USFS Specially Designated Area

National Special Designated Areas

sda_us_dd (coverage name)

Metadata:
* Identification_Information <#Identification_Information>
* Spatial_Data_Organization_Information
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* Distribution_Information <#Distribution_Information>
* Metadata_Reference_Information <#Metadata_Reference_Information>

Identification_Information :
Citation:
Citation_Information :
Originator: USDA Forest Service - Geospatial Serviceand Technology Center(GSTC)
Publication_Date : 20000915
Title: Special DesignatedAreas (SDAs)
Edition: Final
Geospatial_Data_Presentation_Form : ArcInfo export
Publication_Information :
Publication_Place : Salt Lake City, UT
Publisher: USDA Forest Service - GSTC
Online_Linkage: http: fs.usda.gov Internet FSE_DOCUMENTS fsm8_036225.zip
Description:
Abstract:
This dataset contains all Special Designated Areas (SDAs) for the lower 48 states, including Puerto Rico. Alaska is maintained separately. The SDA data was originally submitted to GSTC by all national forests through their Regional Offices for the Forest Service's Roadless Area Conservation Initiative.

The data was consolidated at the GSTC and used in Roadless Area Conservation Environmental Impact Statement. Between the draft and Final stages of the Environmental Impact Statement, the data was updated by the forests to reflect any corrections to Inventoried Roadless Areas that were based on their existing forest plan. The data was also supplemented to include Special Designated Area information and to include Inventoried Roadless Areas within Special Designated Areas. The data was resubmitted to the GSTC on July 21, 2000 for consolidation and the completed coverage was used in the Roadless Area Conservation Final Environmental Impact Statement. This coverage is a subset of the

irasda_us_dd coverage and contains only Special Designated Areas.

Purpose:
The purpose of this spatial dataset is to show where Special Designated Areas are located. The EIS analysis team used this spatial data to assess the impacts of roadless area alternatives on Forest Service policies, use of the National Forests and the surrounding environment. The data was used to create a set of detailed maps published both on the web and in hardcopy form, (Volume2, Roadless Area Conservation EIS).

Supplemental_Information :
All of the following editing processes were performed using ARC INFO software.

The IRA data was originally submitted to GSTC on December 3, 1999for the Draft Environmental Impact Statement. The data was submitted in ARC INFO export format (.e00), in most cases as individual national forest coverages, but in some cases together with other national forests. The original datasets submitted were derived from a variety of original source manuscripts, most IRA data had a scale of 1:24,000. Some datasets were of smaller scale, typically 1:126,720. Each national forest was originally compiled at a different time, from different source material, using various methods. Region 5 submitted one file, which included all national forests in that region (primarily the state of California). In these instances, individual coverages were extracted by national forest administrative unit, and edited separately. All data was imported, projected to Albers and audited to check for INFO item consistency. Unnecessary features were removed and label errors removed.

Each national forest dataset was spatially edge matched to a national forest boundary dataset compiled at GSTC for this purpose, and attribute information was added or corrected. It was GSTC's intent to change the original data as little as possible, altering the geometry only as necessary to fit the National Forest Boundary coverage, and editing attributes only for consistency or where apparent errors occurred.

Edge matched data to National Forest Boundary coverage by :
1) intersected the IRA and the NF boundary coverages using the UNION command with a fuzzy tolerance of 1.5 map units (meters)
2) deleted polygons that extended beyond NF boundary as long as they appeared to be sliver polygons created by union
3) deleted absorbed polygons that did not extend to NF boundary by eliminating all interior polygons less than 5 acres in size that had no IRA category value or NF ownership status using ELIMINATE command
4) merged remaining polygon undershoots using the MERGE command via manual editing
5) conducted final quality assessment to check all work - this consisted Of running acreage calculations for polygons before and after the Edge matching process; all differences of 100 acres or greater were checked on screen and corrected if necessary; acreage calculations were run again after corrections were made to ensure there were no major changes (in some cases, changes were necessary after verifying with forest personnel that an error in the original data existed); a query was run on all coverages which resulted in a report showing frequency of polygons that had no ownership item and no IRA category - these were checked visually using hardcopy maps and phone calls to forests, if necessary, to verify what the polygons in question were; all IRA coverages were also checked visually on the screen to make sure there were no additional errors.

Regional coverages were created by first appending the completed individual national forest IRA coverages into administrative regional coverages, using the APPEND command with the polygon option. This

resulted in seven regional coverages for Regions: 1 (Northern), 2 (Rocky Mountain), 3 (Southwestern), 4(Intermountain), 5 (Pacific Southwest), 6 (Pacific Northwest),8 (Southern), and 9 (Eastern). These seven regional coverages were then appended into the national coverage, again, using the APPEND command.

