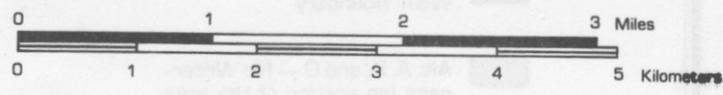


**Deep Cr./Battle Cr.
Alternatives**

— WSA Boundary

 Alt. A, B, and D — No Wilderness (no portion of the area recommended for wilderness designation)

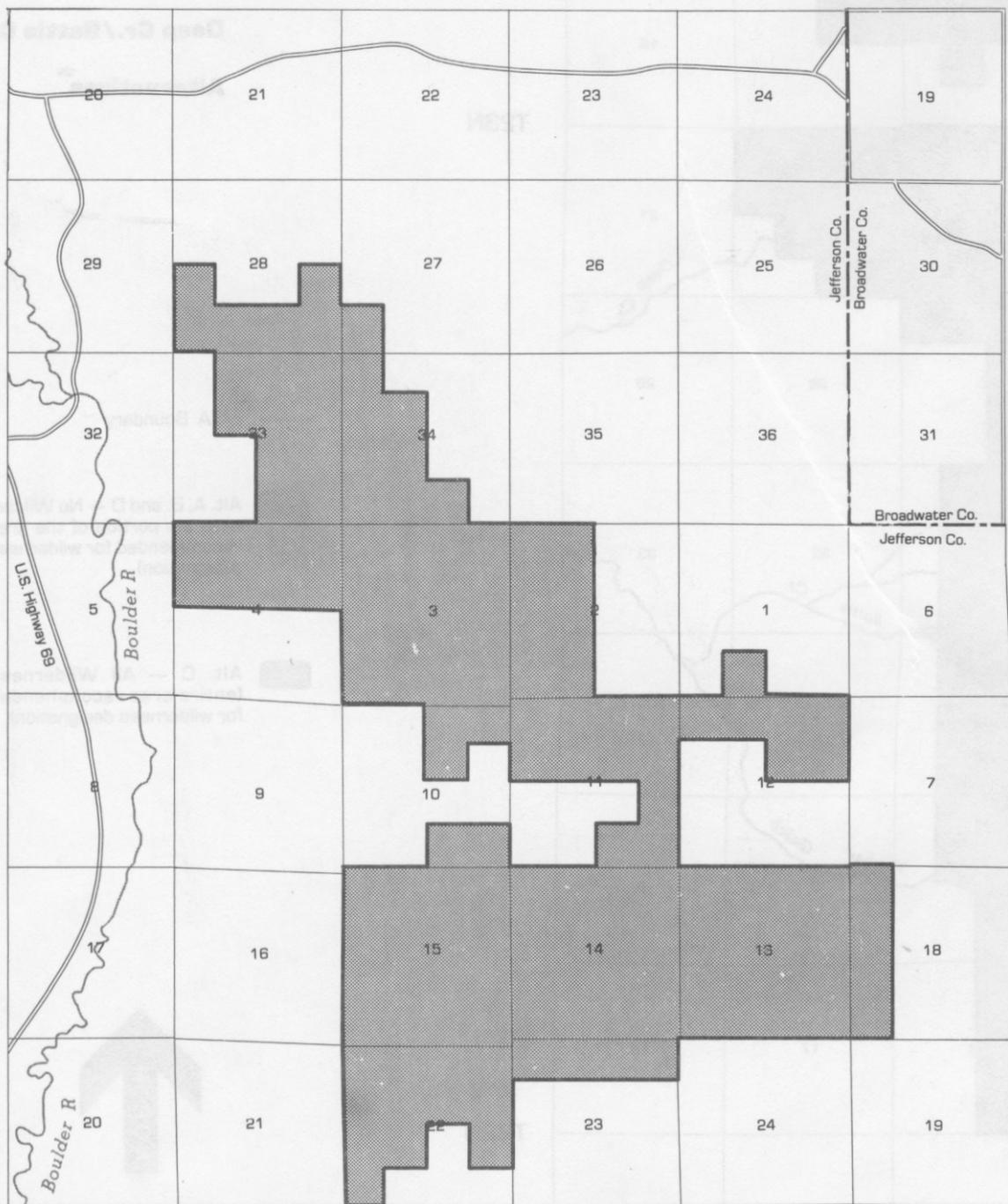
 Alt. C — All Wilderness (entire area recommended for wilderness designation)



