



# United States Department of the Interior

## BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Salem District Office  
1717 Fabry Road S.E.  
Salem, Oregon 97306



**FEB 24 2014**

In Reply Refer To:  
5410 (ORS040)  
Sunday Morning Belly Twister Project  
DOI-BLM-OR-S040-2014-0001-EA

Dear Interested Party:

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is considering the following forest management project in the Cascades Resource Area of the Bureau of Land Management, Salem District. The purpose of the project is to achieve specific objectives identified in the Salem BLM Resource Management Plan (RMP) for Matrix and Riparian Reserve (RR) Land Use Allocations (LUA) as described below.

The Sunday Morning Belly Twister project is located in the Thomas Creek and Crabtree Creek watersheds northeast of the City of Lebanon in Linn County, Oregon.

The BLM is considering the Sunday Morning Belly Twister project to meet the following general objectives and management actions/direction:

- **Matrix LUA, Including General Forest Management Area (GFMA) and Connectivity/Diversity Block (CONN)** – Manage timber stands to produce a sustainable supply of timber to provide jobs and contribute to community stability; provide a variety of habitat and other ecological functions; and provide early successional habitat (RMP p. 20). Management actions/direction include (RMP pp. 21, 46-48, D-1 – D-5):
  - Applying silvicultural systems including commercial thinning and regeneration timber harvest to produce desired species composition, structural characteristics and distribution of seral or age classes at the landscape level on Matrix lands;
  - Preventing development of undesirable stand characteristics;
  - Provide habitat for a variety of organisms associated with both late-successional and younger forests;
  - Harvesting marketable hardwood stands;
  - Selecting logging systems based on suitability and economic efficiency; and
  - Providing early successional habitat, preparing and reforesting the site as quickly as possible following regeneration timber harvest.
- **Riparian Reserve LUA** – Restore and maintain the ecological health of watersheds and aquatic ecosystems and provide habitat for terrestrial species (RMP pp. 5, 9). Management actions/direction include applying silvicultural treatments to restore large conifers in RR,

controlling stocking, managing stands, and acquiring desired vegetation characteristics (RMP pp. 7, 11).

As shown on the attached map, the units being considered for management action are located within:

- T. 11 S., R. 1 E., Sections 15, 16, 17 and 27, Willamette Meridian. This group is the Sunday Morning portion of the proposed project.
- T. 10 S., R. 1 E., Section 35; T. 11 S., R. 1 E., Sections 1 and 3; and T. 11 S., R. 2 E., Sections 5, 6, 7 and 8, Willamette Meridian. This group is the Belly Twister portion of the proposed project.

The BLM is considering two alternatives for management actions in this project:

- The first alternative is to thin all of the units retaining 25-120 trees per acre with several small openings, approximately one acre and smaller. Thinning would be accomplished with both commercial thinning and density management silvicultural prescriptions.
  - The BLM has identified forest stands totaling approximately 1,500 acres (1,000 acres Matrix, 500 acres Riparian Reserve) to analyze as the Sunday Morning Belly Twister project.
  - These stands were selected from approximately 3,100 acres which the BLM initially evaluated for potential treatment. Approximately 1650 acres evaluated are currently mapped as Matrix and 1450 acres as Riparian Reserve.
- The second alternative is identical to the first alternative except that 58 acres of unit 8A below the main road and the 7 acre unit 8B in T. 11 S., R. 1 E., Sections 5, 6, 7, and 8 would be regeneration harvest. The breast height age of these two stands is 102 years. These 65 acres would be yarded with a skyline system under both harvest alternatives.

The Scoping Map attached to this letter and the detailed proposed project maps available on the Salem District website or by mail on request show the regeneration harvest alternative. The proposed unit boundaries and yarding method for 8A and 8B are the same for both alternatives.

Related activities being considered are renovating existing roads and/or constructing new roads to provide access for logging in these areas, decommissioning or closing and stabilizing spur roads after logging, and maintaining roads and improving culverts to accommodate 100-year level flood flows.

You have been identified as someone who might have specific knowledge or interest in this area. The purpose of this letter is to give you an opportunity to share any information or concerns you may have about the project. The input you provide will help an interdisciplinary team of BLM natural resource specialists to develop design features for the project and to assess the potential environmental effects.

The enclosed map shows the locations of the potential thinning units. Detailed maps are available from the BLM upon request and may be found on the Salem District website at <http://www.blm.gov/or/districts/salem/plans/index.php>. A Project Comment Form is also enclosed. I would appreciate your written comments by March 24, 2014. Comments, including names and street addresses of respondents, will be available for public review at the Salem District Office during regular business hours (7:45 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.), Monday through Friday,

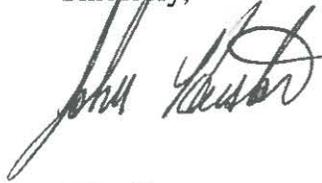
except holidays, and may be published as part of environmental analysis documents or related correspondence.

The BLM will host an open house on Wednesday March 19, 2014 from 2:00 – 6:00 p.m. at the Gates Fire Hall, 101 Sorbin Street, Gates, Oregon. BLM resource specialists and managers will be available to discuss the Sunday Morning Belly Twister project and also the ThunderKat project. Weather permitting the BLM staff will lead a one-hour field trip to the nearby Turnridge timber sale to view and discuss two regeneration harvest units which were logged approximately ten years ago.

Individual respondents may request confidentiality. If you wish to withhold your name or street address from public review or from disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act, you must state this prominently at the beginning of your written comment. Such requests will be honored to the extent allowed by law. All submissions from organizations or businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses, will be made available for public inspection in their entirety.

If you have any questions about this project or need detailed maps mailed to you, please contact Keith Walton at (503) 375-5676 or by email to [mwalton@blm.gov](mailto:mwalton@blm.gov). Written comments may be sent to John Huston, Cascades Field Manager, BLM – Salem District, 1717 Fabry Road SE, Salem, Oregon 97306 or submitted by email to [jhuston@blm.gov](mailto:jhuston@blm.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Huston", written in a cursive style.

