

Activities of the Bureau of Land Management

FIG Commission 7 Cadastre & Land Management

June 22, 2005

Madison Wisconsin



Donald Buhler
Chief Cadastral Survey
Bureau of Land Management



BACKGROUND

∅ Public Domain – 1776

∅ Western Reserves

∅ Need for Security

∅ Show of Unity

∅ Need for Revenue

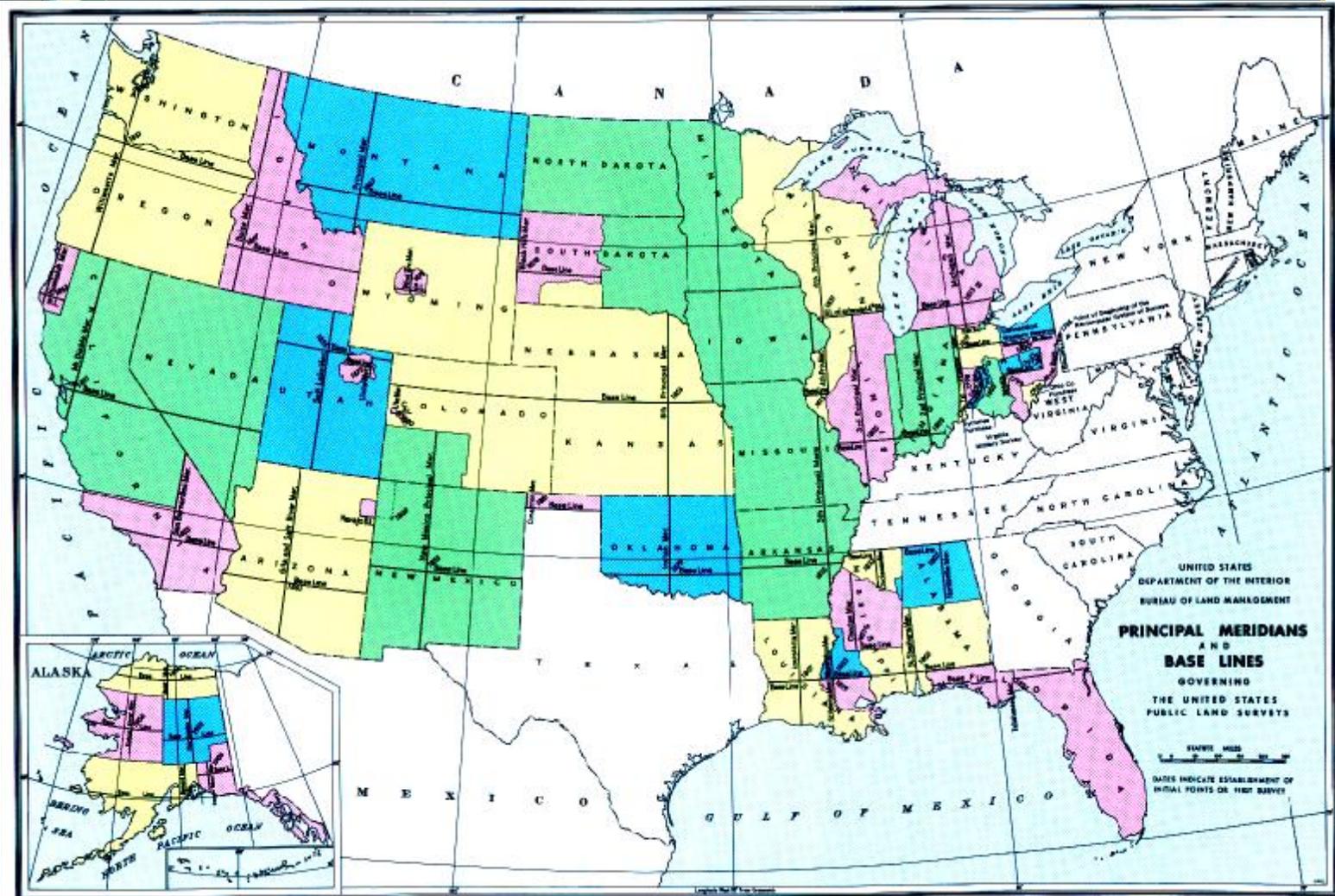
∅ Promote Settlements





PUBLIC LAND SURVEY SYSTEM

- Ø Hotly debated by Thirteen Colonies
- Ø Designed by Thomas Jefferson with major input from other States
- Ø Land Ordinance of 1785
- Ø Three Principals
 - Ø Survey before settlement
 - Ø Follow the design
 - Ø Standard Unit

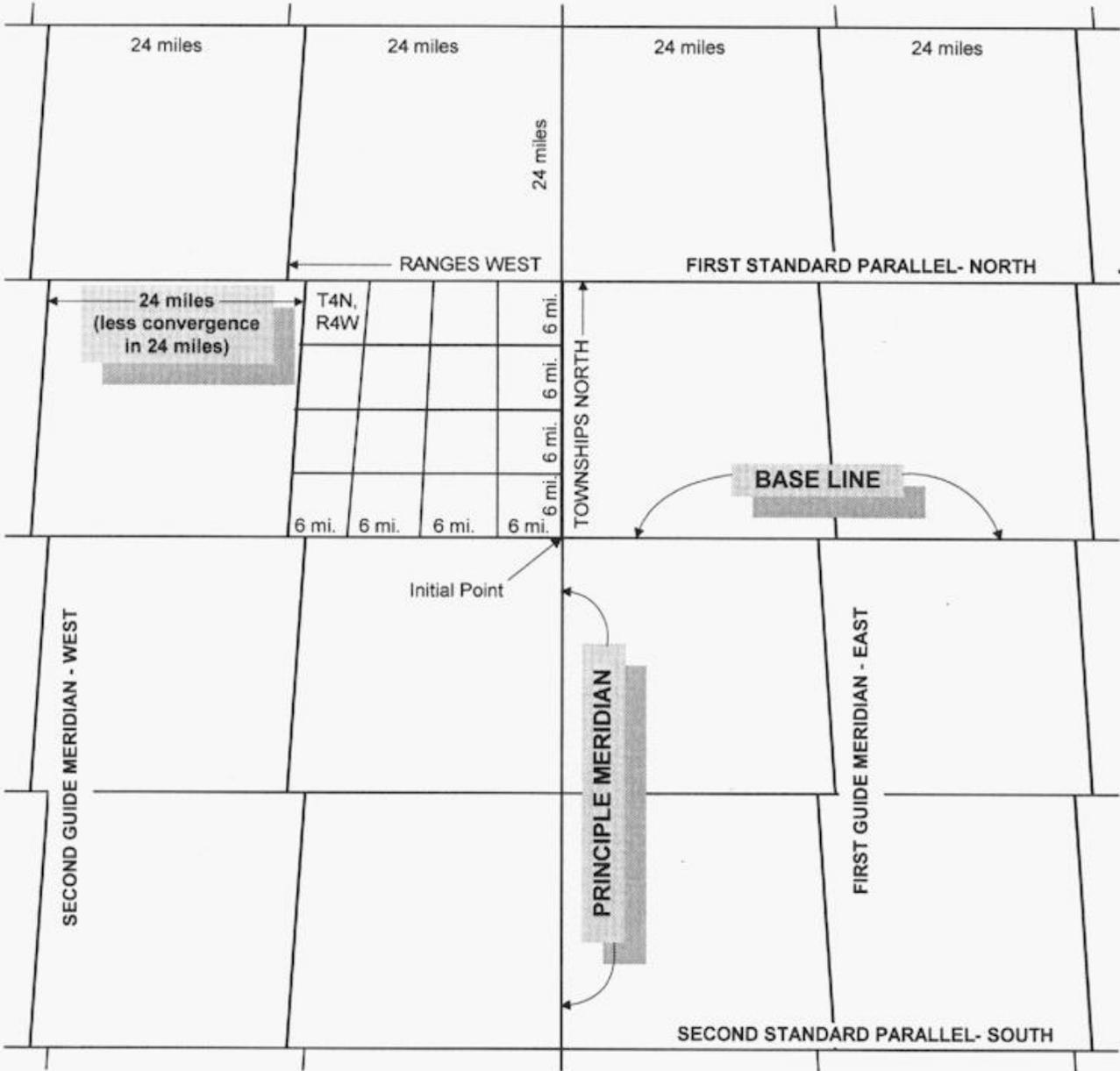


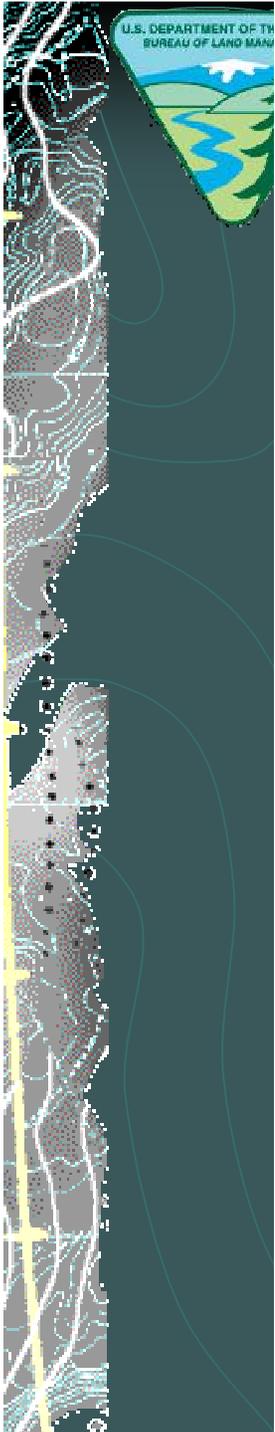
INTERIOR—GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, RESTON, VIRGINIA—1988



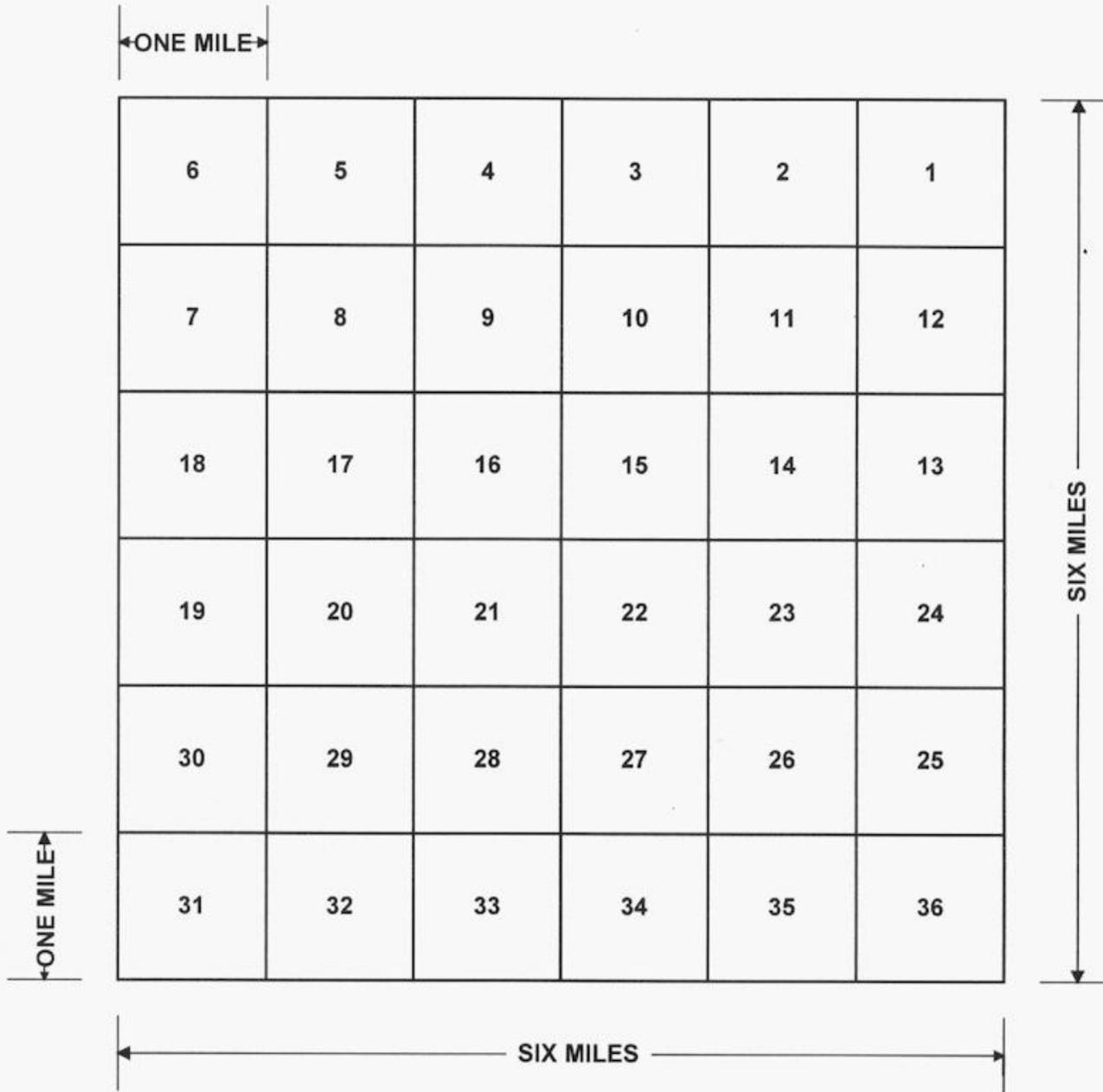
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

UNITED STATES RECTANGULAR SURVEY SYSTEM





TOWNSHIP DIVIDED INTO SECTIONS





SECTION DETAIL

6	5	4	3	2	1
7	8	9	10	11	12
18	17	16	15	14	13
19	20	21	22	23	24
30	29	28	27	26	25
31	32	33	34	35	36

TOWNSHIP 1 NORTH, RANGE 1 WEST,
GILA & SALT RIVER BASELINE & MERIDIAN



2.5 Acres 330 ft. E 330 ft.	660 ft.	1,320 ft.	2,640 ft.
5 Acres	10 Acres	20 Acres	160 Acres NE 1/4 of Section 36, T1N, R1W, G&SRB&M
SW 1/4, NW 1/4 of Section 36, T1N, R1W, G&SRB&M	SE 1/4, NW 1/4 of Section 36, T1N, R1W, G&SRB&M	S 1/2, NE 1/4, NW 1/4 of Section 36, G&SRB&M	
40 Acres SW 1/4, NW 1/4 of Section 36, T1N, R1W, G&SRB&M	40 Acres SE 1/4, NW 1/4 of Section 36, T1N, R1W, G&SRB&M	36 5,280 ft. (one mile)	
SW 1/4 of Section 36, T1N, R1W, G&SRB&M			

2,640 ft.
5,280 ft. (one mile)





LAND POLICIES

- Ø Land Ordinance of 1785 & 1787
- Ø General Land Office 1812
- Ø Homestead Act 1862
- Ø Railroad land grants 1862 – 1871
- Ø Yellowstone National Park and General Mining Law 1872
- Ø Opening of Indian lands 1887
- Ø Forest Reserve Law of 1891
- Ø National Park Service 1916



