

LAZYMAN INVENTORIED ROADLESS AREA

**SUBUNIT A – Northeast Portion
East Fork of Colorado Gulch, Nelson Gulch, Grizzly Gulch
May 15, 2026**



LIST OF FIGURES – SUBUNIT A

Figure A01. Map of Subunit A, Lazyman IRA 3

Figure A02. North end of Lazyman IRA looking south into Grizzly Gulch and Nelson Gulch from Mount Helena Ridge 3

Figure A03. Colorado-Travis Creek Ridgeline, NS03 4

Figure A04. Riparian meadows head of Colorado Gulch, NS06 4

Figure A05. Field Survey route down Nelson Gulch from Colorado-Travis divide 4

Figure A06. Upper Colorado Gulch with Black Mountain in background 5

Figure A07. Old routes in Nelson Gulch have been obliterated by downfall 5

Figure A08. Riparian meadow in lower Nelson Gulch 5

Figure A09. Within IRA trees in Nelson Gulch have been marked for timber stand inventory 6

Figure A10. Mining claim within the IRA in Nelson Gulch..... 6

Figures A11 and A12. Nelson Gulch two-track; gravel and boards have been dumped in creek and wet areas to facilitate motorized travel..... 6

Figure A13. Barely a footpath that has been obliterated with downfall, 647-NS08-4 (left)..... 7

Figure A14. No sign of any former road on the hill slope to the east above; too many rock outcrops for road placement 7

Figure A15. Nelson Gulch – a two track is being maintained for access - 647-NS15-7..... 7

Figure A16. A short spur in Nelson Gulch - 647-NS08..... 7

Figures A17 and A18. Nelson Gulch habitat appears healthy..... 8

Figure A19. Two-track about 7’ wide. Road has been reseeded. Logs are placed strategically to dissuade driving - 647-NS02 8

Figure A20. Trail crossing over old mine tailings - 647-NS02..... 8

Figure A21. Soil slumping over old mine shaft on steep slope - 647-NS06 9

Figure A22. Map of field surveys conducted in Nelson Gulch 9

Figure A23. Google Earth display of non-existent route 723-NS01 at the north end of the Nelson Gulch-Grizzly Gulch ridge. Red Mountain in upper left..... 10

Figure A24. Near the edge of IRA - marked with pink and orange flagging and a gold spot of spray paint. Huge boulders - 723-01..... 10

Figure A25. End of 723-01 survey between Grizzly Gulch and Nelson Gulch looking west to MacDonald Pass..... 19

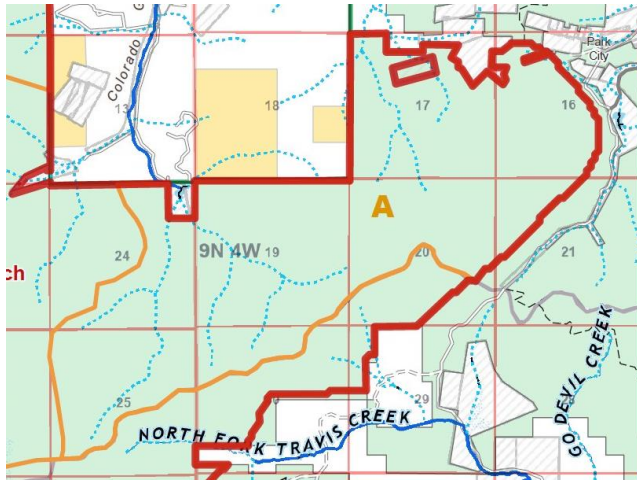
Figure A26. Google Earth photo of non-existent route 723-NS04 11

Figure A27. Possible IRA boundary or harvest unit in 723-04 marked with pink and orange flagging and gold “dot” of spray paint 11

Figure A28. Ancient road bed completely revegetated with sedges, grasses, kinnikinnick, Oregon grape 11

Figure A29. Panorama of downfall and boulders at end of ridge between Nelson and Grizzly Gulches, 723-04..... 12

Subunit A: Northeast Area includes drainages of East Fork of Colorado Gulch, Nelson Gulch, Grizzly Gulch



Subunit A of the Lazyman Inventoried Roadless Area involved surveys of 14 aspirational routes that the Forest Service had hoped to utilize during the Tenmile-South Helena Vegetation Manipulation Project and included 120 photos documenting the current condition of the area. Within Subunit A, during May 2020, 120 photos were recorded during four days of field surveys in this north-northeast portion of the Lazyman IRA.

Figure A01. Map of Subunit A, Lazyman IRA.

