Worksheet
Determination of NEPA Adequacy (DNA)

U.S Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management

A. Background

BLM Office: Prineville District NEPA Log #: OR-054-08 -182

Project/Lease/Serial/Case File #: *3605033*
Applicant: Mike and Sandy Rossi
Location: 15 miles SE of Paulina, OR
Proposed Action Title/Type: Grazing Permit Renewal
Description of the Proposed Action and any applicable mitigation measures:

Renew a ten year grazing permit for Beaver Creek, Layton and Coffee Butte Allotments. A Cooperative Rangeland Management Agreement was developed and signed for the Beaver Creek Allotment to mitigate failed Standards and Guides. A two step process will be implemented at the beginning of the 2009 grazing season. The first step includes three years of short duration grazing in the early spring on the pasture that failed the assessment, followed by seeding with a crested wheat grass mix. NEPA will be done in the future to cover the seeding portion of the project. The second step will be to implement a deferred rotation grazing system. Further explanation of the assessment and mitigation measures can be found in the Cooperative Rangeland Management Agreement, Beaver Creek Allotment No. 00054. The season of use for Coffee Butte has been from 4.28- 7.15. The turnout date will be changed to 4.1 and the end date will remain the same; thus the new dates on the permit will be 4.1-7.15. This is in conformance with the Allotment Evaluation for Coffee Butte and the Brothers/ LaPine RMP, 1989. Terms and conditions will remain the same for all allotments: Beaver Creek, Layton and Coffee Butte.

B. Land Use Plan Conformance

Land Use Plan Name: *Brothers/La Pine Resource Management Plan (RMP)* (ROD): *July 1989.*

The proposed action is in conformance with the applicable plan because it is specifically provided for in the following land use plan decisions:

Brothers/La Pine RMP/ ROD, 1989- Allocate 82 AUMs of forage in the Beaver Creek Allotment; 17 AUMs of forage in the Layton Allotment; 468 AUMs of forage in the Coffee Butte Allotment (p. 76). Livestock grazing specific to these allotments is addressed on pages 74 through 86 of this RMP.

C. Identify applicable National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) documents

and related documents that cover the proposed action

The following NEPA documents (EA, DEIS, FEIS) cover the proposed action:

Brothers/La Pine Final Environmental Impact Statement, 1988
Brothers/La Pine Draft EIS, October 1987
Brothers Grazing Management Program Draft Environmental Impact Statement, 1982

The following other documentation is relevant to the proposed action (e.g., biological assessment, biological opinion, watershed assessment, allotment evaluation, and monitoring report):

Cooperative Rangeland Management Agreement, Beaver Creek Allot. # 54, 3.12.09
Results of Assessment from Standards and Guidelines for Beaver Creek, 9.24.07
Beaver Creek Allotment Management Plan
Beaver Creek Allotment Evaluation 7.3.90
Layton Allotment Evaluation 3.9.88
Coffee Butte Allotment Evaluation 6.13.88

D. NEPA Adequacy Criteria

1. Is the new proposed action a feature of, or essentially similar to, an alternative analyzed in the existing NEPA document(s)? Is the project within the same analysis area, or if the project location is different, are the geographic and resource conditions sufficiently similar to those analyzed in the existing NEPA document(s)? If there are differences, can you explain why they are not substantial?

Yes, this action has already been analyzed under the existing NEPA documents and is within the same location as before. There are no changes or differences with this action compared to the action previously analyzed. Grazing was analyzed throughout the Brothers Grazing Management EIS; specific alternatives are discussed on pages 10-14. There are no changes to seasons of use and no changes to AUMs on Layton or Beaver Creek Allotments. A deferred rotation grazing system has been implemented in the Dry Rock Pasture of the Beaver Creek Allotment, which is in conformance with the RMP. The turn-out date for the Coffee Butte Allotment will be changed from April 28, to April 1, with the end date remaining the same- July 15. AUMs will also remain the same. This date change is in conformance with the Brothers/LaPine RMP (1989) which indicates a Spring/Summer (SS) period of use, and the Allotment Evaluation which indicates an April 1 turn-out date.