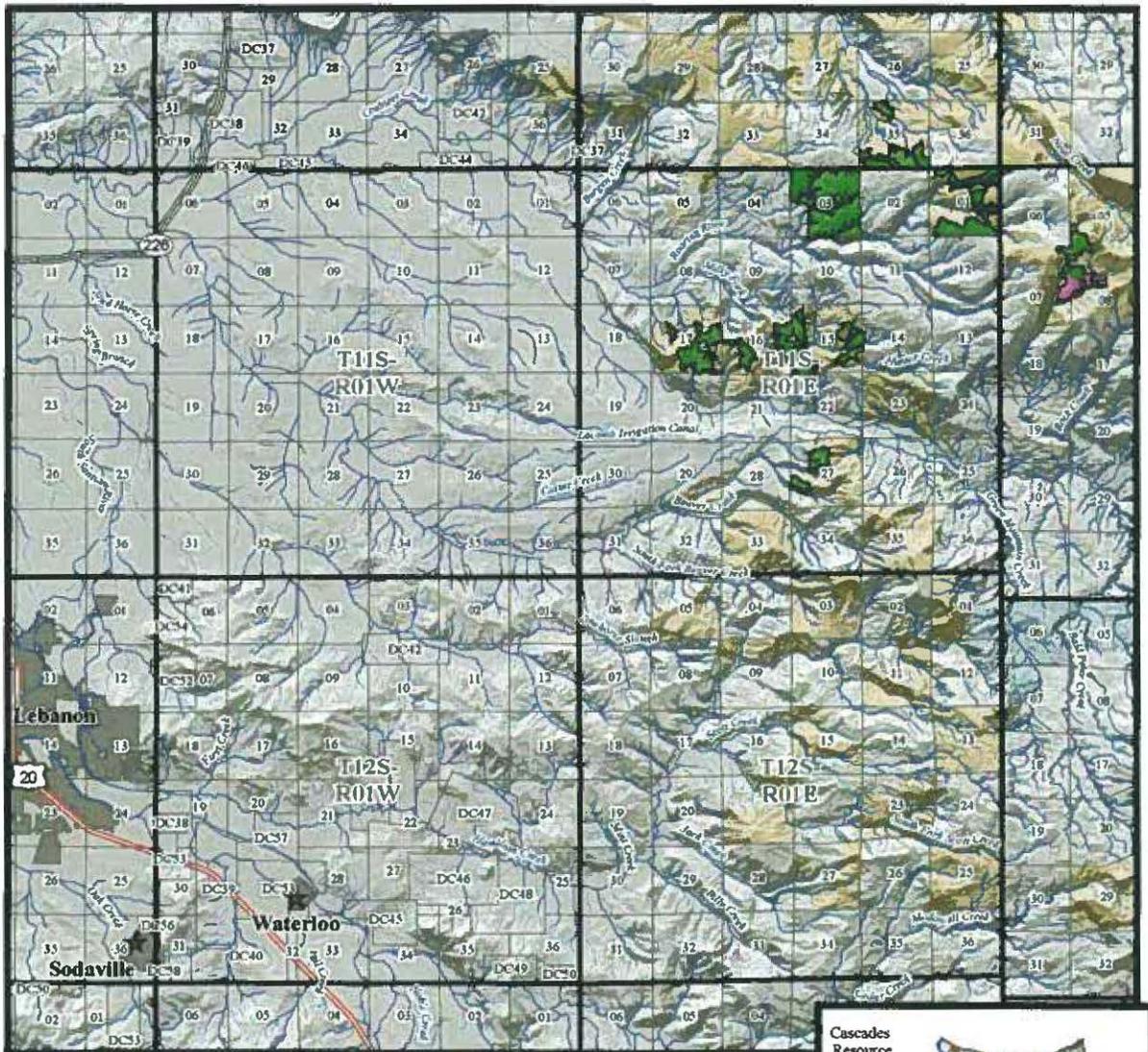
John Huston  
Field Manager, Cascades Resource Area

Enclosures

# Sunday Morning Belly Twister Project Scoping Map

## DOI-BLM-OR-S040-2014-0001-EA

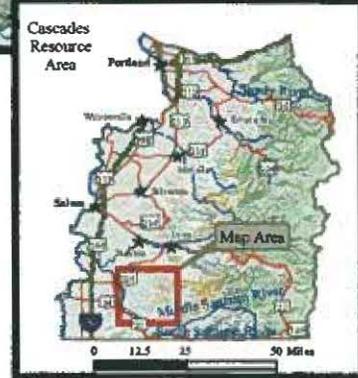
2/4/2014



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. Original data were compiled from various sources and may be updated without notification.



- |                     |                                 |
|---------------------|---------------------------------|
| U.S. Highway        | <b>Potential Harvest Method</b> |
| State Highway       | Commercial Thinning             |
| unknown periodicity | Density Management              |
| Intermittent Stream | Regeneration Harvest            |
| Perennial Stream    | <b>Ownership</b>                |
|                     | Bureau of Land Management       |
|                     | State                           |
|                     | Private/Unknown                 |



## Sunday Morning Belly Twister Project

Enclosure 1, Vicinity Map

**Sunday Morning Belly Twister Project  
Project Comment Form**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Representing \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Do you want to be added to the mailing list for this project?     Yes     No

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_  
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**Please feel free to enclose additional sheets if needed.**

Comments, including names and street addresses of respondents, will be available for public review at the Salem District Office during regular business hours (7:45 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays) and may be published as part of environmental analysis documents or related correspondence. Individual respondents may request confidentiality. If you wish to withhold your name or street address from public review or from disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act, you must state this prominently at the beginning of your written comment. Such requests will be honored to the extent allowed by law. All submissions from organizations or businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses, will be made available for public inspection in their entirety.

Enclosure 2, Comment Form

----- Fold in half here. Tape or staple open edges. -----

**Bureau of Land Management  
Salem District Office  
1717 Fabry Road SE  
Salem, OR 97306**

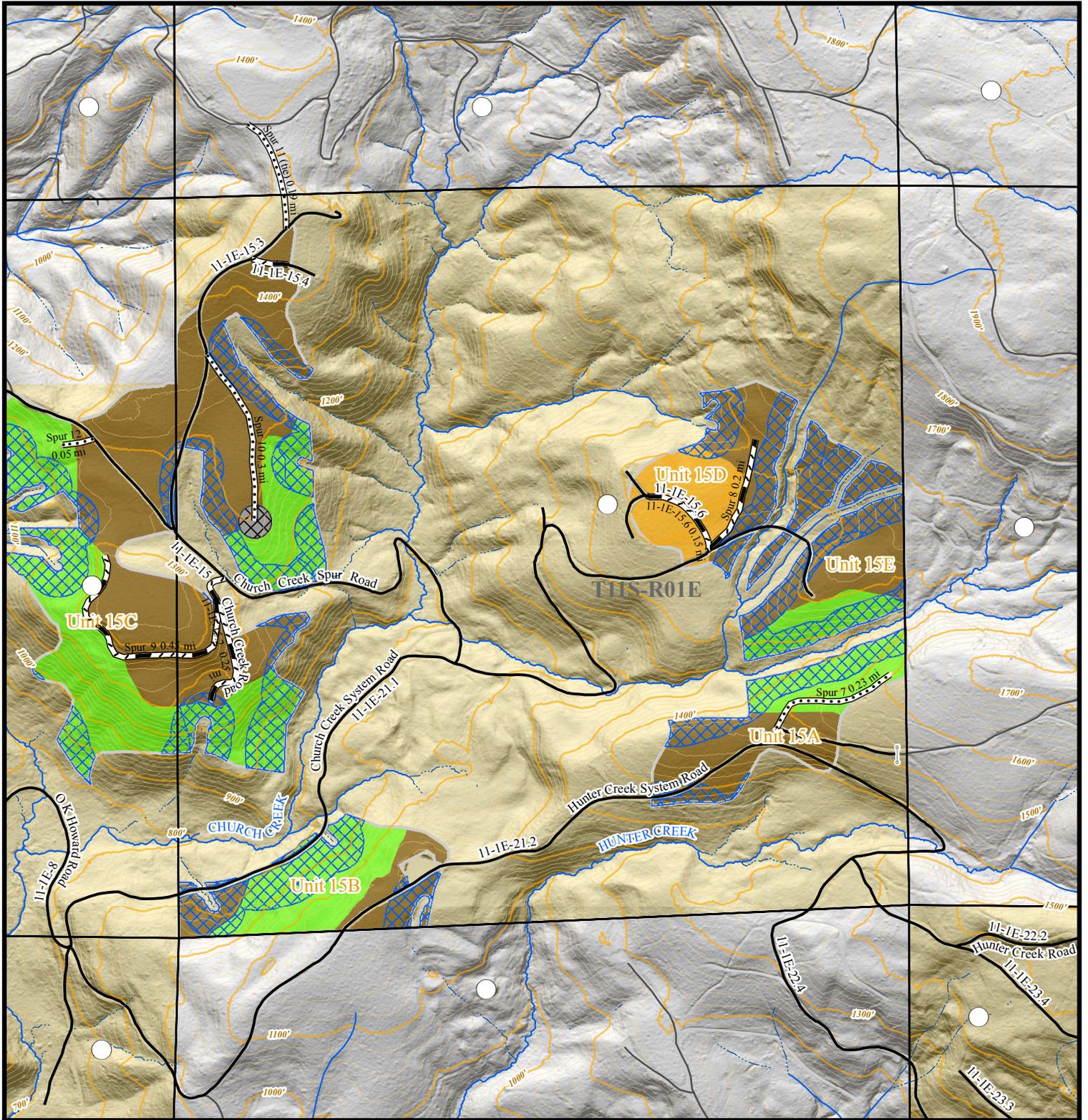
Please  
place  
stamp  
here

**Attention: John Huston  
Cascades Field Manager  
BLM – Salem District  
1717 Fabry Road SE  
Salem, OR 97306**

# Sunday Morning & Belly Twister Proposed Projects

2/5/2014

T11S-R01E Sec 15



1,000 500 0Feet

Contour Interval: 20'