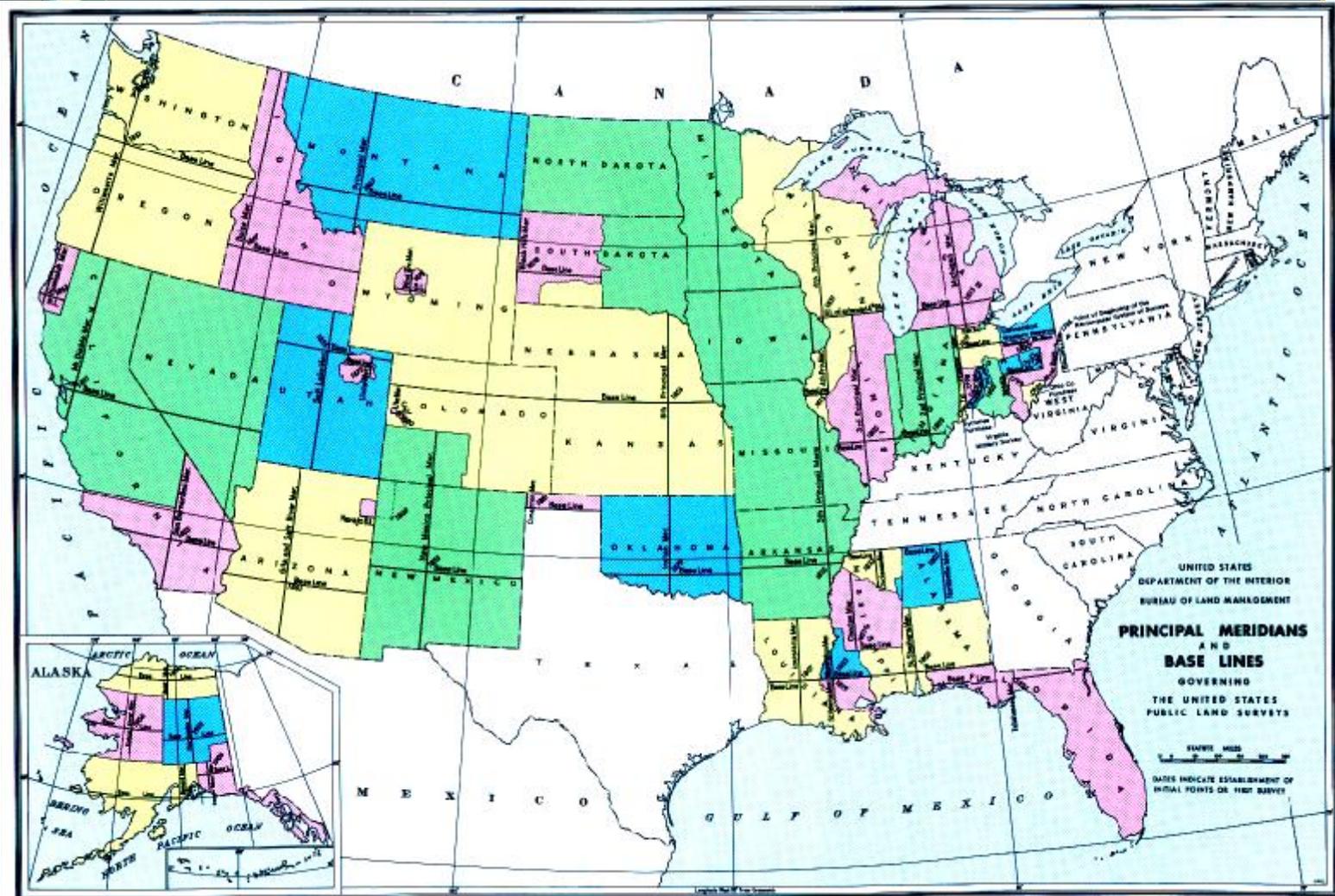
LAND POLICIES (cont.)

- Ø Taylor Grazing Act of 1934
- Ø Fish and Wildlife Service created, 1940
- Ø Bureau of Land Management created, 1946
- Ø Land and Water Conservation Fund Wilderness Act of 1964
- Ø Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968
- Ø National Environmental Policy Act of 1970
- Ø Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act of 1971
- Ø Endangered Species Act, 1973
- Ø Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA) of 1976

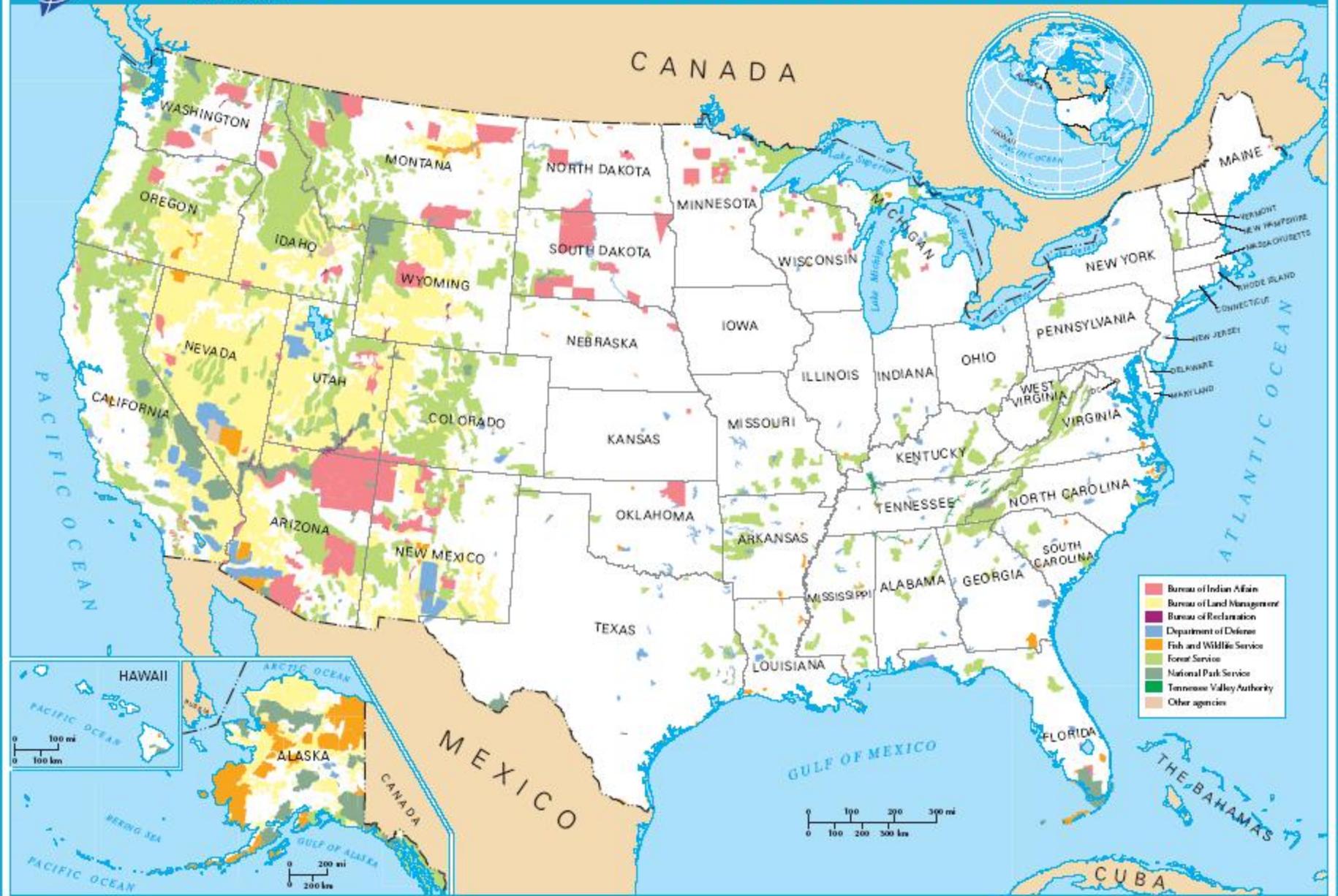


MAJOR FEDERAL LAND AGENCIES

- Ø Bureau of Indian Affairs
- Ø Bureau of Land Management
- Ø Bureau of Reclamation
- Ø Department of Defense
- Ø Fish and Wildlife Service
- Ø U.S. Forest Service
- Ø National Park Service



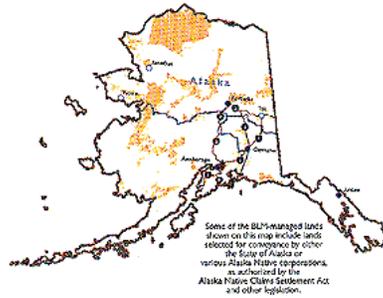
INTERIOR—GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, RESTON, VIRGINIA—1988



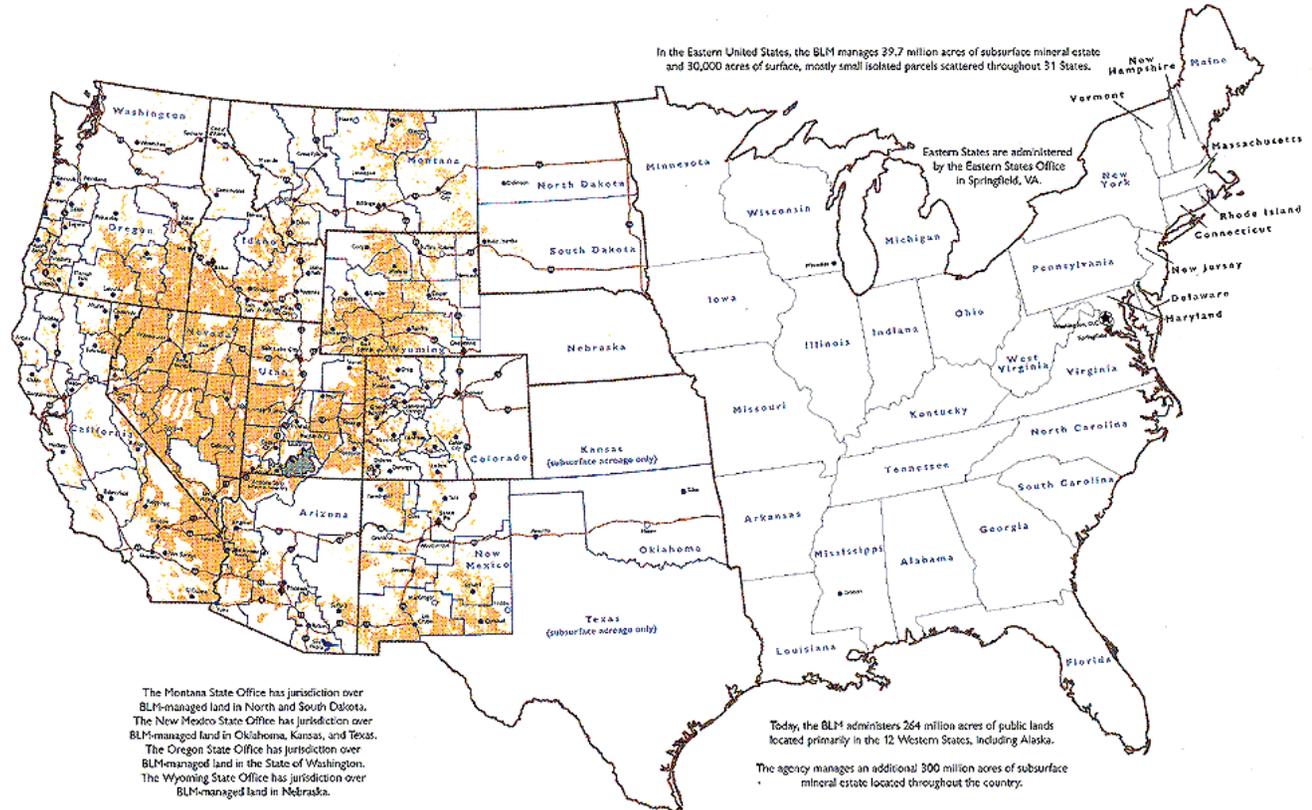
11 x 8.5 in



Public Lands Managed by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM)



- BLM-Managed Lands
- BLM Headquarters
- BLM State Office Locations
- BLM Field Office Locations
- BLM Field Station Locations
- BLM National Training Center
- BLM National Centers
- Yaguiua Head Outstanding Natural Area Interpretive Center
- National Interagency Fire Center
- National Historic Oregon Trail Interpretive Center
- Anasazi Heritage Center
- San Pedro Riparian National Conservation Area Project Office
- BLM State Office Jurisdictions
- BLM Field Office Boundaries
- State Boundaries
- Major Highways
- Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument





FEDERAL LAND MANAGEMENT AGENCIES

<u>Surface Managing Agency (SMA)</u>	<u>Acres (millions)</u>	
BLM	261	
Other Federal SMA		
Forest Service		191
Fish & Wildlife Service*		93
National Park Service*		84
Dept. of Defense/Corps of Eng.		12
Subtotal (Other Federal SMA)		380
Non Federal (State/Private) SMA	58	
TOTAL	699 million acres	



BLM MISSION COMPONENTS

- Ø Resource Protection
- Ø Recreation
- Ø Resource Use
- Ø Serving Communities



12 WESTERN STATES INCLUDING ALASKA.

- Ø Outdoor recreation
- Ø Livestock grazing
- Ø Energy
- Ø Mineral development
- Ø Conserving natural, historical, cultural, and other resources



BLM PRIORITIES FY 07 to 09

Ø ENERGY

- Ø Contribute to Domestic Energy Supply

Ø WATERSHEDS

- Ø Manage Rangelands and Forests to Achieve Healthy and Productive Watersheds

Ø RECREATION

- Ø Improve Dispersed Recreational Opportunities

Ø HERITAGE

- Ø Protect Cultural and Natural Heritage Resources



Stretch the Buying Power of New Appropriations

Ø PARTNERSHIPS

- Ø Working with partners that are willing to donate funding or labor to projects that benefit BLM lands

Ø COST RECOVERY

- Ø Recovering costs to the BLM of its use authorization reviews
 - Reimbursable accounts

Ø WORKFORCE MANAGEMENT

- Ø Forecasting and managing the workforce to optimize its efficiency



PARTNERHSIPS

Projects That Benefit BLM Lands

- Ø Geographic Coordinate Data Base
 - Ø Demands Increasing
 - Ø Indian Country Needs
 - Ø Western Governors' Association Resolution
- Ø Contributed Services Agreements
 - Ø Proponent pays BLM and provides labor
 - Ø Timely services provided



DEMAND FOR CADASTRAL SURVEY SERVICES

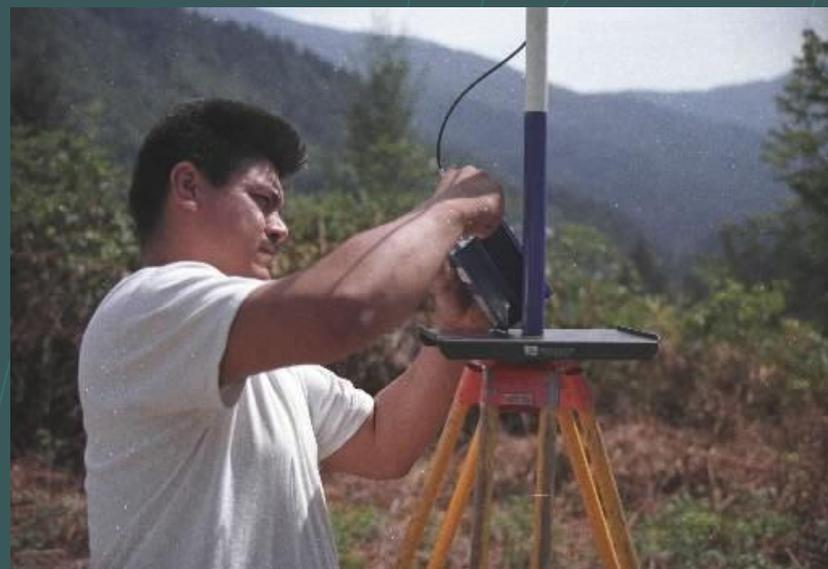
- Ø BLM'S backlog of high priority surveys
 - Ø Inventory by field managers
 - Ø \$93 million with additional yearly needs