The resulting national coverage was automatically edited, using the CLEAN command, with a fuzzy tolerance of 1.5meters. This removed geometric errors, and rebuilt topology. The coverage was then reprojected from Albers to decimal degrees for consistency with all other coverages used for analysis work.

Between the draft and final stages of the Environmental Impact Statement, the data was updated by the forests to reflect any corrections to Inventoried Roadless Areas that were based on their existing forest plan. The data was also updated to include Special Designated Area information and to include Inventoried Roadless Areas within Special Designated Areas. After these updates were made the data was resubmitted to the GSTC on July 21, 2000 for consolidation.

The final consolidation of the national IRA coverage was accomplished at the GSTC with the benefit of having one representative from each region to assist with quality control. All the completed regions were appended together into the national coverage and reprojected from Albers to decimal degrees for analysis and display in the Roadless Area Conservation Environmental Impact Statement. This dataset of Special Designated Areas was selected from the national Inventoried Roadless Area dataset.

On August 2, 2004, a technical correction along the border of the Salmon-Challis and Saw tooth National Forests was performed by GSTC. This correction fixes a data consolidation error that went undetected during the construction of the IRA GIS dataset. A 37,000 acre section of the Sawtooth National Recreation Area was mistakenly combined with the Squaw Creek IRA. The technical correction restores these two features back to their original state. The technical correction complies with direction described in the Roadless Area Conservation Rule 294.11 and Interim Directive1920-2001-1 section 1925.05.

***** Spatial Reference Information (Beg) *****

ProjectionParameters: Decimal Degrees

NAD27

Spatial Information: Vector
Scale of original hardcopy map: 1:24,000 to1:198,000
Feature Type: Polygon

Attributes:
ITEM NAME
WIDTH
OUTPUT
*TYPE
DECIMAL

AREA
8
18
F
5

PERIMETER

8
18
F
5

SDA_US_DD#
4
5
B

SDA_US_DD-ID
4
5
B

REGION
2
2
I

FOREST
40
40
C

STATE
2
2
C

FEATURE1
6
6
C

NAME1
80
80
C

FEATURE2
6
6
C

NAME2
80
80
C

FEATURE3
6
6
C

NAME3
80
80
C

ACRES
16
16

N
5

Definitions:
FEATURE1, FEATURE2, FEATURE3
NWA = National Wilderness Area
NPA = National Primitive Area
NSRA = National Scenic ResearchArea
NSA = National Scenic Area
NWSR = National Wild and Scenic River
NRA = National Recreation Area
NGRWP = National Game Refuge and wildlife Preserve
NM = National Monument
NVM = National Volcanic Monument
NHA = National Historic Area
WSA = Wilderness Study Area
RNA = Research Natural Area
OCD = Other Congressionally Designated Area

***** Spatial Reference Information (End) *****
Time_Period_of_Content :
Time_Period_Information :
Range_of_Dates Times:
Beginning_Date : 19991203
Ending_Date : 20000915
Currentness_Reference : publication date
Status:
Progress: Complete
Maintenance_and_Update_Frequency : Unknown
Spatial_Domain :
Bounding_Coordinates :
West_Bounding_Coordinate : -124.5
East_Bounding_Coordinate : -65.5
North_Bounding_Coordinate : 49
South_Bounding_Coordinate : 18
Keywords:
Theme:
Theme_Keyword_Thesaurus : NA
Theme_Keyword : national inventoried roadless areas
Place:
Place_Keyword_Thesaurus : NA
Place_Keyword : national forests
Temporal:
Temporal_Keyword_Thesaurus : NA
Temporal_Keyword : NA

Access_Constraints :
User needs to exercise caution regarding the spatial accuracy of these data. The source scales can vary. External features cannot be expected to align. The National Forest Planning Record Documents(Appendix C), other assessments adopted by the USDA Forest Service, or RARE IIdocuments, are ultimately the official version of inventoried roadless areas.

Use_Constraints :
Data may be viewed and used by any and all entities upon request. However, data should not be changed or modified by anyone other than GSTC. The USDA Forest Service does not guarantee the accuracy of this data.

Spatial_Data_Organization_Information :
Direct_Spatial_Reference_Method : Vector

Distribution_Information :
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Much of the USDA Forest Service data are compiled, processed, and maintained with ARC INFO software developed by the Environmental Systems Research Institute (ESRI). Much of the information presented Uses conventions and terms popularized by ARC INFO and its user community. The mention of commercial firms or products is for clarity and identification of procedures and methods only, and no endorsements are implied by the USDA Forest Service.

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