

NATIONAL WILDERNESS PRESERVATION SYSTEM
CABINET MOUNTAINS WILDERNESS

I hereby certify that the legal description and map herewith represent the location of the boundary of the Cabinet Mountains Wilderness on the Kaniksu and Kootenai National Forests as it existed as of the date of the Wilderness Act.

JUL 19 1985

Date

NEAL M. RAHM

Regional Forester

CABINET MOUNTAINS WILDERNESS

The Exterior Boundary of Cabinet Mountains Wilderness, Kaniksu and Kootenai National Forests, Northern Region, as reported to Congress pursuant to Section 3(a)(1) of the Wilderness Act, Public Law 88-577.

Description

Beginning at the top of Scenery Mountain in unsurveyed Section 29, T. 31 N., R. 32 W., Montana Principal Meridian, southwesterly along the ridge between Williams Creek and Cedar Creek to a point where the ridge makes a sharp turn in a more westerly direction. Thence southeasterly down a spur ridge to a fork in that ridge near the northeast corner of unsurveyed Section 5, T. 30 N., R. 32 W. Thence southwesterly across two tributaries of Cedar Creek crossing them at bends in the stream that bring them in closest juxtaposition and thence southwesterly and then southeasterly crossing Cedar Creek approximately halfway between the mouth of the tributary just crossed and the next tributary upstream. Thence southwesterly up a spur ridge to the top of the ridge between Cedar Creek and Parmenter Creek and thence southwesterly along this ridge for about 1/8 mile to a point where a spur ridge running southeasterly joins it.

Thence southeasterly down this spur ridge to Parmenter Creek crossing it at the junction of the North and South Forks of this stream. Thence southeasterly to the point of a ridge and continuing southeasterly and then southerly to a point on the ridge between Parmenter Creek and Flower Creek about 1/2 mile west of Indian Head Mountain. Thence easterly along this ridge passing over Indian Head Mountain and continuing to a point where the ridge turns sharply northeasterly. Thence easterly and then southeasterly down a spur ridge to Flower Creek, crossing that creek at the mouth of a small tributary from the north which joins Flower Creek at a point just west of the east line of unsurveyed Section 22, T. 30 N., R. 32 W. Then south-southeasterly up a spur ridge to a point about 1/2 mile northwest of Lake Osakis where boundary turns easterly along a ridge immediately north of the Lake Osakis tributary of Flower Creek and continues easterly on this ridge for about 1 mile. Thence southwesterly across the Lake Osakis tributary and up a minor ridge to the top of the ridge between Flower Creek and Horse Creek.

Thence southwesterly and then southeasterly around the head of a short fork of Horse Creek and thence southerly down a spur ridge near the east line of unsurveyed Section 35, T. 30 N., R. 32 W. to Horse Creek.

Thence southerly up a spur ridge and thence southwesterly about 1/4 mile to the top of the ridge between Horse Creek and Granite Creek. Thence generally westerly along this ridge to its junction with a ridge running southeast from the top of Treasure Mountain. Thence south-southeasterly down a spur ridge off of this ridge to Granite Creek crossing it and thence up a ridge to the top of Mt. Snowy. Thence south-southeasterly down a ridge to Deep Creek crossing it at the major fork near the east line of unsurveyed Section 23, T. 29 N., R. 32 W. Thence south-southwesterly up a ridge to the top of Big Loaf Mountain and thence southwesterly on the ridge connecting this mountain with Bockman Peak to a point where a spur ridge runs southeasterly between two parallel drainages in the

northeast corner of unsurveyed Section 35, T. 29 N., R. 32 W. Down this ridge to cross Smearl Creek and thence southerly up a spur ridge to the top of the ridge between Smearl Creek and Leigh Creek. Thence southerly down a ridge to Leigh Creek crossing it and thence southwesterly and then southerly up a ridge to the top of the ridge between Leigh Creek and Snowshoe Creek.

Thence southwesterly along this ridge about 1/2 mile and thence southeasterly to Snowshoe Creek crossing this creek about 1/8 mile below the outlet of the lower of the two small lakes at the forks below Snowshoe Lake. Thence southeasterly up a ridge to the top of the ridge between Snowshoe Creek and Big Cherry Creek. Thence southwesterly along this ridge about 1/2 mile and then southeasterly down a ridge to Big Cherry Creek crossing it at the mouth of a small tributary entering it from the south.

