

# JOSEPHINE FFR 0458

## INITIAL ALLOTMENT AND PERMIT/LEASE REVIEW and RANGELAND HEALTH ASSESSMENT

### *2013 Supplement to the Josephine FFR Allotment Initial Allotment Review and Rangeland Health Assessment*

The Initial Allotment Review and Rangeland Health Standards and Guidelines Assessment for the Josephine FFR allotment document was drafted in 2006 as a portion of the grazing permit renewal process. Until 2013, no rangeland health determination was completed and the permit authorizing grazing use in this allotment has not been fully processed for renewal. The current document consists of the 2006 RHA, in full, supplemented by new information available since the 2006 document was completed. Portions of this 2013 document that supplement the 2006 document are presented in this two-field table format with the header above, while those portions carried forward unchanged from the 2006 document are outside the two-field tables. The 2013 supplement to the document includes data compiled between 2006 and 2013, as well as the completion of the 2013 evaluation report and determination consistent with the Livestock Grazing Permit Renewal Desk Guide for Idaho Bureau of Land Management, May 2009. The 2013 determination can be found at the end of this document.

Field Office: **Owyhee**

Date: **December 2006**

1. Allotment Name/Number: **Josephine FFR - 0458**
2. Name(s) of Permittee(s)/Preference Code: **Josephine Ranch - 1101471**
3. Permit Expiration Date(s): **02/28/07**
4. Allotment Acres: Public Land **351** Private **2,368** State **141** Other **None**
5. Percent public land in the allotment: **12**
6. Is public land large contiguous block(s) of public land, isolated parcel(s) or both?

**The public land in the allotment is part of a larger block of public land (located outside of this allotment). The core of this allotment includes large continuous block of 2,365 acres of private lands. Seven small pieces of public land are fenced in with the private land.**

7. Is the public land fenced separately from the private land? **No**
8. Is any public land within the allotment identified for exchange/disposal in the land use plan?  
**YES** Percent of Public land? **100** If yes, has two year notification been sent? **No**
9. Does BLM have administrative access separate from the grazing permit/lease? **No**
10. Does public have legal access to the allotment? **No**
11. Is the public land physically isolated from the adjoining public land?

**The public land is isolated by the allotment boundary fences.**

12. What is the livestock grazing management category (M, I, or C)? C

13. List all Land Use Plan (LUP) objectives and decisions (consider resource list for No. 14 below for objectives and decisions in the LUP), other grazing decisions, and other NEPA documents pertaining to the allotment:

**Owyhee RMP (December 30, 1999) and Proposed Owyhee RMP and EIS (July 1999) - See Land Use Plan Review**

**Idaho Standards for Rangeland Health and Guidelines for Livestock Grazing Management (August 12, 1997) - see guidelines 1-20**

14. Check the Standards, Guidelines and Resources that are applicable to this allotment. Following ID Team disclosure of information and data (monitoring data, studies, inventories, etc., information from other agencies, local governments, and the public) and the ensuing discussions, briefly describe in the comment section any issues (with supporting information). This information will be used to determine if existing data is adequate, or if more information is needed to determine compliance with the Idaho Standards and Guidelines for Rangeland Health.

Standard, Guideline, or Resource Issue	Check ( if applicable)	Comments
Watershed (Standard 1)	X	In 2001, one rangeland health evaluation worksheet was completed for this allotment. Based on this evaluation, the watershed appears to provide for proper infiltration retention, and release of water appropriate to soil type. The amount of bare ground and litter movement were appropriate for site stability. At the evaluation location the soils were stabilized with good armor. There were no water flow patterns, pedestals, gullies, or rills and no evidence of accelerated erosion.
Riparian Areas, Wetland (Standard 2)	X	The 1999 Owyhee RMP does not list Josephine Creek (fisheries or riparian habitat) on this allotment for management purposes, nor does the RMP identify reaches outside of this allotment as being in unsatisfactory condition. <b>Josephine Creek</b> - Josephine Creek was inventoried in 2000. However, the inventory stopped at the private land boundary and did not include the small segment in the allotment. Approximately, 0.1 miles is located on public land in the allotment. Approximately 3.0 miles of this creek are found on private land in this allotment. The reach on public land found in this allotment is isolated by private land upstream and downstream. No other data exists for this allotment.
Stream Channel, Flood Plains (Standard 3)	X	See Standard 2, above.

Native Plant Communities (Standard 4)	<b>X</b>	<p>In 2001, one rangeland health evaluation worksheet was completed for this allotment. Cheatgrass was present but not high in density. At the evaluation site, the native plant community was supporting proper functioning of ecological processes (i.e., energy and nutrient cycling). Plant vigor and seedstalk production of perennial species was adequate to enable reproduction and recruitment of plants in response to favorable climatic events. The only evidence of plant mortality or decadence was found in some juniper stands. Juniper encroachment in this allotment and the adjacent lands is extreme.</p> <p>The grazing permittee submitted Actual Use Reports for 2003, 2005, and 2006. In 2003 and 2006, reports submitted only included the season of use only. In 2003 the season of use was 3/15 – 12/26; and in 2006 it was 1/1 – 12/31. In 2005, 270 cattle from 11/1 – 12/31 consuming 550 AUMs was reported.</p> <p>There is no utilization data or trend studies for this allotment.</p>
Seedings (Standard 5)		NA
Exotic Plant Communities (Standard 6)		NA
Water Quality (Standard 7)	<b>X</b>	<p>Josephine Creek (0.1 mile may be mostly within a reservoir) is in the Josephine Assessment Unit. The unit has been assigned agriculture, industrial water supply, wildlife habitats, and aesthetics as secondary beneficial uses. CWAL, PCR and SS have not been assigned and no beneficial uses have been assessed. A BURP site a few miles below the allotment found the temperature low enough to meet CWAL criteria in September 2003 and identified grazing, recreation, and roads as activities affecting water quality. The Owyhee RMP did not identify Josephine Creek (in this allotment) as needing riparian or fish management and did not identify unsatisfactory habitats.</p>

