

WILDERNESS CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORY
APPENDIX A – PERMANENT DOCUMENTATION FILE

The permanent documentation file should include the following:

1. **Inventory Area Evaluation:** Appendix B.
2. **Route Analysis:** Appendix C.
3. **Inventory Maps:** Inventory maps used in conducting and documenting findings of wilderness characteristics inventories must be retained. Maps should depict the area's unique identifier, boundary, and any photo points.
4. **Photo Documentation:** Documentation could include a descriptive log and photographs (Appendix D).
5. **Supporting Documentation:** Include additional notes, forms, and documents.

WILDERNESS CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORY
APPENDIX B – INVENTORY AREA EVALUATION

Evaluation of Current Conditions:

1) Document and review any existing BLM wilderness characteristics inventory findings on file regarding the presence or absence of individual wilderness characteristics, using Form 1, below.

2) Consider relevant information regarding current conditions available in the office. Identify and describe any changes to the existing inventory information. Use interdisciplinary team knowledge, aerial photographs, field observations, maps, etc. and document the findings on Form 2, below. Document current conditions regarding wilderness characteristics, as opposed to potential future conditions.

Conduct field reviews as necessary to verify information and to ascertain current conditions. Reach conclusions on current conditions including boundaries, size of areas and presence or absence of wilderness characteristics. Fully explain the basis for each conclusion on Form 2, including any critical differences between BLM and citizen information.

Document the findings regarding current conditions for each inventoried area. Describe how the present conditions are similar to, or have changed from, the conditions documented in the original wilderness characteristics inventory. Document the findings on Form 2 for each inventory area. Cite to or attach data considered, including photographs, maps, GIS layers, field trip notes, project files, etc.

FORM 1 - Northeast Cliff Unit

Documentation of BLM Wilderness Characteristics Inventory Findings from Previous Inventory on Record

1. Is there existing BLM wilderness characteristics inventory information on all or part of this area?

No _____ (Go to Form 2) Yes X (If yes, and if more than one area is within the area, list the unique identifiers for those areas.):

a) **Inventory Source:** 2000 Roadless and Wilderness Values Inventory on the Roan Plateau

b) **Inventory Area Unique Identifier(s):** Roan Plateau Planning Area

c) **Map Name(s)/Number(s):** _____

d) **BLM District(s)/Field Office(s):** Northwest District/CRVFO

2. BLM Inventory Findings on Record:

Existing inventory information regarding wilderness characteristics (if more than one BLM inventory area is associated with the area, list each area and answer each question individually for each inventory area):

Inventory Source: Roan Plateau Wilderness Findings Inventory Executive Summary 2000

Area Unique Identifier	Sufficient Size? Yes/No (acres)	Naturalness? Yes/No	Outstanding Solitude? Yes/No	Outstanding Primitive & Unconfined Recreation? Yes/No	Supplemental Values? Yes/No	Conclusion, Does area have Wilderness Character?
Northeast Cliff Unit	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES

FORM 2 - Northeast Cliff Unit

Current Conditions: Presence or Absence of Wilderness Characteristics

Area Unique Identifier Northeast Cliff Unit Acreage 5,845 acres

(If the inventory area consists of subunits, list the acreage of each and evaluate each separately).

In completing steps (1)-(5), use additional space as necessary.

(1) Is the area of sufficient size? (If the area meets one of the exceptions to the size criterion, check "Yes" and describe the exception in the space provided below),

Yes X No

Note: If "No" is checked the area does not have wilderness characteristics; check "NA" for the remaining questions below.

Description (describe the boundaries of the area--wilderness inventory roads, property lines, etc.): The Northeast Cliff Unit is located in Garfield County, approximately 5 miles northwest of Rifle. There is one 40 acres private inholding in the northern 1/4 of the unit. The inventory boundary on the west follows the eastern cliff edge. The rest of the unit is bounded by private property and power transmission lines. This inventory unit contained 5,847 acres. The roadless review team inventory determined that 5,845 acres were roadless.

(2) Does the area appear to be natural?

Yes X No N/A

Note: If "No" is checked the area does not have wilderness characteristics; check "NA" for the remaining questions below.

Description (include land ownership, location, topography, vegetation, and summary of major human uses/activities): Due to the extremely steep and rugged topography, most of the area is inaccessible, appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature and retains natural character. The narrowness of the unit (less than 2 miles at the widest point) generally does not detract from the naturalness, except on the western boundary, where outside disturbances are visible. The ruggedness of the unit helps mask its relatively narrow width. Human imprints are minimal and substantially unnoticeable. Intrusions include tree clearing, fence, and five ways. A small area (46 acres) along the eastern boundary in Magpie Gulch was found not to be natural. This area is between the cherry-stemmed road and the adjacent irrigation ditch. The ditch is significantly noticable and maintained annually with heavy equipment. 5,799 acres were found to be natural.

(3) Does the area (or the remainder of the area if a portion has been excluded due to unnaturalness and the remainder is of sufficient size) have outstanding opportunities for solitude?

Yes X No N/A

Description (describe the area's outstanding opportunities for solitude):

The Northeast Cliff Unit provides visitors a variety of outstanding opportunities for solitude throughout most of the unit. The diverse vegetation and rugged topography provide natural screening and opportunities for seclusion in the mid to lower reached of the unit. Outside sights and sounds are apparent wheon on the western boundary along the bluff. Overall, the unit's remoteness and rugged character provide outstanding opportunities for visitors seeking solitude.

(4) Does the area (or the remainder of the area if a portion has been excluded due to unnaturalness and the remainder is of sufficient size) have outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation?

Yes X No _____ N/A _____

Note: If "No" is checked for both 3 and 4 the area does not have wilderness characteristics; check "NA" for question 5.

Description (describe the area's outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined

recreation): The Northeast Cliff Unit offers visitors outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation. Access is limited due to private land bounding the unit on the east and the steep bluff on the west. This along with the difficult terrain restricts visitors to undeveloped recreational activities. The county road on the southern border and one primitive trail from the rim grant access to the area. Once in the area, visitors have excellent opportunities to disperse and enjoy undeveloped types of recreation such as hiking, backpacking, bird watching, and hunting.

(5) Does the area have supplemental values (ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic or historical value)?

Yes X No _____ N/A _____

Description: Portions of this unit were identified as a "Significant" conservation site for biodiversity by the Colorado Natural Heritage Program (CNHP) in 1996. This unit supports 2 elements identified by the CNHP report which include: 1) Excellent example of an old-growth Douglas-fir community; 2) Habitat that supports a significant bird species (Three-toed woodpecker). Other supplemental values found include scenic opportunities within the unit and when looking to the eastern horizon. The unit serves as an important big game refuge during hunting season.

Summary of Analysis*

Area Unique Identifier: Northeast Cliff Unit

Summary

Results of analysis:

(Note: explain the inventory findings for the entirety of the inventory unit. When wilderness characteristics have been identified in an area that is smaller than the size of the total inventory unit, explain why certain portions of the inventory unit are not included within the lands with wilderness characteristics (e.g. the inventory found that certain parts lacked naturalness).

1. Does the area meet any of the size requirements? Yes ___ No
2. Does the area appear to be natural? Yes ___ No ___ N/A
3. Does the area offer outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation? Yes ___ No ___ N/A
4. Does the area have supplemental values? Yes ___ No ___ N/A

Check one:

The area, or a portion of the area, has wilderness characteristics and is identified as lands with wilderness characteristics.

The area does not have wilderness characteristics.

