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Quadrennial Energy Review

Public Meeting # 11: Infrastructure Siting

August 21, 2014

Little America Hotel
Cheyenne, WY

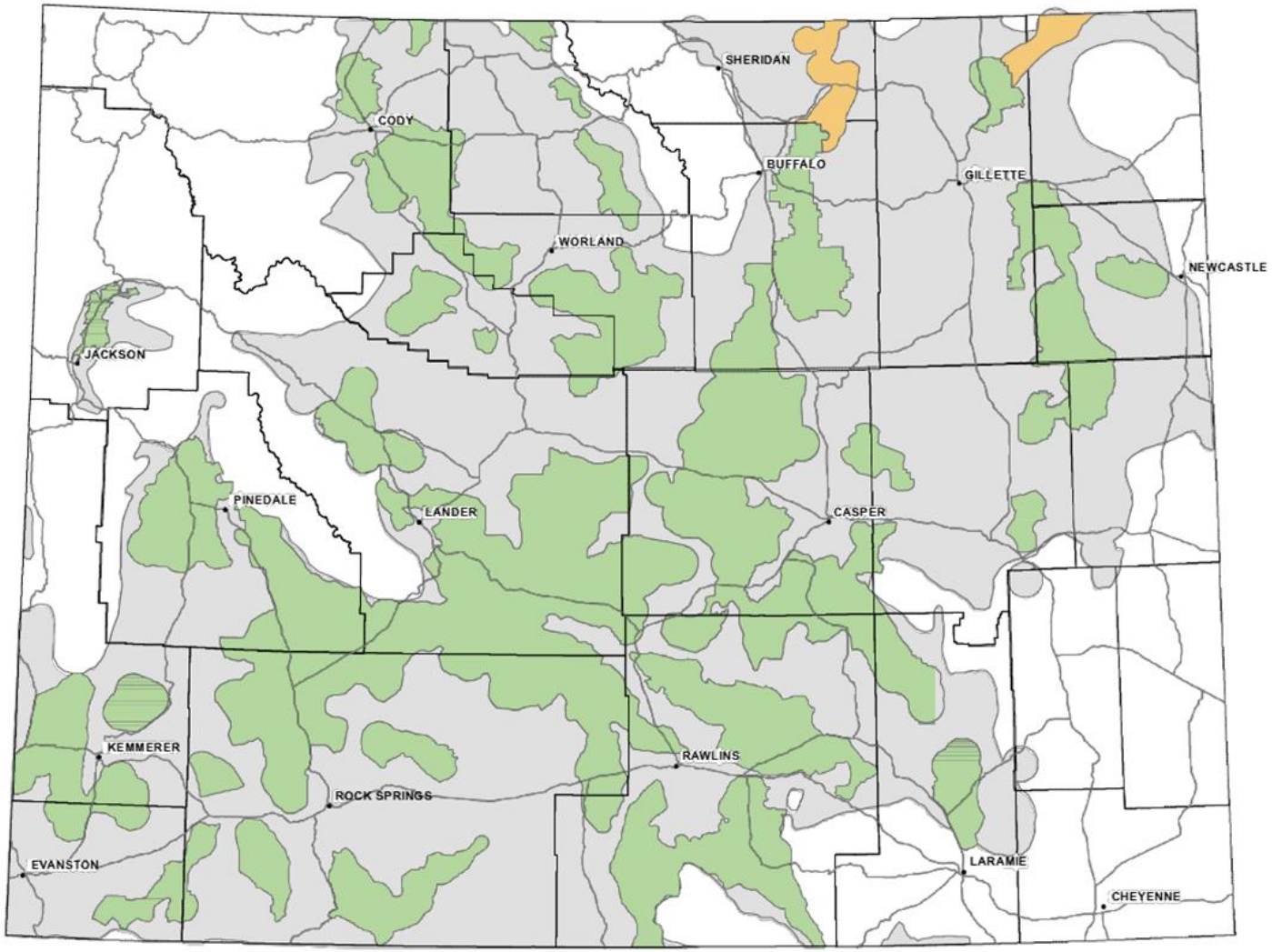
Ryan M. Lance
Counsel

The lesson of core areas for sage-grouse

Early in 2003, the US Fish and Wildlife Service signaled to Wyoming that it was looking for states to protect large, intact blocks of sage-grouse habitat.

