

Grant Project Description

Nowlin Ranch

Project 4843

This conservation project on a working ranch includes a term easement, mesic restoration, and wildlife friendly fencing on nearly 4,500 acres of private land. The project is a joint effort between the landowner, NRCS, Winnett ACES, World Wildlife Fund, and MSGOT NRCS, through the RCPP program, WWF and Winnett ACES will assist the landowner with mesic restoration and wildlife friendly fencing. Mesic area restoration will cover approximately 35 acres and five meadow, coulee, or stream areas. Fencing will remove woven-wire fence and replace with 3 or 4 strand fences with a smooth bottom-wire. The landowners will provide most of the labor for the projects, including time managing a grazing plan developed with the NRCS. The property is located within the Central Service Area.

It is anticipated that Petroleum County Conservation District will hold the lease. Terms and costs to be paid to the CD will be completed under a separate grant.

This Stewardship Account grant request is only for a term conservation easement of 15 years.

Based on the Program's HQT the project is located in lower quality habitat but the implementation of NRCS restoration projects should result in uplift that can be added into the project at a future date. The USGS has mapped the Nowlin parcels as important core habitat with growth opportunity lands.

There are 9 leks within 2-4 miles of the Nowlin Ranch

	Year First Counted	High Male Count	Count in 2022
R4WH-26a	2017	42	40
R4WH-37c	2017	10	3
R4WH-28a	2021	51	51
R4WH-35	2018	36	30
R4WH-35a	2013	6	0
R4WH-26	2012	140	140
R4WH-37b	2013	15	15
R4WH-27	2013	17	17
R4WH-28	2021	17	17

The Program recommends application of lek multipliers for all 2022 proposed grant projects. This would be comparable to how calculations are done for development projects.

This project was calculated with the base cost of \$13/credit. Credits available after application of the 40% baseline are 11,769.10. With the application of multipliers for leks, 22,361.30 credits would be created for this project. The project credits with application of lek multipliers would allow up to \$238,295.34 in funding for this project. The Program recommends adjusting the baseline to meet the project costs plus the cost of the conservation district expenses.


Project Metrics

Stewardship Grant Project Information	
Project Name	Nowlin Ranch
Project ID	4843
Activity Type	Conservation Lease
Physical Acres	
Duration	
County	
Service Area	
Easement Costs	
Fair Market Value Diminution of 30% Estimated Appraised Easement Value	NA
Matching Funds	None
Stewardship Account Funding Requested for Easement	\$125,418.60
Easement Sponsor Project Costs* (Petroleum County Conservation District)	TBD
Total Project Amount Requested	\$125,418.60+ CD fees
Restoration Costs	
Matching Funds (Landowner through NRCS)	TBD
Grant Funding Requested for Restoration	None
Total Restoration Costs (all resoration costs will be paid by landowner)	TBD
HQT Metrics	
Raw HQT Score - Credits before baseline	29,422.76
New FxA?	No
New FxA Credits	None
Credits after 40% Baseline	11,769.10
Total Grant Amount allowed using \$13/credit-using 3% NPV	\$125,418.60
Average Cost of \$13 Credit with application of 3% NPV over 100 years	\$10.66
Application of Multipliers for Distance to Leks	
Core Area or General Habitat Leks within 4/2 miles	9
Credits Generated from Multipliers	26,480.48
HQT Results with Application of Multipliers	
New FxA Credits	NA
Credits before baseline	55,903.24
Credits after 40% Baseline	22,361.30
Total Grant Amount allowed using \$13/credit-using 3% NPV + Multipliers	\$238,295.33+ CD fees
Metrics per Physical Acre per Year	
Fx Acres Gained (Raw HQT Score)	0.121
Total Credits (no multipliers)	0.049
Total Credits (with multipliers)	0.092
Metrics Based on Proposed Grant Requested Amount	
Total Amount Requested	\$238,295.33+ CD fees
Base Cost/credit per requested amount	\$13.00
Average Cost/Credit per requested amount with application of 3% NPV over 15 years	\$10.66
With Application of Lek Multipliers	
Base Cost/credit per requested amount	\$13.00
Average Cost/Credit per requested amount with application of 3% NPV over 15 years	\$10.66

