



File Code: 7700

Date: June 30, 2008

Dear Forest User:

The USDA-Forest Service has initiated planning in order to implement the recently issued National Travel Rule on portions of the Emmett Ranger District of the Boise National Forest. There are a total of 216,193 acres, comprising some 65 percent of the Ranger District that have not gone through a complete National Environmental Policy Act route designation decision process. These acres are comprised of the "E" travel management areas identified on the current Boise National Forest Visitor/Travel Map. Public motorized travel is currently restricted to formally designated or undesignated, but established routes within these areas. Consistency with the National Travel Rule requires that public motorized travel be allowed only on designated routes or areas. Maps of these areas site-specific are enclosed.

To facilitate this planning effort the Forest Service is soliciting agency, organization and public input regarding what changes in route designations they suggest in these areas. Of principal interest is specifically which, if any, of the currently unauthorized routes (commonly referred to as user-created routes) within the "E" areas to designate for public motorized travel or what site-specific information the Forest Service should consider in evaluating unauthorized routes proposed for designation. Only those routes specifically designated for public motorized travel will be available for that use at the conclusion of this process in these areas.

We are specifically asking for information on the following:

1. Which route designations you would like to see within the "E" areas?
2. What class of motorized use would you like to see on the routes you have identified (motorcycle only, ATV, etc).

The following guidelines will drive our decision making process and you should consider them when evaluating and recommending routes:

1. The route must not duplicate access already provided by another route.
2. Using USFS standards and guidelines, the route must not have significant potential to result in erosion or substantial adverse impacts to other resources (e.g., because of the location, steepness, or kinds of soils).
3. The route must be maintainable at a reasonable cost.
4. The Forest Service has no jurisdiction over private lands and other lands outside the National Forest System lands and therefore, cannot designate routes across private land.

The input submitted to the Forest Service by August 30, 2008 will be used to help develop a detailed site-specific proposed action that will be made available for public review and comment



later this fall. All those who comment to this information request will be sent a copy of the proposed action and will again be able to provide input. From on the proposed action, alternatives to the proposed action can be developed.

The Boise National Forest website ([www.fs.fed.us/recreation/programs/ohv/](http://www.fs.fed.us/recreation/programs/ohv/)) contains additional information on this planning effort, including maps of the areas needing designation and a form that may be useful to you and/or others in providing input.

We will hold the following public meetings to gather input:

Boise	July 15, 2008	Boise Best Western-Airport Sierra Room	7:00 PM
Emmett	July 16, 2008	Emmett RD Office	7:00 PM
Garden Valley	July 17, 2008	Crouch City Hall	7:00 PM

The enclosed maps shows the vicinity of the e-areas (shown in the tan color) in relation to towns and other ranger districts, a map index, and individual area maps upon which we would like your input as to desired routes. If you have questions regarding this planning effort or wish to notify us of your interest in being kept informed as the process continues, please contact the Emmett Ranger District office at 208-365-7000. You may also submit input or notify us of your interest in continued involvement via hard-copy mail or through our email site at [comments-intermtn-boise-emmett@fs.fed.us](mailto:comments-intermtn-boise-emmett@fs.fed.us). We look forward to your active involvement and input as we work to complete this route designation process by the end of the 2009.

Sincerely,

*/S/JOHN ERICKSON*

JOHN R ERICKSON  
District Ranger

# Index Area 1

**Legend**

**National Forest System Road**

**Operation Maintenance Level**

- Other
- 1 - BASIC CUSTODIAL CARE (CLOSED)
- 2 - HIGH CLEARANCE VEHICLES
- 3 - SUITABLE FOR PASSENGER CARS
- 5 - HIGH DEGREE OF USER COMFORT