DEMAND FOR CADASTRAL SURVEY SERVICES

- Ø Meeting BLM's fiduciary responsibility for Indian trust
 - Ø A long term commitment
 - Ø Over \$63 million high priority for next 3 years (\$110 m in backlog)
 - Ø Additional needs of \$2 M per year
 - Ø Modern land status system base upon surveyed data





HIGH PRIORITY CADASTRAL SURVEY INITIATIVES

- Ø Alaska Conveyance – complete in 2009
 - Ø Increase of to \$ 42 million in FY 05
- Ø Cadastral survey
 - Ø Fiduciary trust model - \$11 million
 - Ø PLSS Maintenance, GCDB, Certified federal surveyor
 - Ø National parcel data base – multipurpose cadastre
 - Ø Linked to the proposed Federal Real Property Bill
 - Ø Leverage existing State and County databases



DEMAND FOR CADASTRAL SURVEY SERVICES

- Ø Geographic Coordinate Data Base
 - Ø Demands Increasing
 - Ø Indian Country Needs
 - Ø Western Governors' Association Resolution
- Ø Base layer for land parcel data



FGDC Cadastral Subcommittee

Subcommittee – Bob Ader, Don Buhler Chairs

Nancy von Meyer - Secretary

Members from:

BLM State Offices, USFS, USFWS, FSA,
Corps of Engineers, NGS, MMS, NACo,
Counties, NSGIC, Private Industry

Western Steering Committee

Bill Ferguson - Coordinator

Regional Agency Offices, Federal
State Reps, States, Counties,
Private Sector, WGA GI Council

Eastern Steering Committee

David Stage - Coordinator

Regional Agency Offices, Federal
State Reps, States, Counties,
Private Sector



CADASTRAL PHILOSOPHY

Ø Standards to Meet Business Needs

- Ø Standards have a basis in applications
- Ø Build profiles of standards to support application
- Ø Tie activities to the needs of our customers
- Ø Partner and participate with customers

Ø These Initiatives Can Actually Happen

- Ø Florida has core data assembled statewide
- Ø Alabama program has 80% of their parcels converted in three years
- Ø Implementation of and compliance with standards (Tribes, Montana, USFW and Park County Colorado and many many others)



Accomplishments

- Ø Our Web Page
(<http://www.nationalcad.org>)
- Ø Completed and Maintaining a State-by-State Survey
- Ø Standard Maintenance, Implementation and Compliance
- Ø State Boundaries Control Project
- Ø Outreach and Partnerships



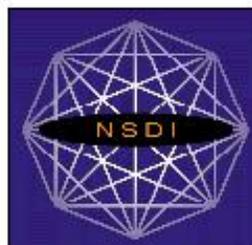
Western Steering Committee © National Subcommittee © Eastern Steering Committee

This is a new site and we'd appreciate your comments.

Click on the ► buttons for more options.

- National Subcommittee
- Eastern Steering Committee
- Western Steering Committee
- Ongoing Projects
- Reports & Documents
- Cadastral Standards
- Land Records Inventory
- Search and Query

FEDERAL GEOGRAPHIC DATA COMMITTEE SUBCOMMITTEE FOR CADASTRAL DATA



These web pages provide information related to the development, standards and implementation of the Cadastral National Spatial Data Infrastructure (NSDI). This site is the home for the Federal Geographic Data Committee (FGDC) Subcommittee for Cadastral Data and serves as a focus for coordinating national cadastral, parcel, and land records efforts. The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is charged with coordinating cadastral information under OMB Circular A-16.

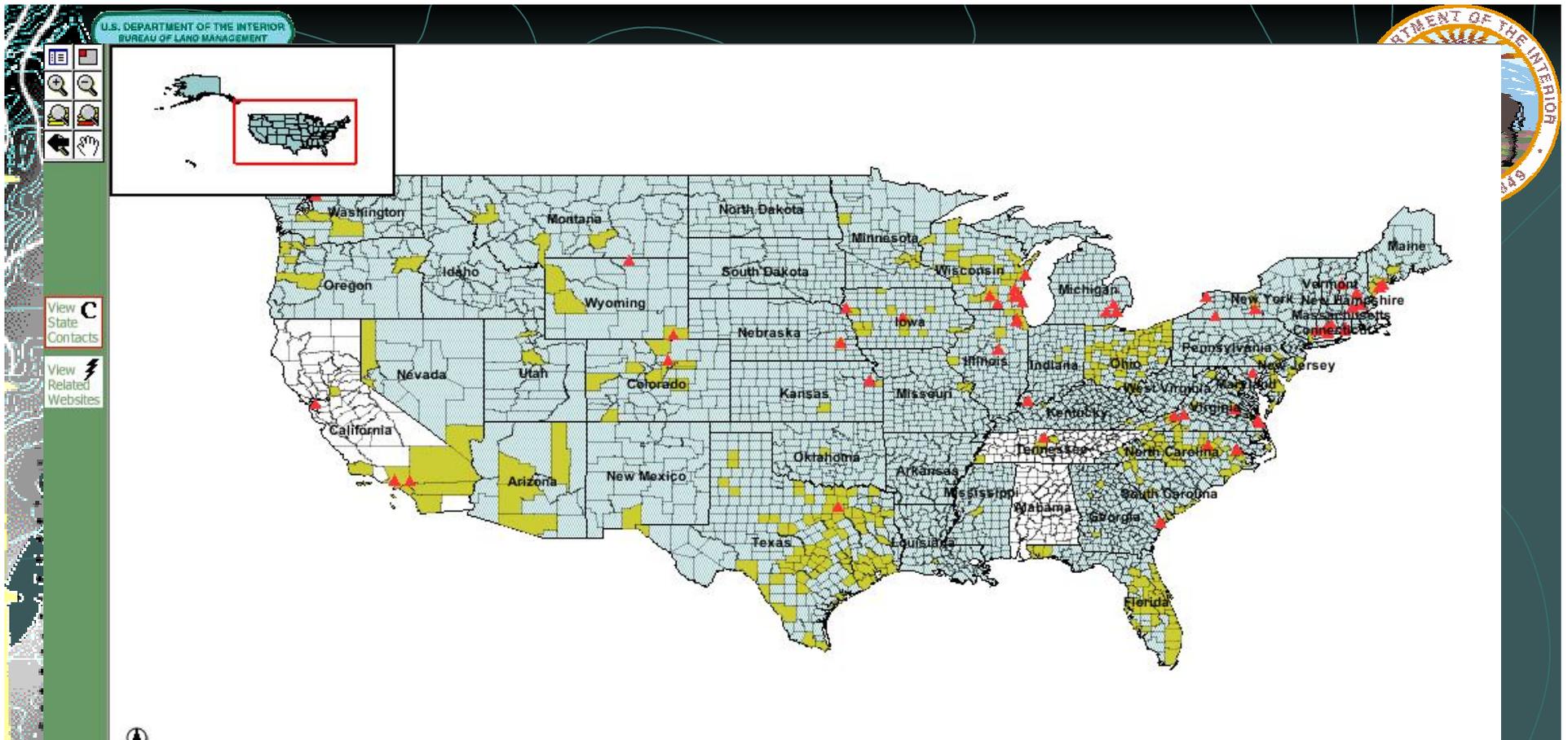
To further the cadastral NSDI, two related web sites for the **Eastern Cadastral Steering Committee** and the **Western Cadastral Steering Committee** are linked to and integrated with this site.

For the latest news and information regarding this subcommittee visit the "news" section under **Reports & Documents**.

If you have any questions or comments on this site **please let us know**. We welcome your input and suggestions and we encourage you to use the information on this site to assist your project.



<http://www.nationalcad.org>

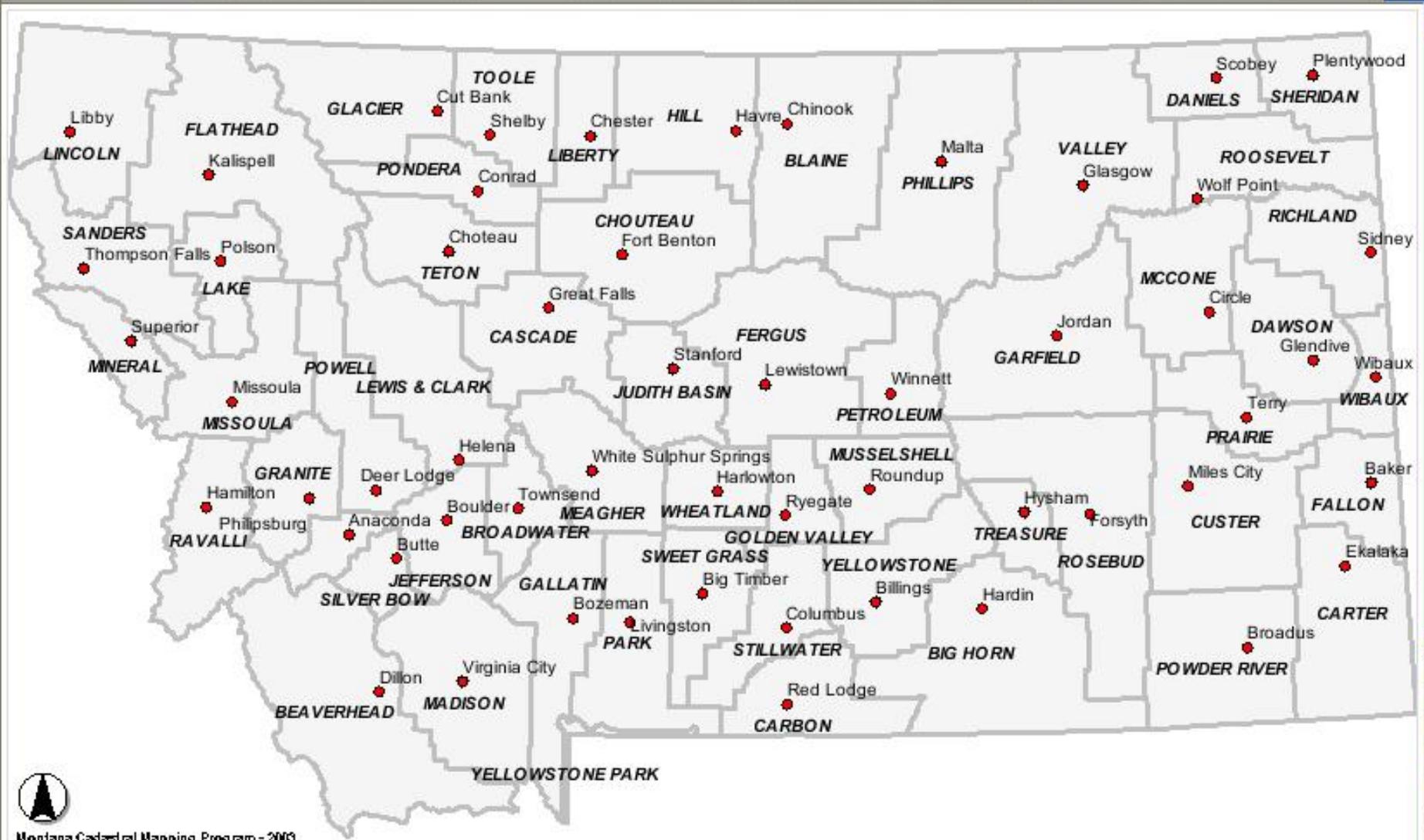


State Survey and Contacts

Contacts for federal agencies by state

State cadastral coordinators

Related web sites for reaching the contacts





Layers **Legend**

Layers

- City
- Highway
- GCDB Township
- 100K Township
- County

Quick Zoom

Zoom To A County

Zoom To City

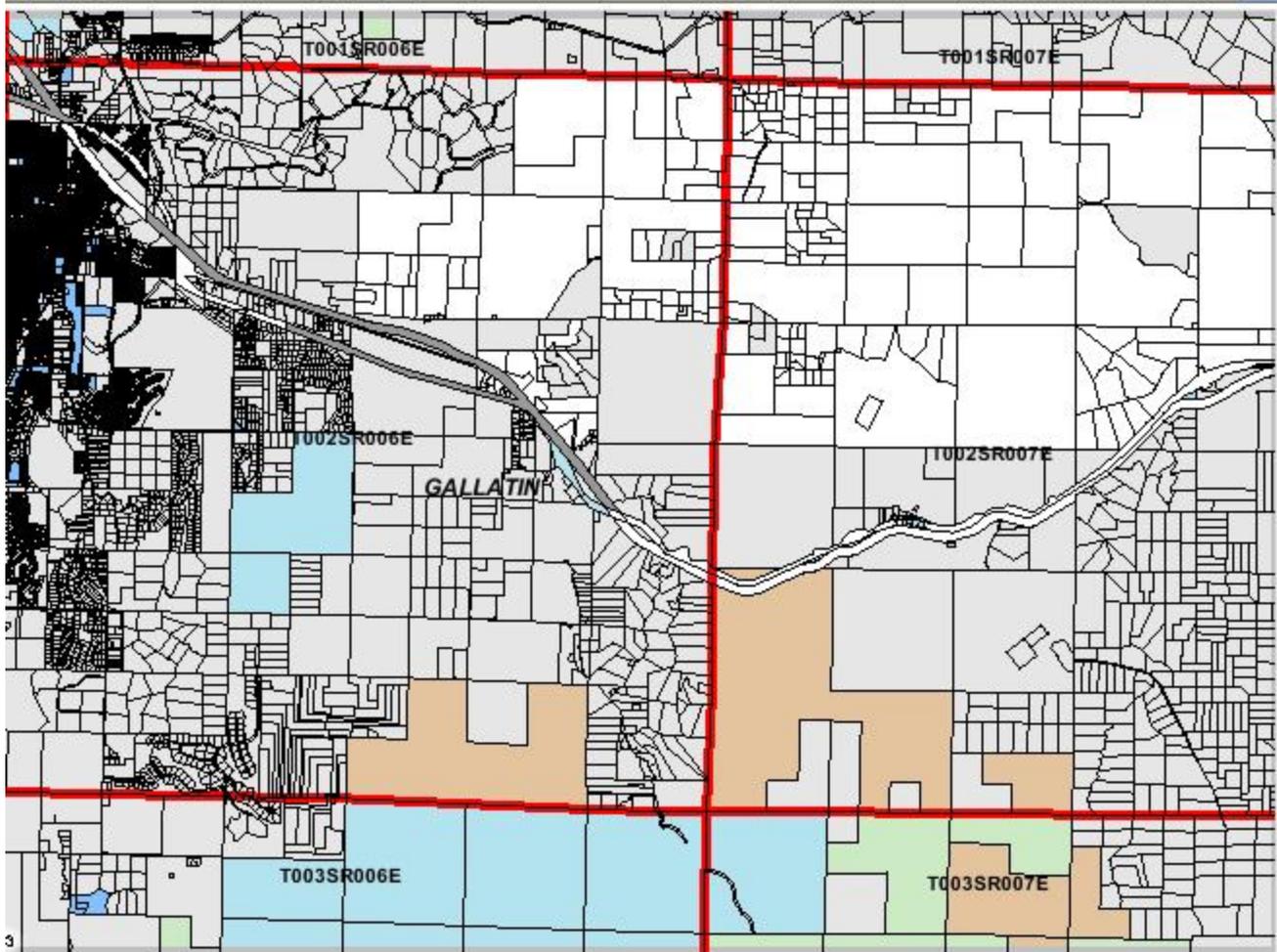
Scale 1:287,801



the official state website

Parcel Search Download Information Help

Back Pan Identify Find Measure Clear Extract Find By Parcel Find By Stream Find By Road