And this is what we came up with…

Sage-Grouse Core Management Areas Version 3



Nyssa Whitford
Sage-Grouse GIS Analyst
Lander Regional Office
09.27.10

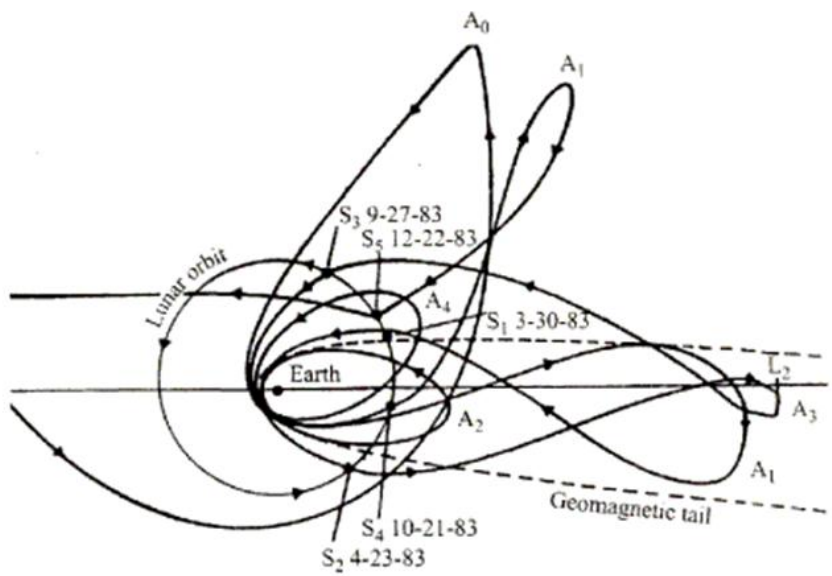
N
W E
S

0 15 30 60 90 120 Miles

Core Areas shown were updated from the version two core areas. The version three core areas were updated under the direction of the Governor by the Sage-Grouse Local Working Groups and the Sage-Grouse Implementation Team. The version 3 core areas were finalized on 06.29.10.

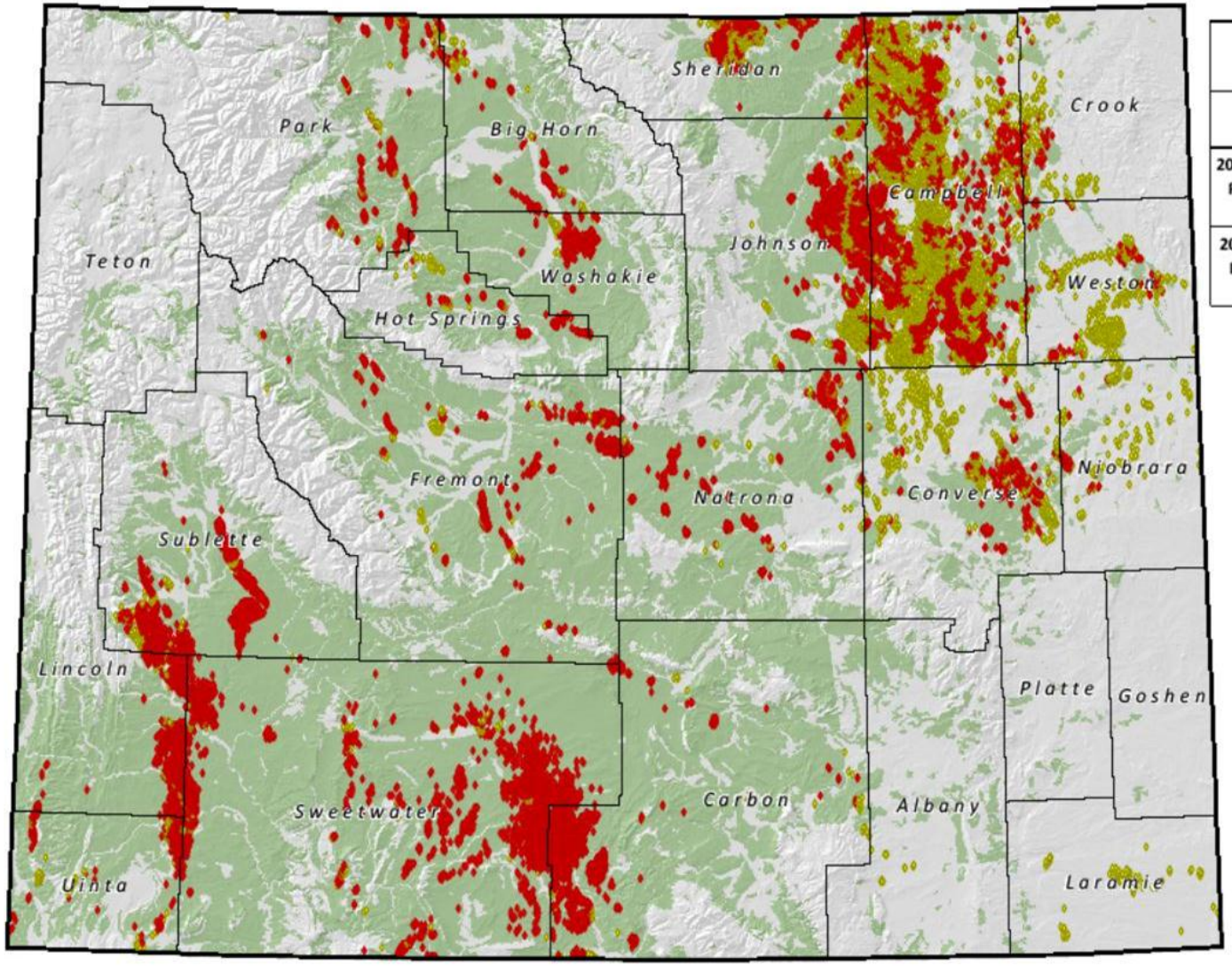
- Cities
- Roads
- Counties
- Connectivity Areas
- Core Areas Version 3
- Current Sage-Grouse Distribution

