



# United States Department of the Interior

## BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

COOS BAY DISTRICT OFFICE

1300 AIRPORT LANE, NORTH BEND, OR 97459

Web Address: <http://www.blm.gov/or/districts/coosbay> E-mail: [BLM\\_OR\\_CB\\_Mail@blm.gov](mailto:BLM_OR_CB_Mail@blm.gov)

Telephone: (541) 756-0100 Toll Free: (888) 809-0839 Fax: (541) 751-4303

### **In Reply Refer To:**

1792/5400 (ORC040)

DOI-BLM-OR-C040-2011-0006-EA

*April 27, 2012*

Dear Concerned Citizen:

The Coos Bay Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has prepared a Scoping Document for the Lone Pine Environmental Assessment. The Scoping document and associated maps are now posted on the District Internet site: <http://www.blm.gov/or/districts/coosbay/index.php>.

The BLM proposes to conduct forest treatments on approximately 4000 acres of timber stands. All of the treatments would occur within the Matrix and the Riparian Reserve land use allocations.

You are invited to submit written comments on any issues or concerns that you may have regarding this proposal by May 31, 2012. Comments, which are helpful to the analysis process, are those, which identify new scientific or technical information, determine the scope of issues to be addressed, and express site-specific concerns related to the proposed action. Opinions agreeing or disagreeing with current laws and policies are not helpful in refining the proposed action.

Please direct requests for hard copies, questions, or comments to Coos Bay District BLM, 1300 Airport Lane, North Bend, OR. 97459-2000, ATTN: Aimee Hoefs; call (541) 756-0100; FAX (541) 751-4303, or email to [OR\\_CoosBay\\_Mail@blm.gov](mailto:OR_CoosBay_Mail@blm.gov), ATTN: Aimee Hoefs.

Sincerely,

*/s/ Kathy Hoffine*

Kathy Hoffine

Myrtlewood Field Manager



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### In Reply Refer To:

1792/5400 (ORC040)  
DOI-BLM-OR-C040-2011-0006-EA  
Lone Pine Environmental Assessment

## Scoping Document

*April 27, 2012*

Dear Citizen:

The following information and the enclosed maps briefly describe a Proposed Action for the development of the Lone Pine Environmental Assessment (EA No: DOI-BLM-OR-C040-2011-0006-EA).

The USDI, Bureau of Land Management, Coos Bay District Office is preparing an Environmental Assessment for multiple timber sales that would occur within the following 5<sup>th</sup> field watersheds: East Fork Coquille, North Fork Coquille, Middle Fork Coquille, and the Coquille River. The Proposed Action is to treat approximately 4000 acres of 40-80 year old forest stands through commercial thinning, density management thinning, and hardwood conversion.

Forest treatments would occur within the General Forest Management Area (GFMA) and Connectivity (Conn) portions of the Matrix Land Use Allocation (LUA), and within the Riparian Reserve LUA as defined in the 1995 Coos Bay District Resource Management Plan (1995 RMP).

### Project Summary

Commercial Thinning would occur on approximately 2,140 acres of Matrix lands. Individual stand prescriptions would capture imminent mortality and yield commercial forest products while leaving a residual stand that fully utilizes the growing potential of the site, and maximize the volume and quality of future forest products.

Density Management would occur on roughly 1,980 acres within the Riparian Reserve, and would consist of treatments guided by management direction for Riparian Reserves detailed in the RMP, and would comply with the Aquatic Conservation Strategy objectives.

The following table shows the land ownership within the project area.

**Table I: Ownership within the Analysis Area**

BLM Acres			Coquille Indian Tribe Acres	Other Non- Federal Acres	Private Acres	Total Acres
GFMA	Conn.	LSR				
39,052	6,826	27,886	2,425	628	119,651	196,468

The timber sales would be sold from FY2013 through FY2015. These sales would yield approximately 40 million board feet of timber; 21 million would contribute to the decadal Allowable Sale Quantity (ASQ) for the Myrtlewood Field Office.