* Easement, Monitoring, recording fees

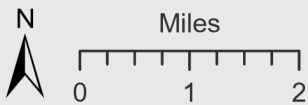
Surrounding Land Ownership

Habitat Benefits

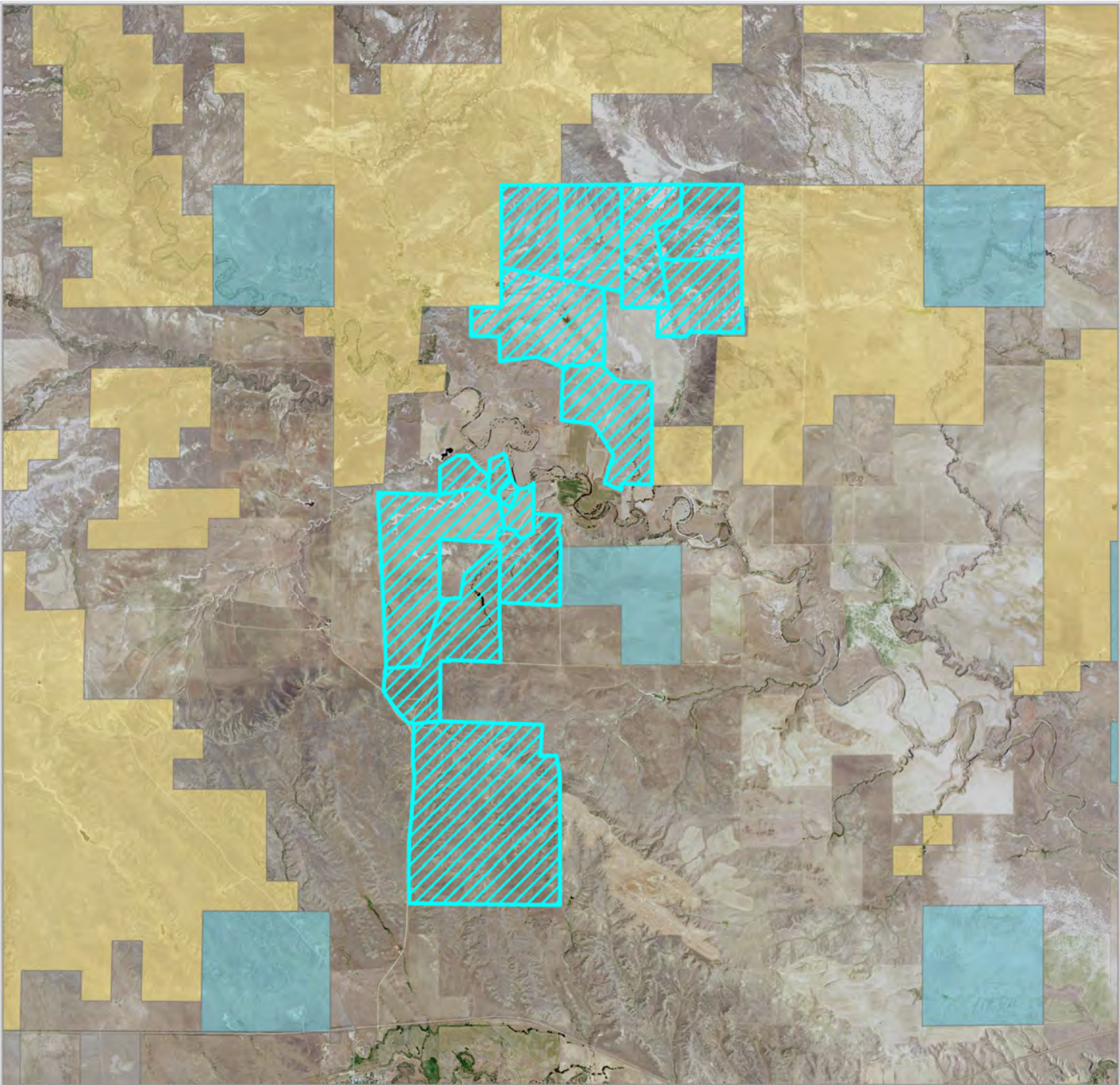
 Preservation Easement

Ownership

-  US Bureau of Land Management
-  Montana State Trust Lands
-  State of Montana
-  Local Government