Threatened & Endangered Plant & Animals (Standard 8)	X	<p>A short segment of Josephine Creek (0.1 mile) is on public land in the allotment. No wildlife monitoring data exists for this short reach.</p> <p>Most of the RLH indicators for this allotment were rated as being “None to Slight.” The functional and structural groups are generally close to what is expected for the site and are likely to be providing habitat that is adequate for the needs of most dependant special status and other wildlife species. Juniper encroachment is a factor contributing to deviations from reference conditions. Small localized areas lack of large bunchgrasses, reduced shrub cover and increased juniper were limiting cover structure and forage for sage grouse, numerous song birds, pygmy rabbits and others including a diversity of insects, rodents, birds and others that are critical prey for most raptors including prairie falcons, northern harriers and ferruginous hawks.</p> <p>The allotment has unclassified habitat that is considered to be unsuitable for sage grouse. Juniper encroachment is excessive within this allotment and adjacent allotments. Active leks were identified in neighboring allotments. Surveys determined Columbia spotted frog habitat exists in adjacent allotments.</p> <p>Redband trout are known to occupy Josephine Creek both upstream and down stream of the reach found in this allotment. However, due to the reach found in this allotment being landlocked by private land, no redband trout data has been collected in this allotment.</p> <p>This allotment is within elk and mule deer spring/summer/fall ranges. As previously mentioned, it appears that resource conditions are providing for adequate big game habitat.</p> <p><b>Botany</b> - No federally listed plant species are known to occur in this allotment, although the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) considers all of Idaho to be within the potential range of Ute ladies’-tresses (<i>Spiranthes diluvialis</i>), a federally threatened orchid species (USFWS 2002). No BLM special status plants are known to occur within the allotment</p>
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<b>Guidelines for Livestock Grazing Management</b>		<b>Data Adequacy, Comments, Concerns</b>
<b>1</b>	Use grazing management practices and/or facilities to maintain or promote significant progress toward adequate amounts of ground cover to support infiltration, maintain soil moisture storage and stabilize soils.	Adequate data exists; and grazing practices appear to be adequate to maintain current soil, plant health, and infiltration conditions at the site evaluated.
<b>2</b>	Locate livestock management facilities away from riparian areas wherever they conflict with achieving or maintaining riparian-wetland functions	NA
<b>3</b>	Use grazing management practices and/or facilities to maintain or promote soil conditions that support water infiltration, plant vigor, and permeability rates and minimize soil compaction appropriate to site potential.	See Standard 1 and Number 1, above.
<b>4</b>	Implement grazing management practices that provide periodic rest or deferment during critical growth stages to allow sufficient regrowth to achieve and maintain healthy, properly functioning conditions, including good plant vigor and adequate vegetative cover appropriate to site potential.	See Number 1, above. Implementation of rest or deferment would require fencing across private lands. Due to the fact that livestock use is determined by how private lands are used, BLM has no control over making management changes in this allotment.
<b>5</b>	Maintain or promote grazing management practices that provide sufficient residual vegetation to improve, restore, or maintain healthy riparian-wetland functions and structure for energy dissipation, sediment capture, ground water recharge, streambank stability, and wildlife habitat appropriate to site potential.	See Standards 2 and 8, above. Minimal riparian data exists. Furthermore, only 0.1 miles of stream is located on public land in this allotment. Compared to 3.0 miles found on private lands. BLM has no control over the use and management of this allotment.
<b>6</b>	The development of springs, seeps or other projects affecting water and associated resources shall be designed to protect the ecological functions, wildlife habitat, and significant cultural and historical/ archaeological/ paleontological values associated with the water source.	NA
<b>7</b>	Apply grazing management practices to maintain, promote, or progress toward appropriate stream channel and streambank morphology and functions. Adverse impacts due to livestock grazing will be addressed.	See Standard 2 and Number 5, above.
<b>8</b>	Apply grazing management practices that maintain or promote the interaction of the hydrologic cycle, nutrient cycle, and energy flow that will support the appropriate types and amounts of soil organisms, plants and animals appropriate to soil type, climate and landform.	See Number 1, above
<b>9</b>	Apply grazing management practices to maintain adequate plant vigor for seed production, seed dispersal, and seedling survival of desired species relative to soil type, climate and landform.	See Numbers 1, above
<b>10</b>	Implement grazing management practices and/or facilities that provide for complying with the Idaho Water Quality Standards.	See Standard 7 and Number 5, above.
<b>11</b>	Use grazing management practices developed in recovery plans, conservation agreements, and Endangered Species Act, Section 7 consultations to maintain or improve habitat for federally listed threatened, endangered, and sensitive plants and animals.	See discussions under Standard 8 and Number 1 (above).

<b>Guidelines for Livestock Grazing Management</b>		<b>Data Adequacy, Comments, Concerns</b>
<b>12</b>	Apply grazing management practices and/or facilities that maintain or promote the physical and biological conditions necessary to sustain native plant populations and wildlife habitats in native plant communities.	See discussions under Standard 8 and Number 1 (above).
<b>13</b>	On areas seeded predominantly with non-native plants, use grazing management practices to maintain or promote the physical and biological conditions to achieve healthy rangelands.	NA
<b>14</b>	Where native communities exist, the conversion to exotic communities after disturbance will be minimized.	See Number 1, above. J
<b>15</b>	Use non-native plant species for rehabilitation only in those situations where: a) native species are not readily available in sufficient quantities, b) native plant species cannot maintain or achieve the standards or c) non-native plant species provide for management and protection of native rangelands Include a diversity of appropriate grasses, forbs, and shrubs in rehabilitation efforts.	NA
<b>16</b>	On burned areas, allow natural regeneration when it is determined that populations of native perennial shrubs, grasses, and forbs are sufficient to re-vegetated the site. Rest burned or rehabilitated areas to allow recovery or establishment of perennial plant species.	NA
<b>17</b>	Carefully consider the effects of new management facilities (e.g., water developments, fences) on healthy and properly functioning rangelands prior to implementation.	NA
<b>18</b>	Use grazing management practices, where feasible for wildfire control, and to reduce the spread of targeted undesirable plants (e.g., cheatgrass, medusahead wildrye, and noxious weeds) while enhancing vigor and abundance of desirable native or seeded species.	NA
<b>19</b>	Employ grazing management practices that promote natural forest regeneration and protect reforestation projects until the Idaho Forest Practices Act requirements for timber stand replacement are met.	NA
<b>20</b>	Design management fences to minimize adverse impacts, such as habitat fragmentation, to maintain habitat integrity and connectivity for native plants and animals.	NA

<b>Land Use Plan Review</b>		
Livestock Grazing		<p>This allotment is identified as a "Custodial" category allotment in the 1999 Owyhee RMP. Custodial category allotments are also referred to as Fenced Federal Range (FFR) allotments. Generally, these allotments include less than 50% public lands intermingled with unfenced private and State lands. Livestock grazing is generally authorized as season long (3/1 - 2/28) and at the grazing permittee's discretion, as long as grazing management guidelines are adhered to.</p> <p>Active Permitted Use is 20 AUMs</p> <p>LVST 1: Provide for sustained level of livestock use compatible with meeting other resource objectives.  VEGE 1: Improve unsatisfactory and maintain satisfactory vegetation health/condition on all areas.  SOIL 1: Improve unsatisfactory and maintain satisfactory watershed health/condition on all areas.  SOIL 2: Achieve stabilization of current, and prevent the potential for future, localized accelerated soil erosion problems (particularly on streambanks, roads, and trails).</p>
Botanical	X	SPSS1: Manage special status species and habitats to increase or maintain populations at levels where their existence is not longer threatened and there is no need for listing under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended.
Cultural	X	There are no recorded sites on BLM within the allotment boundaries. There is a recorded site on State land within the allotment boundaries.
Fire, Fuel		NA
Fisheries	X	FISH-1 Improve or maintain perennial stream/riparian areas to attain satisfactory conditions to support native fish.
Forestry		NA
Land		Under Objective LAND 2 of the Owyhee RMP these lands are in Zone 3 and may be made available for potential disposal.
Minerals		NA
Recreation		NA
Special Status Species	X	SPSS1: Manage special status species and habitats to increase or maintain populations at levels where their existence is not longer threatened and there is no need for listing under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended.
Wild Horses		NA
Wildlife	X	WLDF1: Maintain or enhance the condition, abundance, structural stage and distribution of plant communities and special habitat features required to support a high diversity and desired populations of wildlife.
Water Quality	X	WATR 1-meet or exceed State of Idaho water quality standards
Riparian	X	RIPN 1-maintain or improve riparian-wetland areas to attain proper functioning and satisfactory conditions.
Soils/Watershed	X	SOIL 1-Improve unsatisfactory and maintain satisfactory watershed health/condition on all areas.

15. Describe BLM's ability or inability to manage the allotment by considering the following, as applicable: Whether there is legal access; whether % federal land comprises majority of the allotment; whether the public land acreage is small (less than 640 acres) and surrounded by private land(isolated); whether the federal land is fenced separate from the private land; etc.

**The allotment has only 351 acres of public land. The 351 acres represent 12 percent of the allotment's total acre. The public lands within allotment are in 9 small parcels of non-contiguous tracts. The Owyhee RMP identified 100% of the public lands as available for exchange or sale. BLM has no legal access across private lands to access public lands.**

**BLM is unable to manage this allotment due to its limited land ownership, a lack of separation from private lands, and a lack of access. The actions on the private lands determine how the allotment is used and managed.**

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Although the total acreage of public land and the percent public land may be minimal in this allotment, public and/or administrative access may be limited, and the absence of high-value resources may lead to the categorization of this allotment with a low priority for management attention, the BLM's obligation is to manage public lands.

