



A, C, D, E, & J. ELKHEAD RANCH
8102 County Road 56, 16 miles north of Hayden

The Elkhead Ranch, currently 6,500 acres, was originally homesteaded in 1888 and became the center of the now-vanished Elkhead community (See Elkhead Rock Schoolhouse below), housing, at various times, the Elkhead Post Office, the Schoolhouse, and the Community Club. Several prominent individuals and two livestock companies have owned the ranch. Many of the early buildings, which are extremely well preserved, include the Bolton (See above.) concrete block show barn in which cattle sales and exhibits were held for many years circa the 1930s, the original bunkhouse, an early two-story log ranch house, a stackwood silo, a clapboard chicken house, a one-and-one-half-story wood-framed foreman's house, a board-and-batten wood shop, corrals, and a fieldstone dairy shed, while the original 1913 Isadore Bolton homestead cabin partially remains. The remote ranch continues to support a cattle and horse operation, offers retreat facilities, and provides habitat for many species of wildlife and birds.