CLARK FORK COALITION

To the Future Fisheries panel-

This request for funds is a follow up on last year's funding request for the same project. When you review the budget sheet please note that I have included last year's Future Fisheries award of $43,000 under "in-kind cash". We presently have a funding gap of $93,650 which we are hoping to fill this year with Future Fisheries and DEQ 319 funding since the goal is to start construction the summer of 2016.

Sincerely,

Jed Whiteley

PO Box 7593
Missoula, MT 59807

T: 406.542.0539
F: 406.542.5632

www.clarkfork.org

FUTURE FISHERIES IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM
GRANT APPLICATION
(please fill in the highlighted areas)

I. APPLICANT INFORMATION

A. Applicant Name: Clark Fork Coalition

B. Mailing Address: 140 S 4th St W #1

C. City: Missoula State: MT Zip: 59807

Telephone: 406-542-0539 x209

D. Contact Person: Jed Whiteley (Clark Fork Coalition)

Address if different from Applicant:

City: State: Zip:

Telephone:

E. Landowner and/or Lessee Name (if other than Applicant): United States Forest Service- Lolo National Forest

Mailing Address: 24 Fort Missoula Rd

City: Missoula State: MT Zip: 59804

Telephone: 406-329-3750

II. PROJECT INFORMATION*

A. Project Name: Upper Lolo Creek Sediment Reduction and Fisheries Connectivity Project

River, stream, or lake: East Fork Lolo Creek and tributaries

Location: Township 11N Range 23W Section 27

County: Missoula

B. Purpose of Project:

The Upper Lolo Creek Sediment Reduction Project is aimed at increasing the quantity and quality of spawning and cold water refugia habitat available to native trout through the removal of fish barriers and sediment from the Upper Lolo Creek watershed.

C. Brief Project Description:

Revised August 5, 2009

In 2009 the Lolo National Forest acquired over 32 square miles of forest lands in Upper Lolo Creek that were formerly under Plum Creek ownership through the Montana Legacy Project. Upper Lolo Creek is significantly impacted by sediment generated by forest roads and failing culverts, the DEQ's Upper Lolo Sediment TIE sets goals of between 33 and 65% load reductions from forest roads. The Plum Creek lands created a checkerboard pattern of land ownership in the Upper Lolo basin and until the Montana Legacy Project was finalized the Lolo National Forest was only able to carry out fish passage and sediment reduction restoration on every other square mile of the area. This project is a continuation of that long term restoration effort and focuses on removing culverts that are fish barriers and reclaiming excess forest roads on the Legacy lands that add sediment to the Upper Lolo Creek system. This effort started in 2006 and has already decommissioned over 100 miles of forest roads, removed 37 culverts and upgraded 10 culverts to bottomless arches or bridges for enhanced fish passage. (DEQ Upper Lolo Sediment TIE, section 3-1).

Project boundaries encompass the upper watershed of Lolo Creek and include the following tributaries: East Fork Lolo Creek, Lost Park Creek, Lee Creek, West Fork Lolo Creek, Granite Creek and North Creek. All of these creeks are identified as in need of sediment reduction and fish barrier removal in the Forest Service's 2013 "Conservation Strategy for Bull Trout on USFS lands in Western Montana". The mainstem of Lolo Creek starting with the confluence of the East Fork all the way to the Bitterroot River is designated as Critical Bull Trout habitat by USFWS. All restoration activities for this project will take place on USFS property. This grant application focuses on the East Fork of Lolo Creek, project activities will start in 2015 and then continue over a 3 year timeline. Permitting and design activities will occur in 2015 with implementation starting 2016 and finishing in 2017. All project activities are based on the recommendations stated in the Upper Lolo Sediment TMDL Implementation Evaluation (Section 2.0 TMDL-Recommended Activities), the Lolo Creek Watershed Restoration Plan (Chapter 4- needs in Lolo Creek) and the Forest Service's 2013 "Conservation Strategy for Bull Trout on USFS lands in Western Montana".

