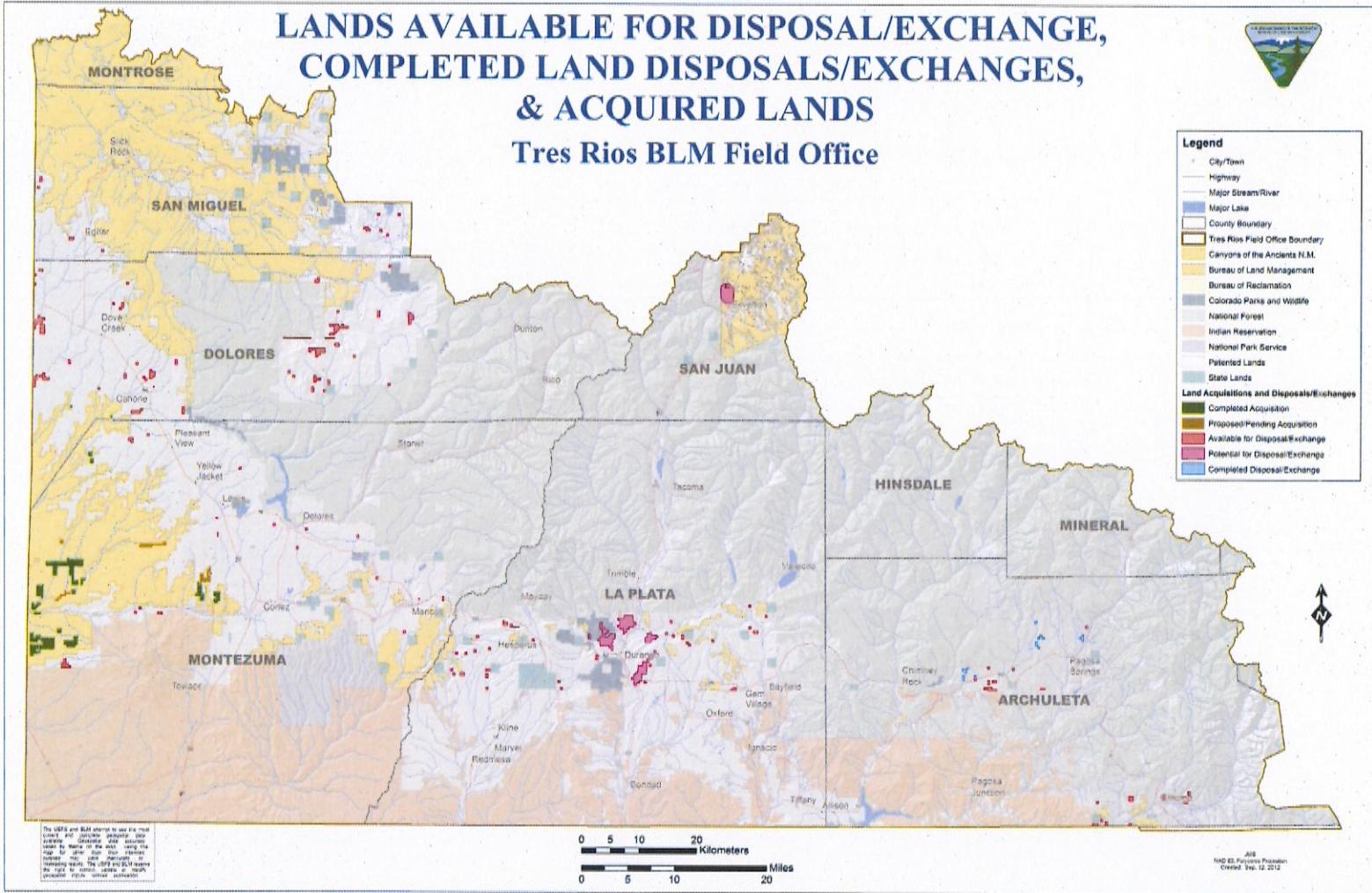


LANDS AVAILABLE FOR DISPOSAL/EXCHANGE, COMPLETED LAND DISPOSALS/EXCHANGES, & ACQUIRED LANDS Tres Rios BLM Field Office

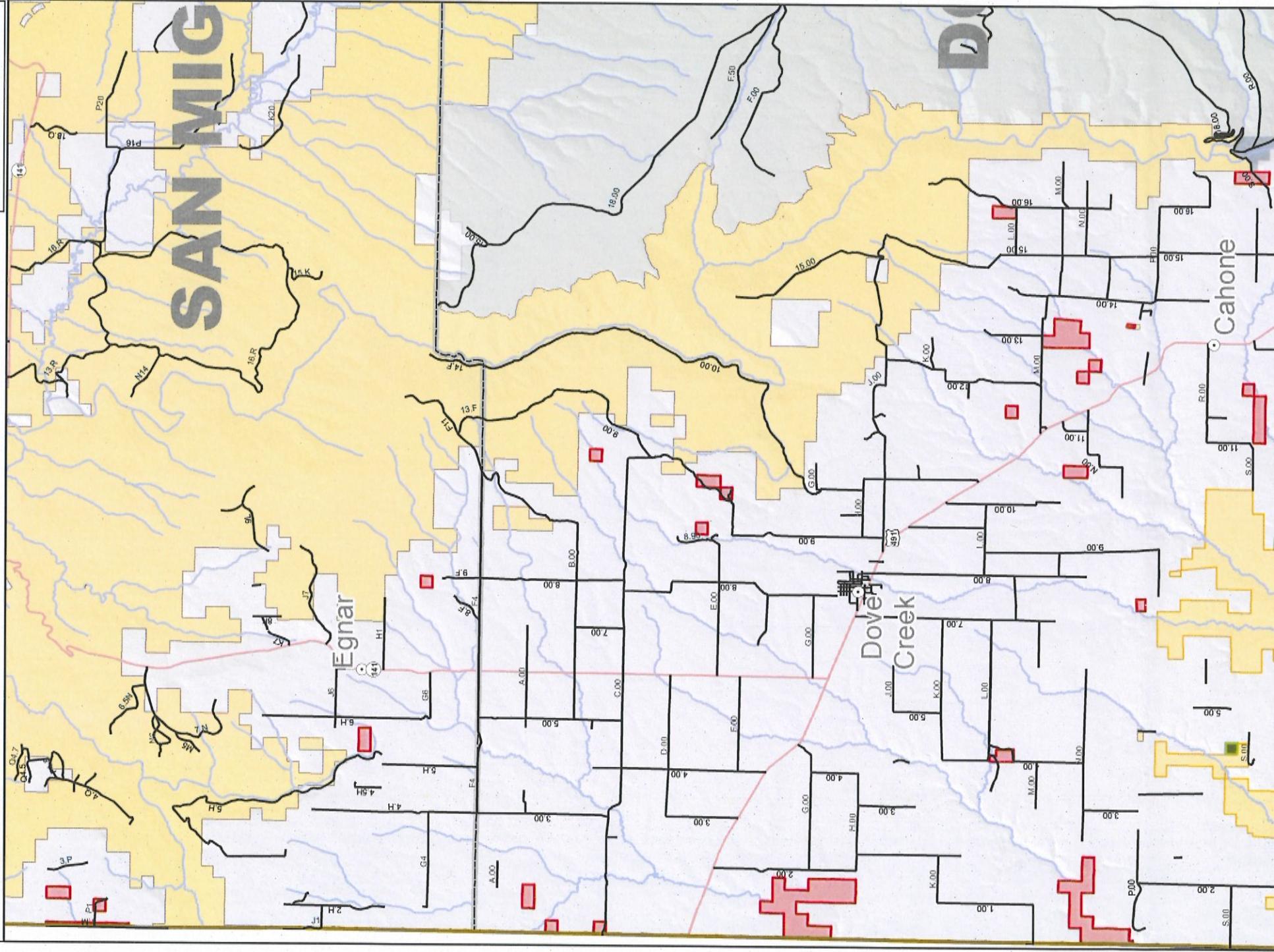
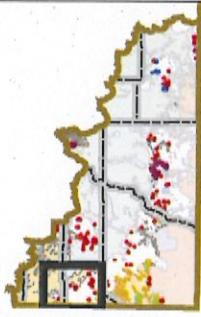