To facilitate the treatments the Lone Pine project would also include constructing roughly 15 miles of new roads, renovating or improving approximately 80 miles of existing roads. Decommissioning of roads will be identified through the interdisciplinary process.

Preliminary field review shows some Matrix stands have low commercial value because of the predominance of hardwoods. A reduction in the dominance of hardwoods is likely and prescriptions will be developed upon each site-specific condition as needed.

Some of the proposed units are adjacent to occupied or un-surveyed suitable marbled murrelet habitat and/or fall within a known, and predicted northern spotted owl site.

### **Location**

The project area is located near the Fairview area southeast of Coos Bay. The total analysis area is approximately 196,000 acres in size with BLM lands totaling 73,764 acres. Table 2 lists the specific treatment locations for the Lone Pine project.

**Table 2 Township, Range and Sections of proposed treatments in the Lone Pine EA.**

<b>Township &amp; Range</b>	<b>Sections</b>
27 S., 11 W.	14, 21, 35
27 S., 12 W.	35
28 S., 9 W.	17
28 S., 10 W.	22
28 S., 11 W.	1, 2, 3, 5, 7, 11, 17, 19, 29, 31, 32
28 S., 12 W.	1, 13, 23, 25, 27, 35
29 S., 11 W.	5, 7
29 S., 12 W.	12

### **Need for the Project**

Within the analysis area, the GFMA and Connectivity stands are characterized by uniform structure, heavy stocking, slowing growth rate, and low stand vigor. Research indicates that stands that develop at very high densities are susceptible to diameter growth stagnation and instability. Without treatment at the appropriate time, these dense stands rapidly decline in growth and vigor. This results in a stagnant stand that becomes more susceptible to wind, insects, disease, and fire disturbances.

Riparian Reserves in the project are in the same over-stocked condition. Left untreated, these stands would not achieve the desired vegetation characteristics envisioned in the Northwest Forest Plan.

Reducing stand density is required in order to maintain growth trajectory, improve stand stability, and meet the objectives for each LUA. This also includes converting under-producing hardwood dominated Matrix stands into higher production conifer stands.

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You are invited to submit written comments on any issues or concerns that you may have regarding this project by May 31, 2012. Comments, which are helpful to the analysis process, are those, which identify new scientific or technical information, determine the scope of issues to be addressed, and express site-specific concerns related to the Proposed Action. Opinions agreeing or disagreeing with current laws and policies are not helpful in refining the Proposed Action.

Comments, including names and street addresses of respondents, will be available for public review at the address listed below during regular business hours (8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.), Monday through Friday, except holidays, and may be published as part of the EA document or other related documents. Individual respondents may request confidentiality. Before including your address, phone number, email address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment – including your personal identifying information – may be made publically available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

Please direct your responses or questions to Aimee Hoefs, Myrtlewood Field Office, 1300 Airport Lane, North Bend, OR. 97459, call (541) 756-0100; FAX: (541) 756-4303, or email to [OR\\_CoosBay\\_Mail@blm.gov](mailto:OR_CoosBay_Mail@blm.gov), ATTN: Aimee Hoefs.