And here is why…



This is the first image you get if you Google "CONTROLLING CHAOS" – I have no idea what it means.

Geographic Influence of a Statewide Sage Grouse ESA Listing on Oil & Gas Production



	Statewide Total	Overlap with Statewide Sage Grouse Range	Percent within Statewide Sage Grouse Range
Producing Wells	*37,346*	*23,830*	*63.8%*
2008 Total Gas Production (MCF)	*2,253,896,489*	*1,870,047,244*	*83.0%*
2008 Total Oil Production (Bbls)	*38,797,647*	*24,634,700*	*63.5%*

Map Layers

Statewide Sage Grouse Range

Producing Wells

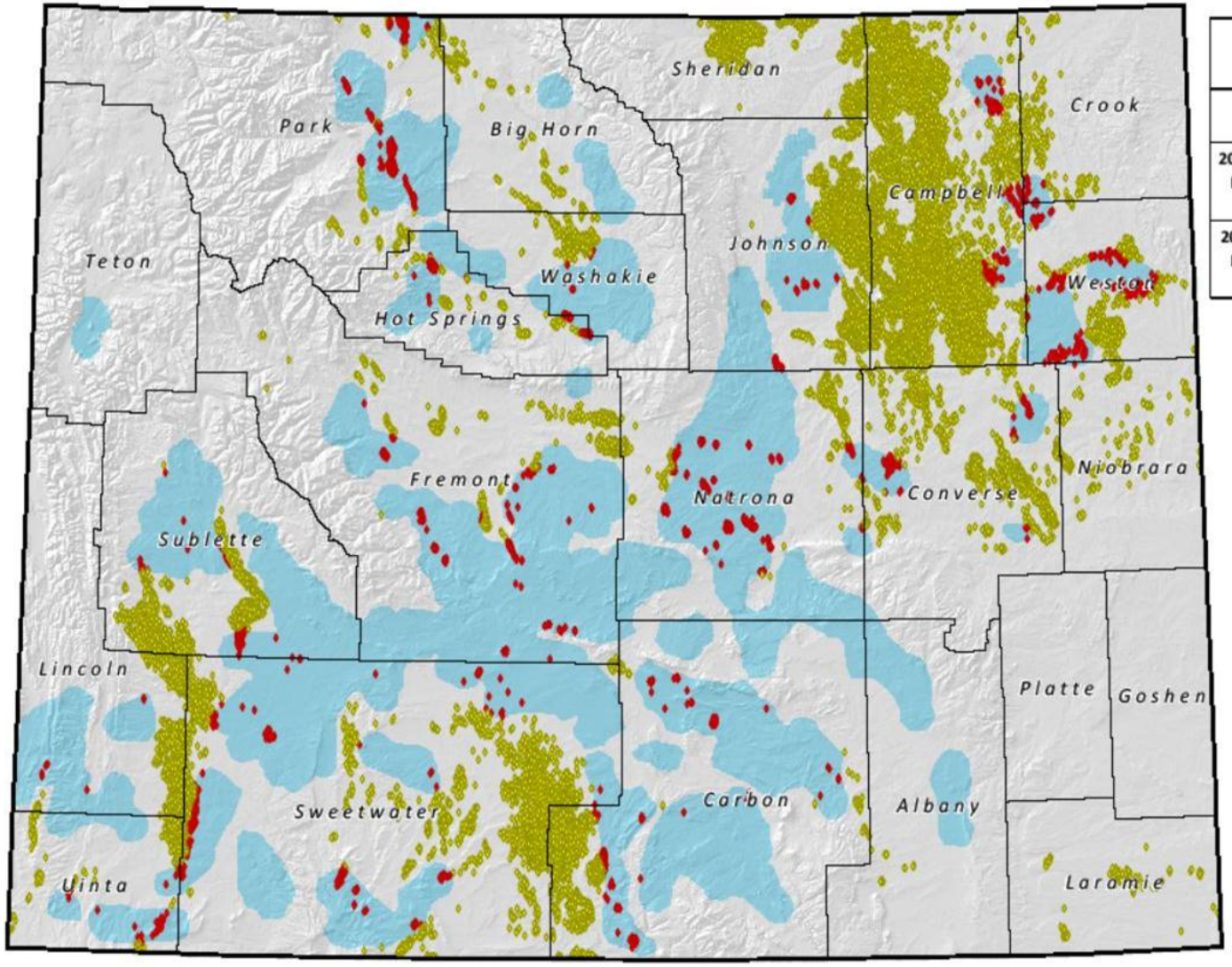
Outside Range

Within Range

Map and Analyses Prepared by
Wyoming Natural Diversity Database
(WYNDD; University of Wyoming)
for
The Wyoming Governor's Office

Data Sources:
Sage Grouse Range: Wyoming Game and Fish Department
Wells: Wyoming Oil and Gas Conservation Commission

Geographic Influence of Sage Grouse Core Areas on Oil & Gas Production



	Statewide Total	Overlap with Sage Grouse Core Areas	Percent within Sage Grouse Core Areas
Producing Wells	37,346	2,680	7.2%
2008 Total Gas Production (MCF)	2,253,896,489	46,085,906	2.0%
2008 Total Oil Production (Bbls)	38,797,647	8,026,750	20.7%

Map Layers

Sage Grouse Core Areas

Producing Wells

Outside Core Areas

Within Core Areas

Map and Analyses Prepared by
Wyoming Natural Diversity Database
(WYNDD; University of Wyoming)
for
The Wyoming Governor's Office

Data Sources:
Sage Grouse Core Areas: Wyoming Game and Fish Department
Wells: Wyoming Oil and Gas Conservation Commission

On October 2013, Interior Secretary Jewell issued Secretarial Order 3330, entitled *Improving Mitigation Policies and Practices of the Department of the Interior*

The Keys

In the Order, the Secretary sets forth the "central" elements of an overall mitigation strategy at the Department of the Interior.

- First among these elements is to use a "landscape-scale approach to identify and facilitate investment in key conservation priorities in the region."
- Second, is the notion of "early integration of mitigation considerations in project planning and design."
- Third is to ensure "the durability of mitigation measures over time."
- Fourth, the Department is directed to ensure "transparency and consistency in mitigation decisions."
- The fifth element focuses the Department's attention on mitigation efforts that would improve the resilience of the country's resources in the face of climate change.

