

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT**

Twin Falls District  
Burley Field Office  
15 East 200 South  
Burley, ID 83318

NEPA No. DOI-BLM-ID-T020-2014-0021-CX

**A. Background**

**BLM Office:** Burley Field Office.

**Lease/Serial/Case File No.:** N/A

**Proposed Action Title/Type:** Application for Grazing Preference by Tugaw Ranches, LLC

**Location of Proposed Action:** T. 11-12 S., R. 17-20 E., Various Sections. Approximately 7 miles south of Murtaugh, ID, 8 miles south of Kimerly, ID and 8 miles south of Twin Falls, ID (See attached Map).

**Description of Proposed Action:** Tugaw Ranches, LLC has made application for a name change of the existing grazing preference held by Tugaw Ranches on the Simon Baker, Western Stockgrowers, Hub Butte-WSG, Buckhorn-Churchill, Dry Creek and Artesian-Kidd Allotments. Therefore, in accordance with 43 CFR 4110.2-3, the Proposed Action is to approve the name change transfer of grazing preference from Tugaw Ranches to Tugaw Ranches, LLC as applied.

**B. Land Use Plan Conformance**

**Land Use Plan Name:** Twin Falls Management Framework Plan and Cassia Resource Management Plan

**Date Approved/Amended:** 1982 and 1985

X  The proposed action is in conformance with the LUPs, even though it is not specifically provided for, because it is consistent with the LUP decision(s) (objectives, terms, and conditions): Although transfers are not identified specifically in the Twin Falls MFP or Cassia RMP, the LUPs outlines rangeland management i.e., grazing, as an appropriate use within the aforementioned allotments. This transfer will not change the grazing management on these allotments as identified in the LUPs.

**C. Compliance with NEPA:**

**The Proposed Action is categorically excluded from further documentation under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) in accordance with 516 DM 11.9 D.1, Appendix 4 – Approval of transfers of grazing preference.**

This categorical exclusion is appropriate in this situation because there are no extraordinary circumstances potentially having effects that may significantly affect the environment. This is

because there are no effects to the environment through the transfer of a permit. The proposed action has been reviewed, and none of the extraordinary circumstances described in 43 CFR 46.215 apply.

**Consideration of Extraordinary Circumstances:**

This CER Sheet documents the review of the proposed action to determine if any of the extraordinary circumstances described in 43 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 46.215 apply. If any of the extraordinary circumstances apply to the proposed action, then an EA or EIS must be prepared. Any evidence or concerns that one or more of the exceptions may apply must be brought to the attention of the manager who is authorized to approve the proposed action.

1. The proposed action would not have significant impacts on public health or safety.

*Approval of an application for transfer of existing grazing preference (i.e.name change on existing permit) with no additional use(s) authorized is an administrative function with no effects to public health or safety.*

2. The proposed action would not have significant impacts on such natural resources and unique geographic characteristics as historic or cultural resources; park, recreation or refuge lands; wilderness areas; wild or scenic rivers; national natural landmarks; sole or principal drinking water aquifers; prime farmlands; wetlands (Executive Order 11990); floodplains (Executive Order 11988); national monuments; migratory birds; or ecologically significant or critical areas.

*This management action, approval of a transfer of existing grazing preference (i.e. name change on existing permit), would not have any environmental impacts since this action is a routine administrative procedure that would not change the grazing management on the allotment.*

3. The proposed action would not have highly controversial environmental effects or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources [NEPA Section 102(2)(E)].

*The proposed approval of application for grazing preference is a routine administrative procedure that would not change the grazing management on the allotment.*

4. The proposed action would not have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks.

*Livestock grazing is an ongoing activity, the transfer of existing grazing preference (i.e.name change on existing permit) poses no unique or unknown environmental risks.*

5. The proposed action would not establish a precedent for future actions or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects.