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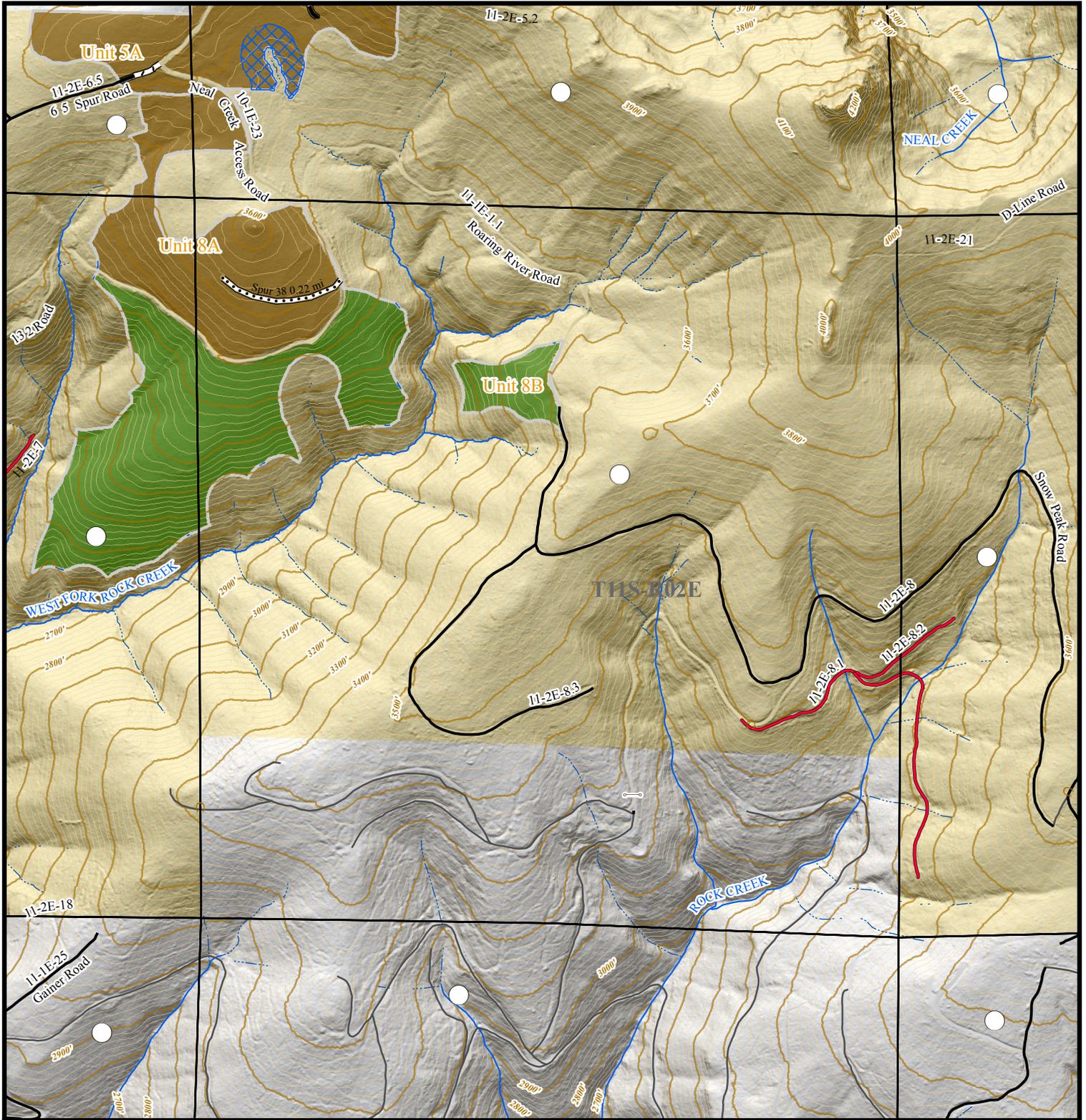
-  Gate
-  BLM other
-  Non-system other
-  New Construction
-  Renovation
-  Proposed Gap Cuts
-  Riparian Reserves
-  EA Unit Boundary
-  Ground based Yarding/Thinning
-  Ground based Yarding/DM
-  Skyline Yarding/Thinning
-  Bureau of Land Management
-  Private/Unknown



# Sunday Morning & Belly Twister Proposed Projects

2/4/2014

T11S-R02E Sec 08



1,000 500 0 Feet

Contour Interval: 20'

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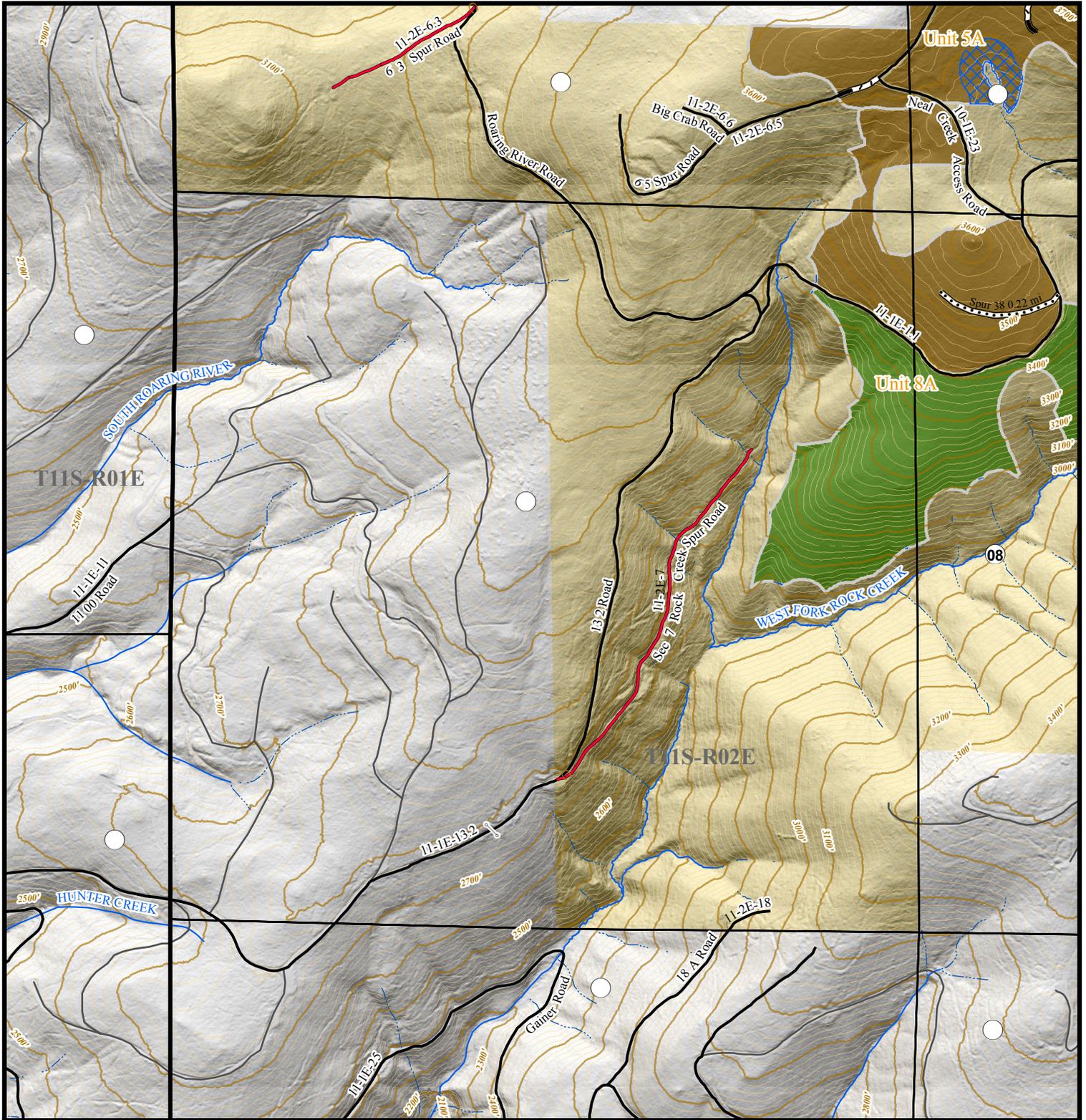
-  Gate
-  Earth Berm
-  BLM decommissioned
-  BLM other
-  Non-system other
-  New Construction
-  Renovation
-  Riparian Reserves
-  EA Unit Boundary
-  Ground based Yarding/Thinning
-  Skyline Yarding/Regen
-  Bureau of Land Management
- Private/Unknown