April 2014 Report – Per the Order

In April, Interior released its *Strategy for Improving the Mitigation Policies and Practices of The Department of the Interior*

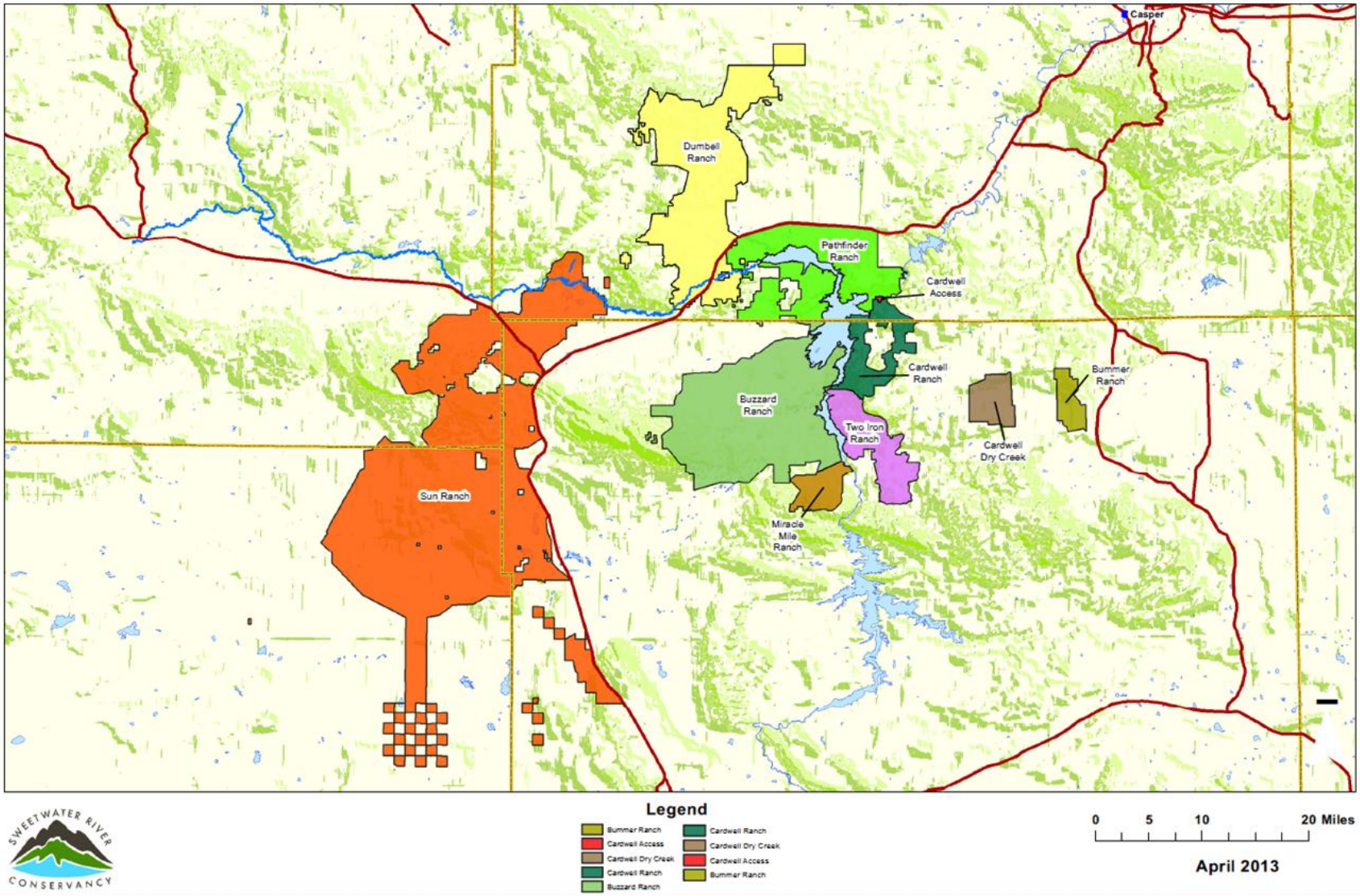
And it said…

Mitigation

- Landscape scale
- Full heirarchy (avoid, minimize, mitigate)
- Promote certainty
- Advance mitigation planning
- Science and tools
- Resilience
- Durability
- Transparency
- Collaboration
- Monitoring

Which brings us to: Sweetwater River Conservancy

Pathfinder Area Ranches



SWEETWATER RIVER CONSERVANCY

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Conservation Banking

"A conservation bank is a parcel of land containing natural resource values that are conserved and managed in perpetuity, through a conservation easement…and used to offset impacts occurring elsewhere to the same resource values on non-bank lands."

Guidance for the Establishment, Use, and Operation of Conservation Banks, USFWS (2003)

Conservation Banking

"Conservation Banking is attractive to landowners and land managers because it allows conservation to be implemented within a marked framework, where habitat…is treated as a benefit rather than a liability."