The following separate [Field Reports](#) (accessible on HHAA Google drive) provide all photos, waypoints, maps, and narratives for Subunit A: Report 00 describes how Reports A through G mesh together for Subunits A and B; Report B – 4000-001 North; Report F – 4000-001 Spurs 647-NS; Report G – 647 roads detached; 723-Series. The following summarizes those reports.



Figure A02. North end of Lazyman IRA looking south into Grizzly Gulch and Nelson Gulch from Mount Helena Ridge.

May 4, 2020: The ridge between Nelson Gulch, Travis Creek, and Colorado Gulch was surveyed by Gayle Joslin to document whether roads actually exist, in response to the Tenmile-South Helena Vegetation Manipulation Project which claimed that usable roads were present. Supposed spur roads (4000-NS03, NS05, and NS06) would have accessed the E. Fk. Colorado Gulch. In the case of NS06 a road was not present at all, and NS03 and NS05 had essentially disappeared into the landscape under regrowth and downfall. The drainage heads that come together in this area provide excellent wildlife habitat in a secure setting. No weeds that would compromise forage were observed. Abundant deer, elk, moose and bear sign was noted.



Figure A03. Colorado-Travis Cr. Ridgeline, NS03. Figure A04. Riparian meadows head of Colorado Gul, NS06.

June 2, 2019: Nelson Gulch was surveyed on by Doug Powell, Matt Bishop, and Gayle Joslin (Report B). Forty-five photos were taken along 21 waypoints.



Figure A05. Field Survey route down Nelson Gulch from Colorado-Travis divide.

This survey began at the headwaters divide between Colorado Gulch and Nelson Gulch. Very few weeds but abundant deer, elk, moose, and periodic bear sign was encountered. Subunit A of the IRA is largely undisturbed except for the lower elevation edges that are bordered by private lands.



Figure A06. Upper Colorado Gulch with Black Mountain in background.

Dense timber, downfall, and riparian meadows provide effective, secure wildlife habitat.



Figure A07. Old routes in Nelson Gulch have been obliterated by downfall.

Figure A08. Riparian meadow in lower Nelson Gulch.



Figure A09. Within the IRA trees in Nelson Gulch have been marked for timber stand inventory.

Figure A10. Mining claim within the IRA in Nelson Gulch.

Along and within the bottom edge of the IRA, a two-track has been illegally maintained with gravel having been dumped at creek crossings and moist areas, apparently to facilitate ATV travel. Private property borders the northern boundary where some owners were encroaching onto the IRA for storage of personal items.



Figure A11 and A12. Nelson Gulch two-track; gravel and boards have been dumped in creek and wet areas to facilitate motorized travel.

May 11, 2020 (Report F): Nelson Gulch from the Travis-Colorado-Nelson hydrologic divide was surveyed by Gary Ingman (Report F) to quantify the status of spur routes that supposedly branched off the primary trail that extends down Nelson Gulch and is described in Report B. during this survey 50 photos were taken at 28 waypoints.



Figure A13. Barely a footpath which has been obliterated with downfall - 647-NS08-4 (left).



Figure A14. Aspen stand with abundant moose sign, large Doug-fir - 647-NS09-12.

Extensive impassable blowdown is adjacent to the meadow in Fig.

A14. No sign of any former road on the hill slope to the east above; too many rock outcrops for road placement.

Old routes that could be found were naturally recovering and/or had been obliterated with downfall. Because private landowners were partially maintaining certain two-tracks, they could be identified adjacent to private land but became trails or disappeared farther from the boundary.



Figure A15. Nelson Gulch – a two track is being illegally maintained for access - 647-NS15-7.



Figure A16. Short spur in Nelson Gulch - 647-NS08.

This route begins as an elk trail and ends as a primitive road behind private land in a more or less land locked setting.

May 11, 2020 (Report G): The survey of the northeasterly portion of the IRA was conducted by Gayle Joslin, encompassing four routes (Report G), involving 22 waypoints and 33 photos. Weather conditions were cold and wet with snow and freezing sleet.



Figures A17 and A18. Nelson Gulch habitat appears healthy.

Because there are several private land dwellings along the IRA boundary in Nelson Gulch, elk and moose sign was rare but deer sign was abundant.



Figure A19. Two-track about 7' wide. Road has been reseeded. Logs are placed strategically to dissuade driving - 647-NS02.

Within sight of private land are foot trails and remnants of old mines.



Figure A20. Trail crossing over old mine tailings - 647-NS06.



Figure A21. Soil slumping over old mine shaft, steep slope - 647-NS06.

