

Notice of Term Grazing Permit Renewal for
 Authorization Number 2703972 on the
 Mormon Peak Allotment (#1044)

The proposed action is to fully process the renewal of the term grazing permit for authorization number 2703972 on the Mormon Peak Allotment (#01044). The issuance of the term grazing permit would be for a period of up to ten years.

The current grazing permit has been issued for the period 3/1/2013 – 9/30/2013 and authorizes cattle grazing according to the following:

ALLOTMENT		Auth. Num.	LIVESTOCK		GRAZING PERIOD		** % Public Land	Active Use	AUMs		
Name	Number		* Number	Kind	Begin	End			Hist. Use	Susp. Use	Permitted Use
Mormon Peak	01044	#2703972	60	cattle	6/1	3/31	100%	600	0	600	

* These numbers are approximate

** This is for billing purposes only.

The Mormon Peak Allotment, a land based allotment having one permittee, is located in the south-central portion of Lincoln County, Nevada (Map #1). It is approximately 40 miles south of Caliente, Nevada and approximately 14 miles northwest of Mesquite, Nevada. Elevations range from approximately 3,000 feet along the south boundary to approximately 7,200 feet at highest peaks in the central portion of the allotment. The allotment falls within the Lower Meadow Valley Wash (#214 B) and Toquop Wash (#230) Watersheds, and is approximately 77,900 acres in size.

There are four known developed springs located within the allotment, on BLM managed lands, (Map #2): Horse Spring, Hackberry Spring, Wiregrass Spring, and Davies Spring. Horse Spring feeds an approximate three mile pipeline capable of providing water to three watering locations (troughs), which includes a watering location vicinal to the spring source, along its length. When Hackberry Spring was developed it was capable of providing water, via an approximate two mile pipeline, to a location at the pipeline's end. Similarly, when Wiregrass spring was developed it supplied water to an approximate 50 foot pipeline which led to a trough. Field reconnaissance indicates that Davis Spring, which is located in an extremely rocky (rock outcrop type) area, was developed at one time as evidenced by remnants of a pipeline leading to a concrete trough below the spring source. It is important to note that all four springs lack associated riparian areas (lentic), and there are no known intermittent or perennial lotic systems found within the allotment.

Three designations of habitat for the federally threatened Agassiz's desert tortoise (*Gopherus agassizii*) occur within the allotment: general habitat, critical habitat, and the Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC). Desert Tortoise General Habitat and Desert Tortoise Critical Habitat occupy approximately 24,498 acres and 11,935 acres within the allotment, respectively.

Through the Approved Caliente Management Framework Plan Amendment and Record of Decision for the Management of Desert Tortoise (September 2000), approximately 13,200 acres within the allotment boundary were designated as an Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC) for desert tortoise (Map #3).

The allotment also contains mule deer (*Odocoileus hemionus*) habitat and occupied desert bighorn sheep (*Ovis canadensis nelsoni*) habitat (Map #4)

Approximately 90% of the allotment occurs within the Mormon Peak Wilderness area (Map #5).

Since 1998 there have been seven fires, all located within the central and east portions of the allotment (Map #6)

Neither the allotment nor any of its portions are located within a Wild Horse Herd Management Area (HMA).

An evaluation of rangeland monitoring data and rangeland health will be conducted for the allotment. This data will be summarized in a Standards Determination Document that will be provided for public review at a later date.

General Location:

