Site Basic Report

7/11/2006

Site Code BCD S.USIDHP*210

Site Class Standard site

Name SCOTCHMAN NO. 2

Defining Managed Area SCOTCHMAN NO. 2 RNA

State/Province Idaho

Directions Scotchman No. 2 RNA is located approximately 12 miles northeast of Clark Fork, Idaho, in the Idaho Panhandle along the Idaho/Montana border. | From the town of Clark Fork, Idaho, on State Route 200, go north on FS Road 419 for 8 miles, then follow FS Road 1084 up East Fork Creek for 1.2 miles to the old road up Savage Creek. Park here and cross East Fork Creek by foot (the bridge is washed out), then follow the old logging road up Savage Creek for 1.3 miles. The bridge here is also washed out. Cross Savage Creek and continue following the logging road back and forth across the slope in the large clearcut to the top, then take the trail up the slope to South Ridge, which at this point is the northern boundary of Scotchman No. 2 RNA. The vertical climb from the parking area on East Fork Creek to the helicopter pad is 3000 feet on a reasonably good trail. The climb from that point to the summit of Scotchman No. 2 is along the South Ridge over rough broken slopes without a trail with an elevational gain of approximately 1000 feet.

Minimum Elevation:	4,320	**Feet**	1,317	**Meters**
Maximum Elevation:	6,989	**Feet**	2,130	**Meters**

Site Description Scotchman No. 2 RNA contains a high mountain peak with surrounding subalpine conditions, including rock cliffs, ledges, talus slopes, and subalpine vegetation. The RNA is representative of the complex geology of low-grade metamorphism of Precambrian sedimentary rock strata that have been folded, tilted, fractured, and glaciated. Scotchman No. 2 RNA contains subalpine fir (Abies lasiocarpa) forests in various mixtures with Engelmann spruce (Picea engelmannii), lodgepole pine (Pinus contorta), whitebark pine (Pinus albicaulis), western larch (Larix occidentalis), western white pine (Pinus monticola), and Douglas-fir (Pseudotsuga menziesii). Elevations in the RNA range from 4320 feet (1317 meters), where the boundary crosses the creek draining North Basin, to 6989 feet (2130 m), on the summit of Scotchman No. 2. Other features of the RNA include a small pond without fish in a glacial cirque and many avalanche paths, some of which are well vegetated with Sitka alder (Alnus sinuata). Grizzly bear (Ursus arctos) isknown to occur in the area, which is considered to be important habitat within the Cabinet-Yaak grizzly bear ecosystem.

Key Environmental Factors Most of Scotchman No. 2 RNA is exposed bedrock or thin, rocky soils on dry, south-facing slopes, resulting in sparse vegetative cover. Only two relatively small areas in the RNA have deep, moist soils on north-facing slopes and support forest vegetation. Much of the south-facing slope of South Ridge burned in 1919. Signs of soil erosion resulting from that fire are still evident.

Climate Description The climate of the RNA exhibits a strong Pacific maritime influence with moist winters that are warmer and milder than might be expected. Snowfall is heavy in the mountains. These conditions are periodically interrupted by cold, clear, continental air from Canada. Continental climatic conditions prevail during the summer months with minimal rainfall, cloud cover, and relative humidity.

Land Use History Exploratory drilling occurred just west of the RNA in 1985.

Cultural Features There are no known presettlement cultural features within the site.

Site Mapped Y - Yes **Mapped Date**

Designer Wellner, C. A.

Boundary Justification The boundary of the RNA ridge and contour lines to encompass subalpine conditions and the rugged geologic features of Scotchman No. 2. The state line between Montana and Idaho forms the eastern boundary.

Primary and Secondary Area		Acres		Hectares
Primary Area	1,314.32	Acres	531.89	Hectares

Site Comments

Biodiversity Significance

Biodiversity Significance Comments The site is a geologic wonderland of folded, tilted, fractured, and glaciated sedimentary rocks that have undergone low-grade metamorphism. In addition to the geologic features the RNA contains habitat for the grizzly bear, a Threatened species.

Other Values

Other Values Comments The site has high watershed value. Since a large proportion of the surface area is rock, runoff yields and peak stream flows can be high, especially during snowmelt and prolonged rain or snow events.

Protection Urgency

Protection Urgency Comments The site is an established Research Natural Area.