The Upper Lolo Creek Sediment Reduction and Fisheries Connectivity Project will focus on removing fish passage barriers that are blocking native fish migration and decommissioning forest roads that are adding sediment to the areas streams. Sites where culverts are removed will be recountoured to match current stream geomorphology and large woody debris and boulders will be placed for grade control. Decommissioning of roads will include up to 100% recontouring (closure level 5) of topography, slash placement, and revegetation as needed. Measurable objectives for the project include completing 100% recontouring of 12-14 miles of forest roads and the removal of at least 8 culverts, monitoring stream cross-sections to access project effectiveness and conducting outreach to educate community members and government agencies about the project. It is the projects goal to measurably reduce sediment in the Upper Lower Creek TPA as well as opening up more than 10 miles of stream to fish for spawning and cold water refugia.

D. Length of stream or size of lake that will be treated: 7-10

E. Project Budget:

Grant Request (Dollars): $ **65,000**

Contribution by Applicant (Dollars): $ _____ In-kind $ 4000
(salaries of government employees are not considered as matching contributions)

Contribution from other Sources (Dollars): $ 112,650 In-kind $ _____
(attach verification - See page 2 budget template)

Revised August 5, 2009

Total Project Cost: $ 181,650

F. Attach itemized (line item) budget – see template

G. Attach specific project plans, detailed sketches, plan views, photographs, maps, evidence of landowner consent, evidence of public support, and/or other information necessary to evaluate the merits of the project. If project involves water leasing or water salvage complete supplemental questionnaire (fwp.mt.gov/habitat/futurefisheries/supplement2.doc).

H. Attach land management and maintenance plans that will ensure protection of the reclaimed area.

III. PROJECT BENEFITS*

A. What species of fish will benefit from this project?:

The project will benefit Westslope cutthroat trout, bull trout, mountain whitefish, brown, brook, and rainbow trout. Based on electrofishing data and genetic testing Westslope cutthroat are the primary species that would benefit.

B. How will the project protect or enhance wild fish habitat?:

Removing fish barriers will open up 7-10 miles spawning habitat for trout, primarily for Westslope cutthroat and bull trout which are the predominant species in the drainage. The removal of the fish barriers will also allow wild fish access to over 7-10 miles of cold water refuge during the low flow months of August-October. The removal of forest roads will reduce sediment, thereby enhancing wild fish habitat.

C. Will the project improve fish populations and/or fishing? To what extent?:

Yes, it is expected the project will improve fish populations and angling opportunities.

D. Will the project increase public fishing opportunity for wild fish and, if so, how?:

The entire project area is on public land and is open to angling, the removal of fish barriers will increase the miles of stream with wild trout present. Wild fish populations are also expected to increase as a result of the project, leading to more opportunity for angling success. Even with the roads removed by the project there is public access throughout the project area.

E. If the project requires maintenance, what is your time commitment to this project?:

The project will not require maintenance since roads and culverts will be removed and no new infrastructure will be installed.

F. What was the cause of habitat degradation in the area of this project and how will the project correct the cause?:

Under sized and failing culverts along with unmaintained roads are causing habitat degradation in this area. Montana DEQ has listed the East Fork of Lolo Creek as a sediment impaired stream. Included in DEQ's Improvement Strategies for this area are the following actions: "reclaim forest roads that are surplus to the needs of forest land managers" and "correct those priority fish passage barriers that are significantly affecting the connectivity of native fish habitats"

G. What public benefits will be realized from this project?:

Public benefits from this project will include: improved quantity and quality of aquatic habitat, improved water quality, increased fish numbers, enhanced fishing opportunities and an improved tourism economy.

H. Will the project interfere with water or property rights of adjacent landowners? (explain):

The project will not interfere with the water or property rights of adjacent landowners. The entire project will take place on USFS property.

I. Will the project result in the development of commercial recreational use on the site?: (explain):

No, there is planned development of commercial recreational use at the site of the project.

J. Is this project associated with the reclamation of past mining activity?:

No

Each approved project sponsor must enter into a written agreement with the Department specifying terms and duration of the project.