1:63,360

R2W

T4N



T3N

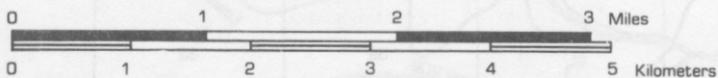
— WSA Boundary

 Alt. A, B, and D — No Wilderness (no portion of the area recommended for wilderness designation)

 Alt. C — All Wilderness (entire area recommended for wilderness designation)

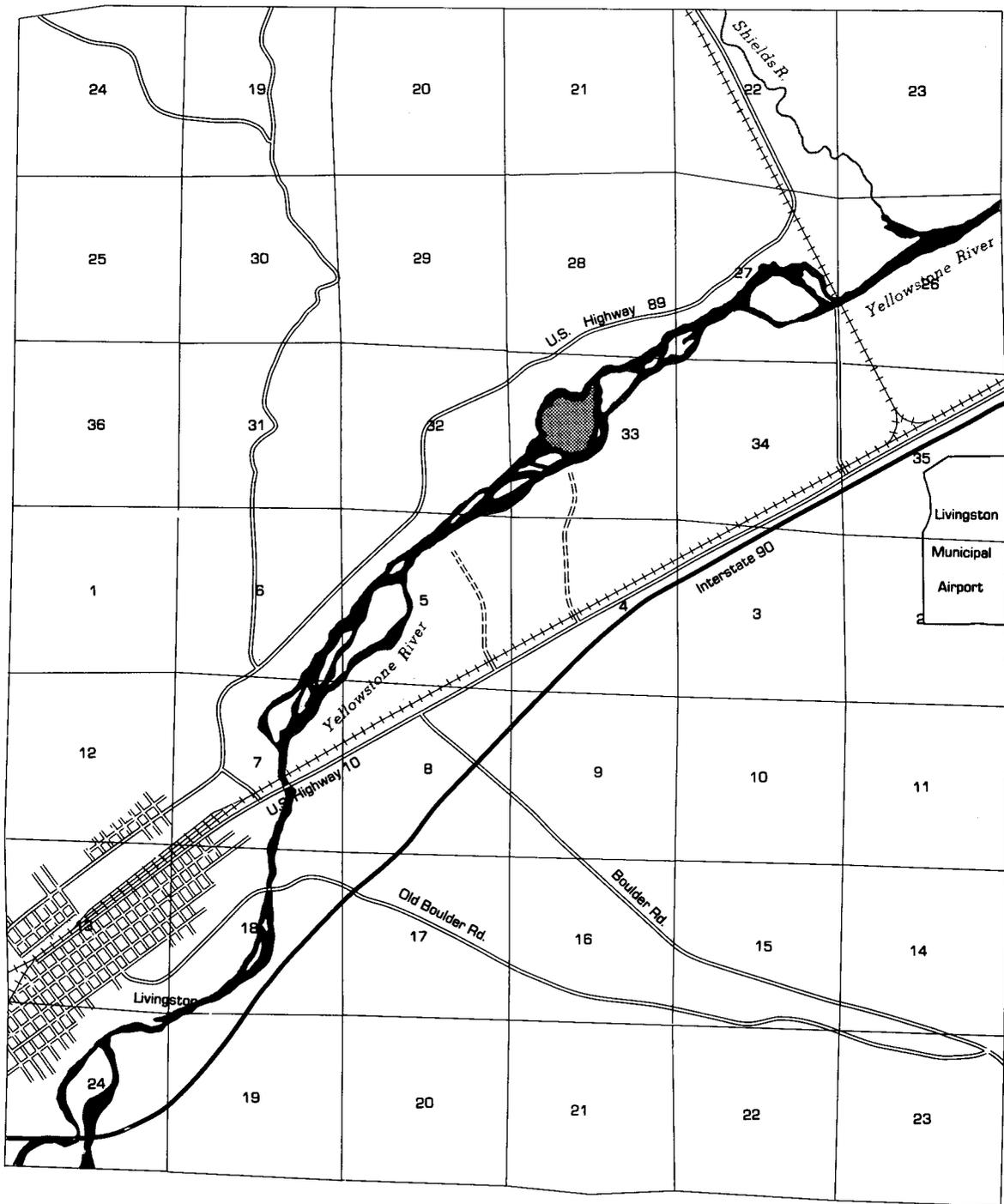
**Black Sage
MT-075-115
Alternatives**

1:63,360



R10E

T1S



T2S

— WSA Boundary

 Alt. A, B, and D — No Wilderness (no portion of the area recommended for wilderness designation)