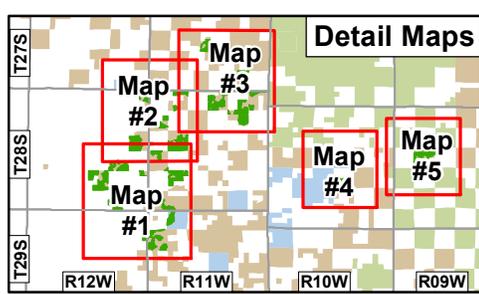
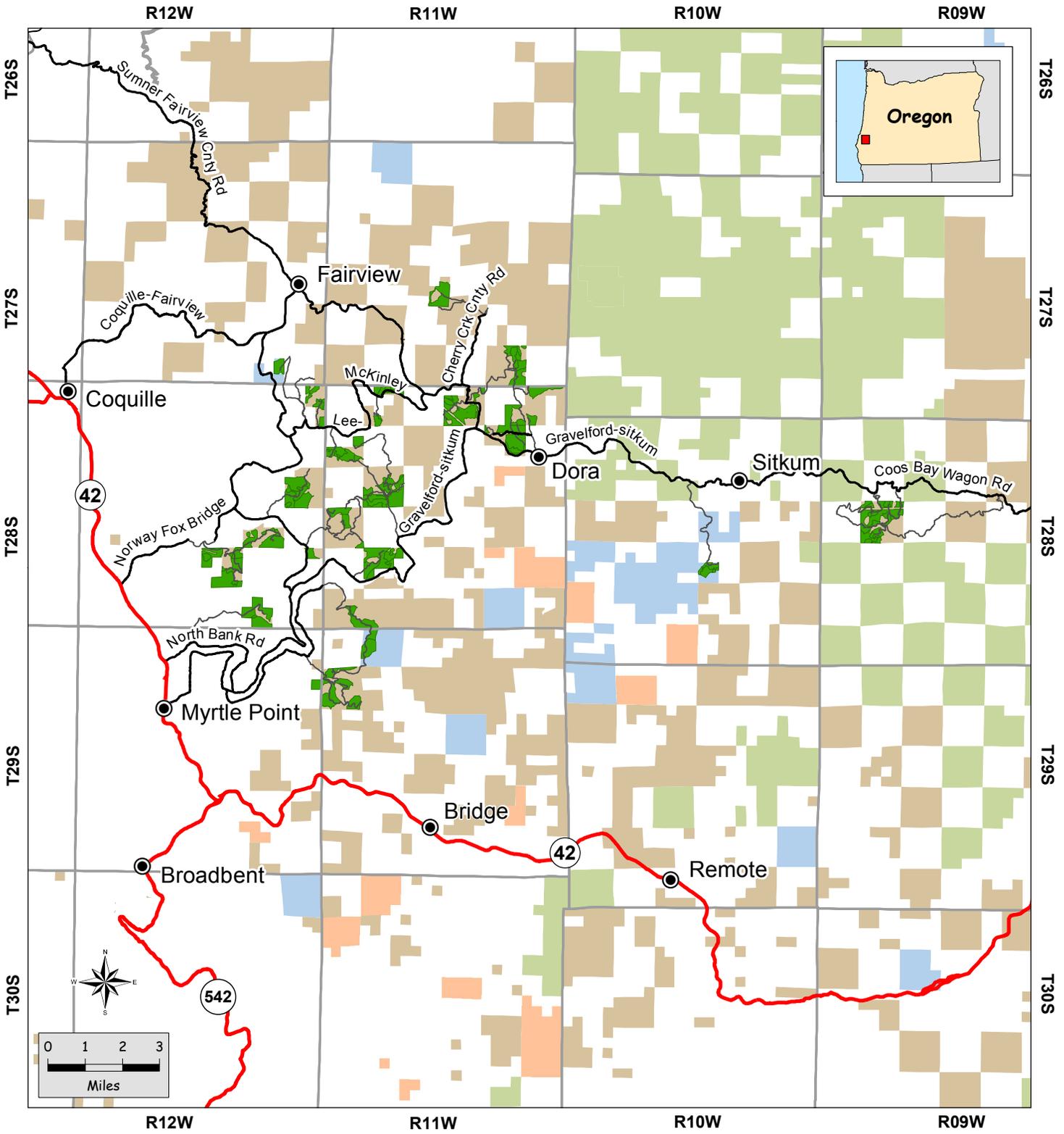
Respectfully,

*/s/ Kathy Hoffine*

Kathy Hoffine

Myrtlewood Field Manager

Enclosures: Vicinity Map  
Scoping Maps



- County Roads
- Access Roads
- Potential Sale Areas
- General Forestry Mgmt Area
- Connectivity
- Late Successional Reserve
- Bureau of Indian Affairs Private / Other Ownership