**Based on the information above the following is recommended to the field manager: (check the appropriate category)**

1.  Review of existing information indicates that there is no livestock grazing or other issue. Available information is adequate to complete the evaluation and determination. (see numbers 5,6,7,8, 11 and 15 above). **This is the RHA. Complete the evaluation/ Determination Form.**
2.  Review of available information indicates that grazing or other issues are known to exist. However, the allotment has no or limited potential for management (see numbers 5,6,7,8,11, and 15 above). Available information is adequate to complete the evaluation and determination. **This is the RHA for this allotment. Complete the Evaluation/Determination form and consider the public land for disposal.**
3.  Review of existing information indicates the physical characteristics (e.g., slope, rock, location on the landscape, and lack of livestock forage) of the tract deter livestock grazing use on the public land. **Consider not issuing a new livestock grazing permit or lease. Further documentation is not recommended.**
4.  Review of existing information indicates that an issue(s) may or may not exist. The allotment is considered manageable (see #s 5,6,7,8,11, and 15 above). **Available information is adequate to complete the RHA. Complete RHA and the evaluation/determination.**
5.  Review of existing information indicates that an issue(s) exists. The allotment is considered manageable (see #s 5,6,7,8,11, and 15 above). More information is needed to



**Field Manager****Date**

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**List of reviewers (2013):**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Title</b>
Jake Vialpando	Project Manager
Bonnie Claridge	Fisheries Biologist
Jason Sutter	Wildlife Biologist
Jayson Murgoitio	GIS Specialist
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Steve Christensen	Rangeland Management Specialist
Ryan Homan	Recreation Specialist
Gina Rone	Soils Specialist
Susan Filkins	Botanist
Jessica Gottlieb	Writer/Editor

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Additional information used by the 2013 team available since the 2006 Josephine FFR allotment IAR was drafted includes the following:

**Livestock Grazing Management****Table LVST-1:** Reported actual use in the Josephine FFR allotment between 2005 and 2012

<b>Year</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>AUMs</b>
2012	9/10-10/2	124
2011	5/5-5/16; 6/18-6/28; 10/20-11/27	483
2010	No Data	No Data
2009	No Data	No Data
2008	5/1-5/16; 7/15-8/1; 10/16-12/31	893
2007	4/15-5/16; 10/20-12/1	690
2006	11/1/2005-5/16/2006	550
2005		

**Standard 8 (Threatened and Endangered Plants and Animals)**

As noted in Standards 4 and 8 under number 14 of the Josephine Creek allotment 2006 IAR, juniper encroachment is described as extreme and juniper cover dominates the allotment. Juniper also is identified as an invasive species when dominant within the main ecological sites in the allotment and indicates a transition from the sagebrush-bunchgrass reference state to a new state with altered ecological function. This transition from a shrub steppe community to woodland community results in a loss of suitable habitat for sage-obligate and shrub-dependent special status wildlife species.

Surveys conducted on private land in 2011 in Josephine Creek within the allotment resulted in

several detections of adult and larvae (tadpoles) spotted frogs. Three adults were recorded approximately 230 to 380 meters upstream of the short segment of Josephine Creek that traverses BLM-managed lands. Approximately 400 tadpoles were recorded at one site approximately 130 meters from BLM lands within the allotment. Overall, distances from spotted frog locations ( $n=7$ ) to BLM lands within the allotment averaged 194 meters and ranged from 82 to 551 meters. Based on this information, it is likely that spotted frogs occur and are breeding on BLM lands within the allotment.

## **2013 Evaluation Findings and Determination**

### **Standard 1 (Watersheds)**

Watersheds provide for the proper infiltration, retention, and release of water appropriate to soil type, vegetation, climate, and landform to provide for proper nutrient cycling, hydrologic cycling and energy flow.

#### **Standard 1**

- Standard does not apply
- Meeting the Standard
- Not meeting the Standard; Current livestock grazing management practices are significant factors
- Not Meeting the Standard; Making significant progress toward meeting
- Not Meeting the Standard; Current livestock grazing management practices are not significant factors

#### **Guidelines**

- Conforms with Guidelines for Livestock Grazing Management
- Does not conform with Guidelines for Livestock Grazing Management; Guideline No(s).

### **Rationale for Evaluation Finding and Determination**

Watershed indicators show very little departure from expected conditions, leading to the conclusion that Josephine FFR allotment is meeting Standard 1. Although the allotment is labeled to be at risk for juniper encroachment that, over time, can alter soil stability and hydrologic function, the existing plant community and soil conditions are adequate to provide for proper nutrient and hydrologic cycling and energy flow. Current livestock management is compatible with attainment of Standard 1 for the Josephine FFR allotment.

### **Standard 2 (Riparian Areas and Wetlands)**

Although a short reach (0.1 mile) of Josephine Creek was noted in the 2006 evaluation, the National Hydrologic Dataset (NHD; BLM standard IM 2009-212) does not identify any streams on BLM lands in the Josephine FFR allotment. Therefore, Standard 2 does not apply for this allotment.

### **Standard 3 (Stream Channel/Floodplain)**

Although a short reach (0.1 mile) of Josephine Creek was noted in the 2006 evaluation, the National Hydrologic Dataset (NHD; BLM standard IM 2009-212) does not identify any streams

on BLM lands in the Josephine FFR allotment. Therefore, Standard 3 does not apply for this allotment.

#### **Standard 4 (Native Plant Communities)**

Healthy, productive, and diverse native animal habitat and populations of native plants are maintained or promoted as appropriate to soil type, climate, and landform to provide for proper nutrient cycling, hydrologic cycling, and energy flow.

#### **Standard 4**

- Standard does not apply
- Meeting the Standard
- Not meeting the Standard; Current livestock grazing management practices are significant factors
- Not Meeting the Standard; Making significant progress toward meeting
- Not Meeting the Standard; Current livestock grazing management practices are not significant factors

#### **Guidelines**

- Conforms with Guidelines for Livestock Grazing Management
- Does not conform with Guidelines for Livestock Grazing Management; Guideline No(s).

#### **Rationale for Evaluation Finding and Determination**

Standard 4 is not being met in the Josephine Creek FFR allotment. One RHA was completed in the Josephine Creek FFR allotment during 2001 and concluded that the biotic integrity of the site was rated as a none-to-slight departure from reference site conditions. The indicator for invasive plants did not identify the presence of juniper, although juniper was identified as the dominant species on site on the Species Abundance Worksheet (Based on Cover). In addition, the 2006 IAR stated under Native Plant Communities (Standard 4), “Juniper encroachment in this allotment and the adjacent lands is extreme.” As noted from photos accompanying the 2001 assessment and 2011 NAIP imagery (USDA FSA, 2011), juniper dominates most public land portions of the allotment, including the public domain portion. Ecological site descriptions for the Loamy 13-16” ARTRV/PSSP-FEID and Very Shallow Stony Loam 10-14” ARAR8/POSE-PSSPS sites identify juniper as an invasive species that, when dominant, results in a new state requiring management inputs to restore ecological function of the reference site sagebrush/bunchgrass state. Juniper dominance of the public land portions of the allotment leads to a finding that Standard 4 is not being met due to altered fire regimes and subsequent juniper encroachment.

#### **Standard 5 (Rangeland Seeding)**

Standard 5 does not apply for this allotment

#### **Standard 6 (Exotic Plant Communities)**

Standard 6 does not apply for this allotment

#### **Standard 7 (Water Quality)**

Although a short reach (0.1 mile) of Josephine Creek was noted in the 2006 evaluation, neither the National Hydrologic Dataset (NHD; BLM standard IM) nor the IDEQ identify any streams

on BLM lands in the Josephine FFR allotment. Therefore, Standard 7 does not apply for this allotment.

### **Standard 8 (Threatened and Endangered Plants and Animals)**

Habitats are suitable to maintain viable populations of threatened and endangered, sensitive, and other special status species.

#### **Standard 8**

- Standard does not apply
- Meeting the Standard
- Not meeting the Standard; Current livestock grazing management practices are significant factors
- Not Meeting the Standard; Making significant progress toward meeting
- Not Meeting the Standard; Current livestock grazing management practices are not significant factors

#### **Guidelines**

- Conforms with Guidelines for Livestock Grazing Management
- Does not conform with Guidelines for Livestock Grazing Management; Guideline No(s).

#### **Rationale for Evaluation Finding and Determination**

##### *Botany*

No populations of special status plant species are known to occur in this allotment and therefore this Standard is not applicable.