*Approval of existing grazing preference transfer for continuation of existing grazing preference is a routine administrative procedure that would not change the grazing management on the*

*allotment. This action neither establishes a precedent for future actions nor represents a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects.*

6. The proposed action would not have a direct relationship to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant environmental effects.

*This administrative action, approval of application and transfer of existing grazing preference, would be neither individually nor cumulatively significant.*

7. The proposed action would not have significant impacts on properties listed, or eligible for listing, on the National Register of Historic Places as determined by the bureau.

*This administrative action, approval of application and transfer of existing grazing preference (i.e.name change on existing permit), would have no effect on properties listed, or eligible for listing, on the National Register of Historic Places.*

8. The proposed action would not have significant impacts on species listed, or proposed to be listed, on the List of Endangered or Threatened Species, or have significant impacts on designated critical habitat for these species.

*This administrative action, approval of application and transfer of existing grazing preference (i.e.name change on existing permit), would have no known effect on federally listed, candidate, or BLM special status plant/ wildlife species.*

9. The proposed action would not violate a Federal law, or a State, local, or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment.

*This routine administrative procedure (i.e.name change on existing permit) is consistent and compatible with all known Federal, State, local and Tribal laws or requirements imposed for protection of the environment.*

10. The proposed action would not have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations (Executive Order 12898)

*This administrative action, approval of application and transfer of existing grazing preference (i.e.name change on existing permit), would have no effect on low income or minority populations.*

11. The proposed action would not limit access to and ceremonial use of Indian sacred sites on Federal lands by Indian religious practitioners or significantly adversely affect the physical integrity of such sacred sites (Executive Order 13007).

*This administrative action, approval of application and transfer of existing grazing preference (i.e.name change on existing permit), would have no effect and would not limit access for ceremonial use of Indian sacred sites by Indian religious practitioners; nor would there be adverse effects to the physical integrity of sacred sites.*

12. The proposed action would not contribute to the introduction, continued existence, or spread of noxious weeds or non-native invasive species known to occur in the area or actions that may promote the introduction, growth, or expansion of the range of such species (Federal Noxious Weed Control Act and Executive Order 13112).

*This administrative action, approval of application and transfer of existing grazing preference (i.e.name change on existing permit), would not contribute to the introduction, continued existence, or spread of noxious weeds or non-native species.*

**Participating Staff**

Name of Participant	Position Title or Resource Expertise	Comments Provided (Initial One)		Date
		None	Attached	
Jason Theodozio	Range/ Botany	JT		6/17/14
Jesse Rawson	Wildlife	JR		6/17/14
Lael Henrikson	Cultural Resources	LSH		7/02/14
Scott Sayer	Supervisory RMS	SS		7/02/14