IV. AUTHORIZING STATEMENT

I (we) hereby declare that the information and all statements to this application are true, complete, and accurate to the best of my (our) knowledge and that the project or activity complies with rules of the Future Fisheries Improvement Program.

Applicant Signature: Date: 5/26/15

Sponsor (if applicable):

***Highlighted boxes will automatically expand.**

Mail To: **Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks**
Habitat Protection Bureau
PO Box 200701
Helena, MT 59620-0701

Incomplete or late applications will be returned to applicant.

Applications may be rejected if this form is modified.

*****Applications may be submitted at anytime, but must be received by the Future Fisheries Program office in Helena <u>before</u> December 1 and June 1 of each year to be considered for the subsequent funding period.*****

Revised August 5, 2009

BUDGET TEMPLATE SHEET FOR FUTURE FISHERIES PROGRAM APPLICATIONS
(Revised 5/26/2015)

WORK ITEMS (ITEMIZE BY CATEGORY)	NUMBER OF UNITS	UNIT DESCRIPTION*	COST/UNIT	TOTAL COST	CONTRIBUTIONS			
					FUTURE FISHERIES REQUEST	IN-KIND SERVICES	IN-KIND CASH	TOTAL
Personnel								
Survey				$ -				$ -
Design	1	Final design and specs	$4,400.00	$ 4,400.00	-	4,000.00	4,400.00	$ 8,400.00
Engineering								$ -
Permitting	1	Env. Comliance	$14,000.00	$ 14,000.00	-		14,000.00	$ 14,000.00
Oversight	1	In the field construction oversight	$12,100.00	$ 12,100.00			12,100.00	$ 12,100.00
Labor								$ -
Travel								
Mileage				$ -				$ -
Per diem				$ -				$ -
Construction Materials								
Restoration seed	35	acres	$350.00	$ 12,250.00			12,250.00	$ 12,250.00
Dewatering	1	LS	$2,500.00	$ 2,500.00			2,500.00	$ 2,500.00
Equipment								
Excavator (50000 lb+)	600	hrs	$130.00	$ 78,000.00	44,300.00		33,700.00	$ 78,000.00
Bulldozer (D4+)	360	hrs	$115.00	$ 41,400.00	20,700.00		20,700.00	$ 41,400.00
Mobilization								
Mobilization	1	LS	$8,000.00	$ 8,000.00			8,000.00	$ 8,000.00
Taxes Bonds and Insurance	1	LS	$3,000.00	$ 3,000.00			3,000.00	$ 3,000.00
General Requirements	1	LS	$2,000.00	$ 2,000.00			2,000.00	$ 2,000.00
			TOTALS	$ 177,650.00	$ 65,000.00	$ 4,000.00	$ 112,650.00	$ 181,650.00

*Units = feet, hours, inches, lump sum, etc.

MATCHING CONTRIBUTIONS

CONTRIBUTOR	IN-KIND SERVICE	IN-KIND CASH	TOTAL
DEQ 319 Grant Program (Secured)	$ -	$ 30,000.00	$ 30,000.00
Westslope Tout Unlimited (Secured)	$ -	$ 11,000.00	$ 11,000.00
FWP Future Fisheries (Secured)	$ -	$ 43,000.00	$ 43,000.00
Clark Fork Coalition (Secured)	$ 4,000.00	$ -	$ 4,000.00
Deq 319 Grant Program- Apply for in 2015	$ -	$ 24,650.00	$ 24,650.00