Map Created: 20 September 2022
Imagery: 2021 NAIP




Sage Grouse Lek Proximity

Project Information

 Stewardship Application

 Sage Grouse Leks

Habitat Designation


 EO-Core Area

 EO-General Habitat

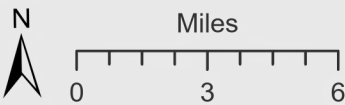
Distance From Project

 2 Miles (4 Leks)

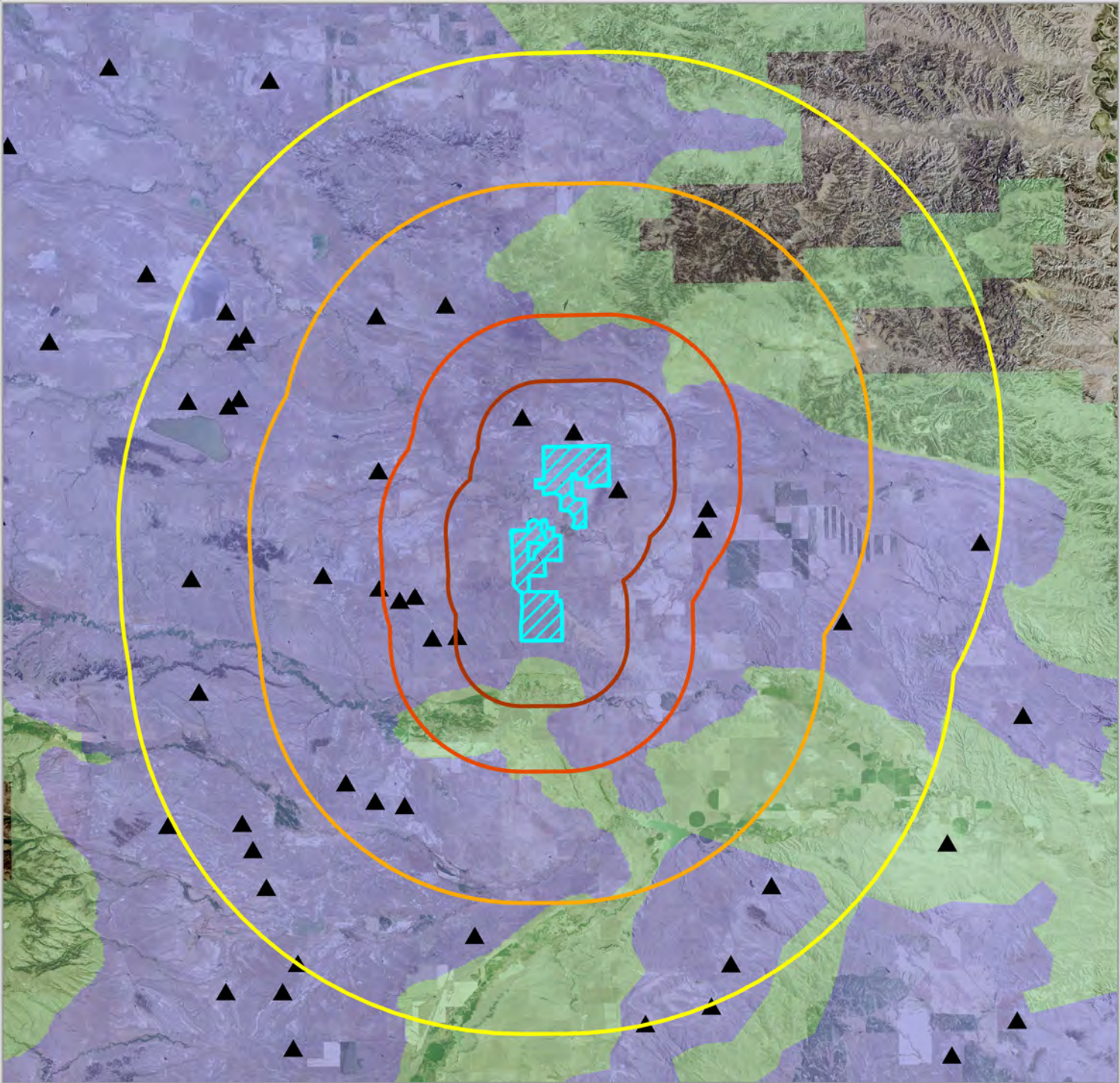
 4 Miles (9 Leks)

 8 Miles (17 Leks)

 12 Miles (35 Leks)




Map Created: 20 September 2022
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