Prepared by (team members):

Kimberly Miller - Outdoor Recreation Planner 4/2014

Faith Dziedzic - GIS Specialist 4/2014

Julie McGrew - Natural Resource Specialist 4/2014

Greg Wolfgang - Outdoor Recreation Planner 4/2014

Samantha Dinar - Park Ranger Intern 4/2014

(Name, Title, Date)

Reviewed by (District or Field Manager):

* This form documents information that constitutes an inventory finding on wilderness characteristics. It does not represent a formal land use allocation or a final agency decision subject to administrative remedies under either 43 CFR parts 4 or 1610.5-3.

Name: Steve Bennett

Title: Field Manager

Date: AUG 15 2014

WILDERNESS CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORY

APPENDIX C – ROUTE ANALYSIS¹

(Factors to consider when determining whether a route is a road² for wilderness characteristics inventory purposes.)

Wilderness Characteristics Inventory Area Unique Identifier: Northeast Cliff Unit

Route or Route Segment³ Name and/or Identifier: See attached Spreadsheet
(Include Transportation Plan Identifier, if known, and include route number supplied by citizen information, when available.)

I. LOCATION: Refer to attached map _____ and BLM corporate data (GIS). List photo point references (where applicable) or reference attached photo log:

Describe: See attached Maps and Photo Point Summary

II. ROUTE CONTEXT

A. Current Purpose⁴ (if any) of Route: (Examples: Rangeland/Livestock Improvements (stock tank, developed spring, reservoir, fence, corral), Inholdings (ranch, farmhouse), Mine

¹ This form documents information that constitutes an inventory finding on wilderness characteristics. It does not represent a formal land use allocation or a final agency decision subject to administrative remedies under either 43 CFR parts 4 or 1610.5-3.

² Road: An access route which has been improved and maintained by mechanical means to insure relatively regular and continuous use. A way maintained solely by the passage of vehicles does not constitute a road.

a. Improved and maintained – Actions taken physically by people to keep the road open to vehicle traffic. “Improved” does not necessarily mean formal construction. “Maintained” does not necessarily mean annual maintenance.

b. Mechanical means – Use of hand or power machinery or tools.

c. Relatively regular and continuous use – Vehicular use that has occurred and will continue to occur on a relatively regular basis. Examples are: access roads for equipment to maintain a stock water tank or other established water sources, access roads to maintained recreation sites or facilities, or access roads to mining claims.

³ If a portion of a route is found to meet the wilderness inventory road criteria (see Part III) and the remainder does not meet these criteria (e.g., a cherrystem road with a primitive route continuing beyond a certain point), identify each segment and explain the rationale for the separate findings under pertinent criteria.

Site, Concentrated Use Site (camp site), Recreation, Utilities (transmission line, telephone, pipeline), Administrative (project maintenance, communication site, vegetation treatment)).

Describe: _____

B. Right-of-Way (ROW):

1. Is there a ROW associated with this route?

Yes ___ No ___ Unknown ___

2. If yes, what is the stated purpose of the ROW? _____

3. Is the ROW still being used for this purpose?

Yes ___ No ___ Unknown or N/A ___

Explain: _____

III. WILDERNESS INVENTORY ROAD CRITERIA

A. Evidence of construction or improvement using mechanical means:

Yes ___ (if either A.1 *or* A.2 is checked "yes" below) No ___ (if both A.1 *and* A.2 are checked "no" below)

1. Construction: (Is there evidence that the route or route segment was originally constructed using mechanical means?) Yes ___ No ___

Examples: Paved___ Bladed___ Graveled___ Roadside Berms___ Cut/Fill___ Other___

Describe: _____

⁴ The purpose of a route is not a deciding factor in determining whether a route is a road for wilderness characteristics inventory purposes. The purpose of a route does provide context for factors on which such a determination may be based, particularly the question of whether maintenance of the route ensures relatively regular and continuous use. The purpose also helps to determine whether maintenance that may so far have been unnecessary to ensure such use would be approved by BLM when the need arises.

2. Improvements: (Is there evidence of improvements using mechanical means to facilitate access?) Yes ___ No ___ If "yes": by Hand Tools ___ by Machine ___

Examples: Culverts___ Hardened Stream Crossings___ Bridges___ Drainage___ Barriers___ Other___

Describe: _____

B. Maintenance: (Is there evidence of maintenance that would ensure *relatively* regular and continuous use?): Yes ___ (if either B.1 *or* B.2 is checked "yes" below) No ___ (if both B.1 *and* B.2 are checked "no" below)

1. Is there Evidence or Documentation of Maintenance using hand tools or machinery? Yes ___ No ___ If "yes": by Hand Tools ___ by Machine ___

Explain: _____

2. If the route or route segment is in good⁵ condition, but there is no evidence of maintenance, would mechanical maintenance with hand tools or machines be approved by BLM to meet the purpose(s) of the route in the event this route became impassable? Yes ___ No ___

Explain: _____

⁵ Good condition would be a condition that ensures regular and continuous use relative to the purposes of the route. Consider whether the route can be clearly followed in the field over its entire course and whether all or any portion of the route contains any impediments to travel.

C. Relatively regular and continuous use: (Does the route or route segment ensure relatively regular and continuous use?) Yes ____ No ____

Describe evidence (e.g., direct, vehicles or vehicle tracks observed, or indirect, evidence of use associated with purpose of the route such as maintenance of facility that route accesses) and other rationale for whether use has occurred and will continue to occur on a *relatively* regular basis (i.e., regular and continuous use relative to the purpose(s) of the route).⁶

IV. CONCLUSION:

Does the route or route segment⁷ meet the definition of a wilderness inventory road (i.e., are items III.A and III.B and III.C all checked yes)?