This northeastern portion of the Lazyman IRA, above the private lands that intersperse the boundary, is some of the most rugged country within the IRA, occurring on steep, rocky north slopes. As such, the mid to upper reaches of this Subunit provide excellent wildlife security, while the lower, more disturbed edges

provide a buffer for the IRA to the south.

The northeastern portion of the Lazyman IRA adjoins private property. Mid to upper reaches of the drainage provide excellent wildlife security.

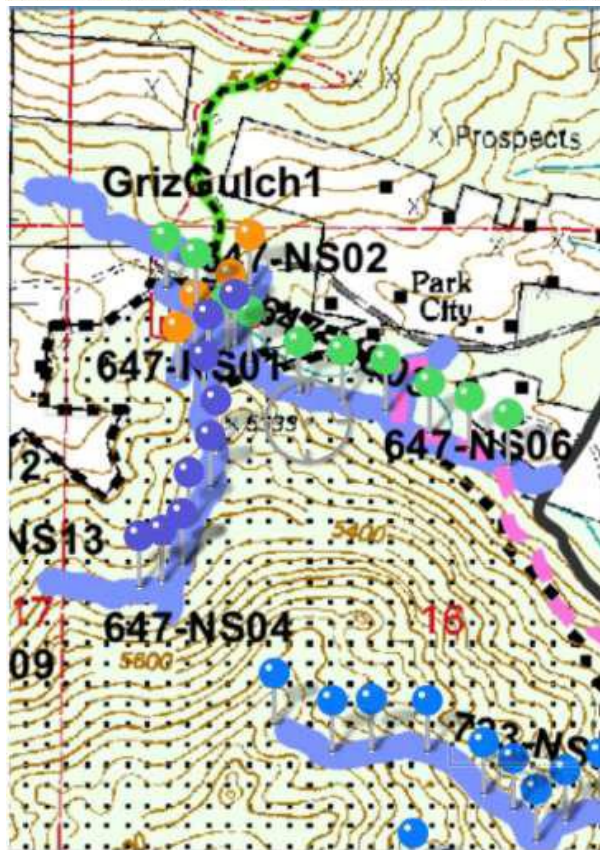


Figure A22. Map of field surveys conducted in Nelson Gulch.

May 10, 2020: Two areas in Grizzly Gulch (Subunit A) were surveyed by Gayle Joslin (723 Series Reports) including 723-01 for which 11 waypoints and 18 photos were documented and for 723-04 for which 6 waypoints and 9 photos were noted.

Field survey 723-01 (Fig. 23) began at the county road, following a faint old wagon trail that switch-backed to the north then south to the IRA boundary.

Figure A23 depicts yellow waypoints suggesting that the aspirational road from Grizzly Gulch (723-01) could easily have connected with the Nelson Gulch (647-NS04) proposed route. If either had been built, intact undisturbed wildlife habitat would have been compromised.

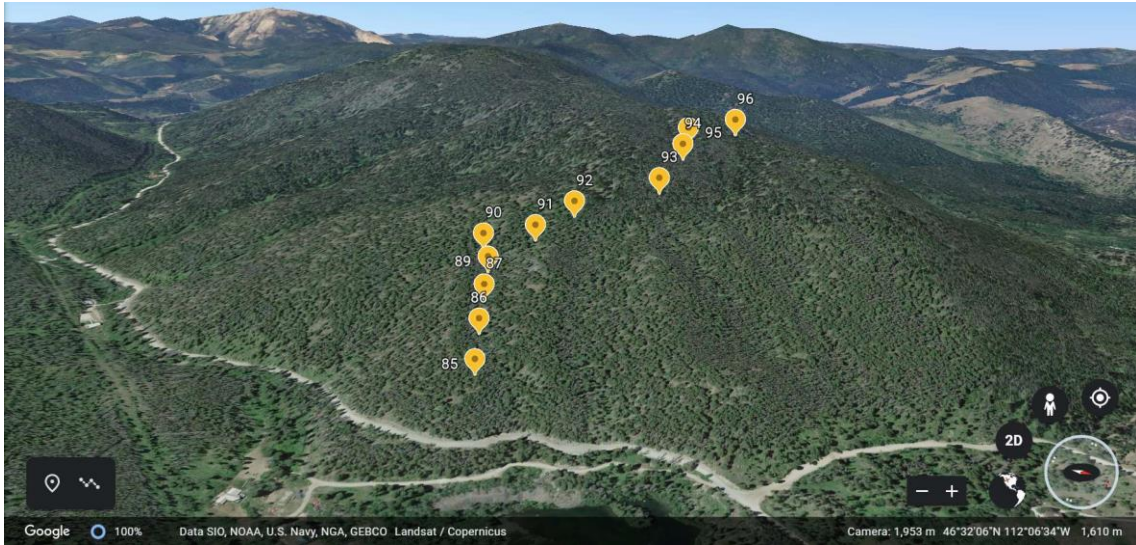


Figure A23. Google Earth display of non-existent route 723-NS01 at the north end of the Nelson Gulch-Grizzly Gulch ridge. Red Mountain in upper left.