Surrounding Disturbances

Project Information

 Stewardship Application

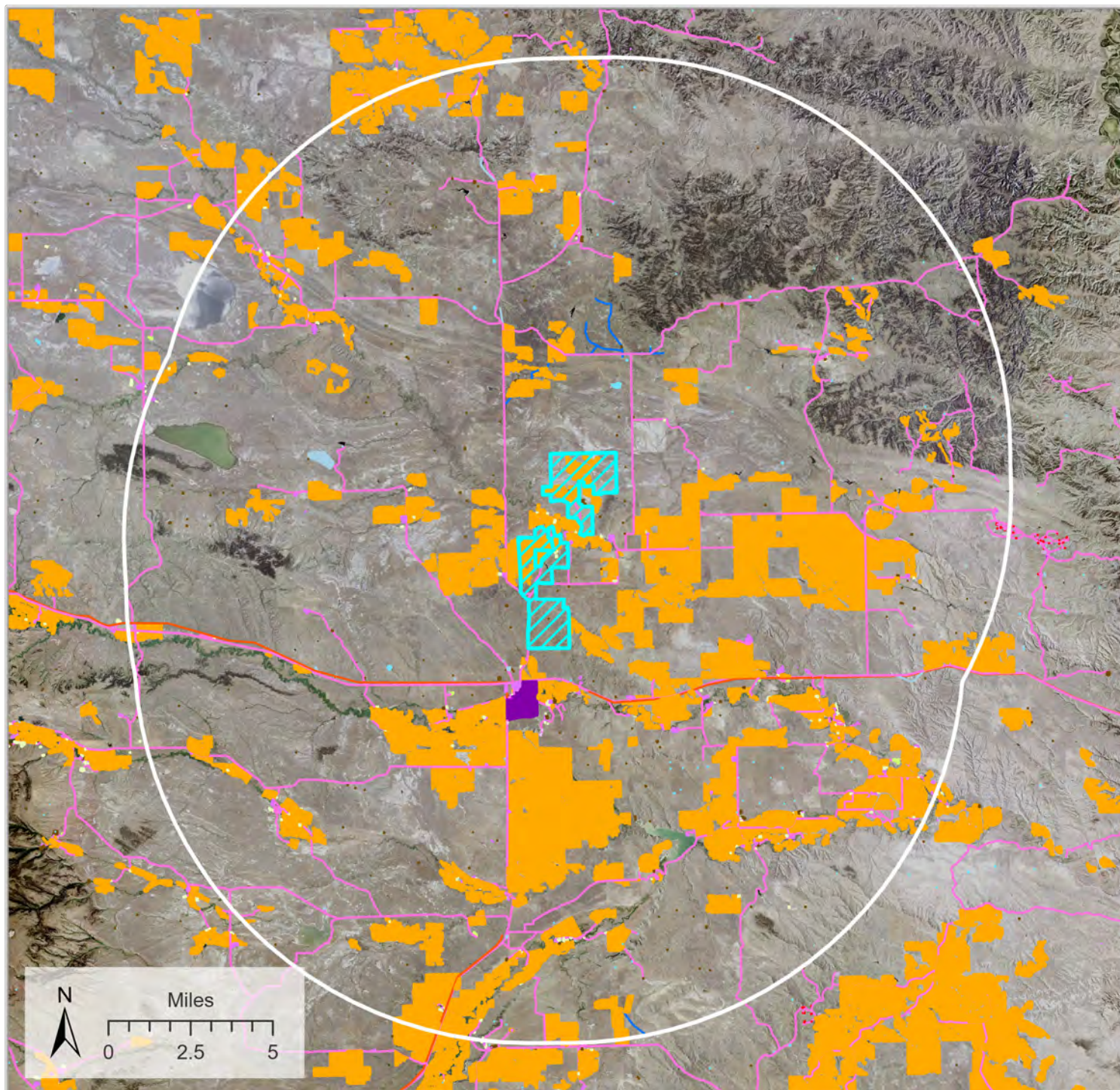
 12 Mile Buffer

Disturbance Type

-  Cropland
-  Livestock Area
-  Storage Site
-  Gravel Pit
-  Ag. Water
-  Stock Pond
-  Transmission
-  Oil/Gas
-  Communication
-  Indust./Commercial
-  Transportation
-  Building/Structure
-  Subdivision
-  Urban
-  Unknown/Other



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Stewardship Application's Proximity to Other Applications