Thence southeasterly to the point of a ridge running northerly and northeasterly from Alaska Peak. Up this ridge about 1/2 mile and thence southeasterly crossing the stream that flows off the northeast slope of Alaska Peak. Thence southerly to the top of the ridge between Big Cherry Creek and Bear Creek. Thence southwesterly along this ridge toward Alaska Peak for about 1/2 mile and thence south-southeasterly down a ridge to cross the upper more or less parallel forks of Bear Creek at the point where they curve toward each other and are in closest proximity about 1/4 mile above the forks. Thence generally southerly up a ridge and then easterly about 1/8 mile to the top of the ridge between Bear Creek and Cable Creek. Thence southeasterly down a ridge to cross Cable Creek at the forks that form the basin at its head. Thence southeasterly to the point of a ridge and then southerly up this ridge to a point on the top of the ridge between Cable Creek and Poorman Creek about 1/2 mile southwest of Cable Mountain.

Thence southwesterly along this ridge for about 1/4 mile and thence generally southeasterly down a ridge curving eastward to Poorman Creek. Thence across Poorman Creek and thence southerly up a short ridge to the top of the ridge between Poorman Creek and Ramsey Creek. Thence southwesterly along this ridge about 1/4 mile and thence southeasterly down a ridge to Ramsey Creek. Thence across Ramsey Creek and continuing southeasterly up a ridge passing over the southeast corner of unsurveyed Section 8, T. 27 N., R. 31 W. to the top of the ridge between Ramsey Creek and Libby Creek.

Thence southwesterly along this ridge to the junction of a spur ridge near the west line of unsurveyed Section 16, T. 27 N., R. 31 W. Thence southeasterly down this ridge to Libby Creek crossing this creek at the point where a very short drainage enters from the northwest. Thence up a ridge which gradually bends from southeasterly to southerly to southwesterly to the top of the ridge between Libby Creek and West Fisher Creek. Thence westerly along this ridge about 1/2 mile passing over Twin Peaks and thence south-southeasterly down a ridge passing just west of the south 1/4 corner of unsurveyed Section 28, T. 27 N., R. 31 W. to the forks of the stream.

Thence east-southeasterly down the center of this tributary of West Fisher Creek about 1/4 mile to a point where the stream bends northeastward. Thence southeasterly across the main stream of West Fisher Creek and continuing southeasterly up a ridge to the top of the ridge between West Fisher Creek and the fork of Mill Creek draining out of Ozette Lake. Thence southwesterly along this ridge about 1/4 mile to the junction of a spur ridge. Thence southeasterly down this spur ridge about 1/3 mile and then northeasterly around the head of a short tributary of the Ozette Lake fork of Mill Creek and thence southeasterly down a ridge to the forks of the Ozette Lake Fork and Mill Creek.

Thence up the center of Mill Creek about 1/8 mile to the mouth of a tributary flowing into it from the east. Thence southeasterly up the ridge southwest of this tributary to the top of the ridge between Mill Creek and Bramlet Creek. Thence southwesterly along this ridge about 1/4 mile to the junction of a spur running easterly. Thence easterly down this spur ridge to intersect the southwest side of MS.7306 (Patented). Thence southeasterly along the southwest side of MS.7306 to the southwest corner. Thence northeasterly along the southeast side of MS.7306 to its point of connection with MS.6987. Thence southeasterly along the southwest end of MS.6987 to the southeast corner. Thence northeasterly along the southeast side of MS.6987 to a point near the middle of this side where it intersects the north line of unsurveyed Section 11, T. 26 N., R. 31 W.

Thence east on this line about 1/4 mile to its intersection with the ridge separating Bramlet Creek and Fourth of July Creek. Thence southwesterly along this ridge about 1/4 mile to a point near its intersection with the east line of unsurveyed Section 11, T. 26 N., R. 31 W. and junction with a spur ridge. Thence southeasterly down this spur ridge to the forks of Fourth of July Creek near the northwest corner of MS.7368-A (Patented) that lies immediately northeast of Geiger Lake. Thence from the forks of the stream by the shortest distance to the northwest corner of MS.7368-A. Thence south-southwesterly along the west side of this patent to its southwest corner.