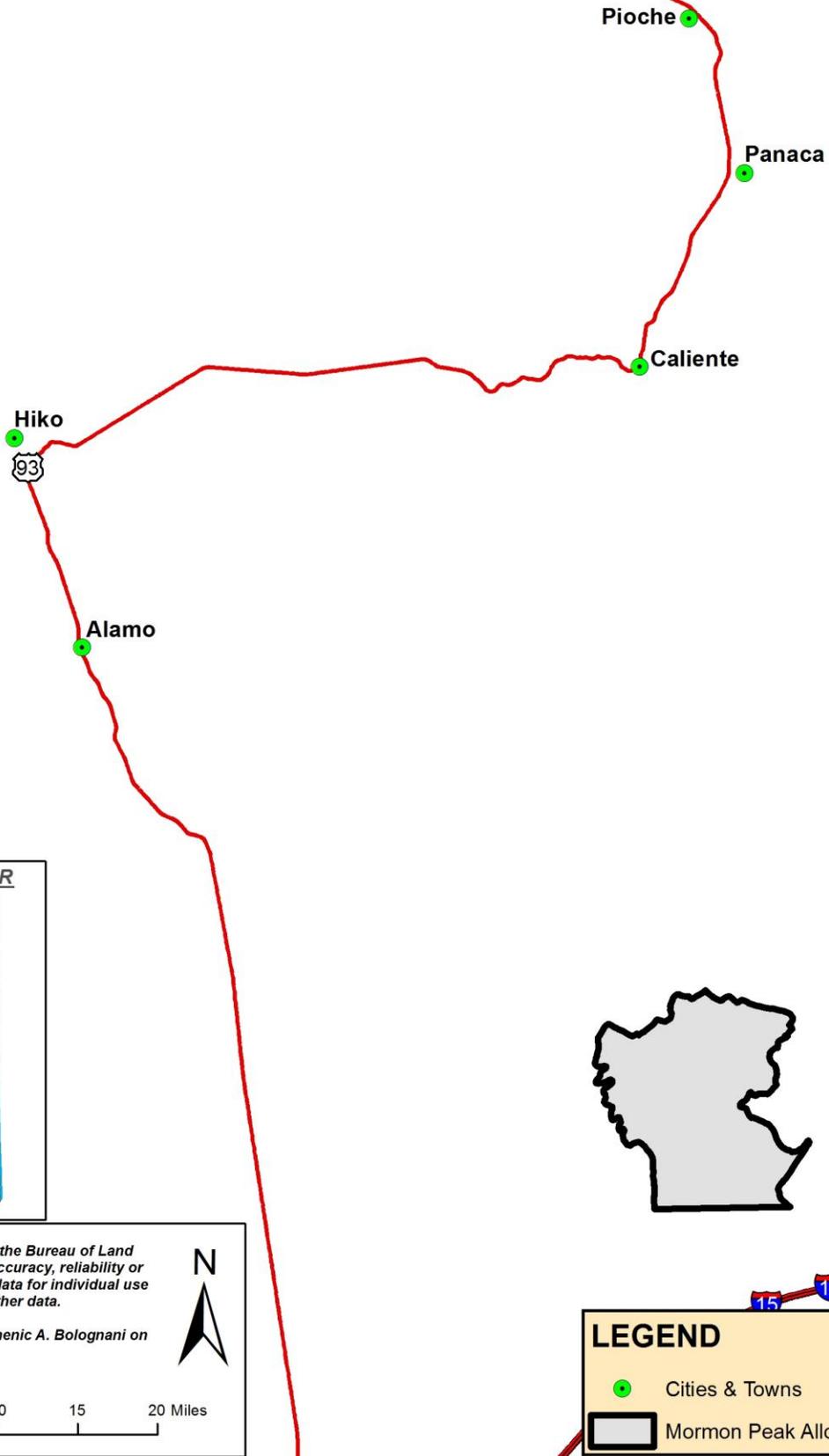
Mormon Peak Allotment

T.11 S., R.66 E., MDBM, many sections
T.11 S., R. 67 E., MDBM, many sections
T.11 S., R. 68 E., MDBM, many sections
T.12 S., R. 67 E., MDBM, many sections
T.12 S., R. 68 E., MDBM, many sections

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Location of the Mormon Peak Allotment (#01044)
with Respect to the Surrounding Towns.