COUNTY	LAND ACQUISITION					LAND DISPOSAL/EXCHANGE						
	Pending/Proposed (Acres)	Count	Completed (Acres)	Count	TOTAL ACRES	Potential (Acres)	Count	Available (Acres)	Count	Completed	Count	TOTAL ACRES
Archuleta	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,393	21	691	12	2,084
Dolores	0	0	76	2	76	0	0	5,676	60	0	0	5,676
La Plata	0	0	0	0	0	5,199	8	1,566	32	0	0	6,766
Montezuma	2,326	8	8,980	18	11,307	0	0	1,080	23	0	0	1,080
San Juan	0	0	0	0	0	1,659	1	0	0	0	0	1,659
San Miguel	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	747	16	0	0	747
TOTAL	2,326	8	9,056	20	11,383	6,858	9	10,463	152	691	12	18,011

LANDS AVAILABLE FOR DISPOSAL/EXCHANGE, COMPLETED LAND DISPOSALS/EXCHANGES, & ACQUIRED LANDS

Tres Rios BLM Field Office

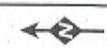
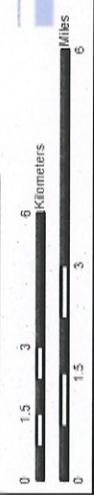
Map 1



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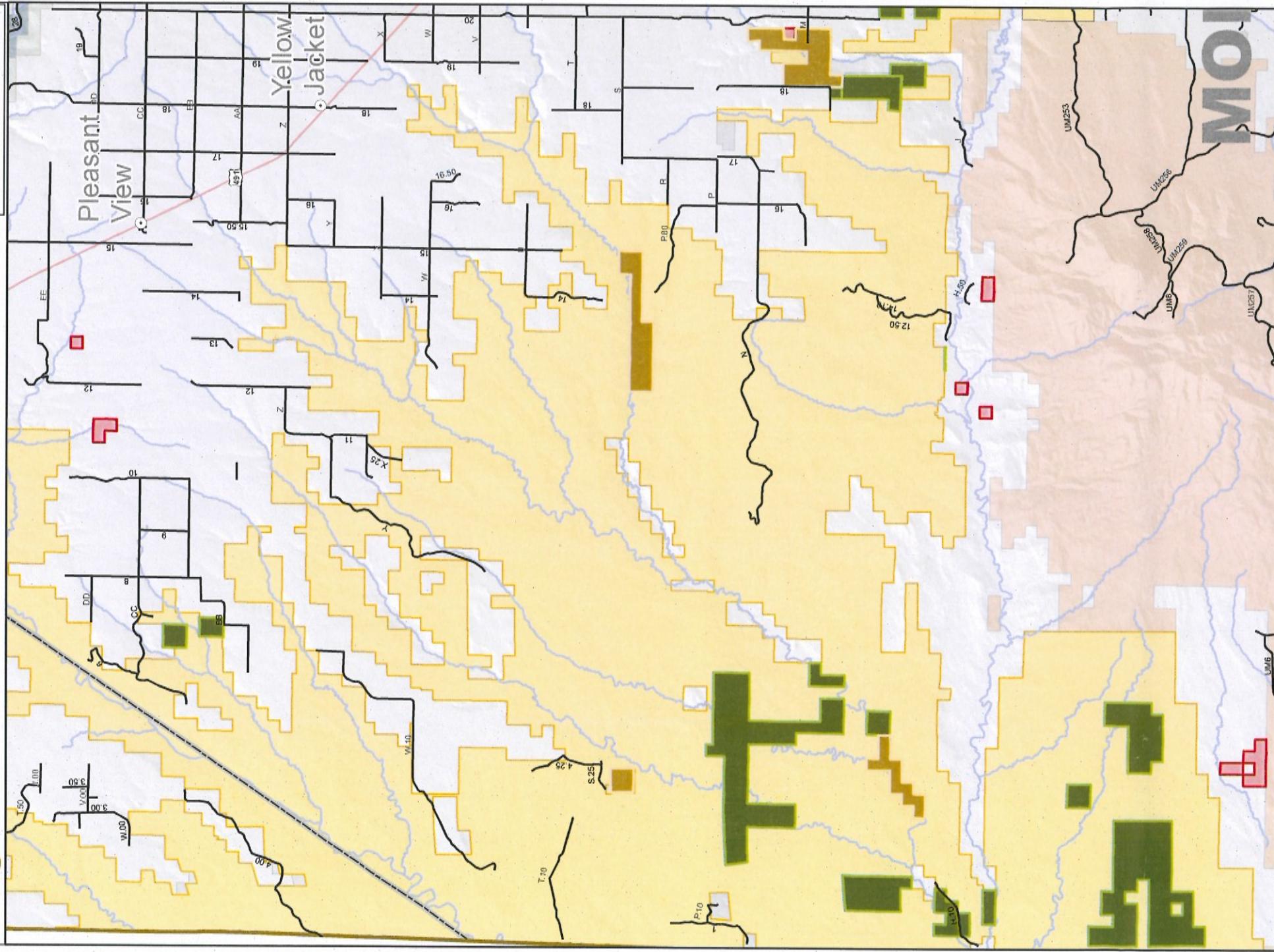
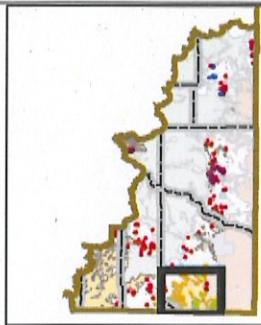
Legend

- City/Town
- Highway
- Local Roads
- Major Stream/River
- Major Lake
- County Boundary
- Tres Rios Field Office Boundary
- Canyons of the Ancients N.M.
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- National Park Service
- Patented Lands
- State Lands
- Land Acquisitions and Disposals/Exchanges - Completed Acquisition
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- Land Acquisitions and Disposals/Exchanges - Available for Disposal/Exchange
- Land Acquisitions and Disposals/Exchanges - Completed Disposal/Exchange