**D. Signature**

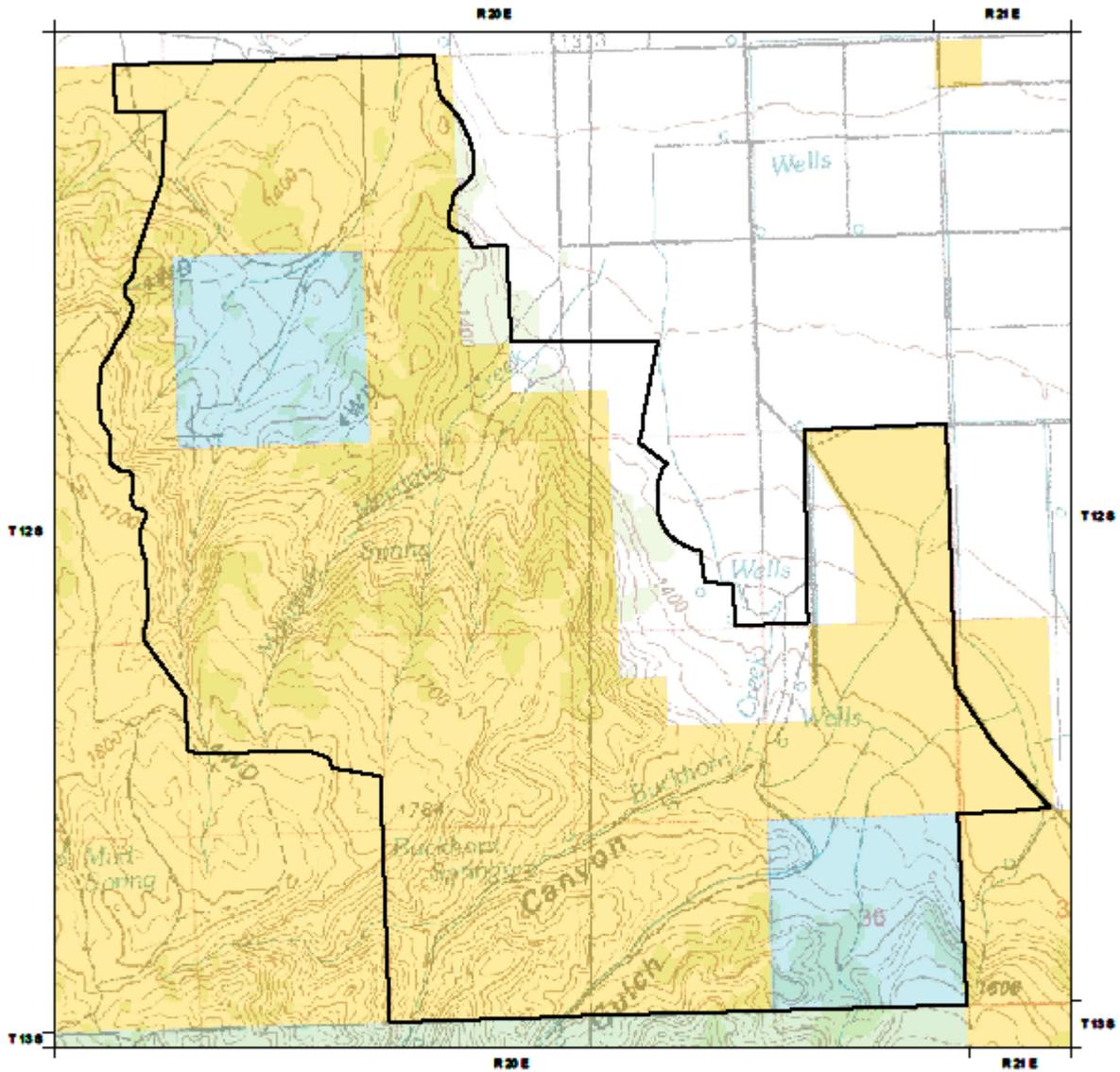
**Authorizing Official:** Scott Sayer **Date:** 7/03/2014

**Name:** Mike Courtney for  
**Title:** Burley Field Manager

**Contact Person**

For additional information concerning this CX review, contact Jason Theodozio, Rangeland Management Specialist, 677-6621, 15 East 200 South, Burley, ID 83318.

# Buckhorn-Churchill Allotment



US Depart. of the Interior  
Bureau of Land Management  
Twin Falls District, Idaho