Thence southeasterly by the shortest distance to the outlet of Geiger Lake. Thence southeasterly up a ridge to the top of the ridge that divides the Geiger Lake drainage and the main fork of Lake Creek. Thence southwesterly along this ridge about 1/4 mile and then southeasterly down a ridge to Lake Creek. Thence southeasterly up a ridge to the top of the ridge between Lake Creek and Trail Creek and thence southerly along this ridge to its junction with a spur running southeasterly. This point is near the east line of unsurveyed Section 24, T. 26 N., R. 31 W. From this point south-southeasterly on this spur ridge and then generally southeasterly on a ridge to a major fork of Trail Creek at the point where the Bear Lake drainage enters. Thence southeasterly up a ridge to a point of intersection with a patented mining property, MS.8843 in unsurveyed Section 30, T. 26 N., R. 30 W. Thence generally southwesterly following the west side of MS.8843 to its intersection with the ridge between Trail Creek and Iron Meadow Creek. Thence southerly along this ridge to its intersection with the north line of Section 31, T. 26 N., R. 30 W.

Thence west along the section line to the northwest corner of Section 31, T. 26 N., R. 30 W. Thence south along the section line approximately one mile and thence south-southeasterly about 1/8 mile to Baree Creek, crossing it at the mouth of a small tributary entering from the southwest. Thence southwesterly up a spur ridge to the top of the ridge between Baree Creek and Silver Butte Creek.

Thence generally west-southwesterly along this ridge to the top of the Cabinet Range. Thence west-northwesterly down a ridge passing near the southeast corner of Section 34, T. 26 N., R. 31 W. to Swamp Creek, crossing it at the mouth of the tributary just north of the ridge described immediately above. Thence northwesterly up a ridge to its junction with Goat Ridge. Thence generally northerly along this ridge to the top of Goat Peak, thence westerly and then northwesterly on this ridge to Engle Peak.

Thence southwesterly and then northwesterly on the ridge between East Fork Rock Creek to the north and east, and McKay Creek, Engle Creek, Big Cedar Creek and Orr Creek to the south and west, passing near the southeast corner of Section 12, T. 26 N., R. 32 W. and continuing north northwesterly on a ridge to a point where it intersects with the north line of the above Section 12.

Thence northeasterly on a spur ridge for about 1/4 mile and thence northeasterly on ridges and bluffs, passing near the center of Section 6, T. 26 N., R. 31 W. to a point on the large tributary entering Rock Creek at Rock Meadows where the middle one of three westward flowing tributaries enter this large tributary in the northwest corner of unsurveyed Section 5, T. 26 N., R. 31 W. Thence southeasterly up the center of this large tributary to a point where the easternmost fork enters this stream. Thence southeasterly up a ridge between these forks of this tributary to the top of the ridge between Rock Creek and Swamp Creek. Thence northeasterly along this ridge to a point on top of the Cabinet Range about 1/4 mile west of Flat Top Mountain.

Thence generally northwesterly along the top of the Cabinet Range passing over Lost Horse Mountain and Ojibway Peak to a point northeast of Rock Lake where the main range is joined by a short spur ridge running southwest toward the upper end of Rock Lake dividing the two upper drainages of four short parallel drainages entering the northeast side of Rock Lake. Thence southeasterly along the mean high watermark of Rock Lake to the outlet of this lake.

Thence southwesterly and then westerly along the upper edge of the sharp dropoff paralleling Rock Meadows to a point at the forks of a tributary of East Fork Rock Creek just west of the southeast corner of Section 35, T. 27 N., R. 32 W. Thence west-northwesterly up a ridge to the top of the ridge between the East Fork and the West Fork Rock Creek. Thence northerly along this ridge to a point on the ridge about 1/4 mile south of Chicago Peak. Thence westerly and then northwesterly along the ridge between West Fork Rock Creek and Chicago Creek to Copper Gulch.

Thence northeasterly up a ridge which passes between the heads of Lost Girl Creek and Moran Basin and thence generally north-northeasterly down a ridge to the East Fork Bull River. Then across this stream and up a spur ridge to the top of Hayes Ridge. Thence northerly down a ridge and across Devils Club Creek at the mouth of a tributary entering from the southeast.

Thence continuing northerly to the top of a ridge between Devils Club Creek and the East Fork Bull River and then northwesterly crossing East Fork Bull River where it branches into two major forks in the northeast corner of unsurveyed Section 34, T. 28 N., R. 32 W. Thence northwesterly up a ridge to its junction with a ridge running south-southwest from the top of Dad Peak.

Thence generally northwesterly along the ridge between East Fork Bull River and Chippewa Creek passing over Poplar Point and thence to Chippewa Creek crossing it at a point just east of the southwest corner of unsurveyed Section 20, T. 28 N., R. 32 W. Thence north-northeasterly to the top of the ridge north of Chippewa Creek and across the unnamed tributary of South Fork Bull River north of Chippewa Creek to the top of the ridge beyond the unnamed tributary. Thence northeasterly up this ridge to the top of the ridge between South Fork Bull River and Middle Fork Bull River.