# Sunday Morning & Belly Twister Proposed Projects

2/4/2014

T11S-R02E Sec 07



1,000 500 0 Feet

Contour Interval: 20'

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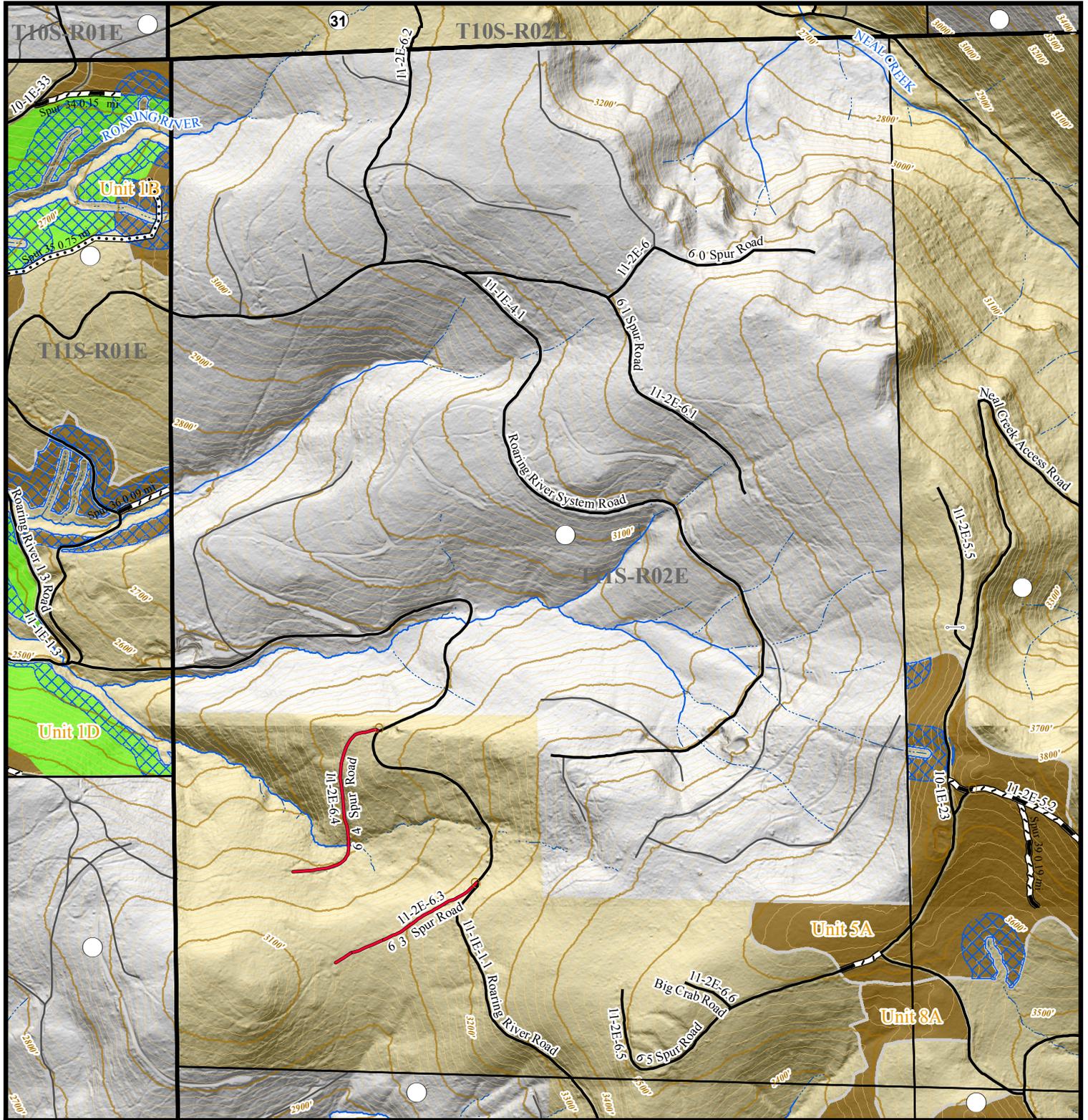
-  Gate
-  Earth Berm
-  BLM decommissioned
-  BLM other
-  Non-system other
-  New Construction
-  Renovation
-  Riparian Reserves
-  EA Unit Boundary
-  Ground based Yarding/Thinning
-  Skyline Yarding/Regen
-  Bureau of Land Management
- Private/Unknown



# Sunday Morning & Belly Twister Proposed Projects

2/4/2014

T11S-R02E Sec 06



Contour Interval: 20'