Yes ____ = Wilderness Inventory Road inventory purposes

No ____ = Not a road for wilderness

Explanation⁸: _____

Evaluator(s): _____ Date: _____

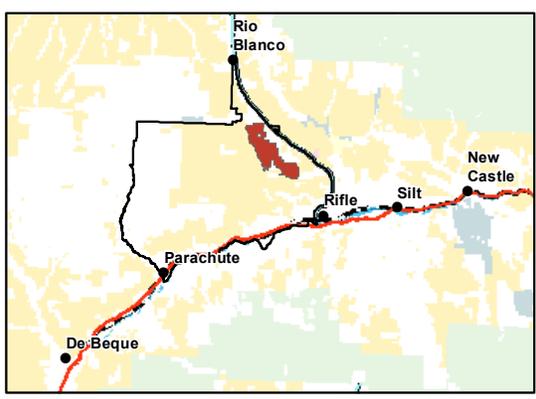
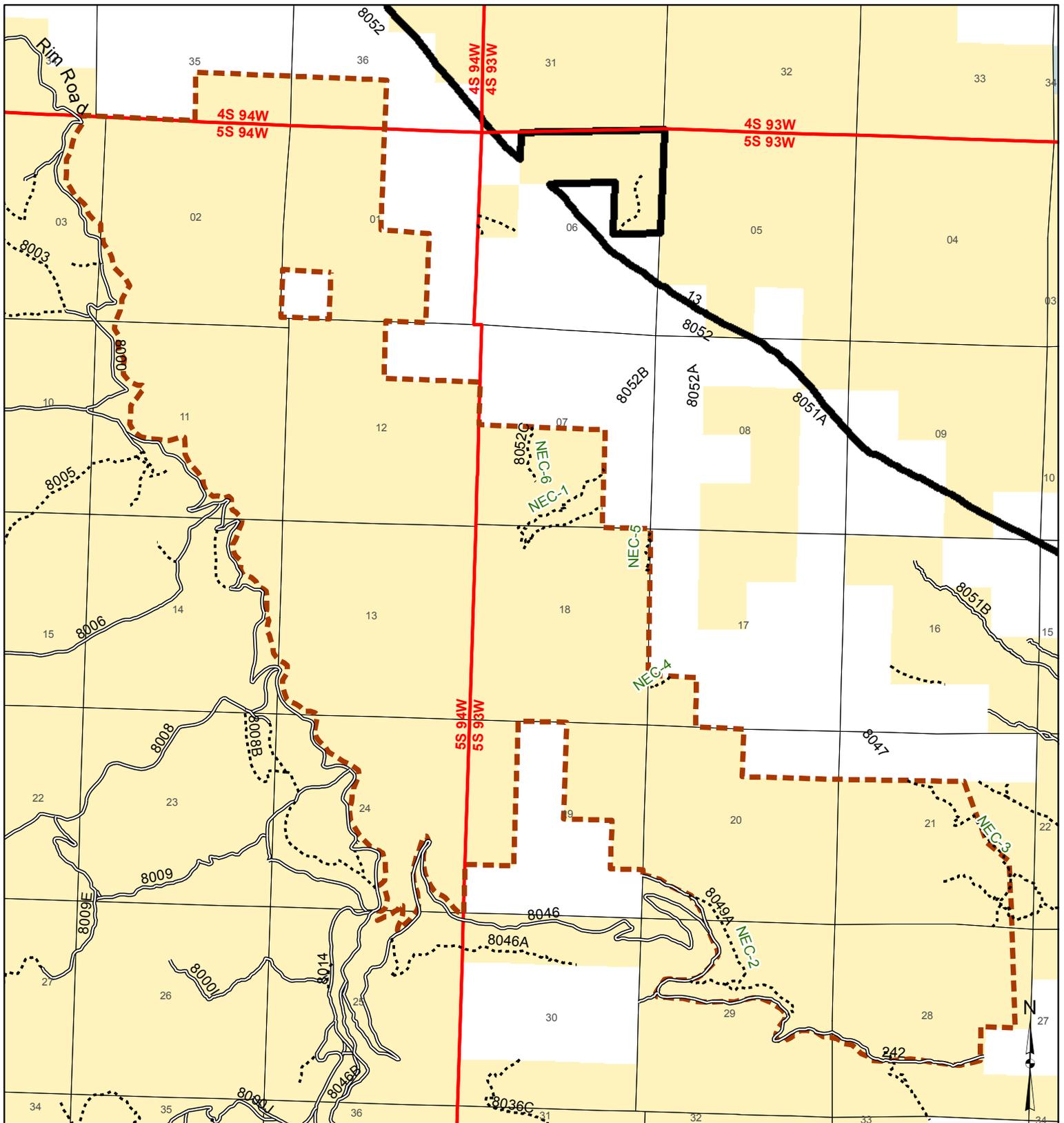
⁶ Include estimate of travel rates for the stated purposes, e.g., trips/day or week or month or season or year or even multiple years in some facility maintenance cases.

⁷ If part of the route meets the wilderness inventory road definition and the remainder does not, describe the segment meeting the definition and any remaining portion not meeting the definition and why.

⁸ Describe and explain rationale for any discrepancies with citizen proposals.