Thence generally northwesterly along the ridge between South Fork Bull River and Middle Fork Bull River and thence northwesterly on a spur ridge to the latter stream, crossing it and proceeding northwesterly to the top of the ridge between this stream and the North Fork Bull River at a point near the southwest corner of unsurveyed Section 6, T. 28 N., R. 32 W.

Thence northeasterly along this ridge to a point near the center of this Section 6 and thence northwesterly down a spur ridge to the North Fork Bull River, crossing it at the mouth of a tributary parallel to and just upstream from this ridge. Thence northwesterly up a ridge to the top of the Bull River-Lake Creek divide which is the line between Lincoln and Sanders Counties. Thence westerly and northerly on ridges to Upham Creek crossing it at its uppermost major fork. Thence north-northeasterly up a ridge to the top of the ridge between Upham Creek and Payne Creek.

Thence northeasterly along this ridge about 1/3 mile and thence northwesterly down a spur ridge to Payne Creek crossing it at a point where a tributary from the north and from the south enter in close proximity. Thence north-northeasterly across a ridge and the head of an unnamed stream to the top of a long ridge running parallel and just southwest of Hidden Creek. Thence northwesterly along this ridge to cross Crowell Creek at the mouth of Hidden Creek. Thence northeasterly to the top of the ridge between Crowell Creek and Dry Creek.

Thence easterly along this ridge about 1/2 mile to the west line of Section 14, T. 29 N., R. 33 W. Thence north on this line to the northwest corner of this section and thence northeasterly to Dry Creek crossing it and proceeding north-northeasterly up a ridge to the top of the ridge between Dry Creek and Spring Creek. Thence east-northeasterly along this ridge passing over Doonan Peak to Gordon Mountain.

Thence generally north-northwesterly along the ridge between Madge Creek and Camp Creek and thence down a spur ridge to the latter stream crossing it at the mouth of the tributary just downstream from the ridge which the boundary follows. Thence north-northeasterly up a spur ridge to the top of the ridge between Camp Creek and Porcupine Creek. Thence generally westerly along this ridge about 1 mile and thence northerly to Porcupine Creek crossing it at the mouth of a tributary entering from the southeast.

Thence northerly up a spur ridge to the top of the ridge between Porcupine Creek and Twin Creek. Thence northeasterly up this ridge to a prominent point where four ridges intersect. Thence northwesterly on the ridge running in that direction to Twin Creek, crossing it at the mouth of drainages entering from the north and south near the west line of unsurveyed Section 14, T. 30 N., R. 33 W. Thence north-northwesterly up a spur ridge to the top of the ridge between Twin Creek and the next drainage to the northwest.

Thence northeasterly along this ridge about 1/2 mile to a point where three ridges intersect and the point drops off sharply to the north. Thence northwesterly along the top of the ridge about 1/2 mile, thence across an unnamed drainage to a prominent ridge running southwest from Taylor Peak. Thence northeasterly along this ridge to Taylor Peak and thence generally northerly along a ridge to a major tributary of Falls Creek crossing this stream at a point where it turns sharply westward.

Thence northerly along the west line of Sections 35 and 26, T. 31 N., R. 33 W. to the intersection with the ridge between Falls Creek and the drainage into Savage Lake. Thence northeasterly and then southeasterly on this ridge and continuing on the ridge between Falls Creek and the Kootenai River to a junction with a spur ridge near the center of unsurveyed Section 25, T. 31 N., R. 33 W. Thence northeasterly on this spur ridge crossing a western fork of Williams Creek and continuing across the head of Williams Creek to the top of Scenery Mountain, the point of beginning, containing 94,272 acres, more or less.

The above description is based on the map which is attached to and made a part of this description.

CABINET MOUNTAINS WILD AREA

By virtue of the authority vested in me by Regulation U-2 (36 CFR 251.21) and in conformity with Regulation U-2a (36 CFR 251.21a) of the Secretary of Agriculture relating to the occupancy and use of the National Forests, I do hereby designate as the CABINET MOUNTAINS WILD AREA the following described lands, said lands to be hereafter administered as a wild area, subject to the provisions of Regulation U-2 and the instructions thereunder. This order supercedes and revokes the order dated April 4, 1935 establishing the Cabinet Mountains Primitive Area.

June 26, 1964
(Date)

Edward P. Cliff
EDWARD P. CLIFF, Chief
Forest Service