic, or other features. It is required that the area possess at least 5,000 acres or more of contiguous public land or be of a size to make practical its preservation and use in an unimpaired condition; be substantially natural or generally appear to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable; and have either outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation. Although supplemental values are noted in each section, they are simply there for information purposes. Congress said that a wilderness area "may" have supplemental values, so the presence or absence of supplemental values does not make or eliminate a unit as a wilderness study area.

If these criteria are met, the area becomes, according to Congressional direction, a wilderness study area or WSA. That does not mean it automatically becomes wilderness. It means that the Bureau is required to study the area further during its land use planning process. In the study or planning phase, we will weigh the value of the wilderness resource found in a wilderness study area against the value of other competing resources (resources whose development would conflict with the concept of wilderness preservation) that may exist in the same area. These other resources are identified during the initial planning effort and wilderness preservation becomes one other factor to be considered as a land use planning option. In some cases, wilderness may be compatible with other resources and in other cases it may conflict with the management of other resources. Once these factors are determined, the Bureau works with the public and within its existing framework of laws to determine the best use for each public land area. If the best use seems to be wilderness, then the Bureau will report the area to Congress as suitable for wilderness designation; if wilderness is found not to be the best use, and some other resource is found to be more critical, the Bureau will report the area to Congress as unsuitable for wilderness designation. Federal law requires that mineral evaluations and environmental reports also accompany these recommendations to Congress. The final choice is up to Congress; only Congress can declare an area part of the National Wilderness Preservation System.

Once an area is declared a wilderness study area by the BLM, it continues to be managed under special guidelines directed by Congress to preserve its wilderness values until a final determination is made. Information on those guidelines, called the Interim Management Policy, is available from any BLM office. Areas that do not possess wilderness characteristics and are dropped from further consideration, are immediately relieved of such special guidelines and normal management is resumed.

Many of you may remember that this is the second inventory the Bureau has conducted on public lands in Nevada for wilderness characteristics. The first was completed last year and was based on existing data. The final decisions, announced Sept. 30, 1979, split all 49 million acres of public lands in Nevada into two categories: areas that obviously did not possess wilderness characteristics and were dropped from further wilderness consideration, and areas where wilderness characteristics might possibly exist and should be inventoried more carefully during the intensive inventory phase. Some of you may notice changes in the size of some units between the initial and intensive inventory. This occurs only where new acreage information is obtained or as a result of resolution of a protest on the initial inventory decisions. Once our intensive inventory decisions are issued on Sept. 30, 1980, the inventory phase of the wilderness review will be completed, wilderness study areas identified, and the stage will be set for the land use planning trade-offs that must be made and the eventual recommendations on suitability and non-suitability that are required by Congress.

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STATEWIDE SUMMARY OF INTENSIVE  
INVENTORY RECOMMENDATIONS

<u>Total Public Land Acreage in Intensive Inventory</u>	<u>Acreage Recommended to be Dropped from Further Wilderness Consideration</u>	<u>Acreage Recommended as Wilderness Study Areas</u>
14,379,969 acres (405 units) (See notes below)	11,416,471 acres (344 units)	2,963,498 acres (61 units)

Special Notes:

- 1) The balance of public lands in Nevada has either been dropped as a result of the initial inventory conducted last year or have already been intensively inventoried because of a special public land project demanding early attention. A summary of these areas is contained in the recap chart later in this book.
- 2) Non-federal land may be present within or along the boundaries of the inventory unit but was not included in the acreage totals and was not subjected to an inventory.
- 3) Inventory units NV-010-102,103,164, and 179 are interstate units whose boundaries extend into Idaho. The initial inventory decision issued by the Idaho State Director to intensively inventory the Idaho portion of these units was appealed to the Interior Board of Land Appeals. Should the decision be amended as a result of these appeals, a reassessment of the inventory results on the Nevada portion of these units may be necessary and could affect these totals.



DISTRICT/UNIT LISTING  
OF INTENSIVE INVENTORY  
ACREAGE RECOMMENDATIONS\*

UNIT NUMBER	UNIT NAME	TOTAL PUBLIC ACRES	ACRES RECOMMENDED FOR RELEASE FROM FURTHER WILDERNESS CONSIDERATION	ACRES RECOMMENDED FOR WSA
<u>Elko District</u>				
NV-010-002	Maverick Springs	84,840	84,840	0
NV-010-002-A	Maverick Springs	6,360	6,360	0
NV-010-002-B	Maverick Springs	5,760	5,760	0
NV-010-002-C	Maverick Springs	7,040	7,040	0
NV-010-002-D	Maverick Springs	7,700	7,700	0
NV-010-002-E	Maverick Springs	5,800	5,800	0
NV-010-002-F	Maverick Springs	31,360	31,360	0
NV-010-002-G	Maverick Springs	10,900	10,900	0
NV-010-002-J	Maverick Springs	7,700	7,700	0
NV-010-004	High Bald Peaks	31,560	31,560	0
NV-010-004B	High Bald Peaks	16,000	16,000	0
NV-010-016	Spruce Mountain	35,960	35,960	0
NV-010-016B	Spruce Mountain	8,150	8,150	0
NV-010-017	Spruce Ridge	46,600	46,600	0
NV-010-017C	Spruce Ridge	6,500	6,500	0
NV-010-022	Hogan	15,460	15,460	0
NV-010-023	Collar & Elbow	10,000	10,000	0
NV-010-023A	Collar & Elbow	8,300	8,300	0
NV-010-025	Leppy Peak	10,840	10,840	0
NV-010-027	Bluebell	66,130	2,980	63,150
NV-010-032	Morgan Basin	12,160	12,160	0
NV-010-033	Goshute Peak	101,340	12,900	88,440
NV-010-035	South Pequop	46,660	46,660	0
NV-010-035-B	South Pequop	6,100	6,100	0
NV-010-036	Boone Springs	8,320	8,320	0
NV-010-037	Brush Creek	13,320	13,320	0
NV-010-044	Antelope	33,020	33,020	0
NV-010-045	Currie Hills	27,640	27,640	0
NV-010-045-A	Currie Hills	7,760	7,760	0
NV-010-045-B	Currie Hills	5,200	5,200	0
NV-010-047	Kingsley	21,800	21,800	0
NV-010-047-D	Kingsley	8,160	8,160	0
NV-010-049	Sugarloaf	17,600	17,600	0
NV-010-050	Ferguson Mountain	6,960	6,960	0
NV-010-052	Lead Mine Hills	11,520	11,520	0
NV-010-053	Dead Cedar Wash	13,340	13,340	0
NV-010-054/				
UT-020-044	Ferber Wash	10,240	10,240	0
NV-010-058	Dead Horse	10,800	10,800	0
NV-010-060	White Sage Flat	19,540	19,540	0
NV-010-061/				
UT-020-050	Ferber Flat	10,240	10,240	0
NV-010-062/				
UT-020-046	Utah Peak	7,040	7,040	0

\*Narratives explaining each of these recommendations are presented later in this book.

UNIT NUMBER	UNIT NAME	TOTAL PUBLIC ACRES	ACRES RECOMMENDED FOR RELEASE FROM FURTHER WILDERNESS CONSIDERATION	ACRES RECOMMENDED FOR WSA
NV-010-070	Cortez	33,260	33,260	0
NV-010-074	Florio	12,100	12,100	0
NV-010-081	Smith Creek Mountains	20,850	20,850	0
NV-010-085	Diamond Hills	56,320	56,320	0
NV-010-102/ ID-12-56A	Little Owyhee	57,589	57,589	0
NV-010-102-A NV-010-103/ ID-16-53	Little Owyhee	5,800	5,800	0
NV-010-103-A/ ID-16-53	Devil's Corral	12,060	12,060	0
NV-010-104	Devil's Corral	55,740	5,200	50,540
NV-010-105	Hat Peak	49,800	49,800	0
NV-010-106	Forklift	17,280	17,280	0
NV-010-106-A	Owyhee Canyon	17,520	350	17,170
NV-010-106-B	Owyhee Canyon	7,360	7,360	0
NV-010-107	Owyhee Canyon	43,520	43,520	0
NV-010-108	Airstrip #1	42,240	42,240	0
NV-010-109	Star Valley Cabin	32,000	32,000	0
NV-010-109-A	Silver Lake	41,470	41,470	0
NV-010-110	Silver Lake	43,650	43,650	0
NV-010-111	Milligan Creek	121,360	121,360	0
NV-010-112	Winter Creek	59,780	59,780	0
NV-010-113	Bullhead	55,150	55,150	0
NV-010-114	Burner Hill	16,770	16,770	0
NV-010-115	Cornucopia	28,760	28,760	0
NV-010-116	Big Cottonwood Canyon	56,140	56,140	0
NV-010-129	Sulfer	15,000	15,000	0
NV-010-130	Six Mile Hill	42,680	42,680	0
NV-010-131	Rock Creek	37,080	37,080	0
NV-010-132	Snowstorm	12,130	12,130	0
NV-010-133	Little Humboldt River	96,320	56,220	40,100
NV-010-134	Three Mile Creek	28,440	28,440	0
NV-010-135	Chino Creek	9,680	9,680	0
NV-010-143	Bull Run	8,700	8,700	0
NV-010-147	Adobe	11,230	11,230	0
NV-010-148	Double Mountain	36,740	36,740	0
NV-010-149	Beaver Creek	22,240	22,240	0
NV-010-150	Lookout Mountain	44,960	44,960	0
NV-010-151	Table Mountain	47,300	47,300	0
NV-010-152	Rough Hills	6,300	6,300	0
NV-010-153	Charleston Reservoir	5,120	5,120	0
NV-010-160/ UT-020-009,011, 012	Mahala Creek	10,240	10,240	0
NV-010-160-B	Wagon Box Pass	21,300	21,300	0
NV-010-161	Wagon Box Pass	6,000	6,000	0
NV-010-162	Bald Mountain	16,620	16,620	0
NV-010-162	Tee Pee Rock #2	11,000	11,000	0

UNIT NUMBER	UNIT NAME	TOTAL PUBLIC ACRES	ACRES RECOMMENDED FOR RELEASE FROM FURTHER WILDERNESS CONSIDERATION	ACRES RECOMMENDED FOR WSA
NV-010-164/ ID-202-1/ UT-020-001	Little Goose Creek #1	11,350	11,350	0
NV-010-167	Little Goose Creek #4	5,300	5,300	0
NV-010-167-B	Little Goose Creek #4	6,100	6,100	0
NV-010-170	Bedke Well	26,880	26,880	0
NV-010-171	Delano	7,400	7,400	0
NV-010-171-A	Delano	10,450	10,450	0
NV-010-171-B	Delano	10,540	10,540	0
NV-010-174	Ninemile	21,120	21,120	0
NV-010-177	Tijuana John	12,840	12,840	0
NV-010-177-B	Tijuana John	12,990	12,990	0
NV-010-177-F	Tijuana John	6,560	6,560	0
NV-010-177-J	Tijuana John	6,320	6,320	0
NV-010-177-L	Tijuana John	14,400	14,400	0
NV-010-178	Granite	8,300	8,300	0
NV-010-178-A	Granite	15,420	15,420	0
NV-010-178-C	Granite	9,900	9,900	0
NV-010-178-F	Granite	7,900	7,900	0
NV-010-179/ ID-107-26/ ID-17-26	Cottonwood-Salmon Falls	17,767	17,767	0
NV-010-181	Ellen and Dee	6,010	6,010	0
NV-010-181-C	Ellen and Dee	6,000	6,000	0
NV-010-181-E	Ellen and Dee	5,340	5,340	0
NV-010-183	Fort Yoho	12,350	12,350	0
NV-010-184	Bad Lands	72,480	63,480	9,000
NV-010-185	Canyon Creek	35,760	35,760	0
NV-010-187	Cottonwood	15,490	15,490	0
NV-010-188	Beaver Ponds	17,320	17,320	0
NV-010-193	Anderson Creek	8,920	8,920	0
NV-010-197	Hank's Creek	37,640	37,640	0
NV-010-198	Coyote	9,580	9,580	0
NV-010-199	Stag Mountain	40,240	40,240	0

Winnemucca District

NV-020-001/ CA-020-919	Tenmile Spring	11,470	11,470	0
NV-020-004/ CA-020-813-A&B	Hog Ranch Mountain	9,980	9,980	0
NV-020-006/ CA-020-914-A	Warm Springs Canyon	65,369	65,369	0
NV-020-006-A/ CA-020-914	East Fork High Rock Canyon	53,920	0	53,920
NV-020-007	High Rock Lake	73,696	73,696	0
NV-020-008/ CA-020-913	Little High Rock Canyon	53,573	1,430	52,143
NV-020-009/ CA-020-823	Leadville	27,023	27,023	0
NV-020-010/ CA-020-816/				

UNIT NUMBER	UNIT NAME	TOTAL PUBLIC ACRES	ACRES RECOMMENDED FOR RELEASE FROM FURTHER WILDERNESS CONSIDERATION	ACRES RECOMMENDED FOR WSA
CA-020-821/ CA-020-820	Crutcher	52,745	52,745	0
NV-020-012/ CA-020-621, 618	Poodle Mountain	137,160	9,331	127,829
NV-020-014	Fox Mountain Range	81,424	10,481	70,943
NV-020-018	Division Peak	27,927	27,927	0
NV-020-019	Calico Mountains	67,931	2,070	65,861
NV-020-021/ CA-020-822-A&B/				0
CA-020-823	No Name	5,230	5,230	0
NV-020-200	Selenite Mountain	34,731	0	34,731
NV-020-201	Mt. Limbo	24,512	386	24,126
NV-020-204	Nightingales	56,549	56,549	0
NV-020-209	Razorback	67,467	67,467	0
NV-020-212	Lava Beds	69,605	69,605	0
NV-020-216	South Shawave Mtns	20,541	20,541	0
NV-020-217	Shawave Mountains	65,757	65,757	0
NV-020-222	Blue Wing Mountains	43,711	43,711	0
NV-020-235	North Lava Bed	87,747	87,747	0
NV-020-406	Tobin Range	86,872	86,872	0
NV-020-408	Jersey Valley	55,710	55,710	0
NV-020-410	Table Mountain	64,518	64,518	0
NV-020-436	Granite Mountain	20,269	20,269	0
NV-020-600	Blue Lakes	31,969	14,469	17,500
NV-020-601	Alder Creek	30,467	30,467	0
NV-020-602	Mahogany Mountains	26,115	26,115	0
NV-020-603	South Jackson Mtns	69,314	7,606	61,708
NV-020-604	Trident Peak	69,718	69,718	0
NV-020-606	North Jackson Mtns	26,423	643	25,780
NV-020-609/ OR-2-80	Maggie Creek	35,584	35,584	0
NV-020-610	Sentinel Peak	28,060	28,060	0
NV-020-612	Bilk Creek	21,072	21,072	0
NV-020-615	Wood Canyon	7,936	7,936	0
NV-020-617	Middle Spring	11,460	11,460	0
NV-020-618	Texas Springs	10,853	10,853	0
NV-020-620	Black Rock Desert	550,000	216,889	333,111
NV-020-621	Pahute Peak	55,472	55,472	0
NV-020-621-A	Pahute Peak	32,240	32,240	0
NV-020-622	North Black Rock Range	94,356	64,411	29,945
NV-020-637	McGee Mountain	25,406	0	25,406
NV-020-641	Paiute Meadows	16,349	16,349	0
NV-020-800	Long Ridge	12,430	12,430	0
NV-020-810/ OR-3-191	Carin "C"	11,660	11,660	0
NV-020-811/ OR-3-159/				
ID-106-70-E	Tent Creek	46,520	46,520	0
NV-020-827	No. Fork Little Humboldt	114,021	32,701	81,320

UNIT NUMBER	UNIT NAME	TOTAL PUBLIC ACRES	ACRES RECOMMENDED FOR RELEASE FROM FURTHER WILDERNESS CONSIDERATION	ACRES RECOMMENDED FOR WSA
NV-020-830	Sugar Loaf Hill	35,901	35,901	0
NV-020-835	Forks Ranch	21,998	21,998	0
NV-020-836	Little Owyhee	34,883	34,883	0
NV-020-838	Lone Willow	24,597	24,597	0
NV-020-839	Calico Ranch	34,366	34,366	0
NV-020-840	No Springs	11,174	11,174	0
NV-020-843	Raven Creek	21,436	21,436	0
NV-020-859/ OR-3-153/ OR-2-78	Disaster Peak	58,905	25,550	33,355
<u>Carson City District</u>				
NV-030-102	Clan Alpine Mtns	257,000	63,480	193,520
NV-030-104	Stillwater Range	113,310	3,177	110,133
NV-030-105	New Pass Range	61,500	61,500	0
NV-030-106	Shoshone Meadows	53,000	53,000	0
NV-030-108	Augusta Mountains	96,000	96,000	0
NV-030-110/ NV-060-288	Desatoya Mountains	76,800	28,650	48,150
NV-030-117	Diamond Canyon	65,000	65,000	0
NV-030-118	Desatoya South	27,850	27,850	0
NV-030-125	Desatoya North	54,750	54,750	0
NV-030-127	Job Peak	115,120	22,790	92,330
NV-030-136	Mount Annie	19,500	19,500	0
NV-030-323	Wassuk Range	62,000	62,000	0
NV-030-402	Gillis Range North	51,580	51,580	0
NV-030-407	Gabbs Valley Range	81,120	3,790	77,330
NV-030-409	Stewart Valley Hills	44,410	44,410	0
NV-030-425	Excelsior Mountains	66,850	66,850	0
NV-030-430	Teels Marsh	52,700	26,660	26,040
NV-030-432	Hontone Mine	2,570	1,000	1,570
NV-030-435	Truman Meadows	7,560	7,560	0
NV-030-436	Queen Valley North	7,640	7,640	0
NV-030-437	Queen Valley Ranch	610	610	0
NV-030-439	Orchard Spring	760	760	0
NV-030-517	Rawe Peak	49,480	49,480	0
NV-030-520	Lyon Peak	36,000	36,000	0
NV-030-525	East Pine Nuts	39,185	39,185	0
NV-030-525-A	Burbank Canyons	14,490	14,490	0
NV-030-531/ CA-010-105	Slinkard	5,440	0	5,440
NV-030-532	Carson-Iceberg	550	0	550
NV-030-603/ CA-020-403	Fort Sage Mountain	22,990	22,990	0
NV-030-605	Virginia Mountains	89,275	89,275	0
NV-030-610	Peterson Mountain	17,170	17,170	0

UNIT NUMBER	UNIT NAME	TOTAL PUBLIC ACRES	ACRES RECOMMENDED FOR RELEASE FROM FURTHER WILDERNESS CONSIDERATION	ACRES RECOMMENDED FOR WSA
<u>Ely District</u>				
NV-040-001	Northeast Corner	27,400	27,400	0
NV-040-004	Chin Creek	16,000	16,000	0
NV-040-007	Lehman Creek	17,300	17,300	0
NV-040-007-A	Lehman Creek	7,700	7,700	0
NV-040-008	Antelope Range	13,100	13,100	0
NV-040-009	Warm Springs	18,400	18,400	0
NV-040-015	Goshute Canyon	190,680	159,680	31,000
NV-040-016	Willow Spring	19,200	19,200	0
NV-040-019	Egan Basin	20,900	20,900	0
NV-040-021	Butte Mountains	47,860	47,860	0
NV-040-021-A	Butte Mountains	33,460	33,460	0
NV-040-034	Buck Mountain	41,180	41,180	0
NV-040-042	Maple Syrup Well	20,400	20,400	0
NV-040-043	Robber's Roost	48,400	48,400	0
NV-040-047	Frank's Well	20,500	20,500	0
NV-040-048	Toner Spring	20,900	20,900	0
NV-040-048-A	Heusser Mountain	32,940	32,940	0
NV-040-048-B	Toner Spring	6,700	6,700	0
NV-040-049	Telegraph Canyon	20,020	20,020	0
NV-040-050	Hot Springs	8,900	8,900	0
NV-040-065	Golden Springs	16,200	16,200	0
NV-040-070	Red Hills	12,800	12,800	0
NV-040-078	Grass Valley			
	Reservoir	11,100	11,100	0
NV-040-079	Kern Mountains	35,400	35,400	0
NV-040-079-A	Kern Mountains	7,300	7,300	0
NV-040-081	White Cloud Basin	25,100	25,100	0
NV-040-081-A	White Cloud Basin	17,800	17,800	0
NV-040-085	Yelland Ranch	9,900	9,900	0
NV-040-086	Granite Spring	119,500	100,100	19,400
NV-040-100	Colorado Gulch	38,200	38,200	0
NV-040-100-C	John's Wash	3,000	3,000	0
NV-040-107	Kious Spring	2,900	2,900	0
NV-040-109	Snake Creek Cave	2,400	2,400	0
NV-040-110	Big Wash	1,000	1,000	0
NV-040-123	Martin Spring	24,800	24,800	0
NV-040-129	Copper Flat	42,600	42,600	0
NV-040-130-A	Deadman Gulch	9,800	9,800	0
NV-040-130-AA	Deadman Gulch	8,200	8,200	0
NV-040-130-AB	Deadman Gulch	11,900	11,900	0
NV-040-153	West Pancakes	317,820	317,820	0
NV-040-154	Park Range	50,600	8,300	42,300
NV-040-155	South Pancakes	140,400	140,400	0
NV-040-159	Manzone Well	30,000	30,000	0
NV-040-159-A	Manzone Well	9,100	9,100	0
NV-040-159-B	Manzone Well	8,240	8,240	0
NV-040-166	Riordan's Well	190,700	136,300	54,400

UNIT NUMBER	UNIT NAME	TOTAL PUBLIC ACRES	ACRES RECOMMENDED FOR RELEASE FROM FURTHER WILDERNESS CONSIDERATION	ACRES RECOMMENDED FOR WSA
NV-040-184	Big Spring Wash	12,500	12,500	0
NV-040-185	Lexington Creek	4,900	4,900	0
NV-040-197	Table Mountain	57,260	23,460	33,800
NV-040-202/ UT-040-216	White Rock Range	39,800	20,700	19,100
NV-040-203	Burnt Canyon	7,860	7,860	0
NV-040-204	Camp Valley	16,000	16,000	0
NV-040-217	Black Cone	24,100	24,100	0
NV-040-226	Gap Mountain	9,800	9,800	0
NV-040-229	Scotfield	10,200	10,200	0
NV-040-231	Bruno Creek	4,500	4,500	0
NV-040-234-A	South Badger Gulch	440	440	0
NV-040-235	Barton Spring	13,460	13,460	0
NV-040-241	Griswold	23,900	23,900	0
NV-040-241-A	Griswold	31,880	31,880	0
NV-040-242	Worthington Mtns	58,300	58,300	0
NV-040-243	Garden Valley Reservoir	99,580	99,580	0
NV-040-246	Weepah Spring	191,700	122,300	69,400
NV-040-247	Fossil Peak	88,900	88,900	0
NV-040-249	North Pahrnatag Range	55,900	55,900	0
NV-040-249-A	North Pahrnatag Range	21,500	21,500	0
NV-040-250	Southpaw	34,900	34,900	0

### Las Vegas District

NV-050-0100	Quinn Canyon	12,810	12,810	0
NV-050-0107	North Pahroc	28,847	28,847	0
NV-050-0108	Nesbitt	20,931	20,931	0
NV-050-0109	Seep Springs	15,149	15,149	0
NV-050-0112	Timpahute Range	52,800	52,800	0
NV-050-0113	Pahroc Summit Pass	61,737	61,737	0
NV-050-0114	Pahroc Spring	15,950	15,950	0
NV-050-0116	Chief Mountain	12,673	12,673	0
NV-050-0127	Swirl Cake Rock	8,690	8,690	0
NV-050-0131	East Pahrnatag	152,458	136,258	16,200
NV-050-0132	South Pahrocs/Hiko	71,055	42,455	28,600
NV-050-0154	Medsger Pass	11,462	0	11,462
NV-050-0165	Lower Pahrnatag Lake	3,350	0	3,350
NV-050-0302	Cedar Mountain	10,577	10,577	0
NV-050-0304	Relay Station	23,379	23,379	0
NV-050-0305	Far North	11,905	11,905	0
NV-050-0306	Pilot Peak	59,274	59,274	0
NV-050-0308	Monte	7,637	7,637	0
NV-050-0311	Devils Gate	36,332	36,332	0
NV-050-0312	Rock Hill	41,392	41,392	0
NV-050-0317	Lone Mountain	38,239	38,239	0

UNIT NUMBER	UNIT NAME	TOTAL PUBLIC ACRES	ACRES RECOMMENDED FOR RELEASE FROM FURTHER WILDERNESS CONSIDERATION	ACRES RECOMMENDED FOR WSA
NV-050-0319	Montezuma Valley	12,047	12,047	0
NV-050-0320	Weepah Hills	29,153	29,153	0
NV-050-0323	Emigrant Peak	25,337	25,337	0
NV-050-0324	Volcanic Hills	25,444	25,444	0
NV-050-0325	Pinchot Creek	15,254	15,254	0
NV-050-0327	The Sump	30,693	30,693	0
NV-050-0328	Emigrant Pass	30,583	30,583	0
NV-050-0330/				
NV-050-0330-A	Monocline	20,150	20,150	0
NV-050-0331	The Choice	23,676	23,676	0
NV-050-0335	Misplaced	49,040	49,040	0
NV-050-0336	Clayton Ridge	106,593	106,593	0
NV-050-0337	Company Spring So.	25,206	25,206	0
NV-050-0337-A	Company Spring No.	10,880	10,880	0
NV-050-0338	Silver Peak Range No.	72,779	72,779	0
NV-050-0338-A	Silver Peak Range So.	54,845	54,845	0
NV-050-0339	Aiken	1,279	1,279	0
NV-050-0340	Red Mountain Triangle	33	33	0
NV-050-0341	Furnace Creek	1,050	1,050	0
NV-050-0342	Palmetto Mountains	30,165	30,165	0
NV-050-0344	Mount Jackson No.	33,720	33,720	0
NV-050-0344-A	Mount Jackson So.	6,184	6,184	0
NV-050-0345/				
NV-050-0345-A	Chispa Hills	30,599	30,599	0
NV-050-0349	Magruder Mountain	19,651	19,651	0
NV-050-0350	Pigeon Spring	6,977	2,227	4,750
NV-050-0351	Uncle Sam	24,223	24,223	0
NV-050-0352	Slate Ridge West	28,874	28,874	0
NV-050-0352-A	Slate Ridge East	8,813	8,813	0
NV-050-0353	Hell's Gate	19,596	19,596	0
NV-050-0354	Queer Mountain	88,729	31,379	57,350
NV-050-0355	Bonnie Claire Flat	81,776	40,526	41,250
NV-050-0358	Can You Believe	32,327	32,327	0
NV-050-0368	Porter Mine	6,689	600	6,089
NV-050-0369	Amargosa	12,526	73	12,453
NV-050-0370	Nothing Flats	12,055	2,545	9,510
NV-050-0372	Crater Flat	37,242	37,242	0
NV-050-0373	Black Marble	28,864	28,864	0
NV-050-0375	Big Dune	21,900	21,900	0
NV-050-0376	Dry Well	21,732	21,732	0
NV-050-0377	Jokersville	4,625	4,625	0
NV-050-0386	Claw	820	820	0
NV-050-0387	Old McNett Ranch	23,661	23,661	0
NV-050-03R-11-A	Fish Lake Valley	165	165	0
NV-050-03R-12	Pinto Hill	16,712	16,712	0
NV-050-03R-15-A	Lida Valley	852	852	0
NV-050-03R-22	Gem	2,193	40	2,153
NV-050-03R-23	Von Schmidt	2,786	2,786	0
NV-050-0401	Mount Stirling	203,000	132,000	71,000
NV-050-0406	Lost Cabin Spring	68,421	68,421	0



UNIT NUMBER	UNIT NAME	TOTAL PUBLIC ACRES	ACRES RECOMMENDED FOR RELEASE FROM FURTHER WILDERNESS CONSIDERATION		ACRES RECOMMENDED FOR WSA
NV-050-0410	Shoemaker Spring	82,917	82,917		0
NV-050-0414	Pine Creek	34,761	10,761		24,000
NV-050-0416	Wheeler	7,282	7,282		0
NV-050-0421	Clark Canyon	7,880	7,880		0
NV-050-0450	Striped Hills	20,698	20,698		0
NV-050-0451	Specter Range	34,340	34,340		0
NV-050-0457	Mount Montgomery	45,193	45,193		0
NV-050-0459	Ash Meadows	9,770	9,770		0
NV-050-0460	Resting Springs Range	21,058	17,208		3,850
NV-050-0461	Last Chance Range	27,079	27,079		0
NV-050-0462	High Peak	10,872	10,872		0
NV-050-0463	Grown	7,064	7,064		0
NV-050-04R-03-A					
B&C	Pahrump	10,958	10,958		0
NV-050-CDCA276	Dead Mountains	750	750		0

Battle Mountain District

NV-060-019	Kawich	39,000	11,440		27,560
NV-060-059	Rawhide Mountain	75,400	11,030		64,370
NV-060-069	Empire Canyon	17,620	17,620		0
NV-060-078	Stone Cabin	24,000	24,000		0
NV-060-079	Hot Creek	45,970	45,970		0
NV-060-086	Monarch	11,700	11,700		0
NV-060-089	Woods Canyon	25,900	25,900		0
NV-060-112	South Reveille	114,500	8,300		106,200
NV-060-113	Quinn Canyon	105,570	105,570		0
NV-060-120	East Kawich	18,100	18,100		0
NV-060-130	Castle Rock	22,300	22,300		0
NV-060-132	North Reveille	65,000	65,000		0
NV-060-136	Quinn Range	23,703	23,703		0
NV-060-142/162	Palisade Mesa	117,000	17,450		99,550
NV-060-158/199	Blue Eagle	72,900	14,100		58,800
NV-060-163	The Wall	43,300	5,300		38,000
NV-060-166	Grant Range	7,200	650		6,550
NV-060-174	Black Rock	25,500	25,500		0
NV-060-176	Big Round Valley	6,200	6,200		0
NV-060-183	North Pancake I	17,200	17,200		0
NV-060-184	North Pancake III	19,200	19,200		0
NV-060-188	Morgan	9,000	9,000		0
NV-060-190	Fandango	48,600	48,600		0
NV-060-191	Morey	29,700	9,580		20,120
NV-060-192	Slanted Buttes	23,900	23,900		0
NV-060-194	North Pancake II	26,400	26,400		0
NV-060-201/211	Sixmile	12,600	12,600		0
NV-060-212	Rhyolite Hills	34,300	34,300		0
NV-060-213	Red Ring Mountain	6,200	6,200		0
NV-060-219	Milton Ranch	9,300	9,300		0
NV-060-231/241	Antelope	148,300	43,600		104,700
NV-060-258	Buzanes	10,900	10,900		0
NV-060-278	Haypress	2,900	2,900		0
NV-060-279	White Rock	26,400	26,400		0

UNIT NUMBER	UNIT NAME	TOTAL PUBLIC ACRES	ACRES RECOMMENDED FOR RELEASE FROM FURTHER WILDERNESS CONSIDERATION	ACRES RECOMMENDED FOR WSA
NV-060-347	Diana's Punchbowl	14,700	14,700	0
NV-060-407	Bates Mountain	77,930	77,930	0
NV-060-415	Callaghan	79,300	79,300	0
NV-060-422	White Sage	16,400	16,400	0
NV-060-428	Simpson Park	113,400	113,400	0
NV-060-432	Willow Creek	35,300	35,300	0
NV-060-433	Manhattan Mountain	31,300	31,300	0
NV-060-442	Sage	10,900	10,900	0
NV-060-459	Rocky Hills	57,360	57,360	0
NV-060-461	South Fish Creek	104,500	104,500	0
NV-060-464	Elephant Head	44,200	44,200	0
NV-060-465	Carico Ranch	8,000	8,000	0
NV-060-467	Francis Cabin	5,700	5,700	0
NV-060-474	Red Rock	14,100	14,100	0
NV-060-478	Caetano Ranch	9,560	9,560	0
NV-060-482	North Fish Creek	52,400	52,400	0
NV-060-504	Diamond Mountains	73,470	73,470	0
NV-060-530	Rutabaga Creek	13,800	13,800	0
NV-060-531	Henderson	12,700	12,700	0
NV-060-541	Roberts	57,800	42,710	15,090
NV-060-554	North Diamond	43,800	43,800	0

District Totals:

Elko (010)	2,675,986	2,407,586	268,400
Winnemucca (020)	2,936,122	1,898,444	1,037,678
Carson City (030)	1,592,210	1,037,147	555,063
Ely (040)	2,586,080	2,316,680	269,400
Las Vegas (050)	2,427,188	2,135,171	292,017
Battle Mountain (060)	2,162,383	1,621,443	540,940

<u>State Total:</u>	14,379,969	11,416,471	2,963,498
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GUIDELINES ON PUBLIC PARTICIPATION  
DURING THE INTENSIVE WILDERNESS INVENTORY

What the BLM is doing:

The Bureau of Land Management is now initiating a 90-day public comment period on its recommendations resulting from the intensive inventory. This book and the accompanying state map are the beginnings of our efforts to inform you about our findings and recommendations in hopes that you will provide us your comments on the presence or absence of wilderness characteristics in areas that concern you.

Due to the large volume of units inventoried in Nevada, the summaries in this book are necessarily concise. More complete data on each unit is available for review in BLM state or district offices throughout Nevada. The statewide map provided with this book is also necessarily small-scale. The lower left hand corner of the map contains an index of large-scale maps ( $\frac{1}{2}$  inch to the mile) that are available from the State Office in Reno or the particular district office covered.

Each district office is scheduled to have at least one open house concerning its particular district findings during April. A schedule of meetings will be sent to you when dates and locations are decided. At these open houses, the complete unit files will be available along with the  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch mile maps for your review. The district management and wilderness staff will also be available to clarify any points. Later during the comment period, a series of statewide open houses will be held at key locations throughout Nevada. At these meetings, unit files and maps will be available from Nevada's six BLM districts. At all these BLM open houses, staff will be available to answer questions and comment forms will be available for you to take home to fill out or fill out at the meeting.

What you are requested to do:

As explained in the introduction to this book, the only information that can have an effect on the ultimate intensive inventory/wilderness study area decisions is data concerning the presence or absence of wilderness characteristics within a particular unit. The BLM is directed by Congress to conduct a wilderness inventory, so comments either pro or con wilderness cannot have an effect on our inventory decisions.

Although we certainly recognize that many other values probably exist in a potential wilderness study area, such as mineral values, grazing values, other recreational values, utility corridor potential, etc., at the inventory stage we cannot allow these other potential values to influence our fact-finding as to whether or not the wilderness characteristics specified by Congress exist in an area. Right now, we are only finding out if the wilderness resource also exists in these areas. If it does, then we will progress to the next phase, the planning phase, to weigh this resource against others in the same areas, identify compatibilities or conflicts, and with the public's help, determine the best uses for a given piece of public lands. During that planning phase, your information on other resource values within a wilderness study area will be most useful.

During the intensive inventory comment period, your information and opinions on whether wilderness characteristics exist in these areas will be most useful to us in making the final decisions on which public land areas become wilderness study areas and which are dropped from further consideration.

What we're looking for:

So that you can best participate in this process, it's important that you understand the wilderness characteristics Congress specified that the Bureau look for on the public lands. We also want you to understand the various factors that go into evaluating an area for solitude or primitive recreation and the other characteristics involved.

1. Size: "The Secretary shall review those roadless areas of 5,000 acres or more...." (The Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976)

To evaluate this characteristic, it is necessary to determine what constitutes a road. The guidance the Bureau has adopted comes from Congress itself during debate concerning the Act in 1976. According to Congress, "The word 'roadless' refers to the absence of roads which have been improved and maintained by mechanical means to insure relatively regular and continuous use. A way maintained solely by the passage of vehicles does not constitute a road."

The Bureau has interpreted portions of that definition further as follows:

---"Improved and maintained": Actions taken physically by man to keep the road open to vehicular traffic. "Improved" does not necessarily mean formal construction. "Maintained" does not necessarily mean annual maintenance.

---"Mechanical means": Use of hand or power machinery or tools.

---"Relatively regular and continuous use": Vehicular use which has occurred and will continue to occur on a relatively regular basis.

A unit, to be considered for wilderness study area status, must be at least 5,000 acres and roadless. However, many units described in this book are very large and are split into sections that may be larger or smaller than 5,000 acres. In most cases, the sections less than 5,000 acres are not considered for wilderness study area status unless they are contiguous to other public lands managed by another Federal agency that are being considered for wilderness designation and together the public land portions total more than 5,000 acres. As seen in the narrative sections, the smaller Bureau portion may or may not be recommended for wilderness study area status depending on other characteristics inventoried.

The existence of ways within a unit officially means that the area is considered roadless or that no documented roads were verified. However, those ways may or may not have an impact on naturalness, solitude, or primitive recreation opportunities.

2. Naturalness: "...generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable..." (Wilderness Act 1964)

The area must appear to be generally natural. An area may include some imprints of man provided they are substantially unnoticeable. Ways, water developments, fences, and the like may be permitted in a wilderness study area, if they are substantially unnoticeable and do not significantly detract from the overall naturalness of the area.

3. Solitude or a Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: "...has outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation..." (Wilderness Act 1964)

Two key words are important here: "or" and "outstanding." Either opportunities for solitude or opportunities for primitive recreation must be present for a unit to be considered as a wilderness study area; both need not be present. These opportunities must be outstanding if the area is to qualify as a wilderness study area. Many times these opportunities may exist within a unit but the critical factor is whether or not they can be considered outstanding.

Outstanding opportunities for solitude are evaluated in context of the physical setting of the inventory unit. Key factors which affect a person's opportunity to avoid the sights, sounds, and evidence of other people in the inventory unit involve:

---Vegetative screening: Does the area have diversity of grasses, trees, bushes? How thick is the growth and how does it screen individuals from one another?

---Topographic screening: Does the topographic variation help screen individuals?

---Configuration of the unit: Is the unit reasonably blocked or does it have an irregular configuration? Does the configuration enhance opportunities for solitude?

---Size in conjunction with topography and vegetation: For example, a flat, non-vegetated unit that is very large may have outstanding opportunities for solitude but a smaller unit may not.

---Vastness versus intimacy: Does the area, despite its vast area, have opportunities for seclusion?

Examples of primitive and unconfined types of recreation include hiking, backpacking, fishing, hunting, rockclimbing, horseback riding, cross country skiing, photography, bird or animal observation, and sightseeing. These opportunities are determined through evaluating such factors as topographic and vegetative features, considering the diversity of such opportunities, and the quality the area offers in pursuing such activities. Keep in mind that these opportunities include potential as well as present use.

4. Supplemental Values: "...may also contain ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical value."  
(Wilderness Act, 1964)

The presence or absence of these supplemental values will not have an effect on the decision of whether or not a unit should become a wilderness study area. These values are not essential for WSA status. However, Congress said these values may enhance a wilderness study area, so an inventory must be made. In addition, the wilderness inventory is an excellent opportunity for BLM personnel to identify these special features for further management consideration during our land use planning phase. For example, an area may have extremely valuable archaeological or historical values that should be considered when determining the various uses of a particular piece of land. Although the area might not qualify for wilderness study area status, the fact that these special resources exist will be taken into account in a future management plan so that they can be protected.

How you should submit your comments:

Because of widespread public interest in the Bureau's wilderness inventory, we are expecting a great many comments from the public. To help us better utilize your important input, we ask that you be sure to note your information on maps where possible so that location can accurately be determined. Maps on a ½ inch to a mile scale are available from the BLM on all areas involved in the inventory. This is important because in some cases we may have to send personnel back into the field to check out your comment and verify the data presented. We also ask that you use public comment forms that are available from every BLM office in submitting your comments. These forms are constructed so that we can easily and clearly understand your comment. They will also help handle the volume and record inputs rapidly for management consideration. A few copies of this form follow at the end of this section. Write to any Nevada BLM office for additional copies or feel free to copy your own if you have access to copying facilities. Submission of these comments forms and accompanying maps will be most useful. As a final note, these public comments will be weighted according to the valid data presented only. A large number of comments will not automatically lend more influence to the information presented. The State Director's decision will be based on factual input, not a tally score of for and against wilderness.

Special Note: In the letter presenting this document, State Director Ed Spang requested that comments be submitted to the BLM as early as possible during the 90-day comment period. Although you do have a full 90 days if you need them, submission of comments as early as possible will ensure more time for us to carefully examine and consider your comment. Our intensive inventory must be completed by Sept. 30, 1980 in order to be responsive to public desires. Having your input early will make reaching that deadline easier and enable us to use your comment more effectively.

How your comments will be utilized:

Comments should be mailed directly to the BLM's Nevada State Office, P.O. Box 12000, Reno, Nevada, 89520 prior to the end of the comment period on June 30, 1980. Upon receipt of your comment it will be read by the State Director and a postcard will be mailed to you verifying that your comment was received. Your information will be immediately copied and sent to the district affected for early evaluation and field checking if necessary. It will then be logged into our comment analysis system, analyzed for content, and summarized by unit. These unit summaries will be updated constantly to give management a reading

of what the public is saying. At the end of the comment period, these summaries will be finalized for management use. Each district will be required to respond officially to public comments received and to make a recommendation to the State Director on whether to maintain the original recommendation or change it based upon new public information. Using the district managers' recommendations and the actual public comments received, the State Director will make his final decisions by the end of September, 1980. All public comments received are available for public inspection at the Reno office as well as any analysis work completed when the request for review is made.



2) Type

3) Description





PUBLIC COMMENT FORM

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Representing any Group \_\_\_\_\_

BLM District \_\_\_\_\_

Unit Number \_\_\_\_\_

(Use one sheet for each unit)

Unit Name \_\_\_\_\_

For BLM Coding Use Only:

I \_\_\_\_\_ S \_\_\_\_\_

In \_\_\_\_\_ Out \_\_\_\_\_ NA/NI \_\_\_\_\_

A \_\_\_\_\_ D \_\_\_\_\_

For the purpose of our wilderness inventory, wilderness characteristics as identified and outlined by Congress are:

1) Roadlessness:

"The word 'roadless' refers to the absence of roads which have been improved and maintained by mechanical means to insure relatively regular and continuous use. A way maintained solely by the passage of vehicles does not constitute a road."

2) Size:

- a) 5,000 acres or more of public land.
- b) Less than 5,000 acres but are of unique character and are of sufficient size suitable for wilderness management.
- c) Are contiguous to other federally managed acreage determined to have wilderness values.

3) Naturalness:

"...generally appears to have been affected primarily by forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable."

4) Solitude or a Primitive and Unconfined

Type of Recreation:  
"...has outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation."

Do you think this area has wilderness characteristics? Yes  No

Why or why not? Using the back of this sheet, please be specific and address the presence or absence of the characteristics outlined above. If you need to point out a particular location, please do so on a map. BLM wilderness maps are available for all public land areas in the state. To make sure your map comment is able to be utilized, please mark your comment clearly with a heavy black pen; in writing nearby describe your comment (e.g. "maintained, regularly used road" or "well" etc.) and be sure to put your name and address on the map. Please do not use colored pens as many colors are not reproducible on Xerox or duplicating machines.

(PLEASE CONTINUE TO BACK OF SHEET)



PUBLIC COMMENT FORM

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Representing any Group \_\_\_\_\_

BLM District \_\_\_\_\_

Unit Number \_\_\_\_\_

(Use one sheet for each unit)

Unit Name \_\_\_\_\_

For BLM Coding Use Only:

I \_\_\_\_\_ S \_\_\_\_\_

In \_\_\_\_\_ Out \_\_\_\_\_ NA/NI \_\_\_\_\_

A \_\_\_\_\_ D \_\_\_\_\_

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SIZE:

ROADS:

NATURALNESS:

SOLITUDE OR A PRIMITIVE AND UNCONFINED TYPE OF RECREATION:

PUBLIC COMMENT FORM

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Representing any Group \_\_\_\_\_

BLM District \_\_\_\_\_

Unit Number \_\_\_\_\_

(Use one sheet for each unit)

Unit Name \_\_\_\_\_

For BLM Coding Use Only:	
I _____	S _____
In _____	Out _____ NA/NI _____
A _____	D _____

For the purpose of our wilderness inventory, wilderness characteristics as identified and outlined by Congress are:

- 1) Roadlessness:  
"The word 'roadless' refers to the absence of roads which have been improved and maintained by mechanical means to insure relatively regular and continuous use. A way maintained solely by the passage of vehicles does not constitute a road."
- 2) Size:
  - a) 5,000 acres or more of public land.
  - b) Less than 5,000 acres but are of unique character and are of sufficient size suitable for wilderness management.
  - c) Are contiguous to other federally managed acreage determined to have wilderness values.
- 3) Naturalness:  
"...generally appears to have been affected primarily by forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable."
- 4) Solitude or a Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation:  
"...has outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation."

Do you think this area has wilderness characteristics? Yes  No

Why or why not? Using the back of this sheet, please be specific and address the presence or absence of the characteristics outlined above. If you need to point out a particular location, please do so on a map. BLM wilderness maps are available for all public land areas in the state. To make sure your map comment is able to be utilized, please mark your comment clearly with a heavy black pen; in writing nearby describe your comment (e.g. "maintained, regularly used road" or "well" etc.) and be sure to put your name and address on the map. Please do not use colored pens as many colors are not reproducible on Xerox or duplicating machines.

(PLEASE CONTINUE TO BACK OF SHEET)

SIZE:

ROADS:

NATURALNESS:

SOLITUDE OR A PRIMITIVE AND UNCONFINED TYPE OF RECREATION:

## SOME ADDITIONAL WILDERNESS FACTS

### Legal Requirements:

The Bureau is directed by two Federal laws in its wilderness review program. One was passed by Congress in 1964 called the Wilderness Act. The other, passed in 1976, called the Federal Land Policy and Management Act, placed the Bureau of Land Management under the 1964 Act which originally applied only to the Forest Service, the National Park Service, and the Fish and Wildlife Service. Copies of these laws are available from the BLM. For your assistance, several pertinent passages are outlined below:

### The Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976:

*"Sec. 603.(a) Within fifteen years after the date of approval of this Act, the Secretary shall review those roadless areas of five thousand acres or more and roadless islands of the public lands, identified during the inventory required by Section 201(a) of this Act as having wilderness characteristics described in the Wilderness Act of September 3, 1964 . . . and shall from time to time report to the President his recommendation as to the suitability or nonsuitability of each such area or island for preservation as wilderness: Provided, That prior to any recommendations for the designation of an area as wilderness the Secretary shall cause mineral surveys to be conducted by the Geological Survey and the Bureau of Mines to determine the mineral values, if any, that may be present in such areas . . . ."*

### The Wilderness Act of 1964:

*"Sec. 2.*

*(c) A wilderness, in contrast with those areas where man and his 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 who does not remain. An area of wilderness is further defined to mean in this Act an area of undeveloped Federal land retaining its primeval character and influence, without permanent improvements or human habitation, which is protected and managed so as to preserve its natural conditions and which (1) generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature, with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable; (2) has outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation; (3) has at least five thousand acres of land or is of sufficient size as to make practicable its preservation and use in an unimpaired condition; and (4) may also contain ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical value."*

The Wilderness Review Process in Chart Form:

PHASE	PURPOSE	TIMEFRAME
1. Inventory	To review all public land for wilderness characteristics. (A flow chart to illustrate the inventory phase is attached to the back of this fact sheet. Procedures for accomplishing this phase are detailed in BLM's <i>Wilderness Inventory Handbook</i> of September 27, 1978. Copies are available at any BLM office.)	Entire inventory complete by September, 1980.
(a) Initial	Based on existing information, take an initial look at the public lands and determine which obviously and clearly do NOT meet the mandated wilderness criteria. These areas are removed from any further study and all management restrictions imposed by law are lifted.	Initial inventory complete by September, 1979.
(b) Intensive	All the remaining lands are intensively field surveyed to determine if they contain the wilderness characteristics described in the Wilderness Act. If wilderness characteristics do exist, the areas are designated Wilderness Study Areas. If they do not exist, the areas are removed from any further study and all wilderness related management restrictions imposed by law are lifted.	Intensive inventory complete by September, 1980.
2. Study	Once Wilderness Study Areas are designated and the wilderness resource is identified, that resource is weighed against all other values, resources, and uses of the public lands such as off-road vehicle use, mineral values, livestock forage, wild horses, wildlife habitat, energy development, etc., in the BLM's land use planning system. In some cases, wilderness preservation may be in direct conflict with another resource, but in other situations wilderness may be compatible with other resource needs. Comparing wilderness values with other resource values is an important part of the study phase. During this phase, BLM, with the public's help, will consider and resolve whether orderly land development or preservation within the National Wilderness Preservation System is the best use of these Wilderness Study Areas.	The study phase will be completed according to the statewide land use planning schedule. Some plans are being completed this year and all will be updated and completed no later than 1989.
3. Reporting	During the study phase, recommendations are made on whether each Wilderness Study Area is suitable or unsuitable for designation as a Wilderness Area by Congress. During the reporting phase, these recommendations are forwarded through the Secretary of the Interior and the President to Congress. Mineral surveys, environmental statements, and other data are also submitted with these recommendations.	All recommendations must be submitted to the President no later than October 21, 1991

*NOTE: Only Congress can designate an area as part of the Wilderness Preservation System.*



## Accelerated Inventories:

During the initial and intensive wilderness inventory phases, it has sometimes become necessary to speed up or accelerate the overall inventory process to accommodate certain high priority public land projects. Often, these accelerated inventories were initiated by a public land user who requested a permit or lease of some kind to perform an activity on the public lands that may have an impact on the area's possible wilderness values. So that high priority uses were not held up by the two-year inventory process, the Bureau's personnel completed early inventories on those areas to determine if wilderness characteristics were or were not present on the area in question. If the answer was negative, the area was released from further wilderness consideration and the use allowed. If the answer was positive and wilderness characteristics were found, the area was declared a wilderness study area. Quite often, portions of the area did possess wilderness characteristics and portions did not. With close coordination between the BLM and the user involved, the use requested was usually accommodated in non-WSA areas. WSAs continue to be preserved in their natural state.

These special, accelerated inventories stretched over the two-year effort. Decisions on these areas have already been made with the help of public comments and no further inventory is required. A summary of these areas follows:

<u>Name of Special Inventory</u>	<u>Total Acreage</u>	<u>Acres Dropped</u>	<u>Acres WSA</u>
Oil & Gas Lease Lands	1,871,470	1,855,640	15,830
Rip Rap Site (Highway Dept.)	11,200	11,200	-
Sierra Pacific Powerline	255,434	255,434	-
Valmy Power	92,600	92,600	-
Gund Ranch Transfer	102,300	102,300	-
Dolly Varden/Victoria	62,720	62,720	-
Mineral Hill	13,640	13,640	-
Intermountain Power Project #1	2,877,980	2,268,358	609,622
Intermountain Power Project #2	101,000	50,300	50,700
Mt. Wheeler Powerline	82,000	82,000	-
Oil Well Drilling Permit	118,900	118,900	-
Ely Prison Site	16,000	16,000	-
Las Vegas Prison Site	48,900	48,900	-
Mormon Mesa Drilling Permit	81,200	81,200	-
American Selco et.al.	379,920	379,920	-
San Antonio Molybdenum	88,200	88,200	-
Hickison Molybdenum	23,400	23,400	-
Overthrust Belt	2,098,665	1,448,637	650,028
Pueblo Mountains	10,160	9,560	600
	<u>8,335,689</u>	<u>7,008,909</u>	<u>1,326,780</u>

### Instant Study Areas:

In the Federal Land Policy and Management Act, Congress made a special provision for inventories on areas previously designated by BLM as natural or primitive areas. It stated that recommendations on these areas must be submitted much earlier than on other areas. It specified a early deadline of July 1, 1980, for BLM through the Secretary of Interior to have recommendations on these areas to the President. The President has two years to present them to Congress.

In Nevada, there are no agency-designated primitive areas. There are 11 natural areas, designated to identify a particular resource value that is unique or outstanding. They range in size from 150 to 7,650 acres. During the course of the accelerated inventories and the initial inventory, six of these areas were within public land units that were found to lack wilderness characteristics and were dropped from further consideration. This does not mean that the protection and recognition afforded these natural areas was removed. They remain designated natural areas. It means that the Bureau's inventories found that these areas and the land surrounding them did not contain wilderness characteristics and were not designated wilderness study areas. Reports on these areas, as required by Congress, have been forwarded to the Secretary of Interior.

As for the remaining five areas, the Bureau submitted status reports to Congress essentially stating that the areas themselves because of size or other factors, did not contain wilderness characteristics. A public comment period was allowed and general public support of this conclusion was received. However, these natural areas fall within larger roadless public land areas that were intensively inventoried and the findings and recommendations resulting from that inventory are now open for public comment.

A summary of the status of these remaining areas follows:

#### NATURAL AREAS REMAINING IN INTENSIVE INVENTORY

<u>District</u>	<u>Natural Area</u>	<u>Within Unit No.</u>	<u>Unit Recommendations</u>
Winnemucca	Lahontan-Cutthroat Trout	NV-020-622	A portion (29,945 acres) of the unit is recommended as WSA including a part of the natural area.
Ely	Bristlecone Pine	NV-040-048A	Unit recommended to be dropped from further consideration.
Ely	Goshute Canyon	NV-040-015	A portion (31,000 acres) of the unit is recommended as a WSA, including a part of the natural area.
Las Vegas	Pine Creek Canyon	NV-050-0414	A portion (24,000 acres) of the unit is recommended as a WSA, including the entire natural area.
Las Vegas	Pinyon-Joshua Tree Transition	NV-050-0337 and NV-050-0338A	Both units are recommended to be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

A summary of the six areas already dropped from consideration follows:

NATURAL AREAS ALREADY SUBJECT  
TO PUBLIC REVIEW  
DECISION-FINAL

<u>DISTRICT</u>	<u>NATURAL AREA</u>	<u>WITHIN UNIT NO.</u>	<u>DECISION</u>
Ely	Swamp Cedar	NV-040-089	No Wilderness Characteristics
Ely	Shoshone Ponds	NV-040-180	No Wilderness Characteristics
Ely	Pygmy Sage	NV-040-099	No Wilderness Characteristics
Las Vegas	Virgin Mountain	NV-050-0222	No Wilderness Characteristics
Las Vegas	Sunrise Mountain	NV-050-0420	No Wilderness Characteristics
Battle Mountain	Mountain Meadow	NV-060-221	No Wilderness Characteristics

## Interim Management Policy:

In the Federal Land Policy and Management Act, Congress was very specific about how areas were to be managed while the inventory was being conducted and once wilderness study areas were identified:

*"(c) During the period of review of such areas and until Congress has determined otherwise, the Secretary shall continue to manage such lands according to his authority under this Act and other applicable law in a manner so as not to impair the suitability of such areas for preservation as wilderness, subject, however, to the continuation of existing mining and grazing uses and mineral leasing in the manner and degree in which the same was being conducted on the date of approval of this Act: Provided, That, in managing the public lands the Secretary shall by regulation or otherwise take any action required to prevent unnecessary or undue degradation of the lands and their resources or to afford environmental protection."*

Needless to say, carrying out such a mandate requires a great deal of specific management policy and direction. Recognizing the importance of such an interpretation, the Bureau published a draft interim management policy in January 1979 and requested public comments. After reviewing those comments a final IMP was published in December, 1979. Copies are available from all BLM offices.

One aspect of that policy that has been very controversial in Nevada and needs continued reinforcement is the question of air quality standards. Essentially, wilderness study areas or even eventual Wilderness Areas designated by Congress have no impact on the area's air quality designation. Air quality designations or standards are governed by the Clean Air Act (as amended, 1977). That law declared all public lands managed by BLM as Class II, which allows moderate air quality deterioration associated with moderate, well-controlled industrial and population growth. The BLM will continue to manage wilderness study areas as Class II. In addition, the Department of Interior has stated many times that it will not seek or recommend reclassification of these areas to the more restrictive Class I in connection with further wilderness recommendations resulting from BLM's wilderness review. The two processes are separate and distinct and they should not be confused. Recommendations for wilderness designation are made by the BLM through the Secretary of the Interior and the President to Congress. Air quality reclassification is the prerogative of the states and it must follow a process mandated by the Clean Air Act, including studies, public hearings, and reports to the Environmental Protection Agency.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

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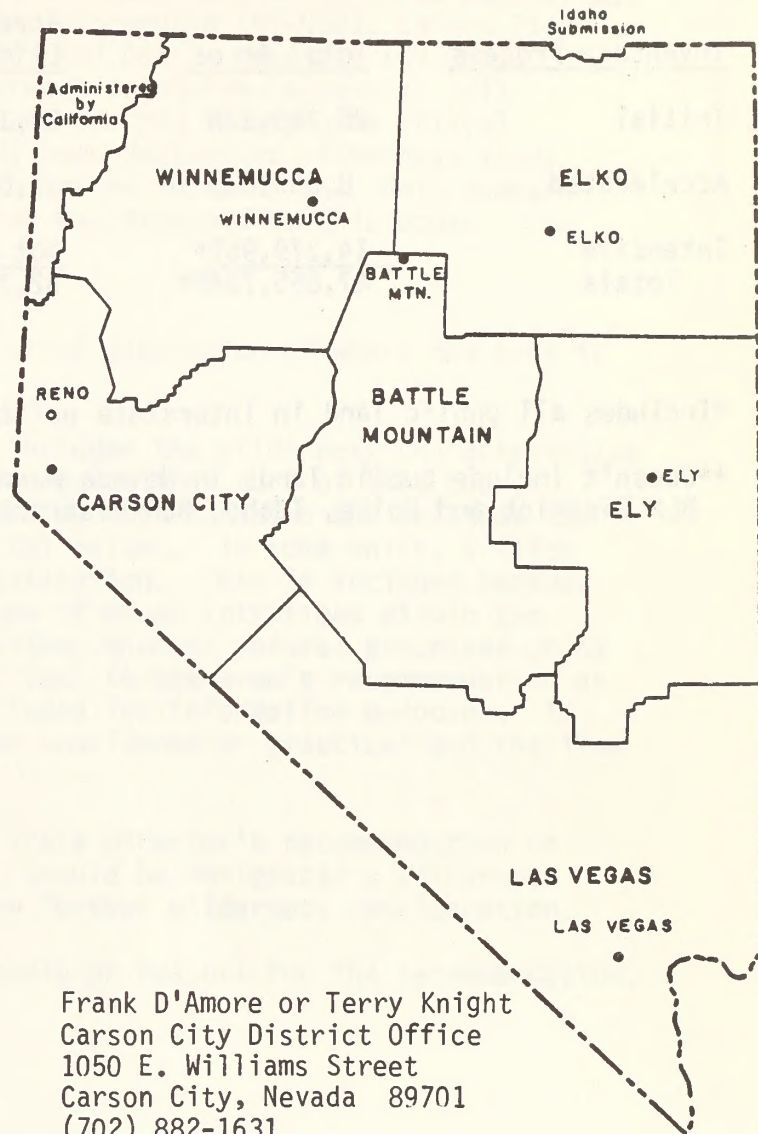
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Wilderness Inventory  
Recap Chart

<u>Inventory Process</u>	<u>Total Acres</u>	<u>Acres Eliminated (Areas)</u>	<u>Existing WSA Acres (Areas)</u>
Initial	25,140,136	25,140,136 (1,010)	0 (0)
Accelerated	8,335,689	7,008,909 (224)	1,326,780 (31)
Intensive	<u>14,379,969*</u>	<u>Not complete</u>	<u>Not complete</u>
Totals	<u>47,855,794**</u>	<u>32,149,045 (1,234)</u>	<u>1,326,780 (31)</u>

\*Includes all public land in interstate units.

\*\*Doesn't include public lands in Nevada managed by Susanville, California, BLM District and Boise, Idaho, BLM District.

## FORMAT OF UNIT SUMMARIES

Each unit summary is listed in numerical order according to district boundaries. The district codes shown are Elko (NV-010); Winnemucca (NV-020); Carson City (NV-030); Ely (NV-040); Las Vegas (NV-050); and Battle Mountain (NV-060). The units listed are only those that underwent intensive inventory. All other public land units not listed have been dropped through the initial or accelerated inventories or have already been designated wilderness study areas after public comment during the accelerated inventories. Unit numbers listed are coded and shown on the statewide map attached to this book.

The format of each summary is as follows:

- Area Description: This includes a brief discussion of where the area is and what it looks like.
- Characteristics Inventoried: This includes the wilderness characteristics discussed in the public participation guidelines part of this book, including size, naturalness, outstanding opportunities for solitude and primitive recreation, and supplemental values. In some units, a fifth characteristic is described: rehabilitation. This is included because in some areas it is necessary to know if minor intrusions within the unit can be easily rehabilitated, either through natural processes or by hand labor. This factor is not critical to the area's recommendation as a WSA or non-WSA. It is simply included for information purposes. In most areas, this factor was not even considered as practical and the item is omitted in the summary.
- Recommendation: This includes the State Director's recommendation on whether the area or a portion of it should be designated a wilderness study area or should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.
- Rationale: This includes the rationale or reasons for the recommendation.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-010-002

UNIT NAME: Maverick Springs

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is in Elko and White Pine Counties about 50 miles southeast of Elko, Nevada. The Maverick Springs Range runs through the center of the unit with valleys on both sides. The vegetation is pinyon-juniper on the range and sagebrush elsewhere.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 84,840 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: Ten miles of dead-end roads penetrate the unit, and, while outside the unit, parallel each other and affect the naturalness of the adjacent areas. There are also 60 miles of ways, a developed spring and windmills, and four miles of bladed fenceline. Because these are separated by such large distances they are not substantially noticeable giving the unit apparent naturalness.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: Topographic and vegetative screening in the Maverick Springs range is good. Elsewhere in the unit it is poor. Although the feeling of solitude would be good in the range, it is not considered outstanding due to the impact of man's activities.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Possible activities include hiking, backpacking, camping, hunting, and rockhounding. The presence of man's activities make these less than outstanding. No water is available in the unit.
4. Supplemental Values: Parts of the area have some scenic value.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

84,840 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-010-002-A

UNIT NAME: Maverick Springs

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is in Elko County about 50 miles southeast of Elko, Nevada. It is very flat and the dominant form of vegetation is low-growing big sagebrush.



#### CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 6,360 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: The area is essentially natural, although four miles of ways are in it.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: Because the area is so flat, there is little topographic screening. In addition, the low-growing big sagebrush offers little vegetative screening. Therefore, the user would have difficulty finding solitude.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Possible activities include hiking, hunting, and horseback riding. The opportunities are limited because the area as a whole offers few features that would attract primitive recreationists. Because of the area's uninteresting terrain, lack of vegetative cover, and poor scenery, it does not offer outstanding opportunities for a primitive and unconfined type of recreation.
4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

#### RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

6,360 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-010-002-B

UNIT NAME: Maverick Springs

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is in Elko and White Pine Counties about 50 miles southeast of Elko, Nevada. It is completely flat with a few drainages running through it. The dominant vegetation is low-growing big sagebrush.

#### CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 5,760 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: The unit is essentially natural, although there is a half-mile way in it.

3. Outstanding Opportunities for:

A. Solitude: Outstanding opportunities for solitude do not exist because there is no topographic or vegetative screening, and because the unit is so small.

B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Possible activities include hiking, horseback riding, and hunting. The opportunities are limited because the area as a whole offers few features that would attract primitive recreationists. Because of the area's uninteresting terrain, lack of water and shelter, poor vegetative cover, and poor scenery, outstanding recreation opportunities do not exist.

4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

5,760 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-010-002-C

UNIT NAME: Maverick Springs

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is in the Elko and White Pine Counties about 50 miles southeast of Elko, Nevada. It is part of Ruby Valley and is fairly flat with a butte in the southwest portion. The dominant vegetation is low-growing big sagebrush.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 7,040 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: The area is essentially natural, although there are six miles of ways in it.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: There is practically no topographic screening in the unit, nor is there any vegetative screening. Therefore, the opportunities for solitude are low.

B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Possible activities include hiking, hunting, and horseback riding. Because of the area's small size, uninteresting terrain, lack of vegetative cover, and poor scenery, the area does not offer outstanding opportunities for solitude.

4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

7,040 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-010-002-D

UNIT NAME: Maverick Springs

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is in Elko County about 45 miles southeast of Elko, Nevada. It is part of Ruby Valley and is mostly flat, with a knoll in the southeast part. The dominant vegetation is low-growing big sagebrush.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 7,700 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: The area is essentially natural, although there are six miles of ways and six miles of fenceline.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: It is unlikely a sense of solitude would be experienced in this unit because of the presence of man's works and poor or non-existent topographic or vegetative screening.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Possible activities include hiking, hunting, and horseback riding. Because of the area's small size, uninteresting terrain, lack of vegetative cover, and poor scenery, it is unlikely the area would be used by primitive recreationists.
4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

7,700 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-010-002-E

UNIT NAME: Maverick Springs

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is in Elko County about 45 miles southeast of Elko, Nevada. It is almost totally flat, with a few small rolling hills in the extreme south of the unit. The dominant vegetation is low-growing big sagebrush.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 5,800 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: The area is essentially natural because four miles of ways, a well, windmill, and three miles of fenceline are substantially unnoticeable.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: There is no topographic screening and very little vegetative screening. This, combined with the impacts of man's works and the small size of the unit, do not give the user a high sense of solitude.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Possible activities include hiking, hunting, and horseback riding. The opportunities are limited because the area as a whole offers few features that would attract primitive recreationists. Because of the area's uninteresting terrain, lack of vegetative cover, poor scenery, and small size, it is unlikely the area would be used by primitive recreationists.
4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

5,800 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-010-002-F

UNIT NAME: Maverick Springs

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit lies in Elko and White Pine Counties about 50 miles southeast of Elko, Nevada. The Maverick Springs Range runs through the center of the unit with flat valleys on either side. The vegetation is pinyon-juniper on the range with sagebrush on either side.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 31,360 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: An 18,550 acre portion was deleted because it lacked naturalness; it had 37 miles of ways and two developed springs that are substantially noticeable. The other 12,810 acres are in a natural condition.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: Topographic and vegetative screening in the Maverick Springs Range is good. Elsewhere in the unit it is poor. Although opportunities for solitude would be good in the range, they are not considered outstanding due to the impact of man's activities.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Possible activities include hiking, backpacking, camping, hunting, and rockhounding. The presence of man's activities make these less than outstanding. Water is difficult to locate in the unit.
4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

31,360 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-010-002-G

UNIT NAME: Maverick Springs

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is in Elko and White Pine Counties about 50 miles southeast of Elko, Nevada. The southern portion is a flat valley with drainages running through it, and the northern portion contains some low hills consisting of the lower portion of the Medicine Range. Vegetation consists of low sagebrush on the flats and juniper in the hills.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 10,900 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: The area is essentially natural, although there are about three miles of ways in it.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: Topographic screening is moderate in the north and poor in the south. Vegetative screening is poor in the south and fair in the north. Because of the unit's relatively small size and the poor to moderate screening, the opportunities for solitude are only fair.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Activities available include hiking, hunting, and horseback riding. The opportunities are marginal because the area as a whole offers few features that would attract primitive recreationists. Another negative factor is the configuration of the unit, since it is narrow (one to three miles) and only seven miles long.
4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

10,900 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-010-002-J

UNIT NAME: Maverick Springs

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is in Elko County about 55 miles south east of Elko, Nevada. The area is fairly flat in the east and has low rolling hills in the west. The dominant vegetation is low-growing big sagebrush with some pinyon-juniper in the hills.

#### CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 7,700 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: The unit is essentially natural.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The low foothills offer moderate topographic screening. The vegetative screening from the juniper stands is moderate and the trees are sparse and short. Therefore, opportunities for solitude are not considered outstanding.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Possible activities include hiking, hunting, and horseback riding. These activities would only be average in quality, since there are no spectacular or unusual features to enhance these experiences. There is no water available.
4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

#### RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

7,700 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-010-004

UNIT NAME: High Bald Peaks

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is located in Elko County about 50 miles southeast of Elko, Nevada. The High Bald Peaks and the northern portion of the Medicine Range are in the central portion, while the rest of the area is flat. The vegetation mainly consists of pinyon-juniper, with big sage on the flatlands.

#### CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 31,560 acres of public land. Three parcels totaling 6,020 acres were separated by documented roads and do not meet the size criterion.
2. Naturalness: The 25,540 acres remaining are essentially natural, although 13 miles of ways, a mine, and several small prospects do exist in the unit.

3. Outstanding Opportunities for:

A. Solitude: The topographic screening provided by the High Bald Peaks is good but the man-made impacts limit opportunities for solitude. The remaining part of the Medicine Range also provides moderate screening as well as the pinyon-juniper stands. However, solitude is not considered outstanding.

B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Recreational opportunities available include hiking, backpacking, camping, horseback riding, hunting, and wildlife observation. However, the amount of man-made impacts greatly detract from these activities. There are no spectacular or unusual features to enhance these activities.

4. Supplemental Values: Some parts of the area have good scenic quality.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

31,560 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-010-004-B

UNIT NAME: High Bald Peaks

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is in Elko County about 50 miles southeast of Elko, Nevada. A chain of low foothills is in the central portion of the unit, with flat lands surrounding the hills. Big sagebrush is dominant in most of the unit with some sparse pinyon-juniper on the hills.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 16,000 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: The unit is essentially natural, even though 16 miles of ways crisscross the area.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:

A. Solitude: The topographic screening in the foothills is moderate and the vegetative screening provided by the pinyon-juniper is also moderate. The vegetative and topographic screening in the rest of the unit is poor. The solitude provided is only moderate.



B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Recreational opportunities include hiking, horseback riding, hunting, backpacking, and camping. The amount of man-made impacts plus the fact that there are no spectacular or unusual features combine to make the opportunities less than outstanding.

4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

#### RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

16,000 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-010-016

UNIT NAME: Spruce Mountain

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit lies approximately 60 air miles southeast of Elko, Elko County, Nevada. The unit consists of moderate slopes falling away from a main ridge line comprised of the Spruce Mountains. The main ridge runs approximately three miles in a generally southern direction. The vegetation in this unit runs from a small sage-juniper association to small numbers of coniferous trees in the higher elevations. Elevation varies from 6,500 feet to 10,200 feet.

#### CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 35,960 acres of public land. One parcel totaling 4,300 acres is separated by roads and intrusions. The remaining 31,660 acres meet the size criterion.
2. Naturalness: One 1,700 acres parcel is covered by a vegetative manipulation project and lacks apparent naturalness. The remaining 29,960 acres are essentially natural. The 26 miles of ways, two miles of pipeline, and several mining scars are substantially unnoticeable.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The western half contains Spruce Ridge, the highest elevation point in the unit. The ridge is two miles wide at the northern end and fans to four miles wide at the southern end. The slopes are steep and do not have great diversity. The vegetation is not thick and provides moderate screening. Solitude on the northern end of the ridge is greatly affected by the mining developments outside the edge of the unit. Overall, solitude opportunities are not outstanding.

B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Backpacking, hiking, horseback riding, and photography are some activities possible within the unit. Backpacking, hiking, and photography would be good on the ridges. Horseback riding would be limited to the lower slopes. Screening and diversity would allow for only a moderate recreational experience in this unit.

4. Supplemental Values: About five acres of bristlecone pine exist at higher elevations.

#### RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

35,960 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-010-016-B

UNIT NAME: Spruce Mountain

AREA DESCRIPTION: This unit is about 50 miles southeast of Elko, Nevada. It is generally flat with very little topographic relief. The west and north sides consist of shallow drainages leading north. The south and east portions have more slope and rise in elevation toward the southeast. The vegetation consists of low forms of sagebrush and scattered juniper trees.

#### CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 8,150 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: The entire 8,150 acre unit lacks naturalness. There are 15 miles of ways, 400-600 acres of chained and down juniper trees resulting from vegetative manipulation techniques, and about seven miles of fenceline near the western boundary. All of these impacts are substantially noticeable.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: Because of man's impacts and limited topographic and vegetative screening, the unit does not have outstanding opportunities for solitude.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Because of the lack of topographic diversity, narrow configuration, and evidence of man's presence, the opportunities for outstanding primitive recreation do not exist.

4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

8,150 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land, it does not generally appear to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable. Therefore, further wilderness consideration is unnecessary.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-010-017

UNIT NAME: Spruce Ridge

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit lies about 60 miles southeast of Elko, Nevada. The unit consists of a main ridge line running north-south. Elevations run from nearly 6,000 feet at the north end to about 9,000 feet on the south. The vegetation consists of low sagebrush on the outer fringes to juniper-pinyon pine on the ridges and slopes.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 46,600 acres of public land. Three parcels totaling 9,200 acres of land have been separated by roads and impacts. They do not meet the size criterion.
2. Naturalness: Two parcels totaling 37,400 acres are essentially natural because seven miles of ways and several mining excavations are not substantially noticeable.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The parcel on the south end has a main ridge line through the center. The topographic diversity is not outstanding as the ridge line drops off sharply to more shallow side canyons. The sage-juniper vegetation is not thick and provides only moderate screening. Users on the ridge would be in view of others. Mining activities have left pits and excavations that detract from the solitude in the unit. The entire south end of the unit and ridge line is greatly affected by mining activities just outside the south end of the unit.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Backpacking, hiking, horseback riding, and hunting would be possible uses of this unit. The steep rise of the main ridge, the only moderate topographic and vegetative screening and limited water sources tend to lessen these experiences. Recreationists would tend to concentrate on the main ridge line. This ridge line is narrow and devoid of vegetative types that would provide screening. Therefore, outstanding opportunities for solitude are absent.

4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

46,600 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land, it does not generally appear to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable. Therefore, further wilderness consideration is unnecessary.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-010-017-C

UNIT NAME: Spruce Ridge

AREA DESCRIPTION: This unit lies about 30 miles southeast of Elko, Nevada. This unit is flat to slightly rolling. The vegetative composition is small sagebrush. There is very little topographic or vegetative diversity within the unit. The unit is about five miles long and two miles wide.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 6,500 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: There are 900 acres of vegetative manipulation in the form of a seeding and five miles of ways that are substantially noticeable. Therefore, the entire unit lacks naturalness.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: Because of the narrow configuration and the lack of topographic and vegetative screening, the unit does not have outstanding opportunities for solitude.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: The configuration and lack of diversity do not allow for an outstanding opportunity for a primitive and unconfined type of recreation.
4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

6,500 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land, it does not generally appear to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable. Therefore, further wilderness consideration is unnecessary.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-010-022

UNIT NAME: Hogan

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is located in Elko County about 30 air miles south-east of Wells, Nevada. A portion of the Pequop Mountains runs north-south through the unit. This is a single ridge with moderate juniper cover. The foothills and flatlands on both sides of the ridge are comprised of low growing big sagebrush.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 15,460 acres of public land. One 350-acre portion is separated by a road and does not meet the size criterion.
2. Naturalness: The remaining 15,140 acres are essentially natural because 10 miles of ways and the foundation of an old house found in the unit are substantially unnoticeable.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The topographic and vegetative screening of the Pequop Mountains and junipers in the northern half of the unit provide moderate screening. The southern half is less diverse and has less vegetative cover. The southern half is also greatly affected by the Western Pacific Railroad track that borders the unit to the east, south, and west. Trains can be seen and heard from the entire southern portion.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Possible activities include backpacking, hiking, rock climbing, and rockhounding. Water is not available in the unit. Day hiking would be of moderate quality, since the size of the unit limits the duration of backpacking. Some rock climbing and rockhounding is possible in the southern half of the unit. Outstanding opportunities for primitive recreation do not exist.
4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

15,460 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-010-023

UNIT NAME: Collar & Elbow

AREA DESCRIPTION: This unit is in Elko County, about 80 miles east of Elko, Nevada. The unit is basically flat with small knob-like hills in several locations. The very shallow drainages are all off to the west. Vegetation consists of low sagebrush with an occasional juniper.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 10,000 acres.
2. Naturalness: The shallow drainages have several major ways and cut survey lines. These impacts are very apparent from any high point and render the entire 10,000 acre unit unnatural.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: Because of the flat terrain and the length of the impacts, the opportunity for outstanding solitude does not exist.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: The lack of topographic diversity and the impacts of man do not allow for an outstanding opportunity for primitive recreation.
4. Supplemental Values: This area is winter range for deer. Several spots yielded evidence of historical values.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

10,000 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land, it does not generally appear to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable. Therefore, further wilderness consideration is unnecessary.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-010-023-A

UNIT NAME: Collar & Elbow

AREA DESCRIPTION: This unit is in Elko County, about 80 miles east of Elko, Nevada. This unit consists of gently rolling hills that drain off to the west. Vegetation consists of big sagebrush with scattered juniper.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 8,300 acres of public land. One parcel of 2,300 acres is separated by a road and does not meet the size criterion.

2. Naturalness: The remaining 6,000 acres have apparent naturalness. There are about four miles of ways within the unit, but they are substantially unnoticeable.

3. Outstanding Opportunities for:

A. Solitude: The terrain is gently rolling and drops off from a rather flat area on the east to a definite slope on the west edge. The topographic relief is not outstanding. The vegetative screening from the juniper stands is not good since the trees are not tall and spaced out. The vegetative and topographic screening would provide only a moderate experience of solitude.

B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Possible recreation in this unit includes hiking, horseback riding, photography, and hunting. The experience of hiking, horseback riding and photography would be only average. The low topographic relief and thin vegetation do not allow for screening of users. There are no spectacular or unusual features to enhance the recreation experiences. Hunting would be good in late season due to deer moving through to winter grounds.

4. Supplemental Values: Some evidence of historical values was found.

#### RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

8,300 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-010-025

UNIT NAME: Leppy Peak

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is in Elko County about a mile northwest of Wendover, Utah. It is a grass covered area with rolling hills and some sharp ridges.

#### CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 10,840 acres of public land. One 1,300-acre parcel is separated by roads and does not meet the size criterion.
2. Naturalness: The remaining 9,540 acres includes six miles of ways and three communication towers. Since these are not substantially noticeable, the entire unit is essentially natural.

3. Outstanding Opportunities for:

A. Solitude: The only diversity in topography offered is one narrow ridge running lengthwise through the unit. The ridge has no valleys or canyons and provides little screening. The flats on either side of the ridge or the low grasses also offer no seclusion. Outstanding opportunities for solitude do not exist.

B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Activities available include hiking, horseback riding, hunting, sightseeing, and photography. These activities are all limited because of the lack of water and small area available.

4. Supplemental Values: Geological interest in some areas is high because of visual evidence of prehistoric lakes and volcanic activity.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

10,840 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-010-027

UNIT NAME: Bluebell

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is in Elko County about 15 miles southwest of Wendover, Utah. The Goshute Mountains run north-south through the unit. Vegetation includes big sagebrush and pinyon-juniper with some fir and mountain mahogany. The vegetative cover is fairly dense. Many drainages exist in the unit which wind their way to the top of the mountains.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit includes 66,130 acres of public land. Two parcels totaling 2,780 acres are separated by roads and do not meet the size criterion.
2. Naturalness: One parcel of 200 acres includes physical evidence of past mining activities and is not natural. The remaining 63,150 acres contain nine reservoirs, 18 miles of ways, three corrals, and a mile of fenceline. These are separated by large distances and are not substantially noticeable. Therefore, the remaining acreage is essentially natural.



3. Outstanding Opportunities for:

A. Solitude: The unit is about 12 miles long and six miles wide. The topographic screening afforded by the mountains is excellent. Several drainages lead toward the ridge from both sides. The ridge-line has diverse topographic relief and provides superior screening. Vegetative cover is low growing big sagebrush in the flats and fairly dense pinyon-juniper in the higher elevations. Outstanding opportunities for solitude exist in the unit.

B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Possible activities include backpacking, camping, hiking, horseback riding, hunting, sightseeing, photography, and collecting. Good hiking and camping are available in the drainages and along the ridge. The unit's large size provides a backpacking experience of several days and good horseback riding. Sightseeing and photography subjects are good in the unit. Altogether, opportunities for these activities are outstanding.

4. Supplemental Values: Both wild horses and archaeological values exist in the unit.

5. Rehabilitation: The reservoirs are well on their way to natural rehabilitation and the corrals could easily be removed.

RECOMMENDATION:

63,150 acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

2,980 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: The portion of the unit proposed as a Wilderness Study Area contains at least 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature, with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable. It also has outstanding opportunities for solitude, and a primitive and unconfined type of recreation.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-010-032

UNIT NAME: Morgan Basin

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is in Elko County about 15 miles southwest of Wendover, Utah. The unit covers a portion of the foothills of the Goshute Mountains. Two dry drainages, the largest known as Spring Gulch, trend southeasterly through the unit. The vegetation includes low sagebrush with some stands of denser pinyon-juniper at the higher elevations. A natural arch is found in the unit.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit conatins 12,160 acres of public land.

2. Naturalness: The entire 12,160 acres are essentially natural; 15 miles of ways within the unit are substantially unnoticeable.

3. Outstanding Opportunities for:

A. Solitude: The topographic and vegetative screening are generally good but not outstanding in the unit. This is especially true in Spring Gulch and in areas adjacent to a dead-end road leading west into the middle of the unit.

B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Possible activities include backpacking, camping, hiking, wildlife observation, sightseeing, and photography. Water is not available in the unit. Some shelter is provided by rock outcroppings and juniper trees. A natural arch is located in Spring Gulch. Recreational activities are hampered by the presence of the ways in the unit since these will be periodically observed throughout the unit.

4. Supplemental Values: Two areas of geological interest exist in the unit. One is a red rock area and the other is the natural arch in the Spring Gulch.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

12,160 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-010-033

UNIT NAME: Goshute Peak

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is in Elko County about 20 miles southwest of Wendover, Utah. The unit includes the Goshute Mountains that run north-south through the unit. These mountains have dense stands of pinyon-juniper with small populations of fir and mountain mahogany. The unit includes many rocky outcrops, including sheer rock faces. Goshute Peak stands in the middle of the unit and rises to 9,611 feet.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 101,340 acres of public land. One parcel of 1,300 acres is separated by a road and does not meet the size criterion.
2. Naturalness: Four parcels totaling 11,600 acres are not natural. They include 20 miles of ways, four miles of telephone lines, and a gravel pit. The remaining 88,440 acres include 28 miles of ways and a hunting cabin. These are separated by such large distances that they are substantially unnoticeable. Therefore, the 88,440 acres is essentially natural.

3. Outstanding Opportunities for:

A. Solitude: Many canyons lead toward the ridgeline. These and the ridgeline have excellent topographic diversity. The vegetative cover is dense throughout most of the unit and offers excellent screening from others. The large size also enhances experiences of solitude, making solitude opportunities outstanding.

B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Possible activities include backpacking, camping, hiking, horseback riding, hunting, sight-seeing and photography. The unit's large size lengthens the possible duration of backpacking, horseback riding, and hiking excursions. The canyons have game trails to hike and forests for shelter. The ridgeline provides more difficult travel but plenty of shelter. Water is available in springs throughout the unit but is difficult to locate. The unit provides excellent scenery such as canyons, trees, rocky outcrops, cliffs and wildlife. Therefore, outstanding opportunities for primitive recreation exist in the unit.

4. Supplemental Values: Wild horses exist in the unit.

5. Rehabilitation: The cabin could easily be rehabilitated by burning and some clean up work.

RECOMMENDATION:

88,440 acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

12,900 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: The portion of the unit proposed as a Wilderness Study Area contains at least 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature, with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable. It also has outstanding opportunities for solitude and a primitive and unconfined type of recreation.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-010-035

UNIT NAME: South Pequop

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is in Elko County about 20 miles south of Wells, Nevada. The southern end of the Pequop Mountains forms the backbone of the unit. There are flat areas interspersed throughout the unit. Vegetative types include big sagebrush and pinyon-juniper.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 46,660 acres of public land. One parcel of 4,700 acres has been separated due to roads and does not meet the size criterion.
2. Naturalness: Twenty-two miles of dead-end roads, while not part of the roadless unit, nevertheless intrude into the unit. Twenty miles of ways exist within the unit. A 2,300 acre crested wheatgrass seeding is in the southeast portion. Despite these elements, the area is essentially natural.

3. Outstanding Opportunities for:

A. Solitude: While the topographic and vegetative screening provide good opportunities for solitude in places, the impacts of man prevent an outstanding experience of solitude.

B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Activities available include hiking, backpacking, camping, and hunting. Water may be available in the canyons periodically. The major deterrent to outstanding recreational opportunities is the periodic observances of man's impacts.

4. Supplemental Values: The Pequop area has a high scenic value.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

46,660 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-010-035-B

UNIT NAME: South Pequop

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is in Elko County about 20 miles south of Wells, Nevada. The extreme southern end of the Pequop mountains is in the western portion, while the eastern two-thirds is totally flat. Vegetative types include big sagebrush and pinyon-juniper.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 6,100 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: Four miles of ways occur in the unit but are relatively unnoticeable. Therefore, the entire 6,100 acres are essentially natural.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The topographic and vegetative screening are only moderate in this unit and provide only a moderate opportunity for solitude.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Activities include hiking, camping, and hunting. Water is not available in the unit. These activities require larger areas than this 6,100 acre unit to be outstanding.
4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

6,100 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-010-036

UNIT NAME: Boone Springs

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is in Elko County about 45 miles southeast of Wells, Nevada. The area is characterized by a mountainous ridge in the western portion with sparse pinyon-juniper and sagebrush vegetation, and is flat to gently sloping in the eastern portion.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 8,320 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: Six miles of ways exist within the unit, but they are substantially unnoticeable; therefore, the unit has apparent naturalness.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The ridgeline and the pinyon-juniper vegetation on it provides moderate screening. Little screening is available in the rest of the unit.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Possible activities include hiking, backpacking, camping, hunting, and horseback riding. The small area greatly limits the duration of these activities. No perennial streams or springs exist so water would have to be carried.
4. Supplemental Values: Interesting geology exists within the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

8,320 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-010-037

UNIT NAME: Brush Creek

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is in Elko County about 40 miles south of Wells, Nevada. The unit consists of a narrow ridge in the north and a flat area in the south.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 13,320 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: There is some mining activity and eight miles of ways in the unit but these are substantially unnoticeable. The 13,320-acre area is essentially natural.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The vegetative screening is moderate and the topographic screening is low to moderate. The narrowness of the ridge limits the solitude, which is only moderate. The man-made impacts detract from the area's solitude opportunities, making them less than outstanding.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Possible activities include hiking, camping, horseback riding, and hunting. Water is not available in the unit. The major deterrent to an outstanding recreational experience would be the periodic observance of man-made improvements.
4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

13,320 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-010-044

UNIT NAME: Antelope

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is in Elko County about 20 miles east of Currie, Nevada. The Antelope Range runs north and south through the unit. The remaining areas are fairly flat.

#### CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 33,020 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: There are 15 miles of ways in the unit but they are substantially unnoticeable; thus the 33,020 acre area is generally natural.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: Opportunities for solitude are slight because there is moderate topographic screening and little vegetative screening.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Possible activities include hiking, backpacking, and hunting. Little shelter from the elements is available and water would have to be carried. No specific attractions in the area enhance recreational activities.
4. Supplemental Values: Antelope can be seen in the unit.

#### RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

33,020 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-010-045

UNIT NAME: Currie Hills

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is in Elko County about one mile southeast of Currie, Nevada. It is very flat in the southern and western portions where the dominant plant is low sage. The northeast portion consists of low rolling hills with some scattered juniper stands.

#### CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 27,640 acres of public land. Two portions totaling 7,300 acres were separated by roads and do not meet the size criterion.
2. Naturalness: One 9,300 acre portion had 10 miles of ways and a well which are very noticeable. Therefore, the area is unnatural. The remaining 11,040 acres are essentially natural despite the presence of several ways and a corral.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:

A. Solitude: Because of the narrowness of the unit and the low to moderate vegetative and topographic screening, the opportunities for solitude are less than outstanding.

B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Activities available include hiking, horseback riding, and hunting. Due to the lack of water and shelter, the unit's narrowness, and the lack of topographic and vegetative diversity, the recreational opportunities are only marginal.

4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

#### RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

27,640 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-010-045-A

UNIT NAME: Currie Hills

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is in Elko and White Pine Counties about six miles southeast of Currie, Nevada. It is very flat with the dominant plant being low sagebrush.

#### CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 7,760 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: The 7,760-acre area is essentially natural even though it has a one-mile way.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:

A. Solitude: Since there is virtually no topographic or vegetative screening, it would be almost impossible for the user to gain any outstanding sense of solitude.

B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Possible activities in the unit include hiking, horseback riding, and hunting. These activities are marginal in quality since there is no topographic or vegetative diversity and the area is so small. Water is not available. No specific attractions enhance hiking.



4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

7,760 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-010-045-B

UNIT NAME: Currie Hills

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is in Elko and White Pine Counties about 10 miles southeast of Currie, Nevada. It is very flat with the dominant plant being low sagebrush.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 5,200 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: The unit is essentially natural, even though there are two miles of ways.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: Since there is very little topographic or vegetative screening in the unit and the area is so small, the opportunities for solitude are minimal.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Possible activities include hiking, hunting, and horseback riding. The activities are marginal in quality since there is no topographic or vegetative diversity and the area is so small. No water or shelter is available.
4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

5,200 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-010-047

UNIT NAME: Kingsley

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is in Elko County about 20 miles east of Currie, Nevada. It consists of a narrow ridge on the east side with relatively flat areas on either side.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 21,800 acres of public land. Three parcels totaling 1,000 acres are separated by roads and do not meet the size criterion.
2. Naturalness: The area is not natural. There are 52 miles of ways and 40-50 mines and prospects in the area, including three tungsten and lead mines. All of these are substantially noticeable and combine to make the area unnatural.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: Since the area is not natural, outstanding opportunities for solitude do not exist.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Since the area is not natural, outstanding opportunities of primitive and unconfined recreation do not exist.
4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

21,800 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land, it does not generally appear to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable. Therefore, further wilderness consideration is unnecessary.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-010-047-D

UNIT NAME: Kingsley

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is in Elko County about 20 miles east of Currie, Nevada. The western half has some low rolling hills and the eastern half is mostly flat. Low sagebrush is the dominant vegetation.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 8,160 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: Twelve miles of ways crisscross the area and one reservoir is also in the unit. These are substantially unnoticeable, so this 8,160 acre unit is essentially natural.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The topographic screening in the unit ranges from poor to moderate. The vegetative screening ranges from zero to poor. Therefore, the opportunities for solitude are not outstanding.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Possible activities include hiking, hunting, sightseeing, and photography. No water or shelter is available. Little of interest for photography can be found. These factors combine to offer less than outstanding opportunities for primitive recreation.
4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

8,160 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-010-049

UNIT NAME: Sugarloaf

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is in Elko County about 90 miles southeast of Elko, Nevada. A portion of the Goshute Mountains exist in the unit, characterized by steep cliffs falling off to flats on the western side and pinyon covered hills and drainages in the eastern portion.

#### CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 17,600 acres of public land. Three parcels totaling 1,700 acres are separated by roads or unnatural areas and do not meet the size criterion.
2. Naturalness: The remaining area is essentially natural even though eight miles of ways and two prospect pits are present in the unit.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: Short pinyon-covered drainages and ridgelines provide areas of moderate topographic and vegetative screening. Several boulder fields with trees also provide areas of moderate screening. The extreme western portion with low vegetation and rolling topography provides poor opportunities for solitude. Though areas of good solitude exist in the unit, these are not considered outstanding.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Possible activities include backpacking, rock climbing, camping, hiking, horseback riding, sightseeing, hunting, and photography. The terrain would force most users into the short drainages so the duration and scope of the activities would be limited. Also these activities are limited by the lack of water. Overall, opportunities for primitive recreation are less than outstanding.
4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

#### RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

17,600 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-010-050

UNIT NAME: Ferguson Mountain

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is in Elko County about 20 miles southwest of Wendover, Utah. The area is characterized by a mountainous ridge with sparse vegetation of sagebrush and pinyon-juniper.

#### CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 6,960 acres of public land.

2. Naturalness: Two areas totaling 2,200 acres include roads, mining shafts, and ways and are unnatural. The remaining 4,760 acres include two miles of ways and a mine but still are essentially natural.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: There are a few areas in the unit which provide moderate solitude because of topographic screening and thicker pinyon-juniper cover. Generally, however, opportunities for solitude are less than outstanding.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Possible activities include hiking, backpacking, camping, hunting, and horseback riding. The small area greatly limits the duration of these activities. No perennial streams or springs exist so water would need to be carried. These factors combine to make opportunities for primitive recreation less than outstanding.
4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

#### RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

6,960 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: The unit does not contain any area with at least 5,000 acres of contiguous public land, that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable. Therefore, further wilderness consideration is unnecessary.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-010-052

UNIT NAME: Lead Mine Hills

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is in Elko County next to the Utah state line about 20 miles south of Wendover, Utah. The area is characterized by flat areas surrounding hills. The dominant vegetation is low sagebrush with some widely scattered junipers on the hills.

#### CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 11,520 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: The area is predominantly natural even though there are four miles of ways, two shafts, and a prospect pit in the area. Two dead-end roads, although not part of the unit, intrude into the area.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:

A. Solitude: Solitude is only moderate in this unit due to the small acreage, the very low vegetative screening, and the overall poor topographic screening.

B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Hiking, horseback riding, hunting, backpacking, and camping are available. The lack of topographic diversity and general character of the land detract from their quality. There also is no water available in the unit.

4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

#### RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

11,520 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-010-053

UNIT NAME: Dead Cedar Wash

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is in Elko County about 25 miles south of Wendover, Utah. There are isolated rock outcroppings in the middle and northern parts of the unit. The eastern part consists of an alkali flat with rounded mounds.

#### CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 13,340 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: There are about 13 miles of ways in this 13,340 acre unit, but they are substantially unnoticeable. Therefore, the unit is essentially natural.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The topography is not diverse in the unit, nor does the vegetation (mostly low sagebrush) provide screening from other individuals. Therefore, the opportunities for solitude are only moderate.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Possible activities include hiking, hunting, sightseeing, and photography. No water or shelter from the elements is available. Little of interest for photography can be found. These factors combine to make opportunities for primitive recreation less than outstanding.

4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

13,340 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-010-054/UT-020-044

UNIT NAME: Ferber Wash

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is in Elko, Nevada, and Tooele, Utah, counties, about 25 miles south of Wendover, Utah. The area is basically the western edge of the Great Salt Lake Desert, which is very flat and has little vegetation. The vegetation includes saltbrush, winterfat, and sweetsage, none of which provides any screening. The unit is managed by the Elko BLM District in Nevada and the Salt Lake BLM District in Utah.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 10,240 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: The majority of the area is essentially natural. An abandoned well and eight miles of ways in the unit are substantially unnoticeable. However, one well is noticeable in the immediate area.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: There are few opportunities for solitude because the low hills provide little topographic screening and the vegetation provides none.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Possible activities include camping, hiking, geological sightseeing, and rock climbing. No water or shelter from the elements is available. The small area available is confining. These factors combine to make opportunities for primitive recreation less than outstanding.
4. Supplemental Values: Some geological sightseeing is available in the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

10,240 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-010-058

UNIT NAME: Deadhorse

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit lies about 70 miles southeast of Elko, Nevada. The terrain is rolling with a central ridge line running north-south. The elevation varies by less than 1,000 feet. The vegetation consists of low growing forms of sagebrush and shrubs with scattered juniper.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 10,800 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: The 10,800 acre unit is essentially natural. There are 10 miles of ways that are not noticeable. An Air Force tower installation actually outside of the unit on top of the highest point is noticeable.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The topographic diversity is not outstanding. The canyons are very shallow and wide. The topography offers little or no screening. The physical shape of the unit, three miles wide in the center and tapering to a quarter mile at the ends, does not lend itself to solitude. The vegetation is of a low growing form and offers no screening. The large Air Force tower on the highest peak hinders the feeling of solitude.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Possible activities available include hiking and horseback riding. The lack of topographic diversity and the lack of topographic screening reduce the quality of these primitive recreation experiences. There is no available water within the unit. The configuration confines recreational activities, making opportunities less than outstanding.
4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

10,800 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.



AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is in Elko County about 100 air miles southeast of Elko, Nevada. The area is characterized by low rolling hills with some sparse stands of juniper, white sage and grasses with the exception of sandstone formations and desert washes in the southwest corner. Some flora typical of deserts exist here.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 19,540 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: The area is essentially natural because the 10 miles of ways, two reservoirs, a gravel pit, and a prospect pit are not substantially noticeable.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: Users will find it difficult to find a secluded spot because of poor vegetative screening and only moderate topographic screening. Low rolling hills and sparse juniper cover allow users to observe others in the unit. Moderate solitude is experienced in the washes and rugged terrain that the southwest corner of the unit provides. Overall, the opportunities for solitude are less than outstanding.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Primitive recreation opportunities include hiking, backpacking, camping, horseback riding, sightseeing, hunting, and wildlife observation. The scenic sandstone and desert wash area in the southwest corner of the unit provides some moderate hiking and sightseeing opportunities. Generally, however, flat and barren terrain, limited shelter, lack of water, and the absence of significant recreation attractions make these opportunities less than outstanding.
4. Supplemental Values: The southwest portion of the unit contains an interesting ecological, geological, and scenic area. Numerous sandstone formations and dry arroyos provide opportunities for observation of an arid desert ecosystem.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

19,540 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-010-061/UT-020-050

UNIT NAME: Ferber Flat

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is in Elko, Nevada and Tooele, Utah counties about 35 miles south of Wendover, Utah. The northern half is made up of what appears to be a heavily eroded peak with a hill-and-gully system extending in a 180 degree arc, north to south. Ferber Wash curls through the southern half of the unit, its tributaries meeting at the state line and flowing into the Deep Creek drainage. The unit is managed by the Elko BLM District in Nevada and the Salt Lake BLM District in Utah.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 10,240 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: The northern portion of the area has some mining impacts and the southern portion has evidence of man's vehicular activity, but the area is still essentially natural.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: Some moderate topographic screening occurs in the low hills of the northern section, but there is little vegetative screening anywhere in the unit. Thus, the opportunities for solitude are only moderate.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: The activities available include hiking, hunting, camping, and rockhounding. The area is relatively small and there are no sources of water in the unit. In addition, mining has a significant effect on the desirability of primitive recreation in the unit.
4. Supplemental Values: Some geological sightseeing is available.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

10,240 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-010-062/UT-020-046

UNIT NAME: Utah Peak

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is about 40 miles east of Currie, Nevada, in Elko, Nevada, and Tooele, Utah counties. It consists of flat areas on the north, west, and south with isolated hills such as Utah Peak on the east. The unit is managed by the Elko BLM District in Nevada and the Salt Lake District in Utah.

#### CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 7,040 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: Fourteen miles of ways are included in the unit, as well as several prospect pits. These impacts are substantially unnoticeable, making the entire 7,040 acres essentially natural.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The principle range is so narrow that it limits solitude. Vegetative screening is very low due to the short nature of the shrubs in the area. The size and the configuration both limit the solitude available to less than outstanding.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Activities available include hiking, hunting, and wildlife observation. No water or shelter from the elements is available. The activities all require larger areas than this unit offers to be outstanding.
4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

#### RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

7,040 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-010-070

UNIT NAME: Cortez

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is in Eureka County about 50 miles southwest of Elko, Nevada. The eastern half of the unit has gently sloping terrain and the western half contains some large ridges and canyons. Vegetation includes mostly low sagebrush.

#### CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 33,260 acres of public land. Two parcels totaling 8,200 acres are separated by roads, and man-made impacts and do not meet the size criterion.
2. Naturalness: One parcel of 7,900 acres is unnatural, as ways and mining activity are easily seen. The remaining 17,160 acres are essentially natural because the only man-made impacts consist of four prospect pits.

3. Outstanding Opportunities for:

A. Solitude: The topography of the area includes Mule and Brock Canyons. They provide some moderate solitude but are straight and relatively short in length. Users on the ridgelines above the canyons could easily see one another and visitors in the canyon. These factors make opportunities for solitude less than outstanding.

B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Possible activities include backpacking, camping, horseback riding, hunting, and photography. The steep terrain requires back-tracking for movement across the unit. Recreationists would remain either in the canyons or on the ridgelines. Water would not be available outside the canyons. Opportunities for primitive recreation are less than outstanding.

4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

33,260 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-010-074

UNIT NAME: Florio

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is in Eureka County about 50 miles southwest of Elko, Nevada. The unit includes mountainous terrain running generally east-west. The northern part of the unit is the main ridge line. The canyons and ridges lead mainly to the south. The unit's vegetative composition is primarily big sagebrush.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 12,100 acres of public land. One parcel of 1,400 acres is separated by a road and does not meet the basic size criterion.
2. Naturalness: The entire 10,700 acres are essentially natural although 12 miles of ways exist within the unit.

3. Outstanding Opportunities for:

A. Solitude: The drainages all lead away from one central ridge and are generally shallow in relief. The unit's narrow configuration and the vegetative and topographic screening are insufficient to allow for an outstanding experience of solitude.

B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Recreational opportunities within this unit would be hiking, hunting, photography, and horse-back riding. Low topographic variety, narrow configuration, and no reliable water sources all detract from the experience. Low vegetative cover is also a detracting factor. There are no opportunities that would be considered outstanding.

4. Supplemental Values: A few wild horses are found within the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

12,100 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-010-081

UNIT NAME: Smith Creek Mountains

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is in Elko County about 35 miles southwest of Elko, Nevada. The unit consists of multiple mountains and ridges running north-south with most of the ridges and drainages leading easterly. Vegetation consists of big sagebrush in a low growing form. Some stands of aspen are present in the higher elevations.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 20,850 acres of public land. A road divides the unit into two parcels. Both are larger than 5,000 acres and meet the minimum size criterion.
2. Naturalness: The entire 20,850 acres are essentially natural. Substantially unnoticeable man-made impacts include 21 miles of fence line, 16 miles of ways, two reservoirs, three developed springs, and several stock tanks.

3. Outstanding Opportunities for:

A. Solitude: The topographic relief in the unit is not outstanding and allows visitors to easily see each other. The drainages are shallow, relatively wide, and straight. The vegetation is strictly low growing and provides no screening. These factors make opportunities for solitude less than outstanding.

B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Possible activities include backpacking, camping, horseback riding, hunting, and possibly photography. The gentle rolling and shallow ridges and hills present no challenge to a user in most of these activities. These factors, combined with the unit's narrow configuration, make opportunities for solitude less than outstanding.

4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

20,850 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-010-085

UNIT NAME: Diamond Hills

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is in Elko County about 35 miles south of Elko, Nevada. The northern portion is flat and has been seeded with crested wheat-grass. There is a chain of low-rolling hills in the south. Vegetation is mainly low sagebrush and big sagebrush with some sparse juniper stands.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 56,320 acres of public land. Three parcels totaling 4,600 acres are split from the unit by bladed roads and do not meet the size criterion.
2. Naturalness: One area of 23,820 acres is unnatural; it contains a 9,600-acre seeding, two pipelines, two wells, three reservoirs, 15 miles of fenceline, a developed spring and trough, 13 miles of ways, and a windmill. The remaining 27,900 acres are essentially natural, although they do have 26 miles of ways and four miles of fenceline.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:

A. Solitude: It is unlikely that a sense of solitude would be experienced in the unit because of the presence of man's works and poor or non-existent topographic or vegetative screening.

B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Activities available include backpacking, camping, horseback riding, hunting, and photography. The opportunities are limited because the area as a whole offers few features that would attract primitive recreationists. Because of the area's uninteresting terrain, lack of vegetative cover, and poor scenery, it does not offer outstanding opportunities for primitive recreation.

4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

#### RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

56,320 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-010-102/ID-12-56A

UNIT NAME: Little Owyhee

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is in Elko County, Nevada and Owyhee County, Idaho, 95 miles northwest of Elko, Nevada. The canyon of the Little Owyhee River trends north in the western portion of the unit. This canyon is joined by the drainages of Lake Creek in the central portion of the unit and Willow Creek in the northwestern corner of the unit. The rolling hills of Star Valley Ridge dominate the eastern portion of the unit. Big sagebrush and grasses are the primary vegetative types.

#### CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 57,589 acres of public land. Five parcels totaling 200 acres were deleted because of roads or fence-lines and do not meet the size criterion.
2. Naturalness: The entire 57,389 acres are essentially natural. Nine reservoirs and 18 miles of ways found within the unit are substantially unnoticeable.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:

A. Solitude: Recreationists in the unit would be visible to each other in most areas because of low vegetative screening. Man-made impacts channel users into areas where they will be in close proximity to each other. Topographic screening is poor except in the canyon of the Little Owyhee River. These factors combined with the area's small size, make the area less than outstanding for solitude.

B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Possible activities include backpacking, camping, hiking, rock climbing, wildlife observation, sightseeing, and photography. Recreation opportunities are hampered by the presence of ways, reservoirs, and several dead-end roads and fence-lines. Recreationists traveling throughout the unit will observe and have their movements restricted by these impacts. Some good hiking and sightseeing is available in the Little Owyhee River Canyon but the duration of these activities will be limited. Scarcity of water will hinder primitive recreation. These factors combine to make the unit less than outstanding for primitive recreation.

4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

#### RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

57,589 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-010-102-A

UNIT NAME: Little Owyhee

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is in Elko County, 92 miles northwest of Elko. The terrain is generally flat with some low hills. Several dry lakes and numerous shallow drainages characterize the area. Big sagebrush and grasses are the primary vegetative covers.

#### CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 5,800 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: The entire 5,800 acres appear natural; three miles of ways and two reservoirs present are substantially unnoticeable.



3. Outstanding Opportunities for:

A. Solitude: The unit's small size, low vegetative screening, and flat topography do not enhance opportunities for outstanding solitude.

B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: The unit's small size, monotonous terrain and vegetation, undependable water supply, lack of shelter and any other interesting features make the primitive recreation opportunities poor.

4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

5,800 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-010-103/ID-16-53

UNIT NAME: Devil's Corral

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is in Elko County, Nevada and Owyhee County, Idaho about 95 miles northwest of Elko, Nevada. The unit is characterized by level terrain covered with big sagebrush.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 12,060 acres of public land.

2. Naturalness: The entire 12,060 acres are essentially natural; only one reservoir is within the unit.

3. Outstanding Opportunities for:

A. Solitude: The unit is triangular-shaped. Only slightly rolling terrain is found in the unit. This and the low growing low sagebrush offer little screening and, therefore, little opportunity for solitude.

B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Activities available include backpacking, camping, hiking, horseback riding, hunting, sight-seeing, and photography. No diversity of areas exist for camping. No shelter can be found. No water is available. No specific attractions exist to enhance these activities, making the unit less than outstanding for primitive recreation.

4. Supplemental Values: Wild horses exist within the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

12,060 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-010-103-A/ID-16-53

UNIT NAME: Devil's Corral

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is in Elko County, Nevada and Owyhee County, Idaho about 100 miles northwest of Elko, Nevada. The unit is generally rectangular in shape and is about five miles wide by 20 miles long. The unit is generally flat in terrain except for the South Fork of the Owyhee River Canyon. This perennial stream flows northwest through the unit for 25 miles. The unit is managed by the Elko, Nevada, BLM District and the Boise, Idaho BLM District.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 55,740 acres of public land. Four parcels totaling 4,500 acres were separated by roads and bladed fencelines and do not meet the size criterion.
2. Naturalness: Two parcels totaling 700 acres contain an airstrip, two ways, and a windmill. These are substantially noticeable, rendering these areas unnatural. The remaining 50,540 acres contain 14 miles of ways and six stock ponds. These are separated by large distances and are not substantially noticeable, making this portion of the unit essentially natural.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The topographic screening afforded by the South Fork Owyhee Canyon is excellent. The canyon walls are precipitous in the northern part of the unit and more sloping in the southern regions. The canyon winds throughout its 25 mile length through the unit. Opportunities for solitude are outstanding.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Possible activities include backpacking, camping, hiking, horseback riding, sightseeing, photography, fishing, hunting, and rafting. The large size and length of the unit enhance backpacking, camping, hiking, and horseback riding. Water and shelter from the elements are available. The scenic quality of the canyon enhances hiking, sightseeing, and photography. River rafting is possible in the spring and early summer. Therefore, opportunities for primitive and unconfined type of recreation are outstanding.

4. Supplemental Values: Wild horses and excellent scenic quality exist in the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

50,540 acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

5,200 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: The portion of the unit proposed as a Wilderness Study Area contains at least 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature, with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable. It also has outstanding opportunities for solitude and a primitive and unconfined type of recreation.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-010-104

UNIT NAME: Hat Peak

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is in Elko County, 80 miles northwest of Elko, Nevada. The topography of the unit is characterized by low rolling hills with the exception of mesas and broad drainages in the vicinity of Hat Peak. Shallow drainages occur between the hills. Low growing big sagebrush and grasses are the predominant vegetative covers.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 49,800 acres of public land. Roads and unnatural areas around Josephine Reservoir separate the unit into seven parcels. Three parcels totaling 9,120 acres do not meet the size criterion.
2. Naturalness: One parcel comprising 480 acres includes Josephine Reservoir and is in an unnatural condition. The remaining 40,200 acres are in an apparently natural condition even though six miles of ways, a corral, and 9 small reservoirs are present. The ways, corral, and two of the reservoirs are not substantially noticeable. The remainder of the reservoirs, though large and substantially noticeable, have a minimal impact on the area's naturalness because of their close proximity to the border roads.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: Moderate solitude would be experienced in some areas because of the unit's large size, but opportunities for outstanding solitude are unlikely because of poor vegetative and topographic screening. Scattered man-made impacts also hinder the user's ability to find a secluded spot, making opportunities for solitude less than outstanding.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Primitive recreation activities available include hunting, camping, backpacking, hiking, horseback riding, and general photography. The unit would provide poor opportunities for primitive recreation because of monotonous terrain, little vegetative diversity, scarcity of water, and poor natural shelter.

4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

49,800 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-010-105

UNIT NAME: Forklift

AREA DESCRIPTION: This unit is in Elko County about 85 miles northwest of Elko, Nevada. It is part of the Owyhee Desert and is basically part of a very flat plain covered by big sagebrush.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 17,280 acres of public land. One 200-acre portion is separated by roads and does not meet the size criterion.
2. Naturalness: The remaining 17,080 acres are essentially natural because the one stock reservoir, two gravel pits, and 11 miles of ways within it are not substantially noticeable.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: It is unlikely that a sense of solitude would be experienced in the unit because of the poor to non-existent topographic or vegetative screening.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Possible activities include hiking, horseback riding, and hunting. There are no spectacular or unusual features to enhance the recreation experiences. Water is not available in the unit. These factors make opportunities for primitive recreation less than outstanding.
4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

## RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

17,280 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

**RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION:** Although the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-010-106

UNIT NAME: Owyhee Canyon

**AREA DESCRIPTION:** The unit is in Elko County about 80 miles northwest of Elko, Nevada. The dominant features are the 20 miles of the Owyhee Canyon and associated South Fork of the Owyhee River which trend north-south through the unit. The canyon and the river are of exceptional scenic quality. The river provides rafting in the early summer. The general terrain except for the canyon is flat and sagebrush covered.

## CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. **Size:** The unit contains 17,520 acres of public land. Two parcels totaling 220 acres are separated by roads and do not meet the size criterion.
2. **Naturalness:** About 130 acres are unnatural. These contain a bladed fenceline and associated way, a reservoir, and the Southwest Gas Corporation Pipeline from the canyon rim to the river on either side. The remaining 17,170 acres are essentially natural. Man-made impacts that are substantially unnoticeable include an airstrip and two and a half miles of ways.
3. **Outstanding Opportunities for:**
  - A. **Solitude:** The unit includes 20 miles of the Owyhee Canyon and associated South Fork of the Owyhee River. They are extremely winding, making it difficult to see more than a mile in either direction from within the canyon. Screening from other visitors is exceptional. The sheer rock cliffs of the canyon isolate a visitor within the canyon from the outside world, making opportunities for solitude outstanding.
  - B. **A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation:** Possible activities include backpacking, camping, hiking, horseback riding, hunting, sight-seeing, photography, and rafting. Camping sites exist throughout the canyon. Ample water and shelter from the elements is available. Hiking along the river is easy because game and stock trails exist. Sand bars also provide enjoyable hiking. Rafting is possible throughout the unit for a short period in the spring, and early summer. The size of the unit provides backpacking, horseback riding and rafting activities of several days' duration, making opportunities for primitive recreation outstanding.

4. Supplemental Values: The unit contains at least one archaeological site and scenic values of exceptional quality.

RECOMMENDATION:

17,170 acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

350 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: The portion of the unit proposed as a Wilderness Study Area contains at least 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature, with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable. It also has outstanding opportunities for solitude and a primitive and unconfined type of recreation.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-010-106-A

UNIT NAME: Owyhee Canyon

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is in Elko County about 65 miles northwest of Elko, Nevada. The unit is characterized by sagebrush-covered gently rolling hills and flats.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 7,360 acres of public land. The bladed fenceline and associated roads divide the 7,360 acres into two parcels that do not meet the size criterion.
2. Naturalness: The entire 7,360 acres have apparent naturalness.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: Because of the small size of the parcels, outstanding solitude could not be experienced.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Because of the small size of the parcels, outstanding primitive recreation does not exist.
4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

7,360 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: The entire unit does not contain any area with at least 5,000 acres of contiguous public land, nor any area that fits one of the size exceptions.

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is in Elko County about 65 miles northwest of Elko, Nevada. The unit is generally flat with some mesa areas interspersed. The typical vegetation is low-growing big sagebrush. Short sections of the South Fork Owyhee River and Wilson Creek flow through the unit.

#### CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 43,520 acres of public land. Nine portions totaling 12,040 acres were separated by roads and unnatural areas and do not meet the size criterion.
2. Naturalness: Three areas totaling 10,950 acres are not natural. One is a large reservoir and the other two contain seedings, fencelines, and reservoirs. The remaining 20,530 acres contain two reservoirs, four miles of fenceline, and six miles of ways. Since these are not substantially noticeable, these 20,530 acres are essentially natural.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The topography of the unit is slightly rolling except for one small area which includes bluffs falling away sharply to Fourmile Creek. Vegetative cover is low growing sagebrush and grasses. These do not provide outstanding solitude.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Possible activities include backpacking, hiking, camping, horseback riding, hunting, sight-seeing and photography. Little shelter from the elements is available and no water was found. No specific attractions in the area enhance recreational activities. These factors combine to make the area less than outstanding for primitive recreation.
4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological or other features of scientific, educational, scenic or historical values were noted in the unit.

#### RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

43,520 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-010-107

UNIT NAME: Airstrip #1

AREA DESCRIPTION: This unit is in Elko County about 85 miles northwest of Elko, Nevada. It is part of the Owyhee Desert, which is very flat and is covered by big sagebrush.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: This unit contains 42,240 acres of public land. One portion totaling 1,920 acres separated by a road is deleted due to size.
2. Naturalness: The remaining 40,320 acre unit is essentially natural, although there is an airstrip and a half-mile of fenceline in the unit. These impacts however, are substantially unnoticeable.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: There is very little topographic screening and no vegetative screening in the unit. It would be very difficult to gain a sense of solitude in this flat, monotonous area.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Possible activities include hiking, horseback riding, and hunting. The experience of hiking, horseback riding, and hunting would only be average because there are no spectacular or unusual features to enhance the recreational experiences. Water is not available.
4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

42,240 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-010-108

UNIT NAME: Star Valley Cabin

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is in Elko County about 90 miles northwest of Elko, Nevada. It is part of the YP Desert, a very flat, sagebrush-covered area.



#### CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 32,000 acres of public land. Three parcels divided by roads totaling 9,340 acres were deleted due to size.
2. Naturalness: The 22,660 acre area is essentially natural despite the presence of four miles of fenceline, a six-mile way, and a cabin that are substantially unnoticeable.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: There is very little topographic screening and no vegetative screening in the area. It will be difficult to gain a sense of solitude in this flat, monotonous area.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Possible activities include hiking, horseback riding, and hunting. These would only be average because of the dull, monotonous country and the fact that there are no spectacular or unusual features to enhance the recreational experiences. Water is also not available.
4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

#### RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

32,000 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-010-109

UNIT NAME: Silver Lake

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is in Elko County, 85 miles northwest of Elko, Nevada. The topography is characterized by a series of knolls and hills in the north portion that fall off to several basins. These basins contain several alkali lakes that are usually dry. The vegetative cover consists of low-growing big sagebrush and some grasses.

#### CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 41,470 acres of public land. Roads delete two portions totaling 4,200 acres that do not meet the size criterion.

2. Naturalness: The remaining 37,270 acres are essentially natural despite the presence of two reservoirs, a bladed six mile fenceline, a half mile section of pipeline, a stocktank, and eight miles of ways. These impacts are substantially unnoticeable.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The unit's large size and scattered hills and knolls provide some limited screening, enabling users to find a few secluded areas. No vegetative screening of any consequence exists because only low growing sagebrush and grasses are found. A six-mile bladed fenceline in the western third of the unit detracts from a feeling of solitude.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Types of primitive recreation available include hiking, camping, backpacking, horseback riding, hunting, wildlife observation, and photography. The monotonous terrain, lack of shelter, and short seasonal water supply detract or hinder all forms of primitive recreation. Water will be available only in the early spring in natural sinks. A long bladed fenceline detracts from primitive recreation values in the western portion.
4. Supplemental Values: Wild horses and antelope exist in the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

41,470 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-010-109-A

UNIT NAME: Silver Lake

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is in Elko County about 80 miles northwest of Elko, Nevada. The topography of the unit is rolling to flat. Several dry alkali lakes are contained in the unit. The vegetative cover consists of low sagebrush and some grasses.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 43,650 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: The entire 43,650 acres are essentially natural. A corral, three reservoirs, and four miles of ways are present but substantially unnoticeable.

3. Outstanding Opportunities for:

A. Solitude: The unit's large size and randomly scattered hills provide some screening, enabling users to find areas of seclusion. Vegetative screening is uniformly poor because only low sagebrush and grasses exist in the area. The lower one third of the unit provides poor opportunities for solitude because it is very narrow in width and offers little diversity of terrain and sparse vegetative cover.

B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Types of primitive recreation available include hunting, camping, backpacking, hiking, wildlife observation, and photography. Lack of shelter, water, and the monotonous terrain and vegetation detract from or hinder all primitive recreation opportunities. Water will be available in the natural sinks only in the early spring for a short period.

4. Supplemental Values: Wild horses and antelope exist in the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

43,650 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-010-110

UNIT NAME: Milligan Creek

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is in Elko and Humboldt Counties about 72 miles northwest of Elko, Nevada. Rolling hills, flats, and alkali lake beds characterize the north and east central portions while several large mesas and the narrow passages of Milligan and Wolf Creeks dominate the south and southwest areas. Big sagebrush and grasses are the predominant vegetative covers.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 121,360 acres of public land. Roads, substantially noticeable fencelines, and unnatural areas divide the unit into 16 parcels. Seven of these parcels totaling 14,280 acres do not meet the size criterion.
2. Naturalness: Eight parcels totaling 105,820 acres are essentially natural. The existing ways and 16 reservoirs are not substantially noticeable or are in close proximity to border roads. One parcel of 1,260 acres is not natural because a pipeline and storage tank are substantially noticeable.

3. Outstanding Opportunities for:

A. Solitude: A few areas of moderate solitude exist because of the unit's large size and the presence of shallow drainages. However, the narrow configuration of many areas and the low or non-existent vegetative and topographic screening hinder most users' ability to experience outstanding solitude. The presence of 16 reservoirs, numerous catch basins, and six miles of heavily used ways also lessen the opportunity for solitude.

B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Opportunities exist for hiking, backpacking, camping, horseback riding, wildlife observation, and photography. Because of the unit's monotonous terrain and vegetation, scattered man-made impacts, and the lack of water and natural shelter, primitive recreation opportunities are not outstanding.

4. Supplemental Values: Wild horses and antelope can be observed.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

121,360 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although portions of the unit contain more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-010-111

UNIT NAME: Winter Creek

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is in Elko County, 75 miles northwest of Elko, Nevada. Topographic features include Chimney Creek Canyon which runs south to north on the western side of the unit. It is shallow in the south, growing deeper as it nears Chimney Creek Reservoir. The central portion of the unit is dominated by a large mesa, rising to a series of hills in the southeast corner.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 59,780 acres of public land. One parcel totaling 320 acres is separated by a road and does not meet the size criterion.
2. Naturalness: One parcel of 5,400 acres is unnatural because a large seeding and a pipeline are substantially noticeable. Most of the area is surrounded by a fence. The 1,100 acre Chimney Creek reservoir area also is unnatural. The remaining 52,960 acres are essentially natural because seven reservoirs, an abandoned well, two miles of fenceline, and one corral are substantially unnoticeable.

3. Outstanding Opportunities for:

A. Solitude: Users could locate a few areas of moderate solitude because of the area's large size, especially in portions of Chimney Creek. The poor vegetative screening and lack of diversity in terrain limit solitude potential in the remainder of the unit.

B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Opportunities exist for hiking, backpacking, camping, horseback riding, wildlife observation, and photography. Lack of a dependable water source within such a large area severely limits these activities. Users would be forced to remain close to areas where water is available, limiting both duration and range of activities. Poor natural shelter in the unit could not shield users from severe weather that occurs. Several man-made impacts detract from the quality of the recreation experience. Except for Chimney Creek Canyon, the area is monotonous lacking diversity in both terrain and vegetation, making opportunities for solitude less than outstanding.

4. Supplemental Values: Wild horses, coyote, antelope, and several types of aquatic birds can be seen in the unit. Moderate scenic values exist in the canyon area.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

59,780 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-010-112

UNIT NAME: Bullhead

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is about 70 miles northwest of Elko, Nevada. The topography of the unit can be described as basically flat. Elevations vary only by a few hundred feet. The vegetation is predominantly low-growing sagebrush.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit totals 55,150 acres of public land. Three parcels totaling 8,000 acres divided by man-made impacts do not meet the size criterion.
2. Naturalness: The remaining 47,150 acres are essentially natural. The five miles of ways and several shallow reservoirs existing in the unit are substantially unnoticeable.

3. Outstanding Opportunities for:

A. Solitude: The topography of the area is very flat and has little diversity. The vegetation is a low-growing form and does not provide screening. Even with moderate distances between users there would be visual contact between them.

B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Possible activities include hiking, hunting, horseback riding, and possible cross country skiing. Recreationists would find little challenge in any of the activities listed. The flat topography would be a detriment to most forms of primitive recreation. There is no surface water known to be available within the unit.

4. Supplemental Values: Wild horses are readily seen within the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

55,150 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-010-113

UNIT NAME: Burner Hill

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is in Elko County about 65 miles northwest of Elko, Nevada. The western portion of the unit is a flat basin except for the drainage of Willow Creek. This drainage trends northwest through the western portion. The rolling Burner Hills dominate the eastern portion. Big sagebrush is the predominant vegetative cover.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 16,770 acres of public land. One parcel totaling 2,800 acres was removed because it is separated from the unit by a highly noticeable way.
2. Naturalness: Substantial mining activities affect the naturalness of 700 acres in the eastern portion of the unit. The remaining 13,270-acre portion is natural.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: Low vegetative screening, limited topographic diversity, and the unit's small size do not provide outstanding opportunities for solitude.

B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Primitive recreation opportunities include hiking, backpacking, horseback riding, camping, hunting, and wildlife observation. The lack of significant natural features, scarcity of water, and lack of natural shelter contribute to making primitive recreation potential less than outstanding.

4. Supplemental Values: Wild horses are the only significant supplemental value.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

16,770 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-010-114

UNIT NAME: Cornucopia

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is in Elko County about 55 miles northwest of Elko, Nevada. The unit is characterized by flat terrain and rolling hills covered with big sagebrush.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 28,760 acres of public land. Two areas totaling 5,080 acres are separated by roads and the Cornucopia Mining District and do not meet the size criterion.
2. Naturalness: The entire 23,680 acres are in an unnatural condition. The unit includes the following substantially noticeable man-made impacts: eight reservoirs, extensive prospect pits, two developed springs, 11 miles of ways, and 12 miles of bladed fenceline.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The significant amount of man-made impacts do not allow for outstanding solitude.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: The significant amount of man-made impacts greatly hinder the quality of recreation experience that can be attained.
4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

28,760 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: The portion of the unit that contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land does not generally appear to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable. Therefore, further wilderness consideration is unnecessary.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-010-115

UNIT NAME: Big Cottonwood Canyon

AREA DESCRIPTION: This unit is about 50 miles northwest of Elko, Nevada. The topography of the unit is rolling with four major drainages. These drainages flow north and south. The vegetation consists of mostly low-growing forms and is comprised mostly of big sagebrush. There are small stands of aspen in the larger canyons.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 56,140 acres of public land. Three parcels totaling 7,730 acres have been divided by roads and intrusive ways and do not meet the size criterion.
2. Naturalness: The remaining 48,410 acres are essentially natural. There are about 25 miles of ways and four miles of fenceline within the unit. None of these are substantially noticeable.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The topography of the unit generally is not diverse; however, two large canyons have some diversity. The vegetation is low-growing and uniform. Solitude in the larger canyons or in proximity to the canyons is moderate to high. The narrow configuration created by boundaries consisting of long blocks of private in-holdings create problems of orientation and freedom of movement. A user's movement will be restricted and constant orientation will be required to remain on public land making outstanding solitude experiences difficult.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Possible activities include hiking, hunting, horseback riding, camping, and possibly photography. Topography would allow for a moderate experience in hiking and horseback riding. Water is available in the unit, though there is some distance between sources. Hunting would be average for the area. There are no outstanding features to make photography a high quality experience. Overall, opportunities for primitive recreation are not outstanding.
4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.



RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

56,140 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-010-116

UNIT NAME: Sulfur

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is about 55 miles north of Elko, Nevada. The topography is rolling with the drainages running north and south. The vegetation consists mainly of low growing big sagebrush. The Skull Creek drainage has some diversity in topography and some riparian vegetation.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 15,000 acres of public land. Two parcels totaling 6,100 acres have been separated by significant impacts and do not meet the size criterion.
2. Naturalness: The remaining 8,900 acres are unnatural because of a large seeding, associated ways, and fences which are substantially noticeable.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: Because of the unnatural state of this unit, outstanding solitude does not exist.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Because of unnatural conditions and noticeable impacts, outstanding opportunities for primitive recreation do not exist.
4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

15,000 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: The portion of the unit that contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land does not generally appear to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable. Therefore, further wilderness consideration is unnecessary.

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is in Elko County about 55 miles northwest of Elko, Nevada. The area is fairly mountainous; low-growing big sagebrush is its dominant vegetative cover. The predominant feature is Six Mile Hill in the southern region of the unit.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 42,680 acres of public land. Two portions totaling 2,220 acres are separated by roads and a pipeline and do not meet the size criterion.
2. Naturalness: The remaining 40,460 acres are essentially natural because the nine reservoirs and six miles of fence line within the unit are substantially unnoticeable.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The mountainous terrain provides good diversity and moderate solitude in the northern and southern parts of the unit. The low vegetative cover provides no screening from other visitors. The Valmy coal-fired power plant, about 15 miles southwest, constitute a major man-made impact outside the unit. This greatly hampers the feeling of solitude experienced in both the northern and southern portions of the unit. The large transmission line for this plant also is a significant man-made impact outside the unit. This approaches within two miles of the unit and is easily seen from the southern portion, making solitude less than outstanding.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Possible activities include backpacking, hiking, horseback riding, rock climbing, and hunting. Movement would be difficult because the terrain is rugged. This will particularly affect horseback riding. Water is not available in the unit. This greatly hinders backpacking and hiking. The Valmy power plant can be seen throughout the unit. This also affects the quality of those recreational activities available, making them less than outstanding.
4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

42,680 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-010-130

UNIT NAME: Rock Creek

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is in Elko County about 60 miles northwest of Elko, Nevada. The unit is characterized by rolling hills covered with low-growing sagebrush. Some areas have cliffs that fall away to flats below. Rock Creek flows south through the unit within Rock Creek Canyon. Some willows are found along Rock Creek.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 37,080 acres of public land. Five portions totaling 4,200 acres are separated by roads and bladed fencelines and do not meet the size criterion.
2. Naturalness: Two areas totaling 8,700 acres are unnatural. They contain four reservoirs, several prospect pits, seven miles of caterpillar cut firelines, and a 3,800-acre crested wheatgrass seeding. These are easily noticeable. The remaining 24,180 acres are essentially natural because the two reservoirs, seven miles of ways, and one mile of fireline within the unit are substantially unnoticeable.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: Good topographic screening exists among the rolling hills, cliffs, and within Rock Creek Canyon. Moderate solitude is found in these areas. Vegetation consists of low-growing sagebrush, grasses, and some willows. These provide little screening from others. Recreationists will congregate within Rock Creek Canyon because of its interesting terrain and water availability. Opportunities for solitude would be less than outstanding.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Possible activities include backpacking, camping, hiking, horseback riding, hunting, fishing, sightseeing, and photography. These activities will be concentrated within the eight-mile stretch of Rock Creek Canyon. Here there is water available and some shelter from the elements. Some hiking and sightseeing will take place outside the canyon area to gain views of the surrounding terrain. The quality of these activities will be less than outstanding because of the concentration of users.
4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

37,080 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-010-131

UNIT NAME: Snowstorm

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is in Elko County about 60 miles northwest of Elko, Nevada. The unit is composed of rolling hills and ridges in the east and a flat valley bottom in the west. Dominant vegetation is big sagebrush.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 12,130 acres of public land. Four areas totaling 5,730 acres are separated by roads and do not meet the size criterion.
2. Naturalness: The remaining 6,400 acres include two miles of fenceline, one mile of ways, and three reservoirs. These are not substantially noticeable, leaving the area essentially natural.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The hills in the northern part of the unit provide moderate topographic screening. Users would see one another from the hill tops. Vegetative screening is almost non-existent. Opportunities for solitude are less than outstanding.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Possible activities include backpacking, camping, hiking, horseback riding, hunting, sightseeing, and photography. Water is not available hindering most activities. The small size of area limits duration of these activities. No attractions exist or enhance hiking or sightseeing. Outstanding opportunities for primitive recreation are not outstanding.
4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

12,130 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-010-132

UNIT NAME: Little Humboldt River

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is in Elko County about 65 miles northwest of Elko, Nevada. The unit is comprised of generally rolling hills in the eastern portion and is more diverse and canyon like in the western regions. The Little Humboldt River flows north-northwest within a canyon through the unit. Several tributaries such as Winters Creek, Snowstorm Creek, and First Creek flow northeasterly and form side canyons that enhance the scenic quality of the unit. The dominant vegetation is low-growing big sagebrush.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 96,320 acres of public land. Thirteen parcels totaling 20,080 acres are separated by roads and bladed fencelines and do not meet the size criterion.
2. Naturalness: Two portions totaling 12,300 acres lack naturalness. They contain 12 miles of bladed fenceline and five miles of ways that are substantially noticeable. The remaining 63,940 acres contain seven miles of ways, four reservoirs, and seven miles of fenceline. These are separated by large distances and are not substantially noticeable, leaving the area essentially natural.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: Two portions totaling 23,840 acres provide moderate screening. Here topography consists of gently rolling hills covered by low-growing big sagebrush. Persons can be seen from throughout these areas, making solitude opportunities less than outstanding. The western portion contains 40,100 acres. It has excellent topographic screening, including the Little Humboldt River Canyon and Castle Ridge. The canyon is winding and offers excellent solitude. Exceptional solitude can also be attained in the side canyons. Overall, opportunities for solitude in this portion are outstanding.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Possible activities include backpacking, camping, hiking, horseback riding, hunting, sightseeing, and photography. The two portions totaling 23,840 acres do not have water available. Activities are also hampered by a lack of shelter from the elements and lack of interesting terrain and features for sightseeing. The 40,100 acre portion contains perennial water from the Little Humboldt River. Shelter is also provided by the canyon walls. Hiking and backpacking are exceptional because of the stock and game trails present as well as the spectacular scenery. The size of the unit provides activities of several days' duration, making primitive recreational opportunities outstanding.

4. Supplemental Values: Excellent opportunities for viewing wild horses exist in the unit. Scenery in the unit is also excellent.

