



National Conservation District Employees
Association

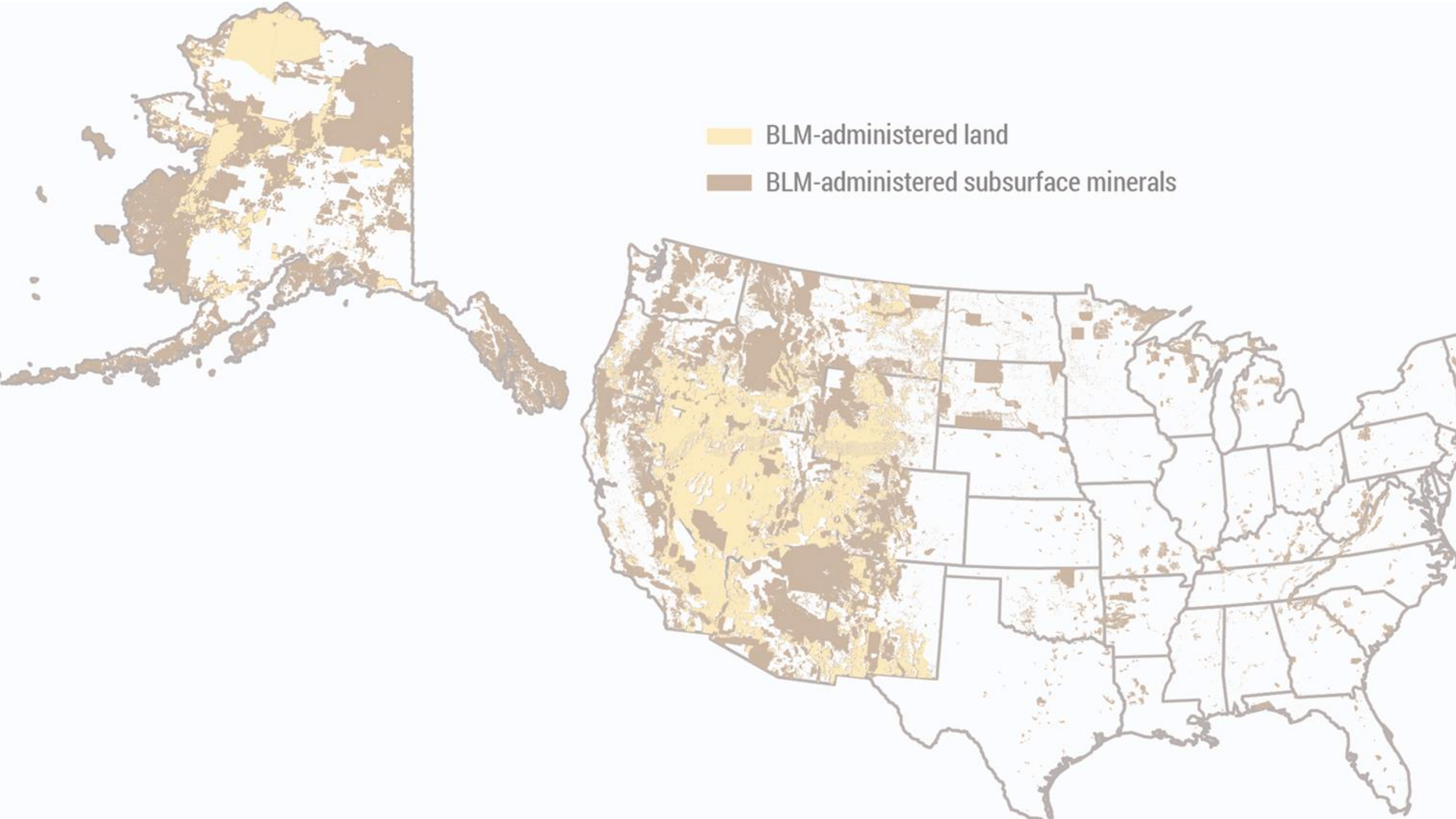
Conservation for a better tomorrow

BLM - AN UNTAPPED RESOURCE



Michael Henn
District Manger







NEPA Cooperating Agency

- Any Federal, State, or Local agency that has jurisdiction by law or special expertise (40CFR 1508.5). Jurisdiction by law means the agency has authority to approve a proposal.