2. Is the range of alternatives analyzed in the existing NEPA document(s) appropriate with respect to the new proposed action, given current environmental concerns, interests, and resource values?

Yes. Alternatives are displayed on pages 10 through 14 of the Draft EIS, 1982, and ranged from optimizing livestock to the elimination of livestock grazing. This range appears to

be appropriate, given the current issues.

3. Is the existing analysis valid in light of any new information or circumstances (such as rangeland health standard assessment, recent endangered species listings, updated lists of BLM sensitive species)? Can you reasonably conclude that all new information and new circumstances would not substantially change the analysis of the new proposed action?

The existing analysis of the Brothers/La Pine FEIS is still valid. New information, which would enter into the analysis, includes the Standards for Rangeland Health & Guidelines for grazing management (43 CFR 4180, available for review at the Prineville District BLM). The BLM is required to assess all public land grazing allotments for compliance with the Standards and Guidelines. Layton and Coffee Butte still need to be evaluated for Standards and Guides. Beaver Creek was evaluated in September of 2007 and standards 3 and 5 failed. A deferred rotation system has been created to mitigate the failures.

4. Are the direct, indirect, and cumulative effects that would result from implementation of the new proposed action similar (both quantitatively and qualitatively) to those analyzed in the existing NEPA document(s)?

The direct, indirect and site specific effects of renewing this grazing permit were adequately addressed in this DEIS, 1982. It considered continuing vs. discontinuing grazing in many allotments and described the effects of allotment closures on forage availability, the local economy, BLM management costs, permittee costs, and other factors (pages 52 through 75). The effects of livestock grazing on soil, vegetation, and ecological processes were likewise included. These effects have not substantially changed. On the Beaver Creek Allotment, a deferred grazing system was put into place to mitigate any resource damage and improve the trend.

5. Are the public involvement and interagency review associated with existing NEPA document(s) adequately for the current proposed action?

Yes. The list of "interested publics" is updated on a regular basis and many of the individuals and organizations on the current "interested publics" list are the same as those on the mailing list for the planning and NEPA documents listed on page 1. A final copy of this DNA and the subsequent Proposed Decision will be posted on the Prineville District's internet page for public review. A printed copy of these documents will be available on request.

E. Persons/Agencies/BLM Staff consulted

Name	Title	Resource/Agency represented
Steve Castillo	Forester	Forestry
Rick Demmer	Natural Resource Specialist	Wildlife
Jeff Moss	Natural Resource Specialist	Fisheries
Cari Johnson	Rangeland Mgment Specialist	Range
Berry Phelps	Outdoor Recreation Planner	Recreation
John Zancanella	Archeologist	Cultural Resources
JoAnne Armson	Natural Resource Technician	Botany, Special Status Plants

Michelle McSwain	Hydrologist	Hydrology
Teal Purrington	Planning and Enviro. Coord.	NEPA Compliance

Note: Refer to the EA/EIS for a complete list of the team members participating in the preparation of the original environmental analysis or planning documents.

Conclusion

Based on the review documented above, I conclude that this proposal conforms to the applicable land use plan and that the documentation fully covers the proposed action and constitutes BLM's compliance with the requirements of the NEPA.