LANDS AVAILABLE FOR DISPOSAL/EXCHANGE, COMPLETED LAND DISPOSALS/EXCHANGES, & ACQUIRED LANDS

Tres Rios BLM Field Office
Map 2



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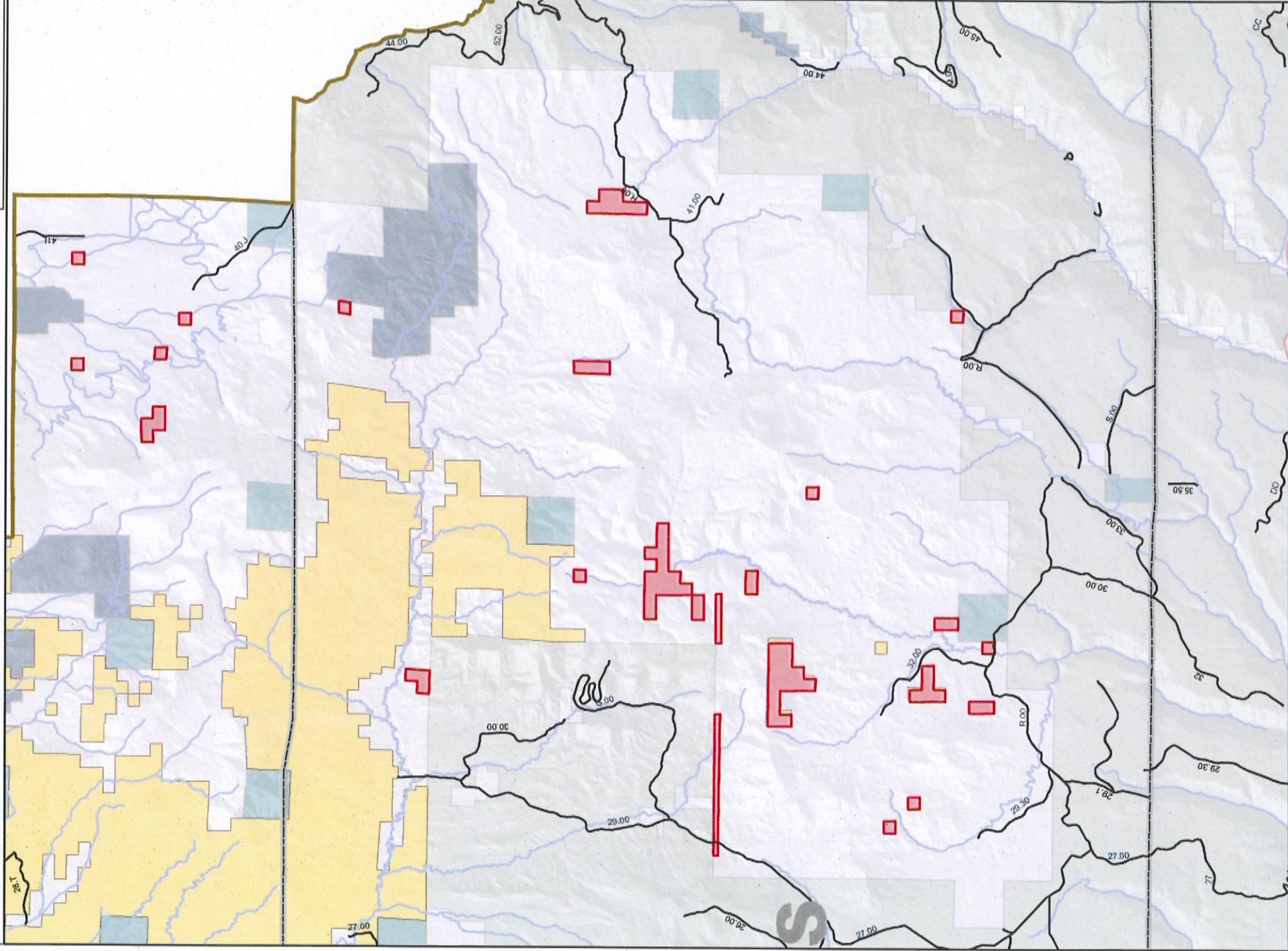
Legend

- City/Town
- Highway
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- Major Lake
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LANDS AVAILABLE FOR DISPOSAL/EXCHANGE, COMPLETED LAND DISPOSALS/EXCHANGES, & ACQUIRED LANDS

Tres Rios BLM Field Office
Map 3



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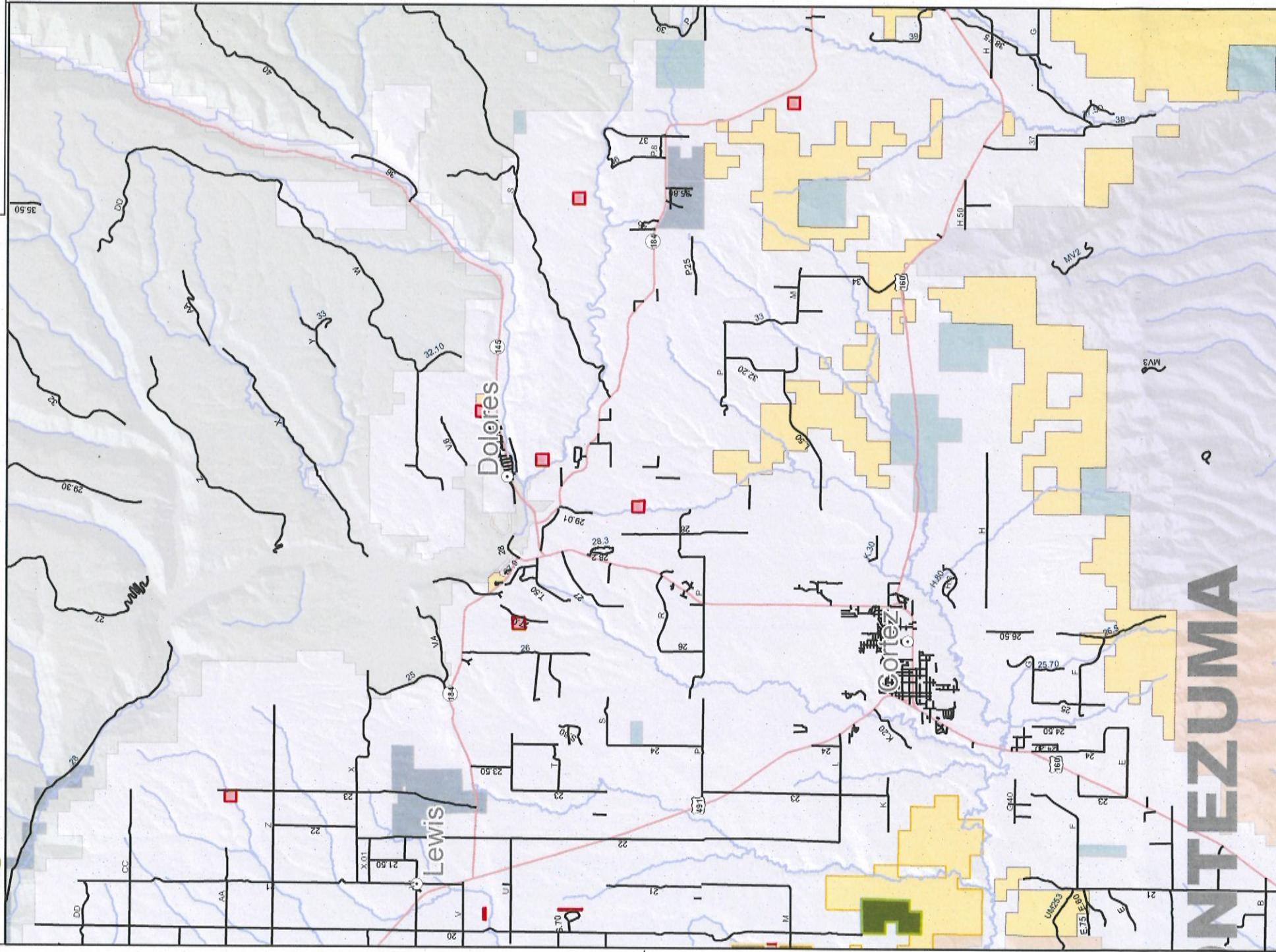
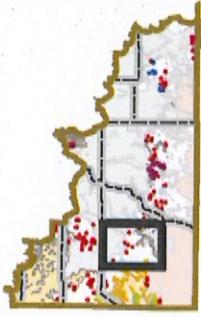
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- City/Town
- Highway
- Local Roads
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- Major Lake
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- Canyons of the Ancients N.M.
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LANDS AVAILABLE FOR DISPOSAL/EXCHANGE, COMPLETED LAND DISPOSALS/EXCHANGES, & ACQUIRED LANDS