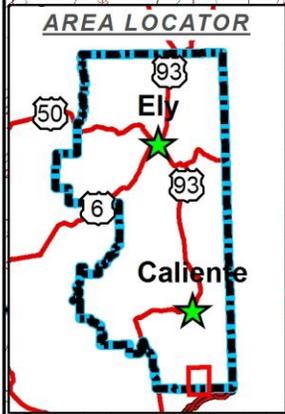
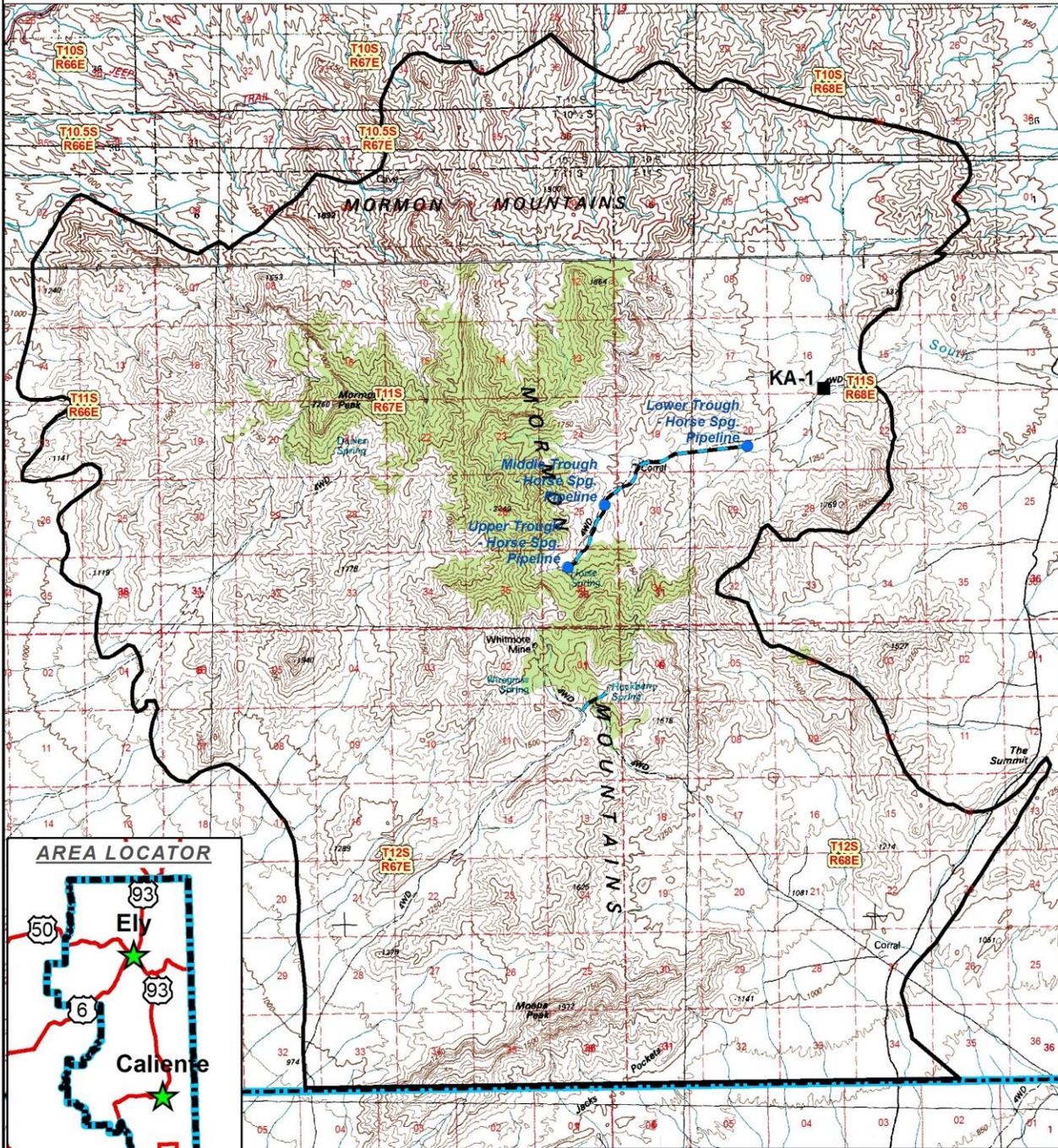
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Map Produced by: Domenic A. Bolognani on 8/12/2013



0 5 10 15 20 Miles

Location of Existing Waters and the Established Key Area within the Mormon Peak Allotment (#01044).