 Alt. C — All Wilderness (entire area recommended for wilderness designation)

**Yellowstone R. Island
MT-075-133
Alternatives**

1:63,360

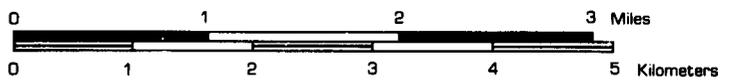


TABLE 2-6
SUMMARY OF WILDERNESS STUDY RECOMMENDATIONS
 (in acres)

Recommendation	Current Status	Alt. A: Preferred	Alt. B: No Action	Alt. C: Protection	Alt. D: Production
Suitable for Wilderness	0	0	0	17,197	0
Nonsuitable for Wilderness	17,197	17,197	17,197	0	17,197

Issue 4: Forest Management. All public land will be available for forest management except for the Blind Horse Creek, Ear Mountain, Chute Mountain, Deep Creek/Battle Creek, Sleeping Giant, Scratchgravel Hills, and Elkhorn areas.

The Elkhorn area (Management Area #36) would be set aside from forest management activities until completion of a Coordinated Resource Management Plan (CRMP). The Elkhorn CRMP will be based on the following management objectives and guidelines:

All management activities will be designed to maintain or improve elk, mule deer, and moose habitat, with primary emphasis on elk summer habitat and calving areas.

Management activities also will be designed to maintain or enhance opportunities for dispersed recreation, to the extent permitted by wildlife habitat objectives.

The existing road network generally will remain open for public use. Seasonal restrictions may be imposed to minimize impacts on elk during calving season (4/15 to 6/30).

Timber harvest and prescribed burning may be used to improve wildlife habitat conditions. New roads needed for the removal of forest products will be kept to a minimum. New roads will be physically closed to public use following completion of forest management activities, unless needed to meet other management objectives for the area.

Resource management objectives for the Muskrat Allotment (Appendix E, #0249) will be incorporated into the CRMP.

The CRMP and any subsequent management activities, including road system design and wildlife monitoring, will be coordinated with the Helena and Deer Lodge National Forests and the Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife, and Parks.

Commercial forest land in the Eightmile Creek, Boulder-Clancy, Marysville, and Rogers Pass areas will receive high priority for forest management. Special harvest restrictions will be applied in key elk seasonal use areas. Forest management guidelines are summarized in Table 2-7.

Issue 5: Land Ownership Adjustments. Priority areas have been established for retention and acquisition, disposal, and further study. Land ownership adjustment guidelines are summarized in Table 2-8.

Issue 6: Mineral Exploration and Development. All public land in the Scratchgravel Hills will remain open to mineral entry and development. All other public land in the resource area will remain open unless previously withdrawn from mineral entry. Mineral exploration and development guidelines are summarized in Table 2-9.

Issue 7: Motorcycle Use Areas. The Scratchgravel Hills and Limestone Hills will be closed to organized motorcycle events. The Hilger Hills, Spokane Hills, and Marysville areas will remain available for further consideration. All other public land in the resource area will be managed as outlined in Management Guidance Common to All Alternatives. Motorcycle use area allocations are summarized in Table 2-10.

