

APPENDIX F

SPECIFIC RESOURCE INFORMATION
FOR INDIVIDUAL P&M PARCELS WITHIN
THE BRIDGER-TETON NATIONAL FOREST

**SPECIFIC RESOURCE INFORMATION FOR INDIVIDUAL P&M PARCELS
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East Fork of Hams Fork parcel, approximately 280 acres, located in the Blacks Fork sub-basin. This parcel has over one mile of perennial stream. A Colorado cutthroat trout (sensitive species) fishery exists in this creek. The majority of the parcel is lodgepole pine with some spruce and fir in the forested uplands. Willow and carex dominate the riparian area. The majority of the forested uplands have recently been partially harvested. A significant buffer strip of coniferous trees was left between the harvested area and the creek. It is nearly impossible to see the harvested area through this buffer strip while traveling along the creek. This buffer strip also reduced the likelihood of sediment from the road or from timber harvest activity from entering the creek. There is a single lane road (#10154) passing through this parcel from the northwest corner to the southeast corner. This road provides access to a large area including the headwaters of the East Fork, Pole Creek, and Beaver Creek. Many suitable dispersed camping sites are located within this parcel, primarily along the creek but upland campsites exist as well.

Elk Creek Guard Station parcel, approximately 80 acres, located within the Blacks Fork sub-basin. This parcel is located just southwest of the historic Elk Creek Guard Station cabin. The main stem of the Hams Fork River passes through the northeast corner of this parcel (approximately ¼ mile of the river) Colorado River cutthroat trout are suspected to occupy the streams within this parcel. This parcel contains approximately 1/5th riparian area, 2/5th coniferous forest, and 2/5th open sagebrush/grass vegetation types. Aspen is also a significant component of the vegetation types; it is dispersed within both the coniferous and the sagebrush/grass types. No harvest activity has taken place on this parcel. There has been no other development on this parcel that is known other than a faint trail that passes through the parcel from the West Fork Hams Fork Ridge Road (#10151) northeasterly toward the Elk Creek Guard Station historic cabin. There are remnants of an old access road across National Forest lands from road #10151 to the western side of the parcel. This road has naturally revegetated and is not open to motorized use. This parcel lends itself to non-motorized backcountry camping experience without being very far from a main road system.

Shingle Mill Creek parcel, approximately 240 acres, located within the Blacks Fork sub-basin. This parcel lies between the South Fork of Elk Creek and Sawmill Creek, with the majority of the sub watershed draining into Shingle Mill Creek. Colorado River cutthroat trout are suspected to occupy the streams within this parcel. The majority of this parcel is lodgepole pine, but spruce, fir, and aspen are also present as well as small open patches of sagebrush and grass. There is approximately ½ mile of perennial and ephemeral streams crossing the parcel. The South Fork of Elk Creek bisects the northern most portion, and portions of the Upper Shingle Mill Creek begins within this parcel. There are two access roads, the Shingle Mill Road (#10200) and the North Fork

Sawmill Creek Road (#10158). The Shingle Mill Road accesses the northern portion of the parcel. This road is open seasonally and controlled by a locking gate near the Hams Fork Road (#10062). The North Fork of Sawmill Creek Road accesses the southwestern portion of this parcel. There is no seasonal closure on this road. The forested areas on this parcel have been partially harvested in recent years. There are many opportunities for dispersed camping within this parcel.

North Fork of Elk Creek parcel, approximately 320 acres, within the Blacks Fork sub-basin. This parcel lies between Indian Creek and Elk Creek. Approximately $\frac{1}{10}$ th of a mile of the North Fork of Elk Creek passes through this parcel. Colorado River cutthroat trout are suspected to occupy the streams within this parcel. This parcel consists of a mosaic mix of coniferous forest, mostly lodgepole pine, aspen, and sagebrush/grass. Accessible portions of the lodgepole have been partially harvested. Access to this parcel is via the Elk Creek Road (#10063). This road accesses the northern portion of the parcel and has traditionally been gated closed at the P&M property boundary during the wet periods. The Forest Service Closure is on the east side of the P&M parcel about $\frac{3}{4}$ road mile to the east. An old jeep trail used to access the southern tip of this parcel via the Shingle Mill Creek Road but this road has been abandoned and reclaimed and is no longer open to motorized use. This parcel has proven to be very productive for elk and deer hunters due to the patchy vegetation and rolling topography. Motorized and non-motorized users could have an outstanding recreational experience here.

Rock Creek parcel, approximately 80 acres within the Blacks Fork sub-basin. This parcel is situated between the Hams Fork River and Middle Ridge. The parcel is primarily on a north-facing slope dominated by lodgepole pine, but with noticeable amounts of spruce, fir, aspen, and a few patches of sagebrush/grass. The forested areas have been partially harvested; an access road was constructed within the parcel. This road has since been closed with earthen berms and with a gated closure. Access to the parcel across National Forest Lands is via road #10198. Due to the north aspect and lack of flat areas and riparian habitat, this parcel would not be expected to be used much by recreational campers although it is likely very valuable for big game hunting and habitat.

Little Indian Creek parcel, approximately 80 acres within the Blacks Fork sub-basin. This parcel is situated just south of Little Indian Creek with a portion ($\frac{1}{8}$ th mile) bisecting the parcel. Colorado River cutthroat trout are suspected to occupy the streams within this parcel. This parcel is mostly forested with a mixed conifer and aspen overstory, sub-alpine fir appears to be the dominant species. No harvest activity has been conducted on this parcel. Access is via the Indian Creek Road (#10161). This parcel is very suitable for dispersed camping, hiking and hunting.

Green Knoll parcel, approximately 560 acres within the Blacks Fork sub-basin. This parcel lies between Middle Ridge and the Hams Fork River. Approximately $\frac{3}{4}$ mile of the Hams Fork River passes through this parcel. Colorado River cutthroat trout are known to occupy the streams within this parcel. The upland portions consist of a mosaic of coniferous forest, aspen, and sagebrush grass. Approximately half of the forested areas have been partially harvested within the last few years. Several logging roads were created to access the timber; these have mostly been physically closed with earthen berms and downed trees. Access to this parcel is via road #10198. Dispersed camping and hunting opportunities are numerous in this parcel.

Fontenelle Creek / Mahogany Ridge parcel, approximately 800 acres within the Upper Green River sub-basin. This parcel is located along the eastern boundary of the BTNF between Fontenelle Creek and the Fontenelle Hogbacks. Fontenelle Creek and Mahogany Creek pass through this large parcel, totaling approximately 1 mile of stream and associated riparian area. Fontenelle Creek is known to contain Colorado cutthroat trout. This parcel abuts BLM lands outside of the forest boundary in addition to other P&M property that the BLM would acquire under the proposed action. This would create a much more contiguous block of public land in an area that is very critical to wintering wildlife, and heavily used by big game hunters in the fall. Moose, elk, and deer are known to use this area for winter forage. The dominant shrub, curleaf mountain mahogany is very high in nutrition and the game uses it heavily, especially in harsh winters. This parcel also serves as a major migration corridor for wildlife passing from the forest to the shrub steppe. Mountain lions have been recorded frequenting this parcel as well. Sagebrush/grass, willow, and conifer make up the remainder of the major vegetation types on this parcel. There has been no timber harvest on this parcel and there are no developed trails. Road access to this parcel is limited on the National Forest side (west) but there are some two-track roads accessing the property from private and BLM lands to the east.