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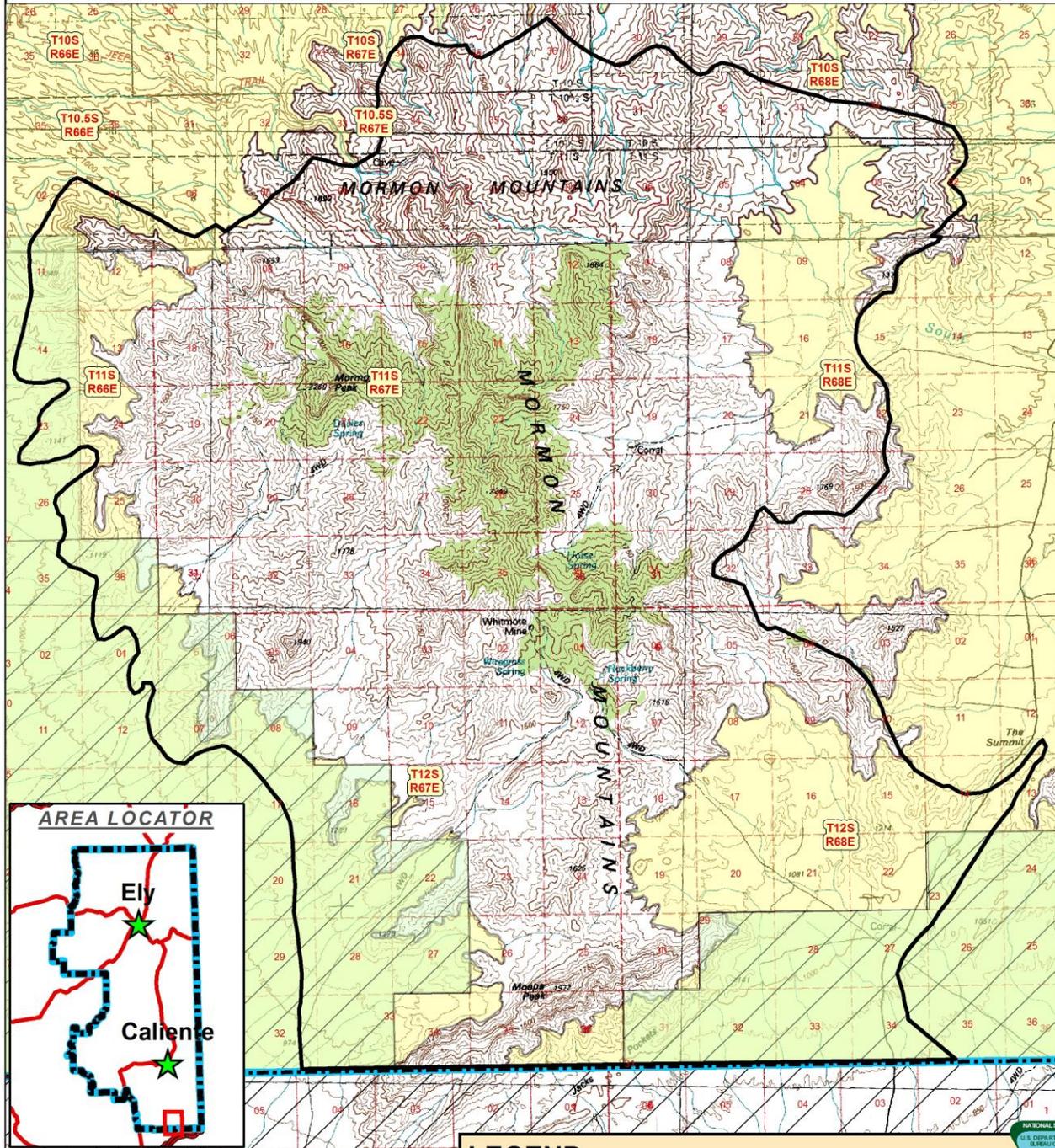
LEGEND

- Mormon Peak Allotment
- Trough Locations Along Horse Spring Pipeline
- Pipeline
- Key Area 1
- Ely District Boundary



Ely District Office

The Three Designations of Habitat which Occur within the Mormon Peak Allotment (#01044), for the Federally Threatened Agassiz's Desert Tortoise (*Gopherus agassizii*): General Habitat, Critical Habitat, and Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC).