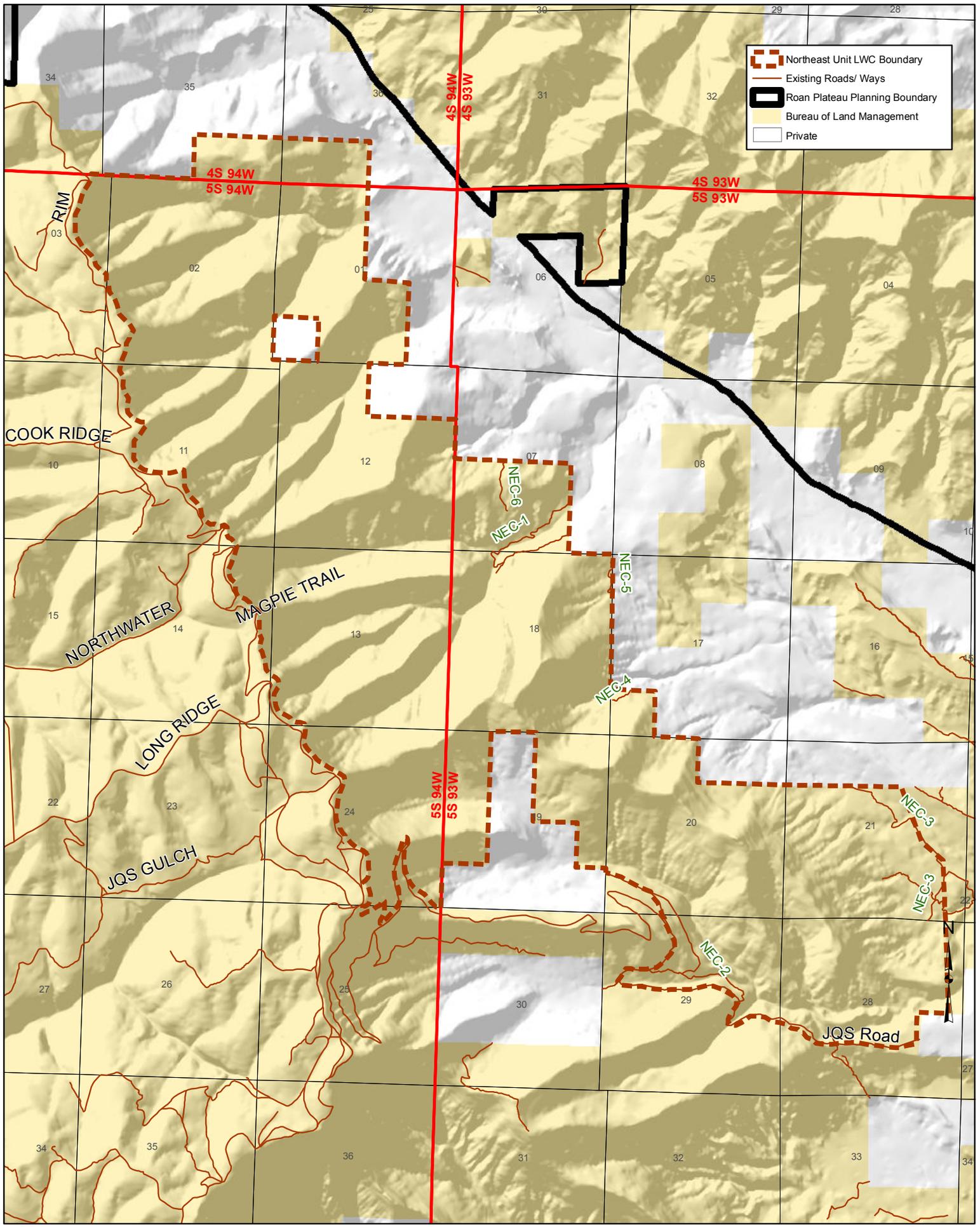
Appendix C

Northeast Cliff Unit - Route Analysis							
Route Identifier	Photo Point(s)	Current Purpose	ROW	Evidence of Construction and/or Improvement Using Mechanical Means	Maintenance	Use	Conclusion
NEC-1 (8052B)	None	Ditch/Flume	Unknown.	Yes, evidence route was originally constructed using mechanical methods (e.g. culverts). Route has culverts.	Yes, evidence route is maintained using machines and hand tools. Would be maintained to access ditch and flume.	Evidence of Regular and continuous use includes dozer tracks	Is a road for wilderness
NEC-2 (8049A)	None	Old Road (JQS)	Unknown.	Yes, evidence route was originally constructed using mechanical methods (e.g. blading). Route was bladed.	No recent evidence of maintenance- grown over/ slide	No evidence of regular or continuous use	Not a road for wilderness
NEC-3 (8047)	None	Utilities-(pipeline)	Unknown.	Yes, evidence route was originally constructed using mechanical methods (e.g. blading). Route was bladed for pipeline.	No evidence route is maintained	No evidence of regular or continuous use	Not a road for wilderness
NEC-4 (8047D)	None	Recreation	Unknown.	No evidence of construction or improvements using mechanical means.	No evidence of maintenance	No evidence of regular or continuous use	Not a road for wilderness
NEC-5 (8047)	None	Inholding-(ranch), Recreation	Unknown.	No evidence of construction or improvements using mechanical means.	No evidence of maintenance	No evidence of regular or continuous use	Not a road for wilderness
NEC-6 (8052C)	None	Recreation	Unknown.	No evidence of construction or improvements using mechanical means.	Unknown.	No evidence of regular or continuous use	Not a road for wilderness

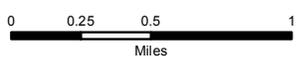


-  Northeast Unit LWC Boundary
- Roan Plateau Transportation**
-  Full Sized Vehicle
-  Foot and Horse Trail
-  Roan Plateau Planning Boundary
-  Bureau of Land Management
-  Private
-  State Wildlife Area

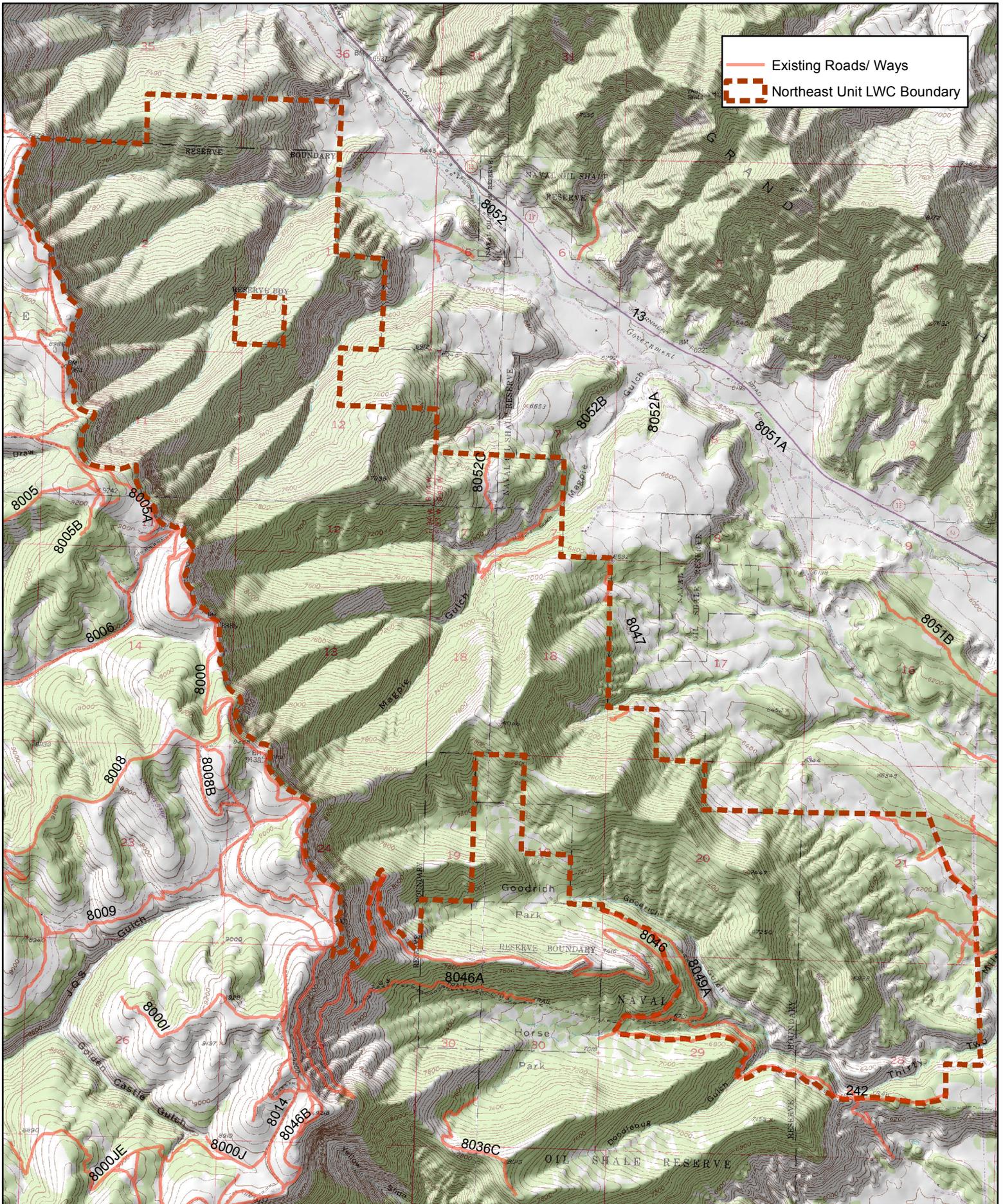
Map 1
 General Area
 Northeast LWC Unit



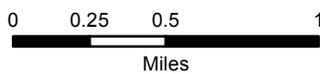
- Northeast Unit LWC Boundary
- Existing Roads/ Ways
- Roan Plateau Planning Boundary
- Bureau of Land Management
- Private