1,000 500 0Feet

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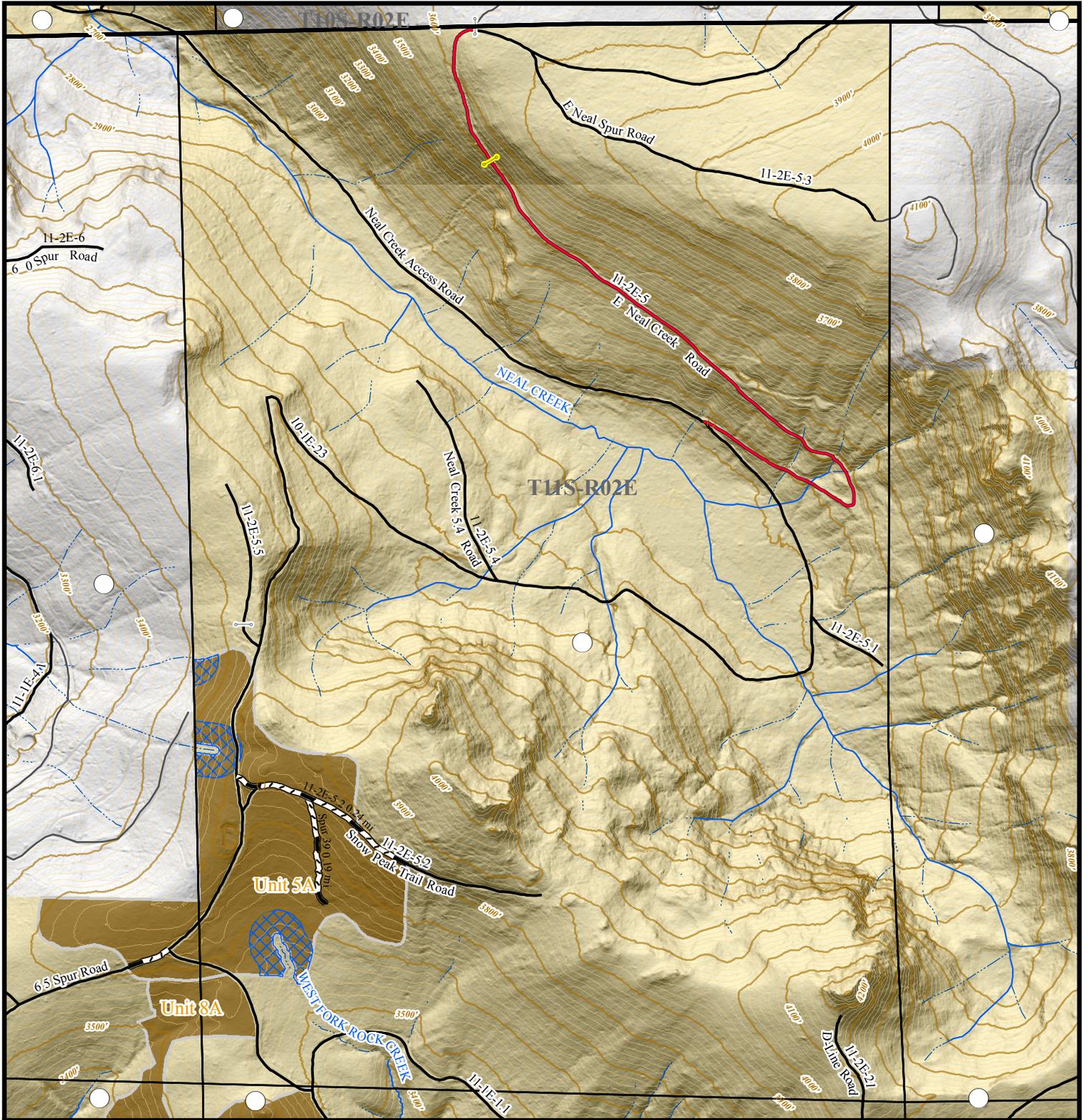
-  Gate
-  Earth Berm
-  BLM decommissioned
-  BLM other
-  Non-system other
-  New Construction
-  Renovation
-  Riparian Reserves
-  EA Unit Boundary
-  Ground based Yarding/Thinning
-  Skyline Yarding/Thinning
-  Bureau of Land Management
- Private/Unknown



# Sunday Morning & Belly Twister Proposed Projects

2/4/2014

T11S-R02E Sec 05



Contour Interval: 20'

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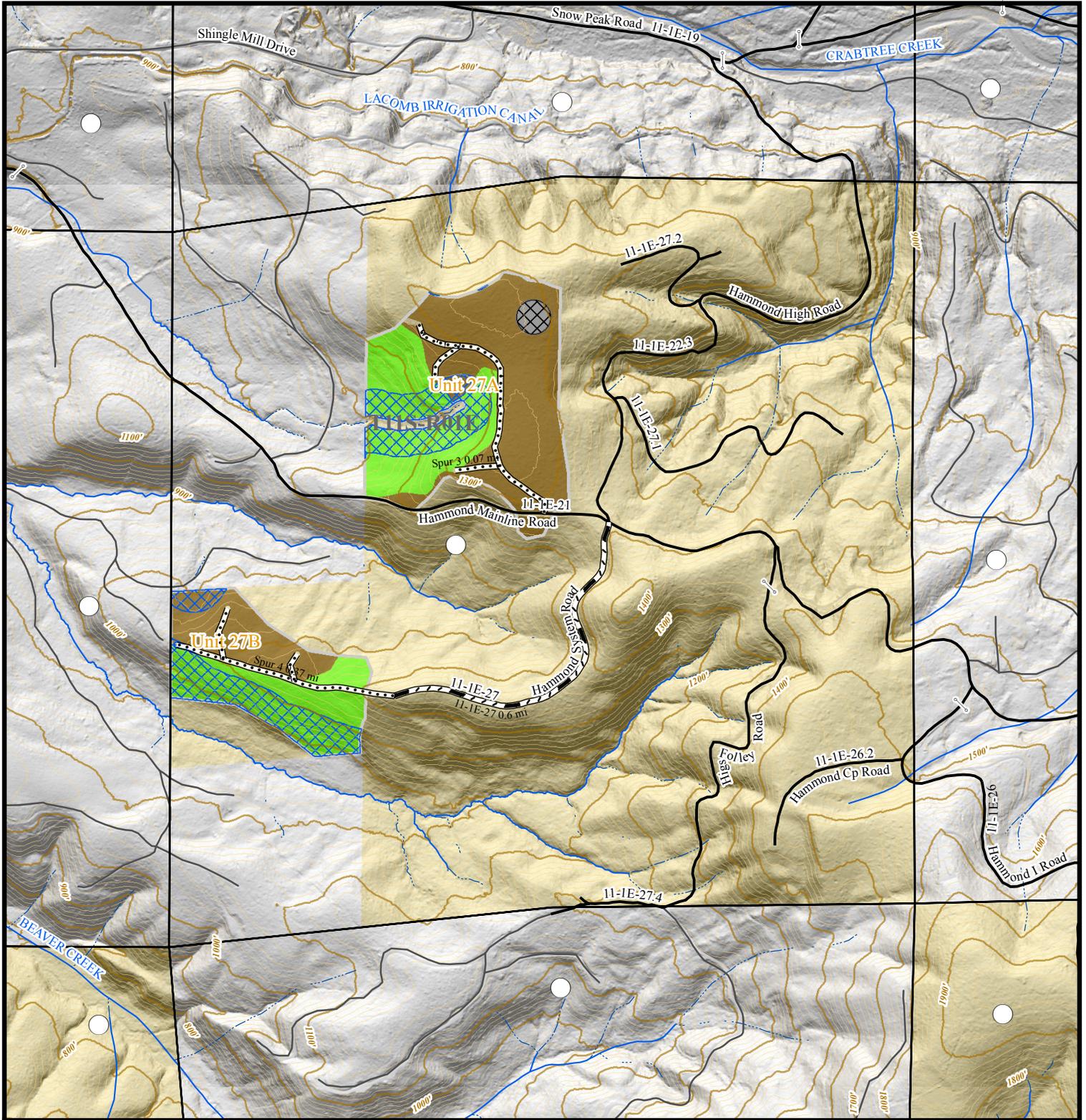
- |  |                    |  |   |
|--|--------------------|--|---|
|  | Gate               |  | Renovation                                |
|  | Other              |  | Riparian Reserves                         |
|  | Earth Berm         |  | EA Unit Boundary                          |
|  | BLM decommissioned |  | Ground based Yarding/Thinning             |
|  | BLM other          |  | Bureau of Land Management Private/Unknown |
|  | Non-system other   |  |   |