Layers Legend

Legend

- Parcels
- GCDB Township
- County
- Ownership
 - Private
 - Local Government
 - State Government
 - Tribal
 - US Government
 - US Department of Agriculture
 - USDA Forest Service
 - US Department of Defense
 - US Department of Interior
 - USDI Bureau of Indian Affairs
 - USDI Bureau of Land Management
 - USDI Bureau of Reclamation
 - USDI Fish and Wildlife Service
 - USDI National Park

Quick Zoom

Zoom To A County Go

Zoom To City Go

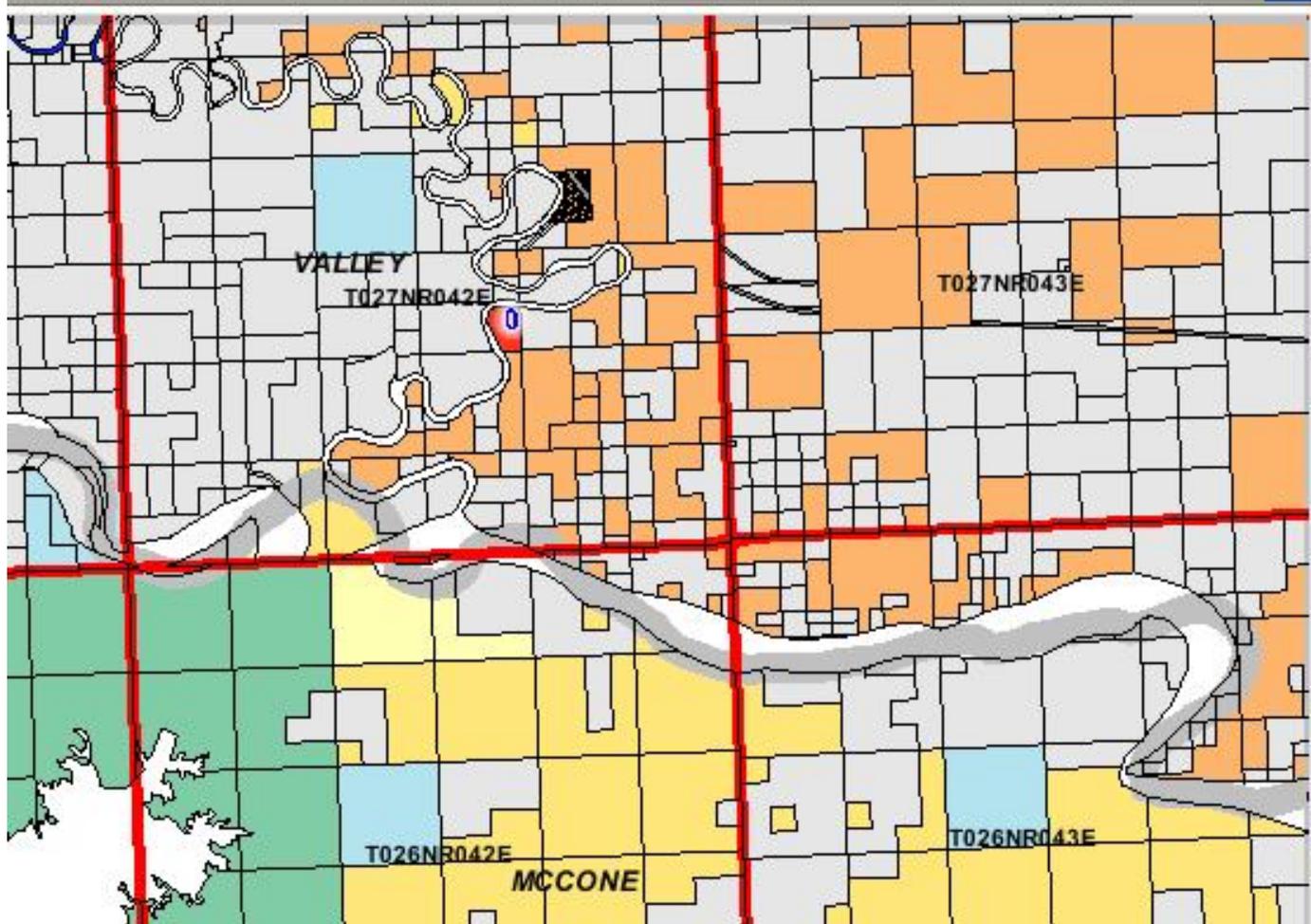
Scale 1:99,099



the official state website

Download Information Help

Home Find Measure Clear Extract Find By Parcel Find By Stream Find By Road



Layers Legend

Legend

- select layer
- Parcels
- GCDB Township
- 100K Township
- County
- Ownership**
- Private
- Local Government
- State Government
- Tribal
- US Government
- US Department of Agriculture
- USDA Forest Service
- US Department of Defense
- US Department of Interior
- USDI Bureau of Indian Affairs
- USDI Bureau of Land Management

Quick Zoom

INTERIOR

- Mesa County Home Page
- S Home Page
- Parcel Search
- Road Map
- Aerial Photos
- Survey Plats & Monument Records
- GPS Survey Monuments (SIMS)
- 2 ft Contours
- Watershed Drainage Basins
- Flood Maps
- Vertical Datum Differences
- Zoning Maps
- USGS Quad Sheets
- Polling Place Precinct Map
- Property Sales
- Land Development Application Map
- School Attendance Boundaries
- Fire Districts
- Water Districts
- Electric Systems

Advanced Menu

ZOOM IN

ZOOM OUT

PAN

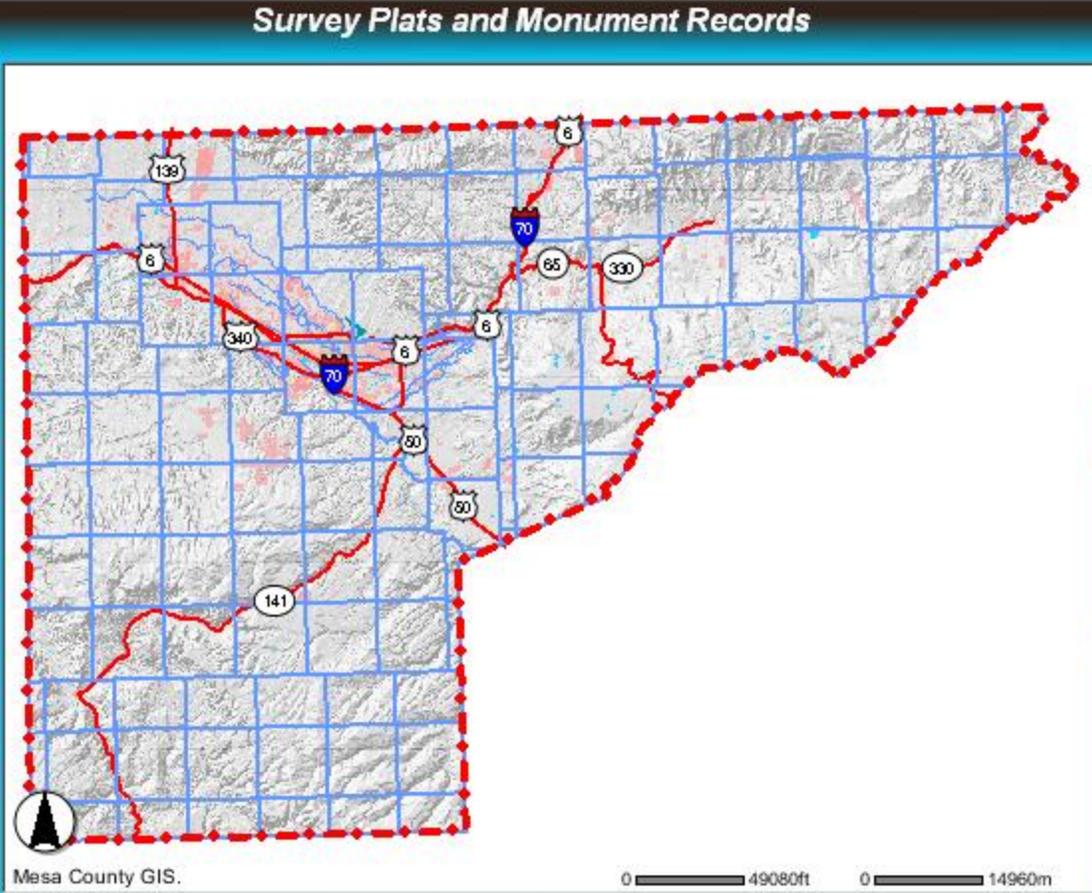
ACCESS SURVEY DOCUMENT

FIND

CLEAR

PRINT

HELP



Deeded ROW is now the Active Layer



LEGEND MAP LAYERS

MAP LAYERS

- All Layers
- Survey Records
 - Subdivisions-Conditional
 - Historic Plats
 - Deposit Surveys
 - GLO Surveys
 - Deeded ROW
 - Petitioned Roads
 - Survey Monument
- Property Information
 - Parcel Lines
- Map Features
- Survey Lines
- Shade Relief
- Aerial Photo

Auto Refresh

Zoom In

Results in this GIS cannot be substituted for actual legal surveys.

- Mesa County Home Page
- S Home Page
- Parcel Search
- Road Map
- Aerial Photos
- Survey Plats & Monument Records
- GPS Survey Monuments (SIMS)
- 2 ft Contours
- Watershed Basins
- Flood Maps
- Vertical Datum Differences
- Zoning Maps
- USGS Quad Sheets
- Polling Place
- Precinct Map
- Property Sales
- Land Development Application Map
- School Attendance Boundaries
- Fire Districts
- Water Districts
- Utility Systems

Advanced Menu

ZOOM IN

ZOOM OUT

PAN

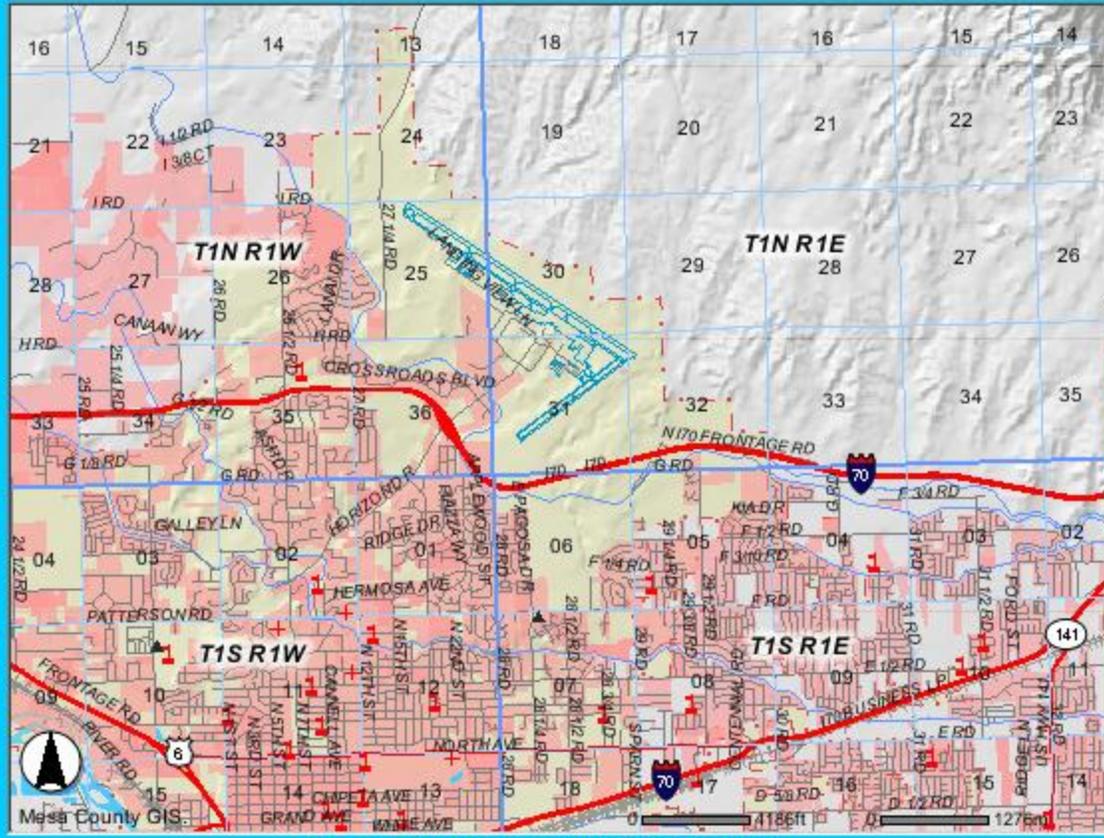
ACCESS SURVEY DOCUMENT

FIND

CLEAR

PRINT

HELP



Deeded ROW is now the Active Layer



LEGEND MAP LAYERS

MAP LAYERS

- All Layers
- Survey Records
 - Subdivisions-Conditional
 - Historic Plats
 - Deposit Surveys
 - GLO Surveys
 - Deeded ROW
 - Petitioned Roads
 - Survey Monument
- Property Information
 - Parcel Lines
- Map Features
 - Survey Lines
 - Shade Relief
 - Aerial Photo