Attachments Table of Contents

Attachment A...Maps

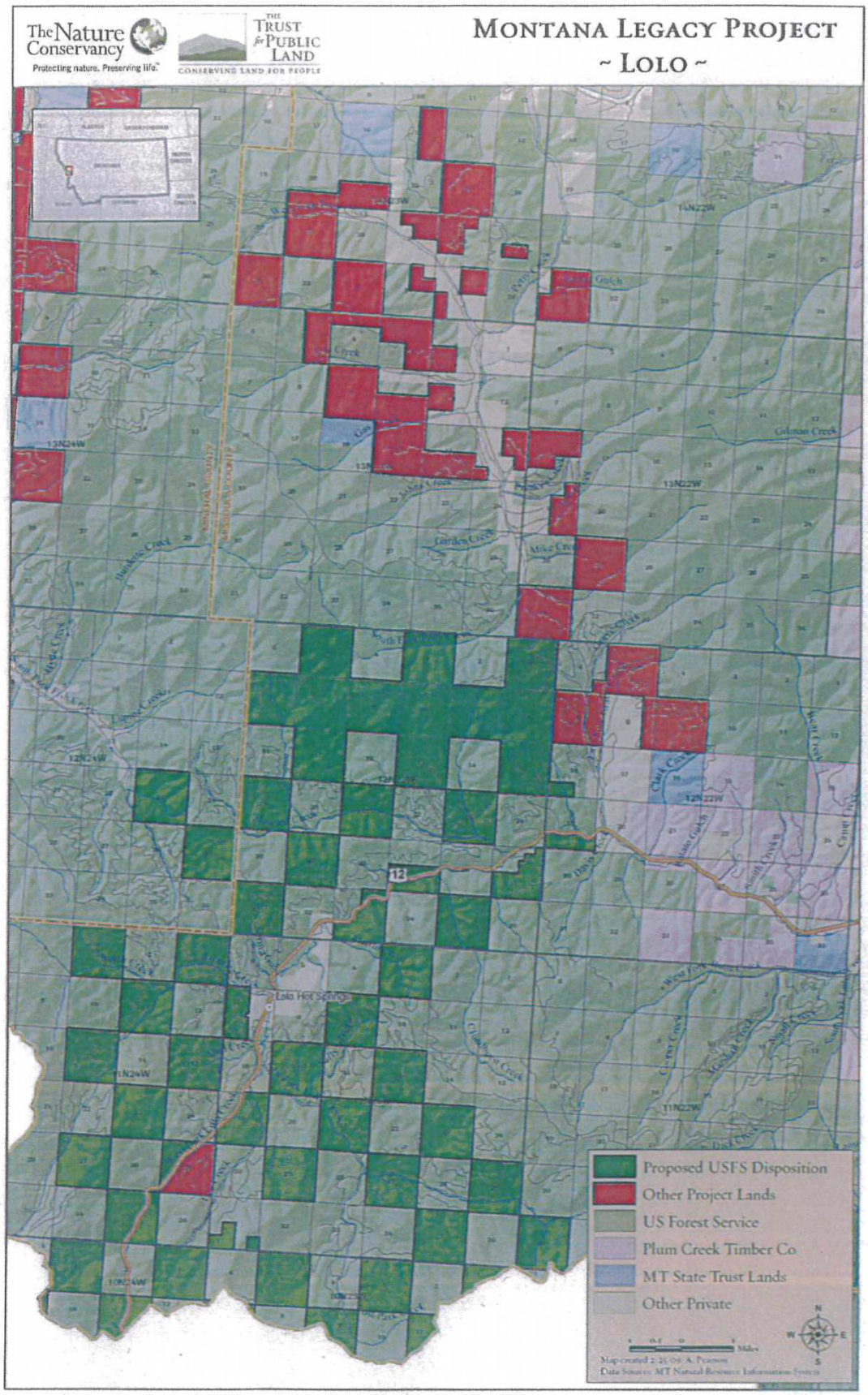
Attachment B...Planning Documents

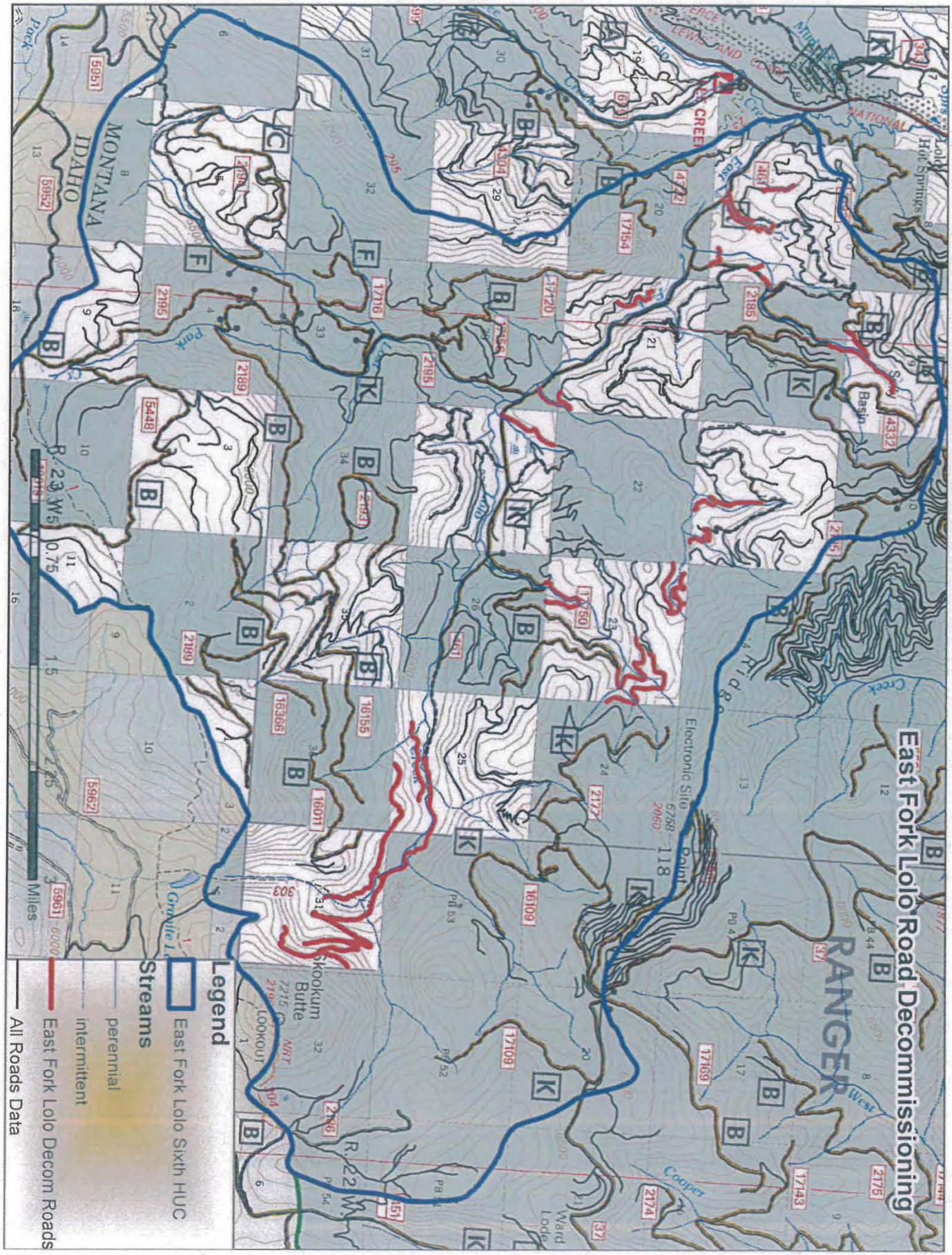
Attachment C...Preliminary Specs

Attachment D...Letters of Support

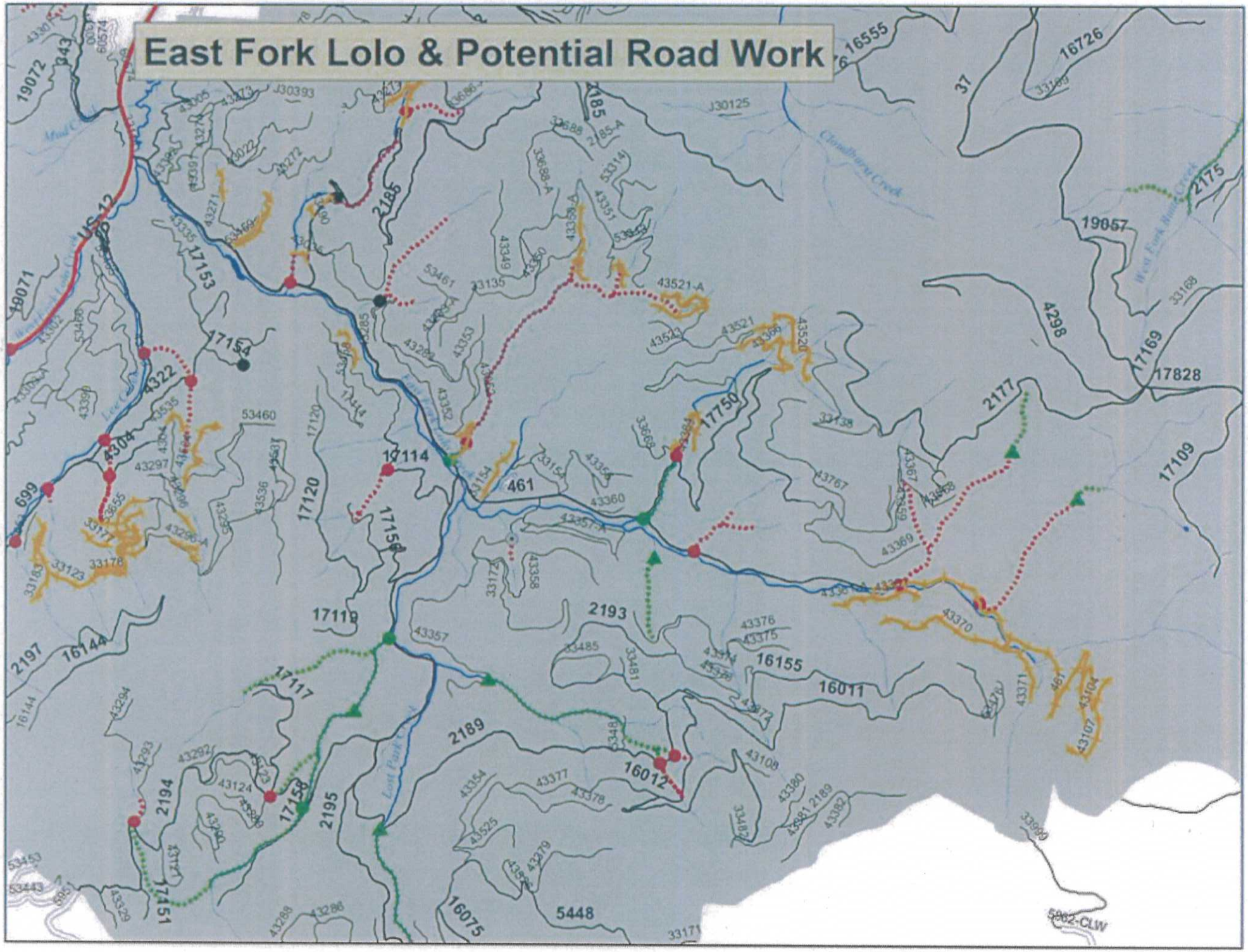