Ely District Office

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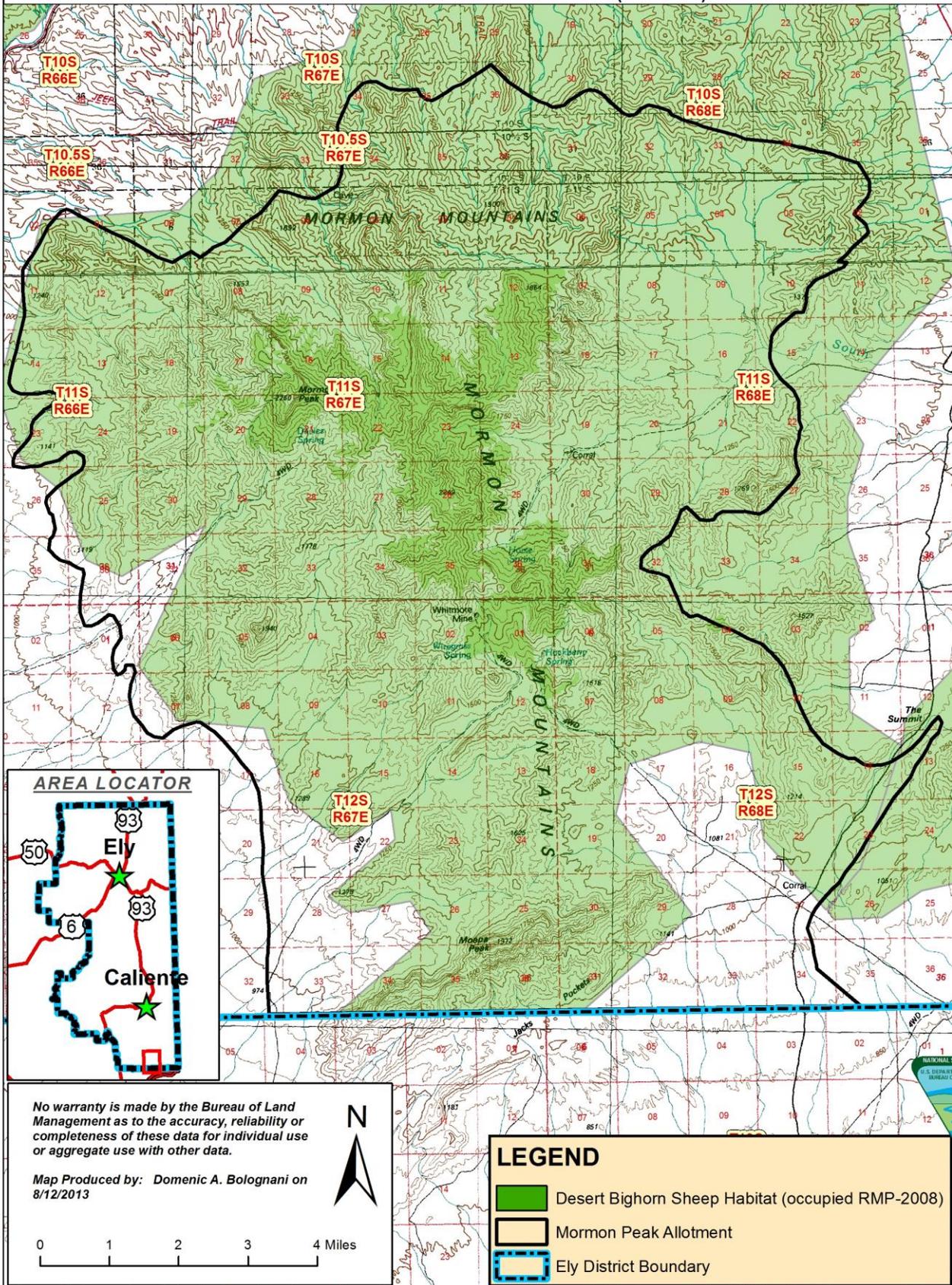
Map Produced by: Domenic A. Bolognani on 8/12/2013



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-  Mormon Peak Allotment
-  Desert Tortoise Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC)
-  Desert Tortoise Critical Habitat
-  Tortoise Habitat (RMP 2008 - 4000ft)
-  Ely District Boundary