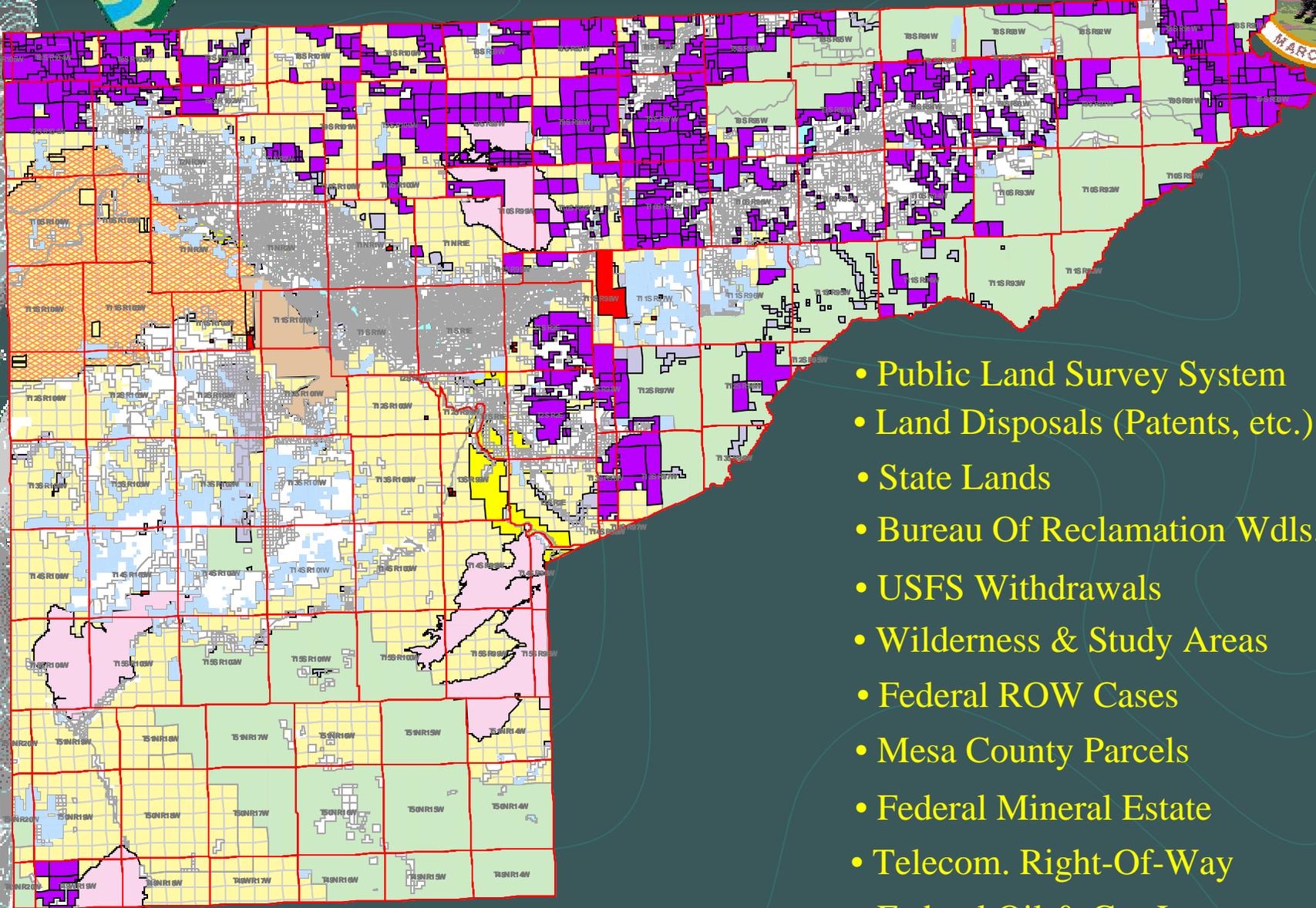
Refresh Map

Auto Refresh

Zoom In

County Clerk and Records office or the courts. In addition, the representations of locations in this GIS cannot be substituted for actual legal sur

Federal Land Records, Review Mesa County, Colorado



- Public Land Survey System
- Land Disposals (Patents, etc.)
- State Lands
- Bureau Of Reclamation Wdls.
- USFS Withdrawals
- Wilderness & Study Areas
- Federal ROW Cases
- Mesa County Parcels
- Federal Mineral Estate
- Telecom. Right-Of-Way
- Federal Oil & Gas Leases



COST RECOVERY

Ø Indian Surveys

- Ø Full costs are reimbursed \$ 10 M
- Ø Can supports BLM initiatives
- Ø Secretary's Fiduciary Trust Responsibility
- Ø Maintains BLM survey expertise

Ø Forest Service and other Agencies

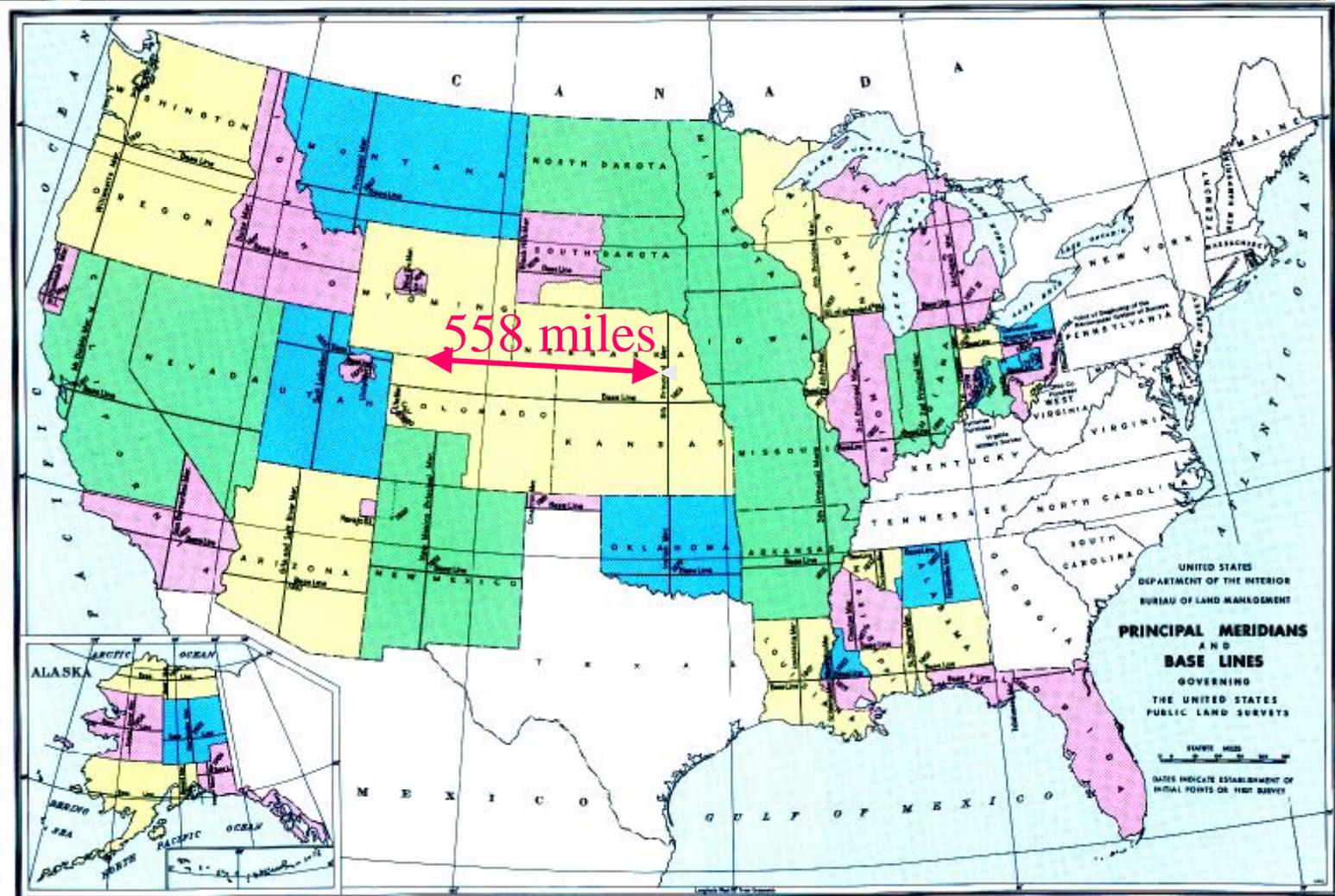
- Ø Can support BLM initiatives
- Ø Maintains BLM survey expertise



WORKFORCE MANAGEMENT

- Prioritizing Cadastral Services to BLM's four major themes
- Matching Cadastral Services to BIA, Forest Service and other Agencies
- Program Assessment Rating Tool
 - Ø Perform highest priority surveys
 - Ø Complete surveys promptly





INTERIOR—GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, RESTON, VIRGINIA—1988

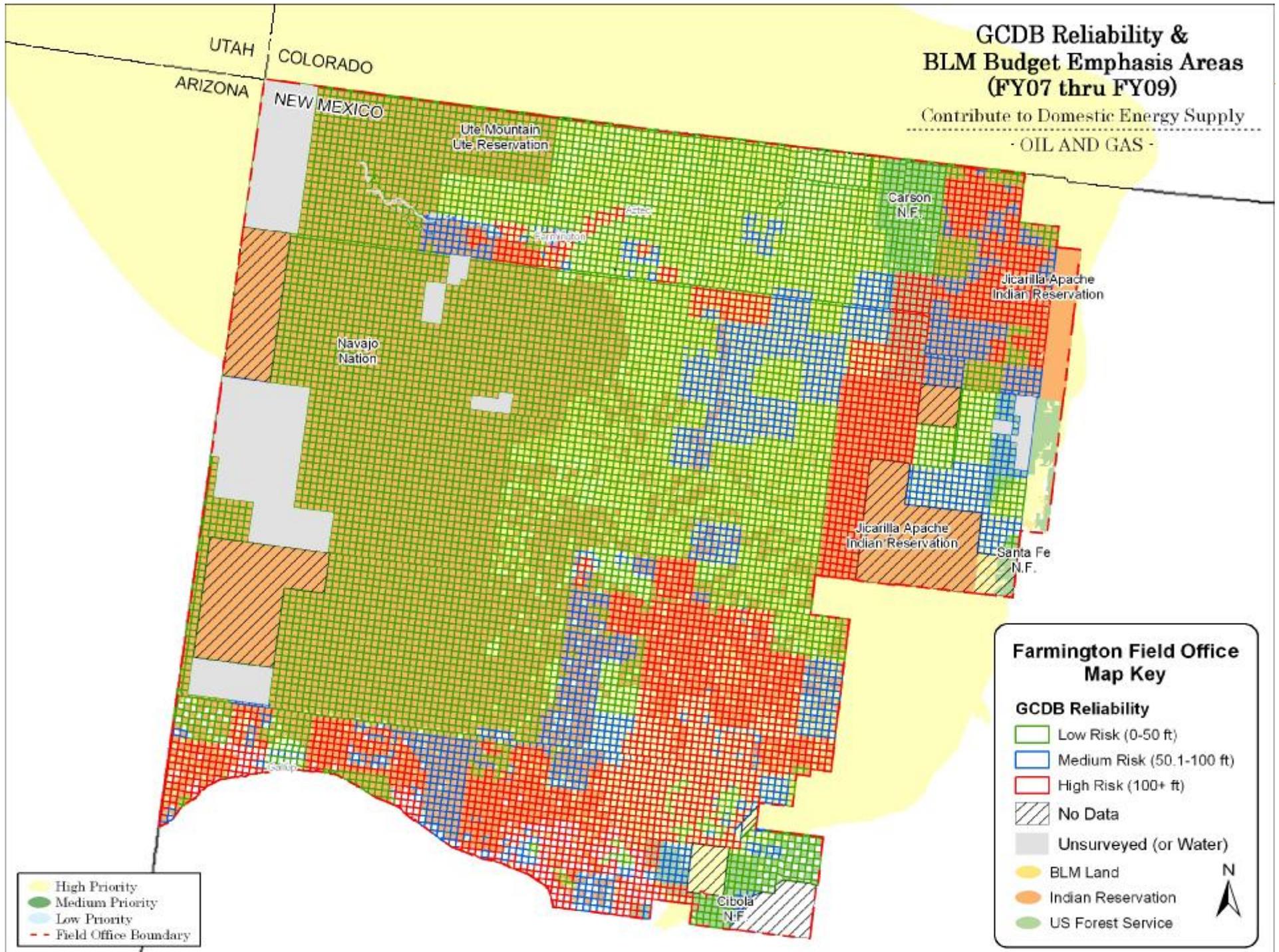




GCDB Reliability & BLM Budget Emphasis Areas (FY07 thru FY09)

Contribute to Domestic Energy Supply

- OIL AND GAS -



High Priority
 Medium Priority
 Low Priority
 Field Office Boundary

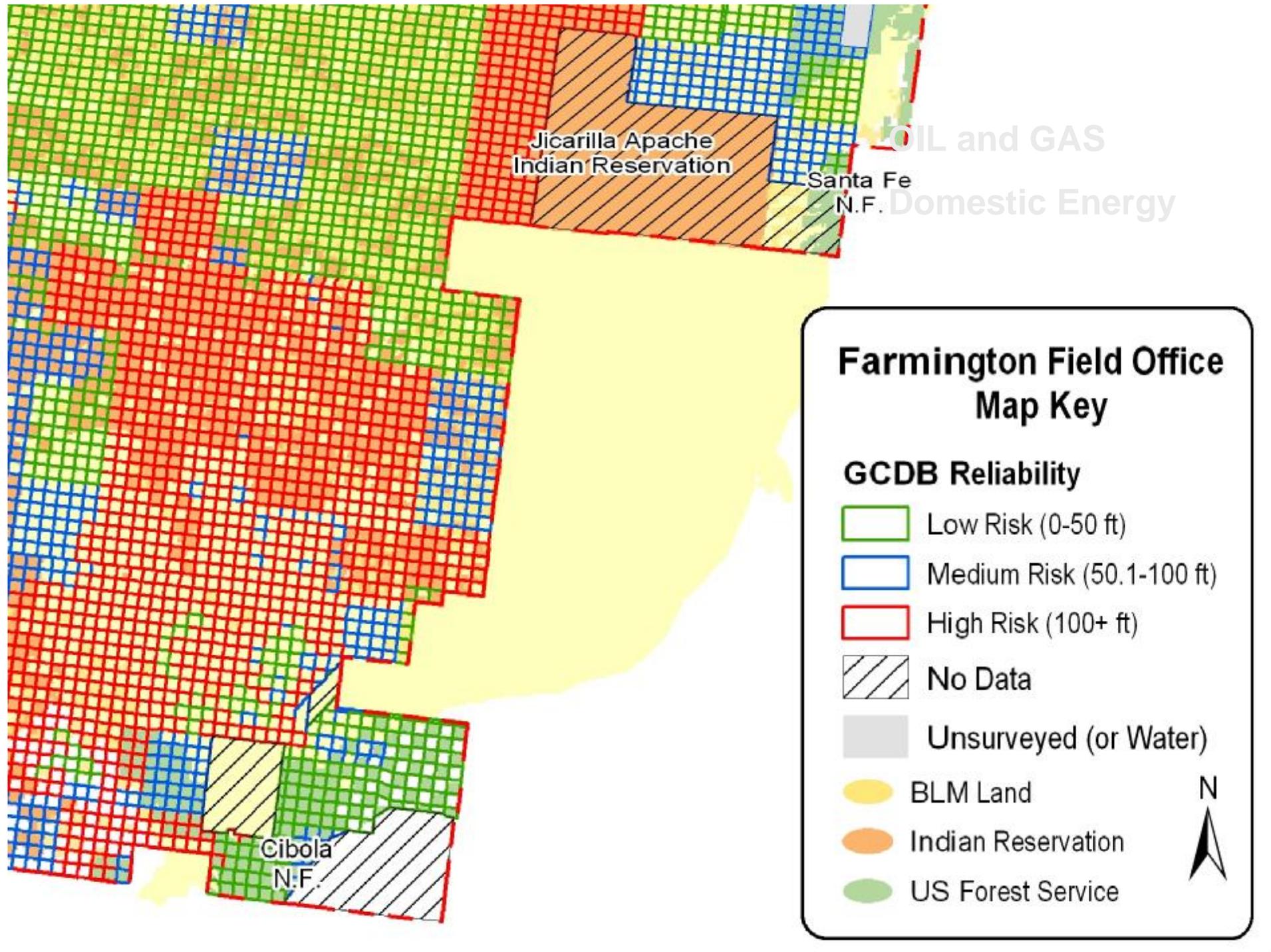
Farmington Field Office Map Key

GCDB Reliability

- Low Risk (0-50 ft)
- Medium Risk (50.1-100 ft)
- High Risk (100+ ft)
- No Data
- Unsurveyed (or Water)