##### *Wildlife*

Standard 8 for wildlife is not being met in the Josephine FFR allotment, primarily due to the conversion of shrub steppe habitat types to woodland/forest habitat types. The increase in woodland habitats in ecological sites where juniper is considered an invasive species and a minor habitat component, at most, comes at the expense of shrub steppe habitats, which are the reference state plant communities and condition for the ecological sites that predominate within the allotment. Although an increase in juniper woodlands in the allotment provides novel habitat for special status species such as flammulated owl, Lewis' woodpecker, and Williamson's sapsucker, a loss of shrub steppe vegetation communities results in a deficiency of adequate habitat for sagebrush-obligate and shrub-dependent special status wildlife species including sage-grouse, pygmy rabbit, Brewer's sparrow, sage sparrow, and loggerhead shrike.

In addition, because the condition, abundance, structural stage, and distribution of plant communities required for diverse and desired wildlife populations are not maintained or enhanced, and because special status species habitats are inadequate to increase or maintain populations so as to preclude an impetus for listing (for sagebrush- and shrub-obligates and -dependent species, in particular), these major ecological site alterations from their reference states discussed above do not conform with ORMP objectives WDLF-1 and SPSS-1.

#### **Determination**

I have determined that Standards 4 and 8 of the applicable Standards for Rangeland Health are not being met in the Josephine FFR allotment, whereas Standard 1 is met and Standards 2, 3, 5, 6, and 7 are not applicable to resources present within the allotment. Current livestock grazing management practices are not significant factors in failing to meet Standards 4 and 8.



Field Manager  
Owyhee Field Office

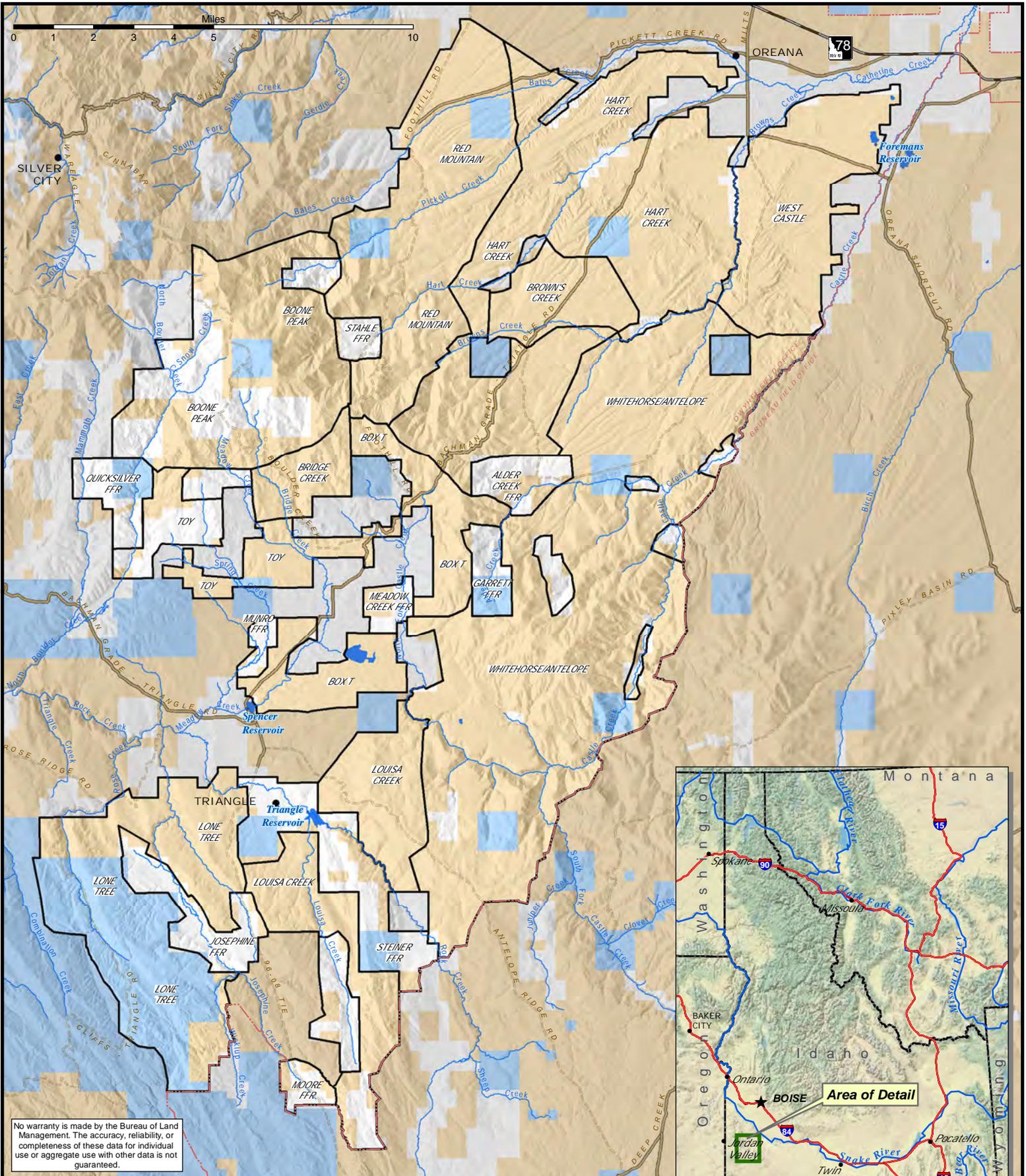
10/21/13  
Date

**Works Cited (2013 Supplement)**

USDA FSA. (2011, Last modified: August 18). *National Agriculture Imagery Program (NAIP)*. Retrieved from <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/FSA/apfoapp?area=home&subject=prog&topic=nai>



# GEN-1, Toy Mountain Allotments Overview



No warranty is made by the Bureau of Land Management. The accuracy, reliability, or completeness of these data for individual use or aggregate use with other data is not guaranteed.

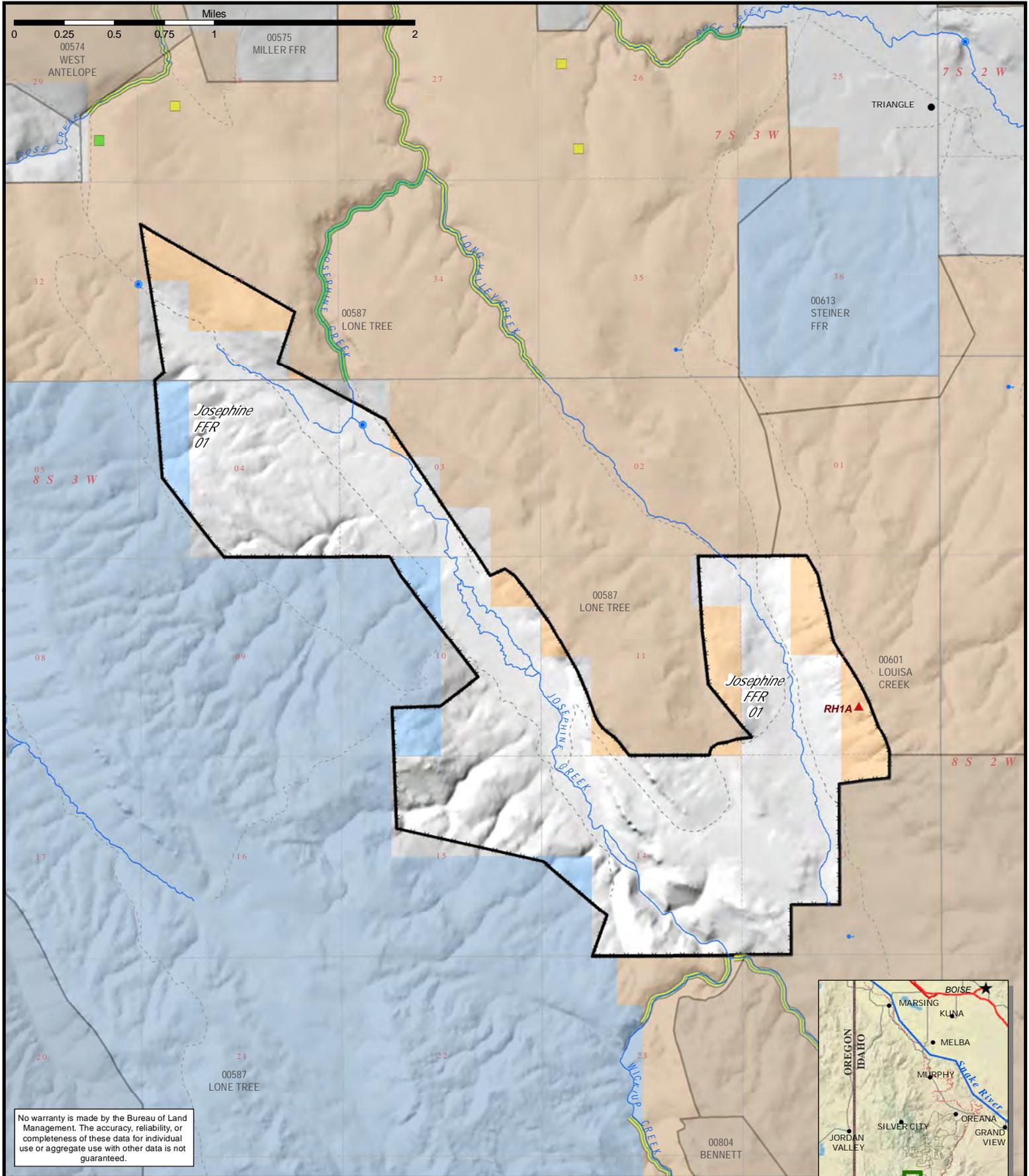
- Legend**
- Allotment Boundary
  - Perennial Stream
  - Lake/Reservoir
  - Highway
  - Improved Road
  - Town/City
  - BLM Field Office Boundary