**National Forest System Trails**

**Use Type**

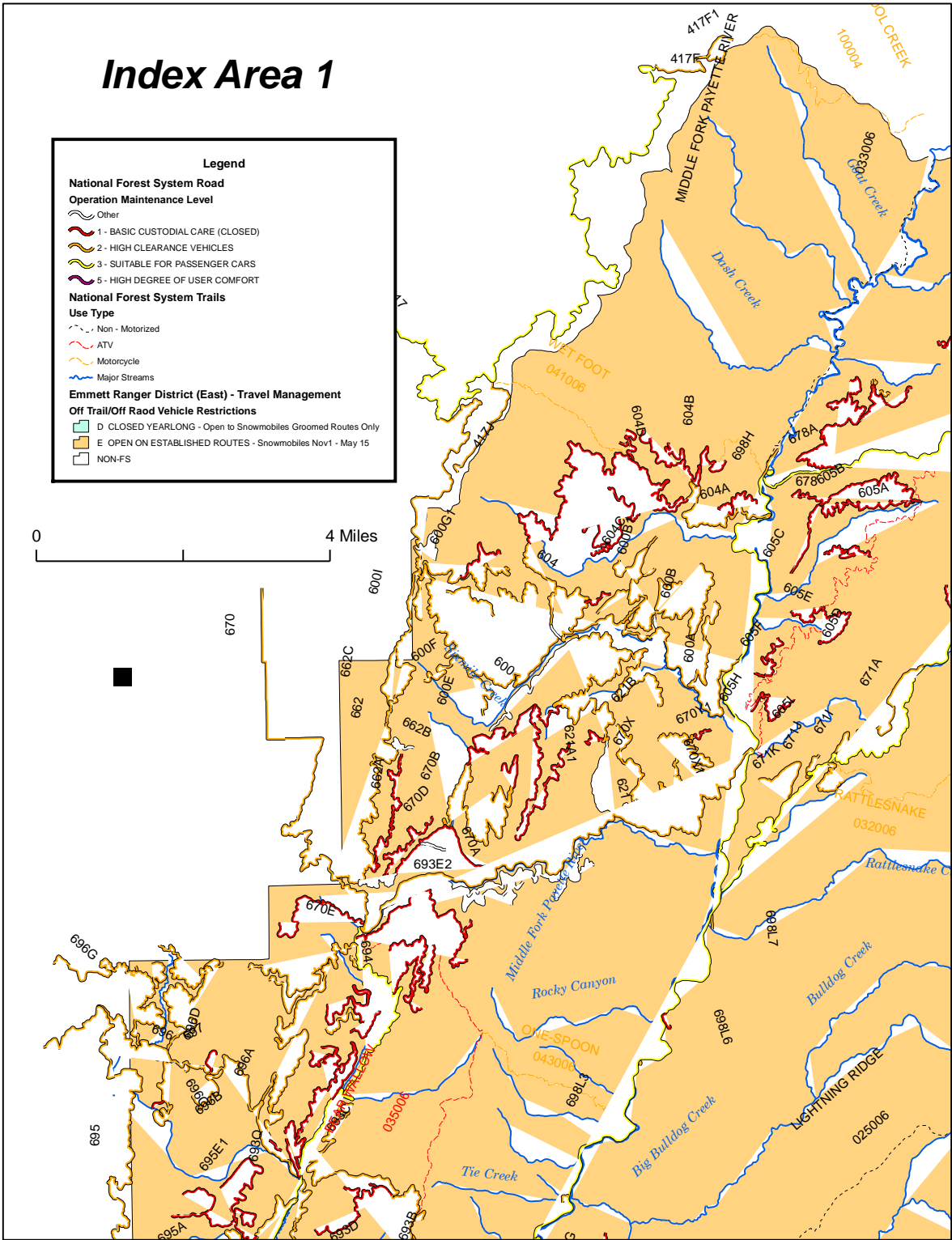
- Non - Motorized
- ATV
- Motorcycle
- Major Streams