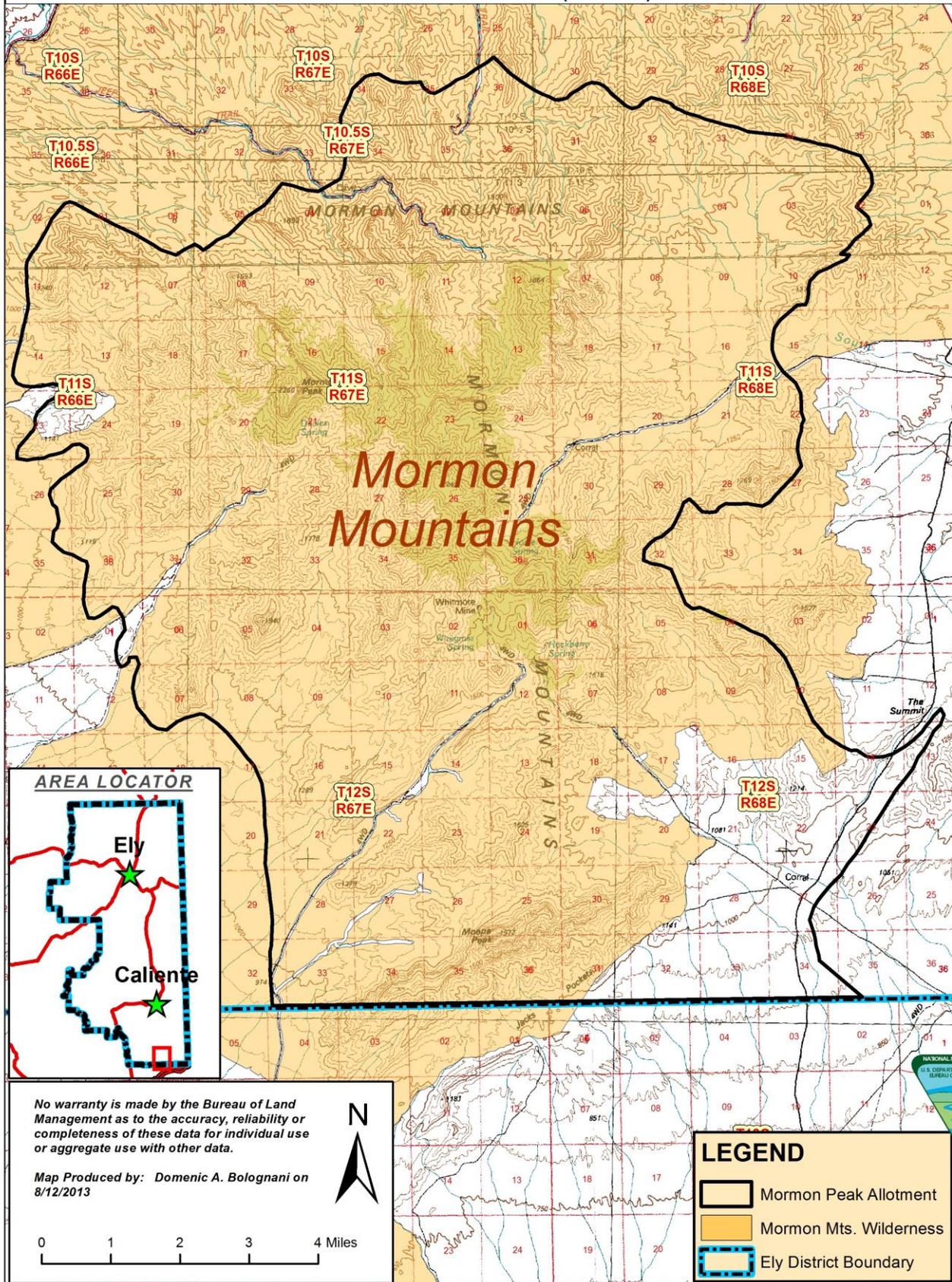
Location of Occupied Bighorn Sheep Habitat within the Mormon Peak Allotment (#01044).



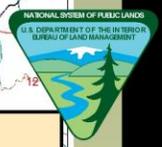
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Location of Designated Wilderness within the Mormon Peak Allotment (#01044).

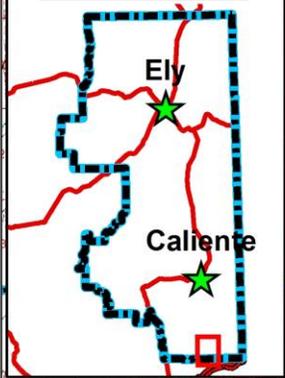
BLM



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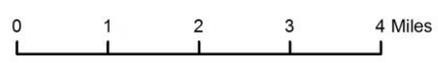