RECOMMENDATION:

40,100 acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

56,220 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: The portion of the unit proposed as a Wilderness Study Area contains at least 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature, with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable. It also has outstanding opportunities for solitude and a primitive and unconfined type of recreation.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-010-133

UNIT NAME: Three Mile Creek

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is in Elko County about 60 miles northwest of Elko, Nevada. The unit is characterized by rolling sagebrush covered hills. Some steep ridges and dry washes also exist in the area.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 28,440 acres of public lands. Eight parcels totaling 9,320 acres are separated by roads and do not meet the size criterion.
2. Naturalness: One portion of 7,900 acres lacks naturalness due to four miles of bladed fenceline, one mile long way, and a reservoir which are substantially noticeable. The remaining 11,220 acres are essentially natural and include a reservoir and six miles of ways which are substantially unnoticeable.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The topography is gently rolling hills covered with low-growing big sagebrush and grasses. The combined topographic and vegetative screening are very low, making opportunities for solitude less than outstanding.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Possible activities include backpacking, camping, hiking, horseback riding, hunting, sight-seeing, and photography. Water is not available in the unit. No specific attractions exist in the unit to enhance these activities. Outstanding opportunities for primitive recreation do not exist.
4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

28,440 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-010-134

UNIT NAME: Chino Creek

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is in Elko County about 60 miles northwest of Elko, Nevada. The unit is characterized by rolling hills with low-growing sagebrush as the dominant cover.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 9,680 acres of public land. Roads divide the unit into three parcels. Two of these, totaling 4,660 acres, do not meet the size criterion.
2. Naturalness: The remaining 5,020 acres are essentially natural. The one reservoir and the four miles of fence line in the unit are substantially unnoticeable.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The terrain in the remaining 5,020 acres is relatively flat and is covered typically by low-growing sagebrush. Users would easily be seen from throughout the area, providing little opportunities for solitude.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Activities available include hiking, camping, hunting, and sightseeing. The terrain offers little of interest to enhance these activities. No water or shelter from the elements can be found. Opportunities for primitive recreation are less than outstanding.
4. Supplemental Values: Wild horses exist within the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

9,680 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-010-135

UNIT NAME: Bull Run

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is in Elko County about 60 miles northwest of Elko. The unit consists of the Bull Run Mountains which run north to south and contain peaks rising up to 8,510 feet. Steep canyons contain aspen groves, bitterbrush, sagebrush, and snowberry. White fir and whitebark pine occur on the higher slopes.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 8,700 acres of public land. Two parcels totaling 760 acres were deleted because of roads or significant intrusions.
2. Naturalness: Several prospect pits and associated roads mar the area northeast of Wilson Peak affecting the natural character of 440 acres. The remaining 7,500 acres are essentially natural because the three miles of fenceline and two miles of ways are substantially unnoticeable.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: Opportunities for solitude are poor because of the unit's narrow width, small size, and limited screening. The topography of the narrow ridgeline exposes users on the summit and sides to others. Several man-made impacts are also noticeable, making opportunities for solitude less than outstanding.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Hiking, backpacking, sightseeing, photography, camping, mountain climbing, hunting, and wildlife observation are potential primitive recreation uses. The unit's small size and man-made impacts detract from the wilderness quality of these activities and make them less than outstanding.
4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

8,700 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.



RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-010-143

UNIT NAME: Adobe

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is in Elko County about 35 miles north of Elko, Nevada. The western and southern regions are characterized by rolling hills and shallow drainages whereas the eastern portion, with the North Fork of the Humboldt River flowing through it, is more diverse. The dominant vegetation throughout the unit is low-growing big sagebrush.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 11,230 acres of public land. One parcel of 1,400 acres was separated by a bladed fenceline, a way, and a road and does not meet the size criterion.
2. Naturalness: The remaining 9,830 acres include two miles of ways. Since these are substantially unnoticeable, the 9,830 acre portion is essentially natural.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The terrain is generally rolling except for the areas immediately adjacent to Cottonwood Creek and the North Fork Humboldt River. Along these rivers good solitude can be experienced but it is not considered outstanding.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Activities available include hiking, camping, horseback riding, cross-country skiing, hunting, sightseeing, and photography. The general terrain of the unit does not lend exceptional character to these activities. They are also hampered by the lack of shelter from the elements and general lack of water away from the streams.
4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

11,230 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-010-147

UNIT NAME: Double Mountain

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is in Elko County about 35 miles north of Elko, Nevada. The area offers generally rolling terrain interspersed with washes. The dominant vegetative cover is low-growing big sagebrush.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 36,740 acres of public land. Five parcels totaling 14,620 acres and divided by roads do not meet the size criterion.
2. Naturalness: Nineteen miles of ways, four developed springs, and eight miles of fenceline within the remaining acreage (22,120 acres) are substantially unnoticeable, and so the rest of the area is essentially natural.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The rolling hills provide little topographic screening and the sagebrush provides none. In addition, the number of man-made impacts decreases the amount of solitude possible.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Activities available include backpacking, camping, horseback riding, and hiking. Because of the narrowness of the remaining natural areas, these activities, which require large areas to be considered good, are not outstanding; in addition the numerous man-made impacts detract from the experience.
4. Supplemental Values: Parts of the area are scenic.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

36,740 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is in Elko County about 45 miles north of Elko, Nevada. The unit includes rolling hills covered with low-growing big sagebrush and two perennial streams which flow through the southern portion of the unit.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 22,240 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: One parcel covering 7,800 acres is unnatural because it contains 10 miles of ways and 11 miles of fenceline that are easily noticeable. The remaining 14,440 acres contain three miles of fence-line and a one mile way that are substantially unnoticeable. Therefore, 14,440 acres are essentially natural.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The unit includes some canyon and rocky areas in which screening allows for moderate seclusion. However, the general terrain and low-growing sagebrush do not allow for outstanding solitude.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Hiking, camping, horseback riding, hunting, and sightseeing/photography are available. The lack of topographic diversity and general character of the land detract from their quality. Water available is also not drinkable. Outstanding opportunities do not exist.
4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

22,240 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

AREA DESCRIPTION: The area is 30 miles north of Elko, Nevada. It consists of rolling hills with several deeper drainages. The main vegetative type is big sagebrush. Some willows and small patches of aspen are present. The greatest topographic diversity lies in the northern part with the least diversity on the east side of the unit.

## CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 44,960 acres of public land. Four parcels, totaling 12,000 acres, are separated by roads and do not meet the size criterion.
2. Naturalness: Two parcels totaling 12,850 acres are unnatural. This acreage has seven reservoirs, two improved springs, 19 miles of ways, and 15 miles of fences that are substantially noticeable. The remaining three parcels totaling 20,110 acres are essentially natural; however there are five miles of ways and six miles of fencelines within this acreage, but they are substantially unnoticeable.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The acreage does not have a great amount of topographic diversity. Also the area has poor vegetative screening. Users on ridges, and similarly in canyon bottoms, would notice each other on either side of the main ridges. The east fork of Beaver Creek lies in the eastern portion of the unit and its drainage provides a moderate amount of solitude. Overall, opportunities for solitude are lacking.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Activities include hunting, horseback riding, cross country skiing, photography, and hiking. Hunting opportunities are considered only average. Horseback riding would be the best activity one could undertake. There is available perennial water in the east portion of the unit, however this portion is very low in diversity. None of these activities would be of high value or duration.
4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

## RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

44,960 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-010-150

UNIT NAME: Table Mountain

AREA DESCRIPTION: This unit is in Elko County, Nevada, about 60 miles north of Elko, Nevada. The unit consists of numerous ridges running north-south. The terrain is generally rolling with several scattered steeper slopes. The principle vegetative type is big sagebrush. There are scattered, small patches of aspen and willows associated with springs and water developments.

## CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 47,300 acres of public land. Roads separate the original unit into nine parcels. Seven units, totaling 24,700 acres, do not meet the size criterion.
2. Naturalness: One parcel of 9,900 acres lacks naturalness because it contains five reservoirs, six developed springs, 12 miles of fenceline, two miles of telephone-telegraph line, and 10 miles of ways. These are substantially noticeable. The remaining 12,700 acres are essentially natural. The unit has six reservoirs, 12 developed springs, eight miles of fenceline, one mile of telephone-telegraph line, and 15 miles of ways. These impacts, however, are spread out and separated by enough distance so that they are substantially unnoticeable.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The unit has some topographic features and relief that would provide moderate screening. Vegetative screening is poor. The opportunities for solitude are limited to shallow canyons. The narrow configuration of the unit does not allow for high degrees of solitude. Overall, opportunities for solitude are less than outstanding.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Recreation opportunities within the unit include hunting, hiking, horseback riding, sight-seeing, and perhaps cross country skiing. The narrow configuration would limit the activities to a certain direction and limit the duration. Water is scattered and limited to noticeable improvements. The low topographic relief as well as the low vegetation offer less than outstanding opportunities for primitive recreation.
4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

## RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

47,300 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is in Elko County about 30 miles north of Elko, Nevada. It is composed of a singular mountainous ridge running north-south. Some drainages flow to both the east and west. The Burneau River flows north-west for about one mile through the northeast corner of the unit.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 6,300 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: The entire 6,300 acres are natural. A way one mile long exists in the unit, but is substantially unnoticeable.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: Generally the topography is mountainous dominated by a central ridge line running north and south. Vision is unrestricted on the ridgeline. Visitors there can see others on the ridge and persons within the drainages. The Copper Creek and Bruneau River Canyons in the northeast corner of the unit offer the best opportunity for solitude within the unit. Even here, however, opportunities for solitude are considered less than outstanding. Vegetative screening provided by low-growing big sagebrush is poor.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Activities available include backpacking, camping, hunting, and horseback riding. Water availability and the unit's size will tend to concentrate users in the drainages. Horseback riding would be enjoyable for experienced riders but the rugged terrain makes movement generally difficult and hazardous. Outstanding opportunities for primitive recreation are lacking.
4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

6,300 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is in Elko County about 55 miles north of Elko, Nevada. The unit is characterized by rugged rocky terrain. It is more diverse topographically along its eastern edge and at the northern end. Willow Creek flows east-west through a scenic canyon in the northern part of the unit.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 5,120 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: One portion covering about 100 acres includes Charleston Reservoir. This is substantially noticeable and not natural. The remaining 5,020 acres include one reservoir, five miles of fenceline, three miles of ways, and an irrigation ditch about a half mile long. These are not easily noticeable, rendering the 5,020 acres essentially natural.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: Topographic screening is good in the eastern and northern portions of the unit. Isolation within the canyons will be difficult because visitors would tend to concentrate in small areas. Overall, opportunities for solitude are less than outstanding.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Activities available include camping, hiking, rock climbing, and horseback riding. Previous evidence of camping is found in the aspen grove in the northeast corner of the unit. Day hiking is possible from there to Willow Creek Canyon. Horseback riding would require experience because of the rugged terrain. Water is available only in Willow Creek and the reservoir in the unit. The presence of man's impacts and the units small size hamper the quality of recreation activities.
4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

5,120 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is in Elko County about 35 miles north of Elko, Nevada. The terrain is generally rolling except for steep terrain along the North Fork of the Humboldt River that flows easterly through the unit. Devil's Gap, a narrow gap with cliffs on either side through which the North Fork flows, is in the unit. Vegetation is composed of low-growing big sagebrush with some riparian growth along the stream.

## CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 10,240 acres of public land. The entire unit is separated by roads and substantial intrusions into three portions, none of which meets the minimum size criterion.
2. Naturalness: The entire 10,240 acres lack naturalness because the 10 miles of ways, three miles of fenceline, and two miles of telephone and power lines are substantially noticeable.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The small size of the area makes solitude less than outstanding.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: The small size of the areas makes primitive recreation less than outstanding.
4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

## RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

10,240 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: The unit does not contain any area with at least 5,000 acres of contiguous public land, nor any area that fits one of the size exceptions. Therefore, further wilderness consideration is unnecessary.

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is in Elko County, Nevada and Box Elder County, Utah, about 90 miles northeast of Elko, Nevada. The unit contains a small mountain range that runs north-south through the eastern area. Otherwise, the unit is generally rolling hills covered with heavy sagebrush and sparse juniper vegetative types. The unit is managed by the Elko BLM District in Nevada and the Salt Lake BLM District in Utah.



#### CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 21,300 acres of public land. One parcel of 1,600 acres is separated by a road and does not meet the size criterion.
2. Naturalness: The unit contains three reservoirs, three miles of pipeline, 12 developed springs, 12 miles of fenceline, and 20 miles of ways. These impacts are scattered throughout the unit and are substantially unnoticeable. Therefore, the remaining 19,700 acres are essentially natural.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The generally rolling terrain in combination with the moderate vegetative cover does not provide outstanding solitude. The man-made impacts throughout the unit also detract from the area's solitude potential.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Activities available include hiking, camping, horseback riding, hunting, and photography. Water is available from developed springs but may not be drinkable. The major obstacle to an outstanding recreation experience would be the periodic observance of man-made improvements.
4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

#### RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

21,300 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-010-160-B

UNIT NAME: Wagon Box Pass

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is in Elko County about 60 miles northeast of Elko, Nevada. The unit is flat with a few rolling hills. The dominant vegetation is low-growing big sagebrush with a few juniper trees scattered throughout the unit.

#### CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 6,000 acres of public land. One 650 acre portion is separated by a bladed fenceline and does not meet the size criterion.

2. Naturalness: One 790 acre portion has been plowed and seeded with crested wheatgrass. Since the seeding is substantially noticeable, the area is unnatural. The remaining 4,560 acres are essentially natural.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The flat terrain with a few rolling hills provides little topographic screening. The scattered junipers provide only a moderate amount of vegetative screening. Visitors will be easily seen from throughout the unit, making opportunities for solitude less than outstanding.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Activities available include backpacking, hiking, hunting, and wildlife observation. The size of the unit would allow activities of only short duration. Water would need to be carried and only sparse shelter is available under juniper trees. Therefore, primitive recreation opportunities are not outstanding.
4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

6,000 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present. In addition, the natural portion does not meet the size criterion.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-010-161

UNIT NAME: Bald Mountain

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is in Elko County about 60 miles northeast of Elko, Nevada and is about four miles west of the Utah border. The unit contains gently rolling hills with mostly big sagebrush in the south and some scattered junipers in the north.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 16,620 acres of public land. Roads separate five parcels totaling 11,500 acres which were deleted due to size.
2. Naturalness: The 5,120 acres contain four miles of fence line, a way, two reservoirs, and a stock tank. These are substantially unnoticeable, making the unit essentially natural.

3. Outstanding Opportunities for:

A. Solitude: The topographic relief is poor. The drainages are shallow and relatively wide. The vegetation is strictly low-growing and provides no screening. Persons on the ridges can be seen easily. Persons down low can easily see others on the upper slopes and vice versa. Overall, opportunities for solitude are not outstanding.

B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Activities available include backpacking, camping, horseback riding, hunting, and photography. The opportunities are limited because the area is so small and it offers few features that would attract primitive recreationists. Because of its uninteresting terrain, lack of vegetative cover, and poor scenery, the area offers less than outstanding opportunities for primitive recreation.

4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

16,620 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-010-162

UNIT NAME: Tee Pee Rock #2

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is in Elko County about 30 miles southeast of Jackpot, Nevada. The unit is composed of rolling hills with low-growing sagebrush and stands of pinyon-juniper. Tee Pee Rock is a reddish brown color and stands above the surrounding landscape in the northwestern corner of the unit.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 11,000 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: The entire 11,000 acres are essentially natural because the 14 miles of ways, three miles of pipeline, and eight miles of fenceline are substantially unnoticeable.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:

A. Solitude: The topography of the area is rolling and provides for some degree of solitude. Generally, the juniper cover provides most of the screening between users. As persons move about in the unit they will become visible to others as they move into clearer areas. Opportunities for solitude are less than outstanding.

B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Activities available include hiking, camping, hunting, and sightseeing. The terrain provides moderate quality hiking and camping experiences. Shelter is provided by the juniper but water is not available. No specific attractions exist to enhance sightseeing and photography. Opportunities for primitive recreation are not outstanding.

4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

11,000 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-010-164/ID-202-1/UT-020-001

UNIT NAME: Little Goose Creek #1

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is about 90 miles northeast of Elko, Nevada. The topography consists of gently rolling hills. The vegetation consists of low-growing big sagebrush with scattered juniper and pinyon pine at the higher elevations. Elevations vary from 5,200 feet to 6,300 feet. A 1,330 acre parcel lies in Utah and two portions totaling 2,325 acres lie in Idaho. The remaining 7,695 acres are in Nevada.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 11,350 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: The entire 11,350 acre unit is essentially natural. There are 15 miles of ways and six miles of fence line within the unit that are relatively unnoticeable.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The topography is rolling and not diverse, providing only moderate screening. The sagebrush vegetation is low-growing and provides poor screening. The juniper vegetation is scattered and not thick growing, thus providing only moderate screening. Users would find it difficult to experience a high degree of solitude.

B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Activities available are hunting, hiking, camping, horseback riding, and rockhounding. Hunting would be good. Hiking and horseback riding as well as camping would be fair and would be diminished because of lack of water available all year. The terrain provides no real challenge to a recreationist. Rockhounding is practiced within the unit and is said to be fairly good. The opportunities for primitive recreation within the unit are less than outstanding.

4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

#### RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

11,350 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-010-167

UNIT NAME: Little Goose Creek #4

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is in Elko County about 60 miles northeast of Elko, Nevada on the Idaho border. It is a series of rolling hills interspersed with a few creeks covered with low sage and big sage with a few widely scattered stands of aspen.

#### CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 5,300 acres of public land. One parcel of 1,100 acres is separated by a road, leaving a 4,200 acre parcel. Neither parcel meets the minimum size criterion.
2. Naturalness: Overall the area is essentially natural, although it does contain five miles of ways which are substantially unnoticeable.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: Because of the unit's small size, outstanding opportunities are not available.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Because of the unit's small size, outstanding opportunities are not available.

4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

5,300 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: The unit does not contain any area with at least 5,000 acres of contiguous public land, nor any area that fits one of the size exceptions. Therefore, further wilderness consideration is unnecessary.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-010-167-B

UNIT NAME: Little Goose Creek #4

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is in Elko County about 70 miles northeast of Elko, Nevada and could be characterized as mostly flat with some gently rolling hills covered with sagebrush and some juniper.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 6,100 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: There is a one and a half mile long way; however, the 6,100 acre unit is essentially natural.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: It is unlikely that a sense of solitude would be experienced in the unit due to the poor or non-existent topographic or vegetative screening.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Activities available include backpacking, camping, horseback riding, hunting, and photography. The opportunities are limited because the area as a whole offers few features that would attract primitive recreationists. Because of uninteresting terrain, lack of vegetative cover, and poor scenery, the area offers less than outstanding opportunities for primitive recreation.
4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

6,100 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-010-170

UNIT NAME: Bedke Well

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is in Elko County about 25 miles southeast of Jackpot, Nevada. The unit varies from low rolling hills to flat areas. The typical vegetation is low-growing big sagebrush with some isolated junipers occurring in places.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 26,880 acres of public land. Two portions totaling 6,600 acres were separated by roads and do not meet the minimum size criterion.
2. Naturalness: Six miles of pipeline with associated stocktanks remain in the unit along with nine miles of fenceline, 12 miles of ways, and a windmill. Although some of these are noticeable, the 20,280 acre unit is essentially natural.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The vegetative screening is basically very low and short. The topography consists of low rolling hills that do not provide much screening. The opportunities for solitude are only moderate.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Activities available include hiking, horseback riding, and hunting. The opportunities available are limited because the area as a whole offers few features that would attract primitive recreationists. Because of the area's uninteresting terrain, lack of vegetative cover, and poor scenery, it offers less than outstanding opportunities for primitive recreation.
4. Supplemental Values: A portion of the Goose Creek-Fort Hall Emigrant Trail passes through the area.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

26,880 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is about 50 miles northeast of Elko, Nevada. The unit is rolling and has a northwesterly slope. Elevations vary from 5,500 feet to 7,300 feet. Vegetation consists of big sagebrush and sagebrush-juniper on the slopes.

## CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 7,400 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: The 7,400 acre unit is essentially natural. However, there is a 1,100 acre seeding in the northwest corner. There are also a well and a windmill on the west boundary. All are substantially unnoticeable.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The topographic diversity of this unit is low to moderate. The vegetative diversity is also low to moderate. Neither the vegetation nor the topography offers high screening. Users would readily contact other users, making opportunities for solitude less than outstanding.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Primitive recreation activities include hiking, hunting, photography, and possibly rockhounding. The only known water available is the developed well near the west boundary. The recreation experiences offered here would only be moderate. No particular attractions exist to enhance hiking or photography. Therefore, opportunities for solitude are less than outstanding.
4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

## RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

7,400 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit lies 50 miles northeast of Elko, Elko County, Nevada. The terrain is gently rolling with a southwest aspect. The elevation varies from 6,000 feet to about 7,400 feet. The vegetation varies from low-growing big sagebrush to sage-juniper in the middle elevations.



## CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 10,450 acres of public land. A parcel of 1,200 acres has been separated by accumulated impacts and does not meet the size criterion.
2. Naturalness: The remaining 9,250 acres is essentially natural. It contains 15 miles of ways, one developed spring, one well, and numerous mining scars that are substantially unnoticeable.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The topographic diversity is not high. The canyons are shallow and the ridges are rounded. The vegetation is a very low-growing form in the south and west portions. The juniper growth is only found at the middle of the slopes and is sparse. The tops of the ridges consist of grasses and other low-growing plants. A user would find it difficult to not be seen by another user. Any experience would be less than outstanding due to the ways and the numerous, but scattered, pits and scrapes from mining exploration.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Primitive recreation activities include hunting, hiking, horseback riding, and possible rock-hounding. The vegetation and topography do not provide for good screening. The diversity is not great. Water is probably only available at the developed sources. Overall, primitive recreation opportunities are less than outstanding.
4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

## RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

10,450 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION; Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-010-171-B

UNIT NAME: Delano

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is about 60 miles northeast of Elko, Nevada. The terrain is mostly rolling with the drainages running south. The elevation varies from 5,200 feet to near 6,400 feet. The vegetation is composed of low forms of big sagebrush with juniper occurring at the higher elevations.

#### CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 10,540 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: The 10,540 acre unit is essentially natural. There are about five miles of ways and one well within the unit, but they are substantially unnoticeable.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The terrain comprises shallow drainages leading to the south. The topographic relief is low and provides little screening. The vegetation is low-growing and is not dense, making screening poor. Throughout the unit users would find it difficult to avoid another visitor, making opportunities for solitude less than outstanding.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Activities available include hiking, horseback riding, photography, hunting, and perhaps rockhounding. The low value of the vegetative and topographic diversity diminishes the quality of these activities. Water is only available at a developed well near the southeast boundary. Opportunities for primitive recreation are less than outstanding.
4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

#### RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

10,540 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-010-174

UNIT NAME: Ninemile

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is in Elko County about 40 miles northeast of Wells, Nevada. The unit is characterized as a broad valley between two ridge lines. The dominant vegetation is low-growing big sagebrush with some pinyon-juniper stands.

#### CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 21,120 acres of public land. Three parcels totaling 8,900 acres are separated by bladed fencelines and do not meet the size criterion.

2. Naturalness: The 12,220 acres are essentially natural since the 10 miles of ways and four miles of fenceline within the unit are substantially unnoticeable.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The small portion of Ninemile Ridge in the unit and Tony Mountain provide a moderate degree of topographic screening. The same is true for vegetative screening in areas of pinyon-juniper. In general, however, other visitors can easily be seen from throughout the unit and opportunities for solitude are less than outstanding.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Activities available include backpacking, camping, hiking, hunting, horseback riding, and rockhounding. Water is not available in the unit. The area does provide good rockhounding.
4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

#### RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

21,120 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-010-177

UNIT NAME: Tijuana John

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is in Elko County about 12 miles southeast of Jackpot, Nevada. The topography of the unit is diverse in the south and flat in the north. Dominant vegetation is big sagebrush.

#### CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 12,840 acres of public land. One 3,000 acre parcel is separated by a road and does not meet the size criterion.
2. Naturalness: The 9,840 acres remaining include a reservoir, two miles of fenceline, and three miles of ways. These are substantially unnoticeable. Therefore, the entire 9,840 acres are essentially natural.

3. Outstanding Opportunities for:

A. Solitude: Topographic screening is moderate in Cow and Willow Creeks. The remainder of the unit offers little topographic diversity. The entire unit is covered with low-growing big sagebrush and sparse juniper stands.

B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Activities available include backpacking, camping, hiking, horseback riding, hunting, sight-seeing, and photography. Little shelter or water is available except along Cow and Willow Creeks. A dead-end road along Willow Creek hampers the recreational experience. Overall, the unit provides less than outstanding opportunities for solitude.

4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

12,840 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-010-177-B

UNIT NAME: Tijuana John

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is in Elko County about 12 miles southeast of Jackpot, Nevada. The area offers generally rolling terrain interspersed with washes leading north. The dominant vegetative cover is low-growing big sagebrush.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 12,990 acres of public land. Two parcels totaling 5,140 acres are separated by bladed fencelines and do not meet the size criterion.
2. Naturalness: The remaining 7,850 acres have apparent naturalness because the two reservoirs, a mile and a half of fenceline, eight miles of ways, and an improved spring are substantially unnoticeable.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The topography is not diverse in the unit nor does the vegetation provide screening from other individuals. No peaks, canyons, or meadows exist in the unit that would enhance the feeling of solitude.

B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Activities available include hiking, hunting, sightseeing, and photography. No water or shelter from the elements is available in the unit. Little of interest for photography can be found. Overall, opportunities for primitive recreation are not outstanding.

4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

12,990 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-010-177-F

UNIT NAME: Tijuana John

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is in Elko County about 12 miles southeast of Jackpot, Nevada. It generally consists of mountainous terrain covered by big sagebrush and pinyon-juniper.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 6,560 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: Of the 6,560 acres, 460 are not natural because past mining activities are evident. The remaining 6,100 acres include about a mile and a half of ways and a developed spring. Since these are substantially unnoticeable, the 6,100 acres are essentially natural.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:

A. Solitude: Topographic screening is good only in the middle and southeastern parts of the unit. Vegetative cover includes low-growing sagebrush and moderately dense stands of pinyon-juniper in the higher elevations. Solitude can be experienced in the unit but is not of outstanding quality.

B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Activities available include backpacking, camping, hiking, hunting, sightseeing, and photography. The activities would be of short duration because of the unit's size. Water is not available and would need to be carried. Overall, opportunities for primitive recreation are not outstanding.

4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

6,560 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-010-177-J

UNIT NAME: Tijuana John

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is in Elko County 12 miles southeast of Jackpot, Nevada. The unit is characterized by fairly rugged terrain with big sagebrush and juniper.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 6,320 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: The unit includes four miles of ways, three reservoirs, and some prospect pits. These are scattered throughout the unit and are substantially unnoticeable. Therefore, the entire 6,320 acres are essentially natural.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: Peaks and small canyons exist where a moderate degree of solitude can be felt. Travel for more than a mile without entering surrounding private land is difficult. Outstanding opportunities for solitude are non-existent.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Activities available include hiking, hunting, sightseeing, and photography. Each of these activities are affected by the unit's odd shape and scattered man-made impacts. Opportunities for primitive recreation are less than outstanding.
4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

6,320 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-010-177-L

UNIT NAME: Tijuana John

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is in Elko County about 12 miles southeast of Jackpot, Nevada. The unit includes rugged terrain to the north and flat areas to the south. Vegetation consists of low-growing big sagebrush and sparse stands of pinyon-juniper.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 14,400 acres of public land. Three parcels totaling 8,600 acres were separated by a road, a pipeline, and bladed fenceline. These do not meet the size criterion.
2. Naturalness: The remaining 5,800 acres includes two reservoirs and four miles of ways. These are substantially unnoticeable, making the entire 5,800 acres essentially natural.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: Topographic screening is good in the northwest part of the unit. Fairly dense stands of juniper provide a moderate degree of solitude in the western region as well. However, overall opportunities are less than outstanding.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Activities available include backpacking, camping, hiking, horseback riding, spelunking, sightseeing, and photography. The unit's small size greatly hinders the duration of backpacking, hiking, and horseback riding experiences. Water is unavailable. Primitive recreation opportunities are less than outstanding.
4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

14,400 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-010-178

UNIT NAME: Granite

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is about 80 miles northeast of Elko, Nevada. The topography consists of a central mountain range running north-south with ridges sloping away to the east and west. The elevations vary from 5,600 feet to 7,900 feet. Vegetation is mainly sagebrush with aspen patches in the drainages.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 8,300 acres of public land. One parcel of 3,100 acres is separated by a road and does not meet the size criterion.
2. Naturalness: The remaining 5,200-acre parcel is not natural. There are six miles of ways and one mile of fenceline which are substantially noticeable.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: Because of the unnatural conditions within this unit, outstanding opportunities for solitude do not exist.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Because of the unnatural conditions in this unit, outstanding opportunities for primitive recreation do not exist.
4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

8,300 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land, it does not generally appear to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable. Therefore, further wilderness consideration is unnecessary.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-010-178-A

UNIT NAME: Granite

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is about 80 miles northeast of Elko, Nevada. The topography is mountainous with Middle Stack Mountain centered in the unit. The drainages from Middle Stack slope off sharply in all directions. The shortest slopes lie to the south. This south side drops only 1,000 feet to a high saddle. The vegetation consists of sagebrush and other low-growing shrubs and bushes.



## CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 15,420 acres of public land. One parcel of 2,230 acres is separated from the main body by a fenced seeding and does not meet the size criterion.
2. Naturalness: The remaining 13,190 acres are essentially natural. About 5,000 of these acres are affected by several mining cuts and five miles of roads. However, because of distance and space these are substantially unnoticeable.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The 5,000 acres on the south end generally lack opportunities for solitude. The remaining 8,190 acres are not substantially impacted by man. The east and west portions of the unit have low-growing vegetation, shallow drainages and gradual slopes. These factors produce poor screening. Since man's impacts affect the southern portion and poor screening is available in the eastern and western regions, opportunities for solitude are less than outstanding.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Recreation activities include hiking, horseback riding, and hunting. Due to man-made impacts affecting the entire south end of the unit a good recreation experience could only be enjoyed on the east and west sides. However, the terrain does not offer very good hiking, horseback riding, or hunting as it is generally unchallenging. There are no outstanding features that enhance these activities. Opportunities for primitive recreation are less than outstanding.
4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

## RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

15,420 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-010-178-C

UNIT NAME: Granite

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is about 80 miles northeast of Elko, Nevada. The topography is rolling with all drainages flowing east. The elevation ranges from 5,800 feet to around 7,000 feet. The vegetation is mostly low-growing big sagebrush with aspen stands in the wet areas.

## CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 9,900 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: The unit is essentially natural. The 14 miles of ways, one reservoir, and three improved springs within the unit are substantially unnoticeable.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The highest elevations are along the west side of the unit with a general slope off to the east. The drainages are rather shallow and the ridges are somewhat flattened. The vegetation is low to medium and provides only moderate screening. The aspen patches are small and associated with only a few of the drainages. The screening provided by topography and vegetation is only moderate over the entire unit, making opportunities for solitude less than outstanding.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Activities available for recreation are: hiking, horseback riding, hunting, and photography. The terrain contributes to an average experience. Water is available and would enhance some of the activities. No outstanding features exist that provide an unusual photographic subject. Hunting would be average for the area. No recreational opportunities would be considered outstanding.
4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

## RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

9,900 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-010-178-F

UNIT NAME: Granite

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is about 80 miles northeast of Elko, Nevada. The topography consists of a central ridge line crossing east-west across the northern edge of the unit. Shallow drainages descend from this main ridge. Vegetation consists mainly of big sagebrush.

#### CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 7,900 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: The unit has seven miles of ways that are visually centered in the unit. There are also several machine-cut mining scars. All of these impacts are substantially noticeable from most portions of the unit making the entire 7,900 acres unnatural.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: Due to the multiple impacts, the opportunity for solitude is less than outstanding.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Primitive forms of recreation could not be outstanding because of the multiple man-made impacts in the unit.
4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

#### RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

7,900 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land, it does not generally appear to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable. Therefore, further wilderness consideration is unnecessary.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-010-179 /ID-107-26/ID-17-26

UNIT NAME: Cottonwood-Salmon Fall

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is in Elko County, Nevada and Twin Falls County, Idaho. The unit is about a mile and a half west of Jackpot, Nevada. The topography consists of generally flat to rolling terrain with Cottonwood Creek and Salmon Falls Creek trending north through the unit. These total about 10 miles of perennial streams. The canyons created by these streams are relatively shallow but somewhat steep. The unit is managed by the Elko BLM District in Nevada, and the Burley and Boise Districts in Idaho.

#### CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 17,767 acres of public land. One parcel of 900 acres is separated by a road and a pipeline and does not meet the size criterion.

2. Naturalness: One parcel of 1,700 acres is unnatural because it is seeded with crested wheatgrass and includes a three mile long pipeline. These man-made impacts are substantially noticeable. The remaining 15,167 acres contain three stock ponds, three miles of fence line, and a reservoir. These are separated by large distances leaving the area substantially natural.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The topographic screening is moderate throughout the unit. The generally rolling terrain allows visual contact between users for long distances. The canyons of Cottonwood and Salmon Falls Creeks allow vision for long distances. The vegetation is low-growing sagebrush that provides little screening of users. Some riparian vegetation exists along the creeks that provide a low degree of solitude, but overall the unit provides less than outstanding opportunities for solitude.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Activities available include hiking, camping, hunting, fishing, sightseeing, photography, and rafting. The activities of hiking and camping are greatly enhanced by the availability of perennial water. Stock and game trails exist as well as sites for camping, particularly along the creeks. Fishing and rafting are available in Salmon Falls Creek. The canyon areas provide moderate quality features for sightseeing and photography. Overall, however, opportunities for primitive recreation are less than outstanding.
4. Supplemental Values: The habitat of the western burrowing owl, spotted owl, ferruginous hawk, long billed curlew, and bald eagle are found in the unit. Some prehistoric sites of cultural value are within the unit. The unit also is the only location in Idaho where four-winged poison weed can be found.

#### RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

17,767 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-010-181

UNIT NAME: Ellen and Dee

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is in Elko County about 18 miles southwest of Jackpot, Nevada. The unit is comprised of rolling mountainous terrain with sparse grasses and low-growing sagebrush. L and D Mountain is in the northeast corner and Bonanza Canyon is in the southern portion of the unit.

## CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 6,010 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: One area covering 450 acres is unnatural because numerous prospect pits are substantially noticeable. The remaining 5,560 acres are essentially natural because the few improved springs are not substantially noticeable.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The topographic screening is good in the unit, especially the western and northern portions. The vegetation is low or almost non-existent and, therefore, provides no screening. Other visitors would be visible if on the same of adjacent ridgelines to one another. The small size of the unit, however, hinders one's feeling of solitude. Overall, the unit offers less than outstanding opportunities for solitude.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Activities available include hiking, hunting, and camping. The terrain would offer interesting day hiking. Hunting is considered moderate. The recreational activities, however, are greatly affected by the unit's small size, lack of water, and lack of natural shelter. Overall, opportunities for primitive recreation are less than outstanding.
4. Supplemental Values: Wild horses exist in the unit.

## RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

6,010 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-010-181-C

UNIT NAME: Ellen and Dee

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is in Elko County about 10 miles southeast of Jackpot, Nevada. The unit is irregular in shape and is characterized by flat areas and rolling hills. The predominant vegetation is low sagebrush.

## CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 6,000 acres of public land. One 940 acre parcel is separated by roads, and does not meet the size criterion.

2. Naturalness: The remaining 5,060 acres are essentially natural because the four miles of fenceline, four miles of ways, and the stock-tank within the unit are substantially unnoticeable.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: Little solitude can be attained as other recreationists could easily be seen. The gently rolling hills with low sagebrush would offer no seclusion. The unit's small size also affects solitude.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Activities available include hiking, backpacking, camping, hunting, and wildlife observation. Recreationists would easily notice the impacts of man. Also the small size of the unit allows only activities of short duration. The only water available is from the developed stocktank. Overall, opportunities are not outstanding.
4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

6,000 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-010-181-E

UNIT NAME: Ellen and Dee

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is in Elko County about 10 miles southeast of Jackpot, Nevada. The western part of the unit includes rocky cliffs. As one travels eastward the terrain becomes rolling hills and then flats. Some running streams exist.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 5,340 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: The unit contains two miles of ways, a reservoir, a developed spring, and some mining claim evidence. Since these are substantially unnoticeable, the entire 5,340 acres are essentially natural.

3. Outstanding Opportunities for:

A. Solitude: A small degree of solitude is possible in the western regions in and around the rocky cliffs. Generally, however, persons can easily be seen throughout most of the unit. The low-growing sagebrush provides little screening, making the unit less than outstanding for solitude.

B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Activities available include backpacking, camping, horseback riding, and wildlife observation. The small size of the unit makes the duration of these activities short. Water is available near the streams. No specific attractions can be found to enhance hiking. Overall, recreation opportunities are less than outstanding.

4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

5,340 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-010-183

UNIT NAME: Fort Yoho

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is about 80 miles north-northeast of Elko, Nevada and about 30 miles due west of Jackpot, Nevada. The topography consists of rolling hills with long high ridges and two deep canyons. The drainages are to the south. The vegetation consists of sagebrush-juniper with aspen found in the canyons.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 12,350 acres of public land. The unit has been divided by roads into four parcels, all less than 5,000 acres.
2. Naturalness: There are 10,300 acres that are essentially natural. The remaining 2,050 acres contain one large reservoir, eight miles of ways, and one mile of fenceline that are substantially noticeable, rendering this area unnatural.

3. Outstanding Opportunities for:

A. Solitude: Because of the small size of the parcels, the opportunity for outstanding solitude does not exist.

B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: The small size of the parcels does not allow for an outstanding opportunity for primitive recreation.

4. Supplemental Values: Partial tools and arrowhead chips were found indicating archaeological values.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

12,350 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: The unit does not contain any area with at least 5,000 acres of contiguous public land, nor any area that fits one of the size exceptions. Therefore, further wilderness consideration is unnecessary.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-010-184

UNIT NAME: Bad Lands

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is in Elko County about 25 miles southwest of Jackpot, Nevada. It is characterized by sparse vegetative covered rocky terrain. The rocky areas in the unit are extremely diverse and offer good sightseeing opportunities. Salmon Falls Creek flows southeast through a canyon in the middle of the unit.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 72,480 acres of public land. Seven parcels totaling 13,800 acres are separated by roads and a telephone line. These do not meet the size criterion.
2. Naturalness: Three portions totaling 17,900 acres are in an unnatural condition. They contain 30 miles of ways, 14 reservoirs, 11 miles of fenceline, and a 200-acre crested wheat grass seeding. The remaining 40,780 acres include two miles of ways, a reservoir and a mile of fence. These are substantially unnoticeable leaving the area essentially natural.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: One portion totaling 9,000 acres offers excellent topographic screening. It includes the Salmon Falls Creek and Canyon and the surrounding rugged rocky terrain. The canyon is winding and offers good seclusion from others. The rocky area northeast of the canyon provides excellent screening from others. The remaining 31,780 acres are not as diverse topographically. The northern area is flat and only offers moderate screening along the North Fork of Salmon Falls Creek. Two other portions have rolling hills with some flat mesas. Their vegetative cover is low-growing big sagebrush. In these areas solitude is difficult to attain as other users are easily seen.



B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Activities available include backpacking, camping, hiking, horseback riding, fishing, hunting, sightseeing, and photography. One portion containing 9,000 acres has excellent recreational opportunities. Usable camp sites exist along Salmon Falls Creek, where rainbow and German Brown trout up to four pounds exist. Hiking is easy and pleasant in this area as well. Sightseeing and photography are excellent both in the canyon and in the rocky areas to the northeast. The other 31,780 acres have similar recreational opportunities but of lower quality. Fishing is not as good in the North Fork. The areas do not offer good diversity in topography that provide good photography. Except for the North Fork, water is generally not available, requiring water to be carried by visitors.

4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

#### RECOMMENDATION:

9,000 acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

63,480 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: The portion of the unit proposed as a Wilderness Study Area contains at least 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature, with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable. It also has outstanding opportunities for solitude and a primitive and unconfined type of recreation.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-010-185

UNIT NAME: Canyon Creek

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is in Elko County about 55 miles northeast of Elko, Nevada. It consists of rolling hills and flat areas cut by two canyons. Big sage is the dominant plant in the unit, with some aspen and Mt. Mahogany in the canyons.

#### CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 35,760 acres of public land. Five parcels divided by roads totaling 7,500 acres were deleted because they failed to meet the size criterion.
2. Naturalness: A total of 17,300 acres were unnatural due to the numerous stocktanks, pipelines, ways, fencelines, and developed springs in two areas divided by roads. The remaining 10,960 acre area had five miles of ways and a developed spring but was, overall, in a natural condition.

3. Outstanding Opportunities for:

A. Solitude: The narrow canyon provides good screening, but the rest of the area offers poor vegetative and topographic screening. While the opportunity for solitude in the canyon is good, it is not considered outstanding. In the rest of the area it is poor.

B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Activities available include hiking, horseback riding, hunting, and camping. Visitors would concentrate in the canyon, where the natural portion is only three miles long; hence the activities would be of a very short duration and are not considered outstanding. Water is available in the creek.

4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

35,760 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-010-187

UNIT NAME: Cottonwood

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is in Elko County about 55 miles northwest of Elko, Nevada. It is all flatland covered by big sage and bunchgrass. It is also contiguous to land managed by the U.S. Forest Service being proposed for wilderness designation. Further consideration of this unit would not enhance the wilderness proposal on the adjoining Forest Service lands.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 15,490 acres of public land. The entire unit is divided into eight parcels by roads.
2. Naturalness: This subdivided unit has 10 miles of ways, four miles of buried pipeline and associated stocktanks, 30 reservoirs, two developed springs, and 15 miles of fencelines. These are substantially noticeable making the unit unnatural.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:

A. Solitude: Because of unnaturalness of the unit, outstanding opportunities for solitude are not available.

B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Because of the unnaturalness of the unit, outstanding opportunities for primitive recreation are not available.

4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

#### RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

15,490 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit is contiguous with a Forest Service wilderness proposal, a lack of naturalness and outstanding opportunities for solitude and a primitive and unconfined type of recreation characterize the area.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-010-188

UNIT NAME: Beaver Ponds

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is in Elko County about 40 miles north-northeast of Elko, Nevada. The unit's topography consists of a series of rolling hills and valleys running to the north and east. The largest drainages are at the south end. Vegetation consists of big sagebrush. Aspen is found along the larger drainages near the south end of the unit.

#### CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 17,320 acres of public land. Five parcels totaling 11,480 acres are divided by roads and do not meet the size criterion.
2. Naturalness: The remaining 5,480 acre parcel is essentially natural. The parcel does, however, contain eight miles of ways, four miles of power line and three developed springs. However, these are substantially unnoticeable.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: Vegetative and topographic screening run from low to moderate. The narrow configuration combined with the poor screening would provide for only moderate solitude. Users would easily be seen from the ridges.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Activities that would be available in this unit are hiking, hunting, horseback riding, and perhaps photography. The short distances and lack of topographic relief would allow only moderate experiences in most of these activities. Hunting would be good to fair. Any of the activities would be of short duration. There are no slopes or formations that are challenging.

4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

17,320 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-010-193

UNIT NAME: Anderson Creek

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is in Elko County about 40 miles northwest of Wells, Nevada. The unit is characterized as a narrow low ridge surrounded by flat lands. The major vegetative type is big sagebrush.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 8,920 acres of public land. Four parcels totaling 2,780 acres are separated by roads and do not meet the size criterion.
2. Naturalness: The remaining 6,140 acres include eight miles of fenceline, 14 reservoirs, four developed springs, a two-mile pipeline, and several ways. These make the entire area unnatural.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: Since the area is not natural, outstanding opportunities for solitude do not exist.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Since the area is not natural, outstanding opportunities for primitive recreation do not exist.
4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

8,920 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land, it does not generally appear to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable. Therefore, further wilderness consideration is unnecessary.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-010-197

UNIT NAME: Hank's Creek

AREA DESCRIPTION: This unit is about 30 miles north of Elko, Nevada. The terrain is rolling with some diversity exhibited. The vegetation consists mainly of big sagebrush with some aspen associated with a few drainages. Hank's Creek is the main drainage and flows through the southern portion.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 37,640 acres of public land. A parcel containing 7,400 acres has been separated by a road. The remaining 30,240 acres is intact. Both parcels meet the basic size criterion.
2. Naturalness: The entire 37,640 acres are essentially natural. The 20 miles of ways, nine miles of fence, seven developed springs, and three reservoirs are substantially unnoticeable.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The eastern portion is relatively flat with rolling slopes and ridges. Vegetation consists of low-growing sage. Some diversity is found in the two miles of Hank's Creek that runs through this portion. Four miles of Hank's Creek in the southern part of the unit provides some diversity. The northern two-thirds of the unit has a central ridge that allows a user to view the lower slopes on each side. Users would be in view of each other in this portion. Overall, the unit lacks the diversity to offer high solitude.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Activities available include hunting, hiking, horseback riding, and fishing. Hunting and fishing are reported to be fair to good. Hiking would be a good experience. Horseback riding would be good in the southern portion due to available water in the Hank's Creek drainage. Topography and vegetation would not enhance recreational activities in the unit; these opportunities are not outstanding.
4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

37,640 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although portions of the unit contain more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-010-198

UNIT NAME: Coyote

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is in Elko County about 50 miles north of Elko, Nevada. The unit includes two ridges running north-south that are divided by about one mile. The vegetative cover is mainly low sagebrush with some aspen and mountain mahogany. A portion of the unit is contiguous with lands the U.S. Forest Service has recommended for addition to the Jarbidge Wilderness Area. Further consideration of this unit would not enhance the wilderness proposal on the adjoining Forest Service lands.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 9,580 acres of public land. Three parcels totaling 6,120 acres are separated by roads, a bladed fenceline, and a substantially noticeable way and do not meet the size criterion.
2. Naturalness: The remaining 3,460 acres are natural.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The area is very small making solitude difficult to attain. The topography of the area is fairly constant rolling hills. This affords little chance for screening from other individuals. Vegetative cover includes low-growing sagebrush which also provides little screening.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Activities available include hunting, hiking, horseback riding, sightseeing, and photography. The small area would make these of extremely short duration. Some water is available from a small creek. No spectacular attractions exist for photographic subjects. Overall, opportunities for primitive recreation are less than outstanding.
4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

9,580 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit is contiguous with a Forest Service wilderness proposal, outstanding opportunities for either solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are lacking.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-010-199

UNIT NAME: Stag Mountain

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is in Elko County about 40 miles northeast of Elko, Nevada. The area is characterized by rolling hills covered by low-growing sagebrush. There are scattered stands of aspen in the area.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 40,240 acres of public land. Five parcels totaling 9,400 acres are separated by roads and do not meet the minimum size criterion.
2. Naturalness: There are 18 miles of fencelines, 10 miles of ways, and a developed spring with a pipeline in the remaining area but these are substantially unnoticeable. The 30,920 acre area remaining has apparent naturalness.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The generally rolling terrain, moderate vegetative cover, and man-made impacts do not allow for outstanding solitude.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Activities available include hiking, backpacking, camping, horseback riding, and hunting. Water is available from the developed spring but it may not be drinkable. The major deterrent to an outstanding recreation experience is the periodic observance of man-made impacts.
4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

40,240 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

AREA DESCRIPTION: The interstate area is in the northwestern corner of Nevada, about 13 miles northwest of Soldiers Meadow Ranch-Airport.

The unit is about two miles in length and nine miles in width. A number of dead-end roads deeply cut into the unit, creating an irregularly shaped unit. It is jointly managed by the Winnemucca BLM District in Nevada and the Susanville BLM District in California.

#### CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The roadless area contains 11,470 acres of public land. 1,620 acres were separated from the bulk of the unit by roads and do not meet the minimum size criterion.
2. Naturalness: Several small water structures, a developed spring, and a reservoir, along with a few miles of low profile fencelines are in the western half of the unit; however, they do not significantly impact the remaining area's natural condition.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: Opportunities for solitude are limited. The flat to low rolling sagebrush terrain characterizing the eastern half of the area would provide few opportunities for solitude. The few rocky knolls and small rock rims broken by an occasional extremely shallow intermittent drainage and widely scattered thin clumps of mountain mahogany in the western-half would provide some opportunities for solitude, but the opportunities would be limited to a few small areas. Additionally, the unit's small size and irregular configuration further negates its capability to provide solitude.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: The rather featureless, non-challenging terrain would not provide exceptional opportunities for primitive and unconfined types of recreation. Furthermore, the area's small size and configuration would restrict free movement.
4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.
5. Rehabilitation: The fencelines could be removed easily, but the reservoirs would require a significant amount of mechanical equipment to rehabilitate them to mostly a natural condition.

#### RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

11,470 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially un-



noticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-020-004/CA-020-813A&B

UNIT NAME: Hog Ranch Mountain

AREA DESCRIPTION: The interstate inventory area is about 22 miles southwest of Soldiers Meadow Ranch-Airport. Prominent features in the mountainous landscape unit are Hog Ranch Mountain in the south and Hog Ranch Canyon in the north. Numerous knolls and drainages of varying widths and depths radiate from these features. Vegetation includes Great Basin shrubs and some patches of juniper, aspen and mountain mahogany. It is jointly managed by the Winnemucca BLM District in Nevada and the Susanville BLM District in California.

#### CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The small, narrow, elongated area totals about 9,980 acres of public land. The roadless area consists of 6,620 acres as 3,360 acres were separated from the bulk of the unit by roads and do not meet the minimum size criterion.
2. Naturalness: Numerous man-made structures exist in the small area. Many miles of ways, mining excavations, livestock watering facilities, and a fenceline significantly impact the unit's natural condition. The impacts are widespread.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: Despite the presence of somewhat broken topography, outstanding opportunities for solitude do not exist. The unit's narrow configuration and small size seriously restrict the availability of solitude opportunities.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: The unit's small size and narrow configuration negates opportunities for unconfined types of primitive recreation. Such primitive recreational activities as hiking, horseback riding, and camping would be limited to an extremely small, confined area.
4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

#### RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

9,980 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: The portion of the unit that contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land does not generally appear to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable. Therefore, further wilderness consideration is unnecessary.

AREA DESCRIPTION: The interstate unit lies just northwest of Solider Meadows Ranch. The unit covers a gentle rolling terrain which flattens out to form scattered small mesas with rock bluffs. Vegetation is sparse, consisting of low and big sagebrush with some scattered clumps of mountain mahogany along the unit's northern border. It is jointly managed by Winnemucca BLM District in Nevada and Susanville BLM District in California.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit includes 65,369 acres of public land. The roadless area consists of 58,565 acres as 6,804 acres were separated and are split into subunits of less than 5,000 acres each.
2. Naturalness: 58,565 acres were found to be in a natural condition.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The lack of vegetative screening, topographic diversity, and limited secluded spots provide the unit with less than an outstanding opportunity for solitude.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Undiversified topography and vegetation, lack of natural screening, no significant points of interest or challenge, and unavailability of water result in an absence of outstanding opportunities for primitive recreation.
4. Supplemental Values: Wildlife and possible archaeological values were identified.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

65,369 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

AREA DESCRIPTION: The interstate area is in northwestern Nevada about six miles west of Soliders Meadows Ranch and Airport. It is about eight miles wide and 13 miles long. The area is rich in topographic features varying from rolling hills and small plateaus with minor canyons to deep, rugged canyons and rocky bluffs. Vegetation includes sparsely scattered juniper stands, willows in drainage bottoms, and low desert shrubs. The unit is jointly managed by the Winnemucca BLM District in Nevada and the Susanville BLM District in California.

## CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The roadless area contains about 53,920 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: A variety of man-made features are widely scattered about the area. They include short bulldozed fencelines, one extending for eight miles, a few small low profile water structures (springs and reservoirs) located mostly along the unit's edge, and a few miles of ways. These unnatural features are well screened by topographic features and widely scattered about the area. They do not have a significant impact on the area, leaving it in a substantially natural condition.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: Opportunities for outstanding solitude abound in the extremely diverse landscape. The numerous canyons and rocky rim provide many places for individuals to feel alone and they are natural barriers that will keep users separated from other visitors.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: The diverse landscape could provide limitless opportunities for a variety of primitive recreational activities. The massive canyonland complex would provide challenging outdoors skills in such activities as hiking, rock climbing, and rapelling.
4. Supplemental Values: The area contains a wealth of cultural and historical values plus a substantial raptor (birds of prey) population.
5. Rehabilitation: Visual impact associated with the fencelines could be mitigated by removing them. The impacts from the ways and the bulldozer scars will require a long period of time to revert to a mostly natural condition without mechanical aids.

## RECOMMENDATION:

53,920 acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: The portion of the unit proposed as a Wilderness Study Area contains at least 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature, with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable. It also has outstanding opportunities for solitude and a primitive and unconfined type of recreation.

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is just south of the Soldier Meadows Ranch, occupying the north end of the Calico Mountain Range. To the east lies the Black Rock Desert and to the west is Little High Rock and Big High Rock canyons. Much of the area consists of a moderate mesa which slants on it's east side. The west side consists of a rim rock bluff. The northwest corner is occupied by High Rock Lake. The only relief to the area's topography is in the middle of the unit, from the gorge created by Willow Creek. Vegetation consists mostly of low-lying sagebrush; the ground is rocky. Along the western border vegetation includes big sagebrush and rabbitbrush.

## CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit includes 73,696 of public land. The roadless area consists of 72,921 acres as 775 acres were separated from the bulk of the unit by roads and do not meet the size criterion.
2. Naturalness: 70,793 acres were found to be in a natural condition. 2,128 acres were deleted due to unnaturalness because of mining intrusions.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: Although the unit is rather large, an outstanding opportunity for solitude does not exist due to the lack of diverse vegetation, topographical features, and natural screening.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Primitive recreational activities such as backpacking and hiking would be less than outstanding as water, natural screening, and points of interests are limited to a small geographical area within the unit.
4. Supplemental Values: Historical, archaeological, and geological features were identified.

## RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

73,696 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

AREA DESCRIPTION: The interstate area is in the northwestern corner of Nevada about seven miles southwest of Soldiers Meadow Ranch and Airport. The roadless area is a large canyonland complex with various small mountain peaks. Little

High Rock Canyon, the most dramatic of the canyons in the unit, reaches depths greater than 700 feet. Vegetation consists mainly of low-profile desert shrubs. The unit is jointly managed by the Winnemucca BLM District in Nevada and the Susanville BLM District in California.

#### CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The inventory area contains about 53,573 acres of roadless public land in a broad shaped unit extending 10 miles wide and 12 miles long. 430 acres were separated from the bulk of the unit by roads and do not meet the size criterion.
2. Naturalness: The remaining area contains a number of man-made features but most are widely scattered, very low profile and effectively screened by the broken canyonland landscape. A concentration of past mining activities coupled with a number of reservoirs and ways render two small portions totaling 1,000 acres of the area unnatural in character. The rest is substantially natural.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: Solitude could be easily achieved within the highly varied landscape. The numerous canyons and drainages provide unlimited places for one to feel alone. The deep canyons and precipitious walls are significant natural barriers that would help keep visitors separated from one another. Outstanding opportunities for solitude definitely exist within the area.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: The mountainous canyonland landscape provides many opportunities for visitors to participate in a variety of primitive recreational pursuits. The diverse terrain challenges outdoor skills and the presence of a variety of supplemental resource values further enhance opportunities for primitive types of recreation.
4. Supplemental Values: The area contains a variety of raptors and other wildlife species and cultural resource values.

#### RECOMMENDATION:

52,143 acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

1,430 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: The portion of the unit proposed as a Wilderness Study Area contains at least 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature, with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable. It also has outstanding opportunities for solitude and a primitive and unconfined type of recreation.

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is 20 miles north of Gerlach and just south of the old mining site of Leadville. A high plateau-like basin consisting of gentle rolling hills with scattered rock outcrops and numerous shallow drainages characterizes the unit. The dominant vegetation consists of high and low sagebrush and scattered juniper. The unit is jointly managed by the Winnemucca BLM District in Nevada and the Susanville BLM District in California.

## CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit includes 27,023 acres of public lands. The roadless area consists of 26,224 acres as 799 acres were separated from the bulk of the unit by roads and private land. These do not meet the minimum size criterion.
2. Naturalness: The unit appears to be in a natural condition with the works of man substantially unnoticeable.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The absence of vegetative screening and lack of topographic diversity provide the unit with less than an outstanding opportunity for solitude.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Undiversified topography and vegetation, lack of natural screening, no significant points of interest or challenge, and unavailability of water result in an absence of outstanding opportunities for primitive recreation.
4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

## RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

27,023 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

AREA DESCRIPTION: The interstate inventory unit is about 25 miles northwest of Gerlach, Nevada. The moderately elevated, irregular-shaped unit consists of a gently rolling landscape in the north and central portion increasing to steeper slopes in the south. A few scattered intermittent drainages form small to moderately sized open canyons. Vegetation is dominated by sagebrush with a light scattering of juniper. The unit is managed by the Winnemucca BLM District and the Susanville BLM District in California.

## CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The area consists of 52,745 acres of contiguous public land. The roadless area consists of 47,325 contiguous acres as 5,420 acres were separated from the bulk of the area by roads and did not meet the size criterion.
2. Naturalness: Most of the area appears to be less than natural as the work's of man are substantially noticeable with 17 miles of ways, numerous fence-lines, a powerline running through the area's center, and a communication station atop Fox Mountain.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: Opportunities for solitude exist but they are not considered outstanding. The northern half of the unit lacks both the topographic and vegetative features that would enable visitors to find a secluded spot and increases one's chances for avoiding the sights and sounds of other visitors to the area. The more broken topography in the southern portion possesses only a few natural features that would provide solitude; the drainages and canyons are few in number and small featured, and the vegetation that is sufficient for providing screening is only lightly scattered.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: The slightly mountainous landscape would provide only limited occasions for primitive recreation. It would not challenge outdoor skills or afford many chances to indulge in a variety of recreational activities. Upland and big game hunting is considered moderate to poor along with recreational opportunities.
4. Supplemental Values: A small deer and antelope population along with some predators exist in the area.

## RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

52,745 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-020-012/CA-020-621 and 618

UNIT NAME: Poodle Mountain

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is just northwest of Gerlach. It is jointly managed by the Winnemucca BLM District in Nevada and the Susanville BLM District in California.

The unit consists of a gentle rolling terrain giving way to numerous buttes and mesas with rim rock bluffs. The western portion of the unit contains three finger-like steep rocky canyons which run in a east-west direction. Another steep canyon runs north and south bordering the unit's west side. Vegetation consists mainly of low and big sagebrush and juniper.

#### CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 137,160 acres of public land. The roadless area of the total unit consists of 133,462 acres as 3,698 acres were separated from the bulk of the unit by roads and did not meet the size criterion.
2. Naturalness: 127,829 acres were found to be in a natural condition. 5,633 acres were deleted due to lack of naturalness.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The unit's tremendous size, configuration, topographical, and vegetative screening and numerous isolated spots provide it with an outstanding opportunity for solitude.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: The unit's terrain and natural screening offer an outstanding opportunity for backpacking, hiking, and sightseeing. The abundance of deer provides outstanding hunting. Overall, the unit provides an outstanding opportunity for a primitive and unconfined type of recreation.
4. Supplemental Values: The unit's unique topographical features, wildlife, and possible archaeological finds offer supplemental values.

#### RECOMMENDATION:

127,829 acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

9,331 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: The portion of the unit proposed as a Wilderness Study Area contains at least 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature, with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable. It also has outstanding opportunities for solitude and a primitive and unconfined type of recreation.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-020-014

UNIT NAME: Fox Mountain Range

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is just southwest of Gerlach and is bordered by the Smoke Creek Desert to the west and the San Emidio and Black Rock Deserts to the east. It consists of varied topography and vegetation. Most of the unit includes gentle rolling terrain with rocky outcrops and some fairly high rocky peaks. Both the east and west sides contain large canyons and deep drainages. The western portion of the unit gives way to a dark volcanic-like terrain interlaced with a multitude of colors in red and orange hues. At the southern end of the unit the terrain is steep and rocky with numerous narrow colorful rocky canyons and drainages. Vegetation consists mainly of high and low sagebrush and juniper.



#### CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit includes 81,424 acres of public land. The roadless area consists of 73,813 acres as 7,611 acres were separated from the bulk of the unit by roads and did not meet the size criterion.
2. Naturalness: 70,943 acres were found to be in a natural condition. 2,870 acres were deleted due to mining intrusions.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The unit's size, diverse topography and vegetation, numerous isolated spots, and natural screening provide the area with an outstanding opportunity for solitude.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: The unit's diverse topography, natural screening, and unique terrain offer outstanding opportunities for rockhounding, backpacking, horsepacking, hiking, and hunting.
4. Supplemental Values: Possible archaeological and geological values were identified in the unit.

#### RECOMMENDATION:

70,943 acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

10,481 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: The portion of the unit proposed as a Wilderness Study Area contains at least 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature, with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable. It also has outstanding opportunities for solitude and a primitive and unconfined type of recreation.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-020-018

UNIT NAME: Division Peak

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is at the north end of Hualapai Valley and west of Division Mountain. Gentle rolling terrain and occasional rock outcrops gradually rise to a moderate elevation to form a single crested ridgeline. Vegetation consists mainly of big and low sagebrush.

#### CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit consists of 27,927 acres of roadless public land.
2. Naturalness: The unit appears natural with the works of man substantially unnoticeable.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The absence of vegetative screening and lack of topographic diversity offer a limited amount of secluded spots and isolated localities. The unit possesses less than an outstanding opportunity for solitude.

B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Undiversified topography and vegetation, lack of natural screening, no significant points of interest or challenge, and unavailability of water result in an absence of outstanding opportunities for primitive recreation.

4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

#### RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

27,927 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-020-019

UNIT NAME: Calico Mountains

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is about 15 miles north of Gerlach and west of the Soldier Meadows road. The Calicos are a large mountain range bordered by valley bottoms to the east, west, and south. The southern end of the range consists of steep rugged rocky terrain with deep colorful rock canyons. The northern end of the unit becomes more of a rolling terrain with large rock outcrops. Division Mountain, at the unit's north end, is the highest peak, reaching almost 8,500 feet. Vegetation consists of big sagebrush and greasewood in the flats and lower elevations, thinning out in the higher elevations. Several of the deeper drainages contain large stands of aspen and willow.

#### CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit includes 67,931 acres of public land. The roadless area consists of 66,467 acres as 1,464 acres were separated from the bulk of the unit by roads and did not meet the size criterion.
2. Naturalness: The natural portion of the unit contains 65,861 acres; an unnatural portion contains 606 acres due to mining activity.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The unit's varied topography and limited accessibility make for an easily achieved solitude experience. The steep rugged canyons and deep drainages provide unlimited isolated spots. The varied terrain provides the natural barriers needed to keep visitors separated from one another. Outstanding opportunities for solitude definitely exist within the area.

B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: The unit's varied colorful topography provides the visitor with outstanding opportunities for hiking, camping, backpacking, and sightseeing. Wildlife is abundant, providing a high quality of antelope and deer hunting. The area is also frequented with raptors, mountain lions, and bobcats. The outstanding rock formations provide for challenging and varied degrees of rock climbing. Outstanding opportunities for a primitive unconfined type of recreation exist within the area.

4. Supplemental Values: The area contains a variety of geological features and wildlife species. In addition, a threatened plant, *Astragalus pterocarpus*, is known to exist in the area.

#### RECOMMENDATION:

65,861 acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

2,070 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: The portion of the unit proposed as a Wilderness Study Area contains at least 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature, with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable. It also has outstanding opportunities for solitude and a primitive and unconfined type of recreation.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-020-021/CA-020-822 A&B  
CA-020-823

UNIT NAME: No Name

AREA DESCRIPTION: This interstate unit is about 18 miles north of Gerlach, Nevada. The area consists of gentle rolling terrain with scattered rock outcrops. The north end of the North Fork of Negro Creek gorge runs through the southeast end of the area. Vegetation is dominated by low-growing sagebrush. It is jointly managed by the Winnemucca BLM District in Nevada and the Susanville BLM District in California.

#### CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 5,230 acres of public land, split by documented roads into several sub-units, each less than the minimum 5,000 contiguous acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: The area appears to be generally natural.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The area offers less than an outstanding opportunity for solitude.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: The unit offers less than outstanding opportunities for a primitive and unconfined type of recreation.
4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

5,230 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: The unit does not contain any area with at least 5,000 acres of contiguous public land, nor any area that fits one of the size exceptions.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-020-200

UNIT NAME: Selenite Mountain

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is just southeast of Gerlach, standing steep and rugged along the southern end of the Black Rock Desert. The northern portion of the unit is made up of numerous rocky ridges and deep rocky drainages. The unit is heavily populated with juniper in the higher, more rugged, rocky terrain. The southern portion of the unit changes from steep rugged terrain to gently rolling hills blanketed with low-growing sagebrush.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit includes 34,731 acres of roadless public land.
2. Naturalness: The unit is primarily in a natural condition, with the works of man substantially unnoticeable.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The varied and broken topography and vegetation, many secluded spots, and isolated localities provide the unit with outstanding opportunities for solitude.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: The area's diversified topography and vegetation, abundance of natural screening, and significant points of interest and challenge offer outstanding opportunities for hiking, riding, backpacking, sightseeing, and camping.
4. Supplemental Values: The unit's geological features could be of scientific and educational value.

RECOMMENDATION:

34,731 acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: The portion of the unit proposed as a Wilderness Study Area contains at least 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature, with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable. It also has outstanding opportunities for solitude and a primitive and unconfined type of recreation.

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is about 15 miles south of Gerlach along the east side of Highway 34. From the unit's east, west, and north sides, the area's topography changes abruptly from a gentle rolling terrain to a steep rocky single-crested mountain. The southern portion of the unit consists of a somewhat rolling type of terrain which levels off to a mesa-like plateau along the southwest border. The steep rocky slopes are covered with mountain juniper and low-lying sagebrush. Within the deep rocky drainages riparian vegetation becomes more abundant, with willows, bitterbrush, and a limited amount of aspen. The gentle rolling terrain in the lower elevations is blanketed with low-lying sagebrush.

#### CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit includes 24,512 acres of public lands. The roadless area consists of 24,126 acres as 386 acres were separated from the bulk of the unit by roads and did not meet the size criterion.
2. Naturalness: The roadless area appears to be in a natural condition with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The roadless and natural portion of the area does possess an outstanding opportunity for solitude. The varied and broken topography offers many secluded spots and isolated localities.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: The area's diversified topography and vegetation, abundance of natural screening, availability of water, and significant points of interest and challenge offer outstanding opportunities for hiking, riding, and sightseeing.
4. Supplemental Values: The unit's geological features could be of scientific and educational value.

#### RECOMMENDATION:

24,126 acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

386 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: The portion of the unit proposed as a Wilderness Study Area contains at least 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature, with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable. It also has outstanding opportunities for solitude and a primitive and unconfined type of recreation.

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is north of the townsite of Nixon and east of Winnemucca Lake. The topography of the area consists of a single-crested flat top mountain that runs north and south. The range gives way to scattered rock bluffs and

moderate rocky peaks. Vegetation is sparse consisting mainly of sagebrush. The two main drainages that lie at the northern and southern end of the unit contain an extensive amount of mining, which is visible from atop the ridge for some distance.

#### CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: This unit includes 56,549 acres of public land. The roadless area consists of 55,244 acres as 1,305 acres were separated from the bulk of the unit by roads and did not meet the size criterion.
2. Naturalness: 46,903 acres were found to be in a natural condition. 8,341 acres were deleted due to extensive mining and other man-made intrusions.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The unit's configuration and lack of natural screening provide the area with less than an outstanding opportunity for solitude.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Lack of natural screening, no significant points of interest or challenge and unavailability of water result in an absence of outstanding opportunities for primitive recreation.
4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

#### RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

56,549 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-020-209

UNIT NAME: Razorback

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is just southeast of Gerlach along the southern border of the Black Rock Desert. A small single-crest mountain (Razorback) lies at the northwest corner of the unit surrounded by roads. The southern and middle portion of the area is made up of a flat desert barren-type terrain, consisting mainly of low-lying sagebrush. Along the northeast border lies a single crest of gentle rolling hills. Vegetation consists mainly of low sagebrush with a few scattered juniper near the ridge line.

#### CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit includes 67,467 acres of public land. The roadless areas consists of 61,022 acres as 6,445 acres were separated from the bulk of the unit by roads and did not meet the size criterion.
2. Naturalness: 60,169 acres were found to be in a natural condition. 853 acres were deleted due to existing mining intrusions.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The absence of vegetative screening and lack of topographic diversity provide the unit with less than an outstanding opportunity for solitude.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Undiversified topography and vegetation, lack of natural screening, no significant points of interest or challenge, and unavailability of water result in an absence of outstanding opportunities for primitive recreation.
4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

#### RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

67,467 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-020-212

UNIT NAME: Lava Beds

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is about 25 miles south of Sulphur and the southern edge of the Black Rock Desert. The topography within the northern portion of the unit is gentle rolling terrain with moderate drainages. Scattered rock outcrops occupy the ridgeline and peaks. The southern portion of the unit changes to a slight undulating desert valley type of terrain. Vegetation is sparse throughout the entire unit, consisting mostly of sagebrush, rabbitbrush, and some scattered juniper in the higher elevations.

#### CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit includes 69,605 acres of public lands. The roadless areas consist of 64,024 acres. 5,581 acres were separated from the bulk of the unit by roads and split into sub-units that did not meet the size criterion.

2. Naturalness: 62,037 acres were found to be in a natural condition; 1,987 acres were deleted due to mining.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: Absence of vegetative screening and lack of topographic diversity provide less than an outstanding opportunity for solitude.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Undiversified topography and vegetation, lack of natural screening, no significant points of interest or challenge and unavailability of water result in an absence of outstanding opportunities for primitive recreation.
4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

#### RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

69,605 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-020-216

UNIT NAME: South Shawave Mountains

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is between the Nightingale Mountains and the Trinity Mountain Range. It is bordered by roads to the north and west. The southern portion of the unit is bordered by checkerboard land (interspersed public and private land). The topography of the unit is a gentle rolling terrain with some scattered rock outcrops along the ridges and moderate peaks. Vegetation is dominated by low-lying sagebrush and desert shrubs.

#### CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit includes 20,541 acres of public land. The roadless area consists of 19,243 acres as 1,298 acres were separated from the bulk of the unit by roads and did not meet the size criterion.
2. Naturalness: The roadless portion of the unit appears to be natural with the works of man substantially unnoticeable.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The unit's configuration, absence of vegetative screening, and lack of topographic diversity provide less than an outstanding opportunity for solitude.



B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Undiversified topography and vegetation, lack of natural screening, no significant points of interest or challenge, and unavailability of water result in an absence of outstanding opportunities for primitive recreation.

4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

20,541 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-020-217

UNIT NAME: Shawave Mountains

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is southwest of Lovelock on the western edge of Granite Spring Valley. Gentle rolling terrain occupies the western, southern, and eastern portion of the area. From the foothills the terrain rises to a moderate single-crested mountain consisting of a rocky ridgeline. Vegetation is predominantly juniper and sagebrush in the rocky terrain and sparse low-lying sagebrush within the lower elevations and rolling hills.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit includes 65,757 acres of public land. The roadless area consists of 56,234 acres as 9,523 acres were separated from the bulk of the unit by roads and split into sub-units all smaller than 5,000 acres.
2. Naturalness: The unit is primarily in a natural condition with the works of man substantially unnoticeable.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The unit's topographical and vegetative screening would only offer a limited amount of seclusion on isolated localities, providing less than an outstanding opportunity for solitude.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Marginal topographic diversity, limited natural screening, no significant points of interest or challenge, and unavailability of water result in an absence of outstanding opportunities for primitive recreation.

4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

65,757 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-020-222

UNIT NAME: Blue Wing Mountains

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is southwest of Lovelock, Nevada, between Interstate 80 and Highway 34. The western portion of the unit is basically flat, as it is part of a dry lake bed. Moving towards the unit's center, the terrain becomes rolling and begins to increase gradually in elevation. Two separate single-crested mountains cross the unit, one runs across the area's center, the other runs along the eastern boundary. The area is somewhat barren, marked by a few scattered clumps of low-lying sagebrush.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit includes 43,711 acres of public land. The roadless area consists of 40,965 acres as 2,746 acres were separated from the bulk of the unit by roads and did not meet the minimum size criterion.
2. Naturalness: The natural portion of the unit contains 32,745 acres. 8,220 acres were eliminated due to existing mining scars and intrusions.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The lack of topographic and vegetative features provide the unit with less than an outstanding opportunity for solitude.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Undiversified topography and vegetation, lack of natural screening, no significant points of interest, and unavailability of water result in an absence of outstanding opportunities for primitive recreation.
4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

43,711 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-020-235

UNIT NAME: North Lava Bed

AREA DESCRIPTION: This unit is south of the townsite of Sulphur and borders the southeast end of the Black Rock Desert. Two distinct single-ridged gently rolling mountains lie within the unit. They are both of a moderate elevation, offering some relief to the area's topography. The surrounding topography is primarily a low rolling type of terrain with sparse vegetation. Vegetation includes low-lying sagebrush and a few scattered juniper within and around the rock outcrops.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit includes 87,747 acres of public land. The roadless area consists of 83,716 acres as 4,031 acres were separated from the bulk of the unit by roads and did not meet the minimum size criterion.
2. Naturalness: 78,558 acres of the roadless area were found to be in a natural condition. 5,158 acres were deleted because of extensive mining.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The absence of vegetative screening and lack of topographic diversity provide the unit with less than an outstanding opportunity for solitude.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Undiversified topography and vegetation, lack of natural screening, no significant points of interest or challenge, and unavailability of water result in an absence of outstanding opportunities for primitive recreation.
4. Supplemental Values: Historical, scientific, and educational values were identified within the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

87,747 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is a long north-south running mountain range about 35 miles southeast of Winnemucca. The area consists of a flat plateau-like mountain on the range's north end rising to 8,800 feet. Vegetation is sparse as the terrain is extremely rocky. Along the eastern portion of the north end there are two large canyons that are lined with steep rim rock bluffs. Moving south the terrain takes on a more gentle rolling appearance. Mt. Tobin, which rises to some 9,000 feet, is a round-top mountain with juniper and low-lying sagebrush. The deeper drainages give way to scattered clumps of aspen.

## CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit includes 86,872 acres of roadless public land.
2. Naturalness: 66,063 acres were found to be in a natural condition. 20,809 acres were deleted due to lack of naturalness because of numerous dead-end roads and mining activity.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The unit's narrow configuration is not conducive to solitude because of the numerous dead-end roads protruding into the unit, the location of private lands bordering the unit, and the intrusive locations of existing and past mining activities.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: The unit offers high quality deer hunting, backpacking, hiking, and sightseeing. Outstanding opportunities are hindered by the unit's configuration and the ever-present visibility of man's activity.
4. Supplemental Values: Geological and zoological features were identified in the unit.

## RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

86,872 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is about 40 miles south of Winnemucca on the east side of Grass Valley Road. The northern portion of the unit is gentle rolling terrain with scattered rock outcrops along the ridge line and peaks. Vegetation consists of scattered juniper and low-lying sagebrush. The southern portion of the unit

takes on more of a gentle rolling effect with low-growing sagebrush being the dominant vegetation. Numerous dead-end roads protrude into the area from all around the unit. The northern portion of the unit has been heavily mined, leaving the landscape extensively marred with cat cuts, assessment piles, old buildings, and mine shafts.

#### CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit includes 55,710 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: 53,487 acres were found to be in a natural condition. 2,223 acres were deleted due to lack of naturalness.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The wide visibility of man-made features and works, lack of secluded and isolated spots due to the area's undiverse vegetation and topography provide the natural portion of the unit with less than an outstanding opportunity for solitude.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Limited diverse topography and vegetation, lack of screening, no significant points of interest or challenge, and unavailability of water result in an absence of outstanding opportunities for primitive recreation.
4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

#### RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

55,710 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-020-410

UNIT NAME: Table Mountain

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is 35 miles south of Winnemucca. The area takes in the northern portion of the East Range which runs along the west side of Grass Valley Road. The area consists of a moderate type of plateau with numerous rim rock bluffs. The east and west sides give way to large drainages filled with stands of aspen. The northern end of the unit becomes more of a gentle rolling terrain with scattered rock outcrops. Junipers dominate the higher elevations with big and low sagebrush covering the entire unit.

#### CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit includes 64,518 acres of roadless public land.
2. Naturalness: 62,223 acres were found to be in a natural condition. 2,295 acres were deleted due to lack of naturalness because of mining scars and a powerline.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The unit's configuration is not conducive to solitude due to the scattered parcels of private land bordering the unit and protruding dead-end roads. The area's terrain is mostly flat and open leaving few isolated or secluded spots. Overall, the area offers less than an outstanding opportunity for solitude.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: The unit offers a marginal amount of deer and upland game hunting. Hiking and backpacking opportunities are available but at a limited degree due to the area's limited natural screening and configuration.
4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

#### RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

64,518 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-020-436

UNIT NAME: Granite Mountain

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is 35 miles south of Winnemucca just west of Grass Valley Road. The area consists of a large rugged single mountain that contains numerous drainages and canyons. Vegetation consists of mountain juniper and big and low sagebrush. The large drainages on the north side of the unit are lined with stands of aspen and willow trees.

#### CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 20,269 acres of roadless public lands.
2. Naturalness: 19,949 acres were found to be in a natural condition. 320 acres were deleted due to mining activity.

### 3. Outstanding Opportunities for:

A. Solitude: Although the topography and vegetation of the unit is varied, the extensive mining activity around its periphery limits the solitude experience. Isolated and secluded spots from the sights and sounds of man's activity is marginal and limited to a confined geographical area.

B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Hiking and backpacking are the extent of the type of primitive recreation the area offers. The steepness and ruggedness of the terrain limits recreational opportunities. Hiking and backpacking opportunities would be less than outstanding.

4. Supplemental Values: The unit offers mineral and geological features that are of outstanding value.

### RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

20,269 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-020-600

UNIT NAME: Blue Lakes

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is 30 miles south of Denio Junction, occupying the middle portion of the Pine Forest Range. The northern portion of the unit offers high rugged rocky terrain with several of the peaks rising to 9,000 feet. Two man-made reservoirs and a glacial lake are within the region. The higher elevations provide wet and dry meadows, clumps of quaking aspen, and curleaf mountain mahogany. The highest elevations offer two species of pine, white bark, and limber. The southern portion of the unit takes on a more gentle rolling terrain with scattered rock outcrops and a drier type vegetation of shadscale and low-lying sagebrush.

### CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit includes 31,969 acres of public land. The roadless area consists of 27,069 acres as 4,900 acres were separated from the bulk of the unit by roads.
2. Naturalness: 27,069 acres were found to be in a natural condition.

3. Outstanding Opportunities for:

A. Solitude: A portion (17,500 acres) of the unit offers an outstanding opportunity for solitude as it contains many secluded and isolated spots, broken and varied topography, and ample natural screening.

B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: A portion (17,500 acres) of the unit offers outstanding opportunities for backpacking, hiking, hunting, and camping. All these primitive recreational opportunities are of outstanding quality due to the area's numerous points of interest and many challenges, diverse and unique topography and vegetation, and the easy availability of water.

4. Supplemental Values: The unit offers botanical, geological, archaeological, and wildlife values.

RECOMMENDATION:

17,500 acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

14,469 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: The portion of the unit proposed as a Wilderness Study Area contains at least 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature, with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable. It also has outstanding opportunities for solitude and a primitive and unconfined type of recreation.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-020-601

UNIT NAME: Alder Creek

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is long and slender in shape, and lies between Knott Creek Reservoir and Knott Creek Ranch. The northern portion of the unit is gentle rolling terrain with sparse low-lying vegetation. The southern portion of the unit levels out into a moderate-type mesa with scattered rock outcrops. Vegetation is primarily low-lying sagebrush giving way to some aspen and willow within the drainages.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit includes 30,467 acres of public land. The roadless area consists of 24,487 acres as 5,980 acres were separated from the bulk of the unit by roads and split into sub-units all less than 5,000 acres each.
2. Naturalness: The remaining area is primarily natural, with the works of man substantially unnoticeable.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The absence of natural screening and lack of topographic diversity in the unit and relief provide less than an outstanding opportunity for solitude.



B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Undiversified topography and vegetation, lack of natural screening, no significant points of interest or challenge, and limited opportunity for seclusion or isolation result in an absence of outstanding opportunities for primitive recreation.

4. Supplemental Values: Geological features that offer educational and scientific values were identified within the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

30,467 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-020-602

UNIT NAME: Mahogany Mountains

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is 10 miles south of Denio Junction and west of Highway 140. It is of an irregular shape and size due to the numerous man-made intrusions protruding dead-end roads, and blocks of private land bordering the unit. It offers some variation in topographic and vegetative features. The eastern and western portions along the borders are both part of valley floors, giving way to gently rolling terrain. From the valley floor, the terrain rises somewhat abruptly in elevation, becoming steep and rocky within the core of the unit. The topography along the unit's southwest end is more of a gentle rolling terrain with scattered rock outcrops. Vegetation in the lower elevations contain scattered clumps of mountain mahogany. The drainages contain some aspen and willow.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit includes 26,115 acres of public land. The roadless area consists of 24,525 acres as 1,590 acres were seperated from the bulk of the unit by roads and did not meet the minimum size criterion.
2. Naturalness: 20,205 acres were found to be in a natural condition. 4,320 acres were deleted as unnatural because of seedings and mining scars.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The unit's configuration, marginal vegetative screening, diverse topography, and the presence of man-made intrusions provide less than an outstanding opportunity for solitude.

B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: The marginal amount of natural screening, unavailability of water, and intrusive human activities which hinder solitude and availability of secluded spots result in less than outstanding opportunities for primitive recreation.

4. Supplemental Values: Scientific and educational values were identified.

#### RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

26,115 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-020-603

UNIT NAME: South Jackson  
Mountains

AREA DESCRIPTION: The Southern Jackson range is north of the townsite of Sulphur and borders the east side of the Black Rock Desert. The area is characterized by high relief and rugged topography. The west side is particularly rugged with deep canyons, rock outcrops, and slopes. The highest peak in this range almost exceeds 9,000 feet. Desert Valley flanks the range on the east and the Black Rock Desert on the west. Vegetation is a complex mosaic consisting of riparian (streambank) vegetation along the creeks, big sagebrush and shadscale in the mid elevations, and juniper, mountain mahogany, snowberry, and gooseberry in the higher elevations.

#### CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit includes 69,314 acres of public land. The roadless area consists of 64,079 acres as 5,235 acres were separated from the bulk of the unit by roads and split into sub-units all less than 5,000 acres each.

2. Naturalness: 61,708 acres were found to be in a natural condition; 2,371 acres were eliminated as unnatural due to mining intrusions and scars.

3. Outstanding Opportunities for:

A. Solitude: The natural portion of the unit offers an extensive size, varied and broken topography, and remote locations, many secluded spots, and isolated localities. These characteristics provide the area with an outstanding opportunity for solitude.

B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: The unit's diverse topography and vegetation, availability of natural screening and water, and significant points of interest and challenge provide outstanding opportunities for hiking, backpacking, horsepacking, sightseeing, chukar, and deer hunting.

4. SUPPLEMENTAL VALUES: The unit's geologic, topographic, and botanical features offer educational and scientific values.

RECOMMENDATION:

61,708 acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

7,606 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: The portion of the unit proposed as a Wilderness Study Area contains at least 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature, with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable. It also has outstanding opportunities for solitude and a primitive and unconfined type of recreation.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-020-604

UNIT NAME: Trident Peak

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is 10 miles southeast of Denio Junction and east of Highway 140. The area is comprised of a varied topography from gentle rolling hills along the east and west borders to rough rock peaks and deep drainages. Vegetation consists of sagebrush and scattered mountain mahogany with aspen and willow occupying the drainages. The scattered parcels of large blocks of private lands bordering the unit and the numerous dead-end roads cause a definite breakup of the area's landscape, giving it a chopped-up appearance.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 69,718 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: The area is less than natural with the works of man substantially noticeable.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The unit's configuration and inadequacy of the natural screening to hide the numerous man-made intrusions make the area less than outstanding in opportunities for solitude.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Inadequate natural screening and the presence of obtrusive man-made intrusions provide the unit with less than outstanding opportunities for primitive recreation.
4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

69,718 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: The unit does not contain more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable. Neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-020-606

UNIT NAME: North Jackson Mountains

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is at the north end of the Jackson Mountain Range along the northeast side of the Black Rock Desert. The area's high relief and rugged topography gives way to deep rugged canyons, rock outcrops, and talus slopes. The vegetation of the unit presents a complex mosaic. Big sage occupies the mid-elevations from about 5,000 to 8,000 feet. Along the rolling to very steep terrain, presence of juniper is predominant. Clumps of aspen are also found within the deeper drainages.

#### CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit includes 26,423 acres of public land. The roadless area consists of 25,780 acres as 643 acres were separated from the bulk of the unit by roads and did not meet the size criterion.
2. Naturalness: The entire roadless portion of the unit is substantially natural.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The natural portion of the unit offers varied and broken topography and many remote locations offer secluded spots. These characteristics provide the area with an outstanding opportunity for solitude.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: The unit's diverse topography and vegetation and availability of natural screening, water, significant points of interest and challenge provide outstanding opportunities for hiking, backpacking, horsepacking, sightseeing, and chukar and deer hunting.
4. Supplemental Values: The unit's geological, topographic, and botanical features offer educational, scientific, and scenic values.

#### RECOMMENDATION:

25,780 acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

643 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: The portion of the unit proposed as a Wilderness Study Area contains at least 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature, with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable. It also has outstanding opportunities for solitude and a primitive and unconfined type of recreation.

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit occupies public land within the Burns, Oregon District and the Winnemucca, Nevada District. Just south of Fields, Oregon and east of Denio, Nevada, the area is composed of rolling hills with rock outcrops and a flat valley with sand dunes. Vegetation consists mainly of sagebrush and some scattered pockets of aspen along the deeper drainages.

## CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The interstate unit includes 35,584 acres of public land. The roadless area consists of 30,461 acres of contiguous public land as 5,123 acres were separated from the bulk of the unit by roads and split into units less than 5,000 acres each.
2. Naturalness: The area is less than natural with the work's of man substantially noticeable.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The unit's configuration, absence of vegetative screening, and lack of topographic diversity provide less than an outstanding opportunity for solitude.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Undiversified topography and vegetation, lack of natural screening and no significant points of interest or challenge result in an absence of outstanding opportunities for primitive recreation.
4. Supplemental Values: The Crescent Sand Dunes were identified as being of supplemental value.

## RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

35,584 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is an irregular-shaped area between Highway 140 and the Pine Forest Mountain Range. Sentinel Peak rises to a sharp point in the center of the unit with the remaining portion made up of gentle rolling terrain and low plateau-like mesas. Vegetation is sparse consisting of low-lying shrubs and sagebrush and scattered pinyon-juniper along the unit's east side.

#### CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit includes 28,060 acres of public land. The roadless area consists of 27,760 acres as 300 acres were separated from the bulk of the unit by roads and did not meet the size criterion.
2. Naturalness: The area is primarily natural with the works of man substantially unnoticeable.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: Absence of vegetative screening and lack of topographic diversity provide less than an outstanding opportunity for solitude.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Undiversified topography and vegetation, lack of natural screening, no significant points of interest or challenge, and unavailability of water result in an absence of any outstanding opportunities for primitive recreation.
4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

#### RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

28,060 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-020-612

UNIT NAME: Bilk Creek

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is of an irregular shape, wide at the north end and tapering off towards the southern end. Two distinct drainages run north and south through the area, giving way to a plateau like mesa in between them. There is little relief to the area with the vegetation being predominantly sagebrush and rabbitbrush.

#### CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit includes 21,072 acres of public land. The roadless area consists of 18,643 acres as 2,429 acres were separated from the bulk of the unit by roads and did not meet the size criterion.
2. Naturalness: 18,643 acres were found to be in a natural condition, with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable.

3. Outstanding Opportunities for:

A. Solitude: The unit's configuration, absence of vegetative screening, and lack of topographic diversity provide less than outstanding opportunities for solitude.

B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Undiversified topography and vegetation, lack of natural screening, no significant points of interest or challenge, and unavailability of water result in an absence of outstanding opportunities for primitive recreation.

4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area Status.

21,072 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-020-615

UNIT NAME: Wood Canyon

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is just north of Onion Valley Reservoir on the north end of the Pine Forest Range. Somewhat of a circular shape, the terrain is gently rolling hills and rugged rocky ridges and peaks. Two distinct drainages cross the area, containing clumps of aspen, willow, and some juniper. The lower elevations host low-lying shrubs such as sagebrush and rabbitbrush.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 7,936 acres of public land.

2. Naturalness: The area is less than natural, with the imprint of man's work noticeable.

3. Outstanding Opportunities for:

A. Solitude: The unit's configuration, lack of vegetative screening, and topographic diversity provide less than an outstanding opportunity for solitude.

B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Lack of natural screening and no significant points of interest or challenge result in an absence of outstanding opportunities for primitive recreation.

4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

7,936 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land, it does not generally appear to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable. Therefore, further wilderness consideration is unnecessary.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-020-617

UNIT NAME: Middle Spring

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is along the eastern border of the Sheldon Antelope Range and north of the Lahontan Cutthroat Trout Natural Area. The unit consists of a gently rolling terrain giving way to scattered butte-like knolls. Vegetation is sparse including mainly low sagebrush.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit includes 11,460 acres of public land. The roadless area consists of 6,830 acres as 4,630 acres were separated from the bulk of the unit by roads and did not meet the minimum size criterion.
2. Naturalness: The area is primarily natural with the works of man substantially unnoticeable.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The unit's configuration and absence of natural screening provide less than an outstanding opportunity for solitude.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Undiversified topography and vegetation, lack of natural screening, no significant points of interest or challenge, and unavailability of water result in an absence of outstanding opportunities for primitive recreation.
4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

11,460 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.



RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-020-618

UNIT NAME: Texas Springs

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is somewhat oval in shape located at the southern end of the Bilk Creek Mountains and just north of the Bilk Creek Reservoir. The entire unit consists of a gently rolling and undiversified terrain giving way to one significant drainage that cuts vertically through the area. The vegetation is reflective of the unit's topography and elevation, limiting the dominant species to low-lying shrubs and sagebrush.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 10,853 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: The area is primarily natural with man's work substantially unnoticeable.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The unit's configuration, absence of vegetative screening and lack of topographic diversity provide less than an outstanding opportunity for solitude.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Undiversified topography and vegetation, lack of natural screening, no significant points of interest or challenge, and unavailability of water result in an absence of outstanding primitive recreational opportunities.
4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

10,853 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

AREA DESCRIPTION: The Black Rock Desert is a huge flat playa east of Gerlach, Nevada. The playa forms somewhat of a U-shape around the Black Rock Range. The Quinn River flows down through the center of the unit keeping the area wet during the winter months. During the summer season, the playa is dry, serving as the main thoroughfare from Winnemucca to Gerlach. The traffic creates numerous ways within the southern portion of the unit, these being visible even after the unit becomes too wet to drive. Vegetation is sparse and exists mainly in low and big sagebrush make up the dominant species within this area.

## CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit includes 550,000 acres of public land. The roadless area consists of 538,181 acres as 11,819 acres were separated from the bulk of the unit by roads and split into sub-units of less than 5,000 acres each.
2. Naturalness: 438,876 acres were found to be in a natural condition. 99,305 acres were deleted due to lack of naturalness because of the accumulative effect of the numerous ways that cross the southern portion of the unit.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: Only a portion (333,111 acres) of the unit offers an outstanding opportunity for solitude; the main reason is the largeness of the area. The area is 42 miles long and 16 miles wide at its widest portion. This area does offer some relief in topography from the knoll portion of the unit which occupies the north end.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: The unit's climate and extreme temperature variations, lack of water, and no significant points of interest result in less than an outstanding opportunity for primitive recreation.
4. Supplemental Values: The unit contains botanical, archaeological, and historical features which offer supplemental values.

## RECOMMENDATION:

333,111 acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

216,889 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: The portion of the unit proposed as a Wilderness Study Area contains at least 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature, with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable. It also has outstanding opportunities for solitude.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-020-621

UNIT NAME: Pahute Peak

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is just southeast of the Solider Meadows Ranch. Surrounded by the Black Rock Desert, the unit encompasses the southern portion of the Black Rock mountain range. The terrain is gently rolling with scattered rock outcrops and sparse vegetation. A rocky basalt landscape provide the unit with a limited vegetative cover of shadscale and low-lying sagebrush. At the northern end of the unit sits the gently curving Pahute Peak, which rises to some 8,000 feet. On the north side of the peak, the deeper drainages provide enough moisture for the growth of a few scattered clumps of aspen.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit includes 55,472 acres of public land. The roadless area consists of 55,000 acres as 472 acres were separated from the bulk of the unit by roads and did not meet the size criterion.
2. Naturalness: 54,720 acres were found to be in a natural condition. 280 acres were deleted as unnatural because of mining activity.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The unit's limited topographic diversity, natural screening, and isolated and secluded spots provide the area with less than an outstanding opportunity for solitude.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: The unit provides a limited amount of natural screening, secluded spots, water, and few points of interest or challenge, offering less than outstanding opportunities for primitive recreation.
4. Supplemental Values: The area contains the threatened plant species *Astragalus pterocarpus* (winged milk-vetch) and *Caulanthus* (wild cabbage).

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

55,472 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-020-621A

UNIT NAME: Pahute Peak

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is just east of the Soldier Meadows Ranch and north-west of Pahute Peak. The area is of a gentle rolling terrain with sparse vegetation consisting of low-lying sagebrush and shadscale.

#### CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 32,240 acres of roadless public land.
2. Naturalness: The roadless portion of the unit is essentially natural.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The unit's configuration, absence of vegetative screening, lack of topographic diversity, and limited isolated and secluded spots provide the area with less than an outstanding opportunity for solitude.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Undiversified topography and vegetation, lack of natural screening, no significant points of interest or challenge, and unavailability of water result in an absence of outstanding opportunities for primitive recreation.
4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

#### RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

32,240 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-020-622

UNIT NAME: North Black Rock Range

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is just north of Pahute Meadows Ranch and includes the 12,316-acre Lahontan Cutthroat Trout Natural Area. The unit is large and widespread. Topography and vegetation are varied ranging from gentle rolling hills with low-growing sagebrush and shadscale. The center portion of the unit contains most of the high country with deep drainages and rocky outcrops. The drainages in the western portion of the unit are heavily laden with pockets of aspen and mahogany.

#### CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit includes 94,356 acres of public land. The roadless area consists of 73,885 acres as 20,471 acres were separated from the bulk of the unit by roads and split into sub-units less than 5,000 acres each.

2. Naturalness: 73,885 acres were found to be in a natural condition.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: Only a portion (29,945 acres) of the unit offers an outstanding opportunity for solitude. The western portion of the unit offers diverse topography with deep drainages pocketed with aspen and mountain mahogany. Secluded and isolated spots are unlimited as the abundance of natural screening blocks the sights and sounds of man.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: The western portion (29,945 acres) of the unit offers outstanding opportunities for hunting of deer and upland game birds, backpacking, camping, sightseeing, and hiking. The area's western portion offers diverse topography and vegetation, an abundance of natural screening, significant points of interest and challenge that provide the setting for outstanding opportunities for primitive recreation.
4. Supplemental Values: The area contains zoological, botanical, and archaeological features, including the Lahontan Cutthroat Trout Natural Area.

RECOMMENDATION:

29,945 acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status, including 600 acres within the Lahontan Cutthroat Trout Natural Area.

64,411 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: The portion of the unit proposed as a Wilderness Study Area contains at least 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature, with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable. It also has outstanding opportunities for solitude and a primitive and unconfined type of recreation.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-020-637

UNIT NAME: McGee Mountain

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is located at the northwest corner of the Winnemucca District, adjacent to the Sheldon Antelope Range, along its western border. A portion of the unit that is contiguous with the Antelope Range is a 20,000 acre wilderness proposal for the Fish and Wildlife Service. The northern portion of the unit is adjacent to a portion of the Antelope Range that is not under a wilderness proposal.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 25,406 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: The 25,406 acres of the unit were found to be in a natural condition with the works of man substantially unnoticeable.

3. Outstanding Opportunities for:

A. Solitude: The unit's configuration, natural screening, and topographic relief provide an outstanding opportunity for solitude only when considered in conjunction with the large contiguous land administered by the Fish and Wildlife Service. Opportunities for solitude do not stop at the administrative boundary.

B. A Primitive and Unconfined Recreation: When considered in conjunction with the contiguous roadless lands administered by the Fish and Wildlife Service, the BLM portion of the unit shares the same outstanding opportunities that have already been identified within this roadless area in the earlier wilderness inventory.

4. Supplemental Values: No such values were identified within the study unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

25,406 acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

SPECIAL NOTE: This unit is contiguous with a Fish and Wildlife proposed wilderness area. It is separated from the Fish and Wildlife Service lands only by an administrative boundary that is unmarked on the ground. If the Sheldon Antelope Range Wilderness proposal is eventually denied by Congress, the wilderness study area status of this BLM unit should also be removed.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: The portion of the unit proposed as a Wilderness Study Area contains at least 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature, with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable. When combined with the contiguous Fish and Wildlife Service land, it also has outstanding opportunities for solitude and a primitive and unconfined type of recreation.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-020-641

UNIT NAME: Paiute Meadows

AREA DESCRIPTION: Located between Paiute Meadows and Solider Meadows Ranches, the unit is small and rectangular consisting of a flat, bowl-like basin on the west side, giving way to moderate mesa-like ridges on the east. Vegetation is low-growing sagebrush and range grasses.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 16,349 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: The area is primarily natural with the works of man substantially unnoticeable.

3. Outstanding Opportunities for:

A. Solitude: The unit's configuration, absence of vegetative screening, and lack of topographic diversity provide less than outstanding opportunities for primitive recreation.

4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study status.

16,349 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-020-800

UNIT NAME: Long Ridge

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is a rectangular-shaped area consisting of wave-like topography, located between Disaster Peak and the town site of McDermitt, Nevada, near the Oregon-Nevada border. Two drainages cross the area horizontally, providing the unit with some topographical diversity. Vegetation is predominantly a low-lying shrub type and sagebrush, giving way to some scattered clumps of willow in the drainages.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 12,430 acres of public land.

2. Naturalness: The area is primarily natural with the works of man substantially unnoticeable.

3. Outstanding Opportunities for:

A. Solitude: The unit's configuration, absence of vegetative screening, and the lack of topographic diversity provide less than outstanding opportunity for solitude.

B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Undiversified topography and vegetation, lack of screening, no significant points of interest or challenge and unavailability of water result in an absence of any outstanding opportunities for primitive recreation.

4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

12,430 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-020-810/OR-3-191

UNIT NAME: Carin "C"

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is six miles south of Anderson Crossing at the Little Owyhee River. The unit consists of low-rolling hills and flats with little change in topography except for a few narrow ravines and shallow drainages lined with rimrock. Vegetation is predominantly of sagebrush and native grasses. The unit is jointly managed on the Winnemucca BLM District in Nevada and the Vale BLM District in Oregon.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit includes 11,660 acres of public land. The roadless area consists of 11,500 acres as 160 acres were separated from the bulk of the unit by roads and did not meet the size criterion.
2. Naturalness: The unit generally appears to be natural with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The unit does not provide an outstanding opportunity for solitude because of the absence of vegetation and topographic screening and its relatively small size.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: The lack of diversity in topography and vegetation results in the unit not offering any interesting, challenging, or unique points of interest. There is no outstanding opportunity for primitive recreation within this unit.
4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

11,660 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.



RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-020-811/OR-3-159/ID-106-70E UNIT NAME: Tent Creek

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is in the corner of Oregon, Idaho and Nevada, occupying portions of land in all three states. The topography consists of flat to gently rolling tablelands. Oregon and Mahogany Butte along with Tent and Mahogany Creek provide the only noticeable diversity of relief. The vegetation consists of sagebrush and native rangeland grasses.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit includes 46,520 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: The unit is primarily natural with the imprint of man substantially unnoticeable.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The unit does not provide an outstanding opportunity for solitude because of the absence of vegetative screening and topographic diversity.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: The unit's homogeneous features of topography and vegetation with no significant points of interest or challenge result in an absence of any outstanding opportunities for primitive recreation.
4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

46,520 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-020-827

UNIT NAME: North Fork Little Humboldt

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is at the southern end of the Owyhee Desert near the Winnemucca-Elko District boundary line. The unit is unique in that it has a 12-mile steep gorge running the entire length of the area. Out of the gorge the unit takes the typical appearance of the Owyhee Desert of gently rolling terrain made up of sand and sagebrush.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit includes 114,021 acres of public land. 5,495 acres were separated from the bulk of the unit by roads and split into sub-units less than 5,000 acres. The remaining roadless area consists of 108,526 acres separated by roads into two different areas.
2. Naturalness: The area is primarily natural with the works of man substantially unnoticeable.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The North Fork of the Little Humboldt River gorge (81,320 acres) offers an outstanding opportunity for solitude.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: The river gorge offers the natural screening, diverse topography and vegetation, significant points of interest and challenge, available water, scenic features, and other supplemental values to provide outstanding opportunities for primitive recreation.
4. Supplemental Values: Geologic features, wildlife, and possible endangered plant species were identified in the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

81,320 acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

32,701 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: The portion of the unit proposed as a Wilderness Study Area contains at least 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature, with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable. It also has outstanding opportunities for solitude and a primitive and unconfined type of recreation.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-020-830

UNIT NAME: Sugar Loaf Hill

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is long and narrow, made up of gently rolling terrain rising to moderate basalt mesas. It is east of the Santa Rose Mountain Range and northeast of the community of Paradise.

#### CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 35,901 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: The area contains numerous works of man, which are substantially noticeable and detract from the unit's naturalness.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The unit's configuration, absence of vegetative screening, and lack of topographic diversity provide less than outstanding opportunities for solitude.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Undiversified topography and vegetation, lack of screening, no significant points of interest or challenge, and unavailability of water result in an absence of any outstanding opportunities for primitive recreation.
4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

#### RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

35,901 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land, it does not generally appear to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable. Therefore, further wilderness consideration is unnecessary.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-020-835

UNIT NAME: Forks Ranch

AREA DESCRIPTION: Located between the Forest Service boundary of the Santa Rosa Mountains and the Owyhee road, the area consists of flat desert land along its eastern border, a single crested mountain, and a moderate river gorge running vertically along its western border. Vegetation is predominantly low and big sagebrush with some willow and rabbitbrush along the drainage and scattered mountain mahogany near the mountain top.

#### CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit includes 21,998 acres of public land. The roadless area consists of 21,596 acres as 402 acres were separated from the bulk of the unit by roads and did not meet the size criterion.
2. Naturalness: The area is primarily natural with the works of man substantially unnoticeable.

3. Outstanding Opportunities for:

A. Solitude: The unit's configuration, lack of vegetative screening, and topographic diversity provide less than an outstanding opportunity for solitude.

B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Undiversified topography and vegetation, lack of natural screening, limited secluded spots, and unavailability of drinkable water result in an absence of any outstanding opportunities for primitive recreation.

4. Supplemental Values: The unit's geological features could be of scientific, educational, and ecological value.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study status.

21,998 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-020-836

UNIT NAME: Little Owyhee River

AREA DESCRIPTION: Situated between the Santa Rosa Mountain range and the Elko County line, the unit lies south of the Oregon-Nevada border in the Owyhee Desert. With flat sagebrush terrain, the area offers little variation of the landscape except for the Little Owyhee River gorge, which cuts its way across the unit.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 34,883 acres of public land.

2. Naturalness: The area is primarily natural with the works of man substantially unnoticeable.

3. Outstanding Opportunities for:

A. Solitude: The unit's absence of vegetative screening and lack of topographic diversity provide less than outstanding opportunities for solitude.

B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Undiversified topography and vegetation, lack of screening, no significant points of interest or challenge, and unavailability of water result in an absence of any outstanding opportunities for primitive recreation.

4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

34,883 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-020-838

UNIT NAME: Lone Willow

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is between the Santa Rose Range and the Owyhee Road, just below the Oregon-Nevada border. The topography of the unit is somewhat varied. The eastern portion is relatively flat and increases in elevation and varies in contour moving west, with the unit's western boundary crossing the east side of the Calico Mountains just below the ridge line. Vegetation is mostly sagebrush with some scattered clumps of willow and aspen in the deeper drainages.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit includes 24,597 acres of public land. The roadless area consists of 23,808 acres as 789 acres were separated from the bulk of the unit by roads and did not meet the size criterion.
2. Naturalness: The area is in less than a natural state with the works of man substantially noticeable.
3. Outstanding Opportunities:
  - A. Solitude: The unit's configuration and lack of vegetation and topographic diversity for natural screening provide less than an outstanding opportunity for solitude.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: A minimal amount of topographic and vegetative diversity, lack of natural screening, no significant points of interest or challenge, and unavailability of water results in an absence of outstanding opportunities for primitive recreation.
4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

24,597 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: The portion of the unit that contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land does not generally appear to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable. Therefore, further wilderness consideration is unnoticeable.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-020-839

UNIT NAME: Calico Ranch

AREA DESCRIPTION: Located just east of the Santa Rosa Mountains and south of the Oregon border, the unit lies within the Owyhee Desert as a rectangular shape, consisting of flat sagebrush terrain. The areas of topographic relief come from the Raven Creek drainage which crosses the center of the unit. This is a shallow basalt rock drainage that provides little water or riparian (streambank) vegetation.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 34,366 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: The area is primarily natural with the works of man substantially unnoticeable.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The unit's configuration, absence of vegetative screening, and lack of topographic diversity provide less than outstanding opportunity for solitude.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Undiversified topography and vegetation, lack of screening, no significant points of interest or challenge, and unavailability of water result in an absence of any outstanding opportunities for primitive recreation.
4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

34,366 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-020-840

UNIT NAME: No Springs

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is located just east of the Santa Rose Mountain Range and south of the Oregon border in the Owyhee Desert. The unit lies on the Winnemucca-Elko BLM District line and encompasses land in both districts. The topography and vegetation is typical of the Owyhee Desert: flat with sagebrush and no topographic relief.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 11,174 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: The area is primarily natural with the works of man substantially unnoticeable.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The unit's configuration, absence of vegetative screening, and lack of topographic diversity provide less than outstanding opportunities for solitude.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Undiversified topography and vegetation, lack of screening, no significant points of interest or challenge, and unavailability of water result in an absence of any outstanding opportunities for primitive recreation.
4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

11,174 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-020-843

UNIT NAME: Raven Creek

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is east of the Santa Rose Mountain range and south of the Oregon border on the Owyhee Desert. The unit encompasses portions of the Winnemucca and Elko Districts. Raven Creek drainage runs along the unit's western boundary to give the area a small amount of topographic relief. Other than that, the unit's vegetation and topography is typical of the Owyhee Desert.

#### CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 21,436 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: The area is primarily natural with the works of man substantially unnoticeable.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The unit's configuration, absence of vegetative screening, and the lack of topographic diversity provide less than an outstanding opportunity for solitude.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Undiversified topography and vegetation, lack of screening, no significant points of interest or challenge, and unavailability of water result in an absence of any outstanding opportunities for primitive recreation.
4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

#### RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

21,436 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-020-859/OR-3-153/OR-2-78      UNIT NAME: Disaster Peak

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is at the north end of the Kings River Valley, encompassing portions of Nevada and Oregon public lands. The central and eastern portions of the unit consists of steep rugged terrain with deep drainages and a variety of vegetation. The southern portion of the unit that lies within Nevada flattens out into a high mesa with sheer rimrock bluffs. Vegetation is more sparse in this portion, mostly low-lying shrubs and sagebrush. Along the unit's western border terrain becomes more rolling with sparse vegetative cover and little topographic relief. The unit is jointly managed by the Winnemucca BLM District in Nevada and the Vale and Burns BLM Districts in Oregon.

#### CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 58,905 acres of public land. 9,360 acres were deleted by documented roads and split into sub-units less than 5,000 acres each.



2. Naturalness: 49,545 acres were found to be in a natural condition.

3. Outstanding Opportunities for:

A. Solitude: Of the 49,545 acres that were found to be in a natural condition, only 33,355 acres provided outstanding opportunities for solitude. This acreage represents two sub-units. One is 25,842 acres of roadless public land lying within the Winnemucca, Nevada, Vale and Burns, Oregon BLM Districts. The other is 7,513 acres of public land entirely within the Winnemucca, Nevada District. The area's tremendous size, configuration, topographical and vegetative screening, and numerous isolated spots provide outstanding opportunities for solitude.

B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Both natural sub-units provide outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined types of recreation. The terrain and natural screening offer outstanding opportunities for backpacking, hiking and sightseeing. The abundance of deer provides the area with outstanding hunting.

4. Supplemental Values: Geological and zoological values were identified.

#### RECOMMENDATION:

33,355 acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status; this acreage is recommended to be split into two wilderness study areas, 622 and 622B, for study purposes.

25,550 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: The portion of the unit proposed as a Wilderness Study Area contains at least 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature, with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable. It also has outstanding opportunities for solitude and a primitive and unconfined type of recreation.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-030-102

UNIT NAME: Clan Alpine Mountains

AREA DESCRIPTION: The Clan Alpine Mountains are a major north-south trending volcanic range in west-central Nevada, on the east side of Dixie Valley. The range has an impressive variety of landscapes, vegetation, and animal life. It also contains several small perennial and intermittent streams, numerous springs, steep canyons, high ridges and peaks, colorful rock and soil formations, aspen lined drainages, and pinyon-covered hills. Elevations range from 3,760 feet in Dixie Valley to 9,966 feet at the highest point, Mt. Augusta. The unit runs about 36 miles in length north and south, and is about 12 miles wide.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The inventory unit contains 257,000 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: The edges of the unit have been intruded upon by roads, mining, and geothermal exploration activity. Mining and ranching roads penetrate into the center of the area near Mount Grant and Mt. Augusta, the two highest points of the unit. These intrusions and roads totaling 63,480 acres were removed from the unit leaving 193,520 acres of substantially natural landscape, with a few minor intrusions such as fence lines and jeep trails.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: Opportunities for solitude are outstanding due to the area's large size, varied topography, and large number of secluded spots.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Opportunities for primitive recreation are outstanding because of the area's varied landscape, the ability to hike along drainages and ridges and at high elevations for long distances, and a number of good primitive activities including hunting, photography, viewing animals, cross-country skiing, horseback riding, and camping near water.
4. Supplemental Values: The area is highly scenic and contains significant ecological and geological features.

RECOMMENDATION:

193,520 acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

63,480 should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: The portion of the unit proposed as Wilderness Study Area contains at least 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature, with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable. It also has outstanding opportunities for solitude, and a primitive and unconfined type of recreation.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-030-104

UNIT NAME: Stillwater Range

AREA DESCRIPTION: The Stillwater Range unit contains rugged, mountainous terrain stretching more than 17 miles in length and flanked on both the east and west by

broad, sagebrush covered flats. It is about 30 miles northeast of Fallon, Nevada and is bounded on the north by the White Rock and Copper Kettle roads, on the west by county road 399, on the south by the Job Canyon road, and on the east by county road 380.

#### CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The Stillwater Range unit contains 113,310 acres of public land. Acreage deleted due to road documentation totaled 1,388 acres, resulting in 111,922 acres remaining for evaluation.
2. Naturalness: An area of 110,133 acres was determined to be in an essentially natural condition. Portions of the unit (1,789 acres) are heavily impacted by mining activities and roads were deleted, resulting in an area which appears to have been affected by the forces of nature and where the imprint of man's work is substantially unnoticeable.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: Solitude opportunities were deemed outstanding due to (a) the configuration and immense size of the unit, (b) the excellent natural screening afforded by the mountainous portion of the unit, and (c) the numerous opportunities for a visitor to find a secluded spot in which to experience a feeling of solitude and isolation.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Both backpacking and sightseeing opportunities were found to be outstanding. Day hiking, horseback riding, hunting, and mountain/rock climbing opportunities also are present. The diversity of opportunities also contributes to an outstanding primitive and unconfined recreation experience.
4. Supplemental Values: Geologic, historic, and limited ecological supplemental values were found to exist within the unit.
5. Rehabilitation: The only major intrusions remaining in the area are ways, which could, through vehicle closure, soil preparation by hand tools, and the passage of time, revegetate and become substantially unnoticeable.

#### RECOMMENDATION:

110,133 acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

3,177 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONAL FOR RECOMMENDATION: The portion of the unit proposed as a Wilderness Study Area contains at least 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature, with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable. It also has outstanding opportunities for solitude, and a primitive and unconfined type of recreation.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-030-105

UNIT NAME: New Pass Range

AREA DESCRIPTION: The New Pass Mountain Range is an arid range about 14 miles long by five miles wide. The main peak reaches an elevation of nearly 9,000 feet, and is flanked by a number of low rolling pinyon woodland covered hills.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 61,500 acres of public land. 5,920 acres were deleted due to documentation of roads.
2. Naturalness: 10,640 acres covering the east side of New Pass Peak were eliminated due to mining activity. The remainder of the unit (44,940 acres) is substantially natural and contains only a few ways and a fence line.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: Opportunities for solitude are not outstanding because of the unit's narrow configuration, penetrating roads, and limited opportunity to avoid roads and mining.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: The area does not contain a good number of interesting or attracting features, and as a result the opportunity to participate in primitive recreation activities is limited.
4. Supplemental Values: The relative quality and quantity of ecological, geological, scenic and other features are of low value, and do not enhance the unit's wilderness character.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

61,500 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-030-106

UNIT NAME: Shoshone Meadows

AREA DESCRIPTION: The Shoshone Meadows unit is in the northern foothills of the Clan Alpine Mountain Range, about 65 miles northeast of Fallon, Nevada. It is separated from the main Clan Alpine Range by the Shoshone Pass Road, and from the south end of the Augusta Mountains by the Hole-in-the-Wall Pass Road. The west and east boundaries are documented roads. Vegetation is primarily sagebrush community-desert scrub, with pinyon woodland covering about 6,000 acres around the highest point, McCoy Peak.

## CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 53,000 acres of public lands. Documented roads separated one 400-acre parcel, leaving 52,600 acres for further evaluation. The unit is divided from west to east by a bladed fence-line right-of-way, separating it into one 14,000-acre subunit north of the line and a 38,600-acre subunit to the south.
2. Naturalness: Only one mile-long vehicle way penetrates from the north boundary road into the northern subunit. The southern subunit has about 10 miles of ways and about five acres of surface disturbance due to recent prospecting or mining activities.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: Pinyon woodland combined with the mountainous terrain around McCoy Peak offers some screening, and a few secluded spots can be found among the peaks and canyons in the south portion. The northern subunit provides very little opportunity for solitude.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: The unit offers some sightseeing, hiking, hunting, and camping opportunities. There are no significant features that would attract or sustain primitive recreation use.
4. Supplemental Values: Geological formations give the north and west side of the unit a layered appearance with colorful bands of rock. Wild horse herds are abundant. No other significant values were identified.
5. Rehabilitation: Portions of the vehicle ways and prospecting pits could possibly be restored without mechanical means, but most are deeply cut into dry, rocky soils, with little potential for revegetation.

## RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

53,000 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although portions of the unit contain more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-030-108

UNIT NAME: Augusta Mountains

AREA DESCRIPTION: The Augusta Mountains unit consists of rugged desert mountain topography surrounding 8,409 foot Cain Peak. Vegetation is mostly sagebrush-

grass community with pinyon-juniper woodland covering much of the intermediate elevations. The unit centers around the common junction of Churchill, Pershing, and Lander County lines, about 75 miles northeast of Fallon, Nevada.

#### CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The Augusta Mountains unit contains 96,000 acres of public land. Three subunits totaling 1,600 acres were separated from the original unit by roads, leaving 94,400 acres for evaluation.
2. Naturalness: Vehicle ways total four miles. Mining exploration along the dead-end roads creates a significant visual impact on the otherwise natural landscape. Barbed-wire livestock fences penetrate five miles into the unit from two locations on the boundary. The unit also contains two developed livestock waters.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: Solitude opportunities are diminished north of the Pershing County line due to narrow fingers of land defined by penetrating roads and fencelines. The southern half of the unit consists of low, rolling hills vegetated by low shrubs and grasses which offer little screening. Some secluded spots could be found in the unit, but the overall solitude opportunity is not outstanding.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: The unit does offer some sightseeing opportunities for geological features, wild horses, and scenery. Backpacking, hiking, and primitive camping could be done throughout the unit; however, there are no significant features that would attract recreation use or provide an outstanding experience.
4. Supplemental Values: Several canyons and cliffs in the northeast portion of the unit have colorful geological displays, bedded layers, and wind caves. Except for the visual resources, no other significant supplemental values were identified.
5. Rehabilitation: The vehicle ways would be difficult to restore to a natural appearance without using mechanized equipment. Fences and spring developments could be returned to a substantially unnoticeable level.

#### RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

96,000 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-030-110

UNIT NAME: Desatoya Mountains

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit consists of scenic mountainous steep topography dissected by numerous ridges and small aspen lined drainages. The unit is 60 miles east of Fallon, Nevada and is bounded by U.S. Highway 50 on the northwest, "Old U.S. 50 Alternate" on the south and BLM dirt roads to the east and north. The unit is contiguous with NV-060-288 and that unit is included in this inventory.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 76,800 acres of public land. This acreage was reduced to 48,150 acres of public land through documentation of roaded and unnatural areas.
2. Naturalness: The remaining 48,150 acres appear to be natural.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: A portion of the unit on the west side of the main ridge contains outstanding opportunities for solitude because of highly dissected topography and good vegetative screening on the lower slopes and in the drainages.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: The area contains a good variety of landscape features and opportunities for hiking, camping, photography, and cross-country skiing.
4. Supplemental Values: Historic and scenic qualities are high.

RECOMMENDATION:

48,150 acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

28,650 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: The portion of the unit proposed as a Wilderness Study Area contains at least 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature, with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable. It also has outstanding opportunities for solitude and a primitive and unconfined type of recreation.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-030-117

UNIT NAME: Diamond Canyon

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit consists mostly of dry desert hills dissected by shallow washes. The Sand Mountain dunes are located in the southeastern portion of the unit. The unit varies in elevation from 3,890 feet to 6,015 feet. Vegetation is low desert shrubs and grasses. Boundaries are a transmission line and U.S. 50 on the south, and official Churchill County roads and BLM maintained roads.

## CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit covers 65,000 acres of public lands. This acreage was reduced to 60,500 acres with removal of roaded and unnatural areas.
2. Naturalness: The majority of the unit appears to be natural. Sand Mountain is a popular off-road vehicle area. The dunes, despite heavy recreation use, retain their natural character.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The area lacks significant topographic and vegetative diversity. Most users would concentrate at the only dominant feature of the area, Sand Mountain, which is readily accessible by vehicle to other recreationists. Although visitors could readily experience solitude due to the area's large size, the situation is not considered outstanding.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: The area lacks outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation because the only feature, Sand Mountain dunes, shows a high capability to attract recreation users, but is readily accessible by vehicle.
4. Supplemental Values: Sand Mountain is recognized as an outstanding geological feature of scientific and educational interest.
5. Rehabilitation: Sand Mountain dunes at certain times would not appear to be untrammled by man because of off-road vehicle activity. The dune readily returns to a natural appearance due to wind-initiated movements.

## RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

65,000 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-030-118

UNIT NAME: Desatoya South

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is rolling mountainous topography ranging in elevation from 5,400 feet to 8,287 feet. Vegetation is a mixture of pinyon pine and desert shrubs. The unit is located 60 miles east of Fallon, just south of Carrol Summit on State Highway 2.



CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The area is 27,850 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: The area does not appear to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature because of mining activity and documented roads that penetrate into the center of the unit from all sides.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: Opportunities are not outstanding because roads create isolated corners and an odd configuration. It would be difficult for users to move around the unit without coming in contact with roads and vehicle users. Ninety percent of the unit is within one mile of a road.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Opportunities are limited by the area's odd configuration, penetrating roads, and an absence of recreation opportunities away from vehicle access.
4. Supplemental Values: The area contains a highly scenic eroded soils formation.
5. Rehabilitation: Except for a few short ways, rehabilitation of man's work is not feasible.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

27,850 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: The portion of the unit that contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land does not generally appear to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable. In addition, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-030-125

UNIT NAME: Desatoya North

AREA DESCRIPTION: The Desatoya North unit, located about 70 miles east of Fallon, Nevada, is mountainous, ranging in elevation from 5,500 to 8,800 feet. Vegetation consists mainly of pinyon pine and low desert shrubs. The north-west side is bounded by a wood-pole transmission line; all other boundaries are documented roads.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The area is 54,750 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: The area contains a few minor intrusions such as spring developments, fences and jeep trails, but generally appears to be natural.

3. Outstanding Opportunities for:

- A. Solitude: Pinyon woodlands and broken topography provide good natural screening, but the narrowness of the range and penetrating roads limit outstanding opportunities.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: The area does contain some isolated interesting features, but does not contain outstanding landscape variety or provide the variety of resources necessary to offer an outstanding primitive recreation opportunity.
4. Supplemental Values: Scenic quality is good, but not outstanding in comparison to other mountain ranges in central Nevada.
5. Rehabilitation: Rehabilitation is feasible on about three miles of ways that could be closed to vehicle traffic.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

54,750 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-030-127

UNIT NAME: Job Peak

AREA DESCRIPTION: The Job Peak unit is about 25 miles northeast of Fallon, Nevada. Topography within the unit ranges from rugged, mountainous terrain to broad, sagebrush-covered flats. The boundaries of the unit are county roads on the east and west, BLM maintained roads, a county road on the south, and the Job Canyon road on the North.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

- 1. Size: The Job Peak unit contains 115,120 acres of public land. Acreage deleted due to roads totaled 2,050 acres, leaving 113,070 acres to be evaluated.
- 2. Naturalness: An area of 109,010 acres was determined to be in an essentially natural condition. About 4,060 acres were deleted from the unit due to a lack of naturalness. Three subunits (B, G, and I) were fully evaluated.
- 3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: Solitude opportunities were deemed outstanding in subunit I due to (a) the configuration and large size of the subunit, (b) the excellent natural screening afforded by the mountainous

portion of the subunit, and (c) the numerous opportunities for a visitor to find a secluded spot in which to experience a feeling of solitude and isolation. Subunits B and G do not have outstanding opportunities for solitude due to their lack of natural screening, relatively small size, and lack of opportunities to find a secluded spot.

- B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Backpacking, horseback riding, and sightseeing opportunities were found to be outstanding in subunit I. Day hiking, hunting, and mountain/rock climbing opportunities also are present. The diversity of opportunities also contributes to an outstanding primitive and unconfined recreation experience. Subunits B and G lack any outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined types of recreation.
4. Supplemental Values: Limited geological and ecological supplemental values were found to exist within subunit I.
5. Rehabilitation: The only major intrusions remaining in the area are ways, which could, through route closure, soil preparation by hand tools, and the passage of time, revegetate and become substantially unnoticeable. A small area of historic mining activity in upper Coyote Canyon probably could not be rehabilitated.

#### RECOMMENDATION:

92,330 acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

22,790 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: The portion of the unit proposed as a Wilderness Study Area contains at least 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature, with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable. It also has outstanding opportunities for solitude and a primitive and unconfined type of recreation.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-030-136

UNIT NAME: Mount Annie

AREA DESCRIPTION: The Monte Cristo Mountains consists of steep, rugged peaks and ridges, with Mount Annie the highest point at an elevation of 6,908 feet. The inventory unit is bounded on the west, east, north, and south by BLM roads. Vegetation is low growing desert shrub.

#### CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 19,500 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: The inventory unit is essentially in a natural state with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable.

3. Outstanding Opportunities for:

- A. Solitude: The inventory unit lacks outstanding opportunities for solitude due to minimal size and a lack of topographic and vegetative screening. It is very unlikely a visitor to the area would avoid the sights, sounds, and evidence of other people within the unit.
- B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Primitive and unconfined types of recreation are limited to day hikes, sightseeing, and horseback riding. None are considered individually outstanding, nor would they provide an outstanding opportunity through a diversity of activities.

- 4. Supplemental Values: The presence of supplemental values within the inventory unit do not enhance the area's wilderness quality.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

19,500 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-030-323

UNIT NAME: Wassuk Range

AREA DESCRIPTION: The Wassuk Range is directly west of Walker Lake, about 15 miles northwest of Hawthorne, Nevada. A high-voltage transmission line bounds the unit on the north, U.S. Highway 95 on the east, and the Army Ammunition Depot on the south. An irregular western boundary consists of 20 miles of roads and four miles of fenceline. Vegetation varies from low desert scrub and shadscale on the lower elevations to pinyon pine woodland above 6,000 feet.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

- 1. Size: The Wassuk Range contains 62,000 acres of public lands. One subunit totaling 3,200 acres was separated from the main unit by prospecting access roads which penetrate from the west boundary and nearly meet on the summit above Copper Canyon.
- 2. Naturalness: The unit shows evidence of past and recent prospecting and mining activity in the vicinity of the existing roads and along numerous ways. BLM fenceline penetrates about two miles into the northwest side of the unit. Except for the roads and mining disturbances that were removed by altering the boundary, the unit appears essentially natural.

3. Outstanding Opportunities for:

- A. Solitude: Twelve miles of roads were removed from the unit creating narrow spaces between them and reducing solitude opportunities in at least 10 locations. The canyons on Bald Mountain, north of the radio facility and transmission line, offers the most significant screening and secluded spots in the unit. Opportunities are not outstanding due to narrow configuration.
- B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Hiking and camping opportunities are good in the north half of the unit among tree-lined canyons. Although some opportunity for primitive recreation exists, narrow configuration hinders free movement.

- 4. Supplemental Values: Desert bighorn sheep were reintroduced and are established in the Wassuk Range. Scenery values are relatively good; however, views are degraded by Highway 95 and electrical transmission lines on the boundary.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

62,000 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-030-402

UNIT NAME: Gillis Range North

AREA DESCRIPTION: The Gillis Range North unit is in Mineral County, nine miles northeast of the town of Hawthorne. The unit boundaries are formed on the west and north by the Walker River Indian Reservation, and on the east and south by county roads.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

- 1. Size: The Gillis Range North unit contains 51,580 acres of public land. Documentation of roads resulted in forming 15 subunits that were all less than 5,000 acres. These reductions left an area of 19,465 acres for further evaluation.
- 2. Naturalness: The remaining area is essentially in a natural state. Less than 10 acres were deleted due to mining activity. The resulting area appears to have been primarily affected by the forces of nature and the imprint of man's work is substantially unnoticeable.

3. Outstanding Opportunities for:

- A. Solitude: Opportunities for solitude are determined not to be outstanding due to a) poor to nonexistent natural screening, b) lack of secluded areas in which to experience a feeling of solitude and isolation, and c) topography not conducive to solitude.
- B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Both backpacking and sightseeing opportunities are present, but they are not outstanding. This is due to a) lack of water, b) lack of exceptional features, hence no destination points, and c) no exceptional scenic values. No single nor combination of opportunities could contribute to provide an outstanding primitive experience.

- 4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

51,580 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-030-407

UNIT NAME: Gabbs Valley Range

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit covers a major portion of the Gabbs Valley Range in Mineral County, Nevada, 25 miles east of Hawthorne. Its boundary is formed by paved and graded roads. Topography varies from alluvial fans with very little relief on the outer edges of the unit, to mountainous peaks and canyons. Vegetation also varies from desert scrub and extensive pinyon woodland to willows and aspen trees along moist drainages.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

- 1. Size: Public lands total 81,120 acres. 3,790 acres were removed after road documentation. 77,330 acres of public lands remain for evaluation.
- 2. Naturalness: The remaining acreage is in a generally natural condition. However, 14 miles of ways and three spring developments were documented which are not substantially noticeable beyond their immediate impact area.

3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: Size and shape of the unit along with topographic and vegetative screening contribute to an outstanding opportunity for solitude.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Excellent opportunities for hiking, horseback riding, hunting, sightseeing, camping, and nature appreciation in the unit constitute an outstanding opportunity for a primitive and unconfined type of recreation.
4. Supplemental Values: Wildlife, wild horses, scenery, and limited cultural resources are located in the unit.
5. Rehabilitation: All vehicle ways could be rehabilitated by restricting vehicle use on them. Water developments could be removed and should return to a natural appearance in time.

RECOMMENDATION:

77,330 acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

3,790 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: The portion of the unit proposed as a Wilderness Study Area contains at least 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature, with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable. It also has outstanding opportunities for solitude, and a primitive and unconfined type of recreation.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-030-409

UNIT NAME: Stewart Valley Hills

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is in Mineral County, Nevada, 30 miles east of Hawthorne. It is a hilly area between the Gabbs Valley Range and Stewart Valley. The boundary is formed by paved and graded roads.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: Total public acreage is 44,410. 1,092 acres are separated from the rest of the unit by documented roads.
2. Naturalness: 34,855 acres are in a generally natural condition. 8,463 acres were deleted because of numerous ways, a fence, and associated impacts.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The opportunity for solitude is not outstanding because of the lack of vegetative and topographic screening.

- B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Travel by foot and horseback is facilitated by lack of vegetative and topographic obstacles. No sources of water are present. The opportunity for primitive and unconfined recreation is not outstanding.
4. Supplemental Values: Supplemental values include wildlife and wild horses.
  5. Rehabilitation: A barbed-wire livestock fence in the southern portion could be completely removed if necessary, but the bladed fence-line and numerous vehicle ways will remain as scars indefinitely.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

44,410 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-030-425

UNIT NAME: Excelsior Mountains

AREA DESCRIPTION: The Excelsior Mountain unit is located in Mineral County, about 25 miles southeast of Hawthorne, Nevada. The unit is generally mountainous in character and surrounded by sagebrush covered flats on all sides except the northeast and southwest. Its boundaries are formed by a county road, two BLM maintained roads, documented roads, and private lands.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The Excelsior Mountains unit contains 66,850 acres of public land. Acreage deleted due to roads totaled 1,140 acres, resulting in a subunit of 65,710 acres.
2. Naturalness: An area of 65,560 acres was determined to be in an essentially natural condition. About 150 acres were deleted from the unit due to a lack of naturalness.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: Solitude opportunities were not deemed outstanding due to the configuration of the roadless area, numerous intrusions in the unit, and the presence of several mines, including some active ones within the center of the unit.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: While some activities, notably day hiking and sightseeing, are possible within the unit, outstanding opportunities do not exist. Water



supplies are scarce, and the presence of roads and mines deep within the unit restricts both the types and quality of recreational opportunities available to a visitor.

4. Supplemental Values: Limited ecological and historical supplemental values were found to exist within the unit. Historic values are those relating to the extensive mining activity within the unit.
5. Rehabilitation: While many of the ways in the unit could be rehabilitated, the vast majority of mining activity within the area will continue to be substantially noticeable for many years to come.

#### RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

66,850 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-030-430

UNIT NAME: Teels Marsh

AREA DESCRIPTION: The Teels Marsh unit is south of the Excelsior Mountains and west of State Route 10, about 35 miles southeast of Hawthorne, Nevada. It is bordered on the south and west by a 16-mile common boundary with the Toiyabe National Forest proposed Excelsior Wilderness. Mineral County and BLM roads form all other boundaries. Topography is hilly and broken along the RARE II wilderness unit, with long, narrow basalt bluffs and ridges separating nearly flat valley bottoms. Numerous canyons drain north toward Teels Marsh basin. Terrain in the northern portion has little or no topographic relief. Vegetation varies from dense stands of pinyon woodland to sagebrush, with low-growing salt scrub around the alkali flat.

#### CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 52,700 acres of public land. Documented roads split the unit into seven subunits. Two of these subunits, totaling 1,650 acres, were dropped because they were less than 5,000 acres. Three additional subunits were also less than 5,000 acres but were retained for evaluation because they are adjacent to the proposed Excelsior Wilderness Study Area managed by the U.S. Forest Service. These three areas, combined with the two remaining subunits that are larger than 5,000 acres, total 51,050 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: 1,680 acres around the East Side mine were eliminated due to extensive mining and associated road-building. Three subunits

totaling 5,550 acres have roads and ways penetrating in such concentration that the lands no longer retain their natural character. Two subunits called Basalt and Teels Marsh North appear to be in a substantially natural condition.

3. Outstanding Opportunities for:

A. Solitude: The Basalt subunit (26,040 acres) has rugged topography extensive basalt cliffs and mesas, dense pinyon stands, as well as sufficient size, configuration, isolation, and remoteness to offer a multitude of secluded spots. However, opportunities for solitude are considered outstanding only in conjunction with adjoining Forest Service RARE II lands. The Teels Marsh North subunit (19,780 acres) contains little vegetative screening, topographic relief, and insufficient opportunities for seclusion to offer an outstanding solitude opportunity.

B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Only one subunit possesses any significant recreation values that would attract or sustain primitive-type use. The Basalt subunit offers primitive camping, hiking, natural history study, geological and wildlife sightseeing opportunities in an undisturbed setting. These opportunities are considered outstanding only in conjunction with adjoining Forest Service RARE II land.

4. Supplemental Values: The Basalt subunit contains a variety of visual, ecological, geological, and cultural values. The other five analyzed have some similar attributes, but to a far lesser degree.

5. Rehabilitation: Vehicle tracks are evident only in the vicinity of existing roads and ways. If motor vehicle use were restricted, most ways should return to a natural appearance in time without the use of power machinery.