Environmental Assessment
for
Temporary Non Renewable 2017



Prepared by

Bureau of Land Management
Pinedale Field Office
Pinedale, Wyoming

April 11, 2017
DOI-BLM-WY-D010-2017-0085

BLM

Pinedale Field Office



TNR EA 2017

- Addressing a need of our constituents
- Partnering lock step with Field office managers and staff



United States Department of the Interior
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
High Desert District
Pinedale Field Office
1625 West Pine, P.O. Box 768
Pinedale, Wyoming 82941
www.blm.gov/wy



Basin Well EA

In Reply Refer To:
4100 (WYD010)
DOI-BLM-WY-D010-2022-0009-EA

February 7, 2022

CERTIFIED – 7018 0360 0000 8899 4816 – RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Notice of the Field Manager's Proposed Decision

Department of Agriculture
2219 Carey Avenue
Cheyenne, WY 82002

To Whom it May Concern:

Introduction

Following is my Proposed Decision to drill a water well and install water tanks within the footprint of an already constructed reservoir in the Mesa Common grazing allotment (WY 02031) pursuant to 43 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 4120.3. The Basin Well range improvement project was analyzed in Environmental Assessment (EA) (DOI-BLM-WY-D010-2022-0009-EA) which disclosed potential impacts of this proposed project. This analysis is accessible on BLM's ePlanning website (<https://eplanning.blm.gov>). Physical copies of the EA are available upon request at the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Pinedale Field Office (PFO).

Background

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Pinedale Field Office (PFO), is proposing to drill a water well and install water tanks within the footprint of an already constructed reservoir. This will provide a consistent source of water during periods of drought or low water years.

The Proposed Action was initially funded by the Pinedale Anticline Project Office (PAPO) in 2013 and represents on-site mitigation efforts. These funds are still available to complete the project and the benefits that this project could create for livestock and wildlife still exist. The project design is the result of a cooperative effort between the BLM, Wyoming Department of Agriculture, Sublette County Conservation District, and the Mesa Common Allotment permittees.



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

Pinedale Field Office
August 2019

LaBarge Watershed Restoration Project Sublette County, Wyoming

Programmatic Environmental Assessment
DOI-BLM-WY-D010-2019-0070-EA



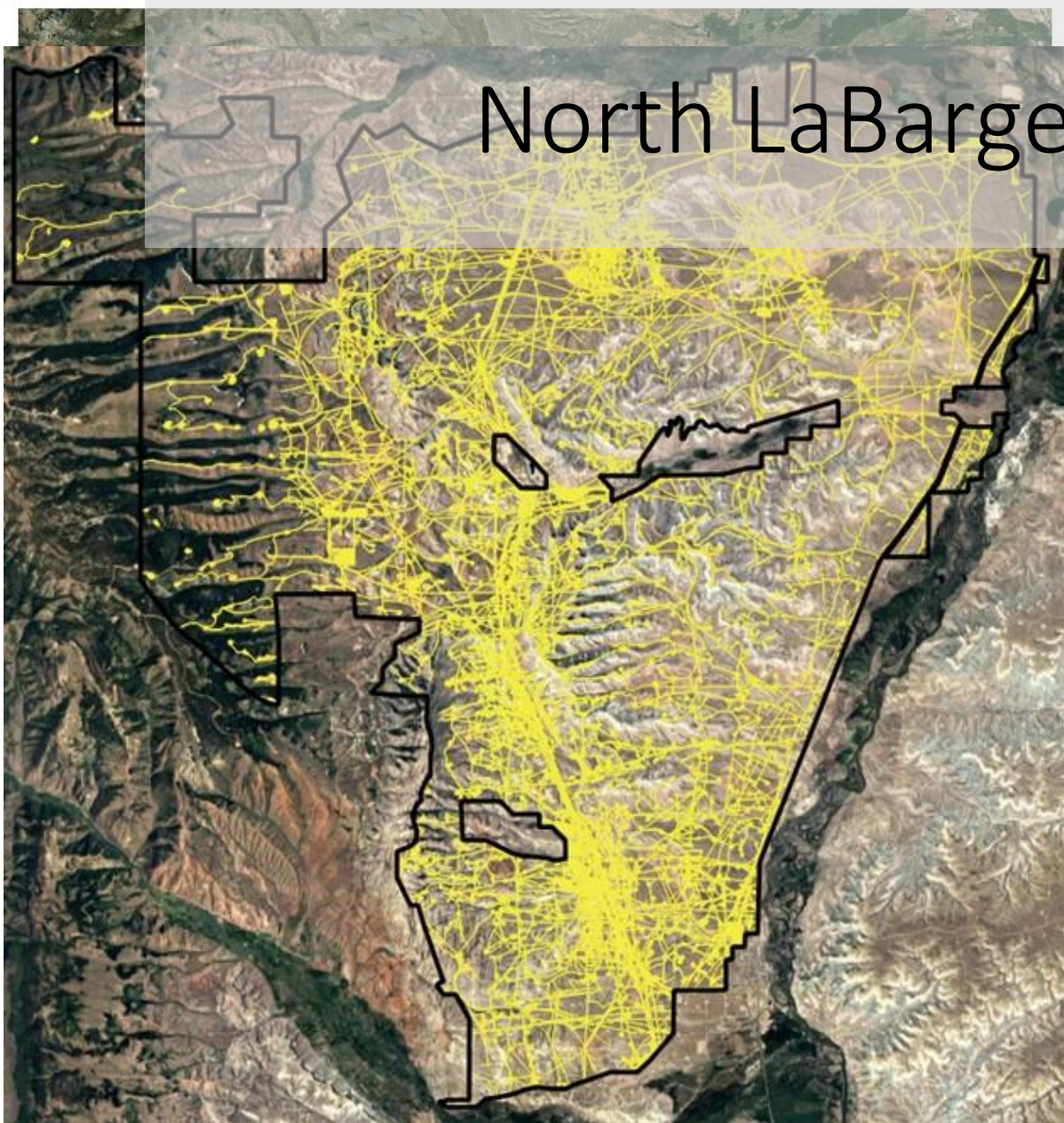
ID Team Member North LaBarge Watershed Restoration Project