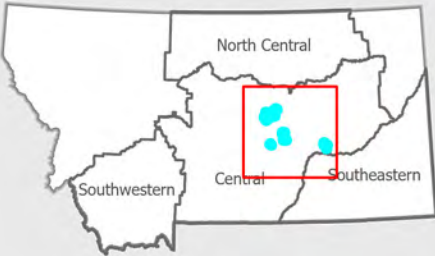
Project Information

Stewardship Application

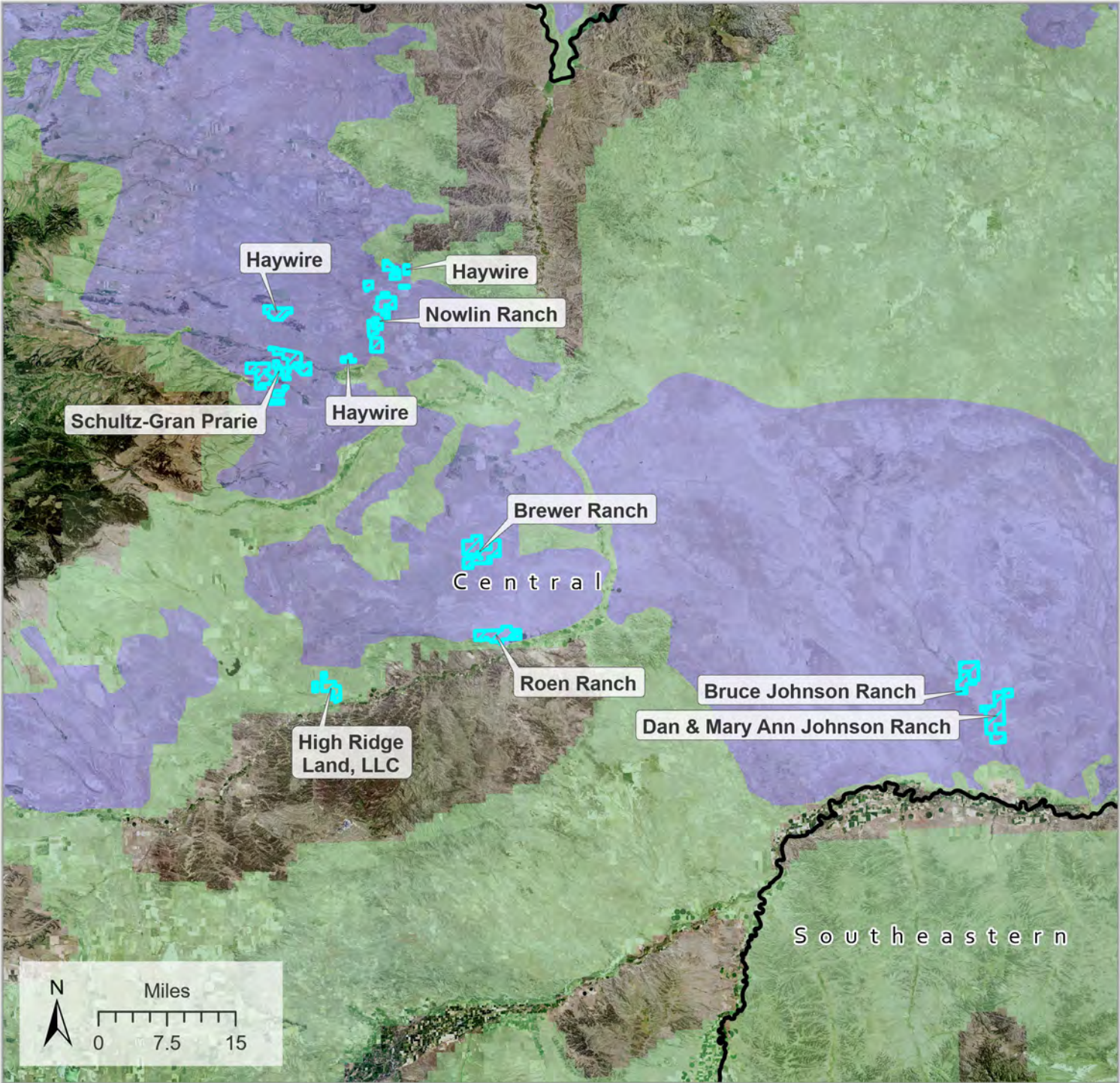
Habitat Designation

EO-Core Area

EO-General Habitat





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Imagery: 2021 NAIP




Stewardship Application's Proximity to Closed Stewardship Grants