RECOMMENDATION:

26,040 acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

26,660 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

SPECIAL NOTE: This unit is contiguous to a Forest Service RARE II proposed wilderness area. It is separated from the Forest Service lands only by an administrative boundary that is unmarked on the ground. If the RARE II wilderness proposal is eventually denied by Congress, the wilderness study area status of this BLM unit should also be removed.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: The portion of the unit proposed as a Wilderness Study Area contains at least 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature, with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable. It also has outstanding opportunities for solitude, and a primitive and unconfined type of recreation.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-030-432

UNIT NAME: Hontone Mine

AREA DESCRIPTION: The Hontone Mine unit is on the southeast side of the Excelsior Mountains, in Mineral County, Nevada. The unit is triangular in shape bordered by the Toiyabe National Forest on the north and west sides and bordered by Hawthorne, Nevada and 45 miles east of Bridgeport, California.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The Hontone Mine unit contains 2,570 acres, 500 of which were dropped due to road documentation. This unit is contiguous to a Forest Service RARE II unit consisting of 163,670 acres.
2. Naturalness: An area in the northwest corner of the unit, adjacent to the Forest Service RARE II unit, and consisting of 1,570 acres, was determined to be in a natural condition. 500 additional acres were deleted from the east side of the unit due to the impact mining activity and the lack of naturalness.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The solitude opportunities of the Hontone Mine unit were deemed poor primarily due to its size. The solitude opportunities, however, of this unit and the contiguous RARE II unit combined were deemed outstanding due to a) the immense size of the two units merged together, and b) the excellent natural screening afforded by the rugged, mountainous terrain.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: The opportunities and sightseeing are limited when only the Hontone Mine unit is considered. These opportunities, however, were deemed outstanding when considered in conjunction with the RARE II unit.
4. Supplemental Values: Ecological, geological, and scenic supplemental values enhance the unit's wilderness quality.
5. Rehabilitation: A few minor intrusions are located in the mine area within the 1,000 acres recommended to be dropped. Some imprint of man's work is noticeable only in secluded areas. Rehabilitation of these small mine dumps would be impractical and probably unsuccessful. There also exists some ways, which could, in time, revegetate and become unnoticeable.

RECOMMENDATION:

1,570 acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

1,000 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

SPECIAL NOTE: This unit is contiguous to a Forest Service RARE II proposed wilderness area. It is separated from the Forest Service lands only by an

administrative boundary that is unmarked on the ground. If the RARE II wilderness proposal is eventually denied by Congress, the wilderness study area status of this BLM unit should also be removed.

**RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION:** The portion of the unit proposed as a wilderness study area is less than 5,000 acres, but is contiguous with lands managed by another agency which have formally been determined to have wilderness values. This area generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable. It also has outstanding opportunities for solitude and a primitive and unconfined type of recreation when considered in conjunction with the contiguous Forest land.

**UNIT NUMBER:** NV-030-435

**UNIT NAME:** Truman Meadows

**AREA DESCRIPTION:** The Truman Meadows unit is near the southern end of Mineral County, Nevada, about five miles north of the junction of U.S. Highway 6 and the California-Nevada border. It is bordered on the north and west by a Toiyabe National Forest Wilderness Study Area for seven miles and by six miles of the south boundary with a Inyo National Forest Wilderness Study Area, both of which were recommended for wilderness designated through the RARE II process. The east boundary is a BLM road. Vegetation is primarily low sagebrush-rabbitbrush community with scattered stands of pinyon woodland.

Topography is rolling hills, flat meadows, and canyons draining the southern foothills of the Excelsior Mountains north by Jack's Spring Canyon, and south toward Benton Valley.

**CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:**

1. **Size:** The unit contains 7,560 acres of public land. Due to boundary changes by the U.S. Forest Service on its adjacent wilderness proposals, the Sagehen - McBride Springs Road was adopted as the revised east boundary for the Truman Meadows unit, eliminating 1,620 acres, leaving 6,030 for further evaluation. Subunit A contains 330 acres, subunit B has 660 acres, and subunit C has 5,040 acres.
2. **Naturalness:** None of the three subunits evaluated appear primarily natural. Subunit C is laced with a network of jeep trails and the heavy influence of grazing improvements and apparent vehicle-based recreation dominate the views on the BLM acreage. Subunits A and B also are heavily impacted by surrounding developments and boundary roads.
3. **Outstanding Opportunities for:**
  - A. **Solitude:** Solitude opportunities cannot be termed outstanding anywhere in the unit. Secluded spots are few, vegetative and topographic screening is minimal, and the size and configuration of the undisturbed portions are not conducive to an outstanding solitude opportunity, even when considered as an extension of those within the RARE II units.

- B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: There are some opportunities for hiking, camping, sightseeing, and nature appreciation; however, the overall quality of available recreation resources do not add up to an outstanding opportunity.
4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.
  5. Rehabilitation: Revegetation is occurring on some abandoned ways. Soil and moisture conditions would allow a naturalistic appearance to return on most of the existing vehicle routes, and on heavily grazed areas near streams. If use were restricted, little or no power machinery would be necessary for rehabilitation.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

7,560 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: The portions of the unit that contain more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land do not generally appear to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable. Therefore, further wilderness consideration is unnecessary.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-030-436

UNIT NAME: Queen Valley North

AREA DESCRIPTION: The Queen Valley North unit is comprised of a narrow, hilly ridge at the south end of the Excelsior Mountains in Mineral County, Nevada. An alluvial fan slopes toward U.S. Highway 6 and Queen Valley, which forms the south boundary. The Toiyabe National Forest borders on the west end; all other boundaries are documented roads. Vegetation varies from pinyon woodlands on the hill tops and upper canyons to low sage-rabbitbrush aspect on the lower slopes and valley bottoms.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 7,640 acres of public land. An abandoned railroad grade connects U.S. 6 with the south boundary road, separating a narrow, 500 acre strip and a loop access road to Queen Canyon Springs dropped another parcel of 250 acres. Dead-end penetrating roads were redrawn to form "cherry-stem" boundary configuration and subtract another 20 acres. The remaining 6,870 acres were evaluated.
2. Naturalness: Prospecting pits and bulldozer tracks have disturbed about 15 acres in several acres of concentration, notably around West Queen Canyon and the dead-end roads. The rest of the unit appears essentially natural.

3. Outstanding Opportunities for:

- A. Solitude: Opportunities for solitude are far less than outstanding due to the unit's relatively small size, very narrow configuration, and narrow spaces between penetrating roads and mining intrusions. Secluded spots are few, and screening is minimal.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: The unit has some hunting, sightseeing, and hiking potential, but overall primitive recreation opportunities are less than outstanding.
4. Supplemental Values: The unit has only moderate scenic values and some potential for historical or cultural values. No one feature or combination is noted for excellence.
5. Rehabilitation: The unit receives a fairly consistent snowpack and soils are capable of regenerating native vegetation if recontoured and seeded. There appears to be some potential for restoring portions of ways and some prospecting disturbance.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

7,640 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-030-437

UNIT NAME: Queen Valley Ranch

AREA DESCRIPTION: The Queen Valley Ranch unit is between U.S. Highway 6 and the Inyo National Forest, just southwest of Montgomery Pass in southern Mineral County, Nevada. The Hereford Valley Ranch road forms the west boundary, private land borders on the east. Topography and vegetation vary from pinyon-covered foothills of the White Mountains, to low sagebrush-rabbitbrush community.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The initial decision to conduct an Intensive Inventory was based on the rationale that the unit was contiguous to a RARE II Area proposed for further study. However, the Inyo National Forest has since relocated the wilderness study area line away from the BLM-FS common boundary. Subsequently, the 610-acre roadless area no longer meets the size criterion.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

610 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: The entire unit does not contain any area with at least 5,000 acres of contiguous public land, nor any area that fits one of the size exceptions.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-030-439

UNIT NAME: Orchard Spring

AREA DESCRIPTION: The Orchard Spring unit is just south of U.S. Highway 6 in Queen Valley, in southern Mineral County, Nevada. The unit is composed of two separate parcels. The west parcel is bounded by the California-Nevada border on the west, a documented road on the north, and the Inyo National Forest on the south and east. The east unit is adjacent to the Inyo National Forest on the south and is bordered by a documented road. Topography is nearly flat and vegetation is low-growing sage, rabbitbrush, and Cholla cactus.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The west portion contains 560 acres, at one time directly adjacent to an Inyo National Forest RARE II Area (White Mountains). The east parcel has only 200 acres, also adjacent to the original RARE II boundary. Since the decision was made to conduct an Intensive Inventory, Inyo Forest moved its proposed wilderness boundary away from the common BLM-USFS boundary. Subsequently, the original rationale and initial size determination no longer apply. Both units, therefore, are less than the 5,000 acres minimum criterion.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

760 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: The entire unit does not contain any area with at least 5,000 acres of contiguous public land, nor any area that fits one of the size exceptions.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-030-517

UNIT NAME: Rawe Peak

AREA DESCRIPTION: Rawe Peak is at the far northern end of the Pine Nut Range, east of Carson City. The perimeter of the unit is along power lines, roads, and private lands. The unit is mountainous, with deep canyons near the center and pinyon woodland covered hill systems giving way to sagebrush flats on the outer edges.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: Public lands total 49,480 acres. 840 acres were removed after road documentation, and 48,640 public acres remain for evaluation.

2. Naturalness: 47,760 acres are in a generally natural condition; 880 were dropped because of mining activity and other intrusions.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The unit boundary is deeply indented due to the presence of penetrating roads. Natural screening and secluded spots are very limited. The opportunity for solitude is not outstanding.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Possible uses of the area include hiking, horseback riding, and hunting, but even together they do not constitute an outstanding opportunity for primitive and unconfined recreation.
4. Supplemental Values: Supplemental values include wildlife, wild horses, scenery, and limited cultural resources.
5. Rehabilitation: Water developments constructed by BLM could be totally removed, leaving negligible intrusive impact. Prospecting disturbance and ways would be difficult to restore to a natural appearance without mechanical means.

#### RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

49,480 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-030-520

UNIT NAME: Lyon Peak

AREA DESCRIPTION: Lyon Peak and Eldorado Canyon in the northern Pine Nut Range east of Carson City, are the main features of this unit. The area is between the roads of Brunswick Canyon, Churchill Canyon, Sunrise Pass, and a power line near Como.

#### CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: Public lands total 36,000 acres. 560 acres were removed because of roads, leaving 35,440 acres in the unit.
2. Naturalness: 32,960 acres are in a generally natural condition. 2,480 were deleted due to unnatural conditions.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:



- A. Solitude: The unit boundary is deeply indented due to the presence of several penetrating roads. Vegetative and topographic screening and secluded spots are limited. The opportunity for solitude is not outstanding.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Possible uses of the area include hiking, horseback riding, hunting, and camping, but the overall recreational opportunity is less than outstanding.
4. Supplemental Values: Supplemental values include wildlife, wild horses, scenery, and limited cultural resources.
  5. Rehabilitation: Vehicle ways could be eliminated by restriction of vehicular use.

#### RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

36,000 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-030-525

UNIT NAME: East Pine Nuts

AREA DESCRIPTION: The East Pine Nuts unit is along the major ridge in the Pine Nut Range east of Carson City and Carson Valley. It is about 17 miles long from north to south, and from one-half to five miles wide. Mt. Como and Oreana Peak are the highest points in a narrow, rugged system of peaks, canyons, and foothills. Vegetation varies, but is typical of the Great Basin pinyon woodland community.

#### CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: Public land totals 39,185 acres. 4,335 acres were deleted because of documented roads. 34,850 roadless acreage was evaluated.
2. Naturalness: 34,850 acres are in a generally natural condition. Minor intrusions included two ways and an abandoned livestock fence.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The unit boundary is deeply indented due to the presence of several penetrating roads. Natural screening and secluded spots are very limited. The opportunity for solitude is not outstanding.

B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Possible uses include hiking, horseback riding, camping, hunting, and cross-country skiing, but even taken together, these do not constitute an outstanding opportunity for primitive and unconfined recreation.

4. Supplemental Values: Supplemental values include wildlife, wild horses, scenery, and limited cultural resources.
5. Rehabilitation: The vehicle ways and abandoned stone and wooden livestock fence could all be rehabilitated by non-mechanical means.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

39,185 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-030-525A

UNIT NAME: Burbank Canyons

AREA DESCRIPTION: The Burbank Canyons unit consists of five major canyons, well vegetated valley bottoms, generally mountainous terrain and relatively diverse flora and fauna. It is located approximately fifteen miles southeast of Gardnerville, Nevada, and is bounded by documented roads and patented lands.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The Burbank Canyons unit contains 14,490 acres of public land. Acreage deleted due to roads totaled 110 acres, resulting in 14,380 acres remaining for evaluation.
2. Naturalness: An area of 13,395 acres was determined to be in an essentially natural condition. About 985 acres were deleted from the unit due to a lack of naturalness.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: Solitude opportunities were deemed not outstanding due to, a) the relatively small size and the configuration of the unit, b) the moderate natural screening provided by the open, sparsely vegetated character of much of the unit, c) the "island" effect of the more densely vegetated portions of the unit, d) the ability to see and hear other users despite the dissected topography, and e) the presence of few secluded spots and the fact that these would be highly attractive to visitors, thus creating a situation where the sights and sounds of other users would be difficult if not impossible to avoid.

B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: No primitive recreation opportunity was found to be outstanding. While some opportunities exist for fishing, hunting, day hiking, horseback riding, mountain climbing, and sightseeing, they are limited, and even when combined they do not provide an outstanding opportunity for primitive and unconfined recreation.

4. Supplemental Values: Limited ecological and historical supplemental values exist within the unit.
5. Rehabilitation: The only intrusions remaining in the area are ways which could, through route closure, soil preparation by hand tools, and the passage of time, revegetate and become substantially unnoticeable.

#### RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

14,490 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-030-531/CA-010-105      UNIT NAME: Slinkard

AREA DESCRIPTION: The Slinkard unit generally covers a very steep, rugged ridge between Bagley Valley and Slinkard Valley, California, and is bisected north-south by the Alpine-Mono County line. Those public lands in Alpine County are administered by the Carson City BLM District; those in Mono County by the Bakersfield District Office. The unit shares a one and one-quarter mile common boundary on its south end with the adjacent Carson-Iceberg wilderness proposal administered by the Toiyabe National Forest. The east boundary is private lands leased to California Fish and Game Department for wildlife management; the west side fronts on private lands except for about five miles of roads. The north boundary is divided between private lands and State Route 89 through Monitor Pass. Vegetation is primarily mature stands of ponderosa pine and fir trees mixed with aspen groves, mountain mahogany and undergrowth of various mountain shrubs, grasses, and bushes.

#### CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The Carson City District portion contains 2,240 acres and the Bakersfield District portion contains 3,200 acres of public lands, for a total of 5,440 acres.
2. Naturalness: No man-made improvements are located inside the unit. There is some evidence of sheep and cattle grazing, particularly among the aspen-lined drainages. The general appearance is one of undisturbed alpine mountain ecosystem free of works of man.

3. Outstanding Opportunities for:

- A. Solitude: In spite of the relatively narrow, two and one-half by six mile configuration of the unit, it shares the same dense forests and rugged topography as the Carson-Iceberg RARE II wilderness proposal it adjoins. Both vegetative and topographic screening are uncommonly superior and offer numerous opportunities for seclusion. The opportunity for solitude is outstanding.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Sufficient snow-cover has been present for the two winter seasons during the wilderness inventory process to provide significant cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, and snow camping opportunities. Because State Routes 89 and 4, which allow vehicle access to the Carson-Iceberg wilderness are often closed to traffic, the Slinkard unit offers an access route to the Carson River, Silver King Valley, and the spectacular Carson-Iceberg beyond. Hiking, rock climbing, hunting, sightseeing, backpacking, nature study, and photography opportunities are of excellent quality throughout the unit. Especially when considered in conjunction with the adjacent Carson-Iceberg wilderness study proposal, the overall recreation opportunity is outstanding.
4. Supplemental Values: The unit contains interesting geological, scenic, botanical and ecological features. Historical evidence center around past ranching or mining activities; no archaeological sites were documented.
  5. Rehabilitation: Management of sheep grazing would allow the overused aspen groves to restore to a more natural appearance.

RECOMMENDATION:

5,440 acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: The portion of the unit proposed as a Wilderness Study Area contains at least 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature, with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable. It also has outstanding opportunities for solitude and a primitive and unconfined type of recreation.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-030-532

UNIT NAME: Carson-Iceberg

AREA DESCRIPTION: The Carson-Iceberg unit is on the northeast border of the Carson-Iceberg Wilderness Study Area proposed for wilderness designation by the Forest Service. The unit is bordered on the west and south by the WSA, which is administered by the Toiyabe National Forest. The north boundary is private land; the northeast side is bounded by a vehicle way separating this unit from Silver King Valley. The southeast corner borders on non-public land. About one and one-half miles of the east fork of the Carson River winds from southeast to northwest through the unit, which is comprised of a steep river canyon slope isolated from Bagley Valley by a pine-forested hill. Vegetation is ponderosa and jeffery pine, with aspen and willows along canyon drainages and undergrowth of sagebrush and grasses.

## CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: Carson-Iceberg contains 550 acres of public lands administered by the Carson City BLM District. Combined with the contiguous Forest Service land, it exceeds the 5,000 minimum acreage criteria.
2. Naturalness: No man-made intrusions are in the unit. Cattle grazing is evident along the wet riverbanks, but is not substantially noticeable or detrimental to the overall natural appearance.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: Excellent screening is afforded by the topographic relief on both sides of the river canyon. The many bends in the river as it winds through the unit and the irregular topography along the tree-lined banks offer numerous secluded spots. Hikers on the abandoned way on the northeast edge are screened from those inside the unit itself. When considered in conjunction with the Forest Service wilderness proposal, opportunities for solitude are outstanding.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Recreation opportunities are outstanding within the unit when considered in conjunction with the Forest Service lands. Numerous camping spots, abundant clean water, excellent fishing, sightseeing, and hiking opportunities exist, and the unit is capable of providing a variety of quality recreation experiences. The roads leading to the unit are either closed to vehicle traffic or use is restricted by both the Forest Service and the adjacent landowner.
4. Supplemental Values: The unit has significant fisheries, scenery, ecological, and wildlife values.
5. Rehabilitation: The trampling and heavy grazing on the riverbanks could be controlled to an unnoticeable level.

## RECOMMENDATION:

550 acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

SPECIAL NOTE: This unit is contiguous to a Forest Service RARE II proposed wilderness area. It is separated from the Forest Service lands only by an administrative boundary that is unmarked on the ground. If the RARE II wilderness proposal is eventually denied by Congress, the wilderness study area status of this BLM unit should also be removed.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: The portion of the unit proposed as a wilderness study area is less than 5,000 acres, but is contiguous with lands managed by another agency which have formally been determined to have wilderness values. This area generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable. It also has outstanding opportunities for solitude and a primitive and unconfined type of recreation.

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is two miles east of Doyle, California and contains about 22,990 acres of public land. The mostly mountainous landscape, varying in elevation from 4,000 feet to 7,990 feet, contains a number of scattered steep prominent peaks, associated ridgelines, small canyons and hills. Juniper, sagebrush, and bitterbrush are the dominant vegetative species within the unit with a scattering of bushes and grasses present at the lower elevations. A number of dead-end roads cut deeply into the area's core from the south boundary.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The inventory area contains about 22,990 acres of public land managed by the Carson City and Susanville District Offices. The area's configuration is irregular with varying widths of a half-mile to seven miles.
2. Naturalness: The cumulative effects of a large number of man-made impacts (vehicle ways, dead-end roads, motorcycle trails, water developments and mining activity scars) leave the area unnatural in appearance.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The mountainous landscape would provide some opportunities for visitors to achieve a sense of solitude, however, outstanding opportunities are negated by the area's relatively small size, irregular configuration, and the existence of a number of closely spaced dead-end roads cutting deeply into the unit's core.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: The varied landscape, in conjunction with its supplemental values could provide some opportunities for primitive recreation, however, the area's relatively small size and configuration in concert with the numerous man-made structures limits free movement and the quantity and quality of primitive recreational occurrences.
4. Supplemental Values: Small populations of deer and chukar can be observed along with some eagles and hawks. The area is also noted for varied and interesting rock formations.
5. Rehabilitation: The potential to restore the area to a mostly natural condition is low due to the density and types of man-made features. Rehabilitation would require intensive application of heavy equipment.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

22,990 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land, it does not generally appear to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable nor possess outstanding opportunities for solitude and a primitive and unconfined type of recreation.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-030-605

UNIT NAME: Virginia Mountains

AREA DESCRIPTION: The Virginia Mountains unit is about 25 miles north of Reno via State Highway 33. Topography is fairly level at the lower elevations around the perimeter of the unit, and rises to steep mountainous terrain which is dissected by deep canyons within the unit's interior. Vegetation is considered fair in density and is typical of the Northern Great Basin shrub type community. The inventory unit is bounded on the south, west, and on the north by Washoe County roads and on the east by the Pyramid Lake Indian Reservation.

#### CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The Virginia Mountains unit contains 89,275 acres of public land. Boundary readjustments along interior roads separated out 11 subunits, all of which are under 5,000 acres, and which total 9,785 acres, leaving 79,490 acres for evaluation.
2. Naturalness: 79,490 acres are essentially in a natural state with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable. Some minor impacts such as ways, some mining activity, fences, water developments, and corrals were documented.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: None of the five subunits remaining are considered to have outstanding opportunities for solitude due to their limited size and configuration, and limited topographic and vegetative screening. There are few opportunities for a visitor to find a secluded spot due to inadequate screening and the proximity of improvements and access routes within the subunit.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: There are limited opportunities for day hikes, hunting, photography, camping, horse-back riding, mountain and rock climbing. None of these activities is considered individually outstanding and their cumulative effect would not be outstanding through a diversity of activities.
4. Supplemental Values: Scientific and educational values are limited to natural vegetative and wildlife species common throughout the Great Basin region. Seven archaeological sites were identified.
5. Rehabilitation: There is limited potential for rehabilitation of such development as mining activity, fences, water impoundments, pipelines, enclosures, corrals, and access roads within the subunits. Documented ways would eventually return to a natural condition on their own if closed to traffic.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

89,275 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although portions of the unit contain more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appear to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-030-610

UNIT NAME: Petersen Mountain

AREA DESCRIPTION: The Petersen Mountain unit is in Washoe County, Nevada, and Lassen County, California, about 20 miles northwest of Reno, Nevada. The unit consists of a long narrow mountain on the east and sparsely vegetated flats on the west. Its boundaries are formed by U.S. 395, the Red Rock Canyon Road, two documented roads, and an extensive amount of private land.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 17,170 acres of public land. Acreage deleted due to roads totaled 540 acres, leaving an area of 16,630 acres for evaluation.
2. Naturalness: An area of 16,610 acres was determined to be in an essentially natural condition. About 20 acres were deleted from the unit due to a lack of naturalness.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: Solitude opportunities were not deemed outstanding due to the long, narrow configuration of the unit, numerous intrusions, and the small number of secluded spots within the unit.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: While some activities, notably day hiking and sightseeing, are possible within the unit, outstanding opportunities do not exist. Water supplies are scarce, and the presence of ways, mining activity and numerous range improvements throughout the unit severely restricts both the types and quality of recreational opportunities available to a visitor.
4. Supplemental Values: Limited archaeological supplemental values were found to exist within the unit.
5. Rehabilitation: While many of the ways in the unit could be rehabilitated, the mining activity within the area will continue to be substantially noticeable for many years to come.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.



17,170 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

**RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION:** Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-040-001

UNIT NAME: Northeast Corner

AREA DESCRIPTION: The intensive inventory area includes the rolling foothills of the south end of the Goshute Mountains and, on the west side, a small portion of Antelope Valley. The unit varies in size from three to nine miles in width and from two to six miles in length. Topographically it consists of rolling, sage-covered foothills with individual junipers in sheltered hill areas. Water is scarce within the unit.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains about 27,400 acres of roadless public land.
2. Naturalness: About 11,500 acres of the unit are in a substantially natural condition except for one dead-end way about a mile in length which enters the area from the border road. The remainder has been severely impacted by the presence of facilities associated with ranching, including several ways, and a reservoir.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The small size, poor configuration, and limited topographic and vegetative screening make opportunities for solitude less than outstanding in this unit.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Neither the diversity nor the quality of primitive recreation, nor a combination of these factors, offers outstanding opportunities for activities which can be pursued in this area, such as hunting and nature study.
4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

27,400 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-040-004

UNIT NAME: Chin Creek

AREA DESCRIPTION: The intensive inventory unit lies on the east slope of the Antelope Range and is mountainous but not rugged. Low grasses and bushes cover the higher elevations with pinyon-juniper covering the lower slopes.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 16,000 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: An unnatural portion of 3,200 acres contains an unreviewed way. The remaining 12,800 acres are in an essentially natural condition.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: Small size and limited screening limit opportunities for solitude.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Hiking, dry camping, hunting, and other recreation opportunities exist in the area but do not provide outstanding quality and diversity.
4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

16,000 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-040-007

UNIT NAME: Lehman Creek

AREA DESCRIPTION: This unit includes mountains with some rolling foothills. Vegetative types are primarily shrub and pinyon-juniper with some limber and bristlecone pine in the upper elevations.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 17,300 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: The entire 17,300 acres is in an essentially natural condition.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: Poor configuration and somewhat limited topographic and vegetative screening provide less than outstanding opportunities for solitude.

B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Some common recreation activities such as hiking, dry camping, and nature study are available in the unit, but overall quality and diversity are not outstanding.

4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

17,300 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-040-007A

UNIT NAME: Lehman Creek

AREA DESCRIPTION: This unit is generally rolling bench and foothills with some flat valley portions. Vegetative types include mainly shrubs and some pinyon-juniper.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 7,700 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: The entire unit is in a substantially natural condition.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: Small size, poor topographic screening, and limited vegetative screening make opportunities for solitude less than outstanding.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Although some recreation activities are available in this unit, overall quality and diversity are not outstanding.
4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

7,700 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-040-008

UNIT NAME: Antelope Range

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is a mountainous area on the west slope of the Antelope Range. Maximum elevation is 8,457 feet. Vegetative cover is primarily low grasses and bushes with some pinyon and juniper throughout the unit.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 13,100 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: An unnatural portion of 1,700 acres contains several dead-end roads of less than a mile in length, two springs, two reservoirs, and a corral. The remaining 11,400 acres are essentially in a natural condition.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: Because of the limited topographic and vegetative screening in the natural portion, opportunities for solitude are not outstanding.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Difficult hiking, unreliable sources of drinkable water, and poor scenery detract from the overall quality and diversity of recreation opportunities and such opportunities cannot be considered outstanding.
4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

13,100 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-040-009

UNIT NAME: Warm Springs

AREA DESCRIPTION: This intensive inventory unit is a mountainous area located on the east slope of the Antelope Range and reaches 9,133 feet in elevation. Vegetative types include pinyon pine, juniper, mountain mahogany and fir.

#### CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 18,400 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: Portions of the unit totaling 3,300 acres contain several unreviewed ways and water troughs. The remaining 15,100 acres are in a substantially natural condition.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: Poor to good vegetative screening, poor to fair topographic screening, and small size make opportunities for solitude less than outstanding.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Although backpacking, day hiking and other recreation activities are available, the quality and diversity of opportunities cannot be considered outstanding.
4. Supplemental Values: Portions of the unit lie in the winter ranges of the bald eagle. Archaeological values also exist.

#### RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

18,400 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-040-015

UNIT NAME: Goshute Canyon

AREA DESCRIPTION: The intensive inventory unit is in the northern and central end of the Cherry Creek Range. The topography ranges from the rugged mountains and foothills of the Cherry Creek Range to relatively flat portions of Butte and Steptoe Valleys. Major vegetative types range from white fir, bristlecone pine, mountain mahogany, and pinyon-juniper on the higher elevations to cottonwood, willow, and sagebrush in the canyons and valley portions. The Goshute Canyon Natural Area which was established by Executive Order in 1970 is within the inventory unit.

#### CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 190,680 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: The unnatural portions, containing many unreviewed ways, water tanks, developed springs, corrals, and other intrusions related to ranching activities, total 75,720 acres. The remaining 114,960

acres are substantially natural and are divided into five natural portions (NV-040-015 of 32,200 acres, NV-040-015B of 55,900 acres, NV-040-015C of 16,460 acres, NV-040-015D and NV-040-015E of 5,200 acres each).

3. Outstanding Opportunities for:

- A. Solitude: In subunit 015, physical characteristics such as size, screening, and configuration combine to provide outstanding opportunities for solitude in 31,000 acres of the 32,200 acres in the subunit. In the remaining subunits, these characteristics do not support an evaluation of outstanding solitude.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: In subunit 015, good to excellent opportunities for nature study, hunting, photography, rock climbing, hiking, winter sports, and spelunking are all possible. Considered together the quality and diversity of primitive and unconfined recreation is outstanding in this subunit. In the remaining subunits, opportunities for other activities range from good to poor, but none could be considered of outstanding quality.
4. Supplemental Values: Archaeological, natural, and geological values were noted in the area. The Goshute Canyon Natural Area is also within the unit. This special area is under special management guidelines to protect an endangered fish species.
5. Rehabilitation: An unauthorized access route was bladed by a mining company into subunit NV-040-015 in violation of the Bureau's Interior Management Policy for wilderness. The Bureau will take steps to rehabilitate the area to its natural condition by whatever means necessary.

RECOMMENDATION:

31,000 acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

159,680 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: The portion of the unit proposed as a Wilderness Study Area contains at least 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature, with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable. It also has outstanding opportunities for solitude, and a primitive and unconfined type of recreation.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-040-016

UNIT NAME: Willow Spring

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is characterized by two peaks in the center with rolling hills in the northern portion. Vegetation is sagebrush on the rolling hills with pinyon pine and juniper on the higher elevations.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 19,200 acres of public land.

2. Naturalness: The unit is in an essentially natural condition although it contains some works of man.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: Open park-like stands of juniper and pinyon pine and rolling topography in the northern portions of the unit provide some opportunities for solitude. The unit as a whole, however, does not provide outstanding opportunities for solitude.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Recreation opportunities such as hiking, backpacking, camping, hunting, and snowshoeing are available in this unit. The diversity and quality of these opportunities are not outstanding.
4. Supplemental Values: Archaeological values exist in the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

19,200 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-040-019

UNIT NAME: Egan Basin

AREA DESCRIPTION: Covering a portion of the southern end of the Cherry Creek Range, this inventory unit is quite mountainous and reaches an elevation of 9,253 feet. The major vegetative types include pinyon-juniper, mountain mahogany, and fir which cover almost the entire area.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 20,900 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: An unnatural portion of 7,000 acres containing seedings and unreviewed ways is within the unit. The remaining 13,900 acres are essentially in a natural condition.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: Vegetative and topographic screening provide good opportunities for solitude. However, the size and configuration of the unit tend to limit solitude to less than outstanding.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Hiking, backpacking, dry camping, hunting, and sightseeing are all available in this unit



and can be considered good opportunities. Overall, however, the quality and diversity of recreational opportunities are not judged to be outstanding.

4. Supplemental Values: Two historic sites, the Fort Pierce Graveyard and Egan Canyon, exist in the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

20,900 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-040-021

UNIT NAME: Butte Mountains

AREA DESCRIPTION: The Butte Mountains area (which includes units 021 and 021A) covers about two-thirds of the Butte Mountain Range and portions of Butte and Long Valleys. The range is single ridge in character with peaks of 9,007 and 9,032 feet. The valleys contain foothills and flat lands. Several alkali flats lie in the valleys adjacent to the range.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 47,860 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: 44,700 acres are in a natural condition; 5,800 acres are in an unnatural condition.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The poor topographic and vegetative screening combined with the irregular border make opportunities for solitude in this unit less than outstanding.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Neither the diversity nor the quality of the primitive recreation, nor a combination of these factors offers outstanding opportunities for these activities in the review area.
4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

47,860 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-040-021A

UNIT NAME: Butte Mountains

AREA DESCRIPTION: The Butte Mountains area (which includes units 021 and 021A) covers about two-thirds of the Butte Mountain Range and portions of Butte and Long Valleys. The range is single ridge in character with peaks of 9,007 and 9,032 feet. The valleys contain foothills and flat lands. Several alkali flats lie in the valleys adjacent to the range.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 33,460 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: The review area is substantially natural and only a few routes associated with area ranching remain.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: Though there is some good vegetation screening, overall this unit is not considered outstanding.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Though mule deer hunting is considered good in this unit, it is not outstanding.
4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

33,460 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-040-034

UNIT NAME: Buck Mountain

AREA DESCRIPTION: The Buck Mountain area is a north-south mountain ridge having a maximum elevation of 9,160 feet. Vegetative cover in this four by 15 mile area is sagebrush with stands of pinyon-juniper on some of the steeper slopes and lower elevations.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 41,180 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: An unnatural portion of 25,100 acres contains numerous unreviewed ways, stock tanks, a corral, and two fences. The remaining tract of about 16,100 acres remains essentially in a natural state.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: Because of the poor vegetative and topographic screening, opportunities for solitude are not outstanding.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Common recreation activities such as dry camping and hiking are available but the overall quality and diversity of recreation opportunities cannot be considered outstanding.
4. Supplemental Values: Seven archaeological sites and three historical sites are located within the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

41,180 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-040-042

UNIT NAME: Maple Syrup Well

AREA DESCRIPTION: This unit is located north of Highway 50, in the foothills of the White Pine Range. The topography is generally gentle and rolling, with a high point of 7,879 feet and a low elevation of around 7,000 feet. Vegetation is open pinyon-juniper and sagebrush cover. Ranching is the primary existing use in the unit.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 20,400 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: The unit is split by unnatural features into two natural portions, 042 and 042C. These natural portions are 10,400 and 5,000 acres in size, respectively. 5,000 acres have been eliminated from further consideration because they are in a substantially unnatural condition.

3. Outstanding Opportunities for:

- A. Solitude: The size, topographic screening and vegetative screening in both subunits are insufficient to provide outstanding opportunities for solitude.
- B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Opportunities for hiking, hunting, camping, photography, and nature study are present in the subunits, but these are insufficient in diversity or quality to be considered outstanding.

4. Supplemental Values: Subunit NV-040-042 is a crucial winter grazing area for mule deer.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

20,400 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although portions of the unit contain more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-040-043

UNIT NAME: Robber's Roost

AREA DESCRIPTION: The Robber's Roost intensive inventory unit is at the north end of Jake's Valley in the foothills of the Butte Mountains. Vegetation is pinyon-juniper and desert shrub. The topography is a mixture of bench-bud, foothills, and low mountains, with a high point of 8,227 feet. The primary uses in the area are ranching and mining.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

- 1. Size: The unit contains 48,400 acres of public land.
- 2. Naturalness: Numerous imprints of man's work exist in the unit, leaving two subunits which are in a generally natural condition. These are subunit 043, about 1,000 acres, and subunit 043E, about 14,600 acres. About 23,800 acres are in a generally unnatural condition.
- 3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: Characteristics including size, topographic or vegetative screening, and configuration in varying degrees provide less than outstanding opportunities for solitude in the subunits.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Hiking, camping, nature study, photography, and hunting are possible in the subunits. Neither the diversity nor the quality of these opportunities for recreation are outstanding in either unit.

4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

48,400 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although portions of the unit contain more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-040-047

UNIT NAME: Frank's Well

AREA DESCRIPTION: This unit lies at the southern end of the Cherry Creek Range. The high point in the unit is 8,706 feet. Vegetation on the unit is primarily pinyon-juniper. The topography consists of mountains and foothills. The unit is used for ranching and mining.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 20,500 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: About 15,000 acres are in a generally natural condition, and about 5,500 acres are in an unnatural condition.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: Open stands of pinyon-juniper and the low mountains of the Cherry Creek Range provide a good measure of screening, but the opportunities for solitude which they provide are less than outstanding. The configuration of the natural portion of the unit also limits opportunities for solitude.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Hiking, camping, hunting, photography, and nature study are all possible in the natural portion of the unit. These opportunities are not outstanding in either diversity or quality.
4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

20,500 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-040-048

UNIT NAME: Toner Spring

AREA DESCRIPTION: The Toner Spring intensive inventory unit is located west of the Monte Neva Hot Springs in the Egan Range. The topography is mostly mountains, the vegetation consists of pinyon-juniper and sagebrush. Portions of the unit are used for sheep ranching.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 20,900 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: About 17,100 acres are in a generally natural condition and about 3,800 acres are in an unnatural condition.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: Although good topographic and fairly good vegetative screening exists in the unit, the configuration of the natural portion severely affects the opportunities for solitude. Opportunities for solitude are not outstanding.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Opportunities for hiking, camping, hunting, photography, nature study, and limited rock climbing are present in the unit. These opportunities are less than outstanding in both diversity and quality.
4. Supplemental Values: Historical values exist in the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

20,900 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-040-048A

UNIT NAME: Heusser Mountain

AREA DESCRIPTION: The Heusser Mountain review area is a long, narrow portion of the Egan Range. Its highest point is Heusser Mountain, which is in the southern portion of the area and is 9,411 feet tall. The review area is of a single, ridgeline character, with very steep slopes. Ranching use occurs on the foothills of both the east and west slopes. The Heusser Mountain Bristlecone Pine Natural Area (480 acres) is located within this unit.

#### CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 32,940 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: Only a few intrusions exist within the unit and all of these make parts of the unit substantially unnatural. A remaining 24,400 acre portion is entirely natural.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: Although the unit is of a fair size, its narrow configuration and the necessity of traveling along the ridgeline where vegetative screening is sparse means that opportunities for solitude are poor.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: There is a good, but not outstanding, diversity of recreation opportunities in the review area. The quality of each type of opportunity is less than outstanding, and is further lessened by the periodic occurrence of heavy smog from the McGill smelter.
4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit, other than the Natural Area and associated Bristlecone Pines.

#### RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

32,940 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-040-048B

UNIT NAME: Toner Spring

AREA DESCRIPTION: The Toner Spring unit (which is a subunit of NV-040-048) is west of the Monte Neva Hot Springs in the Egan Range. The topography is mostly mountainous, with a maximum elevation of about 9,900 feet. The vegetation consists of pinyon-juniper and sagebrush. Portions of the unit are used for sheep ranching.

#### CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 6,700 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: About 5,800 acres are in a generally natural condition, and about 1,140 acres are in an unnatural condition.

3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: Opportunities for solitude in the unit are not of an outstanding quality.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Neither the quality nor the diversity of recreation in the unit are outstanding.
4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

6,700 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-040-049

UNIT NAME: Telegraph Canyon

AREA DESCRIPTION: Located at the north end of the Egan Range, this rugged mountainous unit reaches an elevation of 10,173 feet. The major vegetation is pinyon-juniper on the slopes with short grass and bushes on the ridge lands.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 20,020 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: Of the total 20,020 acres, 7,220 acres are unnatural in which access routes, mines, water tanks, and a reservoir are located. The remaining 12,800 acres are in a substantially natural condition.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The relatively small size of the unit and sparse vegetation would prevent outstanding opportunities for solitude.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Common activities such as hiking, hunting, and dry camping are available in the unit but the overall diversity and quality of recreation is not outstanding.
4. Supplemental Values: Archaeological sites were identified within the unit.



RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

20,020 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-040-050

UNIT NAME: Hot Springs

AREA DESCRIPTION: The Hot Springs unit is due west of the Monte Neva Hot Springs and contains some of the mountains, foothills, and benchland of the Egan Range. Vegetation is mainly pinyon-juniper, sagebrush, and greasewood.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 8,900 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: Several major imprints of man's work, mostly due to mining activity, are contained in the unit, leaving no portion larger than 5,000 acres in a generally natural condition.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: Some vegetative and topographic screening is present in the unit, but it is insufficient to provide outstanding opportunities for solitude.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Hiking, camping, hunting, nature study, and photography are possible in the unit, but their quality and diversity are insufficient to provide outstanding opportunities.
4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

8,900 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land, it does not generally appear to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-040-065

UNIT NAME: Golden Springs

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is at the southern tip of the Antelope Range and has a maximum elevation of 8,516 feet. Major vegetative types include low grasses and bushes on the lower elevations with pinyon and juniper in the foothills.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 16,200 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: The entire unit is in an essentially natural condition with two short unreviewed ways in the northern end of the unit.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The topographic features and light to moderate vegetation eliminate outstanding opportunities for solitude.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Although hiking, dry camping, hunting, nature study, and horseback riding are available, the overall quality and diversity of opportunities cannot be considered outstanding.
4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

16,200 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-040-070

UNIT NAME: Red Hills

AREA DESCRIPTION: The Red Hills intensive inventory unit is at the northern end of Spring Valley, west of the Kern Mountains. It is mainly flat with a few isolated hills. Vegetation is mostly shadscale.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 12,800 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: Major imprints of man's work exist in the unit, mostly due to mining and ranching activities. About 4,000 acres are in an unnatural condition and have been eliminated, leaving 8,800 acres in a natural condition.

3. Outstanding Opportunities for:

- A. Solitude: Because there is very little vegetative or topographic screening in the unit, opportunities for solitude are not outstanding.
- B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Hiking, camping, nature study, and photography are possible in the unit. These are not outstanding in either quality or diversity.

4. Supplemental Values: An occasional bald eagle has been observed in the area.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

12,800 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-040-078

UNIT NAME: Grass Valley Reservoir

AREA DESCRIPTION: The Grass Valley Reservoir unit is on the west side of the Kern Mountains. The unit is mostly mountainous, with a maximum elevation of 9,630 feet. Vegetation in the unit includes pinyon-juniper and spruce-fir.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

- 1. Size: The unit contains 11,100 acres of public land.
- 2. Naturalness: About 9,200 acres are in a natural condition, and about 1,900 acres are in an unnatural condition.
- 3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The unit does not have outstanding opportunities for solitude.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation in the unit are less than outstanding in both diversity and quality.
- 4. Supplemental Values: The unit contains a portion of the Blue Mass Scenic Area.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

11,100 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-040-079

UNIT NAME: Kern Mountains

AREA DESCRIPTION: This unit is basically a flat area with scattered ridges and some large washes. Vegetative cover is limited to sagebrush and isolated stands of juniper, with some barren areas.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 35,400 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: An unnatural portion of 7,200 acres contains corrals, unreviewed ways, troughs, and other intrusions required by local ranching activities. The remaining 29,000 acres is in a substantially natural state and is divided into two portions (NV-040-079 of 21,700 acres and NV-040-079D of 7,300 acres).
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The flat topography and poor vegetative cover combine to eliminate any opportunities for solitude in these subunits.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Uninteresting terrain and lack of drinkable water severely reduce the quality and diversity of recreation in these subunits.
4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

35,400 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although portions of the unit contain more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-040-079A

UNIT NAME: Kern Mountains

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit lies along the north-eastern edge of the Kern Mountains and is a subunit of NV-040-079. Pinyon-juniper is the major vegetative type to be found in the unit.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 7,300 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: An unnatural portion of 2,800 acres contains several unreviewed ways. The remaining 4,500 acres are in a substantially natural condition but do not meet the minimum size criteria.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: Although adequate topographic and vegetative screening exist, the unit is less than outstanding for solitude.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Deer hunting and hiking, plus other common recreation opportunities exist but opportunities are not outstanding in quality or diversity.
4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

7,300 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: The portion of the unit that contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land does not generally appear to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable. Therefore, further wilderness consideration is unnecessary.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-040-081

UNIT NAME: White Cloud Basin

AREA DESCRIPTION: The inventory unit is at the northern end of the Snake Range and covers mountains, foothills, and portions of Spring Valley. Vegetation includes pinyon, juniper, sagebrush, mountain mahogany, spruce, fir, and shadscale.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 25,100 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: A portion of the unit totaling 4,100 acres and containing many intrusions is unnatural. The remaining 21,000 acres are in an essentially natural condition.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: Many good opportunities for solitude exist in the unit but combined with only marginal vegetative screening, overall opportunities for solitude are not outstanding.

B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Activities such as hiking, camping, and hunting are available in the unit and are considered of good quality but overall quality and diversity are not outstanding.

4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

25,100 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-040-081A

UNIT NAME: White Cloud Basin

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit (a subunit of NV-040-081) is primarily a broad, rolling ridge with washes on both sides. Primary vegetative types are pinyon-juniper with some sagebrush, mountain mahogany, spruce, fir, and shadscale.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 17,800 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: A portion of the unit totaling 2,100 acres is in an unnatural condition with some intrusions. The remaining 15,700 acres are in a substantially natural condition.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: An irregular configuration, limited topographic screening, and limited vegetative screening provide less than outstanding opportunities for solitude.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Recreation activities such as hiking, camping, and hunting are of good quality in this unit, but overall quality and diversity are less than outstanding.
4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

17,800 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-040-085

UNIT NAME: Yelland Ranch

AREA DESCRIPTION: Benchland and flat land are the major topographic features of the unit. Vegetative types include shadscale, sagebrush, and rabbitbrush. This unit was kept in the intensive inventory because it is contiguous to a U. S. Forest Service RARE II "continued study" area. It has subsequently been determined that further consideration of this unit would not enhance any future wilderness proposal that may eventually be made on the adjoining Forest Service lands.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 9,900 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: Only very small portions of the unit are in a natural condition. The vast majority of the unit contains unreviewed ways, mining prospects, and other intrusions.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: Poor vegetative and topographic screening provide less than outstanding opportunities for solitude.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Although some recreation activities may be available in this unit, overall quality and diversity of opportunities are less than outstanding.
4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

9,900 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although the unit is contiguous with a Forest Service "continued study" area and contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land, it does not generally appear to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable.

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit consists of basically flat land, the only exception being the foothills and low mountains in the northern end. Vegetative cover includes pinyon-juniper and mountain mahogany on the higher elevations, with shadscale and sagebrush found on the lower elevations. This unit is contiguous with a Forest Service RARE II wilderness area proposal.

## CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit includes 119,500 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: An unnatural portion of 92,100 acres contains numerous intrusions including ways, mines, fences, powerlines, pipelines, and other intrusions related to ranching and mining activities. The remaining 27,400 acres are divided into two essentially natural portions (NV-040-086 of 19,400 acres and NV-040-086A of 8,000 acres).
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The overall quality of topographic and vegetative screening in subunit 086 is outstanding only when considered in conjunction with the large contiguous unit administered by the Forest Service. Outstanding opportunities for solitude are lacking in subunit 086A due to limited topographic and vegetative screening.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Common recreational activities including hiking, camping, and horseback riding are available in subunit 086, and are outstanding only when considered in conjunction with the large contiguous Forest Service unit. The same opportunities are available in subunit 086A but are not considered outstanding in quality or diversity.
4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the natural portions of the unit.

## RECOMMENDATION:

19,400 acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

100,100 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

SPECIAL NOTE: This unit is contiguous to a Forest Service RARE II proposed wilderness area. It is separated from the Forest Service lands only by an administrative boundary that is unmarked on the ground. If the RARE II wilderness proposal is eventually denied by Congress, the wilderness study area status of this BLM unit should also be removed.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: The portion of the unit proposed as a Wilderness Study Area contains at least 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature, with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable. It also has outstanding opportunities for solitude, and a primitive and unconfined type of recreation.



UNIT NUMBER: NV-040-100

UNIT NAME: Colorado Gulch

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is generally flat with some benchland. Pinyon-juniper and sagebrush are the major vegetative types. This unit was kept in the intensive inventory because portions of it is contiguous to a U.S. Forest Service RARE II "continued study" area. It has subsequently been determined that further consideration of this unit would not enhance any future wilderness proposal that may eventually be made on the adjoining Forest Service lands.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 38,200 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: Although there are small natural portions of the unit contiguous to a Forest Service RARE II "continued study" area, the vast majority of the area is heavily intruded and generally unnatural in character.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: Small size of natural portions, poor overall topographic screening, and generally poor vegetative screening severely limit opportunities for solitude.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Although hiking, photography, horseback riding, and other activities are possible in the unit, overall quality and diversity are not outstanding.
4. Supplemental Values: The unit contains a portion of the Weaver Creek Scenic Area. It also has three historical sites.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

38,200 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although the unit is contiguous with a Forest Service "continued study" area and contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land, it does not generally appear to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable. Therefore, further wilderness consideration is unnecessary.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-040-100C

UNIT NAME: John's Wash

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is contiguous to the U.S. Forest Service Mount Moria Division and a RARE II "continued study" area and was kept in the intensive inventory because of this fact. It has subsequently been determined that further consideration of this unit would not enhance any future wilderness proposal that may eventually be made on the adjoining Forest Service lands.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 3,000 acres of public land.

2. Naturalness: The unit contains several unreviewed ways and is in an essentially unnatural condition.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: Small size, minimal topographic screening, and poor vegetative screening severely limit opportunities for solitude.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Although some diversity is available, overall quality and diversity of recreation opportunities is poor.
4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

3,000 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although the unit is contiguous with a Forest Service "continued study" area, it is in an unnatural condition and contains neither an outstanding opportunity for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-040-107

UNIT NAME: Kious Spring

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit was kept in intensive inventory because it is contiguous to a U.S. Forest Service RARE II "continued study" area. It has subsequently been determined that further consideration of this unit would not enhance any future wilderness proposal that may eventually be made on the adjoining Forest Service lands.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 2,900 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: The entire unit is in an essentially natural condition.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: Very small size, minimal topographic screening, and only fair vegetative screening severely limit opportunities for solitude.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Activities such as photography, hiking, dry camping, and others are possible in the unit, but overall quality and diversity are not outstanding.
4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

2,900 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although the unit is contiguous with a Forest Service "continued study" area, it offers neither an outstanding opportunity for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-040-109

UNIT NAME: Snake Creek Cave

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is in the eastern foothills of the Snake Creek Range on the western edge of Hamlin Valley. Primary vegetation is pinyon-juniper and sagebrush associated with bunchgrass in the foothills and sagebrush elsewhere in the unit. Although the area does not meet the size criterion, it remained in the intensive inventory because it was contiguous to a U.S. Forest Service RARE II "further study" area. It has subsequently been determined that further consideration of this unit would not enhance any future wilderness proposal that may eventually be made on the adjoining Forest Service lands.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 2,400 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: Although the entire unit is only 2,400 acres, a portion of the unit totaling 900 acres is in an essentially natural condition. The remaining 1,500 acres is intruded by two unreviewed ways, a power-line, and a fence.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: Because of the limited size of the natural portion, no outstanding opportunities for solitude exist.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Fishing, hunting, spelunking, photography, and other potential recreational pursuits taken as a group provide unusual diversity for an area of this extremely small size. However, this diversity is not considered outstanding.
4. Supplemental Values: The unit contains Snake Creek cave, an archaeological site. Two areas possess geologic and archaeological sight-seeing potential.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

2,400 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although the unit is contiguous with a Forest Service "further study" area, it possesses neither an outstanding opportunity for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-040-110

UNIT NAME: Big Wash

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is generally flat with vegetative cover of sagebrush and scattered pinyon-juniper. The unit was kept in the intensive inventory because it is contiguous to a U.S. Forest Service RARE II "continued study" area. It has subsequently been determined that further consideration of this unit would not enhance any future wilderness proposal that may eventually be made on the adjoining Forest Service lands.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 1,000 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: The entire unit is in a substantially natural condition.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: Poor vegetative screening, flat topography, and size severely limit opportunities for solitude.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: The small size of this unit severely limits quality and diversity of even common recreation activities such as camping and hiking.
4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

1,000 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although the unit is contiguous with a Forest Service "continued study" area, it possesses neither an outstanding opportunity for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-040-123

UNIT NAME: Martin Spring

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit covers a mountainous portion of the south end of the Egan Range. Primary vegetative types are pinyon-juniper and sagebrush.

Characteristics inventoried:

1. Size: The unit contains 24,800 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: A small portion of the unit totaling 2,200 acres is in an unnatural state. The remaining 22,400 acres are in an essentially natural condition.

3. Outstanding Opportunities for:

- A. Solitude: Generally moderate and in some instances very good topographic screening and fair vegetative screening do provide some opportunity for solitude, but a limiting configuration severely reduces opportunities from being outstanding.
- B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Some diversity of recreation activities may exist in this unit, but overall quality and diversity are not outstanding.

4. Supplemental Values: Archaeological values and an endangered species were noted in the area.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

24,800 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appear to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-040-129

UNIT NAME: Copper Flat

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is south and west of the Egan Range and contains fairly rugged mountains. Pinyon, juniper, sagebrush, bunchgrass, and rabbitbrush are the major vegetative types.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

- 1. Size: The unit contains 42,600 acres of public land.
- 2. Naturalness: An unnatural portion of 10,700 acres containing unreviewed ways, corrals, fencelines, and other intrusions is within the area. The remaining 31,900 acres is in an essentially natural condition and have been further divided into two natural portions (NV-040-129 of 24,100 acres and NV-040-129C of 7,800 acres).
- 3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: Vegetative and topographic screening range from good to limited in the subunits, but overall opportunities for solitude are not outstanding.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Some opportunities for hiking, camping, hunting, and photography exist in the subunits, but overall quality and diversity are not outstanding.

4. Supplemental Values: A wildlife species proposed for the endangered species list is found in the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

42,600 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appear to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-040-130A

UNIT NAME: Deadman Gulch

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is just south of Jakes Wash and is characterized by low rolling hills. Vegetation on the lower elevations is short grasses and forbs with stands of pinyon pine and juniper on the higher elevations.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 9,800 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: Only a small portion of the unit containing an unreviewed way and a fence is in an unnatural condition.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The small size and limited vegetative and topographic screening severely limit opportunities for solitude.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Only common recreation opportunities such as hiking, dry camping, horseback riding, and nature study exist in the unit. The diversity and quality of these activities is not considered outstanding.
4. Supplemental Values: Archaeological sites were identified in the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

9,800 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appear to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-040-130AA

UNIT NAME: Deadman Gulch

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit (a subunit of NV-040-130A) is just south of Jakes Wash and is characterized by low rolling hills. Vegetation on the lower elevations is short grasses and bushes with stands of pinyon pine and juniper on the higher elevations.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 8,200 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: Only a very small portion containing an unreviewed way and a fence is in an unnatural condition.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The small size and limited vegetative and topographic screening severely limit opportunities for solitude.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Only common recreation opportunities such as hiking, dry camping, horseback riding, and nature study exist in the unit. The diversity and quality of these activities are not considered outstanding.
4. Supplemental Values: Archaeological values were identified in this unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

8,200 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-040-130AB

UNIT NAME: Deadman Gulch

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit (a subunit of NV-040-130A) is just south of Jakes Wash and is characterized by low rolling hills. Vegetation on the lower elevations is short grasses and brush with stands of pinyon pine and juniper on the higher elevations.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 11,900 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: Only a very small portion of the unit containing an unreviewed route is in an unnatural state.

3. Outstanding Opportunities for:

- A. Solitude: The size and limited vegetative and topographic screening severely limit opportunities for solitude.
- B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Only common recreation opportunities such as hiking, dry camping, horseback riding and nature study exist in the unit. The diversity and quality of these activities cannot be considered outstanding.

4. Supplemental Values: Archaeological values were identified in this unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

11,900 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-040-153

UNIT NAME: West Pancakes

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit comprises the southern end of the northern half of the Pancake Range and portions of Little Smokey and Sand Spring Valleys. Vegetative types range from pinyon-juniper to low brush types.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

- 1. Size: The unit contains 317,820 acres of public land.
- 2. Naturalness: About 112,800 acres are in a substantially unnatural condition. The remaining 205,100 acres are in a substantially natural condition and have been divided further into natural portions (NV-040-153 of 62,700 acres, NV-040-153A of 16,400 acres, NV-040-153B of 15,700 acres, NV-040-153C of 31,000 acres, NV-040-153D of 8,600 acres, NV-040-153E of 6,100 acres, NV-040-153F of 19,700 acres, NV-040-153G of 10,000 acres, NV-040-153H of 5,100 acres, NV-040-153I of 6,100 acres, NV-040-153J of 5,600 acres, NV-040-153K of 11,600 acres and NV-040-153L 6,500 acres.)
- 3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: Topographic and vegetative screening range from good to poor in the subunits, but these characteristics do not provide outstanding solitude in any subunit.



- B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Common recreation activities such as hiking, camping, backpacking, and nature study are available in the subunits, but overall quality and diversity is not outstanding in any subunit.

4. Supplemental Values: Historical values have been noted in the area.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

317,820 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although portions of the unit contain more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appear to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-040-154

UNIT NAME: Park Range

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit contains the Park Range and consists of rugged mountains. Vegetation includes pinyon-juniper, sagebrush, rabbitbrush, squirrel tail, and Mormon tea.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 50,600 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: An unnatural portion totaling 8,300 acres contains unreviewed ways, a short fenceline, a corral, and an improved spring. The remaining 42,300 acres are in an essentially natural condition.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: Good topographic screening combined with good to excellent vegetative screening provide outstanding opportunities for solitude.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Very good opportunities for hiking, nature study, rock climbing, and rock scrambling exist in the unit. The diversity, combined with the quality, of recreation opportunities provide for outstanding primitive and unconfined recreation.
4. Supplemental Values: Archaeological values were noted in the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

42,300 acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

8,300 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: The portion of the unit proposed as a Wilderness Study Area contains at least 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature, with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable. It also has outstanding opportunities for solitude, and a primitive and unconfined type of recreation.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-040-155

UNIT NAME: South Pancakes

AREA DESCRIPTION: The western third of the unit is in the central portion of the Pancake Range with the remainder of the unit located adjacent to the Duck-water Indian Reservation. Vegetation ranges from sagebrush and bushes to pinyon-juniper on the higher elevations.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 140,400 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: A 63,600 acre portion of the unit containing unreviewed ways, corrals, troughs, and stock tanks, is in an unnatural condition. The remaining 76,800 acres are in a substantially natural condition and have been divided into five natural portions (NV-040-155 of 43,800 acres, NV-040-155C of 6,100 acres, NV-040-155D of 7,100 acres, NV-040-155E of 14,800 acres and NV-040-155F of 5,000 acres).
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: Topographic screening, ranging from good to poor, and poor vegetative screening results in less than outstanding opportunities for solitude in all subunits.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Some diversity of recreation activities is available in the subunits, but overall quality and diversity of opportunities are less than outstanding in all subunits.
4. Supplemental Values: Historical and archaeological values exist in the area.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

140,400 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although portions of the unit contain more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-040-159

UNIT NAME: Manzone Well

AREA DESCRIPTION: The topography of the unit consists of mountains, benchland, and rolling hills in the northwest. Vegetative types include sagebrush, pinyon-juniper, shadscale, winterfat, and bunchgrass.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 30,000 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: A portion of the unit totaling 7,100 acres containing several unreviewed ways is in an unnatural condition. The remaining 22,900 acres is in an essentially natural condition and is further divided into two natural portions (NV-040-159 of 11,300 acres and NV-040-159F of 11,600 acres).
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: Limited topographic and some vegetative screening provide poor opportunities for solitude.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Although several recreation activities may be possible in this subunit, overall quality and diversity of opportunities is less than outstanding.
4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

30,000 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although portions of the unit contain more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appear to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-040-159A

UNIT NAME: Manzone Well

AREA DESCRIPTION: This unit (a subunit of NV-040-159) consists of foothills and rolling benchland. The primary type of vegetation is pinyon-juniper and sagebrush.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 9,100 acres of public land.

2. Naturalness: Only a very small portion totaling 700 acres and containing two unreviewed ways is in an unnatural condition. The remaining 8,400 acres are in a substantially natural state.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: Small size, some topographic screening, and only limited vegetative screening provides less than outstanding opportunities for solitude.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Although some recreation activities are possible in this unit, overall quality and diversity is not outstanding.
4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

9,100 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-040-159B

UNIT NAME: Manzone Well

AREA DESCRIPTION: This unit (a subunit of NV-040-059) is characterized by low mountains in the central portion surrounded by generally flat land.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 8,240 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: The entire unit is heavily intruded and contains no natural portions of over 5,000 acres.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: Due to the small size of the natural portions and limited topographic and vegetative screening, opportunities for solitude are not outstanding.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Although some recreation activities may be possible, overall quality and diversity of opportunities are not outstanding.

4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

8,240 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land, it does not generally appear to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable. Therefore, further wilderness consideration is not necessary.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-040-166

UNIT NAME: Riordan's Well

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is about 190,700 acres in the north end of the Grant Range. Adjacent to the unit on the south is the "instant" U.S. Forest Service wilderness proposal. U.S.F.S. has indicated that a portion of the unit would enhance its wilderness proposal and all other contiguous lands should be dropped from further consideration. The review unit varies from open rolling bench in the east to a heavily wooded, dissected mountain range in the west.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 190,700 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: The southwestern corner and eastern third of the area are substantially intruded by mining and ranching developments. Two units, NV-040-166 of 54,400 acres and NV-040-166A of 21,100 acres, are in a natural condition.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude - Good size and topographic screening and vegetative screening occur throughout most of subunit 166. Outstanding opportunities for solitude result. In subunit 166A topographic and vegetative screening were not at sufficient quality to provide outstanding opportunities for solitude.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Nature study, hiking, dry camping, backpacking, photography and horseback riding could be pursued in both subunits. This diversity and the quality of opportunities were judged less than outstanding in both.
4. Supplemental Values: Four archaeological sites and a segment of a historic stage line are within the unnatural portions of the review unit. There are no known supplemental values in the natural subareas.

5. Rehabilitation: Other than portions of two ways on the southern boundary of NV-040-166, man's works would not be expected to recover through natural or hand means in a reasonable time.

RECOMMENDATION:

54,400 acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

136,300 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: The portion of the unit proposed as a Wilderness Study Area contains at least 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature, with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable. It also has outstanding opportunities for solitude.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-040-184

UNIT NAME: Big Spring Wash

AREA DESCRIPTION: The general topography of the intensive inventory unit consists of gently rolling foothills. Vegetation consists of pinyon-juniper and sagebrush associated with bunchgrasses. The unit was kept in the intensive inventory because it was contiguous to a U.S. Forest Service RARE II "continued study" area. It has subsequently been determined that further consideration of this unit would not enhance any future wilderness proposal that may eventually be made on the adjoining Forest Service lands.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 12,500 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: The entire unit is heavily intruded with unreviewed ways and no natural portions over 5,000 acres exist.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: Poor vegetative and topographic screening severely limit opportunities for solitude.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Only common recreation activities exist in the unit such as hiking, camping, and hunting but lack both the quality and diversity to provide outstanding recreational opportunities.
4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

12,500 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although the area is contiguous with a Forest Service "continued study" area, the portion of the unit that contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land does not generally appear to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable. Therefore, further wilderness consideration is unnecessary.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-040-185

UNIT NAME: Lexington Creek

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is on the east side of the Snake Creek Range. Vegetation is limited to scattered pinyon-juniper and sagebrush associated with bunch-grasses. Topography consists of gently rolling hills. The unit is less than 5,000 acres but was kept in the intensive inventory because it is contiguous to a Forest Service RARE II "continued study" area. It has subsequently been determined that further consideration of the unit would not enhance any future wilderness proposal that may eventually be made on the adjoining Forest Service lands.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 4,900 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: The entire unit is generally in an unnatural state because of the presence of seven unreviewed ways.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The small size of the unit precludes the opportunity for outstanding solitude.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Typed of Recreation: Hiking, dry camping, hunting, and other common recreation activities are available in the unit but are not sufficient to provide outstanding quality and diversity of recreation opportunities.
4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

4,900 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although the area is contiguous with a Forest Service "continued study" area, the unit does not generally appear to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable nor does it contain either an outstanding opportunity for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation

UNIT NUMBER: NV-040-197

UNIT NAME: Table Mountain

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is in the northeast portion of the Wilson Creek Range and the northwestern tip of the White Rock Mountains. Topography is

rolling mountains and vegetative cover of pinyon-juniper, mountain mahogany, and sagebrush.

#### CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 57,260 acres of public land, split by road documentation into two units containing 49,300 (subunit 197) and 7,960 acres of public land (subunit 197C).
2. Naturalness: An unnatural portion of 15,500 acres containing fence-lines, reservoirs, structures and mining prospects exists in subunit 197. The remaining 33,800 acres are in an essentially natural portion. The entire subunit 197C is in an essentially natural condition.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The draws and canyons of subunit 197 and excellent vegetative screening combine to provide outstanding opportunities for solitude in this area. In subunit 197C gently rolling topography and only moderate to good vegetative screening limit opportunities for solitude.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: In subunit 197, activities such as hiking, camping, back packing are available in the area, but overall quality and diversity are not outstanding. Only common recreation activities are available in subunit 197C and quality and diversity is not outstanding.
4. Supplemental Values: Archaeological values exist in the unit.

#### RECOMMENDATION:

33,800 acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

23,460 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: The portion of the unit proposed as a Wilderness Study Area contains at least 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature, with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable. It also has outstanding opportunities for solitude.

UNT NUMBER: NV-040-202/UT-040-216      UNIT NAME: White Rock Range

AREA DESCRIPTION: The White Rock Range runs north-south through the central part of the review area. To the east and west, the mountains fade into rolling foothills and flatlands which are punctuated by washes and gulleys. The area is naturally vegetated with pinyon-juniper, bunchgrass, sagebrush, with isolated stands of aspen, fir, willow, and ponderosa pine. The unit is jointly managed by the Ely, Nevada BLM district (NV-040) and the Cedar City, Utah BLM district (UT-040).



#### CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 39,800 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: Two natural portions exist: one parcel (subunit 202) is 19,100 acres and the other 11,500. About 9,400 acres are generally unnatural (subunit 202B).
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: Size, topographic and vegetative screening combine to provide outstanding opportunities for solitude within subunit 202. The irregular border combined with limited topographic and vegetative screening at higher elevations make solitude in subunit 202B less than outstanding.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Both subunits offer a limited variety of less than outstanding opportunities for primitive recreation.
4. Supplemental Values: Archaeological values exist and an endangered species is known to exist in the unit.

#### RECOMMENDATION:

19,100 acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

20,700 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: The portion of the unit proposed as a Wilderness Study Area contains at least 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature, with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable. It also has outstanding opportunities for solitude.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-040-203

UNIT NAME: Burnt Canyon

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is comprised of low, rolling bench in the south to low mountains in the north and vegetation is mainly pinyon-juniper.

#### CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 7,860 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: An unnatural portion totaling 500 acres is found in the unit. The remaining 7,400 acres are in an essentially natural condition.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: Poor to fair topographic screening in addition to moderate to good vegetative screening can be found in the unit, but

overall quality and diversity are not outstanding.