Agreements

- GNA
- Cooperative Agreements
- Grant Solutions

North LaBarge Landscape Story



NLBC RHAP – Phase 1 Monitoring Plan and Site Book

Indicator	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Annual Use (ACU) - Cattle	X												
Annual Use (ACU) - Sheep	X												
Annual Use (ACU) - Horses	X												
Annual Use (ACU) - Deer	X												
Annual Use (ACU) - Wild	X												
Annual Use (ACU) - Other	X												
Annual Use (ACU) - Total	X												
Annual Use (ACU) - Cattle	X												
Annual Use (ACU) - Sheep	X												
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Annual Use (ACU) - Other	X												
Annual Use (ACU) - Total	X												

Trail Creek Key Area - MIM

Trail Ridge Pasture

MIM Start: 42.480669, -110.377533 MIM End: 42.480162, -110.378359

Location Map found in Appendix A

Site Description: This site was established due to the 2010 PFC that indicated it as Functioning at Risk with no apparent trend. This site supports a mature willow community, with few seedling or immature plants. It also has a rockier substrate than the other riparian sites in the allotment. Trail Creek is a fishery stream, and the substrate composition and pool/riffle ratio indicators have been collected. Currently, annual MIM protocols and photo points are completed as well as the full suite of MIM read every 5 years. The site had full MIM readings in the following years: 2012, 2017.

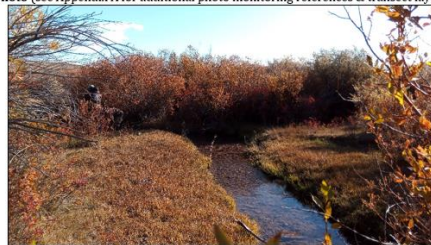
Site Background: This site was established after the 2010 PFC that indicated it as Functioning at Risk with no apparent trend.

Key Species: Nebraska Sedge - *Carex nebrascensis* (CANE2)

Site Goals, Indicators and Methods:

1. **Maintain forage productivity to sustain the permitted AUM's within the allotment.**
Indicator: A minimum of 4 inches of stubble height (residual or regrowth) present.
Method: Multiple Indicator Monitoring
Method: Stubble Height
2. **Enhance riparian vegetation and streambank stability to meet or exceed state water quality standards.**
Indicator: Achieve 80% of all streambanks comprised of bank-stabilizing native riparian vegetation (willows, sedges, rushes).
Method: Multiple Indicator Monitoring (long-term (5-year interval))

Reference Photo (see Appendix A for additional photo monitoring references & transect layout):



End of Transect (looking downstream)

Rangeland Health 29 (ESI Site-180)

Trail Ridge Pasture

Site Location: 42.473604, -110.413333 Original Line Azimuth: 0°

Location Map found in Appendix A.