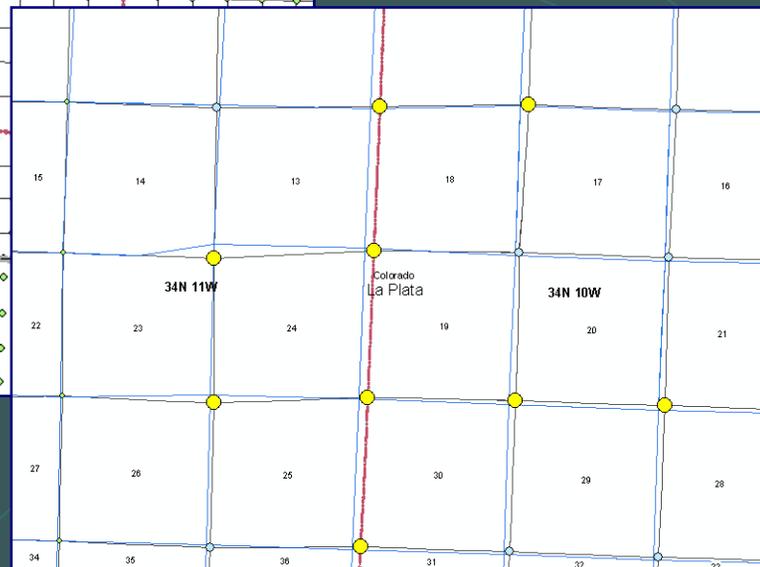
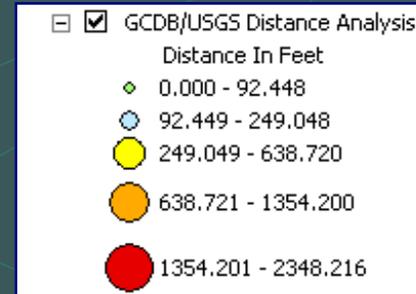
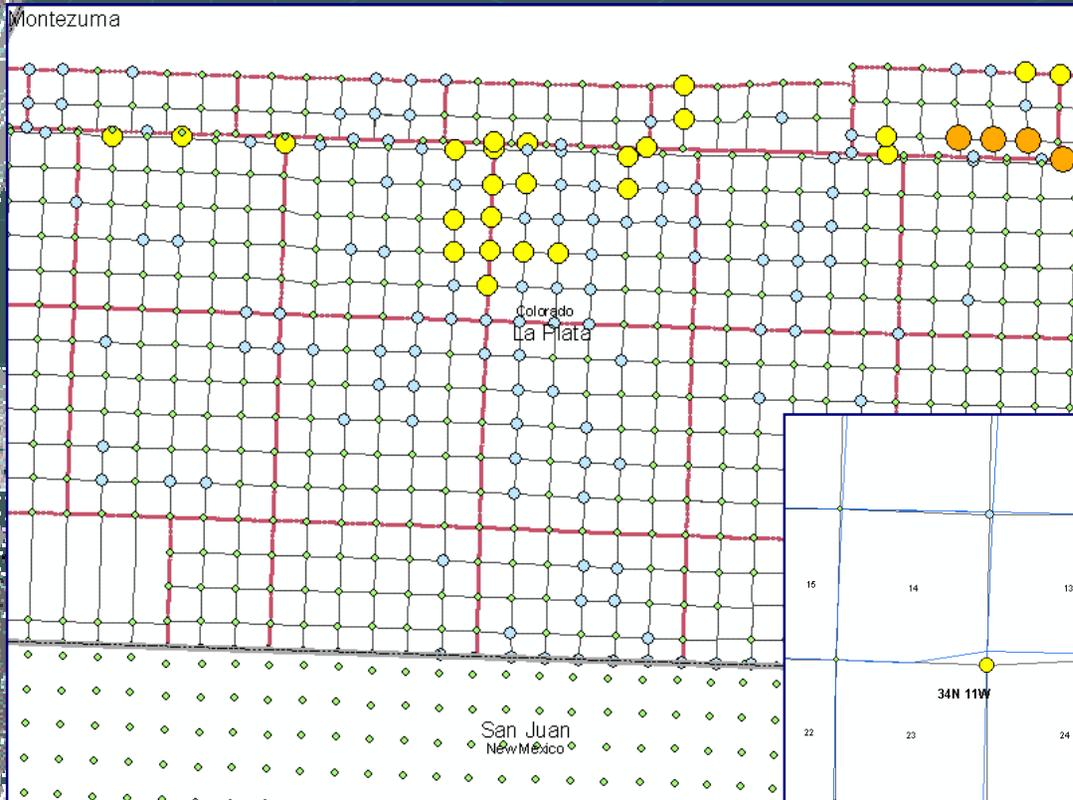
BLM Land
 Indian Reservation
 US Forest Service

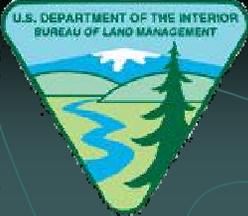
N



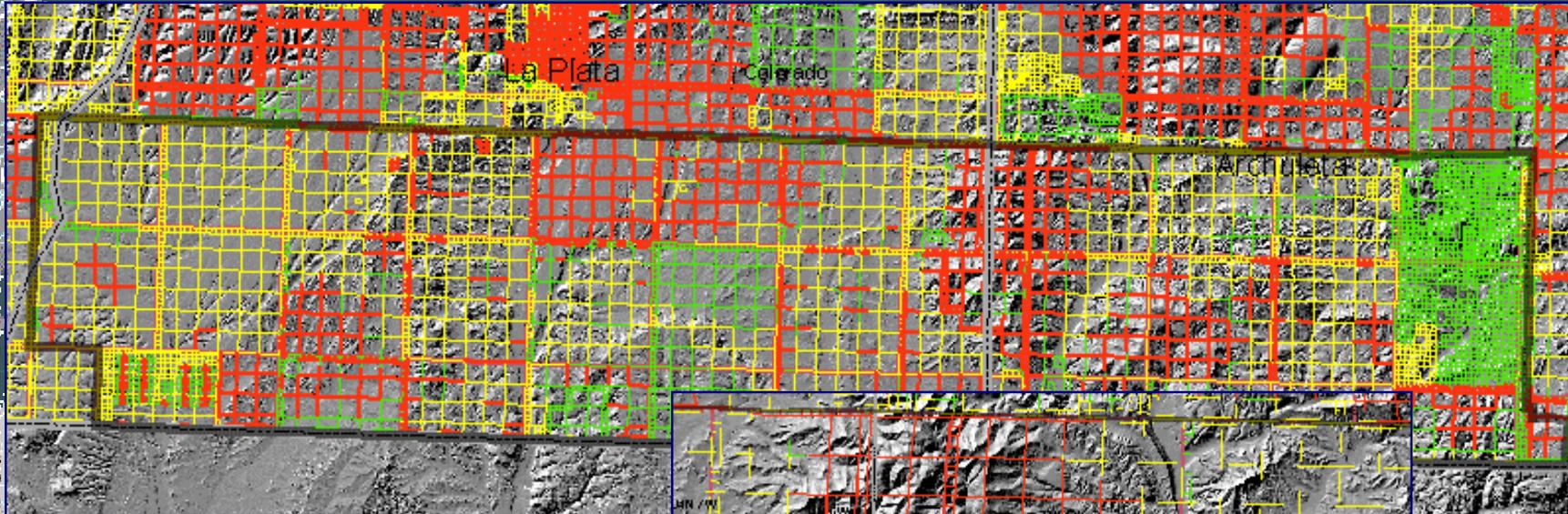


Review Public Land Survey Corner Positions

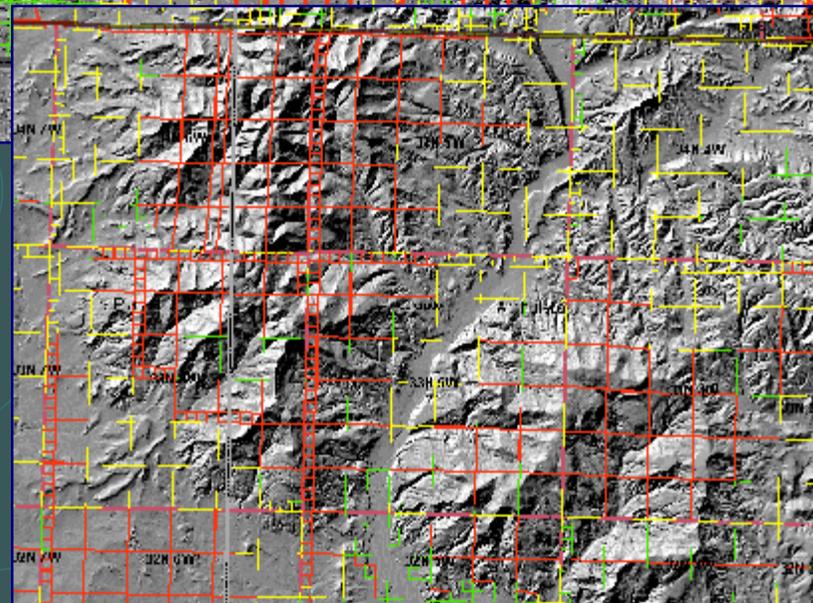




Review Reliability Diagrams



The GCDB reliability data was generated by evaluating each line segment endpoints and assigning the highest coordinate reliability value to that line.



- GCDB Reliability Values
- Category
- 100 + ft.
- 21 -100 ft.
- less than 21 ft.

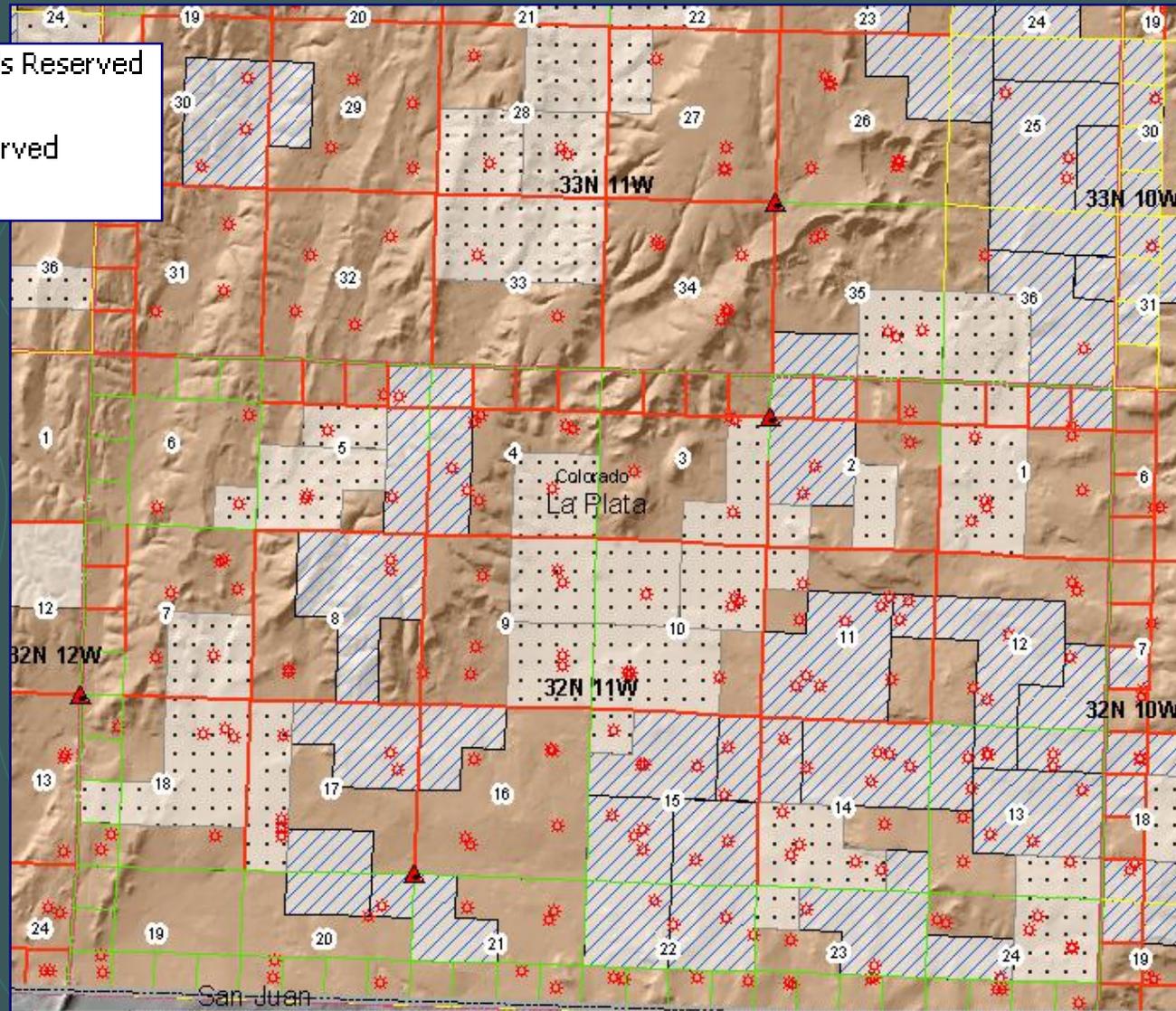


Reliability Analysis Cont...