AREA LOCATOR



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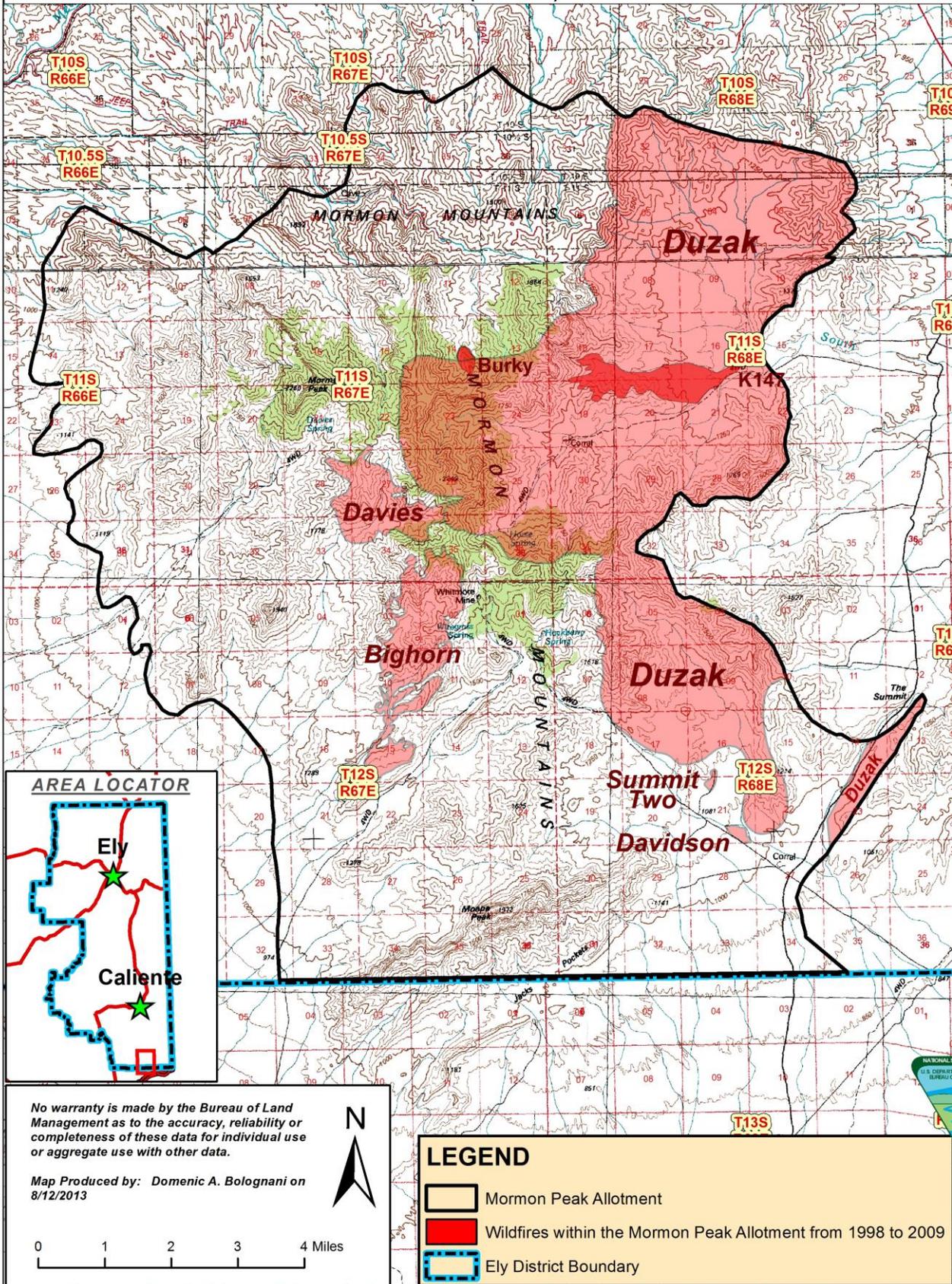
Map Produced by: Domenic A. Bolognani on 8/12/2013



LEGEND

- Mormon Peak Allotment
- Mormon Mts. Wilderness
- Ely District Boundary

Location of Wildfires which have Occurred within the Mormon Peak Allotment (#01044) from 1998 - 2009.

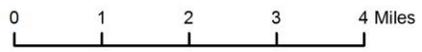


Ely District Office



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Map Produced by: Domenic A. Bolognani on 8/12/2013



LEGEND

- Mormon Peak Allotment
- Wildfires within the Mormon Peak Allotment from 1998 to 2009
- Ely District Boundary