**Emmett Ranger District (East) - Travel Management**

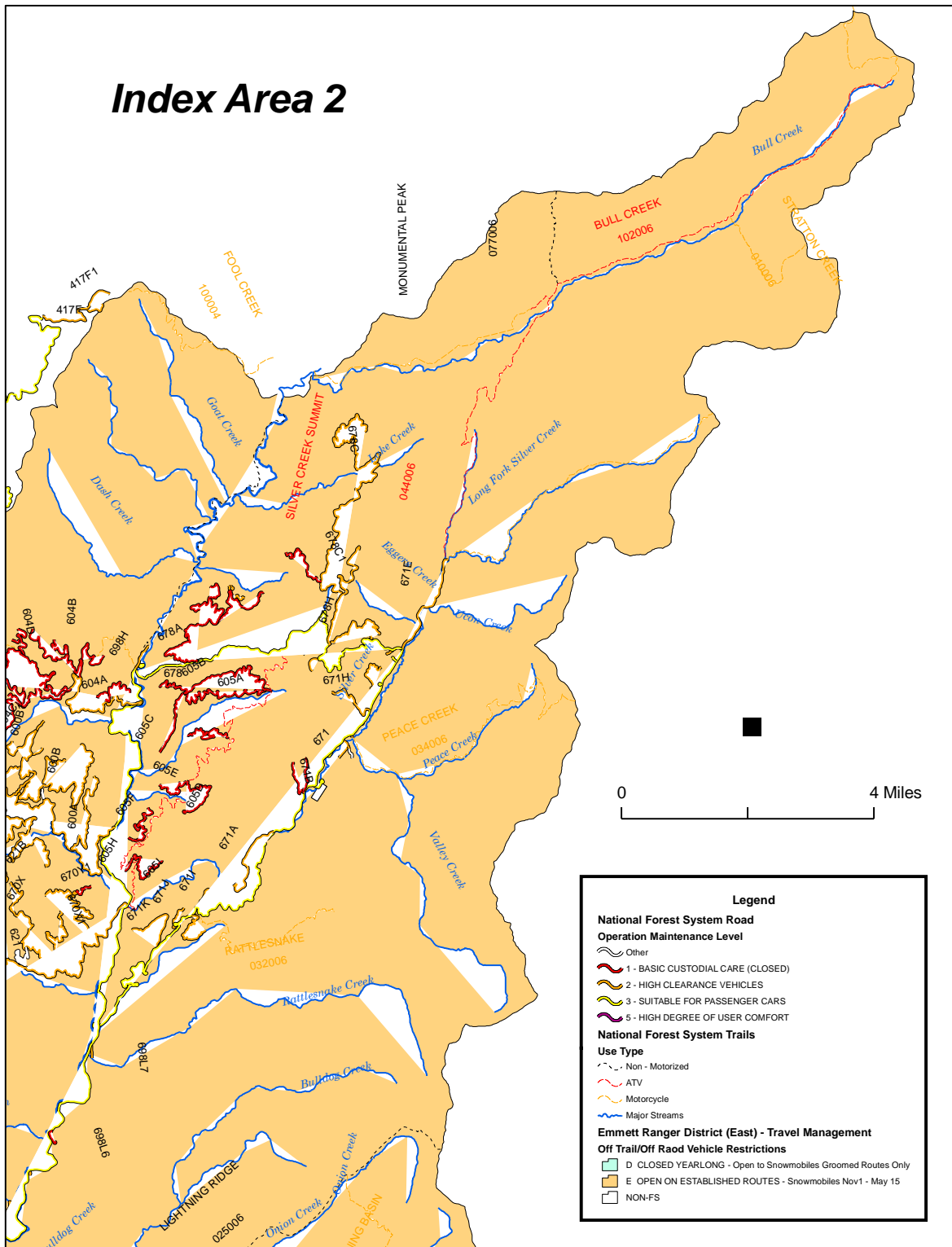
**Off Trail/Off Road Vehicle Restrictions**

- D CLOSED YEARLONG - Open to Snowmobiles Groomed Routes Only
- E OPEN ON ESTABLISHED ROUTES - Snowmobiles Nov1 - May 15
- NON-FS