Tres Rios BLM Field Office
Map 4



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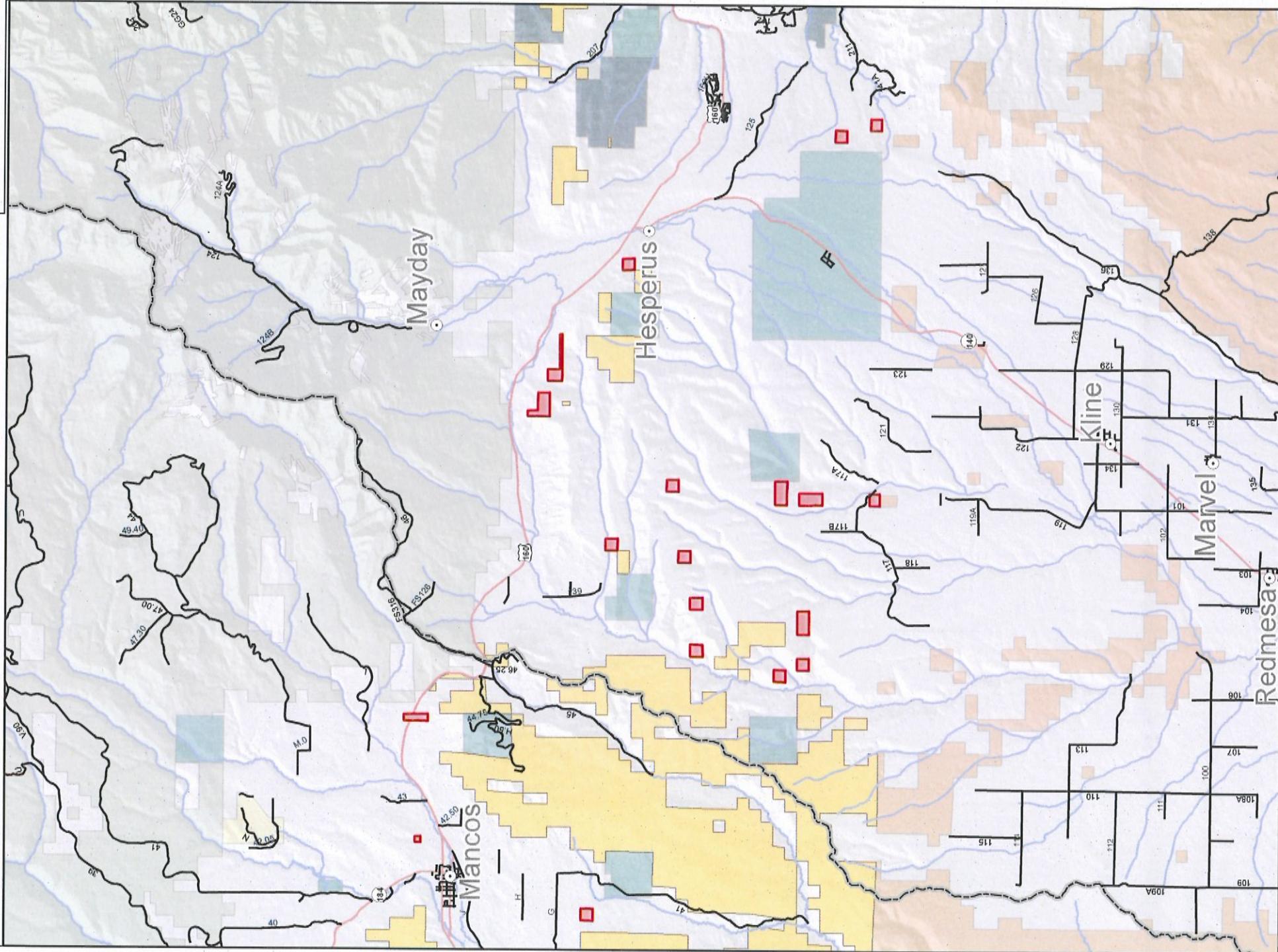
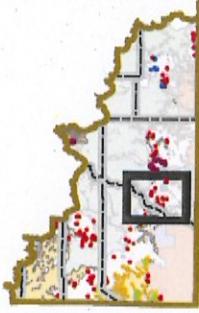
Legend

- City/Town
- Highway
- Local Roads
- Major Stream/River
- Major Lake
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- Canyons of the Ancients N.M.
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LANDS AVAILABLE FOR DISPOSAL/EXCHANGE, COMPLETED LAND DISPOSALS/EXCHANGES, & ACQUIRED LANDS

Tres Rios BLM Field Office
Map 5



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Legend

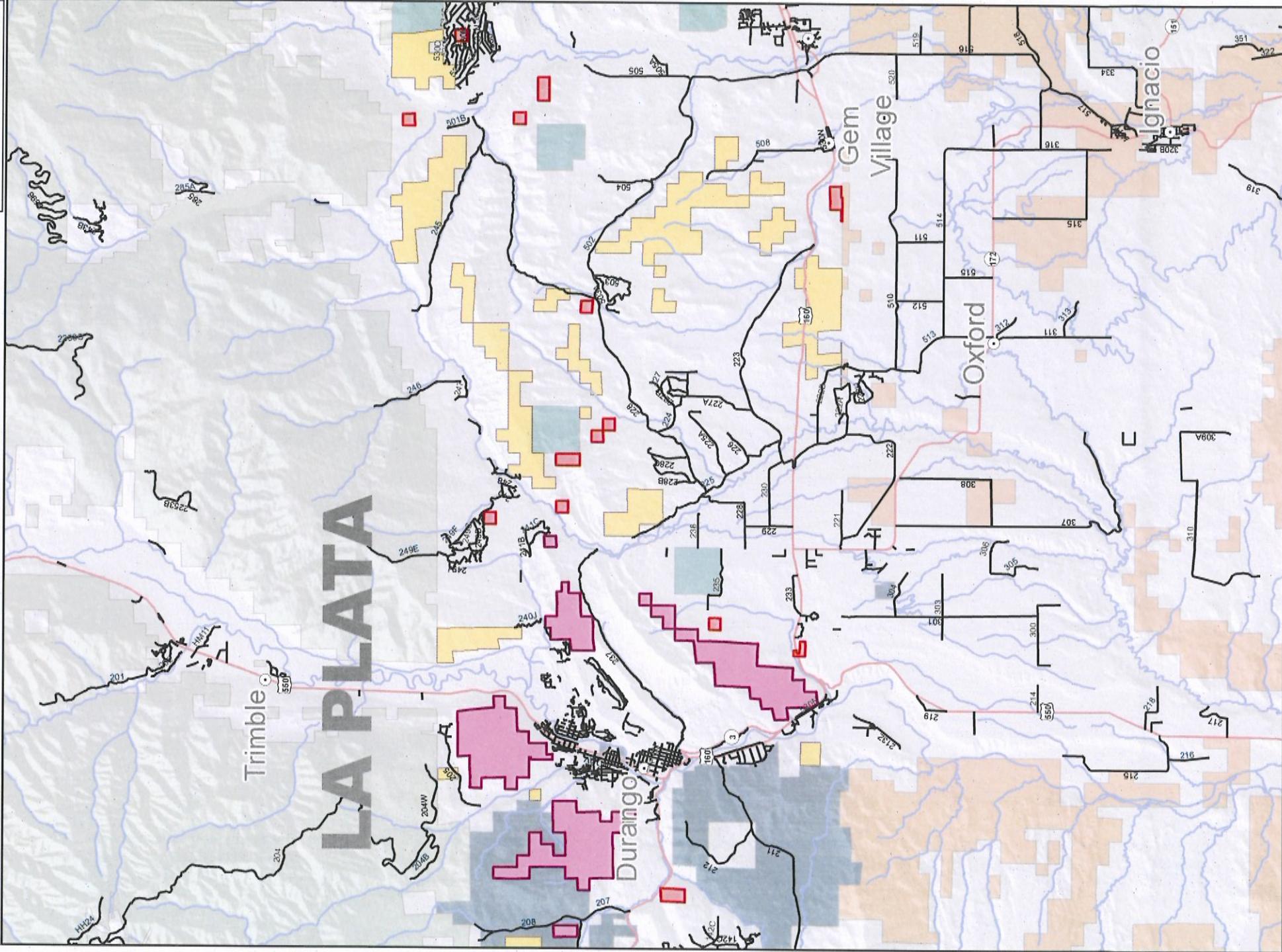
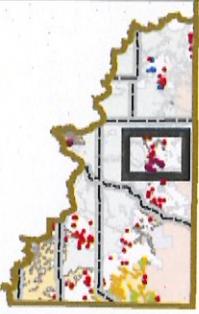
- City/Town
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Potential for Disposal/Exchange
- Land Acquisitions and Disposals/Exchanges
Completed Disposal/Exchange



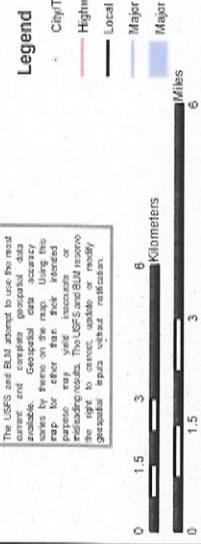
LANDS AVAILABLE FOR DISPOSAL/EXCHANGE, COMPLETED LAND DISPOSALS/EXCHANGES, & ACQUIRED LANDS