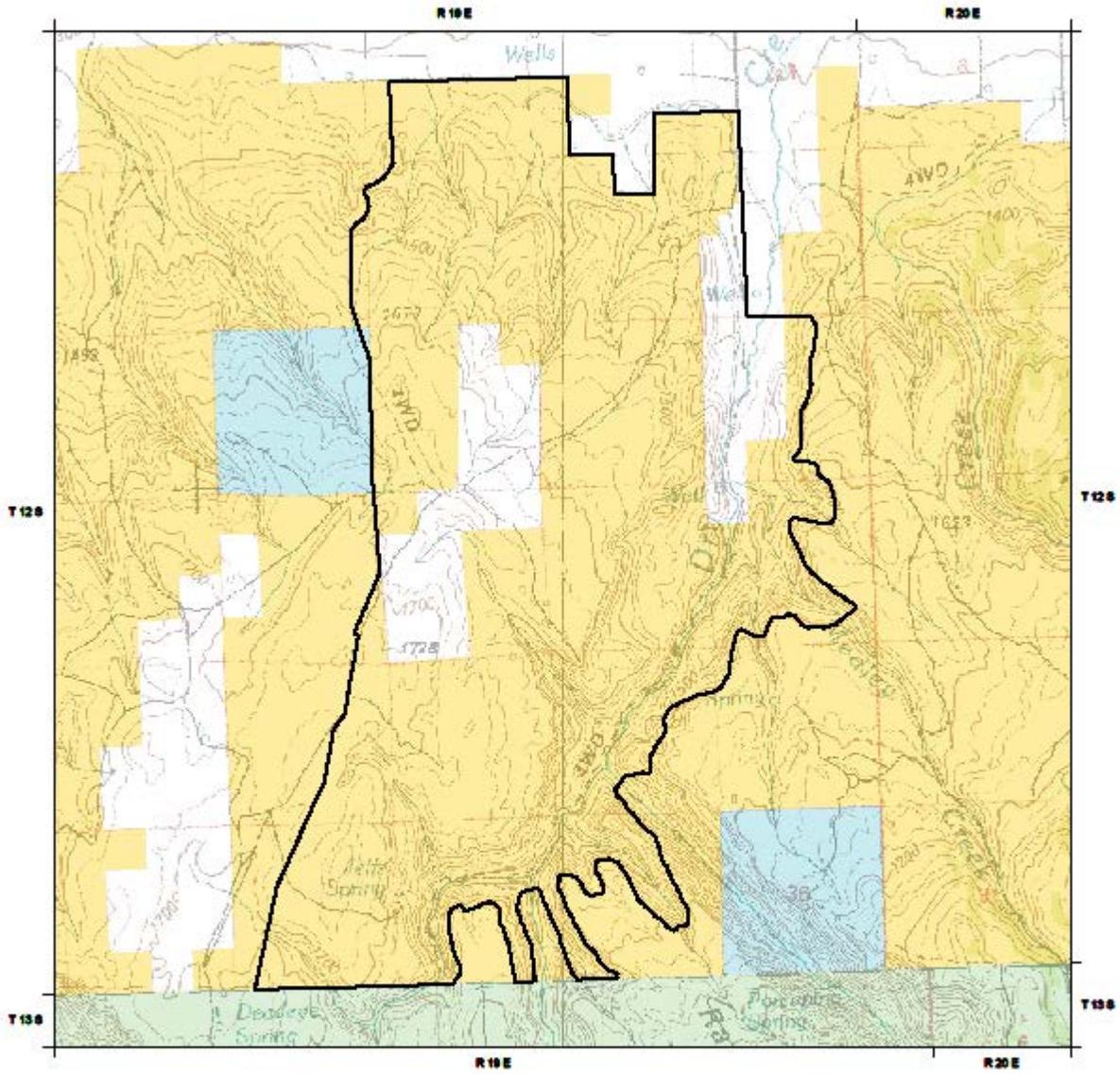
**Legend**

- Allotment Boundary
- Bureau of Land Management
- Forest Service
- Private; other
- State

0 0.25 0.5 0.75 1 Miles

The United States is a public landowner. The Bureau of Land Management is the primary agency for the management of public lands. The Bureau of Reclamation is the primary agency for the management of public lands that are under federal control.