723-NS01 nearly connected with aspirational route 647-NS04 to create a loop route over the top of the ridge, which would have fragmented wildlife security. From the county road, no human use or other trails intersected this route.



Figure A24. Near the edge of IRA - marked with pink and orange flagging and a gold spot of spray pain; huge boulders - 723-01.

Figure A25. End of 723-01 survey between Grizzly and Nelson Gulch looking west to MacDonald Pass.

A few hundred yards to the south of 723-NS01, Field Survey 723-04 revealed significant deer, elk, and moose sign, but only faint indications of a trail near the main county road. No other trails or signs of human use intersected this route.

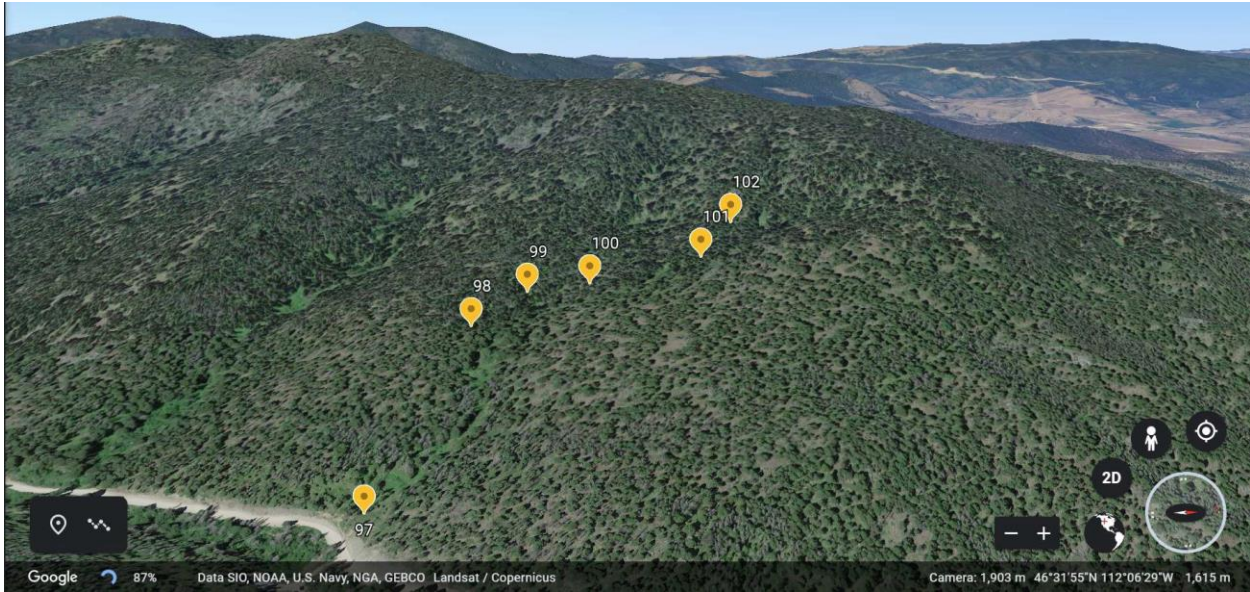


Figure A26. Google Earth photo of non-existent route 723-NS04.

This survey followed a narrow riparian corridor up the mountain through an area marked for timber harvest or some sort of “manipulation.” Rarely or never marked in other areas of the IRA, the receding IRA boundary seemed to be indicated in this area, either with yellow paint spots on trees, or flagging.



Figure A27. Possible IRA boundary or harvest unit marked with pink and orange flagging and gold “dot” of spray paint - 723-04.

Figure A28. Ancient road bed is completely revegetated with sedges, grasses, kinnikinnick, Oregon grape.



Figure A29. Panorama of downfall and boulders at end of ridge between Nelson and Grizzly Gulches - 723-04.

Because the IRA was prevented from being entered as part of the Tenmile-South Helena Vegetation Manipulation Project, the ridge between Grizzly Gulch and Nelson Gulch continues to provide excellent, unfragmented wildlife security.