Tres Rios BLM Field Office

Map 6



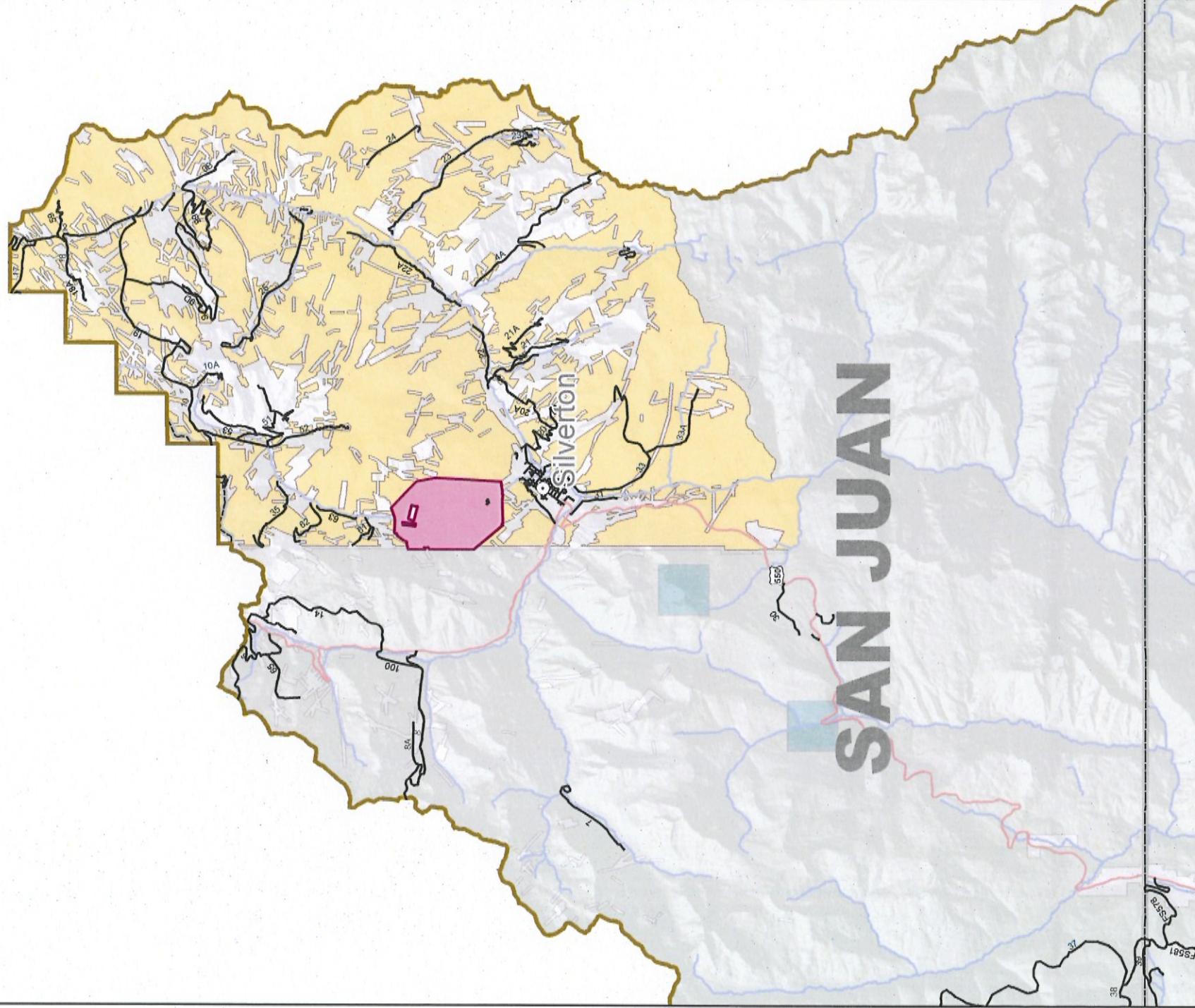
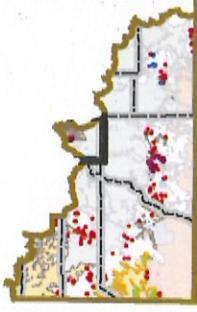
The USGS and BLM shared to use the most current and complete geospatial data available. While our geospatial data accuracy is high, we do not warrant the accuracy for any specific use. For more information or to request a copy of this data, please contact the BLM office or the USGS office. The USGS and BLM reserve the right to update this data as geospatial information changes.



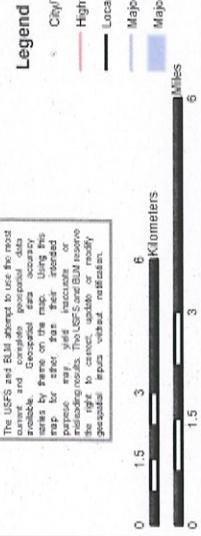
- Legend**
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LANDS AVAILABLE FOR DISPOSAL/EXCHANGE, COMPLETED LAND DISPOSALS/EXCHANGES, & ACQUIRED LANDS

Tres Rios BLM Field Office
Map 7



The USFS and BLM attempt to use the most current and complete geospatial data available. Geospatial data accuracy may vary. The BLM does not warrant the accuracy of the data for any purpose, including navigation. The USFS and BLM assume no liability for any errors or omissions in this geospatial report without notification.



0 1.5 3 6 Kilometers
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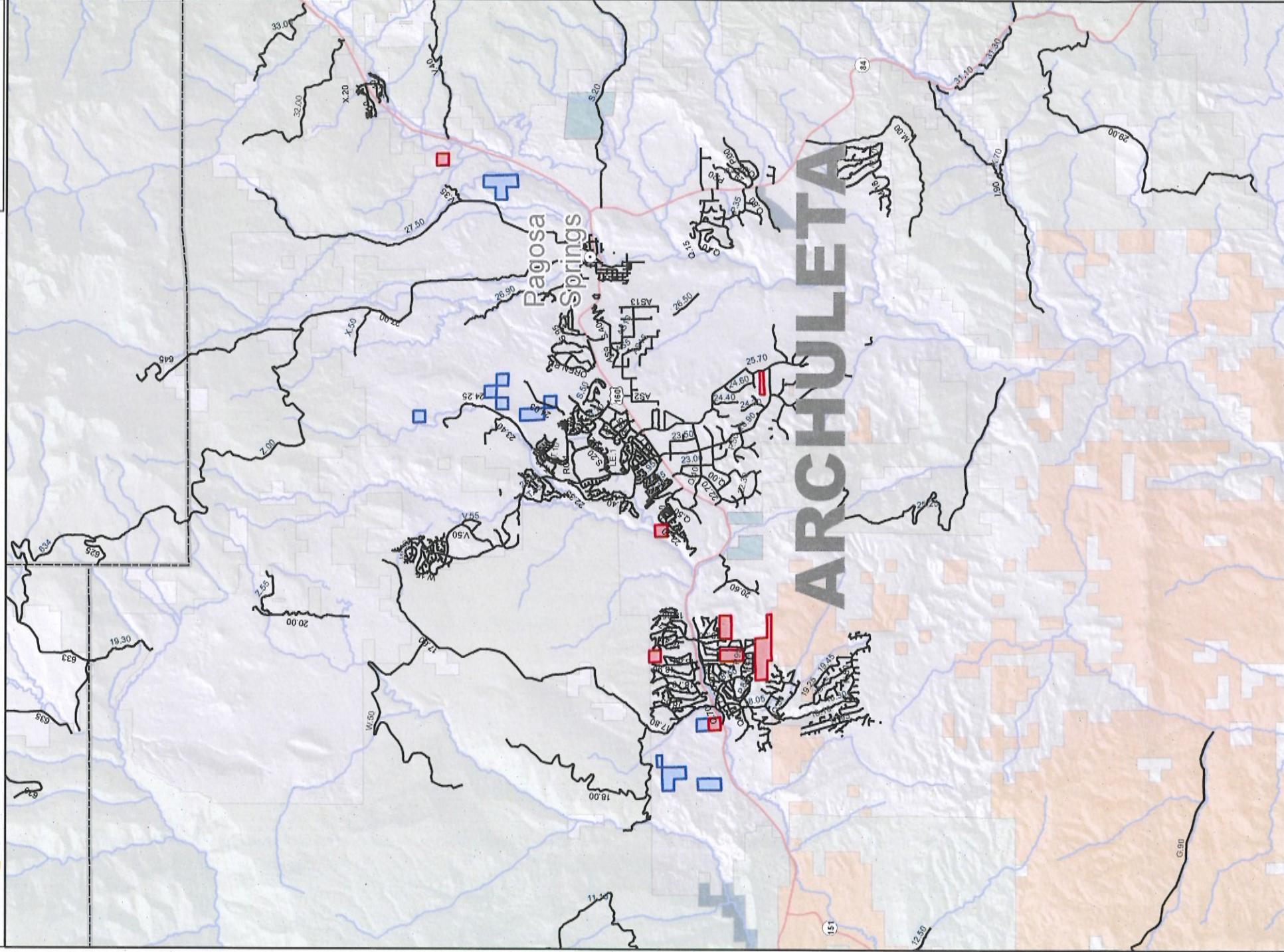
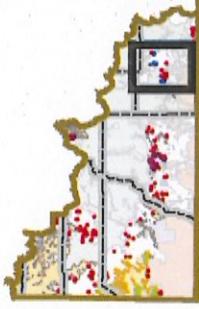
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LANDS AVAILABLE FOR DISPOSAL/EXCHANGE, COMPLETED LAND DISPOSALS/EXCHANGES, & ACQUIRED LANDS