Management Urgency M4 - Not needed now; no current threats; may need in future

Management Urgency Comments Unpatented mining claims exist within the RNA, and the status of the existing claims are subject to individual legislation. Some exploratory drilling occurred in 1985 just west of the RNA.

Conservation Intentions The site as been protected by designation as a Forest Service Research Natural Area.

Protection Comments

Land Use Comments Scotchman No. 2 RNA is allocated to Management Area 14 (RNAs and Experimental Forests) in the Idaho Panhandle National Forests Plan (August 1987). The RNA receives very little recreational use. Unpatented mining claims exist in the W2 of section 4, W2 of section 9, SW4 of section 10, and NW4 of section 15.

Natural Hazard Comments The terrain is steep and rugged with numerous avalanche chutes. The area is grizzly bear habitat.

Exotics Comments

Offsite The RNA is surrounded by Forest Service lands and is within the proposed Scotchman Peaks Wilderness. The most of the lands adjacent to the RNA boundary are within Management Area 11 - proposed wilderness managed to protect wilderness characteristics and to provide for primitive recreation opportunities. The northwestern boundary is adjacent to Management Area 10 - lands managed for semi-primitive recreation. These lands will remain in the present condition, with no new roads.

Information Needs

Management Needs

Managed Area Relations The RNA is within the proposed Scotchman Peak Wilderness and the Cabinet Proposed Grizzly Bear Recovery Habitat.

Element ID	Scientific Name	Common Name	G-Rank	S-Rank
7662	*Abies lasiocarpa/Menziesia ferruginea, Xerophyllum tenax phase*	subalpine fir/menziesia, beargrass phase	G5	S5
7661	*Abies lasiocarpa/Menziesia ferruginea, Vaccinium scoparium phase*	subalpine fir/menziesia, grouse whortleberry phase	G5	S5
7685	*Abies lasiocarpa/Xerophyllum tenax, Vaccinium scoparium phase*	subalpine fir/beargrass, grouse whortleberry phase	G5	S5
7683	*Abies lasiocarpa/Xerophyllum tenax, Luzula hitchcockii phase*	subalpine fir/beargrass, smooth woodrush phase	G5	S5
7057	*Abies lasiocarpa/Luzula hitchcockii*	subalpine fir/smooth woodrush	G5	S5

Reference Code	Full Citation
U01RAB01IDUS	Rabe, F. W. 2001. High mountain lake Research Natural Areas in Idaho. USDA Forest Service, Rocky Mountain Research Station, General Technical Report RMRS-GTR-77. 182 pp.
U87MOS22IDUS	Moseley, R. K., and C. A. Wellner. 1987. Species list for the flora of Scotchman No. 2 Research Natural Area. Pages 9-11 in the Establishment Record for Scotchman No. 2 Research Natural Area within Kaniksu National Forest, Bonner County, Idaho. United States Department of Agriculture, Forestry Sciences Lab, Missoula, MT.
U87WEL06IDUS	Wellner, C. A., and R. K. Moseley. 1987. Establishment record for Scotchman No. 2 Research Natural Area within Kaniksu National Forest, Bonner County, Idaho. 20 pp.
D87USF02IDUS	U. S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service. 1987. Environmental impact statement for the Forest Plan, Idaho Panhandle National Forests. U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, Northern Region.
D87USF03IDUS	U. S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service. 1987. Forest Plan, Idaho Panhandle National Forests. U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, Northern Region.
D87USF04IDUS	U. S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service. 1987. Record of Decision, Forest Plan, Idaho Panhandle National Forests. U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, Northern Region.
B86OME01IDUS	Omernik, J. M., and A. L. Gallant. 1986. Ecoregions of the Pacific Northwest. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Environmental Research Laboratory, Corvallis. 39 pp.
F85MOS35IDUS	Moseley, R. K. 1985. Site survey summary for Scotchman No. 2 proposed Research Natural Area, Bonner County, Kaniksu National Forest.

Imagery Comments

The following aerial photos, located at the Forest Supervisor's and District Ranger's offices, provide stereo coverage of most of the RNA: 8-19-83 USDA F12 611040 2083-055, 8-19-83 USDA F12 611040 2083-056, 8-19-83 USDA F12 611040 2083-057.