

Developed sites refer to sites on public land developed or improved for human use or resource development. Examples include campgrounds, trailheads, lodges, summer homes, restaurants, visitor centers, oil and gas exploratory wells, production wells, and work camps. Developed sites on public lands are currently inventoried and tracked in GIS databases. As of 1998, there were 598 developed sites on public land within the PCA (USDA Forest Service 2005, pp. 56–57). As of 2014, the number of developed sites on public lands has decreased to 593 (IGBST 2013, p. 77).

Comment [RS1]: Lisa: is this still the correct definition?

Comment [LL2]: This number was provided in the final CS, HOWEVER the number 592 has been consistently reported since 2008 and matches Kim Barber's master table listing all developed sites by name constituting the 1998 baseline. I would say 592 developed sites in 1998 versus 579 in 2014. (15 have been closed)

Comment [RS3]: placeholder

Comment [RS4]: Lisa L! help!

Comment [LL5]: Rebecca, I can fill in these numbers by early October – still working on cleanup of allotments. Will rewrite this paragraph for you by then.

Comment [rs6]: Lisa: this is a number calculated by Kim Barber. Wondering if you know its origin or why it appears (on the surface) to be inconsistent w/ above paragraphs stating 80% of FS lands are Was, WSAs, or IRAs.

Comment [LL7]: Rebecca, I agree that this number sounds inconsistent. If need be I can track down a GIS layer for WAS, WSA & IRA designated areas and crunch these numbers for you.

Comment [RS8]: Thinking about just removing because it seemingly contradicts the statement that it's mostly wilderness. Is this because Forest Plans analyze available areas w/o considering what other restrictions are already in place?

Comment [RS9]: Dan Tyers/Lisa: is this the correct language for the 2012 planning regs? And is the FS still planning on classifying them as this?

Comment [LL10]: Rebecca, I can't answer this. I've passed it on to Dan via email since he's out of town. If you don't get an answer soon, bug me and I can pester Dan for an answer.

Ok – talked w/ Bev Dixon. She says that the language used on p 26 of the FPA ROD is closer to the target than the lingo you have here. The bear won't remain on the USDA FS Sensitive Species list after delisting; rather the lingo for "Sensitive Species" will be replaced with "species of concern" terminology. This implies, of course, that there will be special management plans in place for the GB. Bev thinks "species of conservation concern" is a designation that the States might use? In any case, check out pg 26 of the ROD – the only indented paragraph.

Comment [rs11]: Checking w/ Lisa on this whole paragraph

Comment [LL12]: Rebecca, if you have any further questions regarding this paragraph, get in touch w/ Bev Dixon. If she can't answer it she will check with the Forest Planner. Bev is an excellent resource for information!

Comment [RS13]: Lisa, please help me update

Comment [LL14]: Rebecca, only 1 active sheep allotment remains active inside the PCA today – that is the Meyers Creek allotment on the C-TNF (for which there is movement to close). Of the 11 acti...

A total of 101 livestock allotments existed inside the PCA in 1998. Of these allotments, there were: 71 active and 12 vacant cattle allotments; and 11 active and 7 vacant sheep allotments with a total of 23,090 animal months (Conservation Strategy Team 2014, Appendix X, p.). Sheep animal months are calculated by multiplying the permitted number of animals by the permitted number of months. Any use of vacant allotments will only be permitted after an analysis is completed to evaluate impacts on grizzly bears. Since 1998, the Caribou-Targhee National Forest has closed five sheep allotments within the PCA while the Shoshone National Forest has closed two sheep allotments (USDA Forest Service 2005, p. 50). This has resulted in a reduction of 7,889 sheep animal months under the total calculated for 1998 within the PCA, and is a testament to the commitment land management agencies have to the ongoing success of the grizzly bear population in the GYA. As of 2006, there are a total of two active sheep allotments within the PCA, both on the Targhee National Forest. The permittee of the two allotments on the Gallatin National Forest that were active in 2005 when the Proposed rule was published, agreed to waive the grazing permit back to the Gallatin National Forest without preference and these two sheep allotments were closed in 2006. The Gallatin National Forest plans to close three other vacant allotments when they revise their current Forest Plan. This Forest Plan revision process is scheduled to be completed by 2010 (USDA Forest Service 2005, p. 11). The mandatory restriction on creating new livestock allotments and the voluntary phasing out of livestock allotments with recurring conflicts further ensure that the PCA will continue to function as source habitat.

Based on current Forest Plans, an estimated 42 percent (7,195 of 17,292 sq km) of suitable habitat outside the PCA on USDA Forest Service lands within the DPS could experience permanent or temporary changes in road densities. **Because grizzly bears will remain on the USDA Forest Service Sensitive Species list after delisting and will be classified as a "species of conservation concern" (USDA Forest Service 2006b, p. 26) under the 2012 USDA Forest Service Planning Regulations, any increases in roads on National Forests would have to comply with the National Forest Management Act and would be subject to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process considering potential impacts to grizzly bears.** Species of conservation concern are those whose long-term persistence within the plan area is of known conservation concern (77 FR , April 9, 2012, p. 21175). They are designated by the Regional Forester to increase consistency and coordinate conservation efforts.

The USDA Forest Service and National Park Service phase out sheep allotments within the PCA as opportunities arise and, currently, only 2 active sheep allotments inside the PCA remain (USDA Forest Service 2006a, p. 167).

Outside of the Primary Conservation Area, habitat management will primarily be the responsibility of the GYA National Forests. The GYA National Forests will be responsible for monitoring agreed-upon habitat parameters in suitable habitat outside the PCA and will calculate secure habitat values outside of the PCA every two years and submit these data for inclusion in the Study Team's annual report (USDA Forest Service 2006b, p. 6).

Comment [RS15]: Rebecca is checking w/ Lisa Landenberger on this

Comment [LL16]: Yes, this is correct. I get road updates outside the PCA on a biennial basis from which I calculate secure habitat for all Bear Analysis Units (BAUs) outside the PCA & report to IGBST. Which makes me think – the CS does not include reference to BAUs. These boundaries only appear in the FPA. We need to include a reference and figure for these units.