Tres Rios BLM Field Office

Map 8



The USFS and BLM attempt to use the most current and complete geospatial data sources by those on the map. Using the maps for other than their intended purposes, or for purposes not intended by the USFS and BLM, is the user's responsibility. The USFS and BLM assume no liability for errors or omissions, or for the use of the maps for purposes other than those intended. The USFS and BLM assume no liability for errors or omissions, or for the use of the maps for purposes other than those intended.

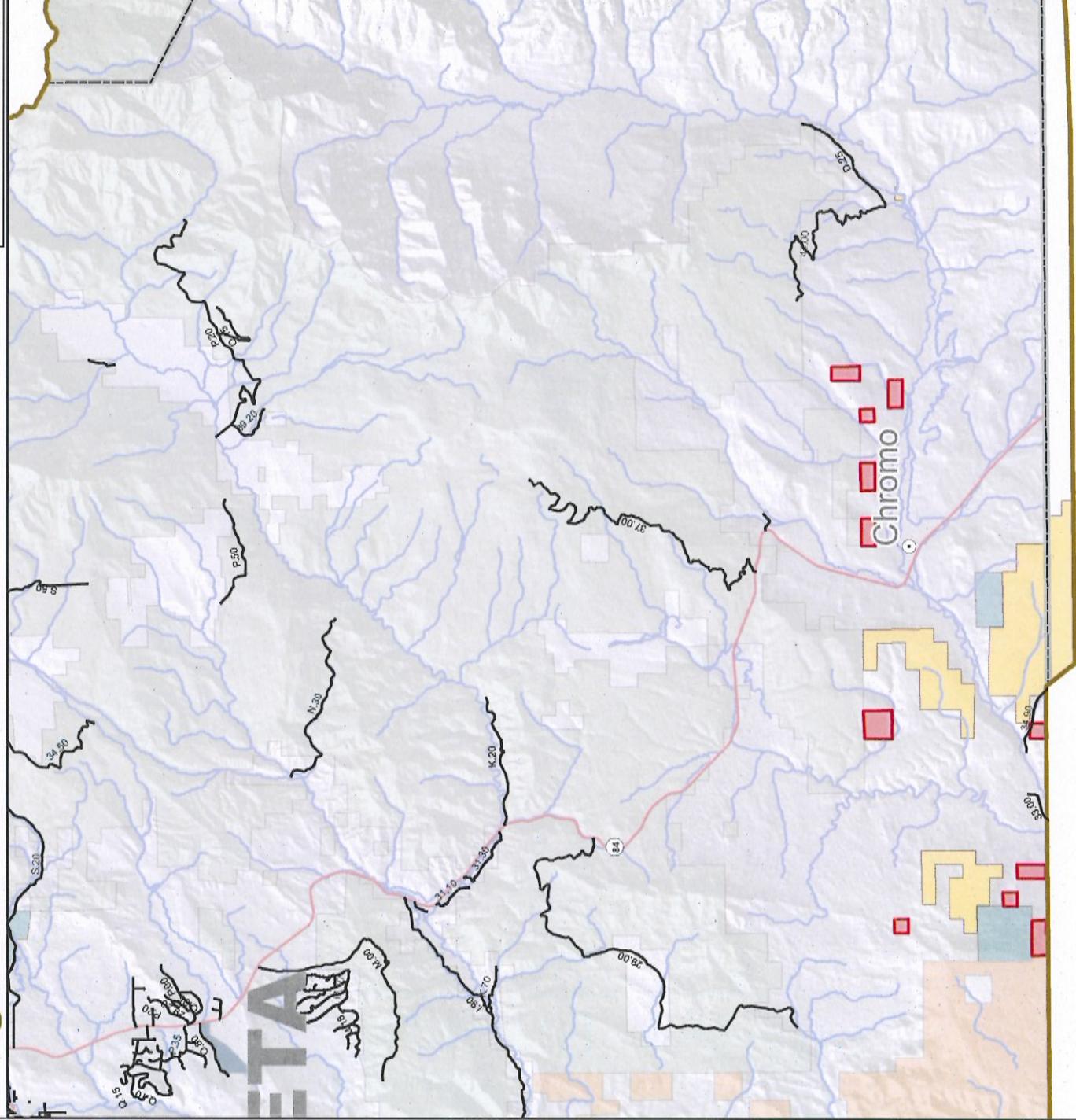
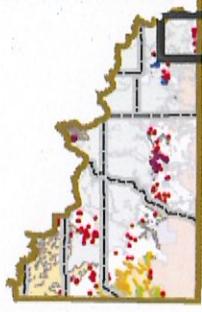
Legend

- City/Town
- Highway
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- Major Stream/River
- Major Lake
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LANDS AVAILABLE FOR DISPOSAL/EXCHANGES, COMPLETED LAND DISPOSALS/EXCHANGES, & ACQUIRED LANDS

Tres Rios BLM Field Office
Map 9



The USFS and BLM attempt to use the most current data available. Geospatial data accuracy varies by source on the map. Using the map for purposes other than general information may yield inaccurate or misleading results. The USFS and BLM reserve the right to correct, update, modify, or delete information without notice.

- Legend**
- City/Town
 - Highway
 - Local Roads
 - Major Stream/River
 - Major Lake

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 - Available for Disposal/Exchange
 - Potential for Disposal/Exchange
 - Completed Disposal/Exchange



Borders, Shannon D

Subject: FW: BLM Land Disposal

From: Julie Kibel [<mailto:jrae@ftitel.net>]

Sent: Tuesday, September 04, 2012 8:54 AM

To: Clementson, Connie J

Cc: dcdolocnty@fone.net

Subject: BLM Land Disposal

Dear Connie-

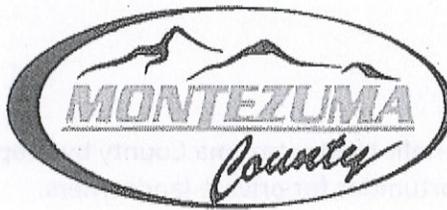
After much discussion the DCBOCC has the following guidelines to recommend for the beginning steps of the BLM Land Disposal parcels. We appreciate the thought of putting land back into private ownership to increase our tax base. Yet we feel that any BLM land that has public road access should be left under BLM ownership this allows for more people to have access to public lands. Land that is totally land locked with no public access should be put up for the bidding process with other adjoining land owners. And our final thought was that any BLM parcels that adjoins state land should stay BLM or move to state properties.

We hope these guidelines will give you a starting point for this process. We are always available for any comments or thoughts that arise as you are working on this.

Thanks for working with us and allowing our input on issues that involve our citizens and visitors to our county.