Guidance for the Establishment, Use, and Operation of Conservation Banks, USFWS (2003)

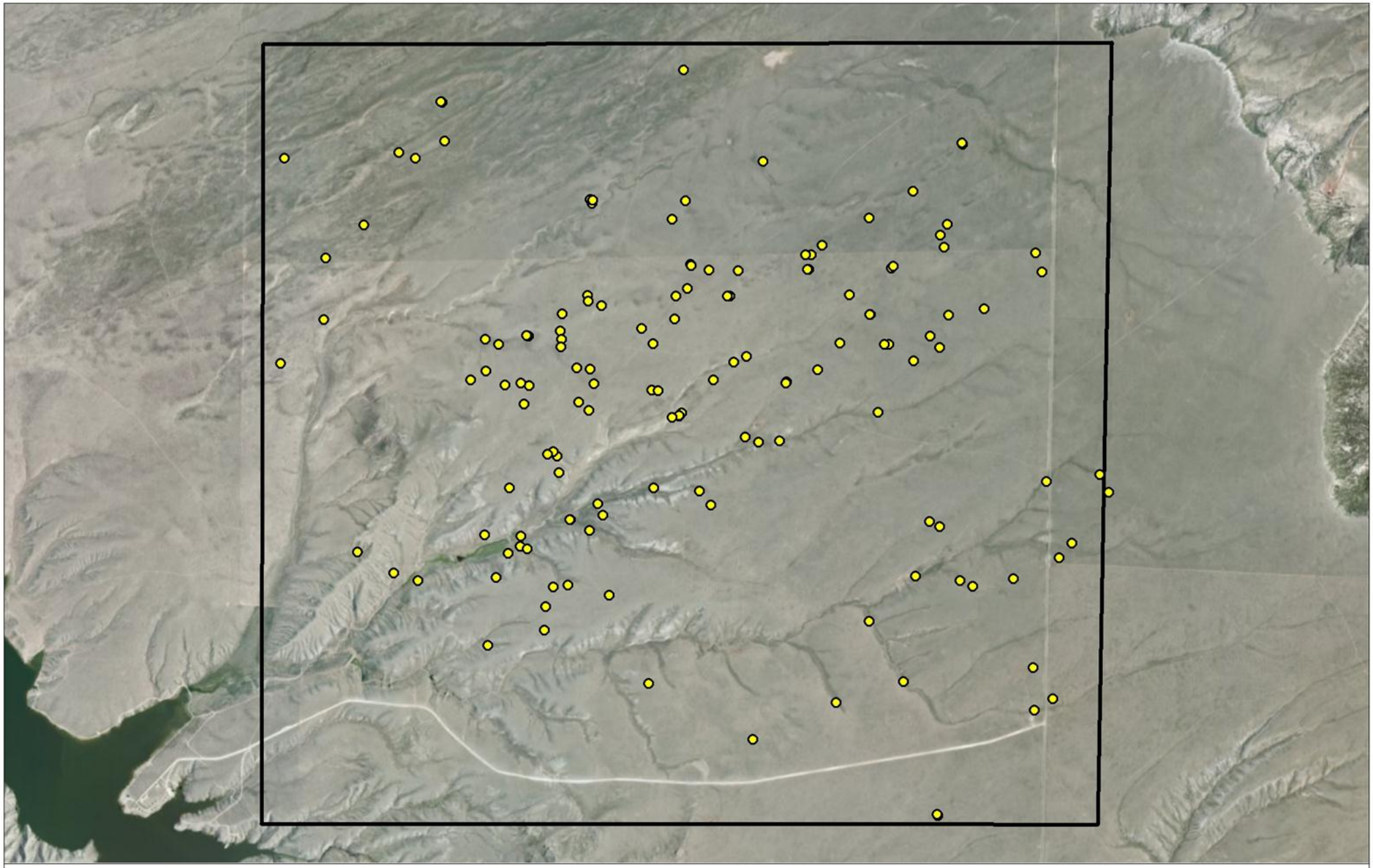
Functional Habitat

Lekking

Breeding

Late-Summer Brood Rearing

Wintering



Test Area

Subset of Sage-Grouse Locations

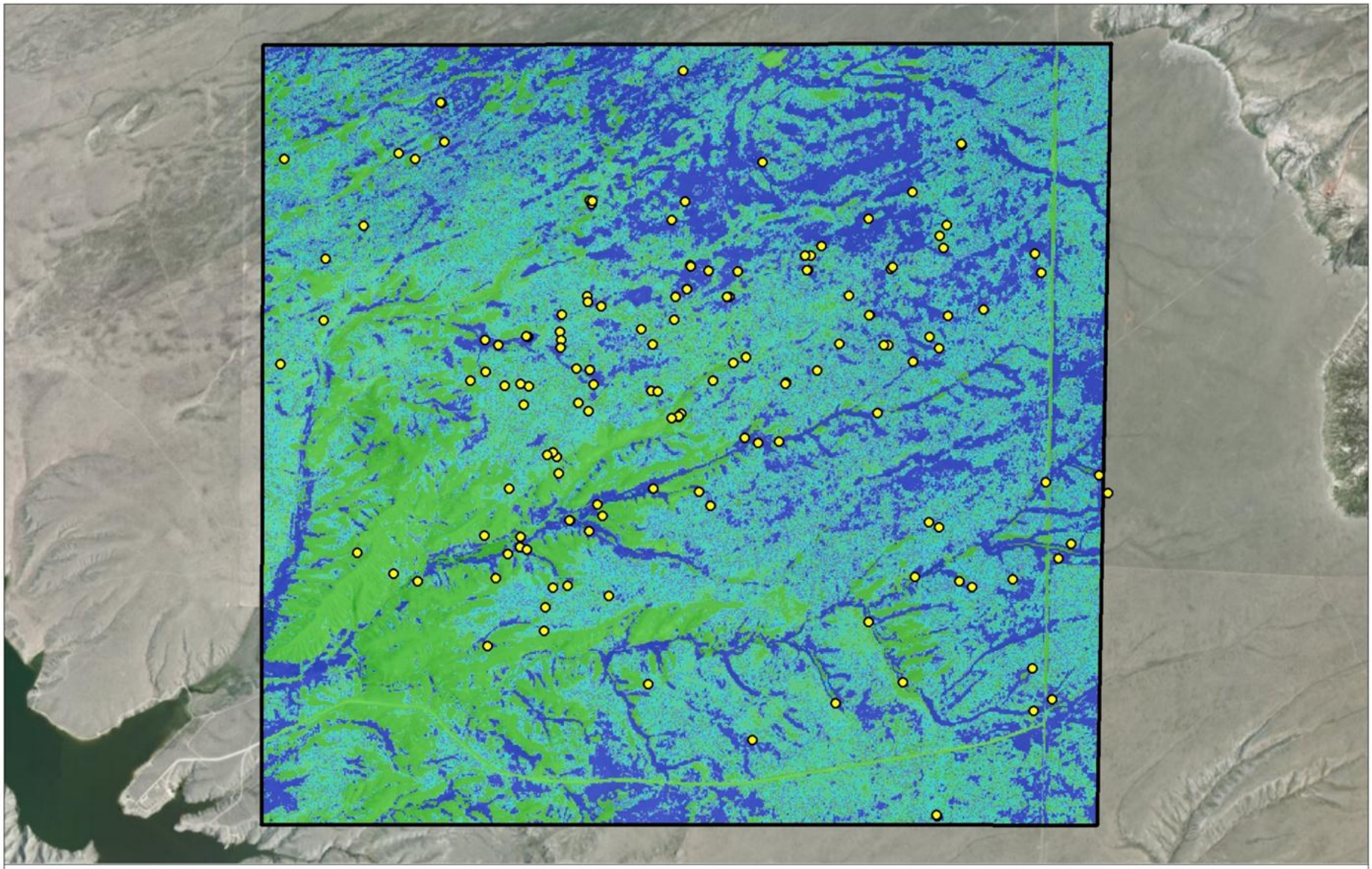
Sweetwater River Conservancy Habitat Conservation Bank

0 0.35 0.7 1.4 Miles

N W E S

Data Source: USA Topo Maps
Projection: Universal Transverse Mercator
Datum: North American Datum 1983
Author: C. LeBeau Date: 08/07/2014

WEST



Habitat Conservation Credit

- Low
- Medium - Low
- Medium
- Medium - High
- High
- Test Area
- Subset of Sage-Grouse Locations

Sweetwater River Conservancy Habitat Conservation Bank

0 0.35 0.7 1.4 Miles

N W E S

Data Source: USA Topo Maps
Projection: Universal Transverse Mercator
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