- Surface Management Agency**
- Bureau of Land Management
  - Private
  - State





# RNGE-1: Josephine FFR (00458), Range and Riparian Overview



No warranty is made by the Bureau of Land Management. The accuracy, reliability, or completeness of these data for individual use or aggregate use with other data is not guaranteed.

- Nested Plot Frequency Trend
- Rangeland Health Assessment Point
- Allotment of Interest Boundary
- Pasture Boundary
- Other Allotment Boundary
- Enclosure

- Spring/Stream Assessment Rating**
- PFC (Proper Functioning Condition)
  - FAR (Functioning At Risk)
  - NF (Non-Functioning)
  - MIM Riparian Monitoring
  - Perennial Stream

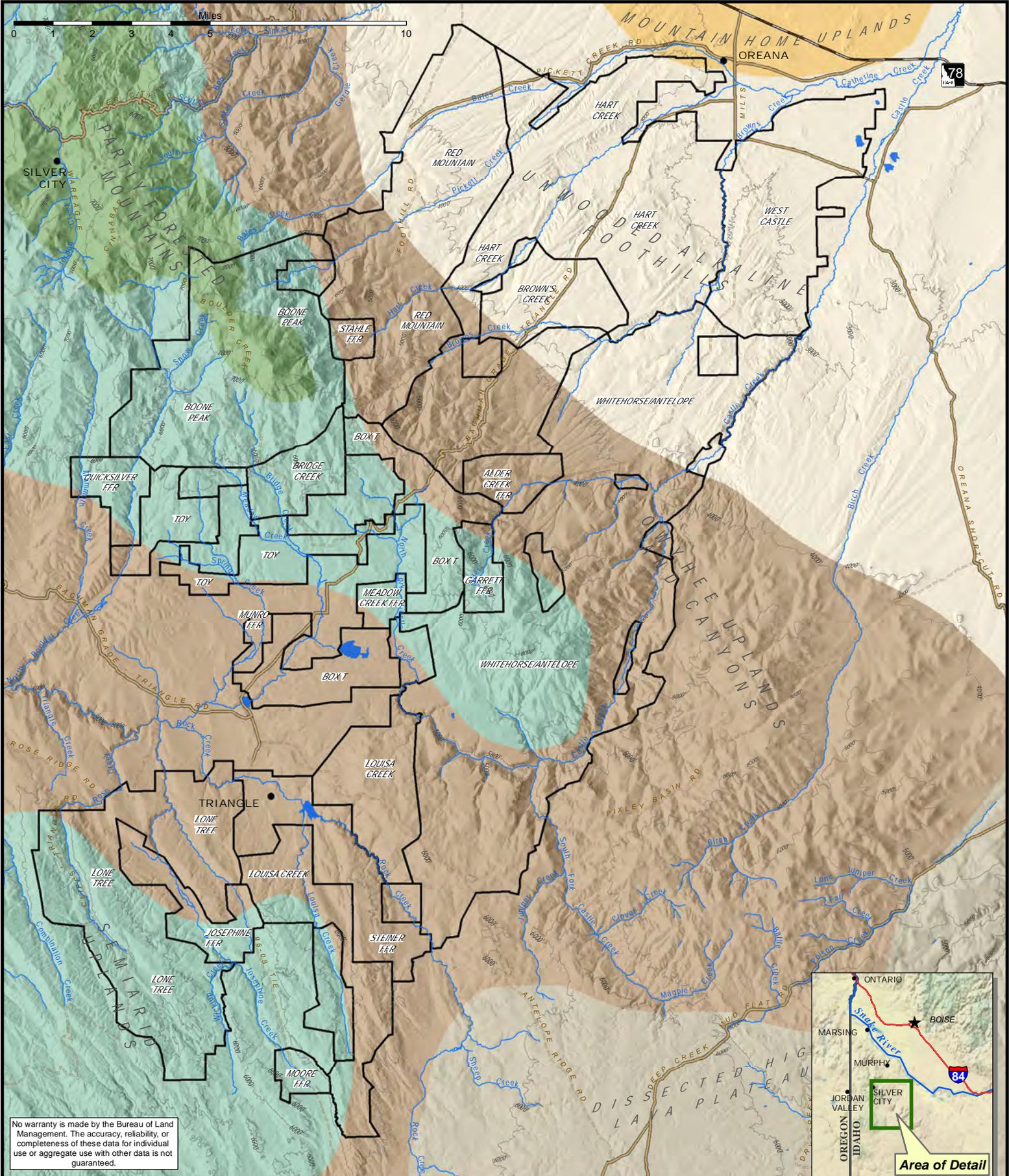
- Improved Road
- 4WD Road
- Gate
- Stock Pond
- Spring
- Trough

- Management**
- BLM
  - State
  - Private
  - Lake/Reservoir





# WDLF-1, Ecoregions, Toy Mountain Allotments



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- Allotment Boundary
- Highway
- Improved Road
- Unimproved Road
- Perennial Stream
- Lake/Reservoir
- Town/City
- 1000' Contour