Project Information

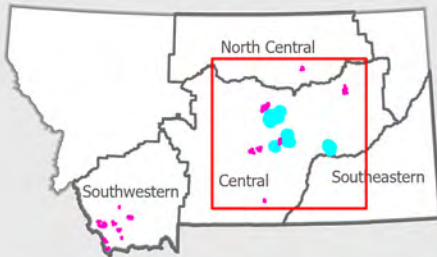
 Stewardship Application

 Closed Stewardship Grant

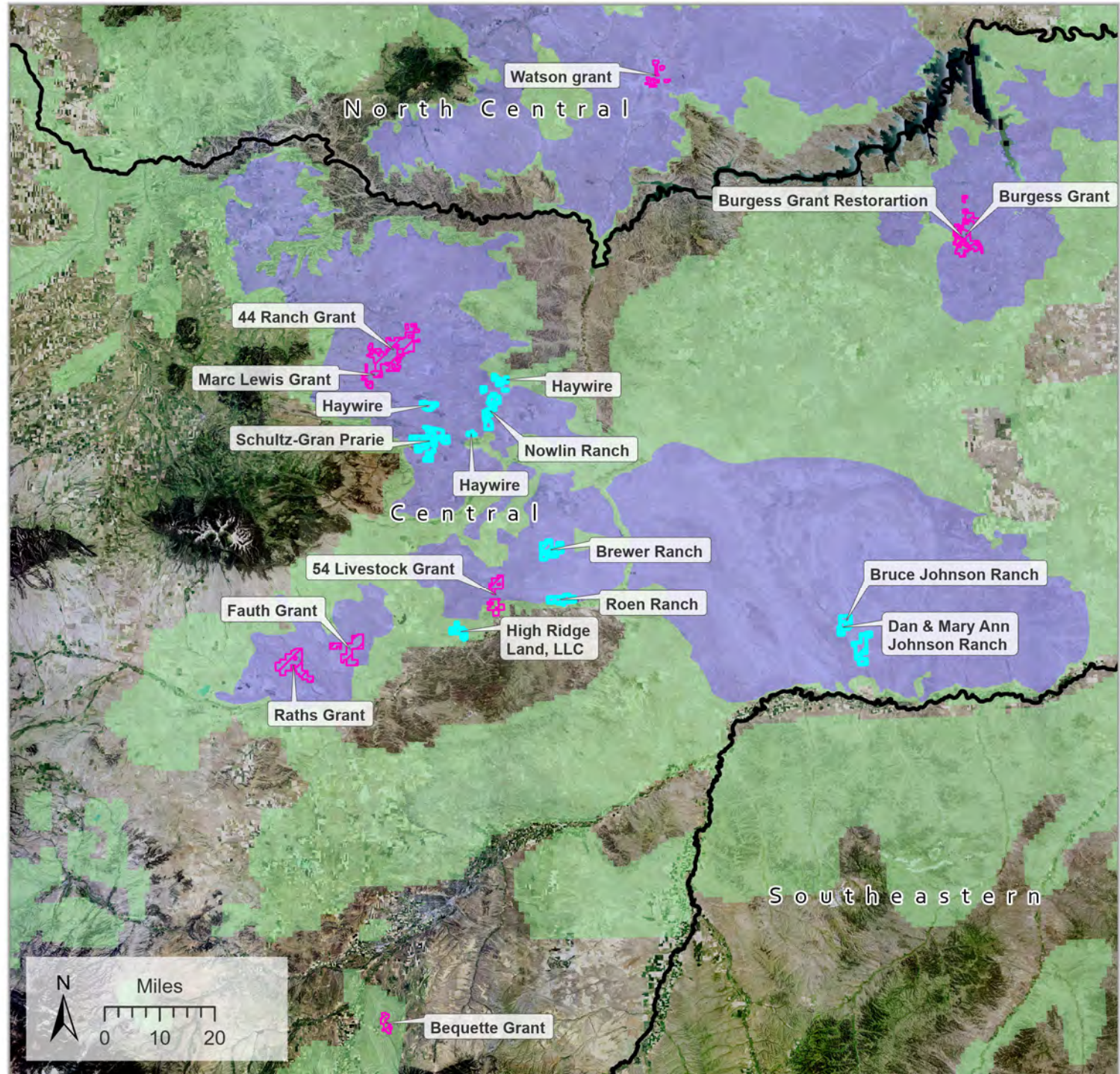
Habitat Designation

 EO-Core Area

 EO-General Habitat



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Project 4843 - Nowlin Ranch Term Conservation Easement