# Sunday Morning & Belly Twister Proposed Projects

2/4/2014

T11S-R01E Sec 27



1,000 500 0 Feet

Contour Interval: 20'

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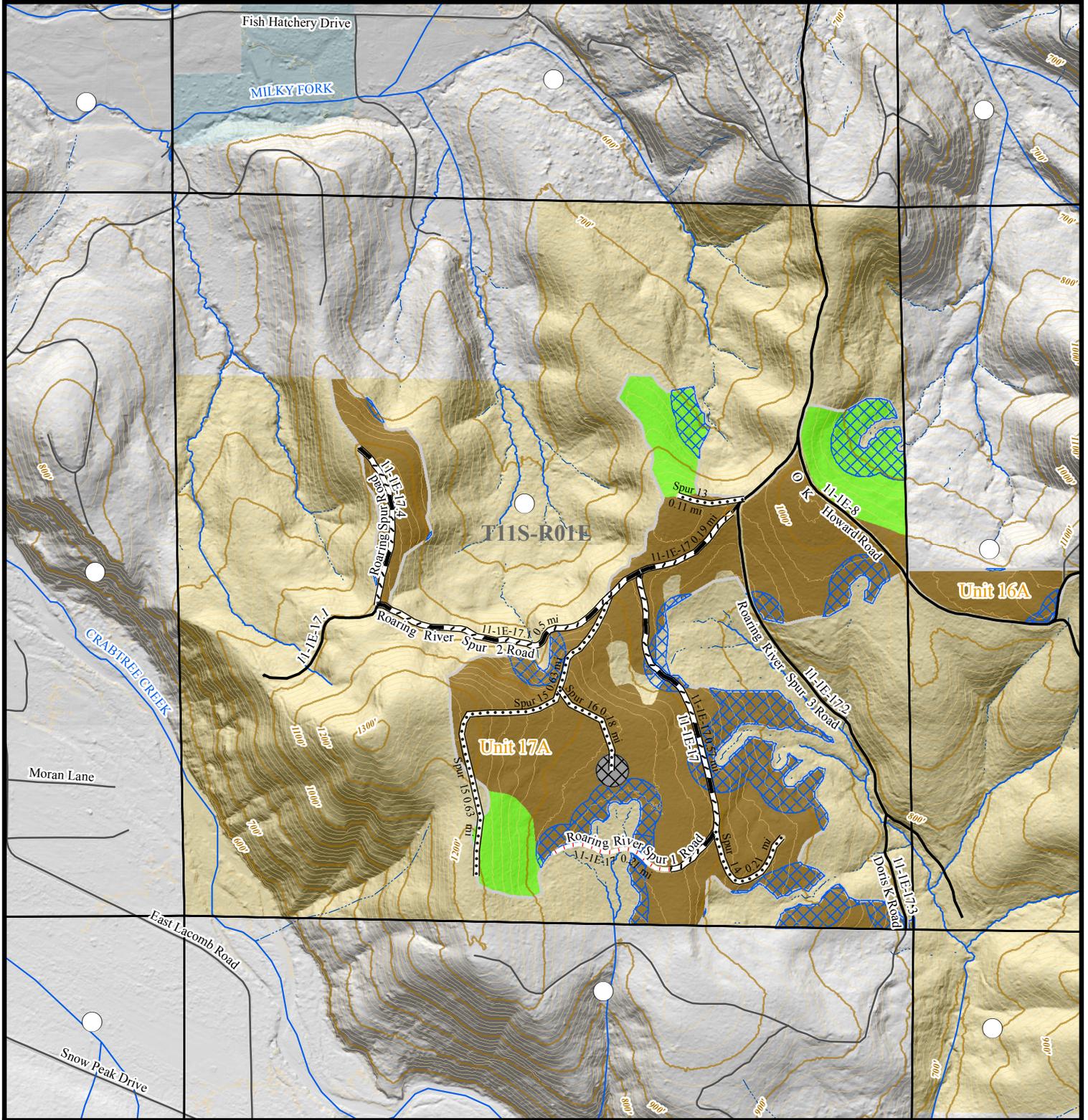
-  Gate
-  BLM other
-  Non-system other
-  New Construction
-  Renovation
-  Proposed Gap Cuts
-  Riparian Reserves
-  EA Unit Boundary
-  Ground based Yarding/Thinning
-  Skyline Yarding/Thinning
-  Bureau of Land Management Private/Unknown



# Sunday Morning & Belly Twister Proposed Projects

2/4/2014

T11S-R01E Sec 17



1,000 500 0 Feet

Contour Interval: 20'

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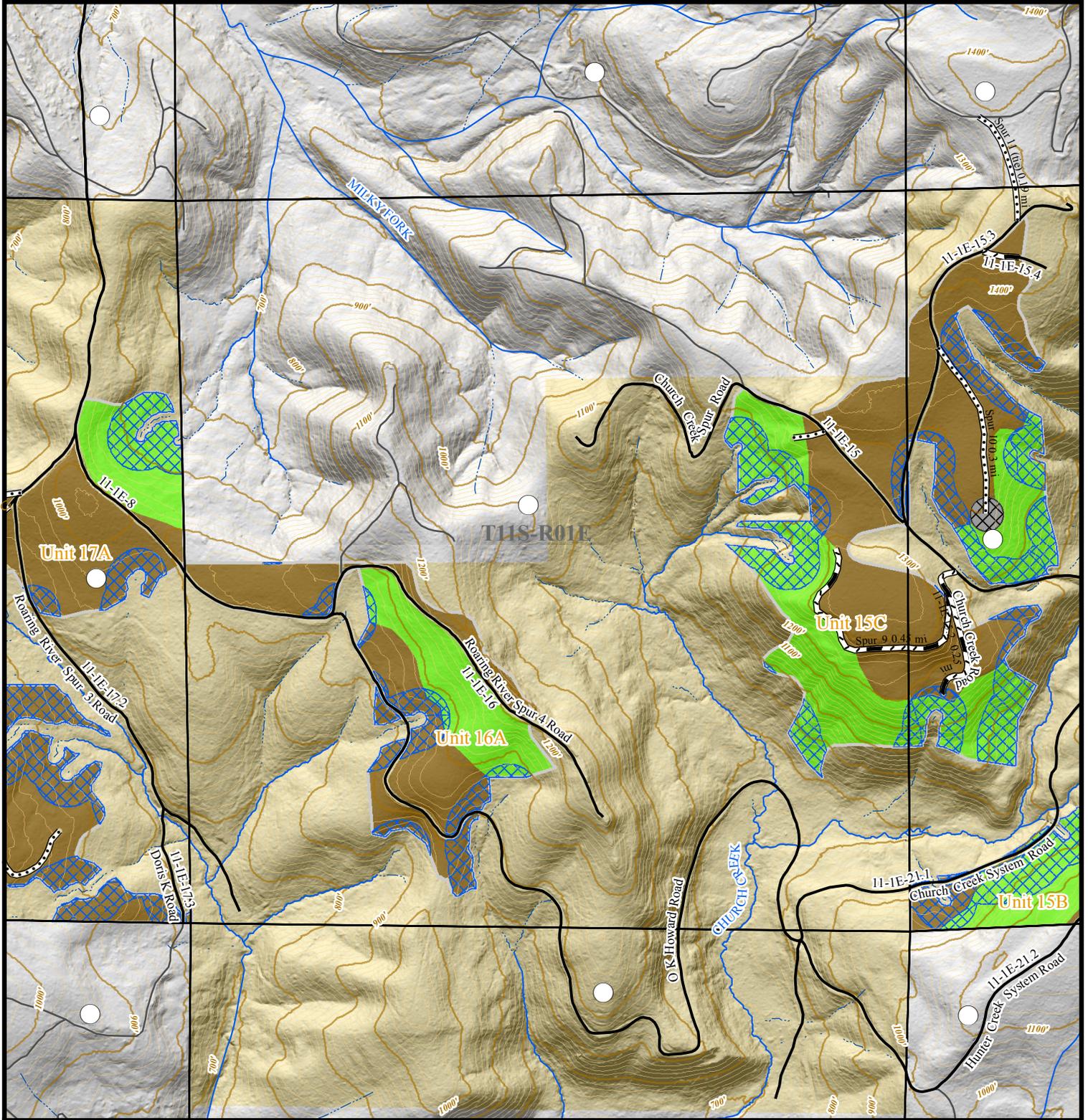
- |                  |                               |                          |
|------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Earth Berm       | Proposed Gap Cuts             | State<br>Private/Unknown |
| BLM other        | Riparian Reserves             |                          |
| Non-system other | EA Unit Boundary              |                          |
| Decommission     | Ground based Yarding/Thinning |                          |
| New Construction | Skyline Yarding/Thinning      |                          |
| Renovation       | Bureau of Land Management     |                          |