Signature

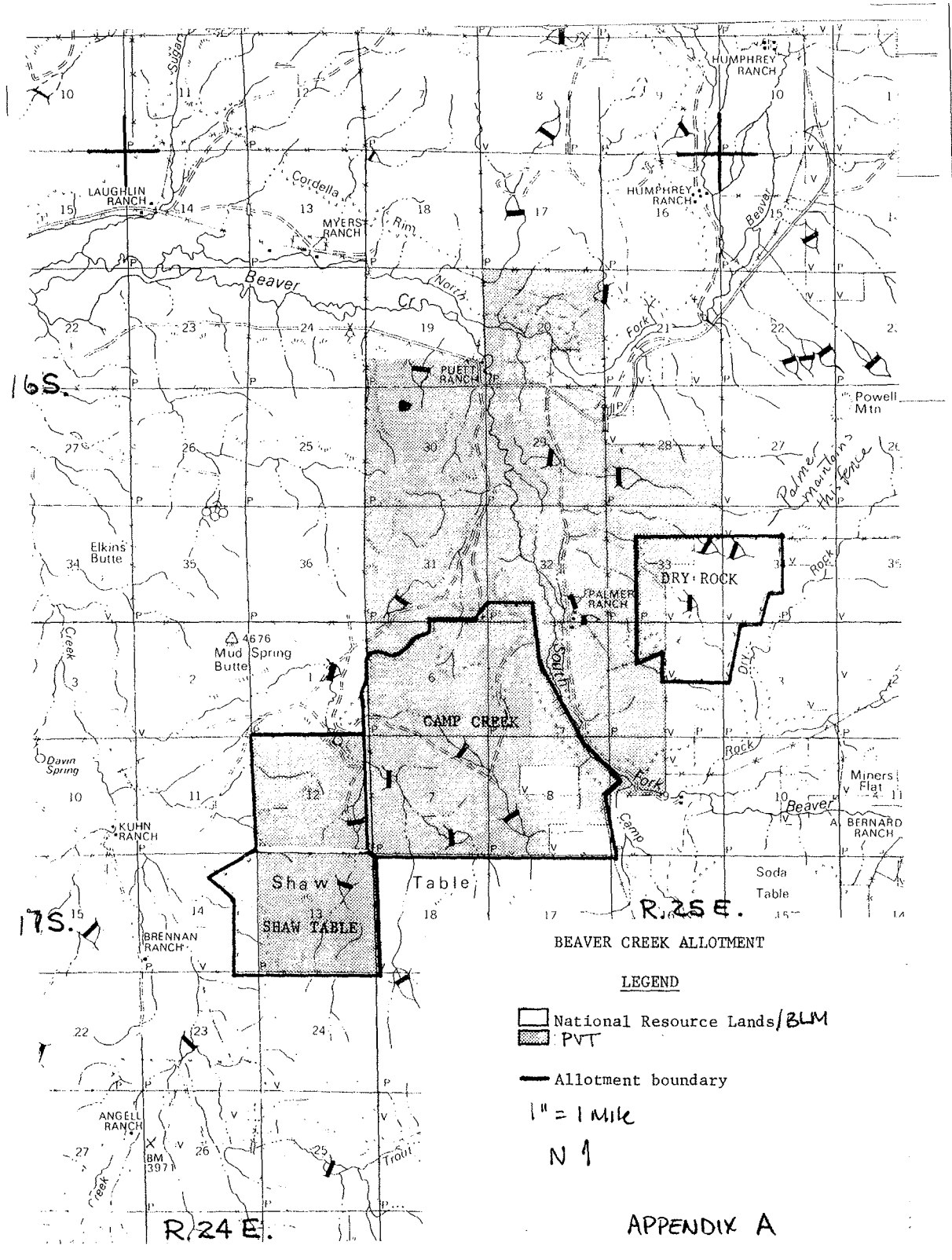
Responsible official: Christina M. Welch 4/16/2009

Christina Welch, Central Oregon Resource Area Manager Date

Note: The signed Conclusion on this Worksheet is part of an interim step in the BLM's internal decision process and does not constitute an appealable decision. However, the lease, permit, or other authorization based on this DNA is subject to protest or appeal under 43 CFR Part 4 and the program specific regulations.

Contact Person

For additional information concerning this review, contact: Cari Johnson, Rangeland Management Specialist, Prineville Field Office, 3050 NE 3rd Street, Prineville, OR 97754, telephone (541)416.6790, cari_johnson@or.blm.gov.