4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

7,860 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-040-204

UNIT NAME: Camp Valley

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is on the eastern edge of the Wilson Creek Range and is generally rolling benchland with more rugged terrain in the north. General vegetation is pinyon-juniper with some sagebrush.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 16,000 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: An unnatural portion of 7,800 acres contains several unreviewed ways and a fenceline. The remaining 8,600 acres are in an essentially natural condition.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: Although fair topographic screening and moderate to good vegetative screening are available, overall opportunities for solitude are not outstanding.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Although some diversity of recreation opportunities exist in this unit, overall diversity and quality are not outstanding.
4. Supplemental Values: Archaeological values exist in the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

16,000 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-040-217

UNIT NAME: Black Cone

AREA DESCRIPTION: The Black Cone area has a single ridge character in which the ridge trends northeast-southwest ending in rolling foothills to the northwest and southeast. The highest peak, Silver King (elevation 7,925 feet), is in the north-central part of the unit.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 24,100 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: Even though much of the review area appears to be natural, access routes along the eastern and northern sides of the unit are highly visible. About 18,200 acres remain in a natural condition.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: Neither size nor topographic or vegetative screening provide outstanding opportunities for solitude within the review area. When considered in combination, these factors still do not provide outstanding opportunities for solitude.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: The limited diversity and the lack of features which provide high-quality recreation experiences create less than ideal opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation.
4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

24,100 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-040-226

UNIT NAME: Gap Mountain

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is a mountainous area at the southern end of the Egan Range. The major vegetative type is pinyon-juniper.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 9,800 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: The entire unit is in an essentially natural condition.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:

- A. Solitude: Good topographic screening exists in the drainages as well as moderate vegetative screening in other places. These do not, however, provide outstanding opportunities for solitude.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Activities such as hiking, camping, hunting, and horseback riding are available, but overall quality and diversity are not outstanding.
4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

9,800 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-040-229

UNIT NAME: Scofield

AREA DESCRIPTION: The inventory is generally flat with some benchland in the west. Vegetative cover is primarily sagebrush. This unit is contiguous to the U. S. Forest Service Quinn Canyon Division RARE II area, and was kept in the intensive inventory because of this fact. It has subsequently been determined that further consideration of this unit would not enhance the wilderness proposal on the adjoining Forest Service land.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 10,200 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: The unit is highly intruded with unreviewed ways and is in an essentially unnatural state.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: Small size and poor vegetation provide little opportunity for solitude.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Small size and limited possible recreation activities severely limits the quality and diversity of recreation opportunities.

4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

10,200 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although the unit is contiguous with a Forest Service wilderness proposal and the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land, it does not generally appear to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable. Therefore, further wilderness consideration is not necessary.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-040-231

UNIT NAME: Bruno Creek

AREA DESCRIPTION: Topography is rolling benchlands with sagebrush the major vegetative type. The unit is contiguous to the U.S. Forest Service Quinn Canyon Division and a RARE II area and was kept in intensive inventory for that reason. It has subsequently been determined that further consideration of this unit would not enhance the wilderness proposal on the adjoining Forest Service land.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 4,500 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: The entire inventory unit is heavily intruded with un-reviewed ways and a corral.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: Due to the small size and poor vegetative cover, opportunities for solitude are poor.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Due to the small size, quality and diversity of recreation opportunities is very poor.
4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

RECOMMENDATION

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

4,500 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although the unit is contiguous to a Forest Service wilderness proposal, the land does not generally appear to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-040-234A

UNIT NAME: South Badger Gulch

AREA DESCRIPTION: This unit was kept in the intensive inventory because it is contiguous to a U.S. Forest Service RARE II area in the Quinn Canyon Division of the Humboldt National Forest. It has subsequently been determined that further consideration of this unit would not enhance the wilderness proposal on the adjoining Forest Service land.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 440 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: The unit is in an unnatural condition.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: Due to the extremely small size, solitude is nearly non-existent.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Due to the extremely small size, quality and diversity of recreation opportunities is poor.
4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

RECOMMENDATION

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

440 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although the unit is contiguous to a Forest Service wilderness proposal, the land does not generally appear to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-040-235

UNIT NAME: Barton Spring

AREA DESCRIPTION: The review area is in the foothills of the Quinn Canyon Range. The unit consists primarily of benchland with pinyon-juniper cover and flatland with sagebrush cover.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 13,460 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: Although a small portion (5,400 acres) of the review area appears to be in a natural condition, intrusions associated with area ranching are highly visible and intrusive throughout most (8,100 acres) of the unit.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:

- A. Solitude: Outstanding opportunities for solitude within the review area do not exist.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: The area clearly does not offer outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation because of the lack of diversity and the low quality of opportunities.
4. Supplemental Values: Archeological and historical values exist in the area.

#### RECOMMENDATION

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

13,460 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: IV-04-241

UNIT NAME: Griswold

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit lies between the southern end of the South Egan Range and the northern end of the Seaman Range. It is an area of rolling foothills and flatlands. Primary vegetative types include sagebrush, pinyon-juniper, rabbitbrush, and winterfat.

#### CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 23,900 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: Unreviewed ways and associated ranching facilities are included in a 7,300 acres unnatural portion. The remaining 16,600 acres are further divided into two natural portions (NV-040-241 of 6,800 acres and NV-040-241F of 9,800 acres).
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: Limited to poor vegetative and topographic screening result in less than outstanding opportunities for solitude in the subunits.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Hiking, dry camping, hunting and photography and other activities are possible in the subunits, but overall quality and diversity are not outstanding.
4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

23,900 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although portions of the unit contain more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-040-241A

UNIT NAME: Griswold

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit (a subunit of NV-040-241) is between the southern end of the South Egan Range and the northern end of the Seaman Range. Vegetative types include juniper, sagebrush, rabbitbrush, and winterfat.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 31,880 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: A corral and several unreviewed ways create an unnatural portion of 10,900 acres. The remaining 21,100 acres are in an essentially natural condition and are divided into three natural portions (NV-040-241A of 5,400 acres, NV-040-241D of 10,600 acres, and NV-040-241E of 5,100 acres).
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: Moderate to poor vegetative and topographic screening limit opportunities for solitude in the subunits.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Hiking, dry camping, photography and nature study are all possible in the area, but overall quality and diversity of recreation opportunities are either poor or not outstanding in the subunits.
4. Supplemental Values: Archaeological values exist in the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

31,880 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although portions of the unit contain more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.



AREA DESCRIPTION: This 58,300 acre unit is made up of portions of Spring and Garden Valleys and the steep, single ridgeline Worthington Mountains. Low vegetation exists in the valleys; woody growth is dominant on the flanks of the range; and very open forest occurs on the ridge.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 58,300 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: About 11,300 acres are unnatural. Two natural portions exist in NV-040-242 (32,900 acres) and NV-040-242 D (14,100 acres).
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The valley portions of sub-unit 242 provide only poor screening. The mountain portion provides better topographic screening but combined with fair to good vegetative screening, opportunities for solitude are less than outstanding. In sub-unit 242D poor vegetation and topographic screening severely limit opportunities for solitude.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Various forms of recreation such as hiking, camping, nature study and spelunking are all possible in both sub-units, but overall quality and diversity is not outstanding.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

58,300 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although portions of the unit contain more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit consists of two principal areas, the Golden Gate Range which runs southwest to northeast through the eastern portion of the unit, and Garden Valley which comprises the western portion of the unit. The Golden Gate Range is not extremely rugged; its highest peak is just over 7,200 feet. Garden Valley is flat and open with a large playa running down the center. A small portion of the western edge of Coal Valley makes up the southeastern corner of the unit.

#### CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 99,580 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: The Golden Gate Range is substantially natural and free from man-made intrusions. The valley areas surrounding the Golden Gates, however, are highly intruded by mining and ranching activities including fencelines, routes, corrals, pipelines, reservoirs, improved springs, prospects, and structures. About 48,560 acres are in an unnatural state. About 51,020 acres are in a natural condition. This has been divided into three subareas NV-040-243 (38,720 acres), NV-040-243A (6,200 acres), and NV-040-243B (6,100 acres).
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: Although the Golden Gate Range provides good opportunities for solitude, overall opportunities in sub-unit 243 are less than outstanding. Limited to poor topographic and vegetative screening in the other sub-units also restrict solitude opportunities.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Although opportunities such as hiking and rock climbing range from good to very good quality in the sub-units, overall quality and diversity is less than outstanding in all of them.
4. Supplemental Values: Archaeological values exist and there is a possibility of the existence of an endangered species.

#### RECOMMENDATION:

Zero Acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

99,580 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

**RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION:** Although portions of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-040-246

UNIT NAME: Weepah Spring

**AREA DESCRIPTION:** This inventory unit covers Seaman Range and its foothills. Vegetation types range from pinyon and juniper to sagebrush.

#### CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 191,700 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: A portion totalling 76,300 acres is in an unnatural condition. The remaining 115,400 acres are essentially natural and are divided into three sub-units (NV-040-246 of 69,400 acres, NV-040-246A of 40,000 acres and NV-040-246B of 6,000 acres).

3. Outstanding Opportunities for:

A. Solitude: A combination of excellent topographic screening, good vegetative screening, size, and configuration result in outstanding opportunities for solitude in sub-unit 246. Good to poor topographic screening in the other sub-units make opportunities for solitude less than outstanding.

B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Although several opportunities for recreation exist in sub-unit 246, the overall quality is not outstanding. The same situation exists in the other sub-units.

4. Supplemental Values: Archaeological values are known to exist in the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

69,400 acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

122,300 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: The portion of the unit proposed as a Wilderness Study Area contains at least 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature, with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable. It also has outstanding opportunities for solitude.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-040-247

UNIT NAME: Fossil Peak

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit consists of an alkali flat in the northern half and low mountains and rolling hills of the Seaman Range in the southern half. Vegetation consists of shadscale, rabbitbrush, pinyon-juniper, winterfat, and sagebrush.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 88,900 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: An unnatural portion of 18,800 acres containing unreviewed ways, an irrigation ditch, a fence, and several mining claims are within the unit. The remaining 70,100 acres are in an essentially natural condition and has been divided into five natural portions (NV-040-247 of 6,300 acres, NV-040-247B of 8,700 acres, NV-040-247C of 12,400 acres, NV-040-247D of 24,800 acres, and NV-040-247E of 17,900 acres).

3. Outstanding Opportunities for:

A. Solitude: Topographic and vegetative screening range from very poor to moderate, in the units, providing less than outstanding opportunities for solitude.

B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Although opportunities exist for several forms of recreation activities, quality and diversity is not outstanding in any of the sub-units.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

88,900 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although portions of the unit contain more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-040-249

UNIT NAME: North Pahrangat Range

AREA DESCRIPTION: The inventory unit is in the North Pahrangat Range and consists of low rolling hills and mountains. Major vegetative types are pinyon-juniper and black sagebrush.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit totals 55,900 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: An unnatural portion of 15,100 acres contains a power-line and several unreviewed ways. An essentially natural portion of 40,800 acres remains.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: Moderate to good topographic screening coupled with fair vegetative screening limit opportunities for solitude.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Activities such as hiking, hunting, and dry camping exist in the unit, but overall quality and diversity are not outstanding.
4. Supplemental Values: Archaeological values are known to exist in the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

55,900 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-040-249A

UNIT NAME: North Pahrangat Range

AREA DESCRIPTION: The inventory unit (a sub-unit of NV-040-249) is in the North Pahrangat Range and consists of low rolling hills and mountains. Major vegetative types are pinyon-juniper and black sagebrush.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 21,500 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: The unit contains an unnatural portion of 9,900 acres with unreviewed ways. The remaining 11,600 acres are in an essentially natural condition.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: Some good topographic screening is available in the foothills and generally good vegetative screening exists in the units. However, these factors result in less than outstanding solitude.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Only common recreation activities are available in this unit and overall quality and diversity is less than outstanding.
4. Supplemental Values: A threatened and endangered species is known to exist in the area.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

21,500 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-040-250

UNIT NAME: Southpaw

AREA DESCRIPTION: The intensive inventory unit is just east of Mount Irish. Topography ranges from flat in the southeast to low mountains in the central portion. Pinyon-juniper and sagebrush comprise the major types of vegetation.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 34,900 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: An unnatural portion of 6,600 acres containing unreviewed ways, a pipeline, and developed springs is found in the unit. The remaining 28,300 acres are in an essentially natural condition.

3. Outstanding Opportunities for:

A. Solitude: With the exception of a portion of the central mountains where some opportunity for solitude exists, vegetative and topographic screening is generally poor and limit opportunities for solitude.

B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Although common recreation activities such as camping, hiking, and horseback riding are possible, the overall quality and diversity of these opportunities are not outstanding.

4. Supplemental Values: Historical values exist in the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

34,900 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-050-0100

UNIT NAME: Quinn Canyon

AREA DESCRIPTION: The Quinn Canyon unit is in Lincoln County, Nevada. It measures about seven miles by three miles. The southern half of the unit is flat and covered by plants of the sagebrush community, the northern half is hilly and contains some scattered stands of pinyon-juniper.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit includes 12,810 acres of public land. The roadless area consists of 5,200 acres as 7,610 acres were separated from the bulk of the unit by roads.
2. Naturalness: 5,200 acres were found to be in a natural condition.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The roadless and natural portion of the area does not possess an outstanding opportunity for solitude because of its small size and limited natural screening.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: The area does not offer an outstanding opportunity for a primitive and unconfined type of recreation due to its lack of diversity and features of interest.
4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical value were noted.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

12,810 acres should be dropped from further wilderness study consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-050-0107

UNIT NAME: North Pahroc

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is located 25 miles northwest of Caliente and contains the North Pahroc Range. The southwestern boundary is the Boulder Wash road, and the remainder of the unit boundary is formed by parts of several range access roads.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 28,847 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: There are numerous ways, fencelines, reservoirs, spring developments, and other range improvements. These impact 13,847 acres

of the unit. The remainder, 15,000 acres, appears natural and qualified for further evaluation.

3. Outstanding Opportunities for:

- A. Solitude: The topography is a long, narrow ridgeline with a few short canyons. The vegetation is primarily low desert shrubs, with scattered pinyon-juniper on the ridge slopes. The extremely narrow configuration of the natural area, and the limited natural screening available impair the opportunity for solitude.
- B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Opportunities for hiking, horseback riding, and nature study were identified. Because of the restrictive configuration of the natural area, the opportunity for primitive recreation was considered less than outstanding.

4. Supplemental Values: There are significant archaeological values documented in the unit, and the peregrine falcon may nest in the area.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

28,847 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-050-0108

UNIT NAME: Nesbitt

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is 25 miles northwest of Caliente. It has flat sloping topography, vegetated with sagebrush. The western boundary is State Highway 38 and the rest of the unit boundary is formed by parts of several range access roads.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

- 1. Size: The unit contains 20,931 acres of public land. Documented roads separate two small areas, totaling 4,560 acres, from the main unit. Each area is less than 5,000 acres and does not meet the size criterion. The remainder of the unit contains 16,371 acres.
- 2. Naturalness: There are several range improvements along the edges of the unit and an unobtrusive way bisects it. These do not impact the naturalness of the unit and it appears unaffected by man.



3. Outstanding Opportunities for:

- A. Solitude: The topography is a sloping, outwash plain with a series of bluffs to the east. The vegetation is sagebrush and other low desert shrubs. Availability of secluded spots is extremely limited and the opportunity for solitude would not be outstanding.
- B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Opportunities for hiking, horseback riding, camping, and nature study were identified. The opportunity for primitive recreation is limited by the lack of vegetative and topographic diversity and lack of objectives or attractions to seek out.

4. Supplemental Values: The unit is contiguous along its western boundary to the White River, an area of high archaeological sensitivity.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

20,931 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-050-0109

UNIT NAME: Seep Springs

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is eight miles northeast of Tempiute and south of the Worthington Mountains. It contains a northern extension of the Timpahute Range and is vegetated primarily with sagebrush. The eastern boundary is the Wild Horse Valley road, the southwestern boundary is a BLM road, and the remaining boundaries are unnamed range access roads serving Mode Hole, Seep, and Penoyer Springs.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

- 1. Size: The unit contains 15,149 acres of public land.
- 2. Naturalness: No intrusions were observed in this unit. It appears natural and qualified for further evaluation.
- 3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: Natural screening is adequate in a small central portion to offer some secluded spots, but the opportunity for solitude was not found to be outstanding.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Opportunities for horseback riding, camping, hiking, and nature study were identified,

but the opportunity for primitive recreation was found to be less than outstanding because of a lack of objectives and points of interest, and small area of topographic and vegetative diversity.

4. Supplemental Values: The area has good potential for archaeological values, and may provide habitat for the peregrine falcon and spotted bat.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

15,149 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-050-0112

UNIT NAME: Timpahute Range

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is just northeast of Tempiute and contains the Timpahute Range. The eastern boundary is the Wild Horse Valley, the southern and western boundaries are mining and range access roads to the Tempiute area, and the northern boundary is a range access road serving Penoyer Springs.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 52,800 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: There are several intrusions around the unit boundary, including roads, ways, mining impacts, and range improvements. One intrusion road runs to Tunnel Spring in the center of the unit, but it is not substantially noticeable. These intrusions impact 13,580 acres, which should be dropped from further wilderness consideration because of unnaturalness. The interior and remainder of the unit, 39,220 acres, appears natural and qualified for further evaluation.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The topography consists of the Timpahute Range in the center, sloping outward to alluvial fans. Screening in the center is provided by pinyon-juniper vegetation and several ridges and canyons. The sagebrush vegetation on the flat alluvial fans is not adequate to screen visitors from each other. A number of secluded spots were available in the mountainous interior, but the opportunity for solitude was considered to be less than outstanding.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Opportunities for horseback riding, hiking, camping, hunting, and nature study were

identified but the opportunity for primitive recreation was not found to be outstanding because of the lack of recreational challenge and lack of objectives or points of interest.

4. Supplemental Values: Archaeological values are known to exist in the unit.

#### RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

52,800 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-050-0113

UNIT NAME: Pahroc Summit Pass

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is five miles northeast of Hiko and contains the western edges of the North Pahroc Range and the northern end of the Hiko Range. The western boundary is defined partially by State Highway 38 and partially by the boundary between BLM and private land in the Pahrangat Valley. The eastern boundary is the Pahroc Canyon road, the southern boundary is the road running from Hiko Canyon east to Pahroc Summit, and the northern boundary is a range access road.

#### CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 61,737 acres of public land. A documented road was found to cross the southeastern corner, separating an area of 1,505 acres from the original unit. This area is less than 5,000 acres and therefore, of insufficient size for further wilderness consideration. The remainder of the unit, 60,232 acres, meets the size criterion and is qualified for further evaluation.
2. Naturalness: The southern portion of the unit, Sixmile Flat, has been heavily impacted by roads, ways, and range improvements. The northern and northeastern portions have similar intrusions. The unnatural areas contain 31,072 acres and should be dropped from further consideration. The natural area, 29,160 acres, is a crescent shaped area along the western and north central portions.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The North Pahroc and Hiko Ranges provide some topographic screening along the eastern and western edges of the unit. Hills to the north provide some secluded spots, but the opportunity for solitude is limited to less than outstanding by the lack of vegetative screening and the restrictive configuration of the natural area.

B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Opportunities for hiking, camping, horseback riding, and nature study were identified, but they are confined to the northern hills because of the inaccessible mountain slopes. The opportunity for primitive recreation was not found to be outstanding.

4. Supplemental Values: The western edge of the unit is contiguous to the White River, an area of high archaeological value. The steep slopes of the North Pahroc and Hiko Ranges may provide nesting habitat for the peregrine falcon.

#### RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

61,737 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-050-0114

UNIT NAME: Pahroc Spring

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is 15 miles northeast of Hiko and contains the southern end of the North Pahroc Range, vegetated with pinyon-juniper and sagebrush. The northeastern boundary is the Boulder Wash road, the western boundary is the Pahroc Canyon road, and the remainder of the boundary is formed by parts of several range access roads.

#### CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 15,950 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: Several range improvements are located in the unit, including corrals, fences, water developments, and their access roads. These intrusions impact 8,150 acres, leaving the south central portion of the unit, 7,800 acres, appearing natural and qualified for further evaluation.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: Natural screening is adequate to provide some opportunity for solitude, but a limited number of secluded spots results in a less than outstanding opportunity.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Opportunities for hiking, horseback riding, camping, and nature study were identified. The opportunity for primitive recreation was not found to be outstanding because of a lack of objectives or attractions to seek out, the excessively steep slopes of the North Pahrocs, and the lack of vegetative or topographic diversity.

4. Supplemental Values: Archaeological analysis predicts that primitive campsites occurred at the springs in this area; wild horses are known to inhabit the unit; and the topography may provide habitat for the peregrine falcon and/or the spotted bat.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

15,950 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-050-0116

UNIT NAME: Chief Mountain

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is 10 miles southwest of Panaca and contains the southern end of the Chief Range. The vegetation is pinyon-juniper at the higher, central peaks, and changes to low sagebrushes on the alluvial fans. The western boundary is formed by range access roads serving Klondike Spring and George Roger Well. The southern boundary skirts the mining areas in Cobalt and Chief Canyons, and the northern boundary is defined by range access roads and the boundary between BLM and private lands.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 12,673 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: No intrusions were observed in the unit. It appears natural and qualified for further evaluation.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: Natural screening in the mountainous interior is adequate to offer some secluded spots, however, the opportunity for solitude was not found to be outstanding, because of the limited availability of these spots.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Opportunities for horseback riding, hiking, camping, nature study, and hunting were identified, but the opportunity for primitive recreation was not found to be outstanding because of the lack of objectives or attractions to seek out.
4. Supplemental Values: Wild horses are known to inhabit the area.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

12,673 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-050-0127

UNIT NAME: Swirl Cake Rock

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is located 30 miles northwest of Caliente. The topography is a low ridge along the eastern boundary, sloping into an outwash plain over the rest of the unit. The vegetation is primarily low brush with some pinyon-juniper in protected spots along the ridgeline. The northwest boundary is State Highway 38 and the rest of the unit boundary is formed by parts of several range access roads.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 8,690 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: A large borrow pit, a way, and a road impact a small portion of the unit, 1,190 acres. The majority, 7,500 acres, remains natural and qualified for further evaluation.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: There would be some secluded spots to the east, but these are limited and the opportunity for solitude is less than outstanding.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Opportunities for hiking, horseback riding, camping, and nature studies were identified. The opportunity for primitive recreation is limited by the lack of vegetative and topographic diversity and the lack of objectives or attractions to seek out.
4. Supplemental Values: The unit's proximity to the White River Petroglyphs, a National Register Site, suggests that it is an area of high archaeological sensitivity.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

8,690 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is adjacent to and west of Alamo. It contains the East Pahrnanagat and Southern Pahrnanagat Ranges and is contiguous on the south to the Desert National Wildlife Refuge wilderness proposal, Unit V, Hole-in-the-Rock, 115,700 acres. To the southwest, it is contiguous to Nellis Air Force Range. The western boundary is the road running along Dog Bone Dry Lake to the south. The northern boundary is formed partially by the Groom Mine Road and partially by State Highway 25. The eastern boundary is formed by the land ownership pattern between BLM and private, State, and Pahrnanagat National Wildlife Refuge lands. The southeastern boundary follows BLM road 5219 to Medsger Pass and drops south into the Desert Game Range via the Alamo Road.

#### CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 152,458 acres of public land. Several roads were documented and discovered to split seven small areas away from the original unit. Each of these small areas is less than 5,000 acres and therefore, lacks sufficient size for further wilderness consideration. The total acreage not meeting wilderness size criterion is 12,400 acres, leaving 140,058 acres to be further evaluated.
2. Naturalness: Numerous intrusions in this unit include several ways, two communication sites, two reservoirs, and a number of mines. The area not meeting the naturalness criterion is 52,058 acres. Four natural areas remain, totaling 88,000 acres.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The northeastern, 20,000 acres, and western, 39,000 acres, natural areas are predominantly flat, sparsely but uniformly vegetated with blackbrush. There were no secluded spots available, and the slope of the land prevents more than a few users from achieving any solitude. The small piece of the Pahrnanagat Range included in the western natural area offers the best screening and opportunity for solitude, but the opportunity is not outstanding. The southeastern 12,800 acres, and southern, 16,200 acres, natural areas have rolling topography with large rock outcrops and are vegetated with blackbrush and scattered joshua trees. Several secluded spots can be found in these areas. The southern subunit (16,200 acres) does have outstanding opportunities for solitude when considered in conjunction with the large contiguous unit administered by the Fish and Wildlife Service.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Opportunities for horseback riding, hiking, hunting, and camping were identified. Hiking and camping are of best quality in the small central portion of the unit. Hunting in this area and further north appears of good quality, and there are large areas of level terrain to enhance horseback riding. The unit generally appears to have good opportunities for primitive recreation. The southern natural area (16,200 acres) has outstanding opportunities for primitive recreation when considered with the contiguous Fish and Wildlife wilderness proposal.

4. Supplemental Values: A threatened and endangered plant is believed to be located in the northeastern unit corner, and the entire eastern boundary, Pahranaagat Valley, is of archaeological significance.

RECOMMENDATION:

16,200 acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

136,258 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

SPECIAL NOTE: This unit is contiguous to a Fish and Wildlife Service proposed wilderness area. It is separated from the Fish and Wildlife Service lands only by an administrative boundary that is unmarked on the ground. If the Desert National Wildlife Range wilderness proposal is eventually denied by Congress, the wilderness study area status of this BLM unit should also be removed.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: The portion of the unit proposed as a wilderness study area contains at least 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature, with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable. When combined with the contiguous Fish and Wildlife Service land, it also has outstanding opportunities for solitude and a primitive and unconfined type of recreation.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-050-0132

UNIT NAME: South Pahrocs/Hiko

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is 10 miles northeast of Alamo and contains both the Hiko Range and the South Pahroc Range. The northern boundary is primarily U.S. Highway 93, the eastern boundary is a range and mining access road, the southern boundary is primarily the Eightmile Valley road, and the western boundary is formed by range and mining access roads and private lands.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 71,055 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: Numerous roads, ways, and range improvements impact several areas of the unit. Two natural areas, 12,200 acres in the Hiko Range and 28,600 acres in the South Pahroc Range, were identified. A large portion of the unit, 30,255, did not meet the naturalness criterion.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: Both natural areas are single ridgelines sloping away to valleys, the South Pahroc area being higher in elevation. Vegetation changes from low desert shrubs in the valley, to ponderosa in the South Pahrocs. The natural screening in the Hiko area was found inadequate to offer an outstanding opportunity, but the large boulders and vegetation in the South Pahrocs area enable it to offer many secluded spots and an outstanding opportunity for solitude.



B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Opportunities for camping, hiking, horseback riding, hunting, trapping, rock climbing, and nature study were identified. The South Pahrocs were found to offer an outstanding opportunity for recreation because of the excellent vegetative and topographic diversity and large natural area for extended trips. The opportunity in the Hiko Range was found to be less than outstanding.

4. Supplemental Values: Scenic qualities and a strong likelihood of archaeological sites are supplemental values in the unit.

#### RECOMMENDATION:

28,600 acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

42,455 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: The portion of the unit proposed as a wilderness study area contains at least 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature, with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable. It also has outstanding opportunities for solitude, and a primitive and unconfined type of recreation.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-050-0154

UNIT NAME: Medsger Pass

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is 10 miles south of Alamo. It contains the southern end of the East Pahrnatagat Range and is vegetated with low desert shrubs. The northwestern boundary is a BLM road, the western boundary is the Alamo Road, the eastern boundary is the Pahrnatagat National Wildlife Refuge, and the southeastern boundary is an unnamed access road into the Desert National Wildlife Range. The unit is contiguous on the south to the Desert National Wildlife Range wilderness proposal, Unit III, Sheep Range, 440,000 acres.

#### CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 11,462 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: There were no intrusions observed in this unit. It appears natural and qualified for further evaluation.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The dominant topographic feature is the south end of the East Pahrnatagat Range in the western side of the unit. The central/eastern area is alluvial fan. Topographic screening to the west would provide several secluded spots. This unit has outstanding opportunities for solitude when considered in conjunction with the large contiguous unit administered by the Fish and Wildlife Service.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Opportunities for horseback riding, hiking, backpacking, camping, and nature study

were identified. These opportunities are outstanding when considered in conjunction with the contiguous Fish and Wildlife Service land.

4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

11,462 acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

SPECIAL NOTE: This unit is contiguous to a Fish and Wildlife Service proposed wilderness area. It is separated from the Fish and Wildlife Service lands only by an administrative boundary that is unmarked on the ground. If the Desert National Wildlife Range wilderness proposal is eventually denied by Congress, the wilderness study area status of this BLM unit should also be removed.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: The portion of the unit proposed as a wilderness study area contains at least 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature, with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable. It also has outstanding opportunities for solitude and a primitive and unconfined type of recreation.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-050-0165

UNIT NAME: Lower Pahrnatag Lake

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is 10 miles south of Alamo and contains a southern ridge of the East Pahrnatag Range. The vegetation consists of low desert shrubs. The eastern boundary is the Pahrnatag National Wildlife Refuge and the western boundary is an unnamed access road into the Desert National Wildlife Range. The unit is contiguous on the south to the Desert Range wilderness proposal, Unit III, Sheep Range, 440,000 acres.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 3,350 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: There were no intrusions observed in the unit. It appears natural.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The topography is part of a single, steep ridge of the East Pahrnatag Range. Topographic screening provides several secluded spots. This unit does have outstanding opportunities for solitude when considered in conjunction with the large contiguous unit administered by the Fish and Wildlife Service.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Opportunities for hiking, backpacking, camping, and nature study were identified. The unit shares the outstanding wilderness character already determined to exist in the contiguous wilderness proposal.

4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

3,350 acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

SPECIAL NOTE: This unit is contiguous to a Fish and Wildlife Service proposed wilderness area. It is separated from the Fish and Wildlife Service lands by an administrative boundary that is unmarked on the ground. If the Desert National Wildlife Range wilderness proposal is eventually denied by Congress, the wilderness study area status of this BLM unit should also be removed.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: This unit is contiguous with lands managed by another agency which have been formally determined to have wilderness values. It also appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable and contains outstanding opportunities for solitude and a primitive and unconfined type of recreation.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-050-0302

UNIT NAME: Cedar Mountains

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is about 35 miles northwest of Tonopah, in the northern tip of Esmeralda County. It contains the northern end of the Cedar Mountains, which is vegetated exclusively with a desert shrub community. The west, north, and east boundaries are formed by unnamed mining and range access roads. The southern boundary skirts some heavy mining impacts along a roaded canyon.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 10,577 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: The unit appears to have no intrusions and is in a natural state.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: Topographic screening is provided by the Cedar Mountains in the central and southern portions, and by rolling hills to the north. The east and west are alluvial terraces sloping down toward broad valleys. Vegetative screening is minimal and limits the location of secluded areas to the canyons and draws in the Cedar Mountains. This opportunity for solitude was found to be less than outstanding.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Opportunities for horseback riding, hiking, camping, rockhounding, and nature studies were identified. Hiking and horseback riding in the Cedar Mountains were felt to be the activities of best quality. However, neither the diversity nor the quality of primitive recreation opportunities in this unit were found to be outstanding.

4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

10,577 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-050-0304

UNIT NAME: Relay Station

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is about 30 miles northwest of Tonopah, in the northern tip of Esmeralda County. It contains the southern end of the Cedar Mountains and is vegetated primarily with blackbrush. The western, southern, and eastern boundaries are defined by unnamed range and mining access roads and a powerline on the southeast. The northern boundary skirts heavy mining impacts in a roaded canyon.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 23,379 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: The unit is impacted noticeably by mining and mineral assessment work along its boundaries, especially in the northern and southern areas. The central and northeastern areas appear to remain natural. The portion of the unit impacted by man's activities and appearing unnatural contains 12,679 acres. The remainder, 10,700 acres, appears natural.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The natural area contains the southern end of the Cedar Mountains, and has a moderate amount of topographic screening. The scant blackbrush vegetation provides only minimal vegetative screening which limits the opportunity to find a secluded spot. The overall size and natural screening are not adequate to provide an outstanding opportunity for solitude.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Opportunities for horseback riding, hiking, camping, nature study, and rockhounding were identified. Hiking, camping, and rockhounding were recommended as being the highest quality activities, but the lack of recreational challenge, vegetative diversity, and objectives or points of interest limit the opportunity for primitive recreation to less than outstanding.

4. Supplemental Values: Wild horses are known to inhabit the area. Archaeological values may exist in the dry lake area to the west.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

23,379 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-050-0305

UNIT NAME: Far North

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is 30 miles northwest of Tonopah and is just east of the Cedar Mountains. The southern boundary is a utility line and access road, the eastern and western boundaries are unnamed mining and range access roads.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 11,905 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: There is an assessment ditch along the western boundary and the utility line to the south has a significant visible impact on that end of the unit. These intrusions and their impacts result in 1,655 acres being recommended as dropped from further wilderness consideration. The remainder of the unit, 10,250 acres, is natural and qualified for further evaluation.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: Except for a few small hills, the topography of the unit is extremely flat, and the vegetation consists of low desert shrubs. The lack of natural screening and the narrow configuration allow activities on the boundary roads to be seen from anywhere in the unit and there are no secluded spots available. The opportunity for solitude was not found to be outstanding.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Opportunities for hiking, horseback riding, camping, nature study, and sightseeing were identified but were found to be less than outstanding because of the lack of vegetative and topographic diversity, lack of recreational challenge, lack of objectives or points of interest, and the restrictive configuration.
4. Supplemental Values: Wild horses are known to inhabit part of this area.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

11,905 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-050-0306

UNIT NAME: Pilot Peak

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is 10 miles north of Coaldale Junction and contains the northwestern end of the Monte Cristo Range. Most of the topography consists of rolling hills with the low peaks of the Monte Cristo Range to the center and southeast. The vegetation is primarily blackbrush and other low desert shrubs. The western boundary is a powerline paralleling U.S. Highway 95, the northern boundary is unnamed spring and mining access roads, the northeastern boundary is the road from Monte Mountain to Gilbert, the eastern boundary skirts numerous mining impacts in the Gilbert area, and the southern boundary is the road running from Gilbert west to Rock Hill on U.S. 95.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 59,274 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: There are mining and mineral assessment impacts in the southwestern and southeastern corners. Because of their locations, these intrusions are visible for a great distance. There is another intrusion road in the northeast. Because of unnaturalness, 25,374 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration. The remainder of the unit, 33,900 acres, appears natural and qualified for further evaluation.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: Topographic screening provides the only available secluded spots, but these are not numerous enough to provide an outstanding opportunity for solitude.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Opportunities for horseback riding, hiking, camping, and rockhounding were identified in the unit. Hiking and horseback riding were recommended as the highest quality activities because of the rolling terrain. The lack of vegetative diversity and lack of challenge to the recreationist make the opportunity for primitive recreation less than outstanding.
4. Supplemental Values: Wild horses are known to inhabit the area.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

59,274 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-050-0308

UNIT NAME: Monte

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is 30 miles northwest of Tonopah, at the north end of the Monte Cristo Range. It is an area of rolling to flat terrain with low desert shrubs. The northern boundary is formed by a powerline maintenance road, the eastern boundary is a main access road to Gilbert, the southern boundary is the road running by Monte Mountain to Gilbert, and the western boundary is a range access road.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 7,637 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: There is a corral area at the northwestern corner of the unit. Because of this minor impact, 37 acres are recommended to be dropped from further wilderness consideration. The remainder of the unit, 7,600 acres, appears natural.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: There are small hills in the eastern portion of the unit, sloping down to an alluvial plain on the west. Vegetation is low desert shrubs. The natural screening and size provide very few secluded spots and the opportunity for solitude was not found to be outstanding.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Opportunities for horseback riding, nature study, and hiking were identified, but found to be less than outstanding because of the lack of vegetative and topographic diversity, lack of recreational challenge, and lack of objects or points of interest.
4. Supplemental Values: Wild horses are known to inhabit the area.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

7,637 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-050-0311

UNIT NAME: Devils Gate

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is 25 miles west of Tonopah and contains the north-eastern end of the Monte Cristo Range. Its southeastern boundary is U.S. Highway 95, the western boundary is the Devils Gate and Cook Spring roads, the eastern boundary is the Crow Spring road, and the northern boundary is the Gilbert road.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 36,332 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: A powerline runs just within the southeastern boundary and numerous mining impacts, including assessment pits, tailings, and access roads, are visible from the boundary roads. The area impacted by these intrusions, 13,682 acres, does not meet the naturalness criterion. The remainder of the unit, 22,650 acres, appears natural and qualified for further evaluation.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The vegetation is low desert shrubs, with scattered pinyon-juniper at the higher elevations. The Monte Cristo Range forms the topography of most of the unit, sloping outward to broad valleys. Topographic screening offers some good opportunities for seclusion, but the opportunity for solitude is limited to less than outstanding.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Opportunities for horseback riding, hiking, camping, nature study, and rockhounding were identified. Their quality was not found to be outstanding because of the lack of challenge to the recreationist and limited vegetative diversity.
4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

36,332 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.



UNIT NUMBER: NV-050-0312

UNIT NAME: Rock Hill

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is 30 miles west of Tonopah. It contains the western end of the Monte Cristo Range and is just east of Columbus Salt Marsh. The topography is dominated by the low peaks of the Monte Cristo Range, sloping down to alluvial fans to the west and south. The vegetation is low desert shrubs, with a few pinyon-juniper on the highest peaks. The northern boundary partly follows the road from Rock Hill to Gilbert and partly skirts mining impacts. The western boundary is a powerline paralleling U.S. Highway 95, the southern and eastern boundary follow several mining access roads.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 41,392 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: The western boundary powerline has a great impact and mining and road intrusions impact the northeastern and southern portions. 24,442 acres were identified as unnatural and are recommended to be dropped from further wilderness consideration. The remainder of the unit, 16,950 acres, appears natural.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: Topographic screening provides a number of secluded spots, but these are few and the overall opportunity for solitude was not found to be outstanding.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Opportunities for horseback riding, hiking, camping, rockhounding, and nature study were identified, but their quality was limited to less than outstanding by the lack of vegetative diversity, lack of objectives or points of interest, and lack of recreational challenge.
4. Supplemental Values: Wild horses are known to inhabit the area.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

41,392 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-050-0317

UNIT NAME: Lone Mountain

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is about 15 miles west of Tonopah and contains Lone Mountain (elevation 9,108 feet). Vegetation ranges from blackbrush and shadscale, to pinyon-juniper on the mountain itself. The northern boundary is pri-

marily a powerline access road, the western boundary is partially the Coaldale Substation-Weepah road, the southern boundary is an unnamed mining and range access road, and the eastern boundary is formed by parts of several roads, including the Paymaster Canyon road.

#### CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 38,239 acres of public land. Documented roads were found to divide the unit into six portions. Three of these, totaling 1,450 acres, are each less than 5,000 acres and do not meet the size criterion. The remaining three portions each meet the size criterion: NV-050-0317, 23,703 acres; NV-050-0317A, 5,806 acres; and NV-050-0317B, 7,280 acres.
2. Naturalness: There are many intrusions around and just outside the unit boundaries, including roads, ways, shafts, pits, scraped areas, and tailings. All three units were impacted: 0371, 9,553 acres unnatural, 14,150 acres appeared natural; 0317A, 3,056 acres unnatural, 2,750 acres appeared natural; 0317B, 430 acres unnatural, 6,850 acres appeared natural.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The topography in the area consists of Lone Mountain with its short steep-sided canyons, surrounded by rolling hills sloping outward to broad plains. The vegetation is primarily low desert shrubs with some pinyon-juniper on Lone Mountain. The size and natural screening of 0317A and B were inadequate to offer secluded spots. Some areas of seclusion were available in 0317, but the opportunity for solitude was not found to be outstanding.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Opportunities for horseback riding, rock collecting, hiking, camping, and nature study were identified in the three natural areas. The small sizes of 0317A and B severely limited the opportunity for unconfined recreation. In 0317, the opportunity for primitive recreation was not found to be outstanding because of the lack of recreational challenge, lack of specific attractions to seek out, and lack of vegetative diversity.
4. Supplemental Values: Wild horses are known to inhabit the area, ruins to the southwest may be of historical value, and archaeological sites are believed to exist. 0317A and B are not known to have supplemental values.

#### RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

38,239 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although portions of the unit contain more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-050-0319

UNIT NAME: Montezuma Valley

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is five miles southwest of Tonopah. Its topography is the level floor of the Montezuma Valley, vegetated with low desert shrubs. The eastern boundary is a powerline access road, and the remaining boundaries are range and mining access roads.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 12,047 acres of public land. Documented roads were found to divide the unit into six portions. Five of these portions, totaling 5,635 acres, are each less than 5,000 acres and do not meet the size criterion. The remainder of the unit contains 6,412 acres.
2. Naturalness: No intrusions were observed within this unit. It appears natural and qualified for further evaluation.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: Natural screening is insufficient to provide any secluded spots and the opportunity for solitude is less than outstanding.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Opportunities for horseback riding and nature studies were identified, but were found to be limited by the lack of vegetative and topographic diversity, lack of challenge to the recreationist, and lack of objectives or attractions to seek out.
4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

12,047 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-050-0320

UNIT NAME: Weepah Hills

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is 20 miles southwest of Tonopah. It contains the Weepah Hills, vegetated with low desert shrubs. The eastern boundary is the Paymaster Canyon road, and the remainder of the unit boundary is parts of several range and mining access roads.

## CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 29,153 acres of public land. Documented roads separate a small area from the northern end of the unit. It contains 4,456 acres and, because it is less than the minimum 5,000 acres, it does not meet the size criterion. The remainder of the unit contains 24,697 acres and is of sufficient size.
2. Naturalness: There are mines, mineral assessment works, and their access roads throughout the unit. They are concentrated, however, in the Weepah Hills. These intrusions impact 19,443 acres, leaving two areas totaling 9,710 acres appearing natural and qualified for further evaluation.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The topography of the unit consists of a central flat valley, rising toward the east to the gently rolling Weepah Hills. The vegetation is low desert shrubs, including blackbrush and shadscale. Topographic screening would provide some secluded spots to the east, but the opportunity for solitude is less than outstanding.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Opportunities for horseback riding, hiking, camping, rockhounding, and sightseeing were identified, but are limited by the lack of environmental diversity and lack of challenge to the recreationist.
4. Supplemental Values: Wild horses are known to inhabit the unit and the developments of the old Weepah mining area may be of historic interest.

## RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

29,153 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although portions of the unit contain more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-050-0323

UNIT NAME: Emigrant Peak

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is just southwest of Coaldale Junction and contains the northern end of the Silver Peak Range. The terrain is mountainous and vegetated with low desert shrubs. The southern and eastern boundaries are formed by the Emigrant Pass road and private lands, the western boundary is partially State Highway 3A and partially a Fish Lake Valley road, and the northern boundary is a Coaldale Junction road.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 25,337 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: There are several intrusion roads, many leading to mining activity. These intrusions impact 20,712 acres, leaving an area of 4,625 acres appearing natural.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: Topographic screening provides some secluded spots, but these are not easily available and the opportunity for solitude is less than outstanding.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Opportunities for horseback riding, hiking, camping, nature study, sightseeing, and hunting were identified. Their quality was limited by a lack of vegetative diversity, lack of attractions to seek out, and lack of challenge to the recreationist.
4. Supplemental Values: Cordylanthus tecopensis, an endangered plant, is thought to exist in the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

25,337 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present. In addition, the natural portion is less than 5,000 acres.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-050-0324

UNIT NAME: Volcanic Hills

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is five miles west of Coaldale Junction and contains the Volcanic Hills. The topography is rolling hills with rock outcrops and a few small canyons. The vegetation is sparse blackbrush and other low growing shrubs. The northern boundary is U.S. Highway 6, the eastern boundary is State Highway 3A, and the western boundary is the Volcanic Hills road.

#### CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 25,444 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: There are several material sites, mining sites, and intrusion ways and roads. A cement plant is adjacent to the northwest corner. These intrusions impact 15,534 acres, leaving an area of 9,910 acres appearing natural.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: Topographic screening would provide only a few secluded spots, and the opportunity for solitude is less than outstanding.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Opportunities for horseback riding, hiking, camping, nature study, sightseeing, and hunting are available, but they are limited by the lack of vegetative diversity and lack of objectives or attractions to seek out.
4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

#### RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

25,444 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-050-0325

UNIT NAME: Pinchot Creek

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is 20 miles west of Coaldale Junction. It has a flat to gently rolling terrain, vegetated with low growing shrubs. The western boundary is the Sand Spring Canyon road, the southern boundary is the Rock Creek road, the eastern boundary is a range access road, and the northern boundary is U.S. Highway 6.

#### CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 15,254 acres of public land. Documented roads were found to split the unit into six portions, all less than the minimum 5,000 acres. None of these portions meets the minimum size criterion, so further wilderness evaluation is unnecessary.

#### RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

15,254 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: The entire unit does not contain any area with at least 5,000 acres of contiguous public land, nor any area that fits one of the size exceptions.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-050-0327

UNIT NAME: The Sump

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is at the northern end of Fish Lake Valley. The topography is flat to gently rolling hills, vegetated with low desert shrubs. The western boundary is State Highway 3A, the eastern boundary is the road from Gap Spring to The Crossing, and the southern boundary runs from highway 3A to The Crossing.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 30,693 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: There are several intrusion roads, heavy mining to the south, and small developments along the boundary roads. These intrusions impact 19,543 acres, leaving 11,150 acres appearing natural and qualified for further inventory.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The topography varies from rolling hills to broad flat expanses. The vegetation is blackbrush and other desert shrubs. The topographic screening would provide only a few secluded spots and the opportunity for solitude is not outstanding.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Opportunities for horseback riding, hiking, camping, nature study, sightseeing, hunting, and rockhounding are available, but their quality is limited by the lack of vegetative diversity and lack of challenge to the recreationist.
4. Supplemental Values: Wild horses are known to inhabit the area, and The Sump, a unique geological area, is located within the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

30,693 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-050-0328

UNIT NAME: Emigrant Pass

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is 12 miles northwest of the town of Silver Peak, and contains the northern end of the Silver Peak Range, vegetated with pinyon-juniper and desert shrubs. The western boundary is the Silver Peak road, the southern boundary is the Rhyolite Ridge road, and the northern boundary is the Emigrant Pass road.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 30,583 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: Intrusion roads extend from all of the unit boundaries, and mining and mineral assessment activities are evident in all but the central and northeastern portions of the unit. These intrusions impact 23,483 acres, leaving 7,100 acres appearing natural.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: A large part of the natural area is mountainous with scattered pinyon-juniper. The remainder is a flat alluvial fan vegetated with low desert shrubs. Topographic screening would provide some secluded spots, but the opportunity for solitude is not outstanding.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Opportunities are available for horseback riding, hiking, camping, nature study, sightseeing, and hunting, but their quality is limited by the low vegetative diversity and the lack of objectives or attractions to seek out.
4. Supplemental Values: Wild horses are known to inhabit the area.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

30,583 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-050-0330, NV-050-0330A UNIT NAME: Monocline

AREA DESCRIPTION: The two units are 10 miles north of the town of Silver Peak and contain the far western edge of the Weepah Hills. The central boundary separating the two units is a powerline with a maintenance road. The western boundary is State Highway 47, the southern boundary is an unnamed mining and range access road, the eastern boundary is the Weepah road, and the northern boundary is partially a powerline road and partially skirts mining impacts.



CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 20,150 acres of public land split into two sections: 0330 (13,173 acres) and 0330A (6,977 acres).
2. Naturalness: There are impacts from mining and mineral assessment work located in the southeast and eastern portions of 0330 and 0330A. The portion of 0330 that remains natural contains 7,630 acres, the portion not meeting the naturalness requirement contains 5,543 acres. The portion of 0330A that appears natural contains 2,650 acres leaving 4,327 acres unnatural.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The topography of the natural portions of both 0330 and 0330A is low rolling hills, part of the western edge of the Weepah Hills. The vegetation is exclusively low desert shrubs. Natural screening provides very few spots of seclusion, and together with the size and configuration of the two natural areas, provides a less than outstanding opportunity for solitude.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Opportunities for horseback riding, hiking, and rockhounding were identified. Because of the lack of vegetative and topographic diversity, lack of challenge to the recreationist, and lack of objectives or attractions to seek out, neither the diversity nor the quality of the available recreational activities was found to be outstanding.
4. Supplemental Values: Wild horses are known to inhabit unit 0330.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

20,150 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although portions of the unit contain more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-050-0331

UNIT NAME: The Choice

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is 10 miles northwest of Goldfield and includes part of the Paymaster Ridge. The western boundary is the Paymaster Canyon road, the southern boundary is partially the Pearl Spring road, and the remainder of the unit boundary is formed by parts of several unnamed mining and range access roads.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 23,676 acres of public land.

2. Naturalness: Roads extend into the center of the unit from the eastern boundary, a powerline parallels the southern boundary, and there are range improvements and gravel pits along the boundary roads. These intrusions impact 13,486 acres, leaving a natural portion on the west of 10,190 acres.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The topography consists of Paymaster Ridge, a steep ridge along the western side of the unit, sloping down to foothills and alluvial fan to the east. The vegetation is sparse, low growing desert shrubs. The short canyons within the ridgeline would provide some secluded spots, but the unit does not offer an outstanding opportunity for solitude.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Opportunities for horseback riding, hiking, camping, nature study, and sightseeing were identified, but these are limited by the unit's lack of vegetative diversity and lack of challenge to the recreationist.
4. Supplemental Values: Wild horses are known to inhabit this unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

23,676 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-050-0335

UNIT NAME: Misplaced

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is just west of Goldfield and includes the northern end of the Montezuma Range. The southern boundary is partially the Jackson Wash road, the eastern boundary is a powerline paralleling U.S. Highway 95, and the remainder of the unit boundary is formed by parts of several unnamed powerline, range, and mining access roads.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 49,040 acres of public land. Documented roads divide the unit into six sections. One of these sections, 1,289 acres, is less than the minimum 5,000 acres and does not meet the size criterion. The five remaining sections are each of sufficient size for further evaluation: unit 0335, 20,732 acres; unit 0335A, 5,069 acres; unit 0335B, 6,344 acres; 0335C, 9,235 acres; and unit 0335D is 6,371 acres.
2. Naturalness: The sections are impacted with roads, mining, mineral assessment work, and range improvements. These intrusions impact 16,951 acres, leaving five areas natural, totaling 30,800 acres.

3. Outstanding Opportunities for:

- A. Solitude: The northern natural area contains rolling hills and buttes, vegetated with low desert shrubs and a few scattered pinyon-juniper. The western natural area is formed by part of the Montezuma Range and is vegetated with pinyon-juniper. It offers the best natural screening but is the smallest of the natural areas. The southern natural area is a flat slope, vegetated with joshua trees and other yucca species. None of the natural areas provide more than a few readily available secluded spots and all are relatively small. The opportunity for solitude is less than outstanding in all of the sub-units.
- B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Opportunities for horseback riding, hiking, camping, nature study, sightseeing, and rockhounding were identified, but were limited in all three natural areas by their small sizes, the lack of environmental diversity, and lack of objectives or attractions to seek out.

- 4. Supplemental Values: Archaeological values are documented in the unit and wild horses inhabit the area.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

49,040 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although portions of the unit contain more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-050-0336

UNIT NAME: Clayton Ridge

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is just east of the town of Silver Peak and includes Clayton Ridge and the southern end of the Montezuma Range. The northern boundary is a powerline road, the southern and western boundaries are the Railroad Pass road, and the remainder of the unit boundary is formed by parts of several county and range access roads.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

- 1. Size: The unit contains 106,593 acres of public land. Documented roads were found to divide this unit into four sections. One of these sections, 585 acres, is less than the minimum 5,000 acres and therefore, does not meet the size criterion. Unit 0336, 87,959 acres; unit 0336, 8,840 acres; and unit 0336G, 9,209 acres are of sufficient size.
- 2. Naturalness: Unit 0336 is heavily impacted by intrusion roads, mining, and the evaporation ponds adjacent to but outside the unit. These intrusions impact 39,329 acres, leaving two areas totaling 48,630 acres appearing natural. Units 0336F and 0336G are impacted by a number of

range improvements and mining developments. Unit 0336F has no natural area to further evaluate. Unit 0336G has a natural area of 4,670 acres and an unnatural portion of 4,539 acres.

3. Outstanding Opportunities for:

- A. Solitude: The topography of unit 0336 consists of the Clayton Ridge and the Montezuma Range running north-south, separated and surrounded by flat, sloping alluvial fans and gently rolling hills. The vegetation is primarily low desert shrubs, with some pinyon-juniper in the Montezuma Range on the eastern edge. Topographic screening provides a small number of secluded spots in the short canyons, but the unit does not offer an outstanding opportunity for solitude. The natural portion of unit 0336G consists almost entirely of the Clayton Ridge, vegetated solely with low desert shrubs. The few draws cutting into the ridgeline offer a small number of secluded spots, but the opportunity for solitude is less than outstanding.
- B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Opportunities for horseback riding, hiking, camping, nature study, sightseeing, and rockhounding were identified. The large size of the natural portion of unit 0336 enhances the quality of all activities, but the opportunity for primitive recreation is limited by the lack of objectives or attractions to seek out and the poor vegetative diversity.

4. Supplemental Values: Wild horses are known to inhabit the area.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

106,593 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although portions of the unit contain more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is just southwest of the town of Silver Peak and contains the eastern side of the Silver Peak Range, including Sheep Mountain. Its northern boundary skirts the Mohawk and Nivloc Mines and follows the Nivloc road, the eastern boundary is a powerline, and the southern boundary is the Cowcamp Spring road. The Pinyon-Joshua Transition Natural Area is located at the unit's southwestern corner.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 25,206 acres of public land. Documented roads were found to split this unit into two parts: 0337, 20,000 acres; and 0337I, 5,206 acres.
2. Naturalness: 0337 has been impacted by roads, ways, and mining activity to the northwest and the south. These intrusions impact 10,770 acres, with 9,230 acres remaining natural. 0337I is impacted with powerlines on its boundary, intrusion roads and buildings, and mining activity. Its narrow configuration enhances the visual impacts, and this unit is considered to not have any natural portion to further evaluate.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The topography of 0337 is mountainous and rolling, with a few canyons. The vegetation is sparse pinyon-juniper on the hills, changing to blackbrush and joshua trees on the lower slopes. The availability of secluded spots was not adequate to offer an outstanding opportunity for solitude.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Opportunities for horseback riding, hiking, camping, nature study, and sightseeing were identified. These opportunities were considered less than outstanding because of the few points of interest to seek out and the general lack of environmental diversity.
4. Supplemental Values: Wild horses are known to inhabit the area, and a portion of the Pinyon-Joshua Transition Natural Area is located here.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

25,206 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-050-0337A

UNIT NAME: Company Spring North

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is just west of the town of Silver Peak and contains the eastern side of the Silver Peak Range, including Red Mountain. The topography is mountainous and rolling, with a few canyons. The vegetation is sparse pinyon-juniper on the hills, changing to blackbrush and joshua trees on the lower slopes. The southern and western boundaries skirt the Nivloc and Mohawk mining areas, and the northern boundary is a range access road serving Valcalda and Coyote Springs.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 10,880 acres of public land. Documented roads were found to separate a small area of 105 acres away from the main unit. This area is less than 5,000 acres and does not meet the size criterion. The remainder of the unit contains 10,775 acres.
2. Naturalness: Mining activity is located along the northern and western boundaries. The level terrain to the east allows the outside intrusions of the townsite and evaporation ponds to impact that part of the unit. The area impacted by these intrusions is 5,850 acres. The central portion of the unit, 5,030 acres, appears natural and qualified for further evaluation.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The availability of secluded spots was not adequate to offer an outstanding opportunity for solitude.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Opportunities for horseback riding, hiking, camping, nature study, and sightseeing were identified. These opportunities were considered less than outstanding because of the few points of interest to seek out and the general lack of diversity.
4. Supplemental Values: Wild horses are known to inhabit the area.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

10,880 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-050-0338

UNIT NAME: Silver Peak Range North

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is 10 miles west of the town of Silver Peak and contains the northern end of the Silver Peak Range, including the Piper Peak area. The topography is mountainous and hilly, vegetated with pinyon-juniper, manza-

nita, and mountain mahogany. The southern boundary is the McAfee Canyon road, the eastern boundary is part of the Argentite Canyon road, the western boundary is formed by the private lands and access roads in Fish Lake Valley, and the remainder of the boundary is parts of several mining and range access roads.

#### CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 72,779 acres of public land. Documented roads were found to separate two small areas, totaling 800 acres, from the main unit. These areas are each less than 5,000 acres and do not meet the size criterion. The remainder of the unit contains 71,979 acres.
2. Naturalness: There are intrusion roads extending into the unit from every boundary, many of them terminating at mining activity. The developments on the private land to the west also impact naturalness. The portion of the unit impacted by these intrusions is 33,729 acres, leaving an area of 38,250 acres appearing natural.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The natural screening and size are adequate to offer a number of secluded spots, but these are fewer in number than expected and the opportunity for solitude was considered less than outstanding.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Opportunities for horseback riding, hiking, camping, nature study, sightseeing, and photography were identified and evaluated as being of good quality. The opportunity for primitive recreation was not considered outstanding because of a lack of unique or specific attractions to seek out and because of the undiversified environment of the natural area.
4. Supplemental Values: Wild horses are known to inhabit the area.

#### RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

72,779 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-050-0338A

UNIT NAME: Silver Peak Range South

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is 12 miles southwest of the town of Silver Peak and contains the south end of the Silver Peak Range, including Sugar Peak and White Wolf Canyon. The northern boundary is the McAfee Canyon road, the eastern

and southern boundaries are parts of range access roads, and the western boundary is formed by private land and access roads in Fish Lake Valley. The unit also contains part of the Pinyon Joshua Transition Natural Area.

#### CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 54,845 acres of public land. Documented roads were found to divide the unit into 13 sections. Ten of these sections, totaling 6,570 acres, are each less than 5,000 acres and do not meet the size criterion. The remaining three sections are of sufficient size for further consideration: 0338A, 21,670 acres; 0338C, 15,440 acres; and 0338D, 10,205 acres.
2. Naturalness: The three sections are impacted by roads intruding into them from every boundary, many of them ending in mining activity. Developments on private land to the west are also visibly intrusive. Severe impacts decrease the natural acreage of 0338A by 13,090 acres, leaving 8,580 acres appearing natural. An area of 12,940 acres in 0338C is impacted, leaving 2,500 acres appearing natural. An area of 9,545 acres in 0338D is impacted, leaving 660 acres appearing natural. The natural portions of the three areas were further evaluated.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The sizes of 0338C and 0338D are inadequate to offer an opportunity for solitude. The topography of 0338A is mountainous and hilly, vegetated with pinyon-juniper, manzanita, and mountain mahogany. The natural screening is adequate to offer some secluded spots, but these are not numerous or readily available. The opportunity was not found to be outstanding.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Opportunities for horseback riding, camping, hiking, nature study, sightseeing, and photography were identified. The opportunity is limited to less than outstanding by the size of the natural areas in 0338C and 0338D and by the lack of objectives or attractions to seek out in 0338A.
4. Supplemental Values: Wild horses are known to inhabit the area, and a portion of the Pinyon-Joshua Transition Natural Area is located here.

#### RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

54,845 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although portions of the unit contain more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.



AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is five miles northwest of Dyer, along the California/Nevada border. The southeastern boundary is the McAfee Creek road, the Perry Aiken Creek roads form part of the northern boundary, and the remainder of the unit boundary is formed by private lands and their access roads. The unit is contiguous on the southwest to the California Desert Conservation area wilderness study Area 100A, North Tip, 407 acres, and to Study Area 100, McAfee Creek, 456 acres.

## CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 1,279 acres of public land. Although the unit is less than the minimum 5,000 acres, it meets the size criterion because it is contiguous with other public lands managed by California BLM which have been formally determined to have wilderness values.
2. Naturalness: The unit has been impacted with two intrusion roads, a powerline, and by developments on surrounding adjacent private land. These intrusions, combined with the lack of natural screening and narrow configuration of the unit, impact the entire unit. No natural portion remains to be further evaluated for wilderness character.

## RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

1,279 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Even though the unit meets the size criterion because it is contiguous to other public lands with wilderness potential, it does not generally appear to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable. Therefore, further wilderness consideration is unnecessary.

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is along the California/Nevada boundary, in Fish Lake Valley. The northern boundary is the McAfee Creek road and the eastern boundary is the Toler Creek road. The unit is contiguous to the California Desert Conservation Area, Wilderness Study Area 101, Toler Creek, 897 acres.

## CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 33 acres of public land. Although the unit contains less than the minimum 5,000 acres, it meets the size criterion because it is contiguous with public lands managed by California BLM which have been formally determined to have wilderness values.
2. Naturalness: An eight foot wide concrete canal crosses the unit. Developments on adjacent private land also impact the unit and it was considered to lack naturalness.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

33 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Even though the unit meets the size criterion because it is contiguous to other public lands with wilderness potential, it does not generally appear to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable. Therefore, further wilderness consideration is unnecessary.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-050-0341

UNIT NAME: Furnace Creek

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is just northwest of Dyer. Its northern boundary is partially State Highway 3A and partially private lands, its western boundary is the Toler Creek road, and its eastern boundary is the Furnace Creek road. The unit is contiguous on the south to the California Desert Conservation Area Wilderness Study Area 102, Northwest Fish Lake Valley, 12,585 acres.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 1,050 acres of public land. The unit contains less than the minimum 5,000 acres but meets the size criterion because it is contiguous with public lands managed by California BLM which have been formally determined to have wilderness values.
2. Naturalness: Iron Creek road divides the unit at its northern end, a canal and access road cross the unit north on this, and development on surrounding adjacent private land all impact the unit. Because of the narrow and broken-up configuration and the absence of natural screening, imposing sights and sounds of intrusions within and outside the unit impact it completely. There is no natural portion.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

1,050 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Even though the unit meets the size criterion because it is contiguous to other public lands with wilderness potential, it does not generally appear to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable. Therefore, further wilderness consideration is unnecessary.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-050-0342

UNIT NAME: Palmetto Mountains

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is 10 miles south of the town of Silver Peak and contains the northwestern end of the Palmetto Mountains. The boundary is formed

by parts of several unnamed mining and range access roads, serving the Palmetto Mine, Birch Creek Spring, and other developments. One mile of the southern unit boundary is State Highway 3.

#### CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 30,165 acres of public land. Documented roads divide the unit into seven sections. Five of these sections, totaling 4,860 acres, are each less than 5,000 acres and do not meet the size criterion. The remaining two sections, 0342, 16,225 acres and 0342B, 9,080 acres, are of sufficient size.
2. Naturalness: Both sections have been heavily impacted by mining activity. Intrusions have impacted 4,145 acres in 0342, leaving 12,080 acres appearing natural. 3,780 acres have been impacted in 0342B, with the remainder of the unit, 5,300 acres, appearing natural and qualified for further evaluation.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: Both sections contain some mountainous, hilly terrain, sloping down to an outwash plain. The vegetation is sparse pinyon-juniper on the hills, changing to blackbrush and other low desert shrubs on the lower slopes. Some secluded spots would be available, but the opportunity for solitude would not be outstanding.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Opportunities for horseback riding, camping, hiking, and nature study were identified. These opportunities are limited in both sections by the lack of objectives or attractions to seek out and lack of challenge to the recreationist.
4. Supplemental Values: Wild horses are known to inhabit the area.

#### RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

30,165 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although portions of the unit contain more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-050-0344

UNIT NAME: Mount Jackson North

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is eight miles southwest of Goldfield and contains parts of the Goldfield Hills and the Cuprite Hills, vegetated with low desert shrubs. The western boundary is the road from State Highway 3 to Goldfield, the southern boundary skirts mining impacts, part of the eastern boundary is U.S. Highway 95, and the rest of the unit boundary is formed by parts of mining access roads.

#### CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 33,720 acres of public land. Documented roads were found to divide the unit into six sections. Four of these sections, totaling 1,807 acres, are each less than 5,000 acres and do not meet the size criterion. The two remaining sections are of sufficient size for further evaluation: unit 0344, 26,570 acres; and 0344A, 5,343 acres.
2. Naturalness: There is extensive mining activity in the northern and eastern portions of the unit, including pits, trenches, and access roads. These intrusions and a fenceline impact 11,580 acres in unit 0344, leaving a natural area of 14,990 acres. In unit 0344A, 1,373 acres are impacted, leaving a natural area of 3,970 acres.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The topography is primarily a broad flat valley, with a small portion of the Goldfield Hills to the north and a small portion of the Cuprite Hills to the southeast. The vegetation is blackbrush, shadscale, and sagebrush. Natural screening provides only a few secluded spots, inadequate to offer an outstanding opportunity for solitude.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Opportunities for hiking, camping, backpacking, and horseback riding were identified. Their quality is limited because of the lack of objectives or attractions to seek out, lack of vegetative and topographic diversity, and lack of challenge to the recreationist.
4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

#### RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

33,720 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-050-0344A

UNIT NAME: Mount Jackson South

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is 18 miles southwest of Goldfield and contains Mount Jackson. The southern boundary is State Highway 3, the western boundary is the road from Highway 3 to Goldfield, and the eastern boundary skirts mining impacts.

#### CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 6,184 acres of public land.

2. Naturalness: Mining activity impacts the northwestern side of the unit and frequent traffic on the southern and western boundary roads is visually and audibly obtrusive. These imposing intrusions impact 4,084 acres, leaving 2,100 acres appearing natural and qualified for further evaluation.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The topography is primarily a flat valley with one mountain, Mount Jackson, in the southwestern corner. The vegetation is low desert shrubs. Secluded spots are difficult to find, and the opportunity for solitude is less than outstanding.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Opportunities for hiking, camping, and horseback riding were identified. Their quality is limited because of the lack of objectives or attractions to seek out, lack of vegetative and topographic diversity, and lack of challenge to the recreationist.
4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

#### RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

6,184 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-050-0345, NV-050-0345A UNIT NAME: Chispa Hills

AREA DESCRIPTION: The units are just southeast of Goldfield and south of the Chispa Hills. The area is flat to rolling with low desert shrub vegetation. Its western boundary is U.S. Highway 95, its southern boundary is parts of access roads to Ralston, and the northern boundary skirts mining impacts in the Chispa Hills. Unit 0345A is contiguous on the east to the Las Vegas Bombing and Gunnery Range. The boundary separating the two units is an old railroad grade used and maintained for access to Ralston.

#### CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 30,599 acres of public land split into two subunits: 0345 covering 21,094 acres and 0345A covering 9,505 acres.
2. Naturalness: Numerous mining and mineral assessment impacts are located to the south around Ralston and in the area around Mira Mountain to the

north. The powerline running just within the unit along the western boundary also impacts the area, 8,614 acres were dropped from 0345 for unnaturalness, leaving 12,480 acres appearing natural and qualified for further evaluation. 1,105 acres were dropped from 0345A for unnaturalness, leaving 8,400 acres appearing natural and qualified for further wilderness consideration.

3. Outstanding Opportunities for:

- A. Solitude: The units are both flat, with some low rolling hills to the north and south. The vegetation is low desert shrubs, and secluded spots would be difficult to find. In addition, the security restrictions and hazards of the units' proximity to the Bombing Range make the opportunity for solitude less than outstanding.
- B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Opportunities for horseback riding, hiking, camping, nature study, sightseeing, and rockhounding were identified but the opportunity for primitive recreation in the units was determined to be less than outstanding because of the lack of vegetative and topographic diversity, lack of objectives or points of interest, and proximity to the Bombing Range.

4. Supplemental Values: Wild horses are known to inhabit the area, and Sclerocactus polyancistrus, a threatened and endangered plant, is thought to exist in the northern part of the unit 0345.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

30,599 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although portions of the unit contain more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-050-0349

UNIT NAME: Magruder Mountain

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is just south of Lida and contains Magruder Mountain. Its northern boundary is the old highway that runs parallel to and south of State Highway 3, the southern boundary is the Tule Canyon road, the western boundary is formed partially by the edge of adjacent private land and partially by a mining access road, and the eastern boundary is a county road from Lida to Gold Point and Tule Canyon.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 19,651 acres of public land.

2. Naturalness: The northeastern corner is heavily impacted by the Lida dump and several mines with access roads. There are several roads extending far into the eastern side of the unit, especially one to a water development at State Line Spring which is extremely visible. The eastern portion of the unit has been severely impacted by these roads. Along the northern boundary, a number of short roads lead to small camp sites. About 12,870 acres of this unit were determined to be natural and qualified for further wilderness evaluation. 6,781 acres are unnatural and should be dropped from the inventory process.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The topography of the natural area is primarily Magruder Mountain and adjacent mountains and foothills in the north and west. Toward the south and east the land is level and sloping. The vegetation in this area is low desert shrubs and yucca, changing to pinyon-juniper on the mountain. The screening in the mountainous area is good and would provide a number of secluded spots. This area is small, however, and the number of users would be limited. The opportunity for solitude is not outstanding.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Opportunities for horseback riding, camping, hiking, sightseeing, and nature study were identified, with camping and hiking being the highest quality available activities. Lida Summit, a designated recreation site, lies at the northwestern corner of the unit. While the area would provide very good opportunities for camping, as a number of primitive camp sites indicate, the diversity and quality of the opportunity for primitive recreation in this unit was not found to be outstanding.
4. Supplemental Values: A threatened and endangered plant, Heuchera duranii, is thought to exist in the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

19,651 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-050-0350

UNIT NAME: Pigeon Spring

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is 10 miles west of Lida and contains the east end of the Sylvania Mountains. Its northern boundary is the Sylvania Canyon road and part of State Highway 3, and the eastern boundary is the Cucomungo Canyon road. The unit is contiguous on the southwest to the California Desert Conservation Area Wilderness Study Area, Sylvania Mountains, 14,983 acres.

## CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 6,977 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: Extensive and active mining impacts the northern boundary. Some mining development outside the unit is obtrusive enough to impact naturalness within the unit, especially in the southeastern corner. Although occurring outside of the unit boundaries, the mining development is extremely imposing when viewed from within the unit. 2,227 acres appears unnatural and should be dropped from further consideration. The remainder of the unit, 4,750 acres, is natural and qualified for further evaluation.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The topography is part of the Sylvania Mountains, including one or two canyons. The vegetation primarily is pinyon-juniper. Natural screening is adequate to provide several secluded spots. Opportunities for solitude are outstanding when considered in conjunction with the larger California BLM wilderness proposal. An arbitrary administrative boundary, which is unmarked on the ground, is all that separates this unit from the CDCA wilderness study area. Therefore, the outstanding opportunities already identified on the California land are shared by the Las Vegas District portion.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Opportunities for hiking, camping, and rock collecting were identified. These share the outstanding qualities already identified in the contiguous wilderness study area.
4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

## RECOMMENDATION:

4,750 acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

2,227 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

SPECIAL NOTE: This unit is contiguous to a California BLM wilderness study area. It is separated from that wilderness study area only by an administrative boundary that is unmarked on the ground. If the contiguous wilderness study area is eventually dropped from wilderness consideration, NV-050-0350 will be removed from wilderness study area status.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: The portion of the unit proposed as a wilderness study area contains at least 5,000 acres of contiguous public land (within California and Nevada) that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature, with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable. It also has outstanding opportunities for solitude, and a primitive and unconfined type of recreation when considered in conjunction with the contiguous wilderness study area in California.



AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is along the California/Nevada border, 10 miles southwest of Lida Summit. Its eastern and northern boundaries are formed by the Tule Canyon road, its northwestern boundary is defined by private land, and the western boundary is the Cucomungo Canyon road. The unit is contiguous on the southwest to the California Desert Conservation Area Wilderness Study Area 112, Last Chance Range, 36,287 acres.

## CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 24,223 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: The unit has been heavily impacted by mining around all of its boundaries and at the end of several intrusion roads penetrating the unit. The area impacted by these intrusions is 19,043 acres, leaving 5,180 acres appearing natural.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The topography is a small extension of Last Chance Range, vegetated with sparse pinyon-juniper on the hillsides, and various shrubs in the washes. Because of the configuration of the unit and the views and sounds of the numerous and extremely imposing intrusions outside the natural area, this unit was not considered to offer outstanding opportunity for solitude, nor to share the opportunities identified on the contiguous wilderness proposal.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Opportunities were identified for hiking, camping, nature study, and hunting. These were not considered outstanding nor do they share the outstanding opportunities identified in the contiguous wilderness study area because of the restrictive configuration of the natural area and the extremely imposing views and sounds of the adjacent mining activity.
4. Supplemental Values: Sclerocactus polyancistrus, an endangered plant, is thought to exist in the unit.

## RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

24,223 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-050-0352

UNIT NAME: Slate Ridge West

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is just east of the town of Gold Point. It contains part of the Lida Valley and part of Slate Ridge, including Mt. Dunfee. The topography is mountainous to the south, including a portion of Slate Ridge. The rest of the unit is rolling hills sloping outward to a broad flat valley. The vegetation is primarily low desert shrubs, with a few scattered pinyon on Slate Ridge. The northern boundary is partially the Gold Point road and partially the Stonewall Pass road, and the remainder of the unit boundary is parts of mining access roads.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 28,874 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: There are intrusion roads, mining activity, and developments from Gold Point extending into the unit. These intrusions impact 9,514 acres, leaving an area of 19,360 acres appearing natural and qualified for further evaluation.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: There would be some secluded spots provided by the topographic screening to the south, but their availability is not sufficient to provide an outstanding opportunity for solitude.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Opportunities for horseback riding, hiking, camping, nature study, sightseeing, and rock collecting are available, but their quality is limited by the lack of vegetative diversity.
4. Supplemental Values: Wild horses are known to inhabit the area.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

28,874 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-050-0352A

UNIT NAME: Slate Ridge East

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is 10 miles east of the town of Gold Point. Its terrain is rolling hills, vegetated with desert shrubs, a few joshua trees, and scattered pinyon-juniper. The northern boundary is primarily the Stonewall Pass road, and the remainder of the unit boundary is parts of several mining access roads.

#### CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 8,813 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: There is a powerline along the northeastern boundary and a few areas of mining activity. These intrusions impact 2,228 acres, leaving an area of 6,585 acres appearing natural and qualified for further evaluation.
3. Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: Secluded spots are not easily available, and the opportunity for solitude is not outstanding.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Opportunities for horseback riding, hiking, camping, nature study, sightseeing, and rock collecting are available, but their quality is limited by the lack of vegetative and topographic diversity.
4. Supplemental Values: Wild horses are known to inhabit the area.

#### RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

8,813 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-050-0353

UNIT NAME: Hell's Gate

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is northwest of Beatty, in the Sarcobatus Flats area, and contains Rattlesnake Mountain. The northern boundary is the road to Tokop radio tower and Hell's Gate, the western and southern boundaries are mining access roads, and the eastern boundary is formed partially by State Highway 72 and partially by a range access road.

#### CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 19,596 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: A utility line and a way run just within the northwestern boundary, there are three water developments along the northern boundary, and mining activity to the northwest. These intrusions impact 3,536 acres which should be dropped from further wilderness consideration because of unnaturalness. 16,060 acres appear natural and qualified for further evaluation.

### 3. Outstanding Opportunities for:

- A. Solitude: The topography consists of hills and low mountains to the northwest, including Rattlesnake Mountain. The rest of the unit is rolling hills and valleys. The vegetation is creosote and other low desert shrubs, with scattered joshua trees and yucca to the northwest. Topographic screening would provide some secluded spots, but these would be few and the opportunity for solitude would be less than outstanding.
- B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Opportunities for hiking and horseback riding were identified, but their quality was found to be less than outstanding because of a lack of vegetative and topographic diversity, and lack of challenge to the recreationist.

4. Supplemental Values: Wild horses are known to inhabit the area.

#### RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

19,596 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-050-0354

UNIT NAME: Queer Mountain

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is 30 miles northwest of Beatty, along the California/Nevada State boundary. The vegetation consists of low desert shrubs over most of the unit. The area around Gold Mountain to the northeast has some trees, and there is a dense stand of joshua trees in the northern tip of the unit. The topography is a low mountain range, including Gold, Cove, and Queer Mountains. There are numerous canyons, and small valleys. Its northwestern boundary is the Oriental Wash road, its northeastern boundary is the road to Willow Spring, and its southeastern boundary is State Highway 72. The unit is contiguous on the southwest to the California Desert Conservation Area Wilderness Study Area 119, Little Sand Spring, 32,876 acres, and to the Death Valley National Monument wilderness proposal, Unit 1, 19,000 acres. It contains the Gold Mountain Range.

#### CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

- 1. Size: The unit contains 88,729 acres of public land.
- 2. Naturalness: There is heavy mining activity in the western corner of the unit and a stock watering development at Willow Spring along the northern boundary. These intrusions and their impacts result in 31,379 acres being dropped from further wilderness consideration because of unnaturalness. The natural portion of the unit contains 57,350 acres.

3. Outstanding Opportunities for:

- A. Solitude: The size and topographic screening provide outstanding opportunities for solitude.
- B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Opportunities for hiking, camping, backpacking, nature study, and horseback riding were identified. Their quality was considered to be good to excellent because of the large size of the unit. Since an arbitrary administrative boundary is all that separates this unit from the adjacent wilderness proposals, they are all parts of the same public land unit. Therefore, the Las Vegas District portion of this unit also shares the outstanding opportunities already identified by the National Park Service and California BLM on their portions.

- 4. Supplemental Values: Wild horses are thought to inhabit the northern part of this unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

57,350 acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

31,379 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: The portion of the unit proposed as a wilderness study area contains at least 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature, with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable. It also has outstanding opportunities for solitude, and a primitive and unconfined type of recreation.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-050-0355

UNIT NAME: Bonnie Claire Flat

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is 20 miles northwest of Beatty, in the Grapevine Mountains. It is contiguous on the south and southwest to the Death Valley National Monument wilderness proposal, Unit 4, 138,900 acres. The western boundary is State Highway 72 and the eastern boundary is the road between Bonnie Claire and the Bullfrog Hills.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

- 1. Size: The unit contains 81,776 acres of public land.
- 2. Naturalness: A powerline runs just within the western boundary. There is a powerline and pump at Grapevine Summit Well, a material site at the northern end of the unit, mining impacts and a fence to the northeast, and an abandoned railroad grade to the southeast. These intrusions impact the perimeter of the unit, resulting in 40,526 acres being dropped for unnaturalness. The remainder of the unit, 41,250 acres, appears natural and was further evaluated.

3. Outstanding Opportunity for:

A. Solitude: The topography is dominated by the Grapevine Mountains, curving from the southwestern corner northward to the tip of the unit. The land slopes west to Bonnie Claire Flat and east to Sarcobatus Flats, leaving the major ridgeline between them. The vegetation is primarily low desert shrubs with scattered Joshua trees. There is some pinyon-juniper at the southwest end of the mountains, and deciduous riparian communities in the canyon bottoms. The large size and topographic screening of the unit provide excellent opportunities to find secluded spots. In addition, this unit is separated from the National Park Service wilderness proposal by only an arbitrary administrative boundary. The two areas are actually both parts of the same public land unit, and the BLM portion shares the outstanding opportunities already identified in the National Monument portion.

B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Opportunities for hiking, camping, backpacking, nature study, and rock collecting were identified. These would share the outstanding qualities already identified in the contiguous wilderness proposal.

4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

41,250 acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

40,526 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: The portion of the unit proposed as a wilderness study area contains at least 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature, with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable. It also has outstanding opportunities for solitude, and a primitive and unconfined type of recreation when considered in conjunction with the adjacent National Park Service wilderness proposal.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-050-0358

UNIT NAME: Can You Believe

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is 10 miles northwest of Beatty. The topography is a broad rolling alluvial fan sloping from the west downward to the east. The vegetation is blackbrush and other low desert shrubs with occasional yuccas. The eastern, northern, and western boundaries are unnamed range access roads, and the unit is contiguous on the south side to Death Valley National Monument.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 32,327 acres of public land. A documented road was found to separate the eastern corner away from the original unit. This area, 3,860 acres, is less than 5,000 acres and of insufficient size for further wilderness consideration. The remainder of the unit, 28,467 acres, is of sufficient size.

2. Naturalness: A way extends into the unit for six miles from the National Monument, and two old railroad grades run close to parts of the western and northern boundaries. These intrusions impact an area of 960 acres, which should be dropped from further wilderness consideration for unnaturalness. The majority of the unit, 27,507 acres, appear natural.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The natural screening is inadequate to provide secluded spots and allows activities of users to be seen from everywhere in the unit. Therefore, the opportunity for solitude was not found to be outstanding.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Opportunities for horseback riding, hiking, camping, nature study, sightseeing, and hunting were identified, but the opportunity for primitive recreation was found to be less than outstanding because of the lack of topographic and vegetative diversity, and lack of challenge to the recreationist.
4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

#### RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

32,327 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-050-0368

UNIT NAME: Porter Mine

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is 10 miles southwest of Beatty, in the Amargosa Desert. The topography is low rolling hills sloping down to an alluvial terrace. The vegetation is creosote, blackbrush, and other low desert shrubs. Its eastern boundary is the Chloride Cliff road and an unnamed mining access road. The unit is contiguous on the remainder of its boundary to the Death Valley National Monument wilderness proposal, Unit 6, 8,800 acres, in both Nevada and California.

#### CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 6,689 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: The unit is contiguous at its northern tip to State Highway 58. The heavy traffic on this route was considered extremely

imposing, and visually and audibly impacts naturalness in the northern 600 acres of the unit. The remainder, 6,089 acres, appears natural and qualified for further evaluation.

3. Outstanding Opportunities for:

A. Solitude: This unit has outstanding opportunities for solitude when considered in conjunction with the contiguous larger unit administered by the National Park Service.

B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Opportunities for hiking, horseback riding, and camping were identified. These share the same outstanding wilderness character already identified in the contiguous wilderness proposal.

4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

6,089 acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

600 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

SPECIAL NOTE: This unit is contiguous to a National Park Service proposed wilderness area. It is separated from the National Park Service lands only by an administrative boundary that is unmarked on the ground. If the Death Valley wilderness proposal is eventually denied by Congress, the wilderness study area status of this BLM unit should also be removed.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: The portion of the unit proposed as a wilderness study area contains at least 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature, with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable. It also has outstanding opportunities for solitude and a primitive and unconfined type of recreation.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-050-0369

UNIT NAME: Amargosa

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is located 10 miles south of Beatty, in the Amargosa Desert. Its western, northern, and eastern boundaries are unnamed mining access roads. The topography is mainly an alluvial fan sloping down toward the northeast, with some low, rolling hills to the south. The vegetation is low desert shrubs. It is contiguous on the south to the Death Valley National Monument wilderness proposal, Unit 8, Funeral Mountains, 120,600 acres.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 12,526 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: Mining activity along the eastern boundary impacts 73 acres, which should be dropped as not meeting the naturalness criterion. The remainder of the unit, 12,453 acres, appears natural and qualified for further evaluation.



3. Outstanding Opportunities for:

- A. Solitude: Natural screening and size provide some secluded spots. This unit has outstanding opportunities for solitude when considered in conjunction with the large contiguous unit administered by the National Park Service.
- B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Opportunities for hiking, horseback riding, and camping were identified. These share the outstanding quality already identified in the contiguous wilderness proposal.

4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

12,453 acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

73 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

SPECIAL NOTE: This unit is contiguous to a National Park Service proposed wilderness area. It is separated from the National Park Service lands only by an administrative boundary that is unmarked on the ground. If the Death Valley wilderness proposal is eventually denied by Congress, the wilderness study area status of this BLM unit should also be removed.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: The portion of the unit proposed as a wilderness study area contains at least 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature, with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable. It also has outstanding opportunities for solitude and a primitive and unconfined type of recreation.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-050-0370

UNIT NAME: Nothing Flats

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is 10 miles south of Beatty in the Amargosa Desert. The topography is flat to rolling and vegetated with low desert shrubs. The western boundary is a Funeral Mountains access road and the eastern boundary is the Gibraltar Mine/Lees Mountain road. The unit is contiguous on the south to Death Valley National Monument's wilderness proposal, Unit 8, 120,600 acres.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

- 1. Size: The unit contains 12,055 acres of public land. Documented roads split the unit into four sections, one of which, 230 acres, does not meet the size criterion. Sections A, 560 acres, and B, 1,605 acres, are also less than the minimum 5,000 acres, but meet the size criteria because they are contiguous with lands managed by the National Park Service which have been formally determined to have wilderness or potential wilderness values. The remaining section, 0370, 9,660 acres, meets the size criterion.

2. Naturalness: There is extensive mining activity in the southeastern portion of 0370, impacting 150 acres. The remaining natural area contains 9,510 acres. Section A appears natural, and section B has had 755 acres impacted by heavy mining adjacent to the unit, leaving 850 acres appearing natural.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The configuration of sections A and B is inadequate to offer an outstanding opportunity for solitude. The remaining section, 0370, is contiguous to the National Park Service wilderness proposal. It has outstanding opportunities for solitude when considered in conjunction with the large contiguous unit administered by the National Park Service.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Opportunities for hiking, horseback riding, and camping were identified. These share the outstanding qualities already identified in the contiguous wilderness proposal.
4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

9,510 acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

2,545 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

SPECIAL NOTE: This unit is contiguous to a National Park Service proposed wilderness area. It is separated from the National Park Service lands only by an administrative boundary that is unmarked on the ground. If the Death Valley wilderness proposal is eventually denied by Congress, the wilderness study area status of this BLM unit should also be removed.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: The portion of the unit proposed as a wilderness study area contains at least 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature, with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable. It also has outstanding opportunities for solitude and a primitive and unconfined type of recreation.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-050-0372

UNIT NAME: Crater Flat

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is 11 miles southeast of Beatty and contains the north end of Yucca Mountain. It also contains the formations known as Black, Red, and Little Cones. The dominant topographic feature is Yucca Mountain, a rounded ridgeline in the eastern portion of the unit. There are two cinder cones to the west and a few rolling hills. Most of the unit is level, part of Crater Flat. The vegetation is creosote and other low desert shrubs. The western boundary is a range access road and the southern boundary is a mining and range access road. The unit is contiguous on the north and east to Nellis Air Force Range and the Nevada Test Site.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 37,242 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: Severe mining impacts just outside the unit were determined to be extremely imposing and cause 1,392 acres on the western side to appear unnatural. The remainder of the unit, 35,850 acres, is natural and qualified for further wilderness consideration.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: Topographic screening provides some secluded spots, but overall opportunity for solitude is less than outstanding. The unit's proximity to the Nevada Test Site with the associated security restrictions and physical hazards severely detracts from a feeling of solitude.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Opportunities for horseback riding, hiking, camping, nature study, and sightseeing were identified. Hiking on the topographic features mentioned is the highest quality activity available. The opportunity for primitive recreation was not found to be outstanding because of the lack of vegetative and topographic diversity, lack of recreational challenge, and the proximity of the Nevada Test Site.
4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

37,242 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-050-0373

UNIT NAME: Black Marble

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is 12 miles southeast of Beatty and contains the southern end of Yucca Mountains and part of Crater Flat. Its southern boundary is U.S. Highway 95, its western and northern boundaries are range access roads, and it is contiguous on the east to the Nevada Test Site.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 28,864 acres of public land.

2. Naturalness: Intrusion roads and heavy traffic on the southern boundary that was determined to create an extremely imposing intrusion impact that portion of the unit. 18,045 acres remain natural; 10,819 acres do not meet the naturalness criterion.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: Yucca Mountain and some small hills to the south provide some topographic screening. The remainder of the unit is a flat alluvial fan, and the vegetation is low desert shrubs. Secluded spots are difficult to find and the opportunity for solitude is not outstanding.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Opportunities for horseback riding, hiking, camping, nature study, and sightseeing are available, but their quality is limited by the lack of environmental diversity and the security restrictions and hazards associated with the unit's proximity to the Test Site.
4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

28,864 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-050-0375

UNIT NAME: Big Dune

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is 10 miles west of Lathrop Wells in the Amargosa Desert. It contains the well-known Big Dune. Its eastern, northern, and western boundaries are formed by unnamed mining, ranching, and recreational access roads. The southern boundary is partially a powerline maintenance road and partially formed by the boundaries between BLM and private land.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 21,900 acres of public land. Several documented intrusion roads were found to separate the unit into seven sections. Six of these sections, totaling 7,335 acres, are each less than 5,000 acres and therefore, are dropped from further wilderness consideration because they do not meet the size criterion. The remainder of the unit, 14,565 acres, is of sufficient size for further wilderness evaluation.

2. Naturalness: The northern end of the unit, because of its extreme flatness, is impacted by the heavy traffic on the boundary roads, and there are several intrusion roads used for access to Big Dune. The remainder of the unit, 8,200 acres, appears natural. The unnatural portions, 6,365 acres, are dropped from further wilderness consideration.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The vegetation consists of creosote and other low desert shrubs. The topography in the unit is a broad flat valley, with the large sand dune formation covering about 900 acres in the northern end of the natural area. The only natural screening is the dune itself, which provides only a limited amount of seclusion. The opportunity for solitude in this area was not found to be outstanding.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Although the area is primarily used for off road vehicle activities, opportunities for hiking, camping, horseback riding, and nature study were identified. Nature study would be of the most interest because of the unique stationary sand dune and the presence of Giuliani's Dune beetle. However, the diversity and the quality of the available primitive recreational opportunities in the natural portion of the unit were not found to be outstanding.
4. Supplemental Values: Big Dune provides habitat for the Giuliani's Dune scarab beetle, a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service threatened species. Two species of animals classified by Federal and State laws as rare, the gila monster and the desert tortoise, may possibly inhabit the area.

#### RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

21,900 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-050-0376

UNIT NAME: Dry Well

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is 15 miles south of Beatty, in the Amargosa Desert. It has a mountainous area at its southern end, but is primarily a flat alluvial fan vegetated with creosote. The northern boundary is the access road for the abandoned Tonopah and Tidewater Railroad, the eastern boundary is a recreational access road to Big Dune, to the east, and the remainder of the unit boundary is formed by mining and range access roads.

## CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 21,732 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: The mountain in the southern portion of the unit has been scarred on all but the northern face with mining and mineral assessment work. The dismantled Tonopah and Tidewater Railroad runs within the eastern portion of the unit. These intrusions impact 13,132 acres, leaving an area of 8,600 acres appearing natural.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The southern part of the natural area is a low mountain, sloping down to a flat plain to the north. The vegetation is creosote and other low desert shrubs. Natural screening provides few secluded spots and the opportunity for solitude is less than outstanding.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Opportunities for hiking, horseback riding, and camping were identified, but their quality is limited by a lack of vegetative and topographic diversity, and lack of challenge to the recreationist.
4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

## RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

21,732 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-050-0377

UNIT NAME: Jokerville

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is 10 miles southwest of Lathrop Wells, in the Amargosa Desert. The topography is a flat broad valley, vegetated with creosote and other low desert shrubs. The northern boundary is the Lees Camp road and the eastern boundary is the Old Tonopah and Tidewater Railroad grade. The unit is contiguous on the southwest to the Death Valley National Monument wilderness proposal, Unit 9, 51,500 acres; and to the California Desert Conservation Area Wilderness Study Area 143, Funeral Mountain, 46,529 acres.

#### CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 4,625 acres of public land. Although the unit contains less than the minimum 5,000 acres of public land, it meets the size criterion because it is contiguous with lands managed by California BLM and the National Park Service which have been formally determined to have wilderness values.
2. Naturalness: The unit is heavily impacted by extremely imposing developments on the interior and adjacent private lands including several roads, buildings, fences, a dump, and cultivated fields. The lack of natural screening on the public acreage makes these intrusions visible from any point in the unit. The entire unit is considered to have an unnatural appearance.

#### RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

4,625 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although the unit meets the size criterion because it is contiguous with lands managed by the California BLM and the National Park Service identified as having wilderness characteristics, it does not generally appear to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable. Therefore, further wilderness consideration is unnecessary.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-050-0386

UNIT NAME: Claw

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is along the California/Nevada border, 12 miles south of Lida Summit. It is a flat, sloping area, vegetated with creosote. The eastern boundary is the Tule Canyon road, and the western boundary is a mining access road. The unit is contiguous on the southwest to the California Desert Conservation Area Wilderness Study Area 118, North Death Valley, 7,961 acres.

#### CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 820 acres of public land. Although the unit contains less than the minimum 5,000 acres, it meets the size criteria because it is contiguous with public lands managed by the California BLM which have been formally determined to have wilderness or potential wilderness values.
2. Naturalness: Two mineral assessment pits were located along the eastern boundary and a short intrusion road leads from the western boundary to several mining claims. These are not obtrusive, and the unit appears natural.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The unit is sparsely vegetated with creosote and blackbrush. It is flat and slopes toward Death Valley. The configu-

ration is a narrow "claw" shape extending into Nevada. This configuration prevents any opportunity for solitude, even when the unit is considered as part of the contiguous wilderness proposal.

B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation; Opportunities were identified for sightseeing, horseback riding, hiking, camping, and nature study. The unit's restrictive configuration prevents an outstanding opportunity for primitive recreation, even when the unit is considered as part of the contiguous wilderness proposal.

4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

#### RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

820 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although the unit meets the size criterion due to contiguous public land managed by California BLM that has been identified as having wilderness characteristics and also generally appears to be in a natural condition, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-050-0387

UNIT NAME: Old McNett Ranch

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is northwest of Dyer, in the Fish Lake Valley. The eastern boundary is State Highway 3A, the northern boundary is Chiatovich Creek road, and the southern boundary is private lands. The unit is contiguous on the west to the Inyo National Forest.

#### CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 23,661 acres of public land. Documented roads were found to divide the unit into six pieces. Five of these pieces, totaling 14,110 acres, are each less than 5,000 acres and do not meet the size criterion. The remaining portion contains 9,551 acres.
2. Naturalness: Developed private lands in the interior and adjacent to the unit heavily impact the unit's appearance. Intrusion roads extend into the unit from the boundary. These intrusions are especially obtrusive because of the flat topography and low vegetation. The unit was not considered to have any natural portion.

#### RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

23,661 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.



RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: The portion of the unit that contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land does not generally appear to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable. Therefore, further wilderness consideration is unnecessary.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-050-03R-11A

UNIT NAME: Fish Lake Valley

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is just south of the town of Dyer. The northern boundary is the Furnace Creek road, and the eastern boundary is State Highway 3A. The unit is contiguous on the southwest to the California Desert Conservation Area Wilderness Study Area 102, Northwest Fish Lake Valley, 12,585 acres.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 165 acres of public land. Although the unit contains less than the minimum 5,000 acres, it meets the size criterion because it is contiguous with public lands managed by California BLM which have been formally determined to have wilderness values.
2. Naturalness: There is a large gravel pit at the southern end of the unit, and extensive development of adjacent private land is considered extremely imposing and also heavily impacts the unit. The configuration is extremely narrow and there are no places within this unit where man's activities are not obtrusive. There was no natural portion.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

165 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although the unit meets the size criterion due to contiguous public lands managed by California BLM that have been identified as having wilderness characteristics, it does not generally appear to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable. Therefore, further wilderness evaluation is unnecessary.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-050-03R-12

UNIT NAME: Pinto Hill

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is located 25 miles west of Coaldale Junction, at the base of the White Mountains. Its topography is a sweeping outwash plain with a few rolling hills, vegetated with low desert shrubs. The western boundary is the Inyo National Forest, the eastern boundary is the Sand Spring Canyon road, the southern boundary is the Rock Creek road, and the northern boundary is U.S. Highway 6. Because of a boundary adjustment made by the U.S. Forest Service to its Boundary Peak wilderness proposal, the Pinto Hill unit is no longer contiguous to that proposal.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 16,712 acres of public land. Documented roads were found to split the unit into seven sections. Six of these sections, totaling 8,840 acres, are each less than the minimum 5,000 acres and therefore, do not meet the size criterion for further wilderness evaluation. The remaining section contains 7,872 acres and is of adequate size.
2. Naturalness: The unit's lack of natural screening allows the impacts of powerlines, roads, buildings, and range and mining developments along the boundaries and just outside the unit to affect the naturalness of the entire unit. These boundary developments created an extremely imposing impact on naturalness. There was no natural portion to further evaluate for wilderness character.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

16,712 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: The portion of the unit that contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land does not generally appear to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-050-03R-15A

UNIT NAME: Lida Valley

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is 12 miles south of Lida Summit, along the California/Nevada border. The southeastern boundary is the Oriental Wash road, the northeastern boundary is a mining access road, and the northwestern boundary is the Tule Canyon road. The unit is contiguous on the southwest to the California Desert Conservation Area Wilderness Study Area 119, Little Sand Spring, 32,876 acres. Its topography is flat and sloping, vegetated with low desert shrubs.

#### CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 852 acres of public land. Although the unit contains less than the minimum 5,000 acres, it meets the size criterion because it is contiguous with public lands managed by California BLM which have been formally determined to have wilderness values.
2. Naturalness: No noticeable intrusions were observed in the unit. It appears natural.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The topography is flat and sloping down toward Death Valley in California, vegetated solely with sparse blackbrush and other low desert shrubs. The configuration of this unit, extending fingerlike into Nevada, prevents it from sharing the outstanding opportunity for solitude identified in the contiguous wilderness proposal.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Opportunities for sightseeing, horseback riding, hiking, camping, and nature study were identified. The extremely narrow configuration of this unit prevents it from sharing the outstanding opportunity for primitive recreation identified in the contiguous wilderness proposal.
4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

#### RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

852 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although the unit meets the size criterion because it is contiguous to lands managed by California BLM that have been identified as having wilderness characteristics and generally appears to be in a natural condition, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-050-03R-22

UNIT NAME: Gem

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is 10 miles southwest of Beatty, in the Amargosa Desert. Its eastern and western boundaries are mining access roads. The unit is contiguous on the south to the Death Valley National Monument wilderness proposal, Unit 8, Funeral Mountains, 120,600 acres.

#### CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit totals 2,193 acres of public land. Although the unit is less than the minimum 5,000 acres, it meets the size criterion be-

cause it is contiguous with lands managed by the National Park Service which have been formally determined to have wilderness or potential wilderness values.

2. Naturalness: An intrusion road is located at the southwestern corner, and another cuts off the northern tip. The area impacted by these intrusions, 40 acres, does not meet the naturalness criterion. The remainder of the unit, 2,153 acres, appears natural.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The topography is flat, sloping alluvial terrace, vegetated primarily with creosote and other low desert shrubs. The natural screening offers several secluded spots. This unit has outstanding opportunities for solitude when considered in conjunction with the large contiguous unit administered by the National Park Service.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Opportunities for hiking and horseback riding were considered available and would share the outstanding qualities already identified by the Park Service on its contiguous wilderness proposal.
4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

#### RECOMMENDATION:

2,153 acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

40 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

SPECIAL NOTE: This unit is contiguous to a National Park Service proposed wilderness area. It is separated from the National Park Service lands only by an administrative boundary that is unmarked on the ground. If the Death Valley wilderness proposal is eventually denied by Congress, the wilderness study area status of this BLM unit should also be removed.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: The portion of the unit proposed as a wilderness study area is contiguous with lands managed by another agency which have been formally determined to have wilderness values. It also appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable and contains outstanding opportunities for solitude and a primitive and unconfined type of recreation.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-050-03R-23

UNIT NAME: Von Schmidt

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is 20 miles south of Beatty, in the Amargosa Desert. The northern boundary is an unnamed mining access road, the western boundary is the Gibraltar Mine-Lees Mountain road, and the eastern boundary is the Ashton road.

## CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit totals 2,786 acres of public land. This unit contains less than the minimum 5,000 acres and does not meet the size criterion.

## RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

2,786 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: The unit does not contain any area with at least 5,000 acres of contiguous public land, nor any area that fits one of the size exceptions. Therefore, further wilderness consideration is not necessary.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-050-0401

UNIT NAME: Mount Stirling

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is 45 miles northwest of Las Vegas and contains the north end of the Spring Mountains, including Mt. Stirling. The northern boundary is U.S. Highway 95, the western boundary is State Highway 16, private lands, and mining access roads, the eastern boundary runs from Cold Creek to Indian Springs, and the southern boundary runs from Wheeler Wash to Cold Creek campground.

## CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit totals 203,000 acres of public land. Documented roads separate 12 small areas away from the main unit. These units, totaling 8,995 acres, are each less than 5,000 acres and do not meet the size criterion. The remainder of the unit is split into five areas: 0401, 147,000 acres; 0401A, 18,650 acres; 0401B, 17,100 acres; 0401C, 5,370 acres; and 0401D, 5,855 acres.
2. Naturalness: Of the remaining five areas, three were found to lack naturalness because of numerous intrusion roads from the Indian Springs area and because of their total exposure to heavy traffic on U.S. Highway 95 which creates an extremely imposing impact on the area's naturalness. Mining, intrusion roads, and range improvements impact portions, totaling 63,150 acres of the remaining two units. Sub-unit 0401 has two natural areas of 71,000 acres and 19,000 acres, and 0401A has a natural area of 12,500 acres. The total unnatural acreage is 91,585 acres.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The natural area in 0401A is a flat, sloping alluvial fan vegetated with low desert shrubs. The unavailability of secluded spots prevents this area from offering an outstanding opportunity for solitude. Although the northwestern natural area of 0401 has natural screening in the form of rolling foothills, it also lacks sufficient secluded spots to offer an outstanding opportunity for solitude. The central natural portion of 0401 contains a large portion of the Spring Mountain Range and possesses a wide variety of topographic and vegetative screening. The availability of secluded spots is excellent and the opportunity for solitude was considered outstanding.

B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Opportunities for camping, hiking, horseback riding, nature studies, and hunting and trapping were identified. These opportunities were considered outstanding in the central natural area of 0401, because of the excellent topographic and vegetative diversity and the large size of this natural and diverse area. The other two natural areas were found to offer less than outstanding opportunities for primitive recreation because of their undiversified environment, lack of challenge to the recreationist, and lack of objectives or attractions to seek out.

4. Supplemental Values: There are significant archaeological and botanical values, including bristlecone pine.

#### RECOMMENDATION:

71,000 acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

132,000 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: The portion of the unit proposed as a wilderness study area contains at least 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature, with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable. It also has outstanding opportunities for solitude and a primitive and unconfined type of recreation.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-050-0406

UNIT NAME: Lost Cabin Spring

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is 30 miles west of Las Vegas, at the southern end of the Spring Mountains. The southern boundary is State Highway 16, the northern boundary is part of the Trout Canyon road and part of the Lovell Summit road, and the eastern boundary is the Lovell Canyon road.

#### CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit totals 68,421 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: Two powerlines parallel the southern boundary road, and several roads and ways intrude into the southern and southeastern portions of the unit. These intrusions impact 40,901 acres of the unit, leaving 27,520 acres in the northern portion appearing natural and qualified for further evaluation.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The vegetation in the natural portion of the unit is primarily pinyon-juniper. The topography consists of a ridge paralleling the northern boundary and sloping away in a flat bajada to the south. There are some opportunities to obtain solitude in the canyons associated with the ridgeline, however, these are relatively few and not found to be outstanding.

B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Opportunities for horseback riding, hiking, camping, nature study, and hunting were identified. The opportunity for primitive recreation was considered less than outstanding because of the lack of challenge to the recreationist and lack of objectives or attractions to seek out.

4. Supplemental Values: Archaeological values have been documented in the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

68,421 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-050-0410

UNIT NAME: Shoemaker Spring

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is 15 miles north of Las Vegas, just east of the central portion of the Spring Mountains. The eastern boundary is U.S. Highway 95, the northern boundary is the Lee Canyon road, the southern boundary is the Kyle Canyon road, and the unit is contiguous on the west to the Toiyabe National Forest.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 82,917 acres of public land. Documented roads divide the unit into six sections. Two of these sections, totaling 4,710 acres, are each less than the minimum 5,000 acres and do not meet the size criterion. The remaining four sections are each of sufficient size for further evaluation: 0410, 50,727 acres; 0410A, 13,500 acres; 0410B, 8,585 acres; and 0410C, 7,135 acres.
2. Naturalness: The unit has been heavily impacted by roads and ways, utility lines, mining and mineral assessment work, seismic lines, a large communication site, and extensive development on nearby private lands which create an extremely imposing impact. These intrusions impact 48,657 acres, leaving a total of 36,000 acres in four separate sections appearing natural: southern, 6,000 acres; western, 7,000 acres; northern, 10,500 acres; and eastern, 12,500 acres.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The north and east natural areas are sloping alluvial fans with some low hills on their western edges, and vegetated with creosote and blackbrush. The south area has a varied topography, from flat lands to rolling hills and rocky knobs. The vegetation

also changes from creosote to manzanita and mountain mahogany. The west natural area contains rolling hills and short, steep-sided canyons. The vegetation is primarily pinyon-juniper with some ponderosa pine. The availability of secluded spots in all four of the natural areas is low because of the relatively small size and inadequate natural screening to the east. The opportunity for solitude was found to be less than outstanding in all areas.

- B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Opportunities for camping, hiking, horseback riding, nature study, hunting, and trapping were identified. These opportunities were found to be limited by the low environmental diversity of any one area and the lack of objectives or attractions to seek out. The road connecting Lee and Kyle Canyons effectively separates this unit from the recreation potential of the adjacent Toiyabe National Forest.
4. Supplemental Values: Archaeological values are documented in this unit. Two species of threatened and endangered plants are believed to grow in the area, desert bear poppy and California bear poppy. Bristlecone pine (Pinus aristata) exists at the highest elevations of the western natural area.

#### RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

82,917 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although portions of the unit contain more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.



AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is just west of Las Vegas in the Red Rock Canyon Recreation Lands. The western boundary is the Lovell Canyon road, the northern boundary is Red Rocks Summit/Willow Springs road, the eastern boundary is the Blue Diamond road, and the southern boundary is State Highway 16. The area offers a wide variety of landscapes, and vegetation including the spectacular Red Rocks Escarpment. The unit also contains the Pine Creek Natural Area.

## CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit totals 34,761 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: The eastern side of the unit is heavily impacted with roads, ways, trails, and development on private lands. There are two roads leading to spring developments from the western boundary. The area impacted by these intrusions, 10,761 acres, does not meet the naturalness criterion. The remainder of the unit, about 24,000 acres appears natural.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The vegetation is low desert shrubs at the lowest elevations, ranging through pinyon-juniper, to ponderosa pine on the Escarpment. The topography rises 3,000 feet from the valley floor in spectacular, sheer sandstone cliffs with narrow, deep canyons eroded into them. The top of the Escarpment has jagged cliffs and hills, with rolling rounded hills sloping down into Lovell Canyon. The vegetative and topographic screening together offer outstanding opportunities to obtain solitude.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Opportunities for hiking, botanical nature studies, camping, sightseeing, hunting, photography, technical rock climbing, geological studies, and horseback riding were identified. The diversity and uniqueness of the environment, the recreational challenge, and the spectacular scenery contribute to the outstanding opportunity for primitive recreation offered by this unit.
4. Supplemental Values: The area contains many significant archaeological sites and numerous botanical values, including several unique and/or endangered species. The Pine Creek Natural Area is within the unit.

## RECOMMENDATION:

24,000 acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

10,761 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: The portion of the unit proposed as a wilderness study area contains at least 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature, with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable. It also has outstanding opportunities for solitude, and a primitive and unconfined type of recreation.

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is just northeast of Pahrump and lies along the Wheeler Wash. It has a long, narrow shape. Its northern boundary is the Old Wheeler Pass road and the southern boundary is the Wheeler Pass road. The boundary between BLM and private land out of Pahrump forms the western edge of the unit.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 7,282 acres of public land. Documented roads separate a small area of 850 acres from the original unit. This area is less than 5,000 acres and therefore, does not meet the size criterion. The remainder of the unit contains 6,432 acres and is of sufficient size for further evaluation.
2. Naturalness: A fence and gate are located on the northern boundary road. Because of the unit's narrow configuration and level terrain, several sand and gravel pits, a powerline, and a shooting range just outside the southern boundary also impact naturalness, and result in 282 acres being recommended dropped from further wilderness consideration. The remainder of the unit, 6,150 acres, appears natural.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The topography is flat and level, sloping down toward State Highway 16. The vegetation is low desert shrubs with scattered joshua trees. The natural screening is inadequate to provide seclusion from the heavy traffic on the highway, and the narrow configuration makes activity on one side of the unit visible from the other. The opportunity for solitude was not found to be outstanding.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Opportunities for horseback riding, hiking, camping, nature study, and sightseeing were identified, horseback riding being recommended as the highest quality activity available because of the level terrain. The opportunity for primitive recreation was found to be less than outstanding because of the lack of vegetative and topographic diversity, lack of recreational challenge, lack of objectives or points of interest, and the restrictive configuration of the unit.
4. Supplemental Values: Wild horses are known to inhabit the area.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

7,282 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is located 10 miles northeast of Pahrump, in the Spring Mountains. Its southern boundary is the Clark Canyon road, the western boundary is the Wheeler Well road, the northern boundary is the Wheeler Pass road, and the unit is contiguous on the east to the Toiyabe National Forest.

## CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 7,880 acres of public land. Documented roads separate two small areas from the main unit. These areas, totaling 1,685 acres, are each less than 5,000 acres and therefore, are of insufficient size for further wilderness consideration. The remainder of the unit contains 6,195 acres.
2. Naturalness: Intrusions are located in the southern portion and include a road, stock tank, and a trail. These intrusions impact 345 acres, which should be dropped from further wilderness consideration because of unnaturalness. The remainder of the unit, 5,850 acres, appears natural.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The topography is hilly and mountainous, being part of the Spring Mountain Range. The vegetation is primarily pinyon-juniper and scrub oak. Both the vegetative and topographic screening are adequate to provide several secluded spots, however, the overall opportunity for solitude was not found to be outstanding.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Opportunities for horseback riding, hiking, camping, nature study, and sightseeing were identified; however, neither their diversity nor their quality was found to be outstanding.
4. Supplemental Values: A threatened and endangered plant, Astragalus aequalis, is thought to exist in the unit and archaeological values are documented.

## RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

7,880 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is just east of Lathrop Wells and is contiguous along its northern edge to the Nevada Test Site. It contains the Striped Hills in the northwestern corner, Rock Valley in the center, and the western foothills of the Specter Range at its eastern edge. The western boundary is the Cane Spring road, the southern boundary is U.S. Highway 95, and the eastern boundary is an access road into the Test Site.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 20,698 acres of public land. A documented road divides a small portion from the main unit. This portion, 2,010 acres, is less than 5,000 acres and therefore, should be dropped from further wilderness consideration because it does not meet the size criterion. The remainder of the unit, 18,688 acres, is of sufficient size.
2. Naturalness: A powerline runs just within the southern boundary and there is a gravel pit near the southeastern corner. Two intrusion roads extend into the unit from the southern boundary. These intrusions and their impacts result in 3,788 acres appearing unnatural. The remainder of the unit, 14,900 acres, appears natural.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The vegetation is primarily creosote and other low desert shrubs. The Striped Hills are in the western corner of the natural area and some low foothills are at the eastern boundary. Secluded spots are difficult to find in the area because of the less than satisfactory natural screening. This analysis plus the security restrictions and hazards of the unit's proximity to the Test Site limit the opportunity for solitude to less than outstanding.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Opportunities for horseback riding, hiking, camping, and nature study were identified, horseback riding being recommended as the highest quality activity. These opportunities were found to be less than outstanding because of a lack of challenge to the recreationist, lack of objectives or points of interest, lack of vegetative and topographic diversity, and the security restrictions and hazards of the unit's proximity to the Test Site.
4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

20,698 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-050-0451

UNIT NAME: Specter Range

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is 10 miles east of Lathrop Wells and five miles southwest of Mercury. It contains the Specter Range and is contiguous along its eastern and northern sides to the Nevada Test Site. Its southern boundary is U.S. Highway 95 and its western boundary is an unnamed former access route into the Test Site.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 34,340 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: There is a powerline running just within the southern boundary to a substation in the southeast corner of the unit. A way extends southward from the Bombing Range two miles inside the unit. Area dropped from further wilderness consideration because of these intrusions and their impacts is 4,860 acres. The natural portion of the unit is 29,480 acres.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The vegetation is creosote and other low desert shrubs with an occasional yucca. The topography consists of the Specter Range, a narrow ridgeline with several canyons opening out to rolling hills and the flat desert. Because of the unit's proximity to the Test Site, with that area's unique security requirements and hazards, the unit was not considered to have outstanding opportunities for solitude.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Opportunities for hiking, horseback riding, camping, nature study, and sightseeing were identified. However, because of the unit's proximity to the Test Site and the constant surveillance of that area, these opportunities were felt to be less than outstanding. In addition, possible hazards to recreationists because of the Test Site proximity restrict the area's recreation potential.
4. Supplemental Values: Two species of threatened and endangered plants are thought to exist in the unit: Penstemon fruticiformis spp amargosae and Gila ripleyi.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

34,340 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-050-0457

UNIT NAME: Mount Montgomery

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is 15 miles northwest of Pahrump. It contains Mt. Montgomery, but is primarily flat, to rolling, vegetated with low desert shrubs. The eastern boundary is State Highway 16, the southern and northern boundaries are mining access roads, and the western boundary is formed mainly by private lands.

#### CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 45,193 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: Powerlines run through the northeastern corner of the unit and mining intrusions impact large portions of the eastern and southern areas. A bladed strip runs parallel to the southwestern boundary. The area impacted by these intrusions, 16,183 acres, does not meet the naturalness criterion. The remainder of the unit, 29,010 acres, appears natural.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: Low mountains dominate the southern and western portions, the rest of the unit being flat. Vegetation consists solely of low desert shrubs. Natural screening is inadequate for easy availability of secluded spots and the opportunity for solitude was not found to be outstanding.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Opportunities for horseback riding, hiking, camping, sightseeing, and nature study were identified, but the opportunity for primitive recreation is limited by a lack of challenge for the recreationist, lack of objectives or attractions to seek out, and limited vegetative and topographic diversity.
4. Supplemental Values: Wild horses are known to inhabit the area.

#### RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

45,193 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-050-0459

UNIT NAME: Ash Meadows

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is five miles northeast of Death Valley Junction, California. It has flat, open terrain with little to no vegetation. The southwestern boundary is the California/Nevada border, the southeastern boundary is the Ash Meadows road, the eastern boundary is the road to Devil's Hole, and the northern boundary is formed by private lands.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 9,770 acres of public land. A documented road separates an area of 1,800 acres away from the main unit. This area does not meet the size criterion. The remainder of the unit contains 7,970 acres.
2. Naturalness: Fencelines with bladed rights-of-way run along the State-line and the eastern boundary. Development on adjacent private land also heavily impacts the unit. The portion of the unit remaining natural contains 800 acres; 7,170 acres do not meet the naturalness criteria.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The topography is flat with numerous shallow washes. There is very little vegetation, with some shrubs growing in the washes. Size and natural screening provide no secluded spots and the opportunity for solitude is not outstanding.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Opportunities for horseback riding, hiking, and nature study are available, but were not found to be outstanding because of the lack of vegetative and topographic diversity, small size, and lack of objectives or attractions to seek out.
4. Supplemental Values: Wild horses are known to inhabit the area.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

9,770 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-050-0460

UNIT NAME: Resting Springs Range

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is 10 miles west of Pahrump and contains the northern end of the Resting Springs Range and the Stewart Valley, vegetated with creosote and other low desert shrubs. The northern boundary is the Ash Meadows road to

State Highway 52. The unit is contiguous on the south to the California Desert Conservation Area Wilderness Study Area 145, Resting Springs Range, 89,772 acres.

#### CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 21,058 acres of public land. Documented roads divide the unit into five sections. Two of these sections, totaling 930 acres, are each less than 5,000 acres and do not meet the size criterion. Two sections, of 4,568 acres and 4,560 acres, are less than the minimum 5,000 acres but meet the size criterion because they are contiguous with lands managed by the Bureau of Land Management California State Office, and have been formally determined to have wilderness values. The fifth section, 11,000 acres, meets the size criterion.
2. Naturalness: The eastern end of the unit is severely impacted by major developments on adjacent private lands. The three sections in this area do not have any natural portions. The two western sections, 0460 and 0460A, are impacted by some mineral assessment work in the northwestern corner and by traffic on the boundary roads which has been considered to be extremely imposing. 0460A has 1,050 acres appearing natural, with 3,518 acres appearing affected by man. 0460 has 2,800 acres of naturalness with 8,200 acres unnatural.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: Natural screening and size are adequate to offer some secluded spots. Opportunities for solitude are outstanding when considered in conjunction with the large California BLM wilderness proposal. Since an arbitrary administrative boundary is all that separates this unit from the California BLM wilderness proposal, they are actually both parts of the same unit. Therefore, the Las Vegas District portion of the unit shares the outstanding opportunities already identified by California BLM on its portion. If the contiguous wilderness proposal is eventually dropped from wilderness consideration, NV-050-0460 and 0460A will also be removed from wilderness study area status.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Opportunities for horseback riding, hiking, camping, and nature study were identified. These opportunities share the same outstanding quality already determined to exist in the contiguous wilderness proposal.
4. Supplemental Values: Wild horses are known to inhabit the area.

#### RECOMMENDATION:

3,850 acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status (0460 and 0460A).

17,208 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

SPECIAL NOTE: This unit is contiguous to a California BLM wilderness study area. It is separated from that wilderness study area only by an administrative boundary



that is unmarked on the ground. If the contiguous wilderness study area is eventually dropped from wilderness consideration, NV-050-0460 will be removed from wilderness study area status.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: The portion of the unit proposed as a wilderness study area contains at least 5,000 acres of contiguous public land when considered in conjunction with lands managed by California BLM and generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature, with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable. It also has outstanding opportunities for solitude and a primitive and unconfined type of recreation.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-050-0461

UNIT NAME: Last Chance Range

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is eight miles northwest of Pahrump and contains a large part of the Last Chance Range, vegetated with desert shrubs. The eastern boundary is State Highway 16, the southwestern boundary is the Point of Rocks Spring road, the northern boundary is the North Last Chance road, and the remainder of the unit boundary is formed by parts of range and mining access roads and by private land.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit totals 27,079 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: A seismic line, old mining, a way, and heavy development on adjacent private lands all impact the unit. Two natural portions were identified: 4,165 acres to the west, and 10,920 acres to the east. The area impacted by intrusions contained 11,994 acres.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The western natural portion was considered too small to offer an outstanding opportunity for solitude. The eastern natural portion is fairly mountainous and vegetated with sparse desert shrubs. Topographic screening offers some secluded spots, but these are few and the opportunity for solitude was not found to be outstanding.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Opportunities are available for horseback riding, hiking, camping, nature study, sightseeing, and hunting, but their quality is limited by the lack of vegetative diversity and lack of objectives or attractions to seek out.
4. Supplemental Values: Archaeological values are believed to exist in the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

27,079 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-050-0462

UNIT NAME: High Peak

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is five miles west of Pahrump. It has a rolling and hilly topography, containing High Peak, and is vegetated with creosote and blackbrush. The northern boundary is the Death Valley/Ash Meadows road, the western boundary is the Ash Meadows road, the southern boundary is the California/Nevada State boundary, and the eastern boundary is formed by private lands in the Pahrump Valley.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 10,872 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: There are range improvements along the boundaries, including water troughs, wells, and fences. Developments on the adjacent private lands impact the extremely narrow southern half of the unit. These intrusions impact 7,372 acres, leaving an area of 3,500 acres appearing natural.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The topography consists of a low peak with surrounding rolling hills. The vegetation is low desert shrubs, primarily creosote and blackbrush. The size and natural screening provide few secluded spots and the opportunity for solitude is less than outstanding.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Opportunities for camping, hiking, nature study are available, but their quality is limited because of the small size of the natural area, the lack of vegetative diversity, and the lack of objectives or attractions to seek out.
4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values were noted in the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

10,872 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's

work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present. In addition, the natural portion covers less than 5,000 acres.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-050-0463

UNIT NAME: Grown

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is five miles southwest of Pahrump, with level terrain and low desert shrub vegetation. The northern and eastern boundaries are ranch access roads, the western boundary is State Highway 52, and the unit is contiguous on the south to the California Desert Conservation Area Wilderness Study area 150, Nopah Range, 109,701 acres.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 7,064 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: Most impacts to the unit are associated with the heavily developed adjacent private lands, including intrusion roads, adjacent farms, ranches, utility lines, and range improvements. The unit's size, narrow configuration, and lack of natural screening accent the extremely imposing impacts, and there is no natural portion identified.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

7,064 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land, it does not generally appear to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable. Therefore, further wilderness consideration is unnecessary.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-050-04R-03A, B, and C UNIT NAME: Pahrump

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is 11 miles south of Pahrump. The topography is flat, with little or no vegetation. All boundaries but one are formed by private land. To the southwest, units A and B are contiguous to the California Desert Conservation Area Wilderness Study Area 150, Nopah Range, 109,701 acres.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 10,958 acres of public land, split into three subunits: A, 4,617 acres; B, 5,416 acres; and C, 925 acres. Units A and C are less than the minimum 5,000 acres. Unit C does not meet the size criterion. Unit A is of sufficient size because it is contiguous with public lands managed by California BLM which have been formally determined to have wilderness values.

2. Naturalness: Development of adjacent private land has severely impacted these units. The lack of natural screening and the unusual configuration permits these intrusions to be obtrusive in all parts of the units because of their extremely imposing impacts. There is no natural portion.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

10,958 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit meets the size criterion because it is adjacent to public lands managed by California BLM that have been identified as having wilderness characteristics, it does not generally appear to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable. Therefore, further wilderness consideration is unnecessary.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-050-CDCA 276

UNIT NAME: Dead Mountains

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is at the extreme southern tip of Nevada, just northwest of the Fort Mohave Indian Reservation. The topography is hilly and rolling, vegetated primarily with low desert shrubs. Its northern boundary is a powerline maintenance road and it is contiguous on the south to the California Desert Conservation Area Wilderness Study Area 276, Dead Mountains, 29,411 acres.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 750 acres of public land. Although the unit contains less than the minimum 5,000 acres, it meets the size criterion because it is contiguous with public lands managed by California BLM which have been formally determined to have wilderness values.
2. Naturalness: No intrusions were observed in the unit. It appears natural.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The unit varies from hilly, vegetated with creosote and mesquite, at the northern end, to very flat and uniformly vegetated with creosote at the southern end. Its configuration is extremely narrow, in a "sliver" shape. Even when considered with the contiguous wilderness proposal, this narrow extension into Nevada does not share an outstanding opportunity for solitude.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: Opportunities for hiking, horseback riding, hunting, camping, and nature study are available. Even when considered with the contiguous wilderness proposal, the configuration of the Nevada portion limits these opportunities to less than outstanding.

4. Supplemental Values: The area is known to be habitat for the desert tortoise, a BLM "sensitive" species.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

750 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although the unit meets the size criterion because it is adjacent to lands managed by the California BLM that have been identified as having wilderness characteristics and generally appears to be in a natural condition, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

AREA DESCRIPTION: This unit lies in the Kawich Range in Nye County, Nevada. Steep ridges and peaks and long, rugged canyons make up most of the area. A few high altitude basins occur, one holding two small perennial lakes. A portion of Reveille Valley is included on the eastern boundary. Elevations range from 9,404 feet atop Kawich Peak to 6,040 in the eastern valley.

Vegetation consists primarily of a dense pinyon-juniper canopy with low-growing sagebrush undergrowth. However, meadow vegetation occurs around Bellehelen Lakes and in several canyons which contain perennial streams. Botanical diversity is especially noticeable in Longstreet's Canyon, on the west side of the range.

#### CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit includes 39,000 acres of public land. The roadless area consists of 37,695 acres as 1,305 acres were separated from the bulk of the unit by roads.
2. Naturalness: 27,560 acres were found to be in a natural condition. 10,135 acres were deleted due to a lack of naturalness resulting from mining activity.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The roadless and natural portion of the area does possess an outstanding opportunity for solitude. Rugged, steep topography and heavy vegetative cover provide isolation and create many secluded spots.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: The area does offer an outstanding opportunity for a primitive and unconfined type of recreation. The quality and diversity of recreational activities possible in this unit are excellent. Challenging terrain, good scenic values, the presence of trails and the availability of water all contribute to an outstanding opportunity for primitive and unconfined recreation.
4. Supplemental Values: An Indian wickiup was found in the southern mountains.

#### RECOMMENDATION:

27,560 acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

11,440 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: The portion of the unit proposed as a Wilderness Study Area contains at least 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature, with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable. It also has outstanding opportunities for solitude and a primitive and unconfined type of recreation.

AREA DESCRIPTION: This unit lies in the Hot Creek Range in Nye County, Nevada. A central mountainous portion is flanked on the west by Stone Cabin Valley and on the east by Hot Creek Valley. Many deep canyons penetrate the mountains, often opening up onto wide basins. Elevations range from 5,360 feet in Hot Creek Valley to 9,145 feet atop Rawhide Mountain.

Vegetation throughout the mountains consists of a pinyon-juniper canopy with a low sagebrush undergrowth. At lower elevations the desert shrub community occurs, with either black or big sagebrush the dominant plant. Hot Creek Valley contains primarily grasses. Where perennial springs occur, meadow vegetation may exist to some extent.

#### CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit includes 75,400 acres of public land. The roadless area consists of 71,180 acres as 4,220 acres were separated from the bulk of the unit by roads.
2. Naturalness: 64,370 acres were found to be in a natural condition. 6,810 acres were deleted due to a lack of naturalness. Extensive mining activity and numerous roads and ways comprised most of the intrusions.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The roadless and natural portion of the area does possess an outstanding opportunity for solitude. Heavy pinyon-juniper cover throughout the mountains complements the varied topography, providing excellent natural screening. Secluded spots abound.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: The area does not offer an outstanding opportunity for a primitive and unconfined type of recreation. Although several types of recreational activities may be pursued, all are limited in some way by the quality of challenging terrain, limited scenic values, and lack of water.
4. Supplemental Values: Four sets of brick charcoal kilns, all apparently built in 1877 to produce charcoal for the smelting furnaces at Tybo are found in the unit. Two sets are known as the McIntyre kilns. The Tybo kilns are on the National Register of Historic Places. The fourth set is unknown historically, but is probably related to the McIntyre kilns. Almost all of the kilns are in excellent condition.

#### RECOMMENDATION:

64,370 acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

11,030 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: The portion of the unit proposed as a Wilderness Study Area contains at least 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature, with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable. It also has outstanding opportunities for solitude.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-060-069

UNIT NAME: Empire Canyon

AREA DESCRIPTION: This unit lies in the Hot Creek Range in Nye County, Nevada. Topography is primarily mountainous, with a strip of Hot Creek Valley on the east. The three forks of Empire Canyon penetrate almost the length of the unit. Elevations range from 5,600 feet to 8,706 feet.

Vegetation throughout the mountains consists of a sparse pinyon-juniper canopy with low sagebrush undergrowth. Black sagebrush is the dominant plant in the eastern flatland, although grasses occur there in some abundance.

#### CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit includes 17,620 acres of public land. The roadless area consists of 17,240 acres as 380 acres were separated from the bulk of the unit by roads.
2. Naturalness: 16,180 acres were found to be in a natural condition. 1,060 acres were deleted due to a lack of naturalness.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The roadless and natural portion of the area does not possess an outstanding opportunity for solitude because neither the open topography nor the sparse vegetation provide adequate natural screening. Secluded spots are not common. Additionally, the unit's small size causes roads to be visible from many of the higher peaks, making it difficult for a recreationist to avoid the sights and sounds of man.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: The area does not offer an outstanding opportunity for a primitive and unconfined type of recreation. Activities are limited by poor scenic values, low wildlife populations, lack of water, and generally uninteresting terrain. No features of interest occur in the unit.
4. Supplemental Values: Two Indian chipping sites were identified in this unit. Both sites are small and of a common type.

#### RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

17,620 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.



RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-060-078

UNIT NAME: Stone Cabin

AREA DESCRIPTION: The Stone Cabin unit lies on the west side of the Hot Creek Range in Nye County, Nevada. It is somewhat rectangular in shape, consisting primarily of a single mountain range running north-south. Canyons wind into the mountains, often becoming so steep that they are inaccessible. A portion of Stone Cabin Valley borders the unit on the south and west. This is an area of low rolling hills and shallow gullies. Top elevation for the unit is 8,122 feet.

Vegetation consists primarily of a sparse pinyon-juniper canopy over sagebrush undergrowth. In the valley portions sagebrush is the dominant plant, and shrub cover may be quite thick.

#### CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit includes 24,000 acres of public land. The roadless area consists of 23,620 acres as 380 acres were separated from the bulk of the unit by roads.
2. Naturalness: 23,610 acres were found to be in a natural condition. 10 acres were deleted due to a lack of naturalness.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The roadless and natural portion of the area does not possess an outstanding opportunity for solitude. Sparse vegetative cover and open topography allow a recreationist to be seen for long distances. Secluded spots are not common.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: The area does not offer an outstanding opportunity for a primitive and unconfined type of recreation. Excessive slope coupled with loose soils throughout the mountains limit some activities. Low wildlife populations and lack of water and scenic values affect recreational opportunities as well.
4. Supplemental Values: A single common type of Indian chipping site was found in this unit.

#### RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

24,000 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-060-079

UNIT NAME: Hot Creek

AREA DESCRIPTION: This unit is located in the Hot Creek Range in Nye County, Nevada. Topography is primarily rugged and mountainous with rocky canyons leading to high, flat basins. The area contains several high peaks and elevations ranging from 5,600 feet to 8,843 feet. Mining activity is heavy throughout the unit.

Vegetation consists of a pinyon-juniper canopy over low sagebrush undergrowth. Vegetative cover is generally good except on rocky slopes.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit includes 45,970 acres of public land. The roadless area consists of 45,530 acres as 440 acres were separated from the bulk of the unit by roads.
2. Naturalness: 43,960 acres were found to be in a natural condition. 1,570 acres were deleted due to a lack of naturalness resulting from mining.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The roadless and natural portion of the area does not possess an outstanding opportunity for solitude. Roads and other intrusions extend far into the unit's interior, making it almost impossible for a recreationist to avoid the sights, sounds, and works of man.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: The area does not offer an outstanding opportunity for a primitive and unconfined type of recreation. The road network makes it difficult to get more than a couple of miles away from a road. Other limitations to recreation include low game populations, lack of water, and an absence of features of interest.
4. Supplemental Values: Some arrastra (an old mining ore grinding operation) ruins (ca. 1860s) lie in the north of the unit, and a set of two charcoal kilns (ca. 1870s) lie in a canyon in the south.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

45,970 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-060-086

UNIT NAME: Monarch

AREA DESCRIPTION: The Monarch unit is located on the eastern side of Ralston Valley in Nye County, Nevada. The widest part of the area is three miles, while the rest is about one and a half miles. The unit consists of a narrow valley flanked by mesas on one side and a series of hills on the other. It contains a number of colorful rock outcroppings. Most of the area is covered by plants of the sage community. There are several small stands of pinyon and juniper trees.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit includes 11,700 acres of public land. The roadless area consists of 11,250 acres as 450 acres were separated from the bulk of the unit by roads.
2. Naturalness: 11,250 acres were found to be in a natural condition.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The roadless and natural portion of the area does not possess an outstanding opportunity for solitude because of the lack of vegetative and topographic screening and its narrow configuration.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: The area does not offer an outstanding opportunity for a primitive and unconfined type of recreation as opportunities for backpacking, camping, and horseback riding are not present. Hunting is poor as is the opportunity for collecting rocks, minerals, or vegetation specimens. There is some opportunity for geological sightseeing due to the various colorful rock outcropping.
4. Supplemental Values: Two species of rare plants, the threatened Coryphantha vivipara and the endangered Astragalus sernoi are found within the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

11,700 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

AREA DESCRIPTION: This unit lies in the Hot Creek Range in Nye County, Nevada. Shaped like a rough triangle, it measures, at its widest, about seven miles north-south and nine miles east-west. Most of the area is mountainous with wide, flat basins interspersed among the peaks. Canyons penetrate deep into the interior. The area is subject to heavy mining pressure and contains many roads. Elevations range from 5,600 feet to 8,378 feet.

Vegetation consists of a pinyon-juniper canopy over low sagebrush undergrowth. Tree cover varies but is generally fairly heavy. Meadow vegetation and grasses occur at Pott Hole Spring, along the northeastern boundary.

#### CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit includes 25,900 acres of public land. The roadless area consists of 24,500 acres as 1,400 acres were separated from the bulk of the unit by roads.
2. Naturalness: Zero acres were found to be in a natural condition. 24,500 acres were deleted due to a lack of naturalness. The cumulative impact of man-made intrusions in this unit causes the entire area to be in an unnatural state and further wilderness consideration is unnecessary.

#### RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

25,900 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: The portion of the unit that contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land does not generally appear to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable. Therefore, further wilderness consideration is unnecessary.