Sincerely,

Julie R. Kibel
Dolores County Board of County Commissioners



County Commissioners:

Steve Chappell
Gerald Koppenhafer
Larrie Rule

County Administrator:

Ashton N. Harrison

Board of County Commissioners

109 West Main, Room 302

Cortez, CO 81321

(970) 565-8317

(970) 565-3420 Fax

October 1, 2012

Connie Clementson
Field Manager
Tres Rios Field Office
29211 Highway 184
Dolores, CO 81323

RE: BLM Lands for Disposal

Dear Mrs. Clementson

The Montezuma County Board of County Commissioners would like to express our support for the proposed BLM land sale. Only 30% of Montezuma County is in private ownership. The remaining 70% is under Federal Management. Montezuma County, in general, opposes the conversion of private lands into the public land base. While this program does not restore exact equity in terms of land lost versus land gained, this program is a step in the right direction.

Montezuma County has reviewed the list of BLM parcels proposed for disposal. In response, Montezuma County has provided the BLM with an inventory of the parcels we feel should be converted from public lands into the private land base.

The following general rationale supports federal to private land conversions, and applies to all federally managed parcels within the county except those under BIA management.

1. Parcels that have no public access do not provide enough public benefit to justify keeping them in the public land base. Therefore parcels that are completely landlocked, or only provide corner access are included in the inventory.
2. The parcels identified in the inventory are typically smaller parcels that are presumably difficult to manage efficiently for broader federal land management objectives.
3. Most of the parcels identified are located adjacent to residential developments or active agricultural operations. These parcels do not directly adjoin larger federal parcels and

would provide greater benefit to Montezuma County by keeping them in the local tax base and expanding opportunities for private landowners.

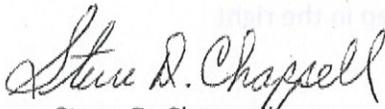
4. Parcels are ranked A, B or C based on existing uses on the property (ie. gravel mining operations), or the likelihood that adjacent property owners would be interested in acquisition and would convert the property to a beneficial use. Montezuma County would like to see all parcels in the inventory converted to private lands. The A,B, and C designations identifies the priority of the conversion process.

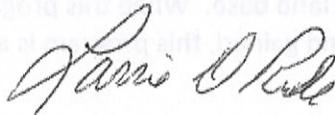
Please note that Montezuma County has identified parcels that were not on the initial BLM list. We feel that those parcels share the same characteristics as other parcels included on the initial BLM list and that those parcels should be considered for disposal as well.

Montezuma County supports the federal land disposal program nation-wide, and will be pleased to participate. This program will benefit both federal land agencies and private landowners by simplifying and consolidating the intermix of public/private lands, making management on both private and public lands more efficient and directly tied to the realities of existing land uses on a landscape scale.

Respectfully,

The Montezuma County Board of Commissioners


Steve D. Chappell


Larrie D. Rule


Gerald W. Koppenhafer

Durango Urban Interface

The BLM lands surrounding the City of Durango are valuable to local residents in terms of recreation opportunities, open space and contribute to the overall quality of life. Local nonprofit groups have teamed up with the BLM and City of Durango in developing hiking, biking and horseback riding trails throughout the parcels, created an “urban park” setting. Many of these BLM parcels are interlaced with city, county or private land properties. Future growth of the community is expected to put more and more recreation and development pressure on these BLM parcels. There are three pieces of BLM property that are impacted the most by the Durango community’s desire to grow. Perins Peak, Skyridge, Grandview and Animas City Mountain are considered “urban interface” parcels of land, where management is already complex and is expected to become more challenging. Each parcel has its own unique features, so it is best to describe each piece separately.

Perins Peak

This 1550 acre BLM parcel is surrounded by State, City and private land. Perins Peak State Wildlife Area is directly adjacent to BLM on the west and north sides of the parcel. City of Durango has recently purchased private property that is adjoining to the BLM and manage parks on the south and east sides, with some private land intermingled. The Perins Peak BLM parcel has been managed in conjunction with Colorado Parks and Recreation for the purpose of wildlife habitat. It has been an important habitat for Peregrine falcons and wintering grounds for various other species of wildlife. This site also contains important cultural resources, including the historic mining town site of Perins city, once occupied by 4,000 people. Perins Peak has been challenging to manage, due to its close proximity to Durango. The BLM and CPW restrict public access from November to July to protect wildlife in their wintering grounds. The BLM has had a difficult time enforcing this closure and illegal use continues to be a problem. The Colorado Parks and Wildlife is interested in acquiring the property to maintain wildlife habitat. There is also a strong interest from the city of Durango in acquiring these lands for recreation purposes desired by the local community.

Grandview

Out of the three urban interface areas, the 1525 acre Grandview area has received the highest volume of use and is the most challenging piece for the BLM to manage. In the early 90s, illegal user-created trails were being constructed at an alarming rate. The BLM now works with local non-profit organizations and the City of Durango to construct and maintain many miles of trails. This area is highly valued by the local community for mountain biking and open space. There is a strong interest from local trail advocacy groups as well as the City of Durango in further developing the trail system for mountain biking. This area is pinched on all sides by ongoing urban development and the city has annexed all around this parcel. The need for the community to expand in to this area is only expected to increase.

Grandview is surrounded on all sides by private land, with La Plata County owning a section in the southeast corner of the property. The county has approached the BLM about

relocating the fairgrounds to the Grandview area and creating a multi-event center. The city of Durango is interested in obtaining Grandview so they may manage it as an urban park, and connect it with nearby Horse Gulch, a city owned urban park. Horse Gulch has trails that connect to Grandview through private land that the city is in the process of acquiring. The city of Durango has begun expansion of the community to the east of Grandview with the construction of Mercy Medical Center, three springs subdivision and various other businesses. The city desires to construct a road to connect this area with downtown Durango and the route would likely cross Grandview BLM.

The northern portion of Grandview is also important to wintering wildlife and the area is closed to recreation November to April. This closure has been very difficult to enforce and the rapidly increasing amount of recreational use and the trail infrastructure has decreased the quality of wildlife habitat. Surface minerals are actively mined on this parcel and this area is a common corridor for power line and pipeline ROWs.

Animas City Mountain

The Animas City Mountain parcel encompasses approximately 1440 acres of a sloped peak within the Durango city limits that is surrounded by private land on its west, north and east slopes. Most of the access to Animas City Mountain is through the City of Durango owned Dalla Park or through private property, both along the south side. Recreation again is very popular on this BLM property. Rock climbing, mountain biking and hiking are the most popular forms of recreation. This area, like Perins Peak, is closed to recreation when wildlife are wintering, typically November through April. Management issues have been violations of winter closures and illegal trail construction. This area has been difficult to enforce because of the high use volume by local residents. Because this parcel provides an important wildlife corridor to Perins Peak, the CPW has an interest in acquisition for wildlife purposes. In addition, the City of Durango is interested in expanding their existing urban park adjacent to Animas City Mountain. There are trails established on the BLM that connect to city property.

Skyridge

Skyridge is approximately 550 acres of isolated BLM land, surrounded completely by private. This parcel of land encompasses part of the Raider's Ridge landform that overlooks Durango. The area is steep and rocky, with sparse vegetation. For these reasons it is not as valuable to wildlife as some of the other BLM parcels already described. The cultural resources are unknown because this area has never been surveyed by the BLM. There have been some mountain bike trails constructed by local groups, which connect to the horse gulch (city owned) and Grandview trail systems. This portion of BLM would be valuable to the city of Durango for the purpose of green space and to continue connection to the adjacent trails.

Cement Creek Interface Exchange

During the past ten years, the Silverton area in San Juan County has realized lands going into federal ownership were having a negative effect on tax base within the County (Sunnyside and Standard Metals acquisitions). San Juan County has approximately 86% of its land based in as public domain.

In addition, San Juan County has completed a County Master Plan looking at controlled development, especially in and around the town of Silverton. Key concerns were to minimize the development of patented mining claims in the high elevation view shed and sensitive tundra as well as define and develop key 'economic corridors' where growth would be welcomed. One of these corridors is the Cement Creek corridor, which is mostly BLM land. It was coined the 'land rationalization project'

In addition, an idea was born in approximately 2009 with the idea of the BLM creating a "land trust" of sorts which could allow willing private land owners of high mountain property to exchange these lands for developable federal lands adjacent to Silverton. These two ideas have been consolidated into one project that is referred to as, **Cement Creek Interface Exchange** project.