All Minerals Reserved



Coal Reserved





INDIAN ISSUES

FIDUCIARY TRUST MODEL





Three Affiliated Tribes of Fort Berthold Cadastral Geographic Information System Pilot Project





Project Background

- Ø The Three Affiliated Tribes was one of four Cadastral GIS pilot projects selected in FY 04
- Ø Project is entered into by:
 - Ø Bureau of Indian Affairs
 - Ø Three Affiliated Tribes
 - Ø Office of the Special Trustee
 - Ø Bureau of Land Management
 - Ø Project is funded by OST for \$200,000



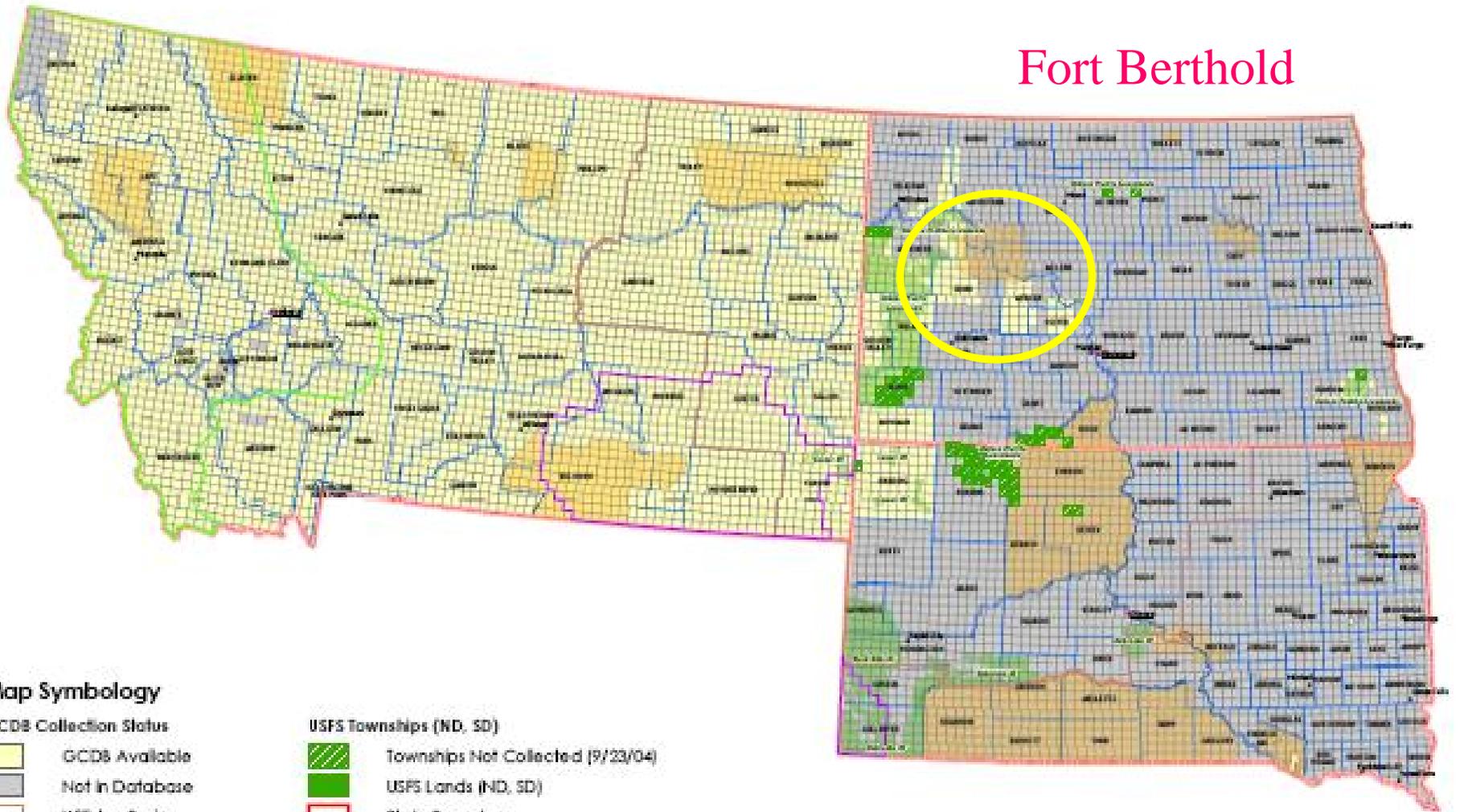
Three Affiliated Tribes of Fort Berthold Historic Land Profile

- Ø Fort Berthold reservation is home to three Tribes: the Mandan, Hidatsa, and Arikara
- Ø The original reservation was established by the Fort Laramie Treaty of 1851
- Ø Executive Order of 1870 reduced the reservation size to the external boundaries now recognized
- Ø 1947 Legislation provided for taking reservation lands for the Garrison Reservoir

GCDB Collection Status - Montana and The Dakotas

11/23/2004

Fort Berthold



Map Symbology

GCDB Collection Status

- GCDB Available
- Not in Database
- Williston Basin
- Montana Thrust Belt Basin
- Powder River Basin
- Indian Reservation Boundaries

USFS Townships (ND, SD)

- Townships Not Collected (9/23/04)
- USFS Lands (ND, SD)
- State Boundary
- County Boundary
- State Capitals
- Cities (pop. 10,000+)

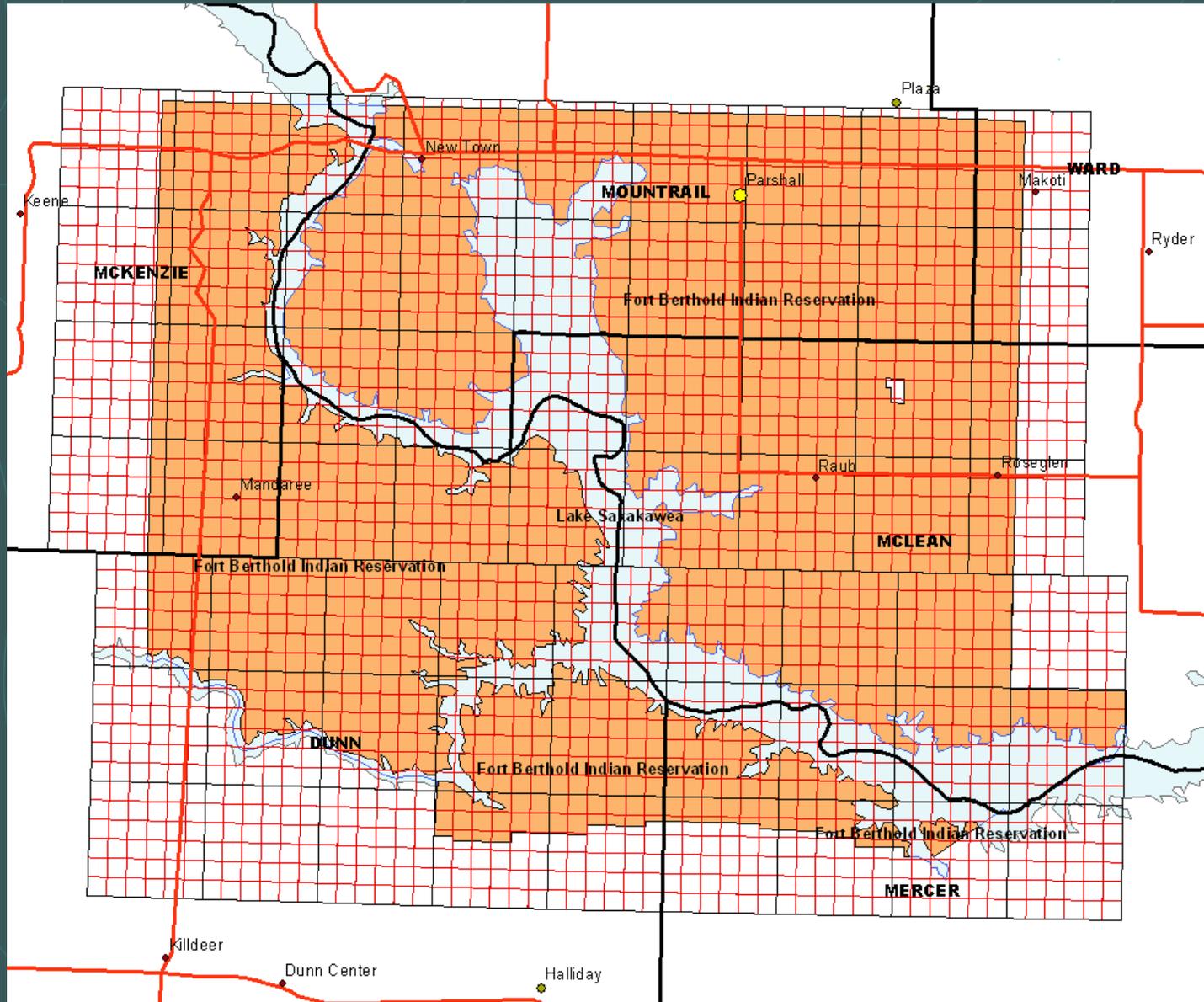


Premier State Land, Inc.
 8000 E. Valley Highway, Suite 201
 Englewood, CO 80150
 Phone: 303-771-0044
 Fax: 303-771-0048
 Toll Free: 1-800-250-7493
 Email: info@premierstate.com
 Website: www.premierstate.com or www.pstate.com





Fort Berthold Reservation





LAND STATUS PROFILE

- Ø Total Area: 988,000 acres
- Ø Tribally Owned: 79,233 acres
- Ø Allotted Owned: 378,604 acres
- Ø Tribal/Allotted Owned: 457,837 acres
- Ø Government Owned: 3,280 acres
- Ø Non-Indian Owned: 526,883 acres
- Ø Reservoir Taken area: 155,000 acres



COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENTAL PROFILE

- Ø Population of enrolled members: 8,400
- Ø Reservation Population: 3,776
- Ø Land Use Economy:
 - Ø Agriculture 78,150 acres
 - Ø Grazing 377,134 acres
 - Ø Forestry 3,477 acres
 - Ø Other 2,356 acres



PROJECT GOALS

- Ø Develop a Cadastral GIS to integrate survey information, land titles information and resource information for management of Tribal Assets
- Ø Promote management of Tribal Assets through self determination
- Ø Implement GIS technologies in support of BLM and BIA to fulfill Trust Responsibilities under the Fiduciary Trust Model



PROJECT OBJECTIVES

- Ø Initial computation and collection of GCDB PLSS to the aliquot part, government lot level from GLO records for the entire reservation.
- Ø Integrate GCDB data with land status information from the Bureau of Indian Affairs
- Ø Develop a Tribal GIS Business Plan: Conduct a Needs Assessment for GIS and GCDB integration
- Ø Collection of agreed upon land use authorizations data needed to meet Tribal and BIA business requirements, as much as is practicable in the time allowed for two priority townships.

Township N^o 148 North Range N^o 91 West of the 5th Principal Meridian



Area of Public land 20,598 ⁷²/₁₀₀ Acres. Area of Water surface 2,007 ⁹²/₁₀₀ Acres. Total number of Acs. 22,605 ⁶⁴/₁₀₀

Survey Designed	By Whom Surveyed	Date of Comm.	Amount of Survey M ² (S ² D.)	When Surveyed	When Made Public
Township lines	George H. Dike	July 6, 1892	25 01 45	Sept 27, 1892	4, 1893
Subdivisions	-	-	36 10 71	Nov 5-16, 1892	10-21, 40
Meander lines	-	-	15 22 58	-	-
Cornering	-	-	0 26 70	-	-

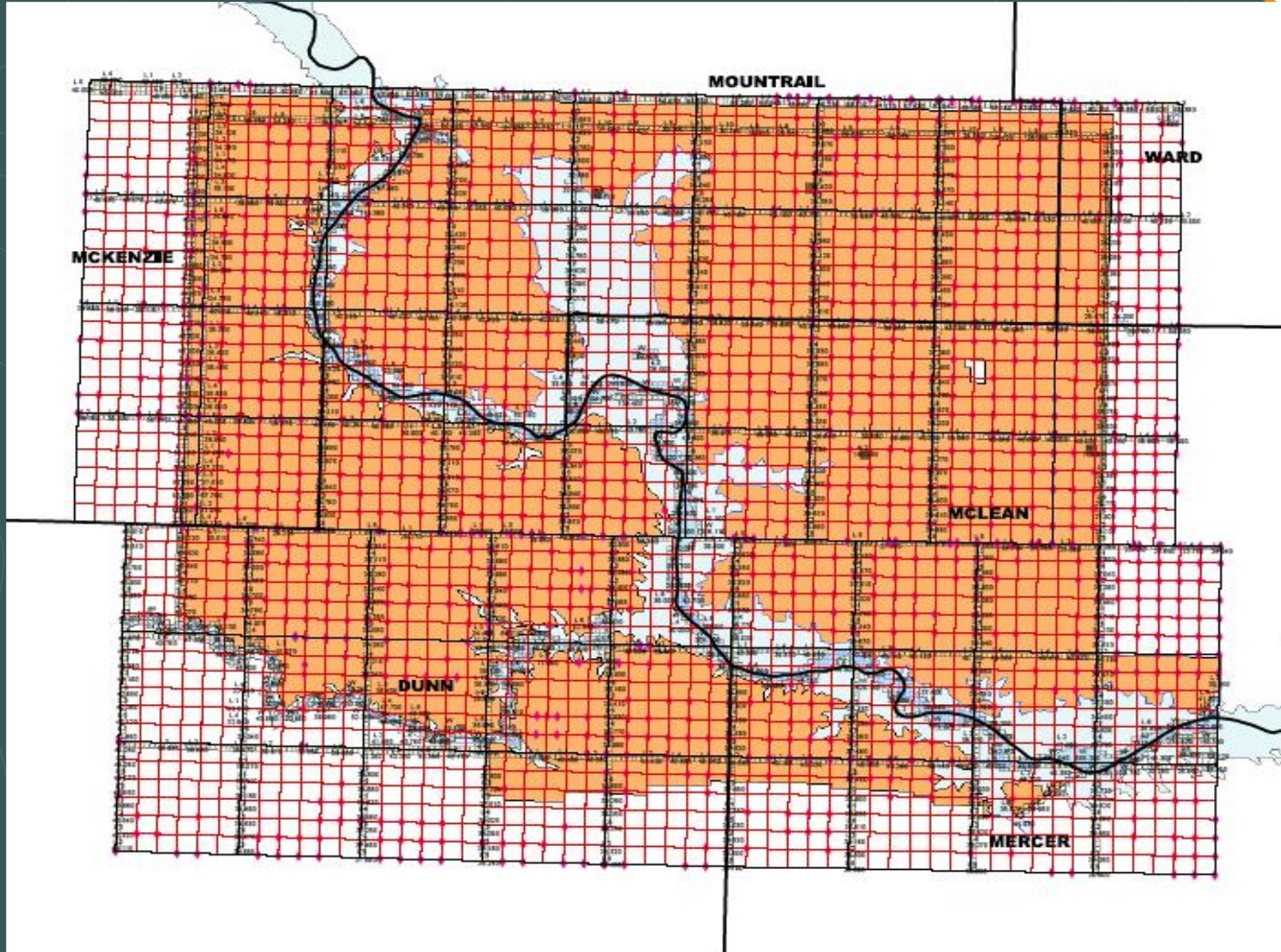
The above Map of Township N^o 148 North of Range N^o 91 West of the 5th Principal Meridian, as per the Deed notes, is hereby confirmed to the field notes of the survey thereof on file in this office, which have been examined and approved.