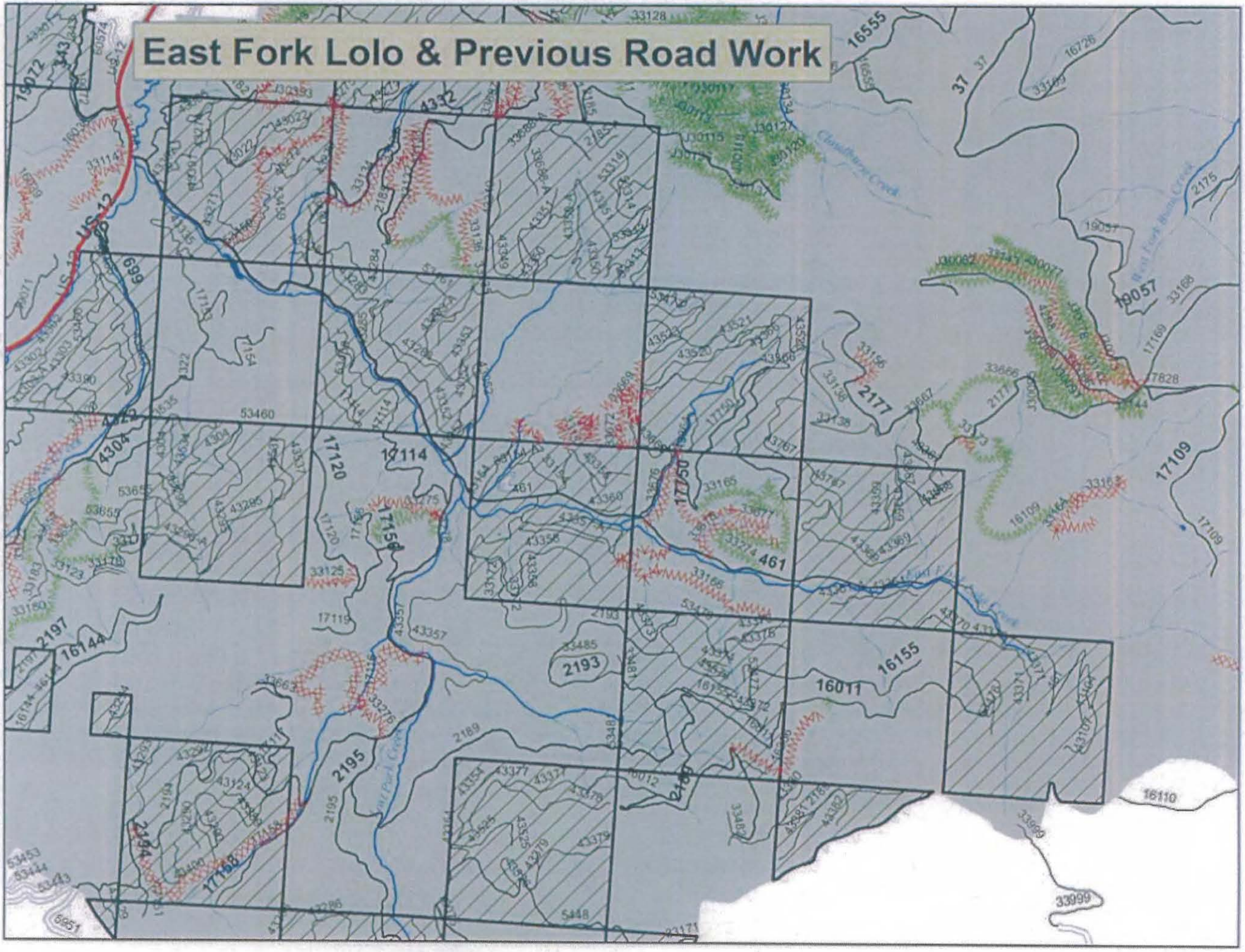
Attachment E...Maintenance and Management Plan

Attachment A


The Nature Conservancy
Protecting nature. Preserving life.
The Trust for Public Land
Conserving Land for People
Montana Legacy Project
~ Lolo ~
Lolo Hot Springs
Proposed USFS Disposition
Other Project Lands
US Forest Service
Plum Creek Timber Co
MT State Trust Lands
Other Private
Miles
Map created 2-25-09 A. Pearson
Data Source: MT Natural Resource Information System


East Fork Lolo Road Decommissioning
Legend
East Fork Lolo Sixth HUC
Streams
perennial
intermittent
East Fork Lolo Decom Roads
All Roads Data
Miles
MONTANA
IDAHO
RANGER
Electronic Site
Skookum Butte
Lookout
Cooper
Ward Lode
Hot Springs
Basin
Ridge
Creek
West
R. 23 W.
R. 22 W.

East Fork Lolo & Potential Road Work



East Fork Lolo & Previous Road Work