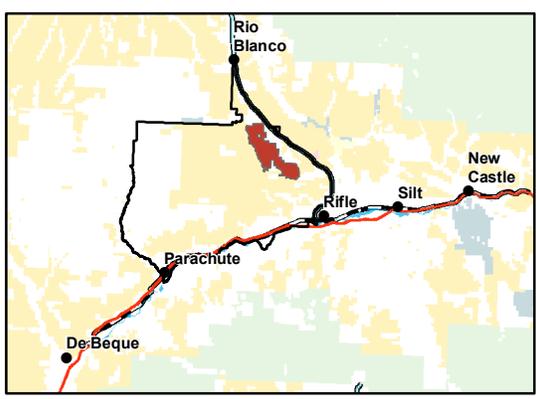
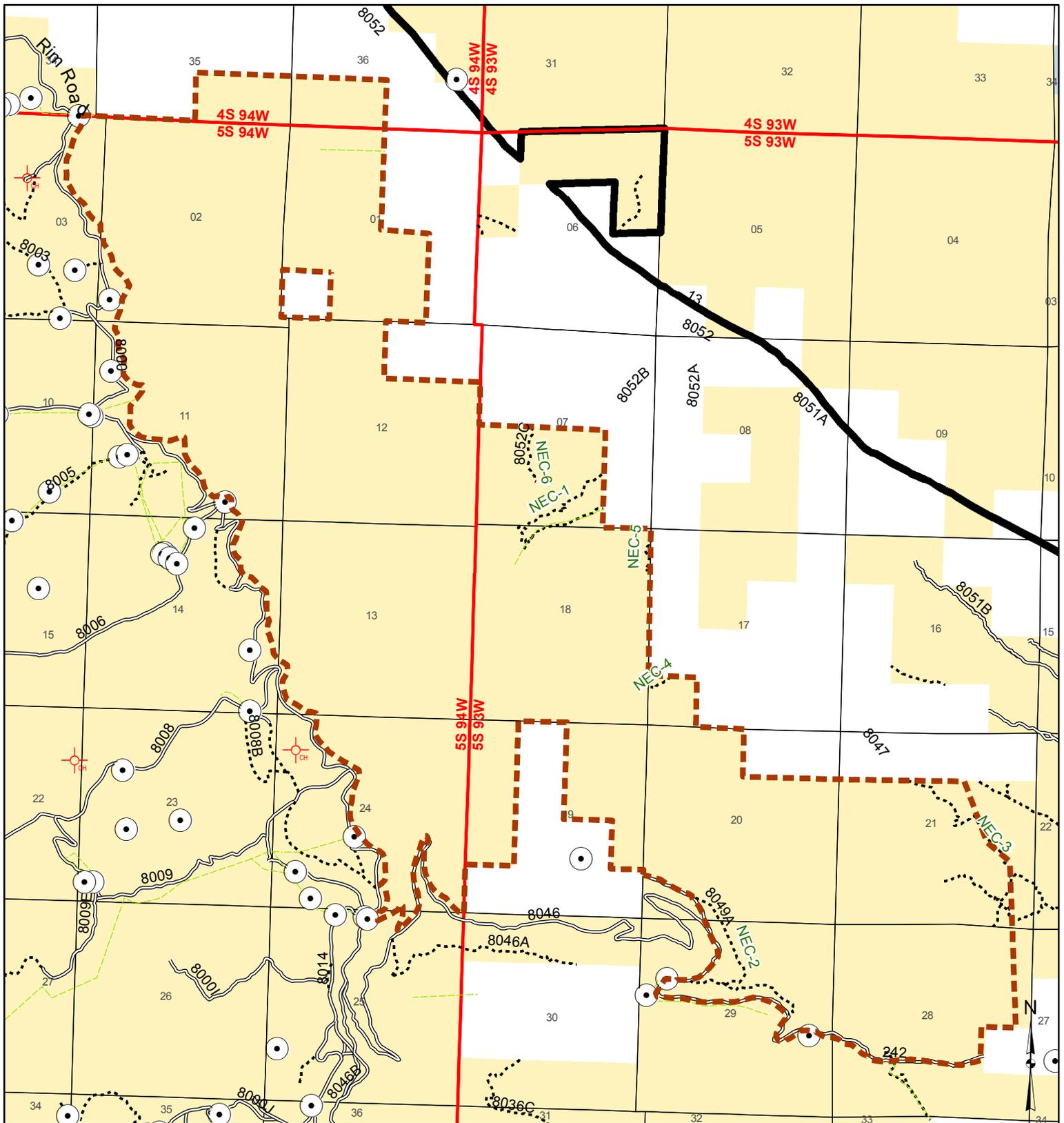
Map 2
Photo Points
Northeast LWC Unit



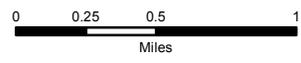
— Existing Roads/ Ways
- - - Northeast Unit LWC Boundary



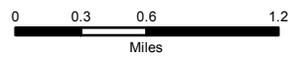
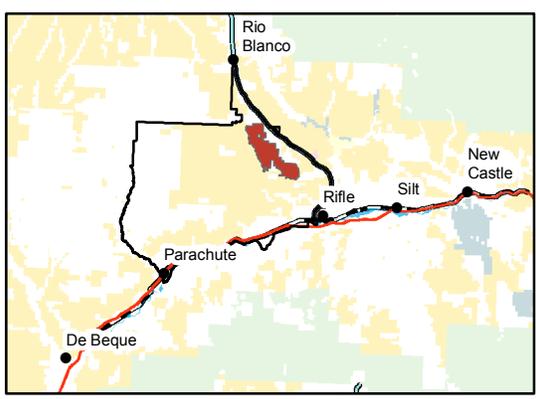
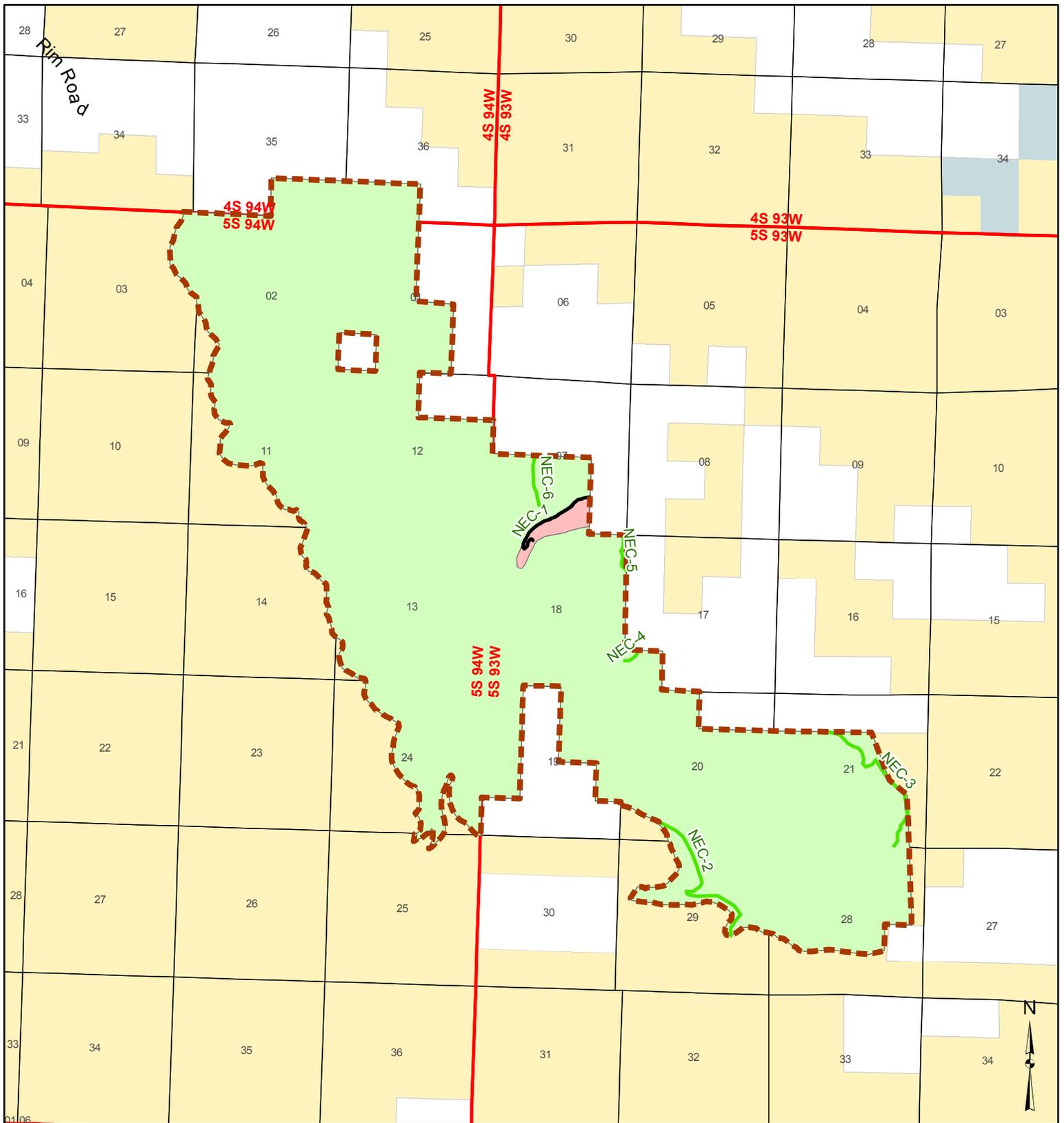
Map 3
 Topography
 Northeast LWC Unit