# Sunday Morning & Belly Twister Proposed Projects

2/4/2014

T11S-R01E Sec 16



1,000 500 0 Feet

Contour Interval: 20'

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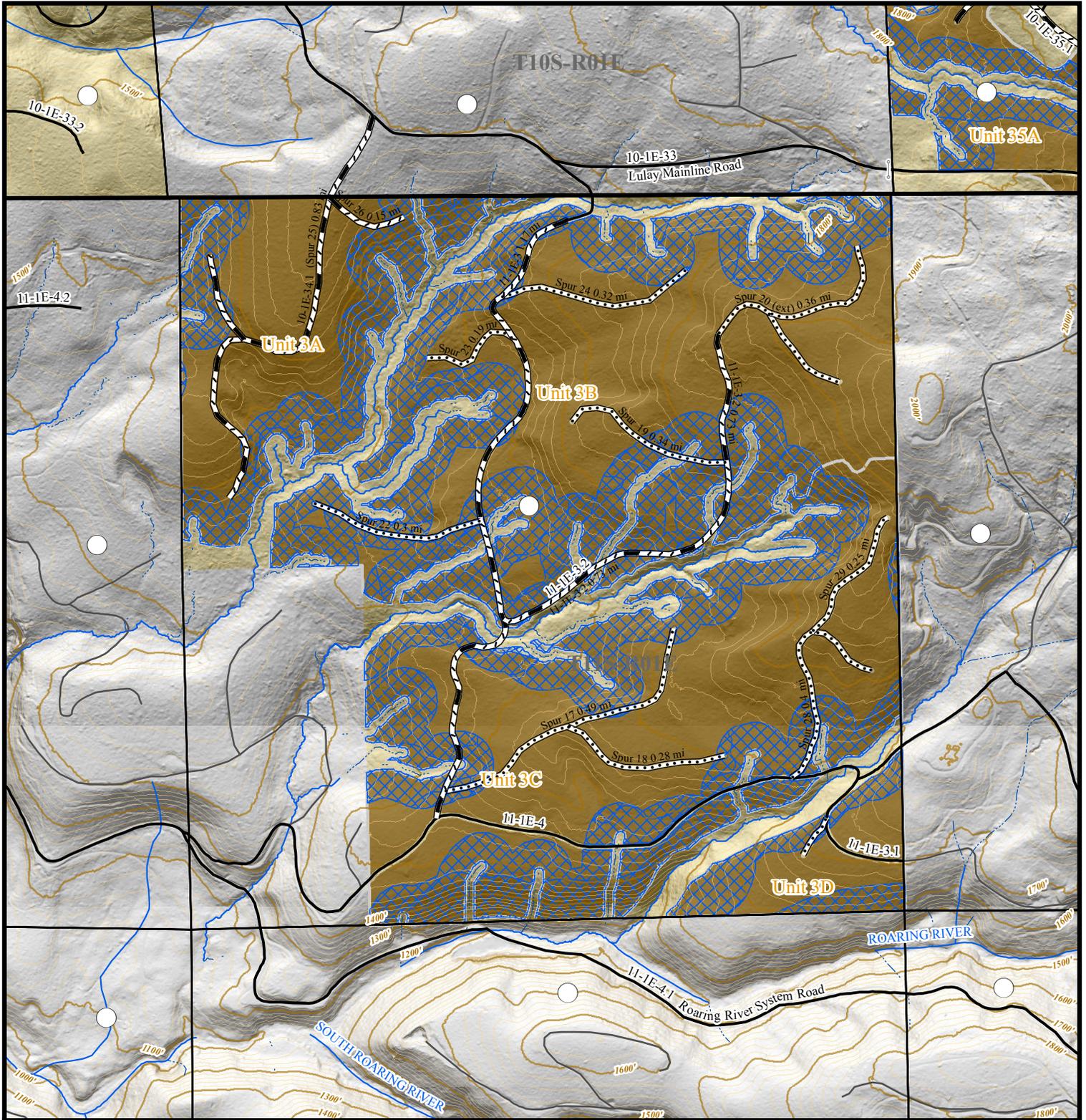
- |  |                   |  |                               |
|--|-------------------|--|-------------------------------|
|  | Earth Berm        |  | Riparian Reserves             |
|  | BLM other         |  | EA Unit Boundary              |
|  | Non-system other  |  | Ground based Yarding/Thinning |
|  | New Construction  |  | Skyline Yarding/Thinning      |
|  | Renovation        |  | Bureau of Land Management     |
|  | Proposed Gap Cuts |  | Private/Unknown               |



# Sunday Morning & Belly Twister Proposed Projects

2/4/2014

T11S-R01E Sec 03



1,000 500 0 Feet

Contour Interval: 20'