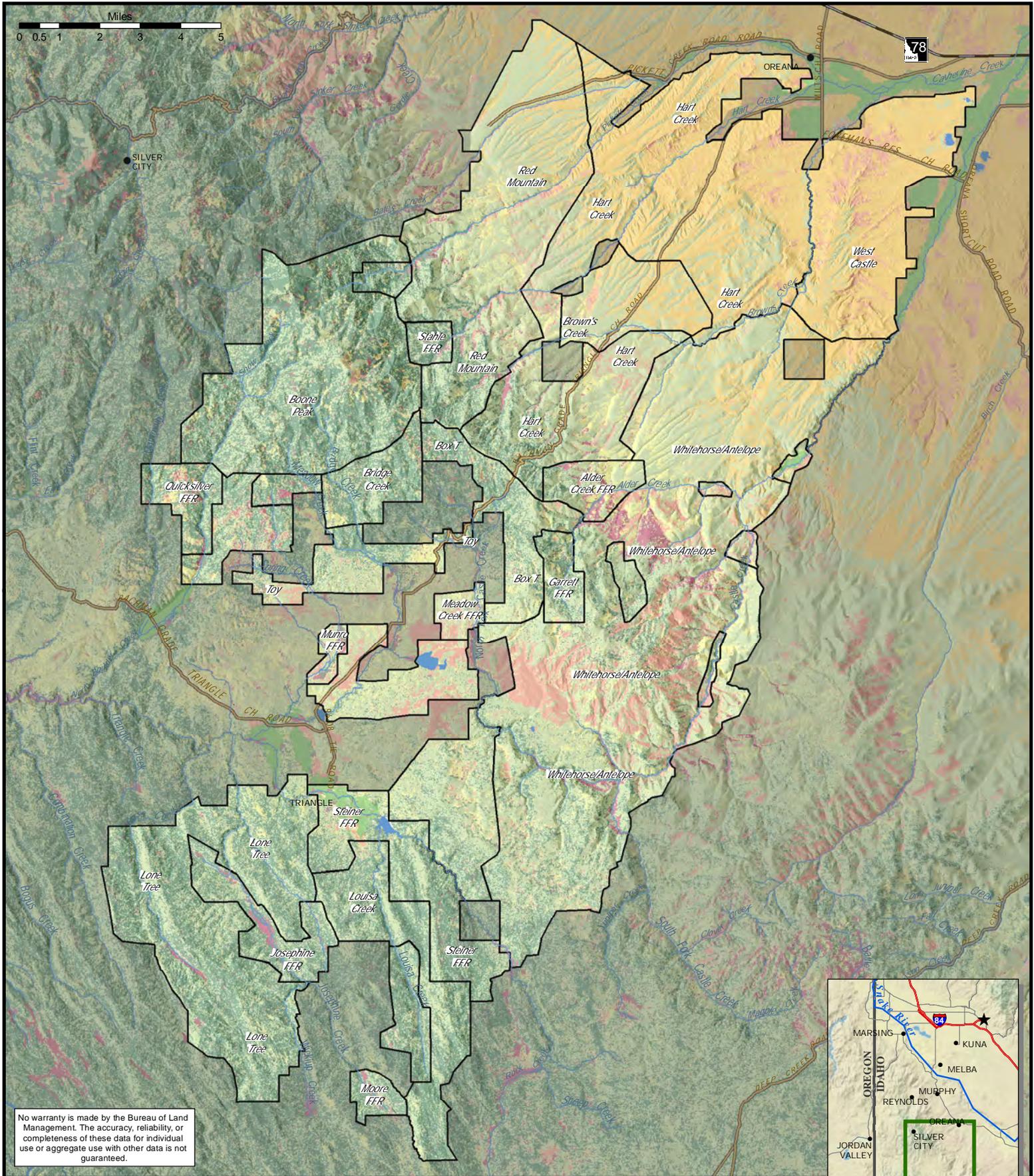
- Ecoregion Classification**
- Dissected High Lava Plateau
  - Mountain Home Uplands
  - Owyhee Uplands and Canyons
  - Partly Forested Mountains
  - Semiarid Uplands
  - Unwooded Alkaline Foothills



1:200,000



# WDLF-2: Habitat/General Cover Types, Toy Mountain Allotments

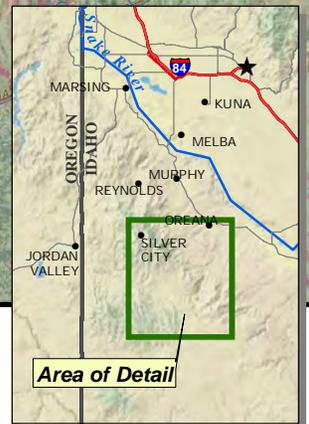


No warranty is made by the Bureau of Land Management. The accuracy, reliability, or completeness of these data for individual use or aggregate use with other data is not guaranteed.

- Allotment Boundary
- Highway
- Improved Road
- Perennial Stream
- Lake/Reservoir

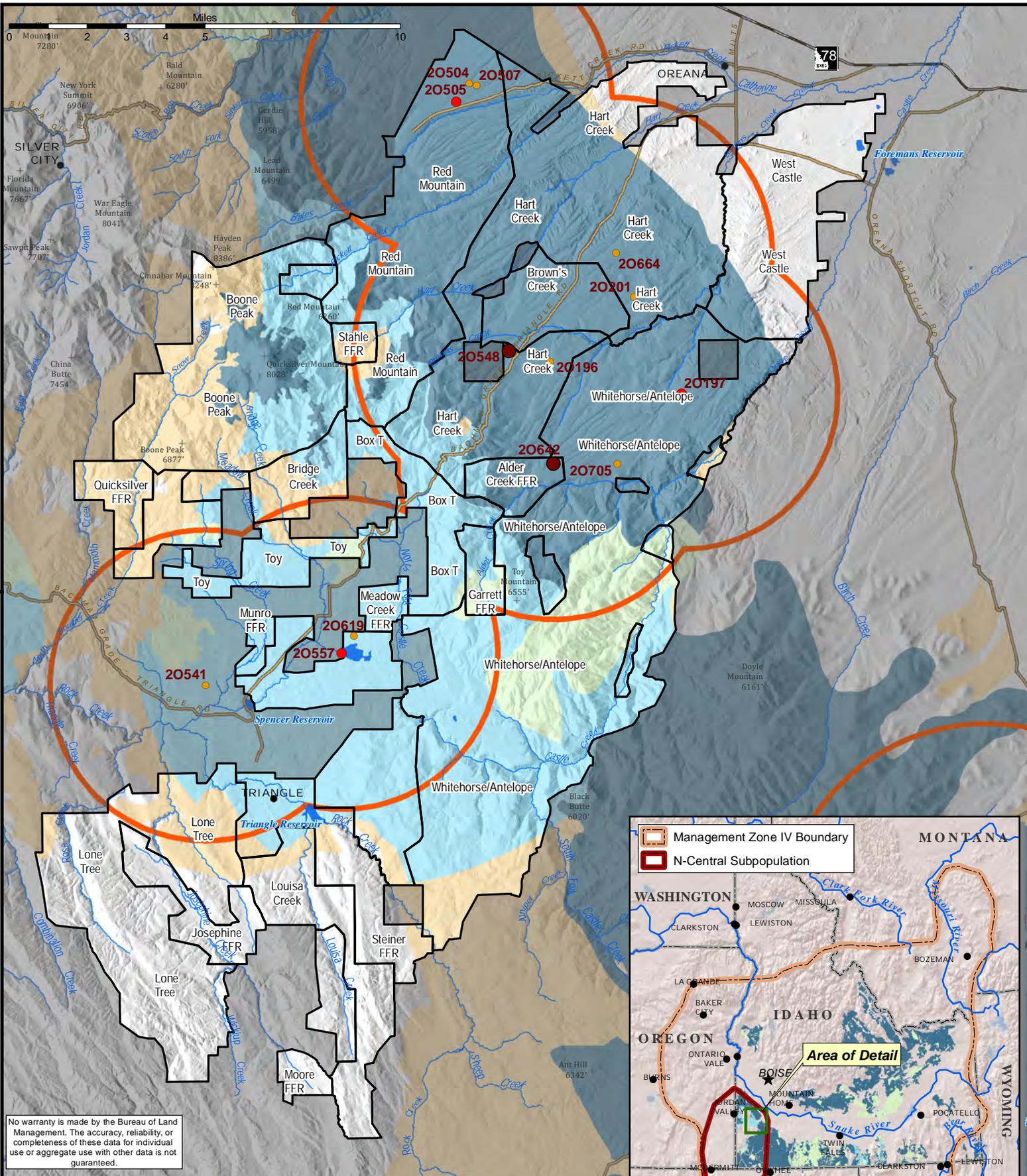
### Vegetation Cover Classification

- |              |                      |
|--------------|----------------------|
| Agriculture  | Non-native/Disturbed |
| Forest       | Salt Desert Shrub    |
| Shrub Steppe | Urban                |
| Grassland    | Riparian             |





# WDLF-3, Sage-grouse Overview, Toy Mountain Allotments



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- Allotment Boundary
- Perennial Stream
- Lake/Reservoir
- Highway
- Improved Road