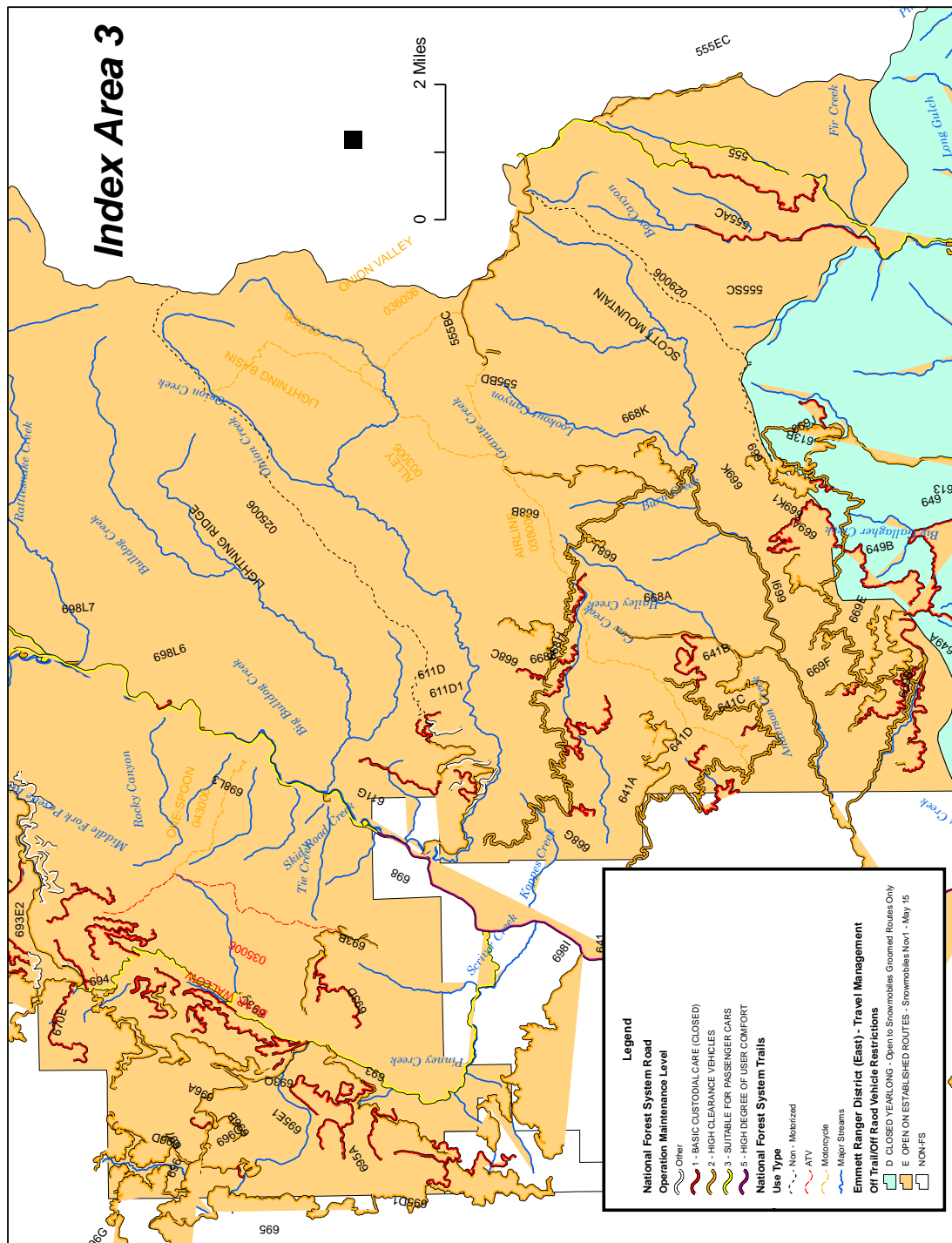
0 4 Miles

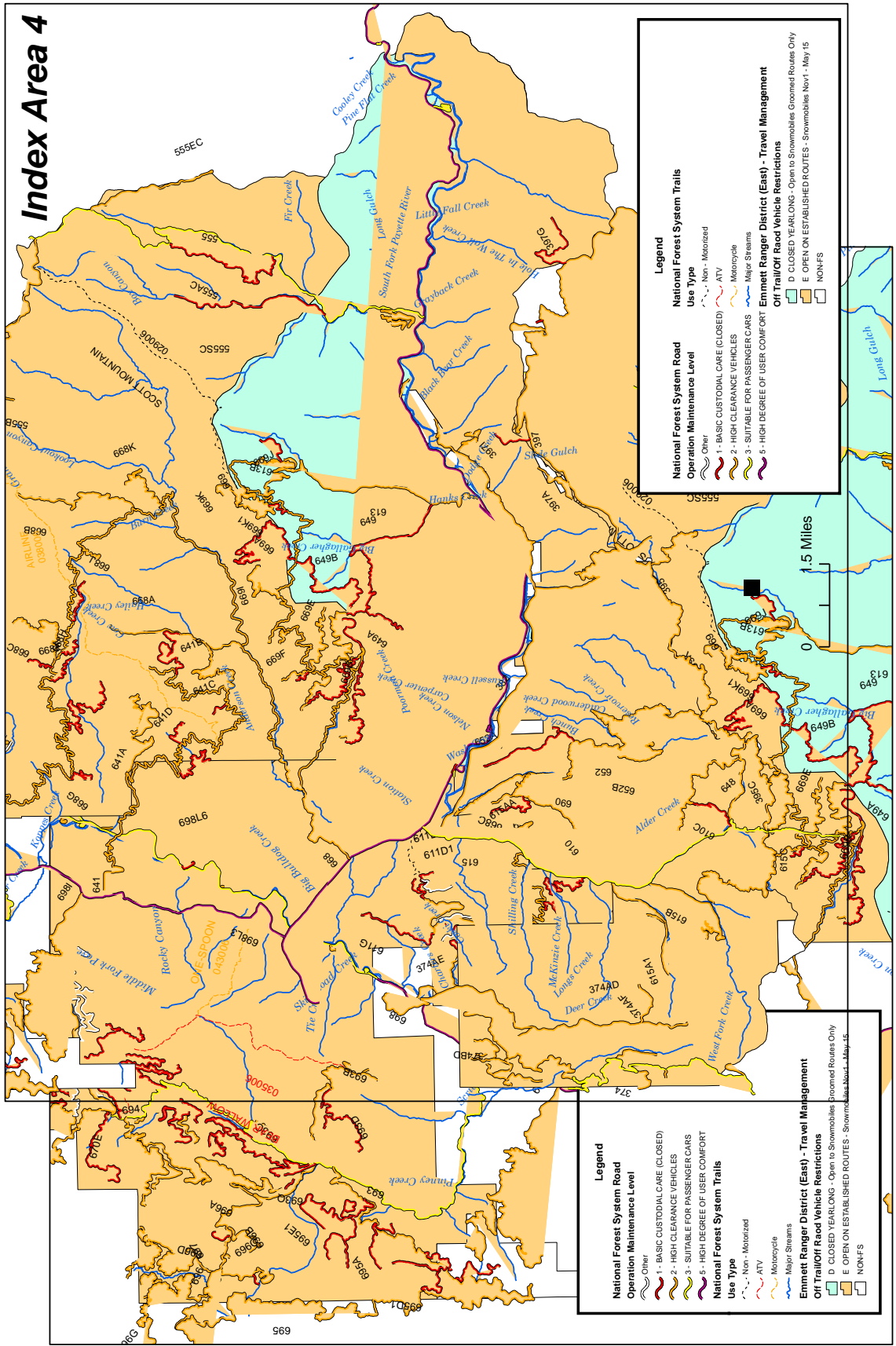


# Index Area 2



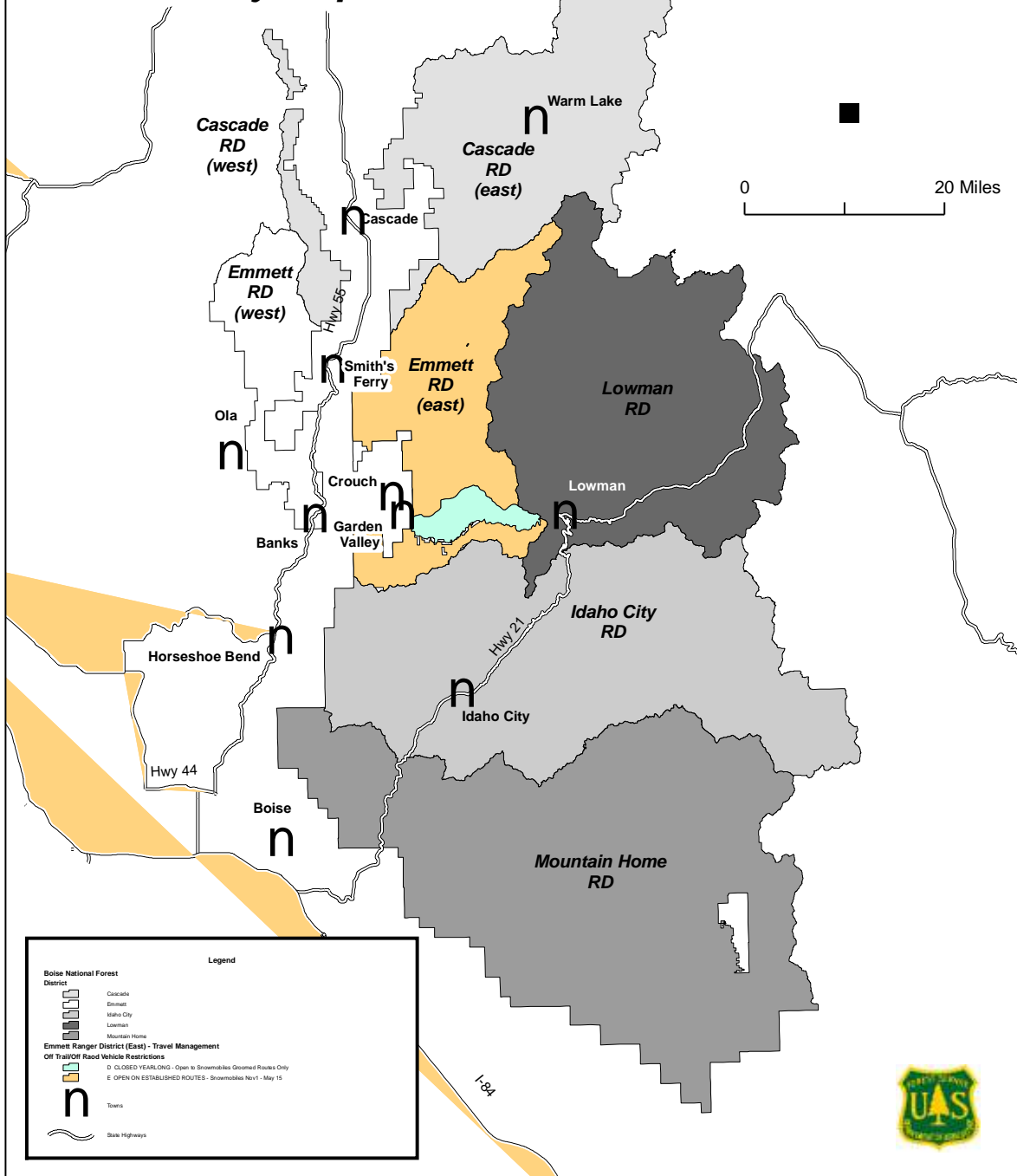
# Index Area 3



[illegible]



# Emmett Ranger District E Area Analysis Vicinity Map



If you have a GPS unit, you can identified the desired route on the form below:

Emmett Ranger District E-Area Route Location Form		
Route Description: Include Road Numbers and Township, Range and Section.		
GPS Positions along route.	Lat	Long
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		
7		
8		
9		
10		
11		
12		
13		
14		
15		
16		
17		
18		
19		
20		
21		
22		
23		
24		
25		
26		
27		
28		
29		
30		