Site Description: This site was established on July 23, 2012 during a rangeland health assessment. In 2019, trend monitoring methods were re-read during the ESI project. This site was mowed in the fall of 2018 as part of the WY Range Mule Deer Project. Monitoring in 2019, found very little erosional features on site. Bare ground is well below what is expected for a Loamy, Argillic site (range of 20-30%). Although production is much higher on this site than is expected, vegetation data shows that the site is best correlated to the 1.1 Early Sage/Bunchgrass reference vegetation state.
Soils: 3405; Jerry-Conway creek complex, 4 to 20 percent slopes %Slope: 3

Ecological Site: Loamy, Argillic (R046XH124WY)
 1.1 Early Sagebrush/Bunchgrass **Elevation:** 2487 M **Aspect:** 30° NE

Key Species: Bluebunch Wheatgrass - *Pseudoroegneria spicata* (PSSP6 culmless)

Site Goals, Indicators and Methods:

1. **Maintain forage productivity to sustain the permitted AUM's within the allotment.**
Indicator: Forage utilization at or below 50%.
Method: Height-weight utilization
2. **Improve or maintain rangeland health as described in the Wyoming Standards for Healthy Rangelands and identified in the Pinedale Resource Management ROD (2008).**
Indicator: Percent composition of vegetation (by species) and bare ground will be the indicator. Reference plant community consists of 45% grasses, 10% forbs, and 45% shrubs. Bare ground should not exceed 30%, as per the rangeland reference health sheet for the Loamy, Argillic ESD (Wyoming Front Reference Sheet).
Indicator: Expected total annual production range of 500-900 lbs./acre.
Method: AIM suite & Production will be done every 10 years. **Line bearings are at 0, 120, and 240 degrees.**

Reference Photo (see Appendix A for additional photo monitoring references & transect layout):



Line 1 (0° - original line read)

North La Barge Common Allotment Monitoring Book



Prepared For:

C&D Enterprises
 JF Ranch
 Milleg Partnership
 Mosquito Creek Ranch
 Rocking Chair Cattle Co.
 Sims Revocable Trust
 BLM Pinedale Field Office

Prepared By:



PO Box 647 * 1625 W. Pine Street *

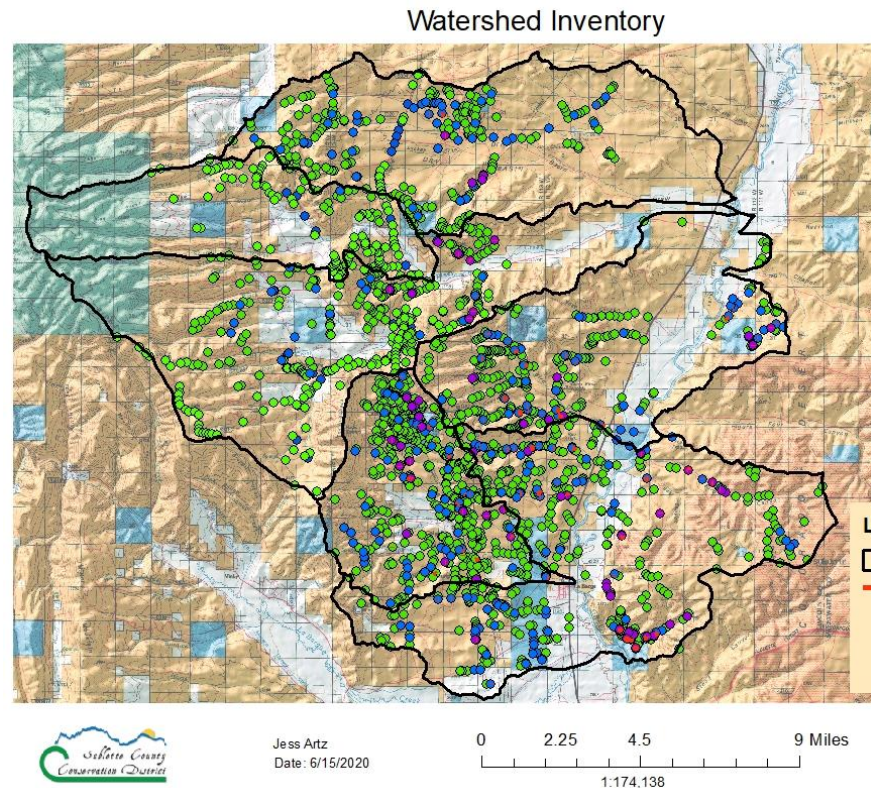


NLBC RHAP – Phase 2 Building a Grazing Plan

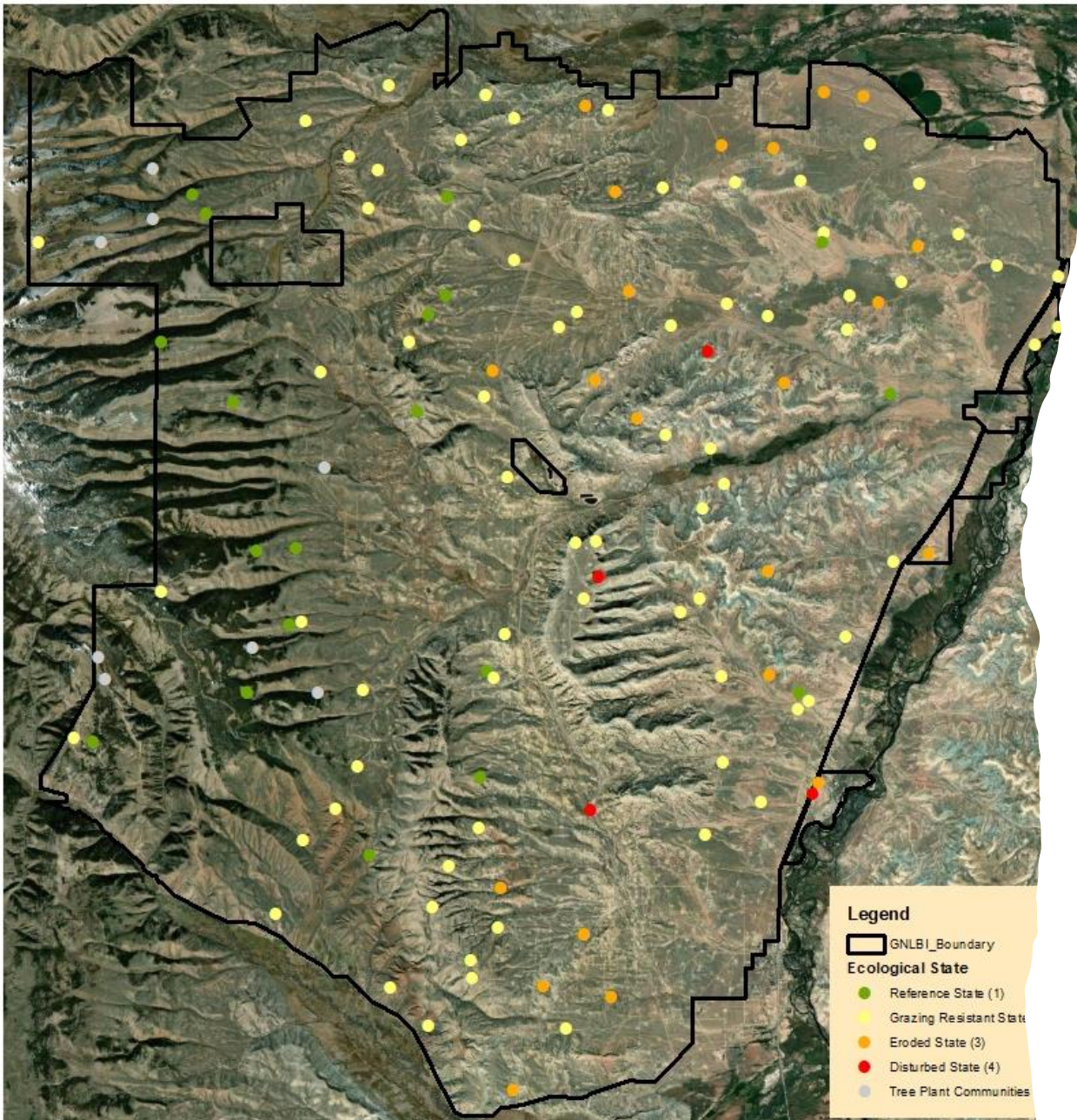
- Education! Education! Education!
- Agenda's and Note Pages
- Create a Folder for Everyone to Keep Documentation
- Distribute Meeting Notes
- Hold People Accountable
- Always Tie Back to the Common Goals and Objectives
- Homework
- “In Meeting” Group Projects

Big Piney – La Barge Watershed Restoration Project

- >3000 Culverts Inventoried
- 13% Functioning
- 50% Contributing to incised channels below culverts.