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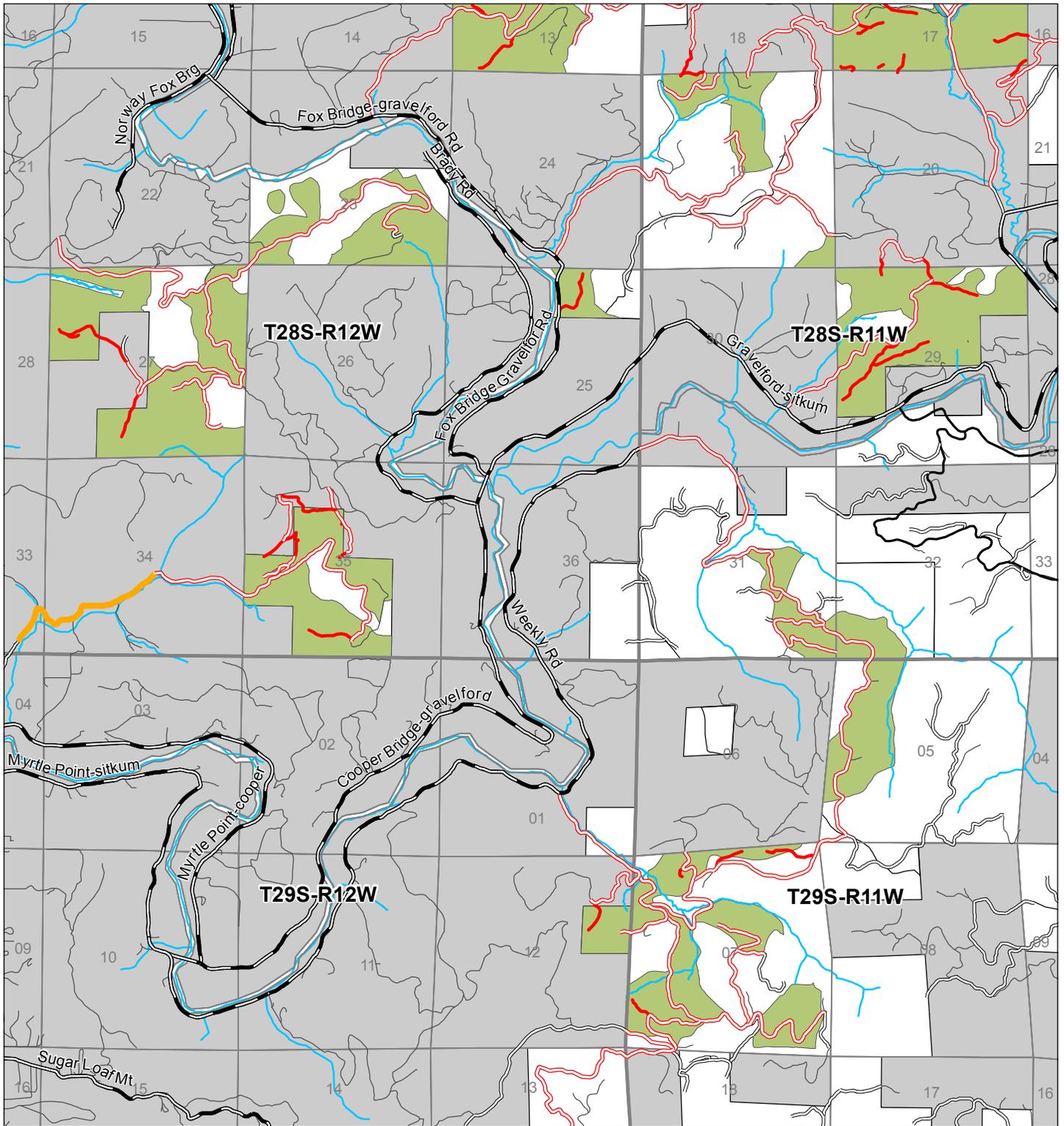


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Phone: (541) 756-0100  
email: OR\_CoosBay\_Mail@blm.gov

No warranty is made by the Bureau of Land Management as to the accuracy, reliability, or completeness of these data for individual or aggregate use with other data.