- Northeast Unit LWC Boundary
- Roan Plateau Transportation**
- Full Sized Vehicle
- Foot and Horse Trail
- Core Hole
- Range Improvements
- Range Improvements
- Roan Plateau Planning Boundary
- Bureau of Land Management
- Private
- State Wildlife Area

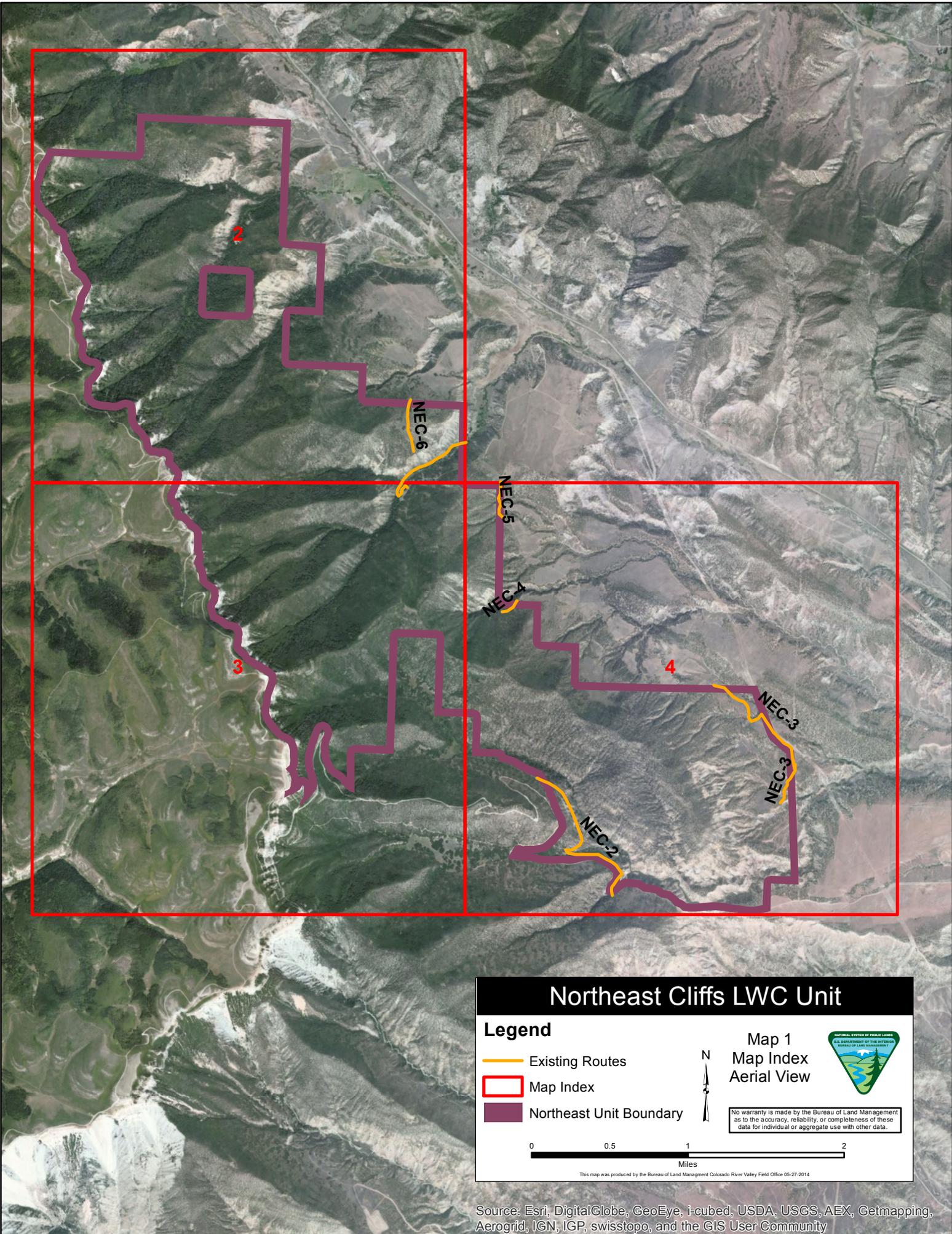


Map 4
Improvements and Developments
Northeast LWC Unit



-  Northeast Unit LWC Boundary
-  Lands with wilderness characteristics
-  Wilderness Inventory Road
-  Lands without wilderness characteristics
-  Primitive Route
-  Bureau of Land Management
-  Private
-  State Wildlife Area