Greater North LaBarge Area Sample Locations and Ecological Site Distribution



Ecological Site Inventory

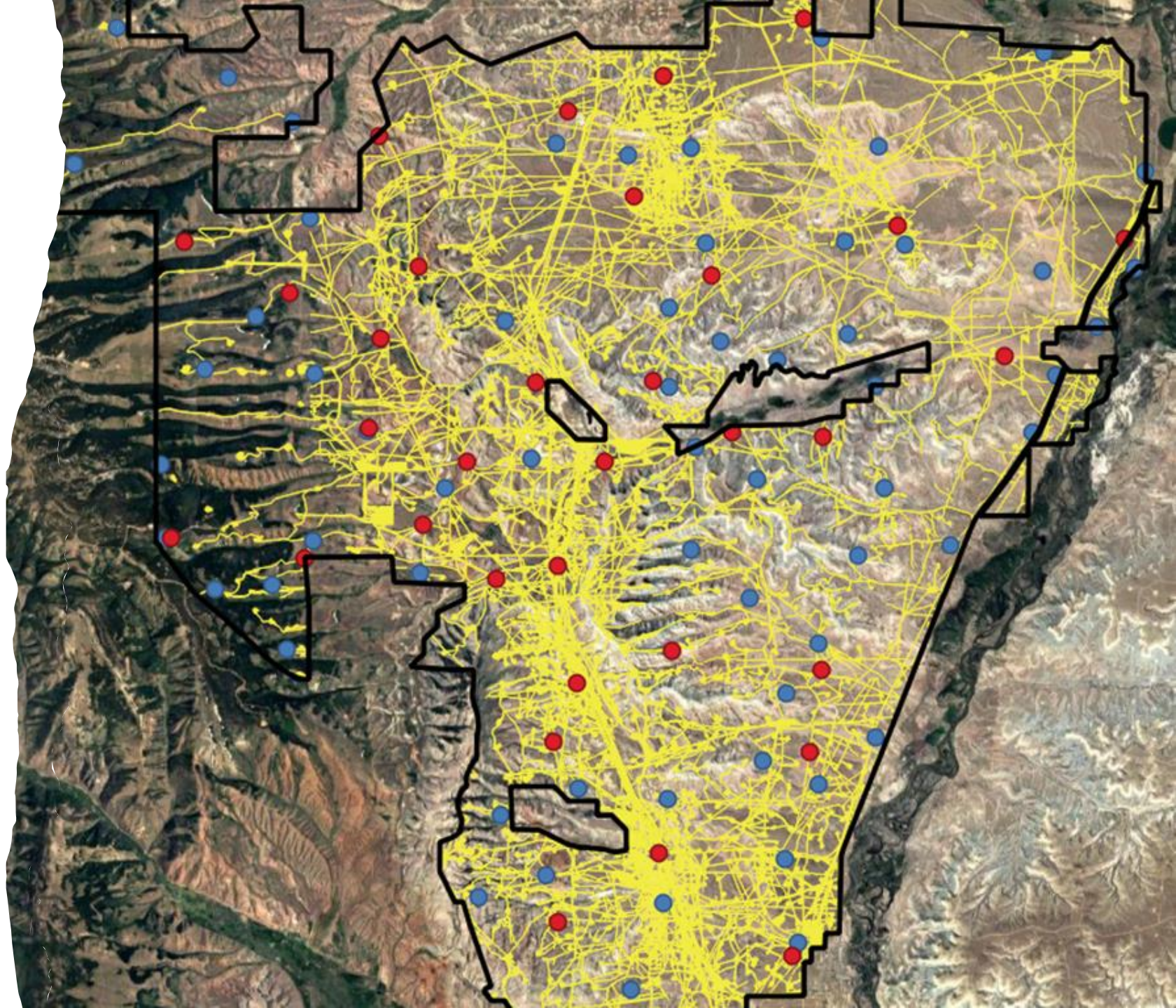
SCCD'S Role

- Hire & Supervise inventory crew
- Collaboration with BLM, NRCS, WGFD, Permittees
- Manage the finances
- Collect, Compile and QC the data
- Write and Distribute the Final Report

Disturbance Inventory

SCCD'S Role

- Hire & Supervise inventory crew
- Collaboration with BLM, NRCS, O&G Operators
- Manage the finances
- Collect, Compile and QC the data
- Write and Distribute the Final Report