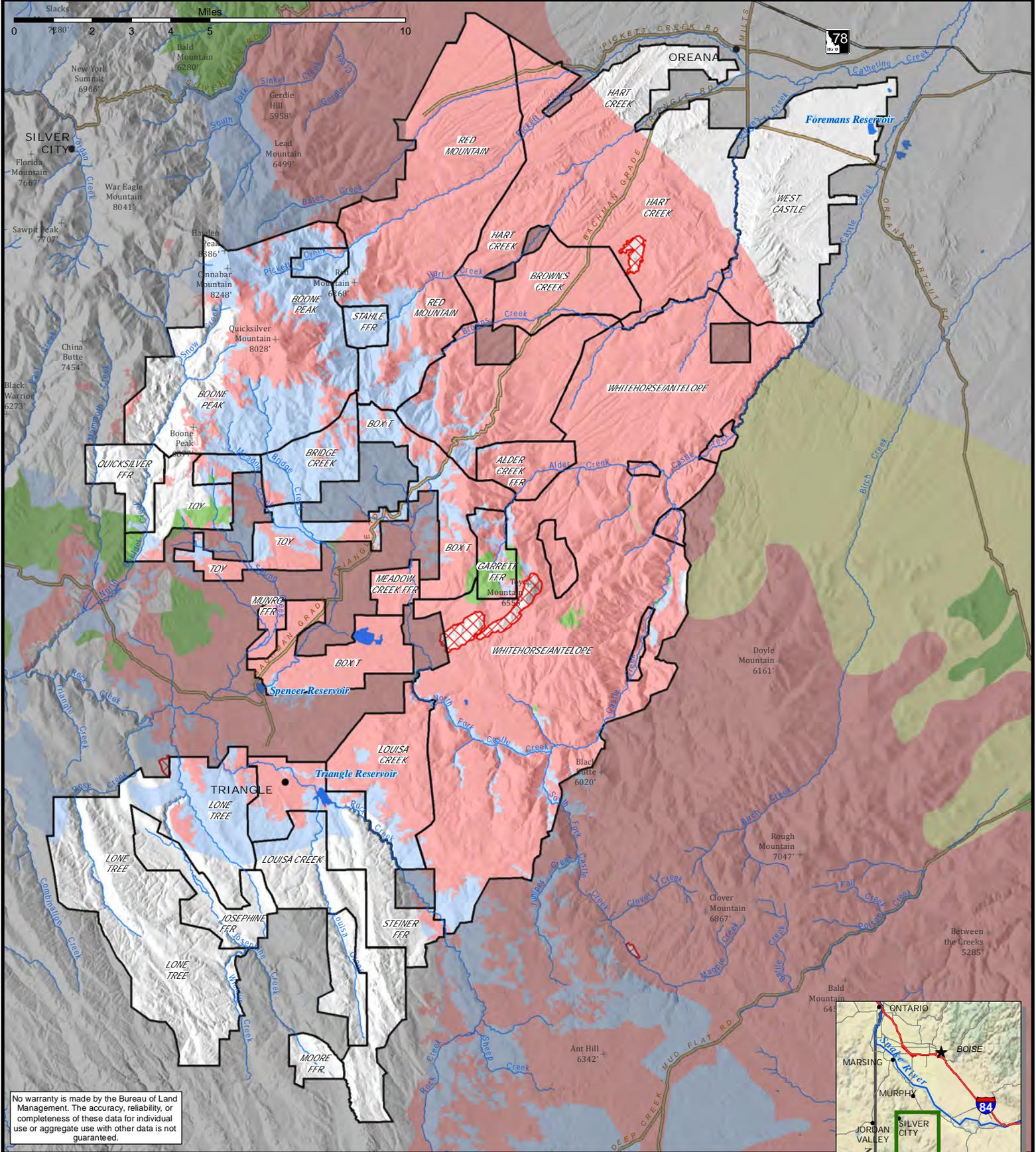
- Idaho Occupied Sage-grouse Leks**  
*Maximum Count (2008-2012)*
- 2 - 9
  - 10 - 29
  - 30 - 49
  - More than 50

- Idaho Sage-grouse Habitat Classes**
- PPH - Sagebrush
  - PPH - Perennial grassland
  - PPH - Conifer encroachment
  - PGH - All subtypes
  - 75% Breeding Bird Density





# WDLF-4, Key Habitat Overview, Toy Mountain Allotments



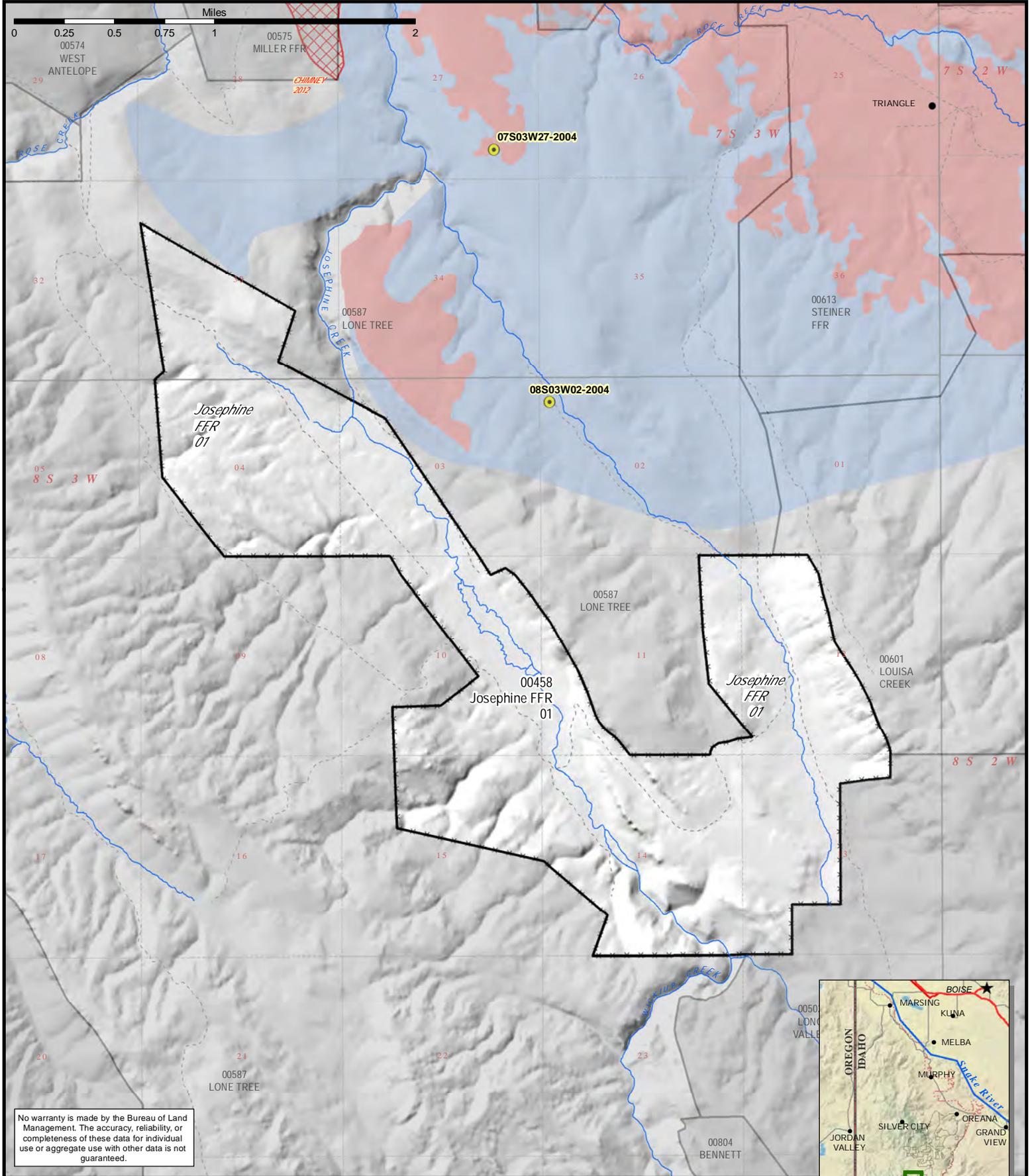
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- Allotment Boundary
- Perennial Stream
- Lake/Reservoir
- Highway
- Improved Road
- 2012 Sage Grouse Habitat**
- (K1) Key Habitat
- (R1) Perennial Grasslands
- (R2) Annual Grasslands Dominate
- (R3) Conifer Encroachment
- Area of Recent Burn