Map 5
Revised Boundary
Northeast LWC Unit



Northeast Cliffs LWC Unit

Legend

- Existing Routes
- Map Index
- Northeast Unit Boundary

Map 1
Map Index
Aerial View

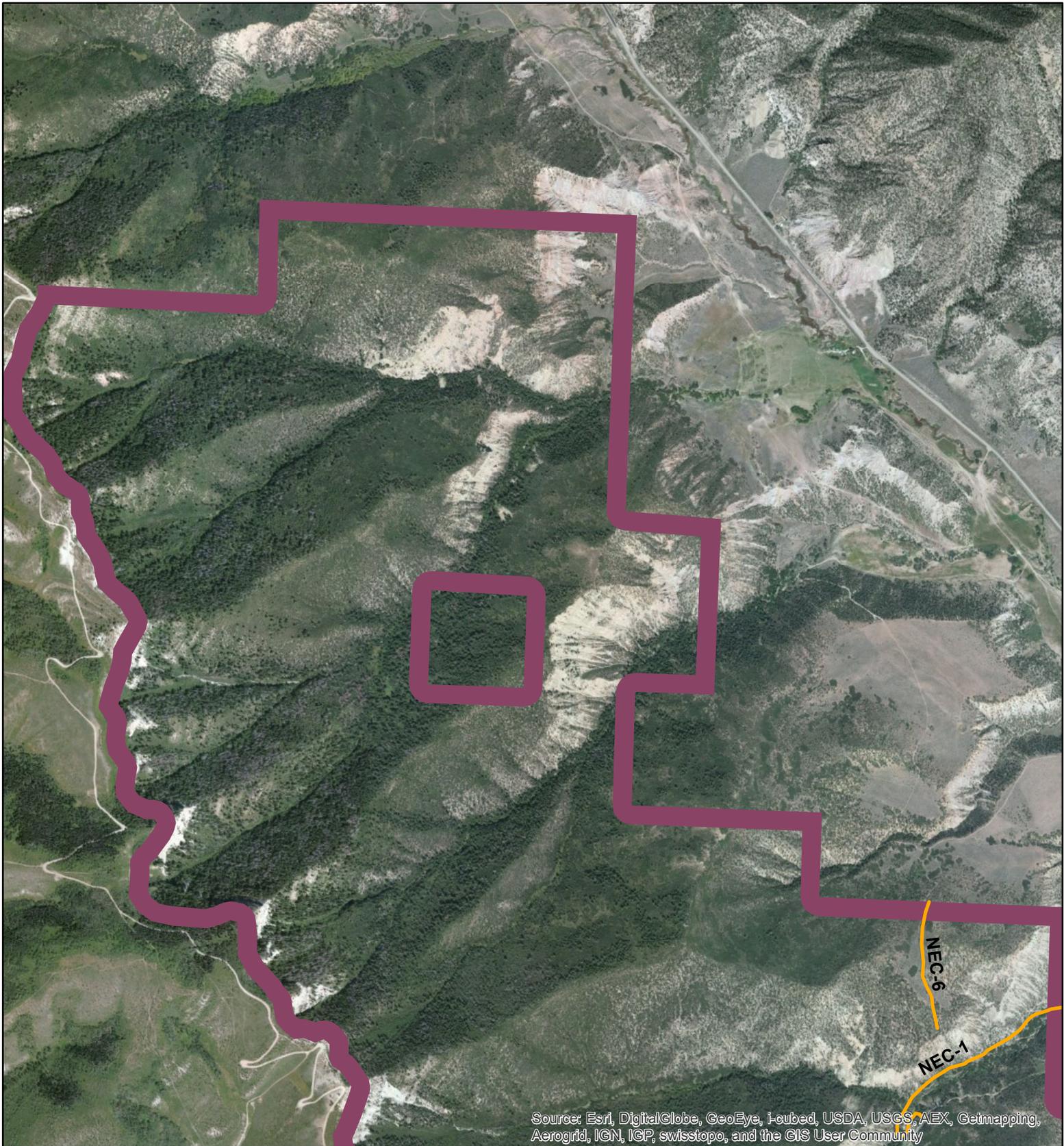


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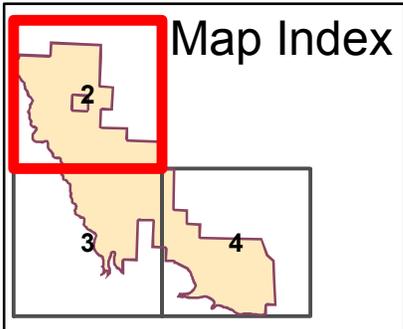


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Source: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, i-cubed, USDA, USGS, AEX, Getmapping, Aerogrid, IGN, IGP, swisstopo, and the GIS User Community



Source: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, I-cubed, USDA, USGS, AEX, Getmapping, Aerogrid, IGN, IGP, swisstopo, and the GIS User Community



Legend

- Existing Routes
- Northeast Unit Boundary

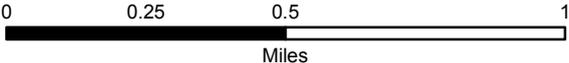
Northeast Cliffs LWC Unit

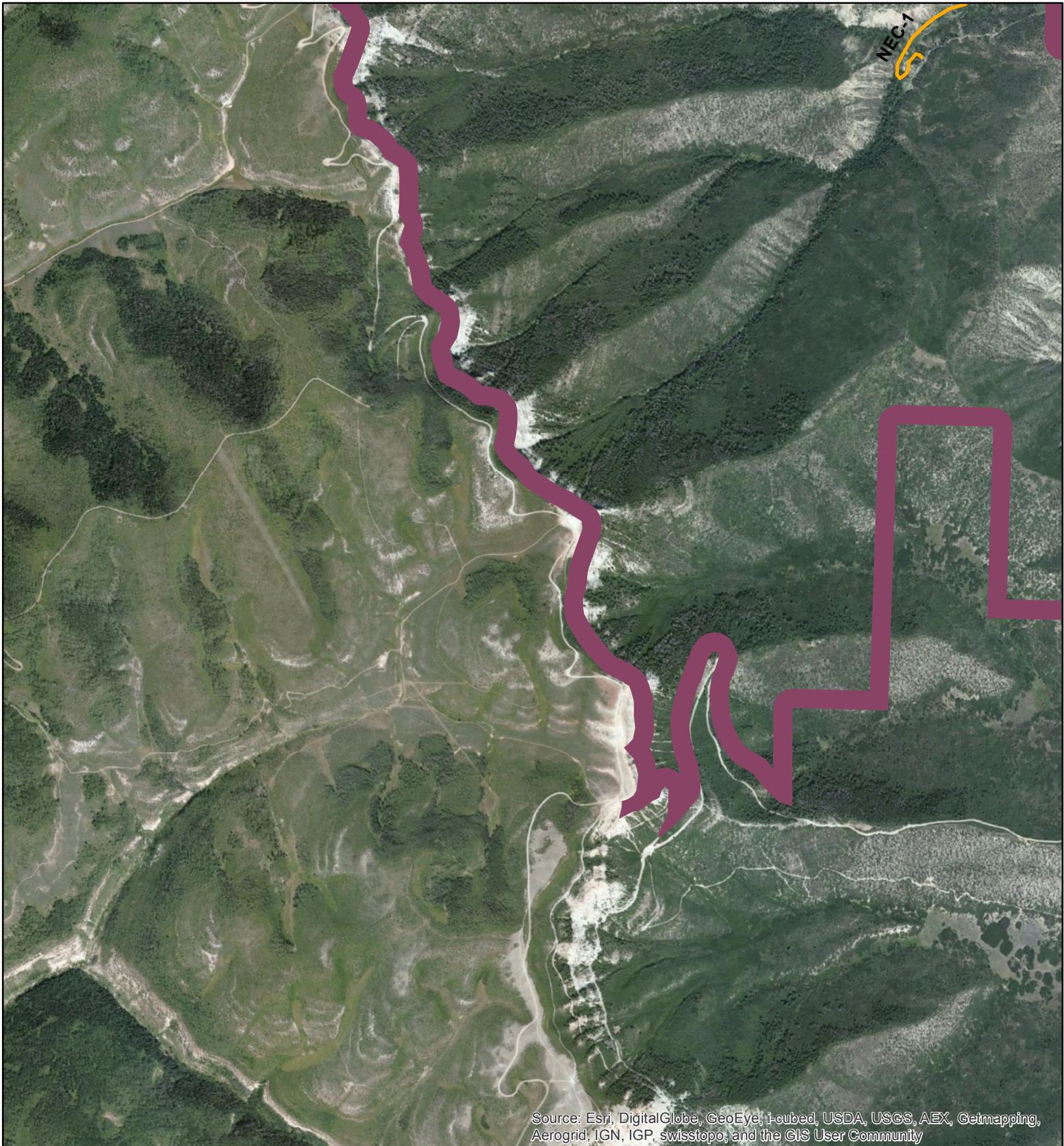


Map 2 of 4
Aerial View

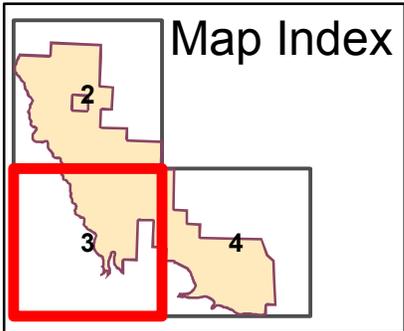
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Map Index