AREA DESCRIPTION: The South Reveille unit is located in the central and southern portions of the Reveille Range in Nye County, Nevada. The unit is about 17 miles long and six to 13 miles wide. The topography includes valley-bottom flats, open rolling hills, flat topped plateaus, steep sided mountains, and narrow canyons. Sagebrush is the dominant vegetation below 7,000 feet. This gives way to pinyon-juniper forest in the mountains above 7,000 feet.

#### CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit includes 114,500 acres of public land. The roadless area consists of 107,500 acres as 7,000 acres were separated from the bulk of the unit by roads.

2. Naturalness: 106,200 acres were found to be in a natural condition. 1,300 acres were deleted due to a lack of naturalness. The area deleted has been heavily impacted by livestock use.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The roadless and natural portion of the area does possess an outstanding opportunity for solitude because of its large size, extensive natural screening and abundant secluded spots.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: The area does offer an outstanding opportunity for a primitive and unconfined type of recreation due to the wide variety of hiking, backpacking, mountain climbing, horseback riding, and camping opportunities available. The unit offers diverse scenery and vegetation representative of several Great Basin Province ecosystems. Wildlife is abundant in the area and hunting opportunities are good.
4. Supplemental Values: A pre-Caucasian rock wall alignment and pole supports for a lean-to are located in the unit.
5. Rehabilitation: The following noticeable imprints of man's work, if the area were to become a wilderness area, could be reduced by either natural processes or by hand labor to a level judged to be substantially unnoticeable.

A small one-mile way near the eastern boundary of the unit would become substantially unnoticeable if vehicular traffic was eliminated. The way is largely overgrown at present.

#### RECOMMENDATION:

106,200 acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

8,300 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: The portion of the unit proposed as a Wilderness Study Area contains at least 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature, with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable. It also has outstanding opportunities for solitude and a primitive and unconfined type of recreation.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-060-113

UNIT NAME: Quinn Canyon

AREA DESCRIPTION: The Quinn Canyon unit is located in both Nye and Lincoln Counties. It measures about 21 miles by eight miles and has an irregularly shaped boundary. Most of the area is flat and is covered by plants of the sagebrush community. Pinyon-juniper stands are found along the narrow range of hills in the eastern portion of the unit.

#### CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit includes 105,570 acres of public land. The roadless area consists of 95,090 acres as 10,480 acres were separated from the bulk of the unit by roads. The roadless portion is divided into four areas of 52,580 acres, 22,130 acres, 10,650 acres and 9,730 acres.
2. Naturalness: 72,960 acres were found to be in a natural condition. 22,130 acres were deleted due to a lack of naturalness caused by mining activity and other intrusions.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The roadless and natural portion of the area does not possess an outstanding opportunity for solitude because of the limited natural screening and poor configuration of the four component roadless areas.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: The area does not offer an outstanding opportunity for a primitive and unconfined type of recreation due to its lack of diversity and features of interest.
4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical value were noted.

#### RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

105,570 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although portions of the unit contain more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-060-120

UNIT NAME: East Kawich

AREA DESCRIPTION: This unit lies in the Kawich Range in Nye County, Nevada. It is in the shape of a triangle, measuring eight miles north-south and five miles east-west at its widest. Half of the unit is mountainous, with several basins and little elevational variation. Canyons in this area are short and steep sided. The eastern half is made up of a flat, portion of Reveille Valley. Elevations throughout the unit range from 5,600 feet to 7,727 feet.

Vegetation in the higher elevations consists of a sparse pinyon-juniper canopy over low-growing sagebrush undergrowth. The desert shrub community occurs throughout the valley, with black sage the dominant plant.

## CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit includes 18,100 acres of public land. The roadless area consists of 18,050 acres as 50 acres were separated from the bulk of the unit by roads.
2. Naturalness: 17,920 acres were found to be in a natural condition. 130 acres were deleted due to a lack of naturalness from mining activities.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The roadless and natural portion of the area does not possess an outstanding opportunity for solitude because vegetation is low-growing or absent, topography is open, and no secluded spots exist.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: The area does not offer an outstanding opportunity for a primitive and unconfined type of recreation. Factors restricting recreational opportunities include lack of scenic values, low game populations, absence of features of interest, and lack of water.
4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical value were noted in this unit.

## RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

18,100 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-060-130

UNIT NAME: Castle Rock

AREA DESCRIPTION: This unit lies in the northern part of the Kawich Range in Nye County, Nevada. Rectangular in shape, it measures, at its widest, six miles north-south and six miles east-west. Topography consists primarily of bare, rocky hills with some higher peaks. Drainages are wide and often steep sided where they enter the hills. Talus slopes (rocky slopes at the base of cliffs) are common throughout the unit. Elevations range from 5,520 to 7,496 feet.

Pinyon trees occur singly or in scattered clusters in the higher elevations. A low-growing shrub community occurs over the entire unit, but vegetation is never dense.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit includes 22,300 acres of public land. The roadless area consists of 22,000 acres as 300 acres were separated from the bulk of the unit by roads.
2. Naturalness: 21,970 acres were found to be in a natural condition. 30 acres were deleted due to a lack of naturalness.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The roadless and natural portion of the area does not possess an outstanding opportunity for solitude because topography is open and unvaried, vegetation is sparse and secluded spots are uncommon.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: The area does not offer an outstanding opportunity for a primitive and unconfined type of recreation. Lack of scenic values, low game populations, absence of features of interest and water all adversely affect recreational opportunities.
4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical value were noted in this unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

22,300 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-060-132

UNIT NAME: North Reveille

AREA DESCRIPTION: The North Reveille Unit is located in the northern end of the Reveille Range in Nye County, Nevada. The unit is about 13 miles long and three to five miles wide, and consists of open, rolling hills and a flat-topped plateau. The dominant vegetation throughout is sparse, scattered sagebrush.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit includes 65,000 acres of public land. The roadless area consists of 63,500 acres as 1,500 acres were separated from the bulk of the unit by roads.



2. Naturalness: 49,600 acres were found to be in a natural condition. 13,900 acres were deleted due to a lack of naturalness. The area deleted was found to be in an unnatural condition due to extensive mining activity, roads, ways, and ditching.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The roadless and natural portion of the area does not possess an outstanding opportunity for solitude because of its irregular configuration, limited natural screening, and lack of secluded spots.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: The area does not offer an outstanding opportunity for a primitive and unconfined type of recreation as opportunities for primitive travel are limited to hikes of short duration which would offer little variety in types of vegetation and scenery encountered. No specific attractions are apparent in the unit. Hunting opportunities are poor and there is no known collecting of rocks and minerals or vegetation.
4. Supplemental Values: Astragalus callathrix, a rare and endangered plant has been reported to be present in the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

65,000 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-060-136

UNIT NAME: Quinn Range

AREA DESCRIPTION: The Quinn Range unit is in Railroad Valley contiguous to the U.S. Forest Service R.A.R.E. II wilderness proposal for the Quinn Canyon Range in Nye County, Nevada. It is a narrow strip of land 12 miles long by three miles wide. This unit is a valley and foothill region with the predominant vegetation being black sagebrush.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit includes 23,703 acres of roadless public land.
2. Naturalness: Zero acres were found to be in a natural condition. 23,703 acres were deleted due to a lack of naturalness. It is the cumulative effect of several roads, ways, mining activity, and an old corral which makes this unit unnatural. Therefore, further wilderness consideration is unnecessary.

## RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

23,703 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

**RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION:** Although the unit is contiguous with Forest Service wilderness proposal and contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land, it does not generally appear to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable. Therefore, further wilderness consideration is unnecessary.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-060-142/162

UNIT NAME: Palisade Mesa

**AREA DESCRIPTION:** The Palisade Mesa unit is located within the Pancake Range in Nye County, Nevada. South Pancake I, NV-060-162, and South Pancake II, NV-060-142 were found to be contiguous and have been combined to form Palisade Mesa NV-060-142/162. The area is roughly oblong, about 18 miles long and nine miles wide. It consists of mesas, lava flows, and cinder cones. Lunar Crater, a maar (low relief, circular) volcano listed on the National Natural Landmark Register, is within this unit. Large boulder outcroppings occur all over the tops of the mesas. The vegetation consists of plants of the sagebrush community with some juniper trees interspersed between the boulders on top of the mesas.

## CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. **Size:** The unit includes 117,000 acres of public land. The roadless area consists of 115,350 acres as 1,650 acres were separated from the bulk of the unit by roads.
2. **Naturalness:** 99,550 acres were found to be in a natural condition. 15,800 acres were deleted due to a lack of naturalness resulting from the cumulative impact of a bladed fence line, two corrals, a well, a man-made reservoir, two springs, and mining activity.
3. **Outstanding Opportunities for:**
  - A. **Solitude:** The roadless and natural portion of the area does possess an outstanding opportunity for solitude because natural screening is provided by the boulder outcroppings and juniper trees on top of the mesa. Topographic variety is provided by the drainages which penetrate the area. Users would be able to effectively screen themselves from the sights and sounds of man.
  - B. **A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation:** The area does offer an outstanding opportunity for a primitive and unconfined type of recreation. Hiking, backpacking, and camping in an exceptionally scenic area are all possible opportunities. "Bouldering" and "scrambling" activities are available on top of the mesas. The scenic qualities are enhanced by the colorful and vivid examples of volcanic action.

4. Supplemental Values: Lunar Crater, a maar volcano listed on the National Natural Landmark Register, is within this unit. An Indian rock shelter with pictographs was found near the northern boundary. Astragalus callithrix, one of Nevada's threatened and endangered plants, is found near the northern boundary of this unit.

#### RECOMMENDATION:

99,550 acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

17,450 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: The portion of the unit proposed as a Wilderness Study Area contains at least 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature, with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable. It also has outstanding opportunities for solitude and a primitive and unconfined type of recreation.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-060-158/199

UNIT NAME: Blue Eagle

AREA DESCRIPTION: The Blue Eagle unit is located within the Grant Range in Nye County, Nevada. During the field review, a road between the Callaway Well, unit 199, and the Grant unit 158 was found to be non-existent. These two areas have been combined to form Blue Eagle unit 158/199. The area is roughly oblong, about 18 miles long by seven miles wide. High mountains with several deep, narrow, winding drainages dominate the landscape in this area. The lowest elevation is 4,800 feet in Railroad Valley near the western boundary; it then rises very abruptly to 9,561 feet at Blue Eagle Peak. The majority of the unit is covered with a pinyon-juniper woodland. Other trees found in this unit include curlleaf mountain mahogany, aspen, white fir, and bristlecone pine.

#### CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit includes 72,900 acres of public land. The roadless area consists of 71,300 acres as 1,600 acres were separated from the bulk of the unit by roads.
2. Naturalness: 58,800 acres were found to be in a natural condition. 12,500 acres were deleted due to a lack of naturalness. This area includes several dead end roads, mining activity, a powerline, and several ways.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The roadless and natural portion of the area does possess an outstanding opportunity for solitude. Natural screening is available in the varied topography. Topographic changes can be abrupt, as in the many canyons, or as gently rolling hills in the eastern half of this unit. This diversity in topographic changes provides for isolation and seclusion. Vegetation is dense in some areas, and is diverse throughout the unit. This denseness of vegetation restricts the visibility of the user so as to give him a more complete feeling of isolation.

B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: The area does offer an outstanding opportunity for a primitive and unconfined type of recreation. Hiking, backpacking, and camping opportunities are enhanced by the diversity of vegetation and the outstanding scenic qualities of this unit. Terrain is very rugged, which would provide a degree of challenge to any user. Sightseeing and photographic opportunities are available for wildlife and scenery.

4. Supplemental Values: Several Indian "chipping" sites have been identified throughout the unit. A pictograph site is located in Heath Canyon. White fir and bristlecone pine trees occur on Blue Eagle Mountain and they could be of some ecological as well as of scientific value.

The following plants were identified for this unit and are on Nevada's threatened and endangered plant list: Astragalus callithrix; Astragalus uncialis; Astragalus calycosus var. monophyllidius; and Coryphantha vivipara var. rosea.

#### RECOMMENDATION:

58,800 acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

14,100 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: The portion of the unit proposed as a Wilderness Study Area contains at least 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature, with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable. It also has outstanding opportunities for solitude and a primitive and unconfined type of recreation.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-060-162

UNIT NAME: South Pancake I

This unit was found to be contiguous with South Pancake II and therefore these two units were combined to form Palisade Mesa, Unit NV-060-142/162. See that report for a description and recommendation on this area.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-060-163

UNIT NAME: The Wall

AREA DESCRIPTION: The Wall unit is located within the Pancake Range in Nye County, Nevada. The Wall is roughly rectangular in shape, about nine miles long by seven miles wide. It is a high mesa which rises 600 to 1,000 feet above the basin floor. Large boulder outcroppings occur all over the top of the mesa. The vegetation consists of plants of the sagebrush community with some juniper trees interspersed between the boulders on top of the mesa.

#### CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit includes 43,300 acres of public land. The roadless area consists of 40,800 acres as 2,500 acres were separated from the bulk of the unit by roads.

2. Naturalness: 38,000 acres were found to be in a natural condition. 2,800 acres were deleted due to a lack of naturalness. It is the cumulative impacts of a gap fence, a bladed fenceline, a parking lot, and an interpretive site which makes this area unnatural.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The roadless and natural portion of the area does possess an outstanding opportunity for solitude. Natural screening is provided by the boulder outcroppings and juniper trees on top of the mesa. Topographic variance is provided by the drainages which penetrate the area. Users would be able to effectively screen themselves from the sights and sounds of man.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: The area does offer an outstanding opportunity for a primitive and unconfined type of recreation. Hiking, backpacking, and camping in an exceptionally scenic area are all possible opportunities. "Bouldering" and "scrambling" activities are available on top of the mesa. The scenic qualities are enhanced by the colorful and vivid examples of volcanic action present within the unit.
4. Supplemental Values: Portions of this unit are in Railroad Valley which has been identified as a very rich area for archaeological resources.

The volcanic processes which formed The Wall, a steep embankment formed from volcanic ash flows, which lies within the unit, could be of scientific as well as educational value.

#### RECOMMENDATION:

38,000 acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

5,300 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: The portion of the unit proposed as a Wilderness Study Area contains at least 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature, with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable. It also has outstanding opportunities for solitude and a primitive and unconfined type of recreation.

AREA DESCRIPTION: The Grant Range unit is along the western flank of the Grant Range in Nye County, Nevada. The unit is nine miles long and varies from one to three miles in width. Terrain is limited to rolling hills and flat valley floors with little topographical variation. Vegetation is generally sparse and low-growing with black sagebrush the dominant plant. Scattered pinyon pine and juniper trees occur in the southeast corner of the unit.

#### CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit contains 7,200 acres of public land. About 500 acres are separated from the bulk of the unit by roads. The rest of the unit is cut by roads into several portions, all smaller than 5,000 acres. However, since the unit is contiguous to a Forest Service R.A.R.E. II proposed wilderness area, size is not a limiting factor.
2. Naturalness: 6,550 acres were found to be in a natural condition. 150 acres were deleted due to lack of naturalness. Intrusions included roads, mining activity, and a dump.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The limited vegetative and topographic screening do not provide outstanding opportunities for solitude when considered alone. The solitude opportunities are outstanding, however, when this unit is considered with the large contiguous RARE II unit. The combined unit offers excellent natural screening by the rugged, mountainous terrain.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: The opportunities are limited when only the BLM portion of the Grant Range unit is considered. These opportunities are deemed outstanding when consideration is given to the opportunities offered in the entire roadless area.
4. Supplemental Values: A historic mining camp and a scenic waterfall are within the unit.

#### RECOMMENDATION:

6,550 acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

650 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

SPECIAL NOTE: This unit is contiguous to a Forest Service RARE II proposed wilderness area. It is separated from the Forest Service land only by an administrative boundary that is unmarked on the ground. If the RARE II wilderness proposal is eventually denied by Congress, the wilderness study status of the BLM unit should also be removed.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: The portion of the unit proposed as a wilderness study area is less than 5,000 acres, but is contiguous with lands managed by another agency which have formally been determined to have wilderness values. This area generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable. It also has outstanding opportunities for solitude and a primitive and unconfined type of recreation when considered in the context of the entire interagency roadless area.

AREA DESCRIPTION: The Black Rock unit is located within the Pancake Range in Nye County, Nevada. This unit is roughly rectangular, about eight miles long and five miles wide. It consists of a narrow ridge with a large valley portion on the eastern side. The entire area is covered by plants of the sage community.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit includes 25,500 acres of public land.
2. Naturalness: 25,400 acres were found to be in a natural condition. 100 acres were deleted due to a lack of naturalness. This area consists of assessment pits and two ways.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The roadless and natural portion of the area does not possess an outstanding opportunity for solitude. The ridge which runs the entire length of this unit would be the main objective of a user. The ridge rises quickly and affords the user with an unobstructed view of the unit. Topographic features combined with the vegetative characteristics do not offer enough natural screening so that a user could effectively avoid the sights and sounds of man.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: The area does not offer an outstanding opportunity for a primitive and unconfined type of recreation. Minimal opportunities for camping, horseback riding, and hiking are present within the unit. Other recreational activities such as hunting and collecting rocks and minerals are not possible.
4. Supplemental Values: Two items of historical interest, the legend of the "Lost Rifles Within the Pancake Range" and an old shepherders' stone cabin, were identified for this unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

25,500 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-060-176

UNIT NAME: Big Round Valley

AREA DESCRIPTION: The Big Round Valley unit is located within the Pancake Range in Nye County, Nevada. This unit is roughly square, about three miles wide by three miles long. It consists of a series of low hills dissected by drainages. The entire area is covered by plants of the sage community.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit includes 6,200 acres of public land. The roadless area consists of zero acres as the entire area was criss-crossed by roads making no one parcel over 5,000 acres. This unit fails to meet the size criteria and no further evaluation is necessary.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

6,200 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: The entire unit does not contain any area with at least 5,000 acres of contiguous public land, nor any area that fits one of the size exceptions. Therefore, no further wilderness consideration is necessary.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-060-183

UNIT NAME: North Pancake I

AREA DESCRIPTION: The North Pancake I unit is located within the Pancake Range in Nye County, Nevada. This unit is roughly oval, about seven miles long and five miles wide. It consists of basaltic lava flows and cinder cones. The entire area is covered by plants of the sage community.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit includes 17,200 acres of public land. The roadless area consists of 15,600 acres as 1,600 acres were separated from the bulk of the unit by roads.
2. Naturalness: 14,600 acres were found to be in a natural condition. 1,000 acres were deleted due to a lack of naturalness. The area contains extensive mining activity consisting of scrapes and pits.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The roadless and natural portion of the area does not possess an outstanding opportunity for solitude. Topographic features combined with the vegetative characteristics do not offer enough natural screening so that a user could effectively avoid the sights and sounds of man.



B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: The area does not offer an outstanding opportunity for a primitive and unconfined type of recreation. Minimal opportunities for camping, horseback riding, hiking, and hunting are present within the unit. Collecting of rocks and minerals at Black Rock Lava Flow is available.

4. Supplemental Values: Black Rock Lava Flow is the most recent volcanic activity within the Pancake Range and could serve as an area for geologic or scientific study. The lava flow contains xenolyths (geologic abnormalities) which are being studied by a doctoral candidate from Princeton University.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

17,200 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-060-184

UNIT NAME: North Pancake III

AREA DESCRIPTION: The North Pancake III unit is located within the Pancake Range in Nye County, Nevada. This unit is roughly oval, about seven miles long and five miles wide. It is a single, narrow ridge running north-south with a large valley area on the east. Vegetation consists of plants of the sagebrush community and a few single leaf mountain mahogany trees on the ridge.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit includes 19,200 acres of public land. The roadless area consists of 19,150 acres as 50 acres were separated from the bulk of the unit by roads.
2. Naturalness: 18,750 acres were found to be in a natural condition. 400 acres were deleted due to a lack of naturalness. This area contains evidence of extensive mining activity consisting of scrapes, pits, and tailing piles.

3. Outstanding Opportunities for:

A. Solitude: The roadless and natural portion of the area does not possess an outstanding opportunity for solitude. The ridge which runs the entire length of this unit would be the main objective of a user. The ridge rises quickly and affords the user an unobstructed view of the entire unit. Topographic features combined with the vegetative characteristics do not offer enough natural screening so that a user could effectively avoid the sights and sounds of man.

B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: The area does not offer an outstanding opportunity for a primitive and unconfined type of recreation due to the low quality and lack of diversity in the recreational opportunities.

4. Supplemental Values: The single-leaf mountain mahogany, Cercocarpus intricatus, a unique species for this area, is found in isolated parts of the unit. Two threatened and endangered plants for Nevada exist in this unit; Coryphantha vivipara var. rosea, and Sphaeralcea caespitosa. These plants could serve for ecological and scientific study.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

19,200 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-060-188

UNIT NAME: Morgan

AREA DESCRIPTION: The Morgan unit is located within the Grant Range in Nye County, Nevada. This area is roughly oblong, about six miles long by three miles wide. It is comprised of rolling hills with the highest elevation at 8,468 feet and the lowest elevation at 7,000 feet. Vegetation consists primarily of a pinyon-juniper woodland with some curlleaf mountain mahogany. In the flat or meadow areas there is also a sage community.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit includes 9,000 acres of public land. The roadless area consists of 8,750 acres as 250 acres were separated from the bulk of the unit by roads.
2. Naturalness: 8,750 acres were found to be in a natural condition.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:

A. Solitude: The roadless and natural portion of the area does not possess an outstanding opportunity for solitude. Topographic diversity is rather limited since the area is comprised mainly of rolling hills. Some drainages penetrate the unit, but add little to the diversity because they are located in meadow regions. A road penetrates the center of the unit which further limits the ability of a user to find a secluded spot.

B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: The area does not offer an outstanding opportunity for a primitive and unconfined type of recreation. Opportunities for day hikes or short horseback treks are possible. Extended trips of any sort are not feasible due to the presence of an interior road. Limited sightseeing and hunting opportunities are present.

4. Supplemental Values: Indian "chipping" sites have been identified in this unit. They may have scientific as well as educational values.

#### RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

9,000 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-060-190

UNIT NAME: Fandango

AREA DESCRIPTION: The Fandango unit lies in the Hot Creek Range in Nye County, Nevada. It is irregular in shape due to the presence of several interior roads that are technically outside of the unit. The unit is 18 miles long by three to eight miles wide. The area is primarily mountainous, with broad drainages extending far into the interior. A portion of Little Fish Lake Valley lies along the western boundary, with low rolling hills and broad alluvial fans. Elevations range from 5,760 feet to 9,606 feet on Little Fandango Peak.

Vegetative cover throughout the unit is provided by mountain mahogany, aspen, and pinyon-juniper trees over low sagebrush undergrowth. Tree cover is generally sparse. Much of the western valley has been seeded to crested wheatgrass, and only scattered juniper trees remain of the natural vegetation. Meadow vegetation (a variety of grasses and forbs) occurs around many natural springs and in Sixmile Canyon, where a diversity of vegetation exists.

#### CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit includes 48,600 acres of public land. The roadless area consists of 45,320 acres as 3,280 acres were separated from the bulk of the unit by roads.
2. Naturalness: 40,940 acres were found to be in a natural condition. 4,380 acres were deleted due to a lack of naturalness.

3. Outstanding Opportunities for:

A. Solitude: Topography in this unit is generally open. Drainages are wide with only sparse vegetative cover. Roads and intrusions extend far into the interior, making it difficult for a recreationist to avoid the sights and sounds of man.

B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: The area does not offer an outstanding opportunity for a primitive and unconfined type of recreation. Diversity of activities is good, but the presence of roads and intrusions into the unit adversely affect opportunities for primitive recreation.

4. Supplemental Values: Two sets of brick charcoal kilns, built in the 1870s, are in excellent condition.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

48,600 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-060-191

UNIT NAME: Morey

AREA DESCRIPTION: This unit is made up primarily of the mountain mass that culminates in Morey Peak. It is irregular in shape, measuring 12 miles north-south by six miles east-west at its widest. The mountain itself is extremely rocky and rugged. Steep canyons penetrate the interior from the east and west. Ridges are often high and have steep sides. A flat portion of Hot Creek Valley occurs along the east. Elevations range from 5,780 feet to 10,246 feet atop Morey Peak.

Vegetation varies throughout the unit. A low growing sagebrush community occurs in Hot Creek Valley. Mountain mahogany, aspen, and pinyon-juniper alternate over the higher elevations, and bristlecone pine occurs in small stands on the peak. Meadow vegetation occurs at isolated springs and throughout Sixmile Canyon, where botanical diversity is excellent.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit includes 29,700 acres of public land. The roadless area consists of 20,980 acres as 8,720 acres were separated from the bulk of the unit by roads.
2. Naturalness: 20,120 acres were found to be in a natural condition. 860 acres were deleted due to a lack of naturalness.

3. Outstanding Opportunities for:

A. Solitude: The roadless and natural portion of the area does possess an outstanding opportunity for solitude. Rugged topography and abundance of shrub/tree cover combine to provide excellent natural screening and an abundance of secluded spots.

B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: The area does offer an outstanding opportunity for a primitive and unconfined type of recreation. Challenging terrain, the availability of water, vegetative variety, and excellent scenic value all contribute to make a number of recreational activities possible. The great diversity and fine quality of the activities lead to an outstanding recreational opportunity.

4. Supplemental Values: Two sets of charcoal kilns (ca. 1870s) lie in Sixmile Canyon. Additionally, bristlecone pine trees grow atop Morey Peak, one of only two known occurrences of these trees on volcanic soil.

RECOMMENDATION:

20,120 acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

9,580 acres should be dropped from further wilderness study and consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: The portion of the unit proposed as a Wilderness Study Area contains at least 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature, with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable. It also has outstanding opportunities for solitude and a primitive and unconfined type of recreation.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-060-192

UNIT NAME: Slanted Buttes

AREA DESCRIPTION: The Slanted Buttes unit is located east of Moores' Station in Nye County, Nevada. The area is roughly circular, about six miles wide by seven miles long. It consists of buttes and low rolling hills. The overall average relief is about 1,500 feet. The vegetation consists of plants of the sagebrush community with a pinyon-juniper woodland occurring at the higher elevations.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit includes 23,900 acres of public land. The roadless area consists of 23,520 acres as 380 acres were separated from the bulk of the unit by roads.
2. Naturalness: 23,450 acres were found to be in a natural condition. 70 acres were deleted due to a lack of naturalness. This area included a substantially noticeable way and a pipeline.

3. Outstanding Opportunities for:

A. Solitude: The roadless and natural portion of the area does not possess an outstanding opportunity for solitude. Topographic and vegetative characteristics within this unit do not provide enough natural screening so that users could effectively screen themselves from the sights and sounds of man.

B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: The area does not offer an outstanding opportunity for a primitive and unconfined type of recreation. Some opportunities for camping, horseback riding, and hiking are present within the unit. Other recreational activities such as hunting and collecting rocks and minerals are not possible.

4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical value were noted.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

23,900 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-060-194

UNIT NAME: North Pancake II

AREA DESCRIPTION: The North Pancake II unit is located within the Pancake Range in Nye County, Nevada. This unit has an irregular oval shape, about six miles long by eight miles wide. It is a series of low mountains dissected by several shallow drainages. The entire area is covered by plants of the sage community.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit includes 26,400 acres of roadless public land.
2. Naturalness: 26,400 acres were found to be in a natural condition.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:

A. Solitude: The roadless and natural portion of the area does not possess an outstanding opportunity for solitude because the peaks are relatively low and would afford the user with an unrestricted field of vision. Canyons are shallow and generally extend less than two miles. Topographic features combined with the vegetative characteristics do not offer enough natural screening so that a user could effectively avoid the sights and sounds of man.

B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: The area does not offer an outstanding opportunity for a primitive and unconfined type of recreation. Minimal opportunities for camping, horseback riding, and hiking are present within the unit. Other recreational activities such as hunting and collecting rocks and minerals are not feasible.

4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical value were noted.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

26,400 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-060-199

UNIT NAME: Callaway Well

This unit was found to be contiguous with Grant unit NV-060-158, and therefore these two units were combined to form Blue Eagle, NV-060-158/199. See that report for a description and recommendation on this area.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-060-201/211

UNIT NAME: Sixmile

AREA DESCRIPTION: The Sixmile unit is located in the Hot Creek Range in Nye County, Nevada. It is irregular in shape, consisting primarily of low, rolling hills with wide, shallow drainages. Shingle Buttes in the southwest provides the unit with its only topographical variation. Elevations range from 6,200 feet to 8,481 feet.

Juniper trees are scattered over the hills with sparse sagebrush undergrowth. Vegetative cover is minimal everywhere throughout the unit except in a few drainages where the sagebrush is tall.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit includes 12,600 acres of roadless public land.
2. Naturalness: 12,570 acres were found to be in a natural condition. 30 acres were deleted due to a lack of naturalness.

3. Outstanding Opportunities for:

A. Solitude: The roadless and natural portion of the area does not possess an outstanding opportunity for solitude. Low-growing, sparse vegetation and rolling, open topography make a recreationist extremely visible throughout the unit. Secluded spots do not exist.

B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: The area does not offer an outstanding opportunity for a primitive and unconfined type of recreation. Limitations on recreation include unchallenging topography, lack of scenic values, small unit size, low game populations, and lack of water. No features of interest occur within the unit.

4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical value were noted.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

12,600 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-060-211

UNIT NAME: Luther Waddles

This unit was found to be contiguous with Shingle Creek, NV-060-201, and therefore these two units were combined to form Sixmile, NV-060-201/211. See that report for a description and recommendation on this area.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-060-212

UNIT NAME: Rhyolite Hills

AREA DESCRIPTION: The Rhyolite Hills unit is located east of Moores' Station in Nye County, Nevada. This unit is roughly triangular in shape, about 14 miles long by six miles wide at the base. Moderate sized hills with several drainages is the general topography of this unit. Vegetation is predominantly a pinyon-juniper woodland in the mountainous portion. The valley areas contain low growing desert shrubs.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit includes 34,300 acres of roadless public land.
2. Naturalness: 29,900 acres were found to be in a natural condition. 400 acres were deleted due to a lack of naturalness. This area consisted of mining activity, a corral, and a deteriorating structure.



3. Outstanding Opportunities for:

A. Solitude: The roadless and natural portion of the area does not possess an outstanding opportunity for solitude. The northern half of the unit is comprised of a narrow ridge and part of Sand Springs Valley. This area averages only two miles in width with an average relief of 500 feet. The southern half of the unit has a mining road which penetrates the unit for about four miles. This situation restricts the user from being able to find a secluded spot and thus would prevent the user from avoiding the sights and sounds of man.

B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: The area does not offer an outstanding opportunity for a primitive and unconfined type of recreation as opportunities for backpacking, camping, and horseback riding are of low quality. Hunting is poor as is the opportunity for collecting rocks, minerals, or vegetative specimens. There is some opportunity for geological sightseeing due to the various colorful rock outcroppings in Jumbled Rock Gulch.

4. Supplemental Values: A petroglyph is located in Jumbled Rock Gulch which indicates the presence of an Indian culture which has long since disappeared. One other possible aboriginal artifact found during field observations was a rock pillar. It has not been investigated but similar features which have been identified as having aboriginal origins occur in Grass Valley.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

34,300 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-060-213

UNIT NAME: Red Ring Mountain

AREA DESCRIPTION: The Red Ring Mountain unit is located east of Moores' Station in Nye County, Nevada. This unit is roughly circular, about three miles wide by four miles long. It is an isolated peak gently rising 1,300 feet above the basin floor. The vegetation consists of plants of the sagebrush community with a pinyon-juniper woodland occurring in the southern half of the unit.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit includes 6,200 acres of roadless public land.
2. Naturalness: 6,200 acres were found to be in a natural condition.

3. Outstanding Opportunities for:

A. Solitude: The roadless and natural portion of the area does not possess an outstanding opportunity for solitude. It is a relatively small mountain with little topographic variance. Vegetation is sparse and visitors would find it difficult to screen themselves from others in the unit.

B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: The area does not offer an outstanding opportunity for a primitive and unconfined type of recreation. Those opportunities that do exist are common and of relatively low quality.

4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical value were noted.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

6,200 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-060-219

UNIT NAME: Milton Ranch

AREA DESCRIPTION: The Milton Ranch unit is located on the east side of Ione Valley in Nye County, Nevada. It borders the Toiyabe National Forest and consists of a two and a half mile by three mile triangle of alluvial fan. The topography is unbroken except for a few shallow washes. The vegetative cover is made up of plants of the sagebrush community and a cluster of 10 juniper trees along the eastern boundary.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit includes 9,300 acres of public land. The roadless area consists of 9,050 acres as 250 acres were separated from the bulk of the unit by roads.
2. Naturalness: 9,050 acres were found to be in a natural condition.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:

A. Solitude: The roadless and natural portion of the area does not possess an outstanding opportunity for solitude because of the area's small size, triangular configuration, and total lack of natural screening and secluded spots. The entire unit can be observed from any location within the area.

B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: The area does not offer an outstanding opportunity for a primitive and unconfined type of recreation as activities such as backpacking, hiking, horseback riding, and camping are extremely limited by the area's size. Opportunities for mountain climbing and fishing do not exist. Hunting is of low quality and no collectable rocks, minerals, or plants are present.

4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical value were noted.

#### RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

9,300 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-060-231/241

UNIT NAME: Antelope

AREA DESCRIPTION: The Antelope Range is a remote range in Central Nevada. It is characterized by a north/south ridge 1,000-2,000 feet higher than the adjacent valleys. The northern end is the wettest area and contains several perennial streams, mature riparian forests, and extensive aspen groves on the plateau-like top. The central portion features a barren, rocky interior valley and the southern part contains blocky valleys and flat-topped mountains blanketed with a pinyon-juniper forest.

#### CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit includes 148,300 acres of public land. The roadless area consists of 143,670 acres as 4,630 acres were separated from the bulk of the unit by roads.
2. Naturalness: 104,700 acres were found to be in a natural condition. 38,970 acres were deleted due to a lack of naturalness. Historic logging and extensive range improvements were the primary intrusions.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The roadless and natural portion of the area does possess an outstanding opportunity for solitude. Its extensive size, varied and broken topography and remote location offers almost limitless secluded spots.

B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: The area does offer an outstanding opportunity for a primitive and unconfined type of recreation due to the ability to hike or ride at a high elevation for a sustained period of time, adequate water supplies, and abundant game species.

4. Supplemental Values: Untrampled, natural meadows and springs, extensive aspen forests, rich archaeological sites, and several historical sites including the James Wild Horse Trap which is on the National Register of Historic Sites were noted in the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

104,700 acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

43,600 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: The portion of the unit proposed as a Wilderness Study Area contains at least 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appear to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature, with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable. It also has outstanding opportunities for solitude and a primitive and unconfined type of recreation.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-060-241

UNIT NAME: Snowball

This unit was found to be contiguous with Antelope Range, NV-060-231, and therefore these two units were combined to form Antelope, NV-060-231. See that report for a description and recommendation on this area.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-060-258

UNIT NAME: Buzanes

AREA DESCRIPTION: The Buzanes unit is located on the western side of Smith Creek Valley in Lander County, Nevada. The unit is about five miles long and one to three miles wide and consists of flat, valley-bottom land with two small rises in the interior. The dominant vegetation is sagebrush.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit includes 10,900 acres of roadless public land.
2. Naturalness: Zero acres were found to be in a natural condition. 10,900 acres were deleted due to a lack of naturalness. The entire area is heavily impacted by mining activities including pits, tailings, buildings, roads, scrapes, and ways.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

10,900 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land, it does not generally appear to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-060-278

UNIT NAME: Haypress

AREA DESCRIPTION: The Haypress Inventory unit is located in the central part of the Desatoya Mountain Range, Lander County, Nevada. The unit consists of open, rolling, sagebrush covered hills.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit includes 2,900 acres of roadless public land. The routes forming the unit boundary were determined to be roads and the entire unit fails to meet the size criterion. Therefore, further wilderness consideration is unnecessary.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

2,900 acres should be dropped from further wilderness study and consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: The entire unit does not contain any area with at least 5,000 acres of contiguous public land, nor any area that fits one of the size exceptions. Therefore, further wilderness consideration is unnecessary.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-060-279

UNIT NAME: White Rock

AREA DESCRIPTION: The White Rock inventory unit is located in the central part of the Desatoya Range in Lander County, Nevada. The unit is irregular in shape and is roughly seven miles long and four miles wide. The area consists of open, rolling, sagebrush covered hills with some stands of pinyon-juniper forest.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit includes 26,400 acres of roadless public land.
2. Naturalness: 26,400 acres were found to be in a natural condition.

3. Outstanding Opportunities for:

A. Solitude: The roadless and natural portion of the area does not possess an outstanding opportunity for solitude because the lack of topographic and vegetative screening combined with the irregular configuration creates a lack of natural screening and provides few secluded spots.

B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: The area does not offer an outstanding opportunity for a primitive and unconfined type of recreation as the opportunities for primitive travel are limited by the unit's small size, irregular configuration, and the lack of specific attractions. There are few game species present and their populations are moderate to low. Sightseeing and collecting opportunities are low due to a lack of variety in landforms, vegetation, and wildlife.

4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical value were noted.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

26,400 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-060-288

UNIT NAME: Basque Summit

This unit was found to be contiguous with Carson City District unit NV-030-110. See that narrative for information on this area.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-060-347

UNIT NAME: Diana's Punchbowl

AREA DESCRIPTION: Diana's Punchbowl is located in central Monitor Valley, just north of Dry Lake, in Nye County, Nevada. A small range of low, rolling, sage covered hills is the dominant topographic feature. A narrow meadow, used for cattle grazing is found along the western side of the unit. The area is triangular in shape and is approximately three miles wide by four miles long.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit includes 14,700 acres of public land. The roadless area consists of 14,600 acres as 100 acres were separated from the bulk of the unit by roads.

2. Naturalness: 14,600 acres were found to be in a natural condition.

3. Outstanding Opportunities for:

A. Solitude: The roadless and natural portion of the area does not possess an outstanding opportunity for solitude because the opportunity for avoiding the sights and sounds of others and for finding a secluded spot are minimal due to the area's small size, narrow configuration, and lack of natural screening.

B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: The area does not offer an outstanding opportunity for a primitive and unconfined type of recreation. Minimal opportunities for camping, riding, and hiking are present within the unit. Other recreational activities such as hunting and collecting rocks and minerals are not feasible.

4. Supplemental Values: Lepidium nanum, a rare and endangered plant, is reported to exist in the southern part of the unit.

#### RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

14,700 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-060-407

UNIT NAME: Bates Mountain

AREA DESCRIPTION: The Bates Mountain unit lies in the Simpson Park Range in Lander County, Nevada. The unit is about seven or eight miles long and five miles wide. It is dominated by the Bates Mountain plateau centrally located in the area. Surrounding this on all sides are steep slopes leading from the plateau. These slopes give way to smaller hills and mesas and eventually to alluvial fans. Two large drainages are present and contain perennial streams. A pinyon-juniper woodland surrounds the two drainages. The remainder of the unit is dominated by plants of the sagebrush community.

#### CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit includes 77,930 acres of public land. The roadless area consists of 74,070 acres as 3,860 acres were separated from the bulk of the unit by roads.
2. Naturalness: 62,140 acres were found to be in a natural condition. 11,930 acres were deleted due to a lack of naturalness. The deletions are made up of five separate parcels. The areas contain several roads, ways, fences, corrals, and extensive mining activity.

3. Outstanding Opportunities for:

A. Solitude: The roadless and natural portion of the area does not possess an outstanding opportunity for solitude because the number and location of the unnatural regions are such that the configuration is highly irregular. Topographic screening is limited because the mesas and alluvial fans have a wide exposure to all the surrounding territory. Vegetative screening is only available in the pinyon-juniper woodlands and only if a user confines himself/herself to a small area. Opportunities for seclusion are minimal.

B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: The area does not offer an outstanding opportunity for a primitive and unconfined type of recreation. Short day trips into the area are possible. The nature of the existing unnatural areas are such that extended trips are not feasible. Limited hunting and fishing opportunities exist. Rocks, minerals and plants of collectable value are not known to exist.

4. Supplemental Values: The archaeological sites known to exist within the unit have not yet been fully studied.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

77,930 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-060-415

UNIT NAME: Callaghan

AREA DESCRIPTION: The Callaghan unit is part of the Toiyabe Range and is located north of US 50 in Lander County, Nevada. The area consists of a series of mesas, rolling hills, and moderately steep hills along the east side of the Toiyabe Range. Mt. Callaghan is not located within the unit. Several stands of pinyon-juniper and aspen are found within the area. Most of the unit is covered by plants of the sagebrush community. The configuration of the area is highly irregular due to the presence of several roads that are technically outside of the area. The width of the Callaghan unit varies from one to six miles. Its overall length is 17 miles, except that about five miles of its central portion was dropped due to lack of naturalness during the initial inventory.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit includes 79,300 acres of public land. The roadless area consists of 77,460 acres as 1,840 acres were separated from the bulk of the unit by roads.



2. Naturalness: 75,080 acres were found to be in a natural condition. 2,380 acres were deleted due to a lack of naturalness as the result of mining.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The roadless and natural portion of the area does not possess an outstanding opportunity for solitude because of the irregular shape of the unit and the presence of interior roads which make it difficult to get more than one or two miles from a road anywhere in the unit.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: The area does not offer an outstanding opportunity for a primitive and unconfined type of recreation. Opportunities for day hikes or short horseback treks are possible. Extended trips of any sort are not feasible due to the presence of interior roads. Limited hunting, fishing, sightseeing, and collecting opportunities are present.
4. Supplemental Values: Several Indian chipping sites and an old stone wall are found within the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

79,300 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-060-422

UNIT NAME: White Sage

AREA DESCRIPTION: The White Sage unit is located on the eastern side of Antelope Valley in Lander County, Nevada. The eastern portion of the area is covered with a second growth pinyon-juniper forest. The evidence of past woodcutting activity is readily apparent in the form of stumps. The natural portion of the unit is about five miles long and two and a half miles wide with a highly irregular boundary.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit includes 16,400 acres of public land. The roadless area consists of 16,195 acres as 205 acres were separated from the bulk of the unit by roads.
2. Naturalness: 8,985 acres were found to be in a natural condition. 7,210 acres were deleted due to a lack of naturalness as the result of woodcutting operations.

3. Outstanding Opportunities for:

A. Solitude: The roadless and natural portion of the area does not possess an outstanding opportunity for solitude because of its small size, narrow configuration, limited natural screening, and lack of secluded spots.

B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: The area does not offer an outstanding opportunity for a primitive and unconfined type of recreation as opportunities for primitive travel are limited to short day trips and low quality deer hunting.

4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical value were noted.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

16,400 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-060-428

UNIT NAME: Simpson Park

AREA DESCRIPTION: The Simpson Park unit is located in the Simpson Park Range in Lander County, Nevada. It is about 17 miles long and four to five miles wide. The northern part of the unit is covered with steep hillsides. The topography in the southern region changes from steep hills to a series of mesas and plateaus.

A large stand of pinyon-juniper woodland exists along part of the western boundary. The rest of the unit is dominated by plants of the sagebrush community.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit includes 113,400 acres of public land. The roadless area consists of 113,290 acres as 110 acres were separated from the bulk of the unit by roads.
2. Naturalness: 111,570 acres were found to be in a natural condition. 1,720 acres were deleted due to a lack of naturalness. The deletions occur in two separate parcels. Both areas are heavily impacted with extensive mining activity and roads.

3. Outstanding Opportunities for:

A. Solitude: The roadless and natural portion of the area does not possess an outstanding opportunity for solitude because of the narrow configuration, topography, and limited vegetative screening. Dead-end roads that are technically outside of the unit go up most of the canyons, and make it difficult to avoid the sights and sounds of man.

B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: The area does not offer an outstanding opportunity for a primitive and unconfined type of recreation as the area is absent of features that would attract hikers and backpackers. Occasions for hunting, fishing, sightseeing, and collecting are minimal.

4. Supplemental Values: Some archaeological sites exist within the unit, but they have not yet been fully studied.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

113,400 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-060-432

UNIT NAME: Willow Creek

AREA DESCRIPTION: The Willow Creek unit is located on the eastern side of Antelope Valley in Lander County, Nevada. The unit averages about three to four miles wide and 10 miles long. Small stands of pinyon-juniper are found in the southern and central portions of the unit, while the remainder is covered by sage community plants. Some steep sided hills are present in the north end of the area, but most of it consists of gently rolling hills.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit includes 35,300 acres of roadless land.

2. Naturalness: 35,300 acres were found to be in a natural condition.

3. Outstanding Opportunities for:

A. Solitude: The roadless and natural portion of the area does not possess an outstanding opportunity for solitude because of its narrow configuration, minimal vegetation and no topographic screening, and few secluded spots.

B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: The area does not offer an outstanding opportunity for a primitive and unconfined type of recreation as the area lacks attractions for hiking and backpacking and only has minimal opportunity for hunting, fishing, sightseeing, and collecting.

4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical value were noted.

#### RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

35,300 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-060-433

UNIT NAME: Manhattan Mountain

AREA DESCRIPTION: The Manhattan Mountain unit is located on the eastern side of Antelope Valley in Lander County, Nevada. The unit is about eight miles long and eight miles wide. The area consists of a series of low rolling hills. A pinyon-juniper forest covers the southern half of the unit, while the remainder is dominated by plants of the sagebrush community.

#### CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit includes 31,300 acres of roadless public land.
2. Naturalness: 28,385 acres were found to be in a natural condition. 2,915 acres were deleted due to a lack of naturalness resulting from woodcutting operations and roads.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The roadless and natural portion of the area does not possess an outstanding opportunity for solitude because of the unavoidable noticeable presence of mining impacts located just beyond the northern and southwestern boundaries and the limited natural screening in much of the area.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: The area does not offer an outstanding opportunity for a primitive and unconfined type of recreation. Day hikes could be made to Ravenswood Peak, however, the area is not large enough to accommodate more than a weekend backpack trip. Mining activity outside of the unit is visible from many locations within the area. The quality of available hunting, sightseeing, and specimen collecting is low.

4. Supplemental Values: Two threatened plants, Eriogonum rubricavle and Phacelia glaberrima grow within the unit.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

31,300 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appear to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-060-442

UNIT NAME: Sage

AREA DESCRIPTION: The Sage unit is located on the eastern side of Antelope Valley in Lander County, Nevada. The area is long and narrow with a three mile stretch in the north being less than a mile wide. The rest of the unit is about six miles long and three to four miles wide. Most of the area consists of rolling hills with a section of steeper hills in the central area. The entire unit is covered with plants of the sagebrush community.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit includes 10,900 acres of roadless public land.
2. Naturalness: 10,900 acres were found to be in a natural condition.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The roadless and natural portion of the area does not possess an outstanding opportunity for solitude because of its small size, narrow configuration, and lack of screening.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: The area does not offer an outstanding opportunity for a primitive and unconfined type of recreation as short day hikes are the only feasible type of recreation. Opportunities for other recreational activities are extremely limited. Sightseeing, hunting, and collecting are all very poor.
4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical value were noted.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

10,900 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-060-459

UNIT NAME: Rocky Hills

AREA DESCRIPTION: The Rocky Hills unit is located in Lander County, Nevada. It has one low mountain range running through the center of the area and rolling hills throughout the remainder of the area. The vegetation consists of plants of the sagebrush community with a few scattered stands of pinyon-juniper forest. Mining activity supported by an extensive road system is present in the northern and central portions of the unit. The major roadless natural area is located in the northern portion of the area, while only a small section of the southern half of the unit is in a roadless condition.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit includes 57,360 acres of public land. The roadless area consists of 31,500 acres as 25,860 acres were separated from the bulk of the unit by roads. The roadless area was divided into two sections of 25,200 and 6,300 acres. The roaded area was divided into 19 areas less than 5,000 acres each.
2. Naturalness: 21,500 acres in one area was found to be in a natural condition. 10,000 acres were deleted due to a lack of naturalness as the result of extensive mining activity.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The roadless and natural portion of the area does not possess an outstanding opportunity for solitude because the lack of vegetation and the open rolling hills result in poor natural screening and little chance for feeling remote from others. Secluded spots are difficult to find due to the presence of roads and mines that dominate the area.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: The area does not offer an outstanding opportunity for a primitive and unconfined type of recreation. Those opportunities that do exist are common and of relatively low quality.
4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical value were noted.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

57,360 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although portions of the unit contain more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-060-461

UNIT NAME: South Fish Creek

AREA DESCRIPTION: The South Fish Creek unit is located in the southern portion of the Fish Creek Mountains in Lander County, Nevada. The unit is about 10 miles long and nine miles wide. It is an area of open rolling hills and volcanic flows with one mountain near its center. The dominant vegetation is sparse, scattered sagebrush. There are some stands of pinyon-juniper woodland.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit includes 104,500 acres of public land. The roadless area consists of 104,200 acres as 300 acres were separated from the bulk of the unit by roads.
2. Naturalness: 59,955 acres were found to be in a natural condition. 44,245 acres were deleted due to a lack of naturalness. The area deleted has been heavily impacted by ranching and mining and contains several roads, ways, mines, buildings, and earth movements.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The roadless and natural portion of the area does not possess an outstanding opportunity for solitude because the sparse vegetation and open, rolling terrain result in limited natural screening. Users would be concentrated along one main ridge and few secluded spots can exist. These factors decrease the ability users would have to screen themselves from others and lower the number of secluded spots available.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: The area does not offer an outstanding opportunity for a primitive and unconfined type of recreation as opportunities for primitive travel are limited to trips and hikes of short duration which would offer little variety in types of vegetation and scenery encountered. No specific attractions are apparent in the unit. Hunting opportunities are low and there is no known collecting of rocks and minerals or vegetation.
4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical value were noted.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

104,500 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-060-464

UNIT NAME: Elephant Head

AREA DESCRIPTION: The Elephant Head unit is located in the central portion of the Shoshone Range in Lander County, Nevada. The unit is about six miles long and five miles wide and consists of open rolling hills. The dominant vegetation throughout is sparse, scattered sagebrush.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit includes 44,200 acres of roadless public land. The roadless area was divided into two sections of 17,280 and 26,920 acres due to the presence of a road running completely through the unit.
2. Naturalness: 44,200 acres were found to be in a natural condition.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The roadless and natural portions of the areas do not possess outstanding opportunities for solitude because the sparse vegetation and the open, rolling hills result in poor natural screening and a lack of secluded spots.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: The area does not offer an outstanding opportunity for a primitive and unconfined type of recreation. Those opportunities that do exist are common and of relatively low quality.
4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical value were noted.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

44,200 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although portions of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appear to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.



AREA DESCRIPTION: The Carico Ranch unit is located in the far north end of the Toiyabe Range in Lander County, Nevada. The unit is about three miles wide and four miles long and consists of a single, narrow ridge of open rolling hills. The dominant vegetation throughout is sparse, scattered sagebrush.

## CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit includes 8,000 acres of roadless public land.
2. Naturalness: 8,000 acres were found to be in a natural condition.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The roadless and natural portion of the area does not possess an outstanding opportunity for solitude because the lack of vegetation and the open, rolling hills result in poor natural screening and a lack of secluded spots.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: The area does not offer an outstanding opportunity for a primitive and unconfined type of recreation as opportunities for primitive travel are limited to hikes of short duration which would offer little diversity in types of vegetation and scenery encountered. No specific attractions are apparent in the unit. Hunting opportunities are low and there is no known collecting of rocks and minerals or vegetation.
4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical value were noted.

## RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

8,000 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

AREA DESCRIPTION: The Francis Cabin unit is located in the far north end of the Toiyabe Range in Lander County, Nevada. The unit is about four miles long and two miles wide and consists of rolling hills. The dominant vegetation is sagebrush. There are some stands of pinyon-juniper woodland.

#### CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit includes 5,700 acres of roadless public land.
2. Naturalness: Zero acres were found to be in a natural condition. 5,700 acres were deleted due to a lack of naturalness. A substantially noticeable way crosses the unit forming an unnatural corridor and impacting a large part of the unit. No further wilderness consideration is necessary.

#### RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

5,700 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land, it does not generally appear to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable. Therefore, further wilderness consideration is unnecessary.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-060-474

UNIT NAME: Red Rock

AREA DESCRIPTION: The Red Rock unit is located in the central portion of the Shoshone Range in Lander County, Nevada. The unit is about five miles long and four miles wide and consists of flat, valley bottom land and low, rolling hills. The dominant vegetation throughout is sparse, scattered sagebrush.

#### CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit includes 14,100 acres of public land. The roadless area consists of 13,650 acres as 450 acres were separated from the bulk of the unit by roads.
2. Naturalness: 13,650 acres were found to be in a natural condition.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The roadless and natural portion of the area does not possess an outstanding opportunity for solitude because of its limited natural screening and lack of secluded spots.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: The area does not offer an outstanding opportunity for a primitive and unconfined type of recreation as opportunities for primitive travel are limited to hikes of short duration which would offer little variety in types of vegetation and scenery encountered. No specific attractions are apparent in the unit. Hunting opportunities are low and there is no known collecting of rocks and minerals or vegetation.
4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical value were noted.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

14,100 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-060-478

UNIT NAME: Caetano Ranch

AREA DESCRIPTION: The Caetano Ranch unit is located in the far north end of the Toiyabe Range in Lander County, Nevada. The unit is about four miles long and three miles wide and consists of a single, steep sided ridge. Sagebrush and pinyon-juniper are the dominant vegetation types.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit includes 9,560 acres of roadless public land.
2. Naturalness: 9,080 acres were found to be in a natural condition. 480 acres were deleted due to a lack of naturalness. The area deleted has been logged and has two roads through it.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The roadless and natural portion of the area does not possess an outstanding opportunity for solitude because the small size and irregular configuration of the unit channels users along the same routes and to the same destinations, thereby reducing the effect of the significance or diversity of the landforms, vegetation, or wildlife present within the unit.
4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical value were noted.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

9,560 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

AREA DESCRIPTION: The North Fish Creek unit is located in the northern end of the Fish Creek Mountains in Lander County, Nevada. The unit is about eight miles long and five miles wide and consists of open, rolling hills and a large flat-topped plateau. The dominant vegetation throughout is sparse, scattered sagebrush.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit includes 52,400 acres of roadless public land.
2. Naturalness: 25,940 acres were found to be in a natural condition. 26,460 acres were deleted due to a lack of naturalness. The area deleted was found to be in an unnatural state due to extensive mining activity, roads, and ways.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The roadless and natural portion of the area does not possess an outstanding opportunity for solitude because of its irregular configuration, limited natural screening, and lack of secluded spots.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: The area does not offer an outstanding opportunity for a primitive and unconfined type of recreation as opportunities for primitive travel are limited to hikes of short duration which would offer little variety in the type of vegetation and scenery encountered. No specific attractions are apparent in the unit. Hunting opportunities are low and there is no known collecting of rocks and minerals or vegetation.
4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical value were noted.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

52,400 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

AREA DESCRIPTION: The Diamond Mountain unit lies in the Diamond Range located in Eureka County, Nevada. The unit is about 24 miles long and four miles wide and gets considerably narrower at the southern end. The area is comprised of one long and narrow mountain range averaging between 9,000 and 10,000 feet in elevation.

Sagebrush is the dominant ground cover. Thick stands of pinyon-juniper forests exist along the western boundary. The canyons that have water support various forms of riparian vegetation such as willows and aspens.

#### CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit includes 73,470 acres of public land. The roadless area consists of 73,390 acres as 80 acres were separated from the bulk of the unit by roads.
2. Naturalness: 63,200 acres were found to be in a natural condition. 10,190 acres were deleted due to a lack of naturalness as the result of several roads and ways, ditching, powerlines, garbage dumps, and fences.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The roadless and natural portion of the area does not possess an outstanding opportunity for solitude because the single narrow ridgeline provides limited opportunity for a person to avoid the presence of others. The unbroken hillsides and the limited vegetative screening do not promote solitude. Roads that are technically outside of the roadless portion of the unit go up almost every canyon on both sides of the range. It is difficult to avoid the sights and sounds of man associated with these roads.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: The area does not offer an outstanding opportunity for a primitive and unconfined type of recreation. Limited diversity in travel routes is available because of the one narrow ridge. No special features exist that would attract visitors. Opportunities for hunting are fair. Rockhounds are known to visit the southeast side of the range.
4. Supplemental Values: Five old charcoal kilns located near Philipsburg mine were noted during the intensive inventory.

#### RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

73,470 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-060-530

UNIT NAME: Rutabaga Creek

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit is located south of Roberts Creek Mountain, 30 miles north of Eureka, Nevada, in Eureka County, Nevada. It ranges from 6,700 feet to 9,100 feet in elevation. Rutabaga Creek flows southward from the center of the unit in a deep canyon. The slopes below 7,400 feet are covered with second growth pinyon-juniper, the virgin forest having been harvested in the late 1800s for the Eureka smelters. Substantial evidence of the logging operations still exist.

CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit includes 13,800 acres of public land. The roadless area consists of 10,600 acres as 3,200 acres were separated from the bulk of the unit by roads or areas that were not natural.
2. Naturalness: Zero acres were found to be in a natural condition. 10,600 acres were deleted due to historic logging activity and mining prospecting. Therefore, no further wilderness consideration is necessary.
3. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical value were noted.

RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

13,800 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: The portion of the unit that contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land does not generally appear to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable. Therefore, further wilderness consideration is unnecessary.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-060-531

UNIT NAME: Henderson

AREA DESCRIPTION: The unit lies east of Roberts Creek Mountain, 30 miles north of Eureka, Nevada in Eureka County. The southern extension of the Roberts Thrust, which, at this point, is a large rounded mountain, runs through the center of the unit. Henderson, Roberts, and Vinini Creeks flow out of the unit. Of these, Roberts Creek, on the western edge, is the most attractive with substantial cliffs and a rich riparian development.

## CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit includes 12,700 acres of public land. The roadless area consists of 11,940 acres as 760 acres were separated from the bulk of the unit by roads.
2. Naturalness: 8,840 acres were found to be in a natural condition. 3,100 acres were deleted due to a lack of naturalness. The deleted area is seriously impacted by mining activity.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The roadless and natural portion of the area does not possess an outstanding opportunity for solitude because most of the unit lacks sufficient topographic or vegetative screening to compensate for its relatively small size and poor configuration.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: The area does not offer an outstanding opportunity for a primitive and unconfined type of recreation due to the size of the unit, limited diversity of opportunities, and lack of any truly outstanding individual activities.
4. Supplemental Values: Several snow ponds exist north of Henderson Peak and there is a natural arch east of Summer Camp.

## RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

12,700 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

UNIT NUMBER: NV-060-541

UNIT NAME: Roberts

AREA DESCRIPTION: The Roberts Creek Mountains are located in Eureka County, about 30 miles north of Eureka, Nevada. This unit offers a wide diversity of terrain, vegetation, and scenery. The mountains consist of a series of rugged peaks forming a broken ridge. Many canyons and valleys surround the ridge, breaking the unit into numerous areas. The vegetation ranges from sage type communities at the valley bottoms through a pinyon-juniper tree forest to a sub-alpine herbaceous/sage community with some small stands of limber pine. Open stands of mountain mahogany replace the pinyon-juniper forest and sub-alpine vegetation in some areas, primarily on south facing slopes.

## CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit includes 57,800 acres of public land. The roadless area consists of 50,020 acres as 7,780 acres were separated from the bulk of the unit by roads or unnatural areas.
2. Naturalness: 20,790 acres were found to be in a natural condition. 29,230 acres were deleted due to a lack of naturalness. Historic logging was the primary intrusion.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The roadless and natural portion of the area does possess an outstanding opportunity for solitude because of its high topography and degree of vegetative screening. 5,700 acres on the eastern side does not offer an outstanding opportunity for solitude.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: The area does offer an outstanding opportunity for a primitive and unconfined type of recreation due to the great diversity of the unit, scenic attractions, and numerous supplemental features which serve as destinations within the unit.
4. Supplemental Values: Castelleja linodes, a rare plant is found on Roberts Creek Mountain. The Roberts Thrust Fault, visible on the unit, is one of the great structural features west of the Rockies. The mountain itself is a geologic "window on the mantel." The higher elevations are an ecological island which may provide insight into certain plant associations. The area has high scenic values with several small ponds, a 25-foot waterfall, and uncommon vegetation.
5. Rehabilitation: The following noticeable imprints of man's work, if the area were to become a wilderness area, could be reduced by either natural processes or by hand labor to a level judged to be substantially unnoticeable.

The ways on Roberts Creek Mountain will rehabilitate if closed to traffic.

## RECOMMENDATION:

15,090 acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

42,710 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: The portion of the unit proposed as a Wilderness Study Area contains at least 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature, with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable. It also has outstanding opportunities for solitude and a primitive and unconfined type of recreation.



AREA DESCRIPTION: The North Diamond unit is located in the northern end of the Diamond Range in Eureka County, Nevada. The unit is about four miles wide and 14 miles long and comprises one long narrow ridgeline. The mountains are very jagged with steep slopes on both the western and eastern faces, averaging between 7,500 and 8,500 feet in elevation.

The unit is split between stands of pinyon-juniper forests, aspens and other riparian vegetation, and plants of the sagebrush community. The higher elevations are dominated by sagebrush, with the riparian vegetation lying mostly in the canyons.

#### CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORIED:

1. Size: The unit includes 43,800 acres of public land. The roadless area consists of 43,520 acres as 280 acres were separated from the bulk of the unit by roads.
2. Naturalness: 40,510 acres were found to be in a natural condition. The 3,010 acres deleted due to a lack of naturalness were found to contain extensive mining activity along with several roads.
3. Outstanding Opportunities for:
  - A. Solitude: The roadless and natural portion of the area does not possess an outstanding opportunity for solitude. This is a result of its narrow configuration and limited topographic and vegetative screening. Limited screening, both by the topography of the single narrow ridgeline and the vegetation, along with the rarity of secluded spots are two factors that inhibit the potential for solitude. Roads that are technically outside of the roadless portion of the unit go up almost every canyon on both sides of the range. It is difficult to avoid the sights and sounds of man associated with these roads.
  - B. A Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation: The area does not offer an outstanding opportunity for a primitive and unconfined type of recreation. Diversity of travel is limited mostly to the ridgeline giving a user very little freedom of movement. No features exist that would specifically attract someone to the area. Hunting opportunities are fair. Plants, minerals, and rocks of collectable value are not known to exist.
4. Supplemental Values: No ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical value were noted.

#### RECOMMENDATION:

Zero acres are recommended for Wilderness Study Area status.

43,800 acres should be dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION: Although a portion of the unit contains more than 5,000 acres of contiguous public land that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, neither outstanding opportunities for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are present.

## GLOSSARY OF WILDERNESS TERMS AND PHRASES

In this book you will see terms and phrases that are not commonly used. However, they are critical to your understanding the inventory and its findings. The definitions provided below are for your information.

Contiguous lands: Lands or legal subdivisions having a common boundary. Lands having only a common corner are not contiguous.

Dead-end roads: These are documented roads that simply dead-end within the roadless public land unit. They do not cut off pieces of acreage, but rather intrude into the unit for a distance. In these cases the boundary line is drawn around the roads in a process some refer to as "cherrystemming" because the roads appear like cherry stems sticking into the unit.

Instant study areas: Section 603 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act mandated that all primitive or natural areas formally identified prior to November 1, 1975, will be studied for wilderness suitability and recommended to the President by July 1, 1980. These existing primitive and natural areas are called Instant Study Areas, or ISAs.

Intrusion: A man-made, structure facility, or project that is found on public lands within an inventory unit.

Naturalness: This term has been extensively defined in the public participation guideline section of this book.

Primitive recreation: This term has been extensively defined in the public participation guideline section of this book.

Inventory unit: Areas of public lands indexed for easy reference at the start of the wilderness inventory. An official file for each unit is maintained at the BLM State and District offices and is available for public review.

Public land: In Nevada, this means any land and interest in land owned by the United States and administered by the Secretary of the Interior through the Bureau of Land Management.

RARE II: The wilderness inventory on lands administered by the Secretary of Agriculture through the United States Forest Service. The acronym stands for Roadless Area Review and Evaluation, and the "II" signifies that it is the second time the Forest Service has inventoried and evaluated the lands it administers for wilderness values.

Riparian: Refers to vegetation along streams, lakes, or other bodies of water.

Road: This term has been defined extensively in the public participation guideline section of this book.

Roadless: Refers to the absence of roads which have been improved and maintained by mechanical means to insure relatively regular and continuous use.

Roadless area: That area which is roadless, as defined above, and is bounded by a road, the edge of a right-of-way, other land ownership, or a significant imprint of man.

Seeding: A public land range improvement project that involves removing the native non-desirable vegetation such as sagebrush with low-nutritive values and replacing with more desirable forage by seeding.

Size exception: In most cases, 5,000 acres of contiguous public land is considered the minimum needed for further wilderness consideration. However, the BLM recognizes several exceptions to this minimum figure. Lands may meet the size exception when:

- 1) They are contiguous with lands managed by another agency which have been formally determined to have wilderness or potential wilderness values, or
- 2) The public has indicated strong support for study of a particular area of less than 5,000 acres and it is demonstrated that it is clearly and obviously of sufficient size as to make practicable its preservation and use in an unimpaired condition, and of a size suitable for wilderness management, or
- 3) They are contiguous with an area of less than 5,000 acres of other Federal lands administered by an agency with authority to study and preserve wilderness lands, and the combined total is 5,000 acres or more.

Solitude: This term has also been extensively defined in the public participation guideline section of this book.

Supplemental values: This term has also been extensively defined in the public participation guideline section of this book.

Subunit: A portion of section of an inventory unit, normally separated from the original unit by a road documented during the course of the inventory.

Way: A two-wheel track created only by the passage of vehicles. A "way" is not a road.

Vegetation manipulation: Any public land range improvement that changes the natural vegetation, such as seeding.

Wilderness: This term was defined by Congress in the 1964 Wilderness Act. See the section on Legal Requirements for the complete explanation.

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

Wilderness characteristics: Those characteristics of wilderness as described in Section 2(c) of the Wilderness Act. These include size, naturalness, solitude, primitive or unconfined types of recreation, and supplemental values.

Wilderness inventory: An evaluation of the public lands in the form of a written description and a map showing those lands that meet the wilderness criteria as established under Section 603(a) of FLPMA and Section 2(c) of the Wilderness Act. The lands meeting the criteria will be referred to as Wilderness Study Areas (WSAs). Those lands identified as not meeting wilderness criteria will be released from further wilderness consideration.

Wilderness review: The term used to cover the entire wilderness inventory, study, and reporting phases of the wilderness program of the BLM.

WSA: Wilderness Study Area.



Map

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Map











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