# WDLF-5: Josephine FFR (00458), Key Sage-grouse Habitat and Assessment Sites



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Allotment of Interest Boundary	<b>2012 Sage Grouse Habitat</b>	Habitat Assessment Site
Pasture Boundary	(K) Key Habitat	Perennial Stream
Other Allotment Boundary	(R1) Perennial Grasslands	Spring
Improved Road	(R2) Annual Grasslands Dominate	Lake/Reservoir
4WD Road	(R3) Conifer Encroachment	
	Area of Recent Burn	

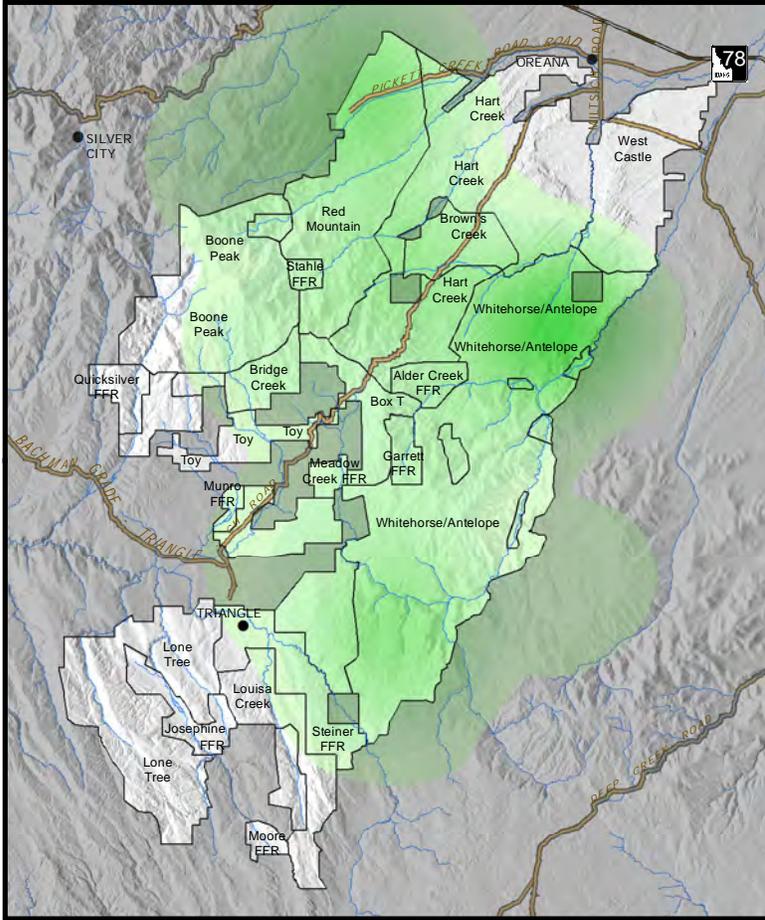




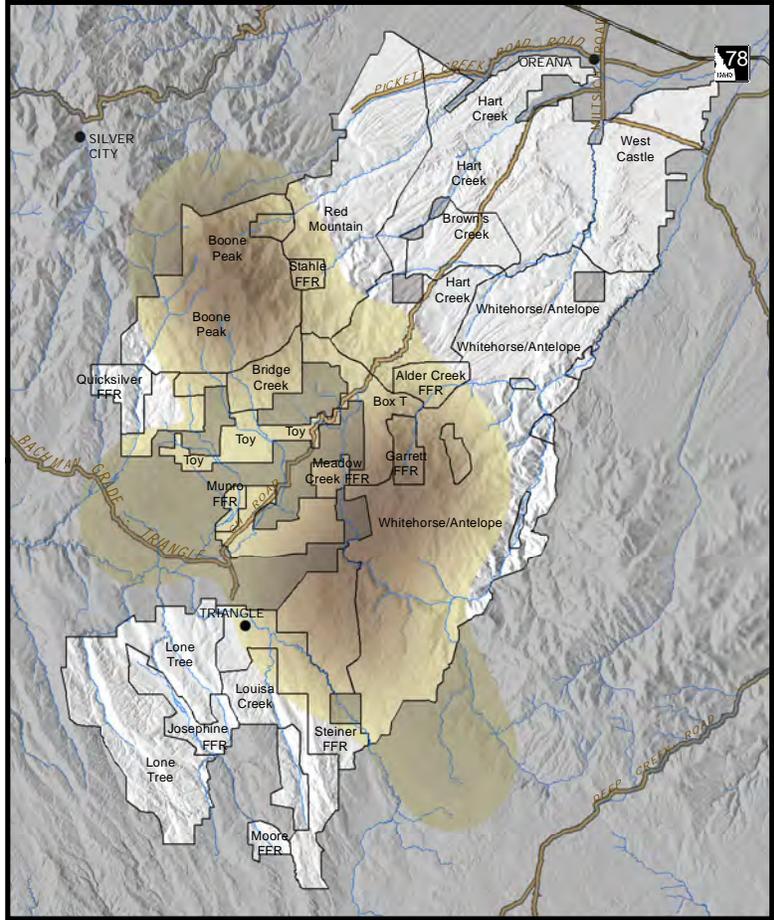
# WDLF-6: Seasonal Sage-grouse Habitat, Toy Mountain Allotments



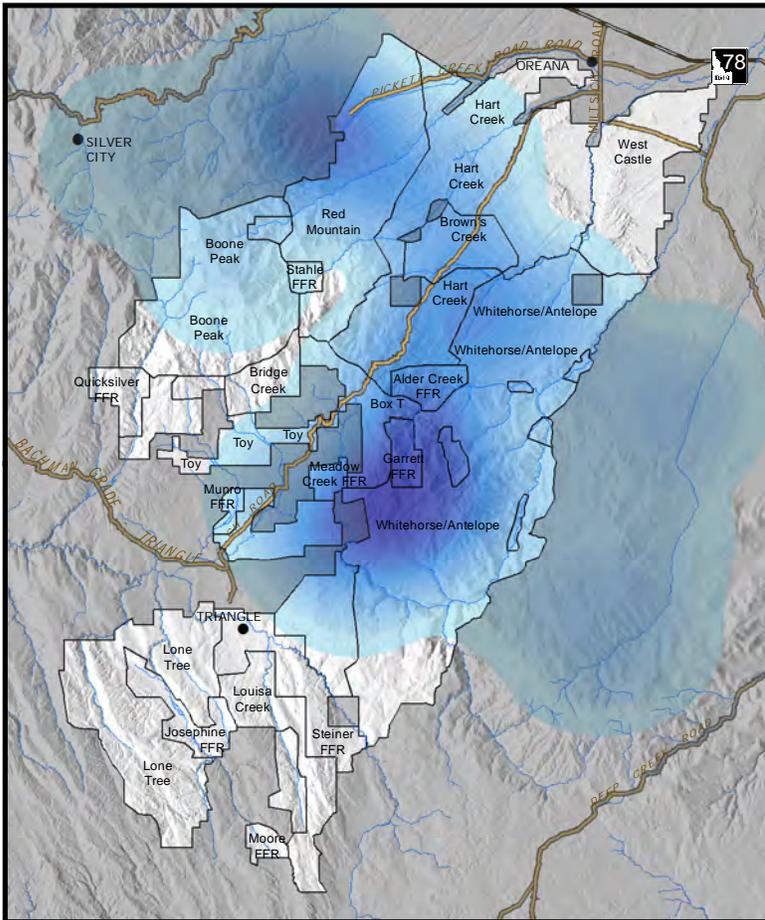
**Breeding Habitat**



**Upland Summer Habitat**



**Winter Habitat**



- Allotment Boundary
- Highway
- Improved Road
- Perennial Stream

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