**Map Features** (Not all map features necessarily occur in the area mapped above.)

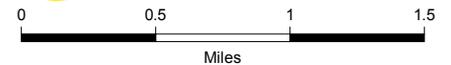
- |  |  |
|--|--|
|  Potential Sale Areas         |  County Road              |
|  Other BLM Administered Lands |  Paved Road               |
|  BIA - Coquille Forest        |  Gravel Road              |
|  Private / Other Ownership    |  Natural/Unk Surface Road |
|  Haul Only                    |  Perennial Stream         |
|  New Construction             |  |
|  Reno and/or Reconstruction   |  |



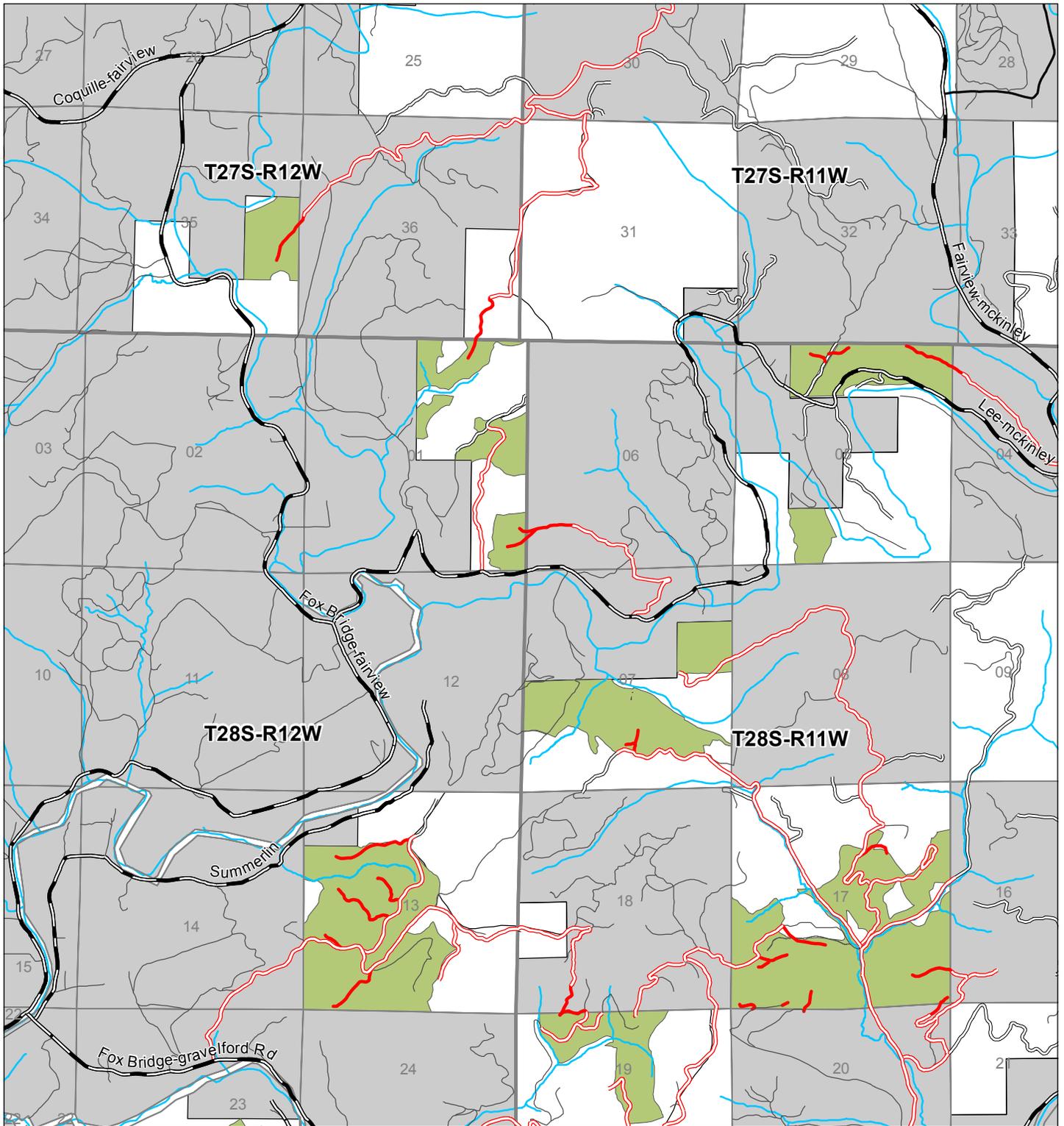
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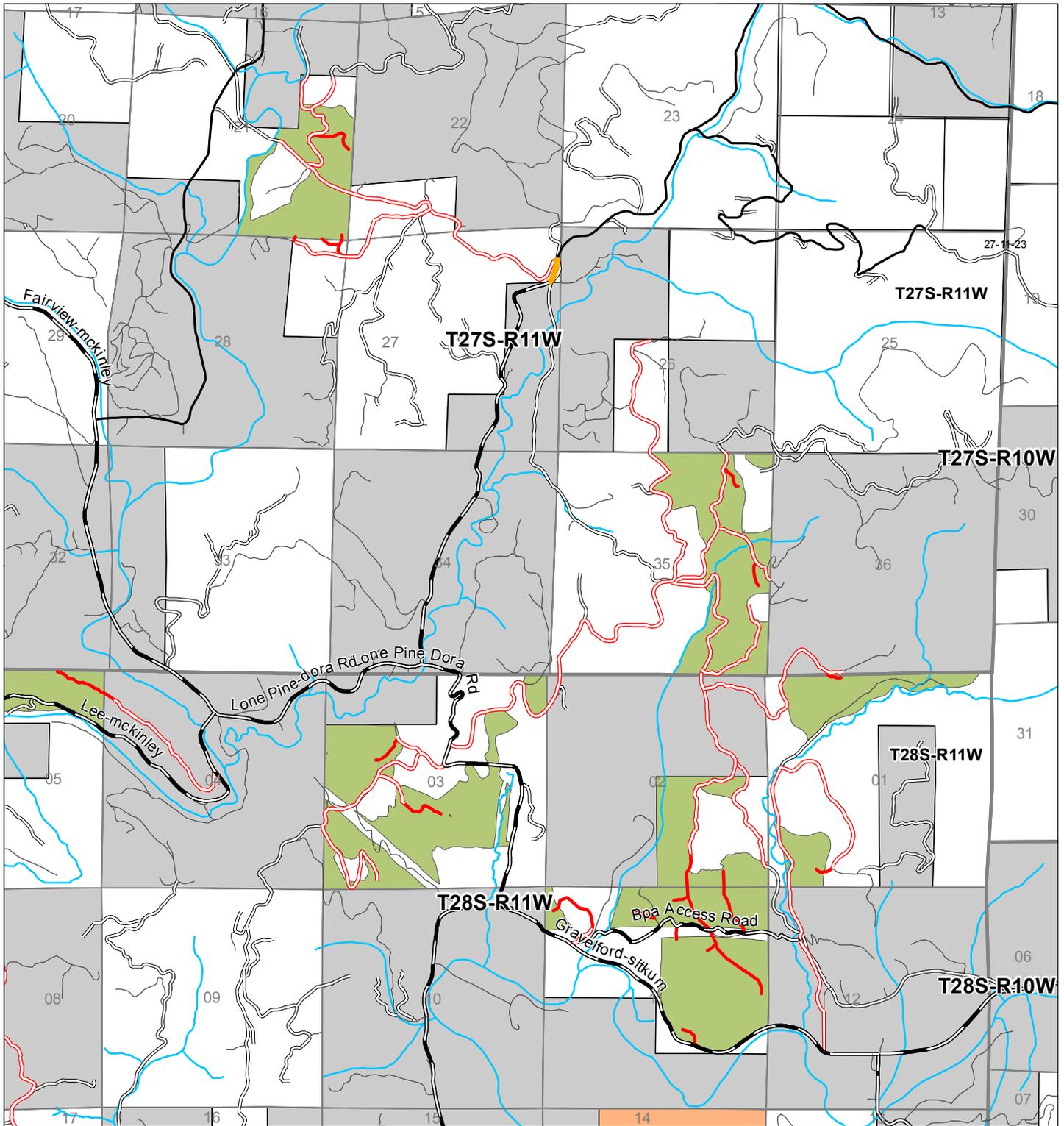
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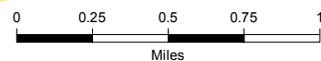