Because the BLM is limited in its authority to provide a "land trust" role the idea evolved in 2012 where-in the County might be able to serve this role. The county would only have to have property to provide as 'trading stock'. If a land exchange between the BLM and the County could occur, the County could have the control and oversight on the disposal of properties within their ownership.

Currently, there are approximately 765 acres of land held in trust by the State of Colorado for ASARCO. This land, as well as mitigation dollars, is held as a court settlement for damages caused by ASARCO. The ASARCO trustees are currently considering the possibility of donating these lands to San Juan County. Then, these lands could be used as part of an exchange to the BLM for lands adjoining the town of Silverton (and is one of economic corridors identified in the SJ County plan). The public benefit could include:

1. Acquiring the ASARCO property would protect the Arrastre gulch area;
2. Provides economic opportunity for San Juan County and the community of Silverton;
3. There is already some commercial activity, private ownership and some utility framework in place along Cement Creek.

Implementation Priorities

1. Continue to implement the base program for the cultural resources (i.e., field clearances, issue permits, etc.).
2. Complete monitoring of resources to limit damage to cultural resources.
3. Implement stabilization to prevent deterioration of cultural resources.
4. Complete and implement management plans for the significant sites identified in the area.

LANDS PROGRAM

Resource Objectives

Land Tenure Adjustments. Public land will be made available for land sales or exchanges or both. Disposal of the public lands may be accomplished by sale, exchange, State Indemnity Selection, or title transfer pursuant to any applicable Federal authority. Transfers to other public agencies will be considered where management efficiency would result. Adjustments involving sales or exchanges or both may be permitted.

Certain parcels (according to FLPMA) of public land will be considered for sale, exchange or title transfer when (1) the lands are determined to be not needed for a Federal project or a resource management activity; (2) retention of the lands is not in the national interest; or (3) management of the lands by BLM is not cost efficient.

The various criteria for land ownership adjustments will be considered in land reports and environmental assessments prepared for specific adjustment proposals. The criteria for adjustments is both legislatively required and resource oriented. Major factors to be evaluated include; threatened and endangered and sensitive species habitat; wetland and riparian areas; fisheries; nesting and breeding habitat for critical wildlife; key big game habitats (seasonal); developed recreation sites and recreation access; municipal watersheds; energy and potential for minerals; sites that are eligible for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places; legal land surveys, wilderness and areas being studied for designation as wilderness; and other statutorily authorized designations.

Other factors include degree of public access; the amount of public investments in facilities or improvements and the potential for recovering those investments; difficulty or cost of administration; the degree of suitability for management by another Federal agency; significance in stabilizing local business, social and economic conditions, and lifestyles; authorized land users, including Recreation and Public Purposes (R & PP) leases, withdrawals, or other leases or permits.

Two more factors are: (1) consistency with cooperative agreements and plans of other agencies, and (2) suitability and need for change in land ownership including community

expansion or economic development, such as industrial, residential, or agricultural (other than grazing) development.

Land Laws and Policies. The lands program in the planning area is primarily concerned with the authorization of uses on the public lands by others, including private parties, state, county, and other federal agencies. The objective is to ensure compatibility of the various multiple uses with environmental protection of natural resources.

New Withdrawals. Process new withdrawals on a case-by-case basis, using existing guidance to determine if formal withdrawal is needed.

Withdrawal Review. Reviewing other agency withdrawals that will be continued, modified, or revoked will be completed by 1991. Upon revocation or modification, part or all of the withdrawn land will revert to BLM management. Current BLM policy is to minimize the acreage of public land withdrawn from mining and mineral leasing, and, where applicable, to replace existing withdrawals with ROWs, leases, permits, or cooperative agreements.

Utility and Transportation Corridors. In general, public land is available for utility and transportation corridor development, however, applicants will be encouraged to locate new facilities within existing corridors to the greatest extent possible. Public land within areas identified as unsuitable will not be available for utility and transportation corridors. Deviations from existing corridors may be permitted based on considering: types of and needs for the proposed facilities; conflicts with other resource values and uses, including potential values and uses; and availability of alternative routes and(or) mitigation measures.

Access. BLM will make every reasonable effort to provide primary access to private landowners (via FLMPA Rights-of-Way) when such access will not cause significant, adverse impacts to other resources. County road standards will be required when the resource manager feels environmental impacts can in no other way be mitigated. However, BLM will not grant additional rights-of-way when reasonable access already exists unless there is a compelling public need.

When a number of potential landowners could benefit from road or vehicle access across the public lands, counties and private developers will be encouraged to develop public access in such areas.

Planned Actions

Through sales, exchanges, or any other title transfer means, dispose of approximately 21,700 acres throughout the planning area, as indicated on the Plan Map; this includes small, unmanageable, isolated parcels of land with limited public value scattered throughout the area and Archuleta Mesa.

Rationale

Adjustment in the pattern of public land and minerals ownership within the resource area will: (1) allow for more efficient and economic management; (2) facilitate acquisition of lands with higher public values and uses; and (3) facilitate implementation of other recommendations within this and other planning documents.

Monitoring

Land tenure adjustment actions are monitored through the use of environmental assessments, which are written on every proposed action. In addition, a 60-day public comment period is required between the notification of a land disposal action and the actual disposal.

Implementation Priorities

Public land actions will be accomplished according to the following priority:

- (1) Take action (by exchange, sale or other methods) on those exchange and sale proposals currently on file that meet disposal and/or acquisition objectives previously described.
- (2) Dispose of (by exchange, sale or other methods) those lands identified as suitable for transfer.

Support

Support, including completion of cadastral surveys, appraisal reports, mineral reports, water rights reports, and cultural resource surveys will be needed for parcels of public land identified for disposal, and those lands which the Bureau seeks to acquire.

WILD HORSE MANAGEMENT

Resource Objectives and Planned Action

The BLM has determined it would be reasonable to manage a wild horse herd with an average number of 50 horses on the Spring Creek Basin area and to totally remove all wild horses from the Naturita Ridge herd area. Public opinion strongly supports this decision. The Spring Creek Basin herd, to range in numbers between a low of 35 and a high of 65 animals, would be compatible with multiple use objectives for the area and would not inflict significant, adverse effects on the vegetation, soils and water resources once a herd management plan was in place. This herd would supplement public viewing opportunities of the Little Bookcliffs and Sand Wash Basin herds.

Rationale

Managing this one herd with animal numbers controlled would be a reasonable investment of public funds, would not cause significant environmental degradation, and would provide public viewing opportunities.

Monitoring

Monitoring will continue, both animal and resource, prior to and after a herd management plan is implemented.

Implementation Priorities

Totally remove the Naturita herd and remove excess animals from the Spring Creek Basin area as soon as funds and personnel are available.

Support

Support will be needed by BLM personnel to contract the removals, feed the horses after removal, and to place the horses in the Adopt-A-Horse program. In addition, support will be needed to manage the horses and implement the herd management plan.

TIMBER MANAGEMENT

Resource Objective

Public land within forest management areas will be available for a full range of forest management activities. Major forest activity plans generally will be required prior to initiating those activities in such areas. Pending completion of the activity plan, timber and woodland stand treatments will be evaluated by an environmental assessment and implemented on a case-by-case basis.

Forested areas within other emphasis areas will also be available for a full range of forest management activities; plans will be modified to be compatible with the management emphasis areas. Firewood harvesting will be permitted on most accessible forest land available for harvesting forest products.

Planned Actions

Provide intensive timber management on approximately 10,960 acres. Estimated allowable harvest would be 6.5 MMBF per decade. An additional 42,130 acres would be managed to provide woodland products (firewood, posts, poles, etc.). Estimated allowable harvest would be 6.4 MMBF (12,800 cords) per decade.

Rationale

This action will allow continued small negotiated sales and occasional advertised sales to meet the local demand for timber products. This type of timber management will allow a reasonable harvest of timber products while protecting other resource values such as watershed and wildlife habitat.

Monitoring

Monitoring will consist of annual inspections of forested lands for possible trespass and designated protection areas for possible insect infestations or disease epidemics. Areas of intensive timber management will be monitored after harvest to ensure that areas are reforested within the five years allowed.