Issue 8: Motorized Vehicle Access. The Scratchgravel Hills and Limestone Hills will be identified for motorized vehicle restrictions. The Blind Horse Creek, Ear Mountain, Chute Mountain, and Deep Creek/Battle Creek areas will be closed to motorized vehicle access. The Hilger Hills will remain open to motorized vehicles. All other public land in the resource area will be managed as outlined in Management Guidance Common to All

TABLE 2-7
SUMMARY OF FOREST MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES
(in acres)

	Current Status	Alt. A: Preferred	Alt. B: No Action	Alt. C: Protection	Alt. D: Production
Total Forested Acres	82,021	82,021	82,021	82,021	82,021
Total Commercial Forest Land (CFL)	63,081	63,081	63,081	63,081	63,081
Nonsuitable CFL	4,982	4,982	4,982	4,982	4,982
Suitable CFL	58,099	58,099	58,099	58,099	58,099
CFL Set Aside for Wildlife	3,729	8,035	3,729	3,729	0
CFL Set Aside for Recreation	1,468	1,468	1,468	1,468	0
Total CFL Set Aside	5,197	9,503	5,197	5,197	0
Total Available Base	52,902	48,956	52,902	52,902	58,099
TPCC Restricted Base	41,849	37,888	41,849	41,849	45,947
Nonrestricted Base	11,053	10,708	11,053	11,053	12,152
Total Woodland	18,940	18,940	18,940	18,940	18,940
Woodland Set Aside for Special Designations	0	2,650	0	1,000	0
Woodland Set Aside for Wilderness Recommendations	0	0	0	1,950	0
Total Woodland Set Aside	0	2,650	0	2,950	0
Available Woodland	18,940	16,290	18,940	15,990	18,940
Allowable Cut	1.0 ^{1,2}	23.95 ¹	26.45 ¹	26.45 ¹	29.0 ¹
Miles of Road Construction	2.5 ³	48 ³	53 ³	53 ³	58 ³
Acres Cut/Decade (@ 3 m bd ft./acre)	333	7,983 ⁴	8,816	8,816	9,667

¹Million board feet per decade

²The figure under Current Status represents actual harvest

³Miles per decade

⁴The figure does not include acres that may be cut to improve wildlife habitat in Management Unit 36.

TABLE 2-8
SUMMARY OF LAND OWNERSHIP ADJUSTMENT GUIDELINES
(in acres)

Allocation	Current Status	Alt. A: Preferred	Alt. B: No Action	Alt. C: Protection	Alt. D: Production
Retention	311,337 ¹	282,283	311,337 ¹	282,283	282,283
Disposal	0	25,317	0	25,637	25,637
Further Study	0	2,697	0	3,417	3,417

¹For purposes of analysis, all public land in the resource area is shown in the retention category under Current Status and Alternative B (No Action). In actual practice, some public land could be sold or exchanged as a result of tract-specific land use plan amendments. Approximately 400 acres of public land have been sold or exchanged since the Headwaters Resource Area was established in 1976.

TABLE 2-9
SUMMARY OF MINERAL EXPLORATION AND DEVELOPMENT GUIDELINES
 (in acres of federal minerals)¹

Allocation	Current Status	Alt. A: Preferred	Alt. B: No Action	Alt. C: Protection	Alt. D: Production
Withdrawn From Entry ¹	53,606	42,019	42,019	44,979	42,019
Available For Entry	601,899	613,486	613,486	610,526	613,486

¹The acreage withdrawn from mineral entry is expected to decrease under all alternatives as a result of the withdrawal review process. The acreage estimates shown above are based on recommendations that have been developed for approximately 50% of the withdrawn land in the resource area.

TABLE 2-10
SUMMARY OF MOTORCYCLE USE AREA GUIDELINES
 (in acres)

Allocation	Current Status	Alt. A: Preferred	Alt. B: No Action	Alt. C: Protection	Alt. D: Production
Available For Further Consideration	311,337	234,134	266,149	208,824	266,149
Consideration Closed to Organized Events	0	77,203	45,188 ¹	102,513	45,188

¹Current land use planning guidance for the resource area does not preclude consideration of any public land for organized motorcycle events. However, approximately 45,188 acres appear to be unsuitable for such use based on existing wildlife, watershed, and other guidance not directed specifically to the issue of organized motorcycle events. For analysis purposes, these acres are shown as closed to organized events under the No Action alternative.

Alternatives. Motorized vehicle access allocations are summarized in Table 2-11.