Legend

-  Existing Routes
-  Northeast Unit Boundary

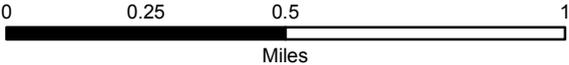
Northeast Cliffs LWC Unit

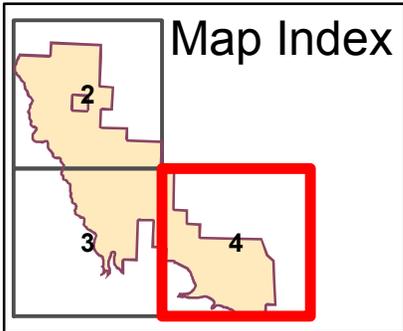
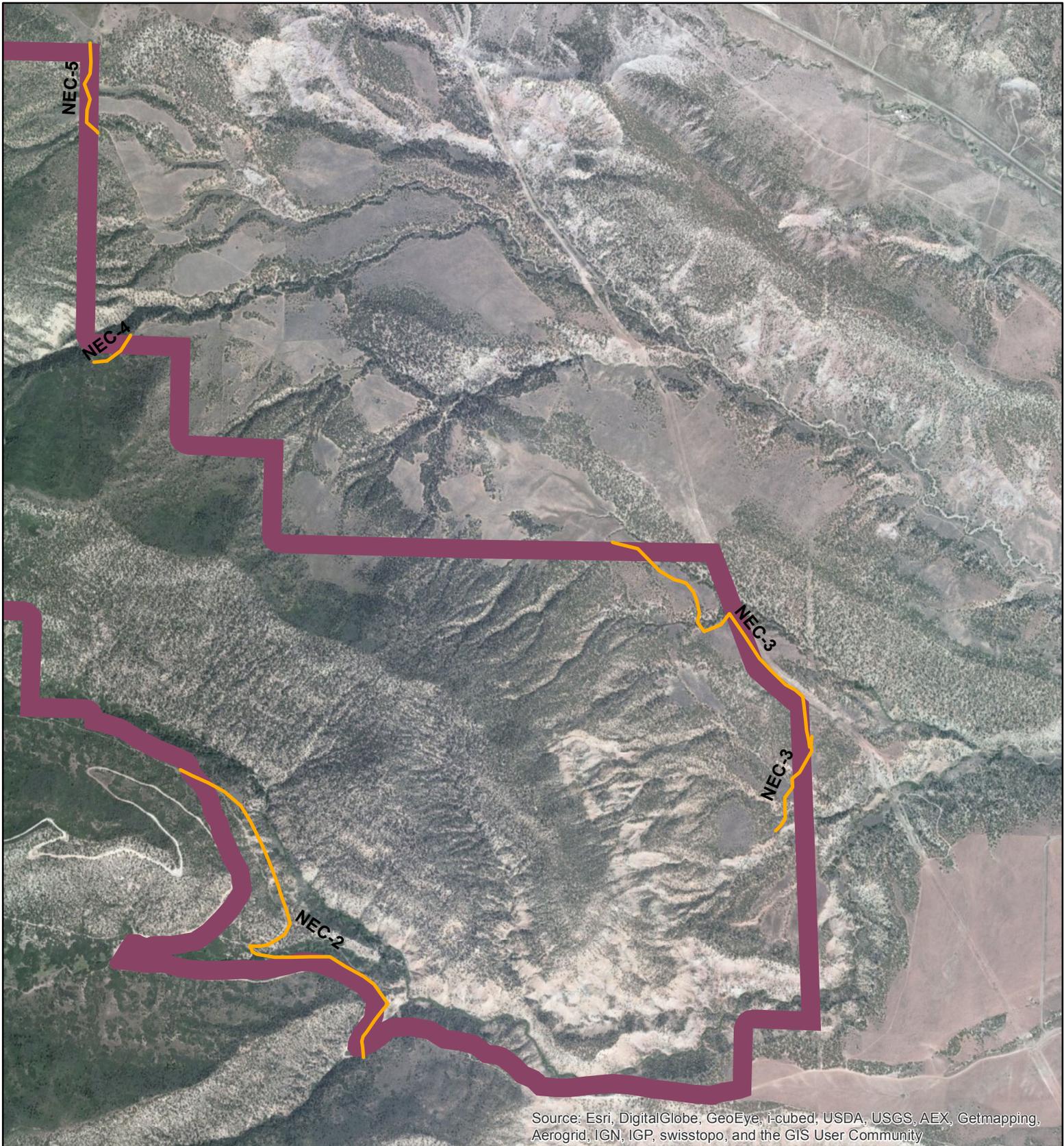


**Map 3 of 4
Aerial View**

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Legend

-  Existing Routes
-  Northeast Unit Boundary

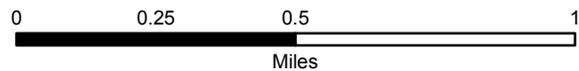
Northeast Cliffs LWC Unit



**Map 4 of 4
Aerial View**

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Appendix E

Northeast Cliffs Unit—Photo Points

Photo Points: 1-10, 1-12 — 1-16



Photo Point 1-10: T55, R93W, Sec 7; Ditch above Magpie Gulch —
View West



Photo Point 1-12: T55, R93W, Sec 18; Head of ditch — View South-
west



Photo Point 1-13: T55, R93W, Sec 18; Stream above ditch — View
Southwest



Photo Point 1-14: T55, R93W, Sec 18; Stream valley at confluence (up)
— View Southwest



Photo Point 1-15: T55, R93W, Sec 18; Stream valley at confluence
(down) — View Northeast



Photo Point 1-16: T55, R93W, Sec 18; Blow out on ditch — View
Southwest

Photo Points: 1-17 — 1-22



Photo Point 1-17: T55, R93W Sec 18; Culvert on route up Magpie Gulch



Photo Point 1-18: T55, R93W Sec 18; Route up ditch — View South



Photo Point 1-19: T55, R93W Sec 18; Route up ditch — View South

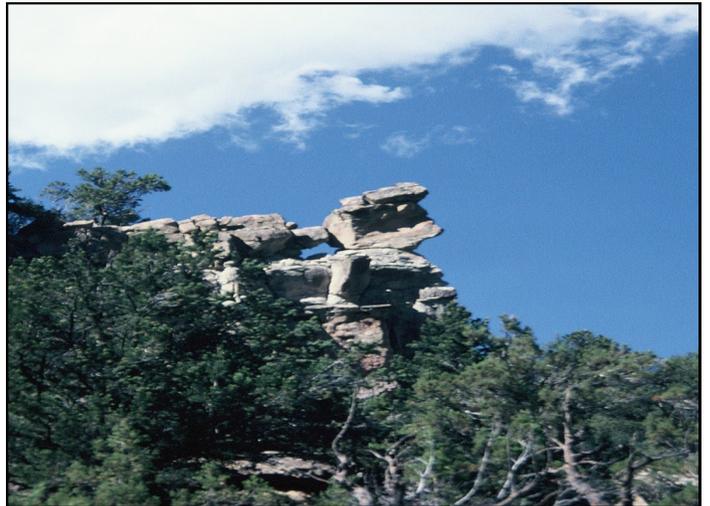


Photo Point 1-20: T55, R93W Sec 7; Rock window on Magpie Gulch — View North



Photo Point 1-21: T55, R93W Sec 7; Up valley of South Magpie Gulch — View South



Photo Point 1-22: T55, R93W Sec 7; Up valley of South Magpie Gulch — View South

Photo Points: 1-23 — 1-25



Photo Point 1-23: T55, R93W Sec 7; Gateway to Northeast Unit, Magpie route — View West



Photo Point 1-24: T55, R93W Sec 24; Looking into Magpie and ditch from cliffs — View East



Photo Point 1-25: T55, R93W Sec 24; Looking into unit from West boundary — View East

Northeast Cliff Unit

Supporting Documentation

In September, 2013, the BLM – Colorado River Valley Field Office Team of Greg Wolfgang, Julie McGrew, and Faith Dziedzic reviewed the 1999 Wilderness Characteristics Inventory and verified that it is still valid. It was determined that no additional field work was needed at that time. Kimberly Miller then put the 1999 inventory in the updated digital format in April, 2014. This included typing the 1999 information into the updated forms, recreating the maps in GIS, and converting the 1999 photos that were on slides to digital format.

The review verified there was no new information available to change any of the inventory for 2014.