BEAVER CREEK ALLOTMENT

LEGEND

National Resource Lands/BLM

PVT

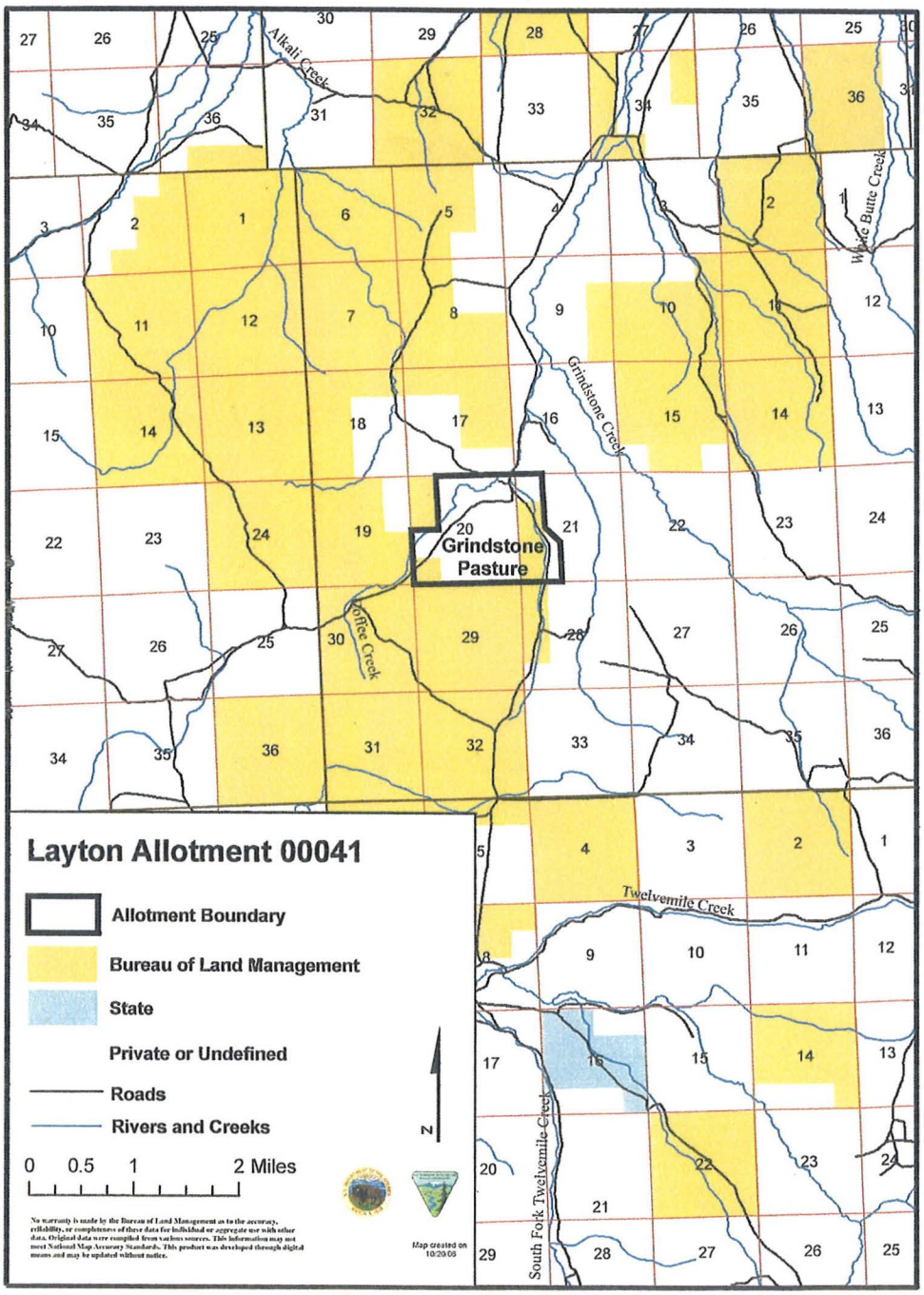
Allotment boundary

1" = 1 Mile

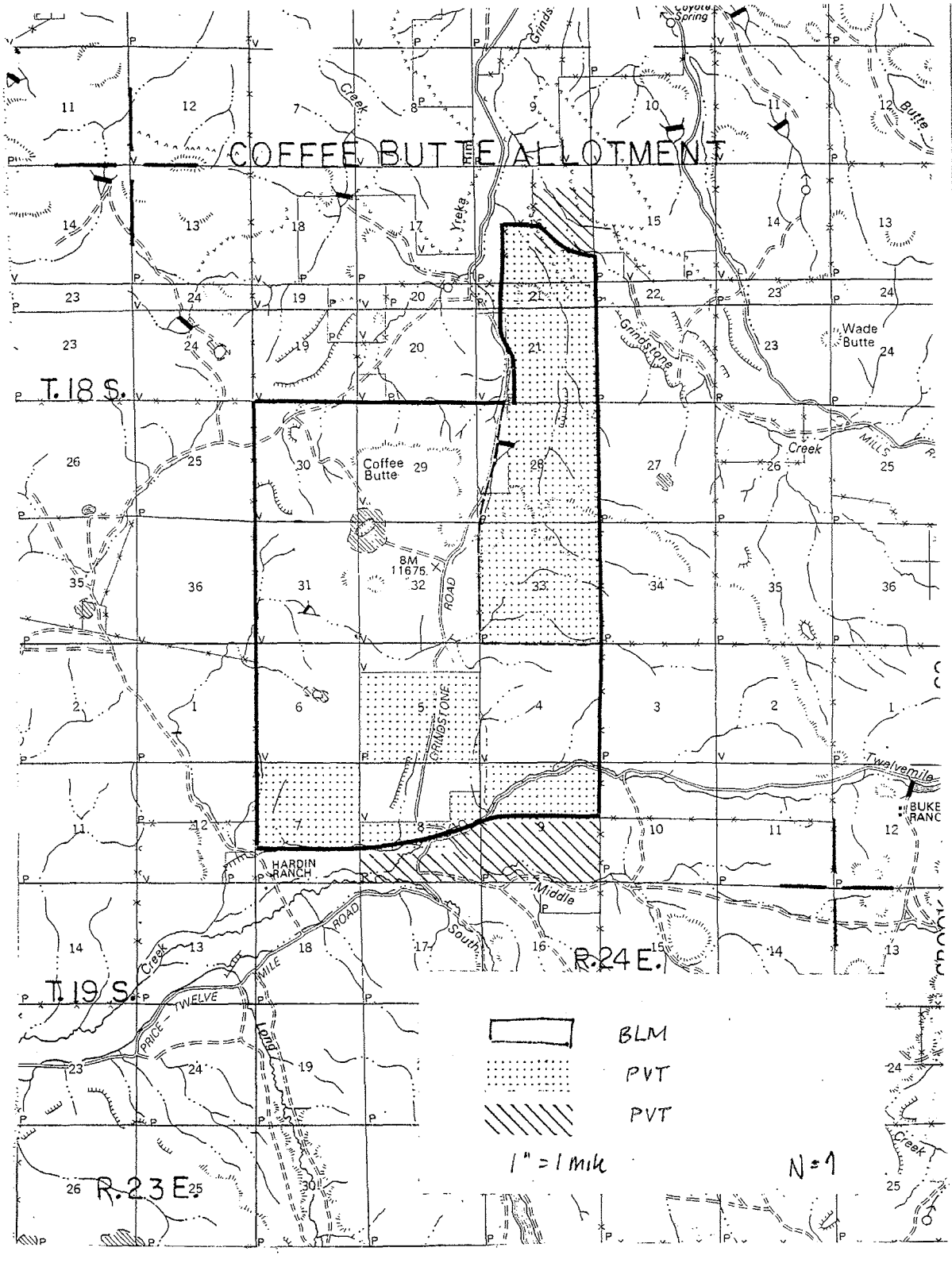
N

APPENDIX A

R24E


Layton Allotment 00041
Allotment Boundary
Bureau of Land Management
State
Private or Undefined
Roads
Rivers and Creeks
0 0.5 1 2 Miles
N
Grindstone Pasture
Alkali Creek
Grindstone Creek
Coffee Creek
White Butte Creek
Twelvemile Creek
South Fork Twelvemile Creek
Map created on 10/20/08

T18S


COFFEE BUTTE ALLOTMENT
T. 18 S.
T. 19 S.
R. 24 E.
R. 23 E.
Coffee Butte
Wade Butte
Grindstone
Yreka
Rim
Creek
Butte
Coyote Spring
Mills
Creek
8M 11675
ROAD
GRINDSTONE
Twelvemile
HARDIN RANCH
Middle
South
Creek
PRICE - TWELVE MILE ROAD
Long
BLM
PVT
PVT
1" = 1 mile
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