Issue 9: Utility and Transportation Corridors. Avoidance areas will be established in the Scratchgravel Hills, Limestone Hills, and Sleeping Giant areas, and along the Smith River, Jefferson River and the Missouri River from Three Forks to Holter Dam. Windows will be established where major facilities cross avoidance areas. All other public land in the resource area will be managed as outlined in Management Guidance Common to All Alternatives. Utility and transportation corridor allocations are summarized in Table 2-12.

Issue 10: Coal Leasing. All federal coal within the Great Falls Coal Field will be available for further consideration for coal leasing, pending further study. Surface occupancy generally will be prohibited within public road corridors, rights-of-way, **floodplains**, and key wildlife use areas. For analysis purposes, it is assumed that three underground mines would be developed in the Stockett area to supply enough coal (approximately 1.2 million short-tons annually) for Montana Power Company's proposed 350 MW Salem Project near Great Falls. It is also assumed that mine development would begin in 1993 and production would begin in 1996. These assumptions are made pri-

marily to allow for projection of social and economic impacts. The acreage to be disturbed by such operations for surface facilities cannot be estimated at this time. To date, no proposals for mining coal in the Great Falls Coal Field have been received by the BLM. Details regarding application of the coal unsuitability criteria are included in Appendix H. Coal leasing allocations are summarized in Table 2-13.

Issue 11: Special Designations. The Blind Horse Creek, Ear Mountain, Chute Mountain, and Deep Creek/Battle Creek areas will be designated as Outstanding Natural Areas as illustrated on the Special Designations: Alternative A map. The Sleeping Giant area will be designated as an Area of Critical Environmental Concern as illustrated on the Sleeping Giant Special Designations: Alternative A and Alternative C map. Special designations are summarized in Table 2-14.

TABLE 2-11
SUMMARY OF MOTORIZED VEHICLE ACCESS GUIDELINES
(in acres)

Allocation	Current Status	Alt. A: Preferred	Alt. B: No Action	Alt. C: Protection	Alt. D: Production
Open	311,337	79,875	111,890	76,472	111,890
Prioritized For Restrictions	0	219,404	199,447 ¹	216,828	199,447
Closed	0	12,058	0	18,037	0

¹Current land use planning guidance for the resource area does not identify any public land as priority areas for restrictions. However, approximately 199,447 acres appear to qualify for seasonal or other restrictions based on existing wildlife, watershed, and other guidance not directed specifically to the issue of motorized vehicle access. For analysis purposes, these acres are shown as prioritized for restrictions under the No Action alternative.

TABLE 2-12
SUMMARY OF UTILITY AND TRANSPORTATION CORRIDOR GUIDELINES
(in acres)

Allocation	Current Status	Alt. A: Preferred	Alt. B: No Action	Alt. C: Protection	Alt. D: Production
Exclusion Area	0	0	0	17,197	0
Avoidance Area	0	74,489	22,171 ¹	63,271	22,171
Window	0	952	0	952	0
Available For Further Consideration	311,337	235,896	289,116	229,917	289,166

¹Current land use planning guidance for the resource area does not identify any public land as avoidance areas. However, approximately 22,171 acres appear to be unsuitable for utility and transportation corridor development based on existing wildlife, watershed, and other guidance not directed specifically to this issue. For analysis purposes, these acres are shown as avoidance areas under the No Action alternative.

TABLE 2-13
SUMMARY OF COAL LEASING GUIDELINES
(in acres of federal coal)

Allocation	Current Status	Alt. A: Preferred	Alt. B: No Action	Alt. C: Protection	Alt. D: Production
Available For Further Consideration	0 ¹	25,452	0 ¹	0	25,452
Available For Surface Occupancy	0	23,672	0	0	23,697

¹For purposes of analysis, no federal coal is considered available for leasing under Current Status and Alternative B (No Action). In actual practice, federal coal could be leased as a result of tract-specific land use plan amendments.

TABLE 2-14
SUMMARY OF SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS
(in acres)

Designation	Current Status	Alt. A: Preferred	Alt. B: No Action	Alt. C: Protection	Alt. D: Production
Area Of Critical Environmental Concern	0	11,609	0	0	0
Recreation Lands	0	0	0	11,609	0
Outstanding Natural Area	0	12,058	0	840	0
Undesignated	311,337	287,670	311,337	298,888	311,337