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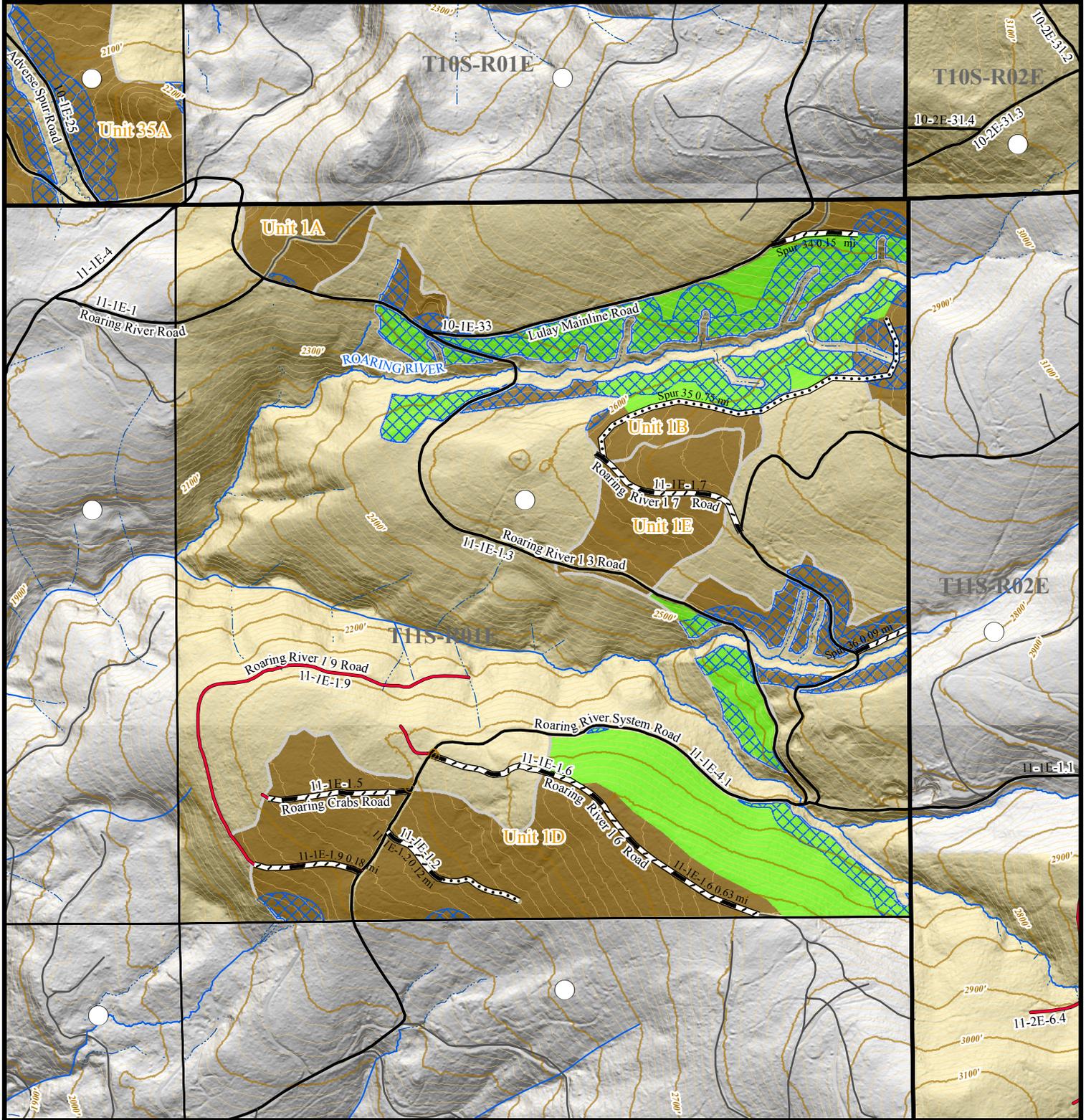
- |  |                  |  |   |
|--|------------------|--|---|
|  | Gate             |  | Riparian Reserves                         |
|  | BLM other        |  | EA Unit Boundary                          |
|  | Non-system other |  | Ground based Yarding/Thinning             |
|  | New Construction |  | Bureau of Land Management Private/Unknown |
|  | Renovation       |  |   |



# Sunday Morning & Belly Twister Proposed Projects

2/4/2014

T11S-R01E Sec 01



1,000 500 0 Feet

Contour Interval: 20'

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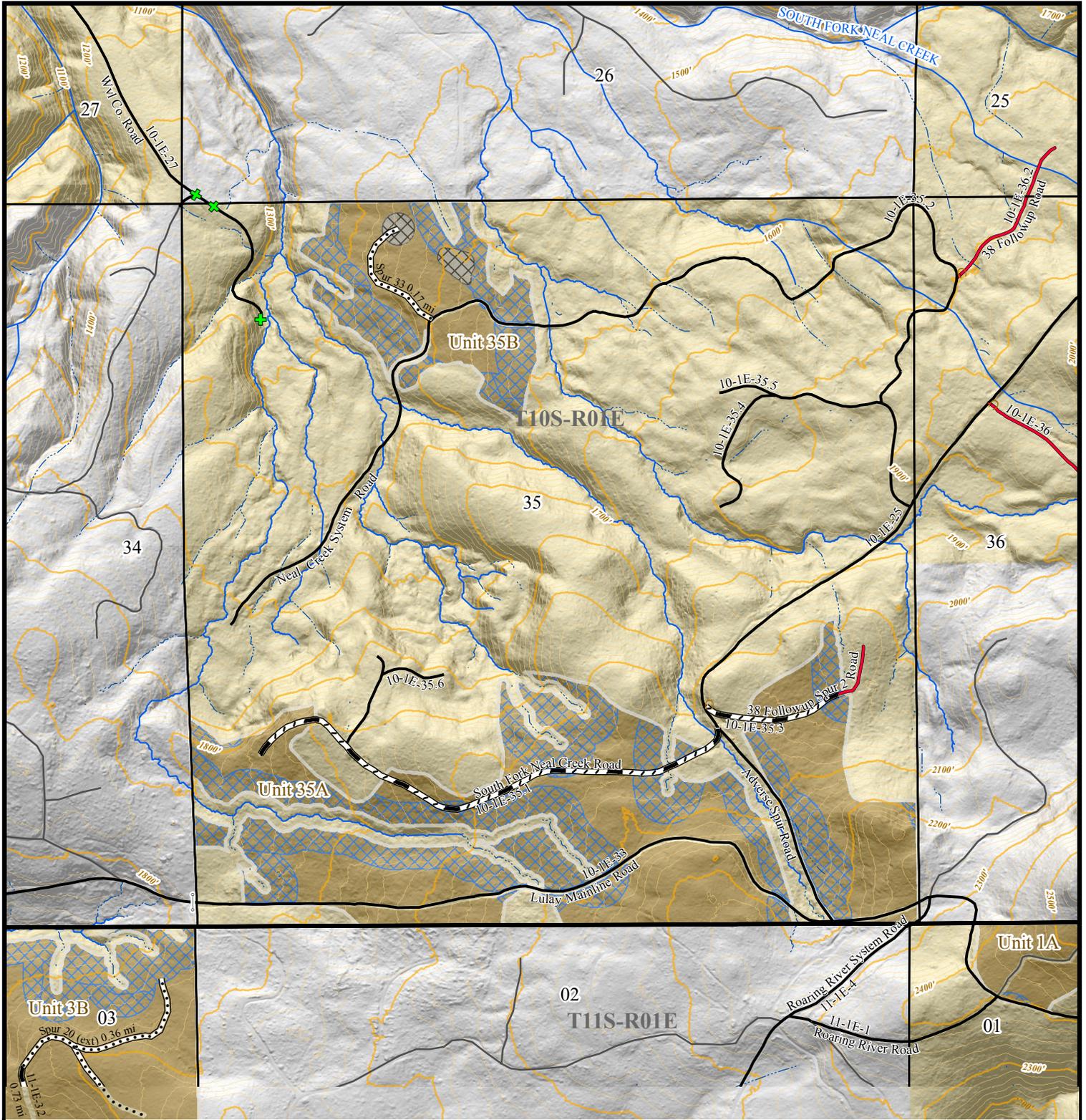
-  Earth Berm
-  BLM decommissioned
-  BLM other
-  Non-system other
-  New Construction
-  Renovation
-  Riparian Reserves
-  EA Unit Boundary
-  Ground based Yarding/Thinning
-  Skyline Yarding/Thinning
-  Bureau of Land Management Private/Unknown



# Sunday Morning & Belly Twister Proposed Projects

2/10/2014

T10S-R01E Sec 35



Contour Interval: 20'

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- |  |                     |  |                           |  |                               |
|--|---------------------|--|---------------------------|--|-------------------------------|
|  | Gate                |  | New Construction          |  | Private/Unknown               |
|  | Earth Berm          |  | Renovation                |  | Proposed Gap Cuts             |
|  | Vegetation Blockage |  | Riparian Reserves         |  | Ground based Yarding/Thinning |
|  | BLM decommissioned  |  | Bureau of Land Management |  |                               |
|  | BLM other           |  |                           |  |                               |
|  | Non-system other    |  |                           |  |                               |