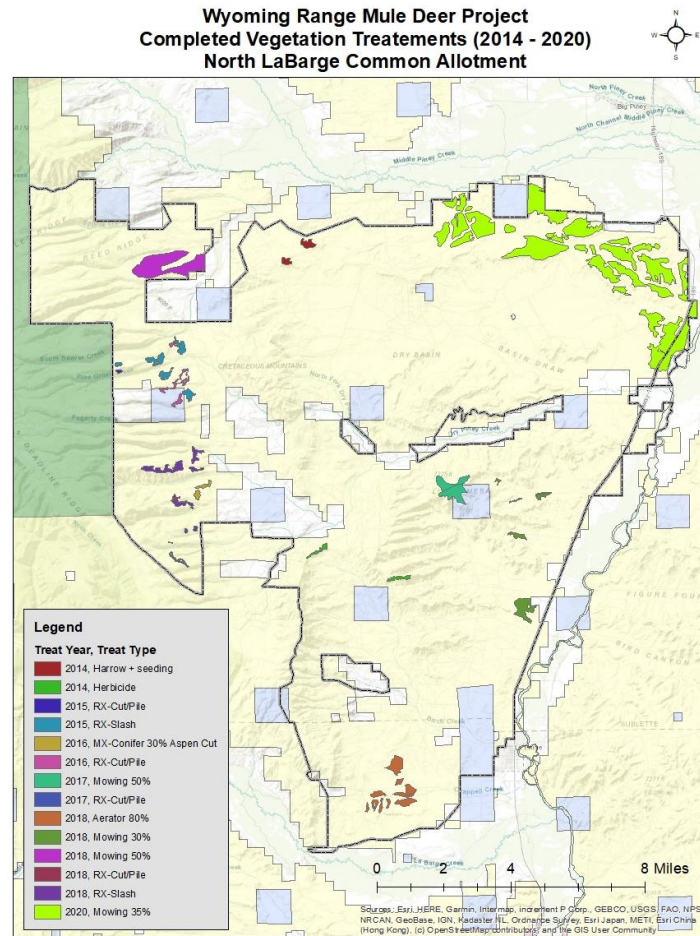
Wyoming Range Mule Deer Project

Partners

- Teton Science School
- Bureau of Land Management
- Wyoming Game and Fish Department
- Natural Resources Conservation Service
- Livestock Grazing Permittees