Surveyor General's Office }
 Witness my hand and the Seal of the Department of the Interior }
 at Washington, D.C., this 11th day of August, 1893 }
 E. A. Mendenhall }
 Surveyor General }
 U.S. Geol. Surv. }
 U.S. Geol. Surv. }

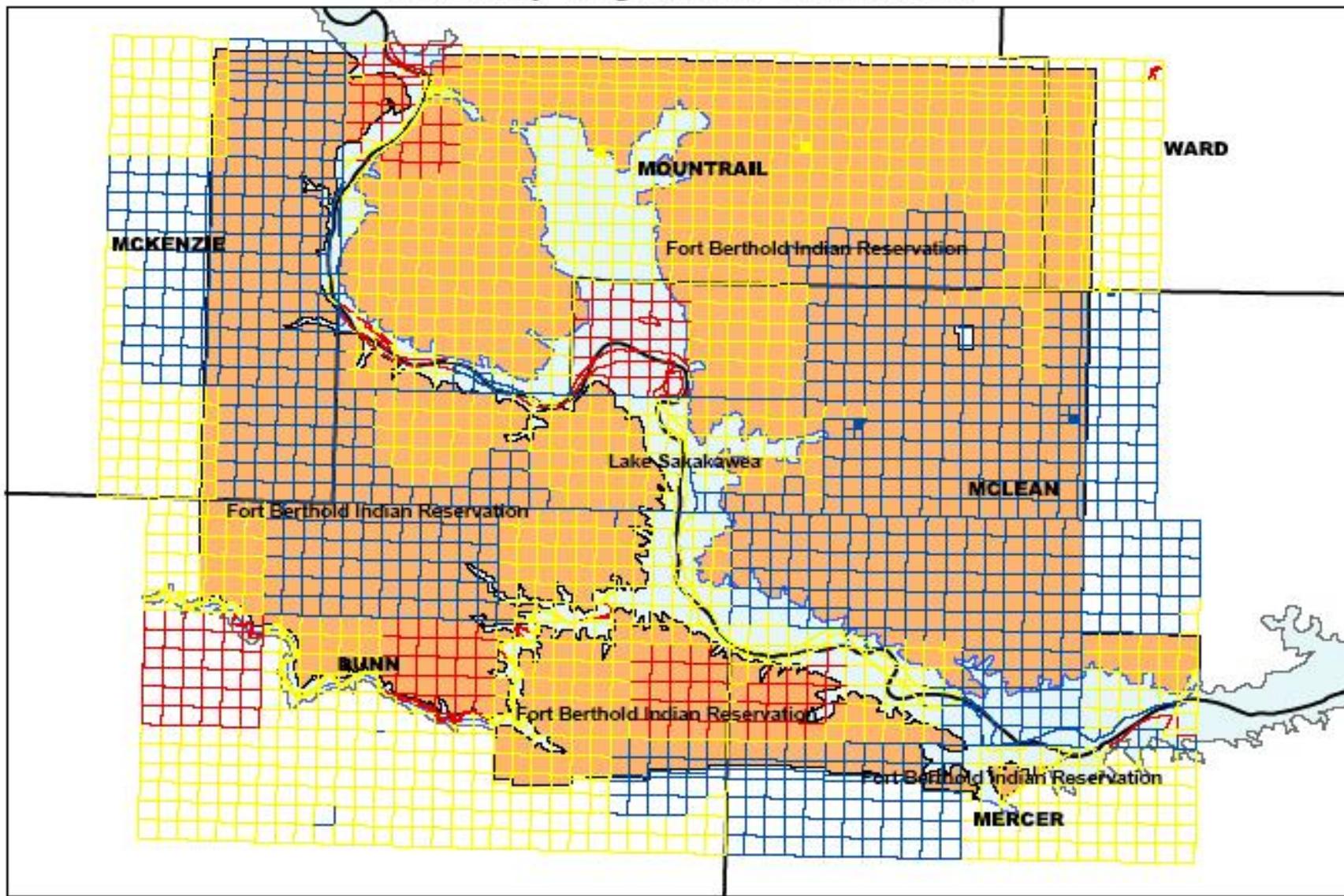
Original Survey
in 1892



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

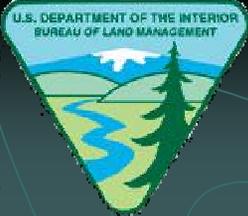


Reliability diagram of Fort Berthold

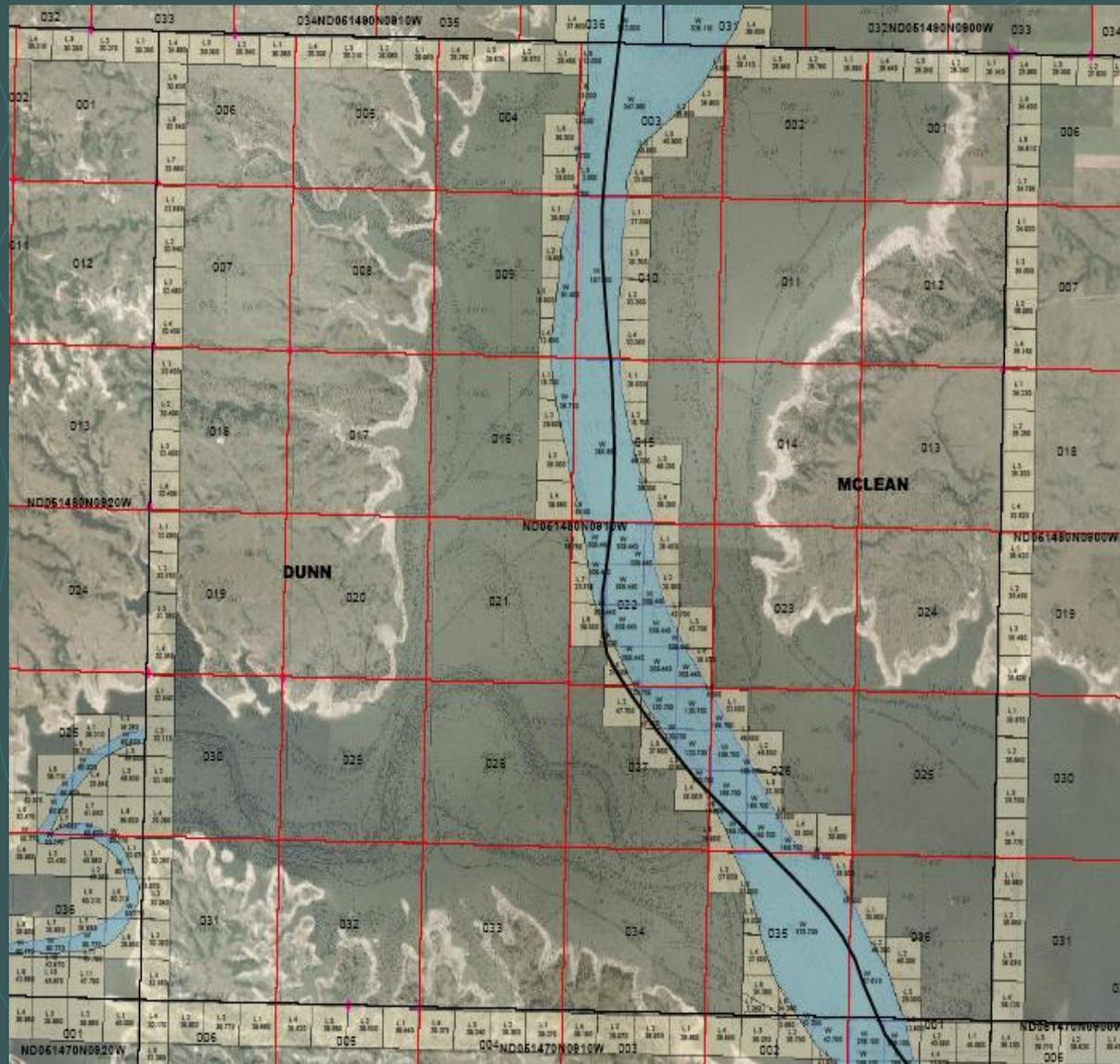


Reliability by surveyed lines

- Good - 0 to 20 ft
- Ok - 20 ft to 60 ft
- Bad - over 60 ft



T. 148 N., R. 91 W GCDB combined with survey plat and aerial photo





Needs Assessment and Requirements Analysis



Ø Major Points

- Ø Business Planning and Development Guide
 - Ø Serves as the blue print and road map for system evolution
 - Ø Valuable For Funding Initiatives & Development Grants
- Ø Evaluation Of Current GIS/LIS Programs
- Ø Assessment OF Business Requirements/Needs
- Ø Review Of Data Assets
 - Ø Inventory Current Spatial Data
 - Ø Evaluate Land Information Systems
 - Ø Land Ownership
 - Ø Land Use Authorizations
 - Ø Leases, Rights Of Way, Permits, etc...
- Ø Define Future Needs
 - Ø Data
 - Ø Software
 - Ø Hardware
 - Ø Training
- Ø Crosswalk Against FCDC/Cadastral Content Standards



Assessment Process

∅ Departmental Interviews

- ∅ Define departmental functions

- ∅ Define departmental data dependencies

- ∅ Define data functions, creator, maintainer, user

- ∅ Define connections of the GIS/LIS to other systems

- ∅ Define the needs of each functional group

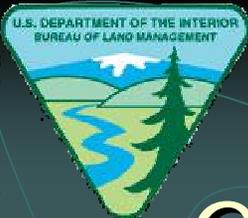
- ∅ Devine security and data distribution parameters





Planning Issues

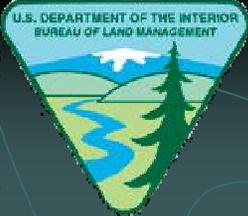
- Ø What are the short and long term goals of the system?
- Ø Is the current GIS/LIS meeting user needs?
- Ø How will the system evolution be funded & supported?
- Ø What tabular data bases will be processed through the system?
- Ø Are end user analysis tools available in the current system?
- Ø Are legal land descriptions properly entered and map compatible?
- Ø What types of maps must be produced from the system, at what scale?
- Ø Are current data layers based on survey?
 - Ø Positional Accuracy (+/- 1 foot, or +/- 100 feet)
 - Ø Source
 - Ø Scale
- Ø How are maps and data to be processed/produced?
- Ø Who will update the data & how will it be managed?
- Ø Who needs to be trained, & what training is needed?



GIS\LIS Business Applications

Ø Tribal, Federal State & Local Government

- Ø Property Parcel Maps
Response - 911 Emergency
- Ø Land Management/Planning
- Ø Land Management Bnds.
- Ø Resource Anal .& Mgmt.
- Ø Transportation Analysis
- Ø Environmental Planning
- Ø Demographic Analysis
- Ø Wild Land Fire Fighting
- Infrastructure Mapping
- Water Conservation
- Ecology Studies
- Disaster Analysis
- Environmental Analysis
- Soil Conservation
- Emergency Planning



General Report Contents



- **Current Situation**
- **Functional Needs**
- **Data Needs**

- Geographic information needs inventory
- Map inventory
- Geographic Information needs matrix
- Tabular data needs
- Tabular data inventory
- Tabular information needs matrix

- **Conversion Needs**

- Map conversion
- Data entry
- File translation

- **Data Processing Needs**
- **Hardware And Software Needs**
- **Staffing Needs**
- **Training Needs**
- **Legal Needs**
- **Multi-participant Strategies**

Multi-participant Strategies

- **Coordination with the Federal Government**
 - Bureau Of Indian Affairs
 - Bureau Of Land Management
 - Department Of Agriculture
 - Corps Of Engineers
 - N.D. State Government
 - County Government
- **Coordination with regulated industry**
 - Natural gas utilities
 - Electric utilities
 - Telephone companies
 - Oil & Gas companies



Summary

Principals of Trust Management

- Ø Promote tribal control and self-determination over tribal trust lands and resources.
- Ø Protect and preserve Indian trust assets from loss, damage, unlawful alienation, waste and depletions;
- Ø Enforce the terms of all leases or other agreements that provide for the use of trust assets, and take appropriate steps to remedy trespass on trust or restricted lands
- Ø Communicate with beneficial owners regarding the management and administration of Indian trust assets



Accurate Boundary Placement



Following the deployment of the initial data sets, the following activities will be supported

- Ø Geographic inventory of Tribal lands, leasing assets, land rights, and economic development areas
- Ø Compare rights described in paper documents with actual rights as exercised on the ground.
- Ø Boundary review by abstracting legal land descriptions from documents
- Ø Boundary analysis to determine the nature and extent of conflicts
- Ø On the ground situation identification to drive survey priorities and identify areas that require survey enhancements.



Fiduciary Trust Model and Indian Trust Lands Boundary Standards Cadastral Services

- Ø Cadastral Survey
- Ø Geographic Coordinate Data Base
- Ø Fee to Trust
- Ø Expert Witness Services
- Ø Land Status Determinations
- Ø Land Description Review Certification
- Ø Boundary Line Assurance Certification
- Ø Review of State Authority Surveys

Bureau of Land Management
For Immediate Release: Tuesday, May 3, 2005

Contacts:
Don Buhler
(202) 452-7781

Doug Haywood
(202) 785-6561

BLM Cadastral Survey Will Hire Land Surveyors for Indian Country

As part of an ongoing effort to streamline land surveying in Indian Country, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Office of the Special Trustee for American Indians, and Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) has hired land surveyors specifically for Indian lands in six regions. Officials of the agencies met with the new surveyors for the first time today in Washington, DC.

"It gives me great satisfaction to welcome these new employees to Washington," said Ross Swimmer, the Interior Department's Special Trustee for American Indians, who hosted the meeting. "They will play a key role in managing administrative duties and providing technical guidance on survey services performed in Indian Country, and in improving service to individual and tribal trust beneficiaries."

The six new surveyors are part of a larger effort to hire land professionals and develop the Certified Federal Survey Program for licensed land surveyors to establish legal boundaries on Indian lands. Another six are slated to be hired in 2006, ultimately allowing one surveyor to be assigned to each BIA regional office.

"These surveyors will work with the federal agencies and individual tribes to ensure that high-priority work is addressed first," said Jim Hughes, Deputy Director for the BLM, who will also attend the meeting. "Since the Tribes themselves have identified the projects that need to be addressed, the surveying work will address real, on-the-ground concerns," he added.

The new surveyors are as follows:

- Michael Beale, Great Plains Region (Aberdeen, South Dakota): Mike Beale obtained his Land Surveyor registration in Montana in 1989 and has over 15 years of experience working with native villages in Alaska.
- Thomas Caster, Northwest Region (Portland, Oregon): Tom Caster, a Cadastral Surveyor at the BLM's Oregon State Office for over 15 years, has a degree in surveying from Oregon Institute of Technology and opened and worked for 5 years in the BLM's project office on the Yakama Indian Reservation in south central Washington.
- Roger Green, Midwest Region (Fort Snelling, Minnesota): Roger O. Green is currently a Forest Land Surveyor in Northwestern Montana, stationed on the Kootenai National Forest, has been surveying for the Federal government for 27 years, working on projects in 17 States from Washington, DC to the Grand Canyon, with the most experience in Oregon, Arizona and Montana.
- Daniel Ontiveros, Eastern Oklahoma Region (Muskogee, Oklahoma): A Field Chief with the BLM's Nevada State Office, Ontiveros has over 20 years of experience in a wide range of surveying disciplines and has provided cadastral services to Native American groups such as the Inupiat, Athabaskan, Aleut, Piute, Shoshone, Haida, and the Eyak people.
- Ronald Scherler, Navajo Region (Gallup, New Mexico): Ron Scherler, a graduate of Oregon Technical Institute, has worked as a cadastral surveyor for over 30 years, with significant experience in dealing with land boundaries in Indian Country, and has served as an instructor for BLM training courses on Advanced Cadastral Survey and Land Tenure in Indian Country.
- Richard Widmar, Southern Plains Region (Anadarko, Oklahoma): A graduate of Iowa State University, Widmar has worked since 1984 for the BLM in New Mexico as a cadastral surveyor servicing Oklahoma, Texas, Kansas, and New Mexico.

Cadastral surveys establish land boundaries and subdivisions that create units suitable for transfer or define the limitations of a parcel's title. Surveyors also identify and establish the legal boundaries between public and private lands to determine the extent and nature of private rights adjoining public or Indian lands for both the surface and subsurface estate.





Questions?

Bob Ader, GCDB Manager/FGDC Cadastral Subcomm. co Chair
303-239-3817
bob_ader@blm.gov

Nancy von Meyer, FGDC Cadastral Subcommittee Secretary
864-646-2755
nancy@fairview-industries.com

Douglas Haywood, Cadastral Indian Program Manager
202-785-6561
douglas_haywood@blm.gov

Bob Dahl, Cadastral Manual Editor
202-452-5132
robert_w_dahl@blm.gov

Don Buhler, BLM Cadastral/ FGDC Cadastral Subcomm. co Chair
202-452-7781
don_buhler@blm.gov

Current Websites

Bureau of Land Management: www.blm.gov
FGDC Cadastral Subcommittee: www.nationalcad.org
Cadastral Survey: www.blm.gov/cadastral