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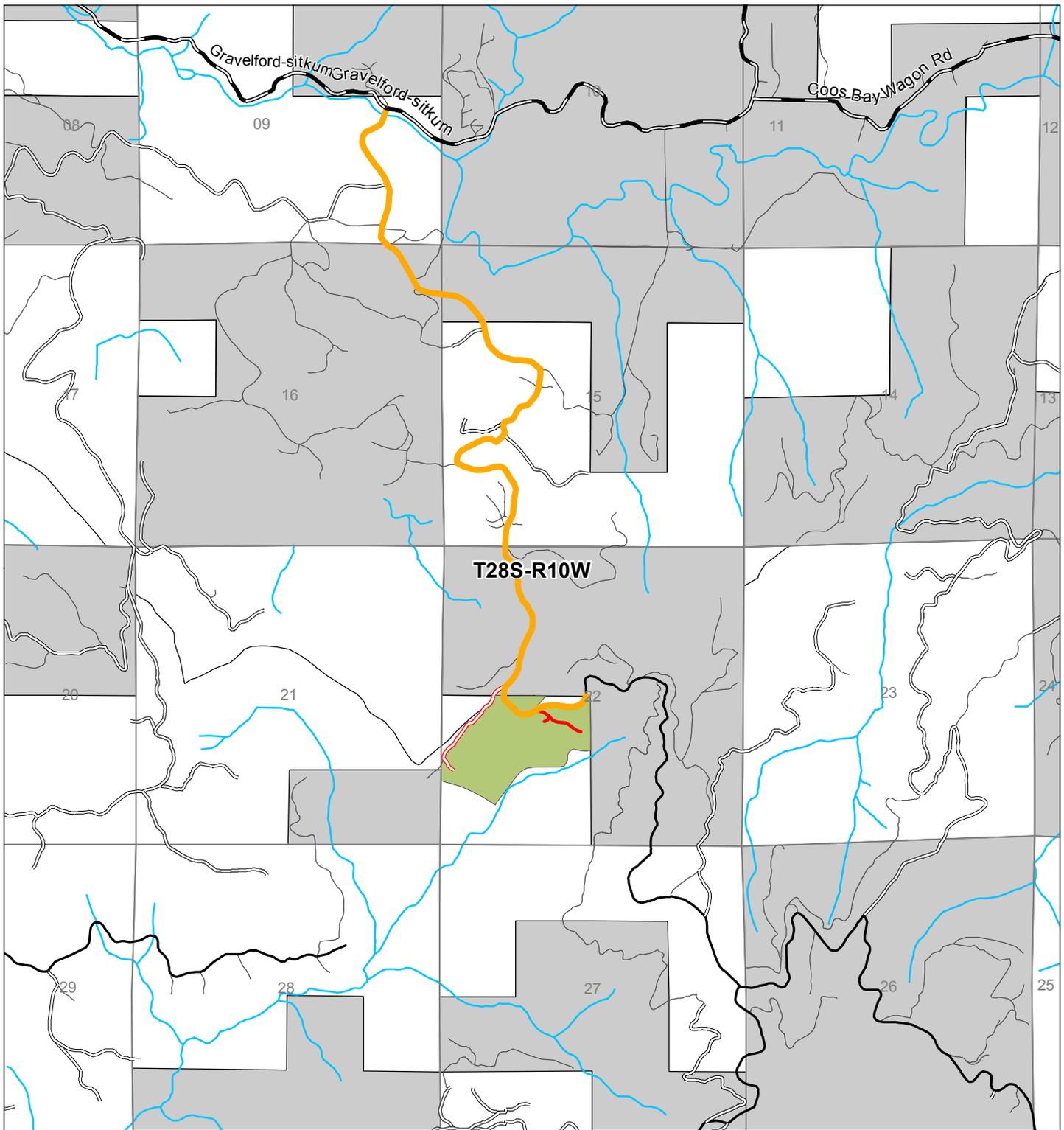
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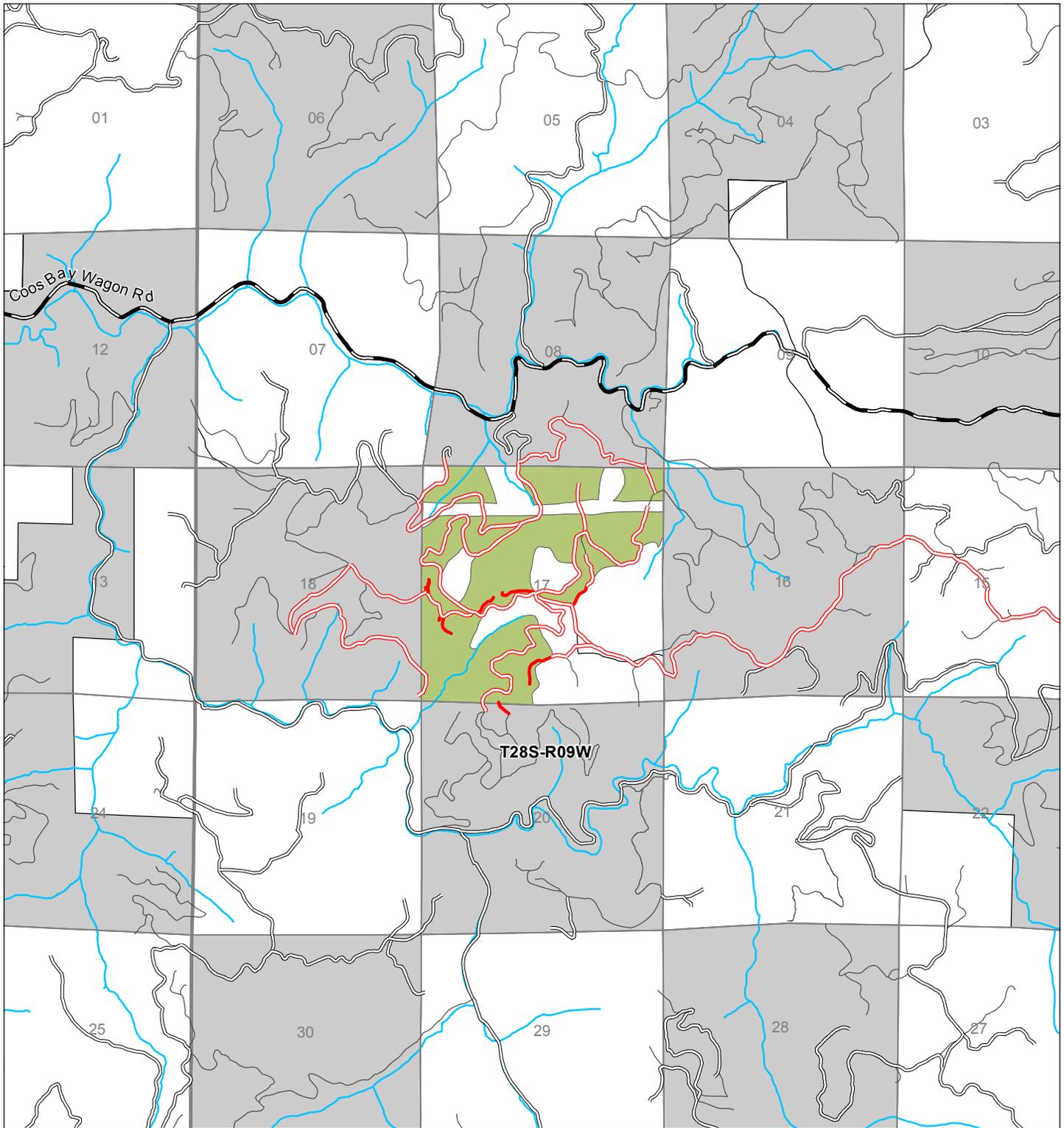
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