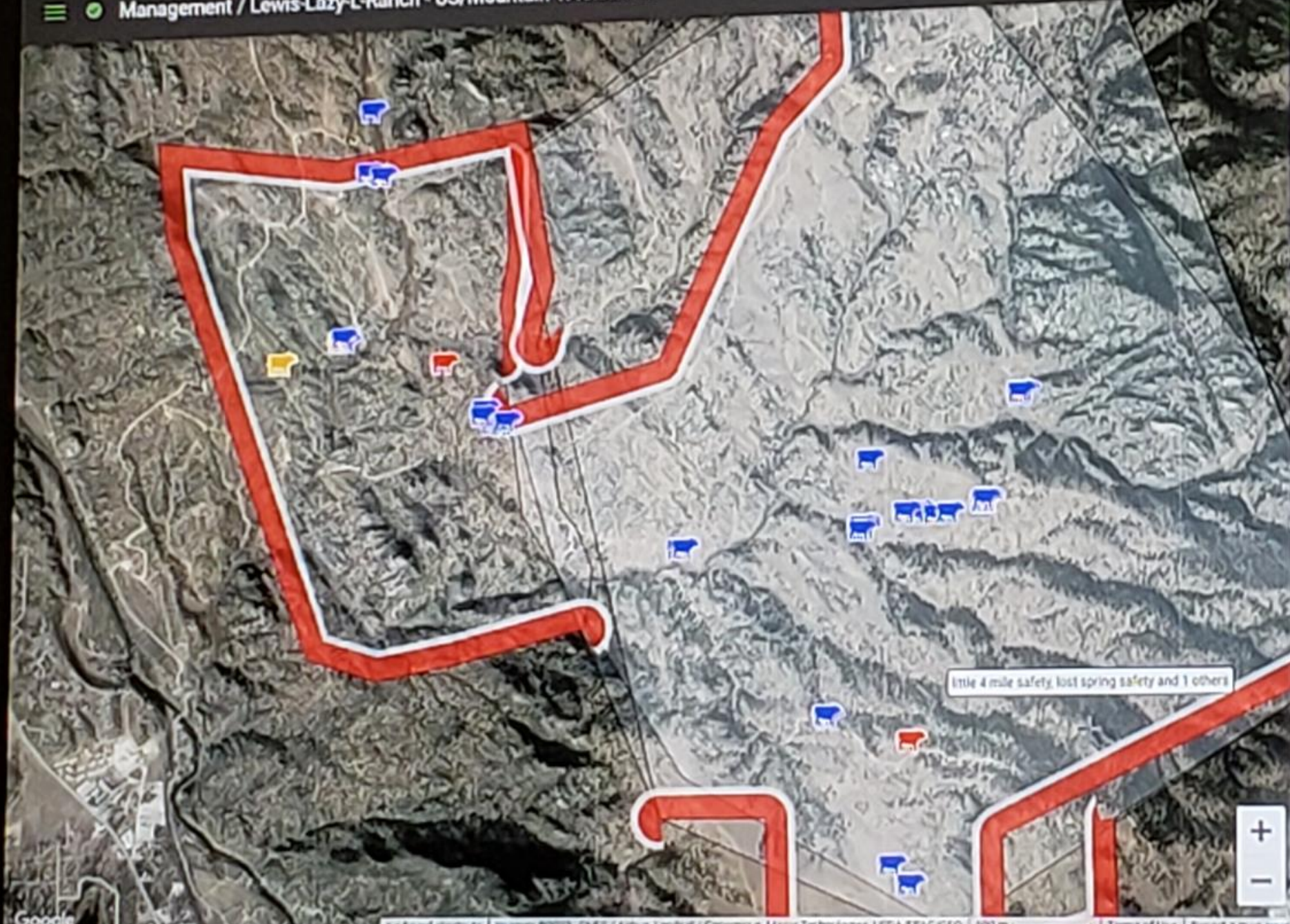
SCCD'S Role

- Resource Expertise
- Manage funds
- Contract riders for project success
- Assist with implementation



Virtual Fencing



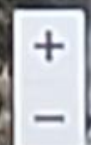


Select Herds to Display

SELECT ALL HERDS

CLEAR ALL COLLARS

- Summer 22 Herds
- Triage
- 62 From Leadville
- 29 Lewis Herd
- 1 Unherd



Erosion Concerns in the La Barge Platform

Partners

- Bureau of Land Management
- Oil & Gas Operators
- Grazing Permittees

SCCD'S Role

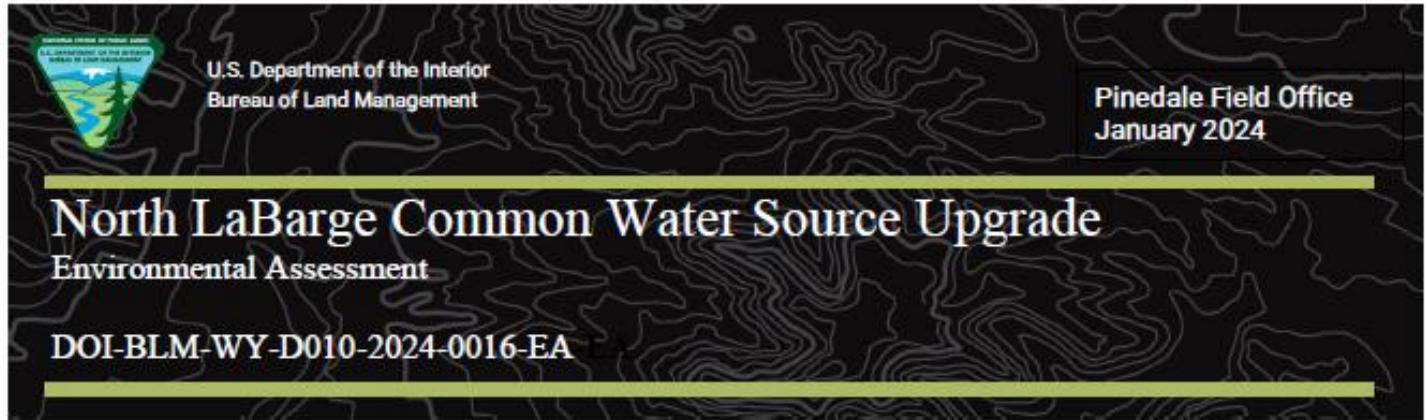
- Resource Expertise
- Assist with Implementation
- ID Team Member
- Grant Acquisition & Management



Mesic Habitat Structures



Green Light RIPS and Well on reservoir EA





Relationships Matter





Questions??