# Dry Creek Allotment



US Depart. of the Interior  
Bureau of Land Management  
Twin Falls District, Idaho

### Legend

-  Allotment Boundary
-  Bureau of Land Management
-  Forest Service
-  Private; other
-  State



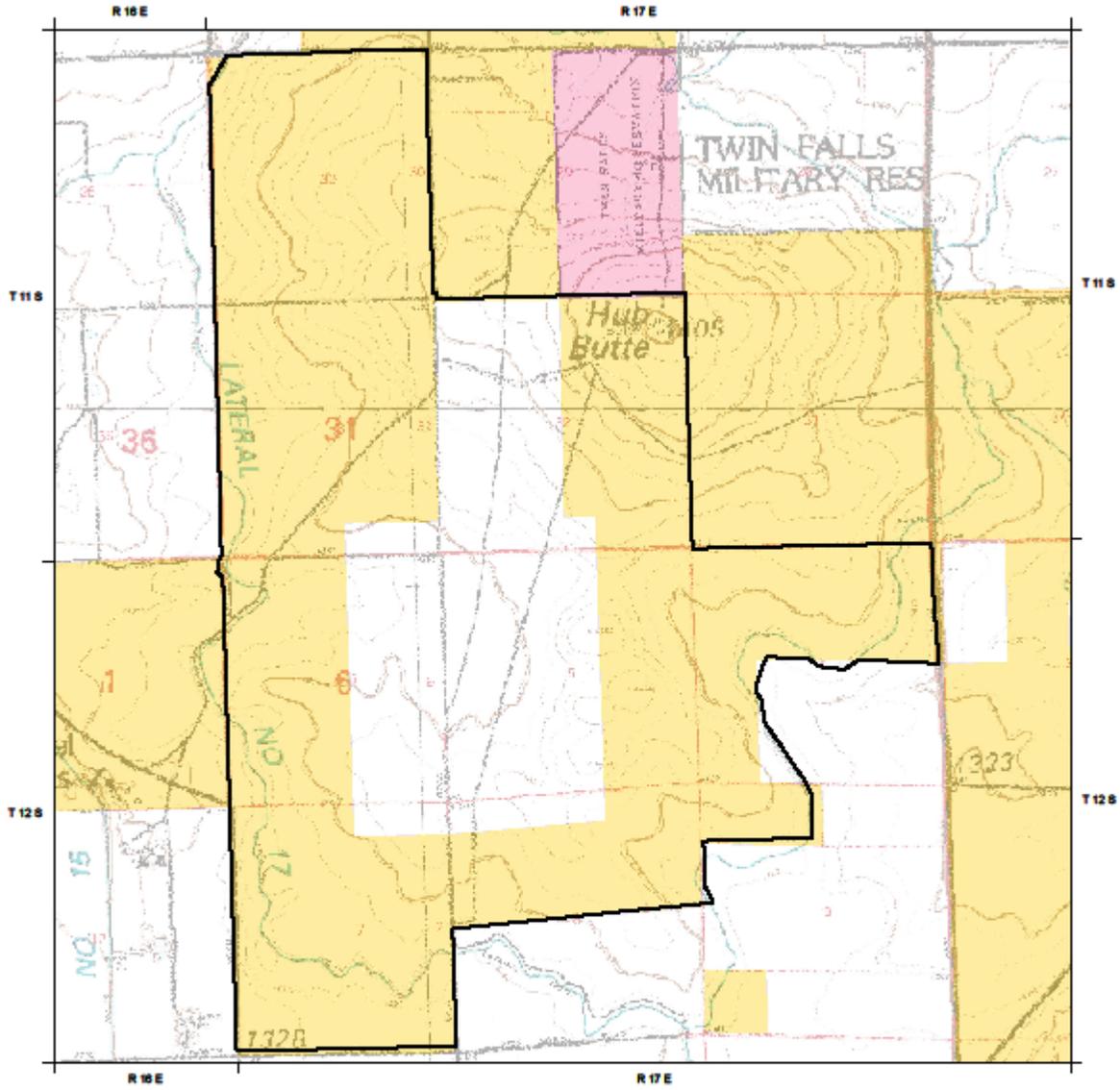
0 0.25 0.5 0.75 1 Miles



The National System of Public Lands is managed by the Bureau of Land Management, a unit of the Department of the Interior. The Bureau is the lead agency for the management of public lands and resources.



# Hub Butte-WSG



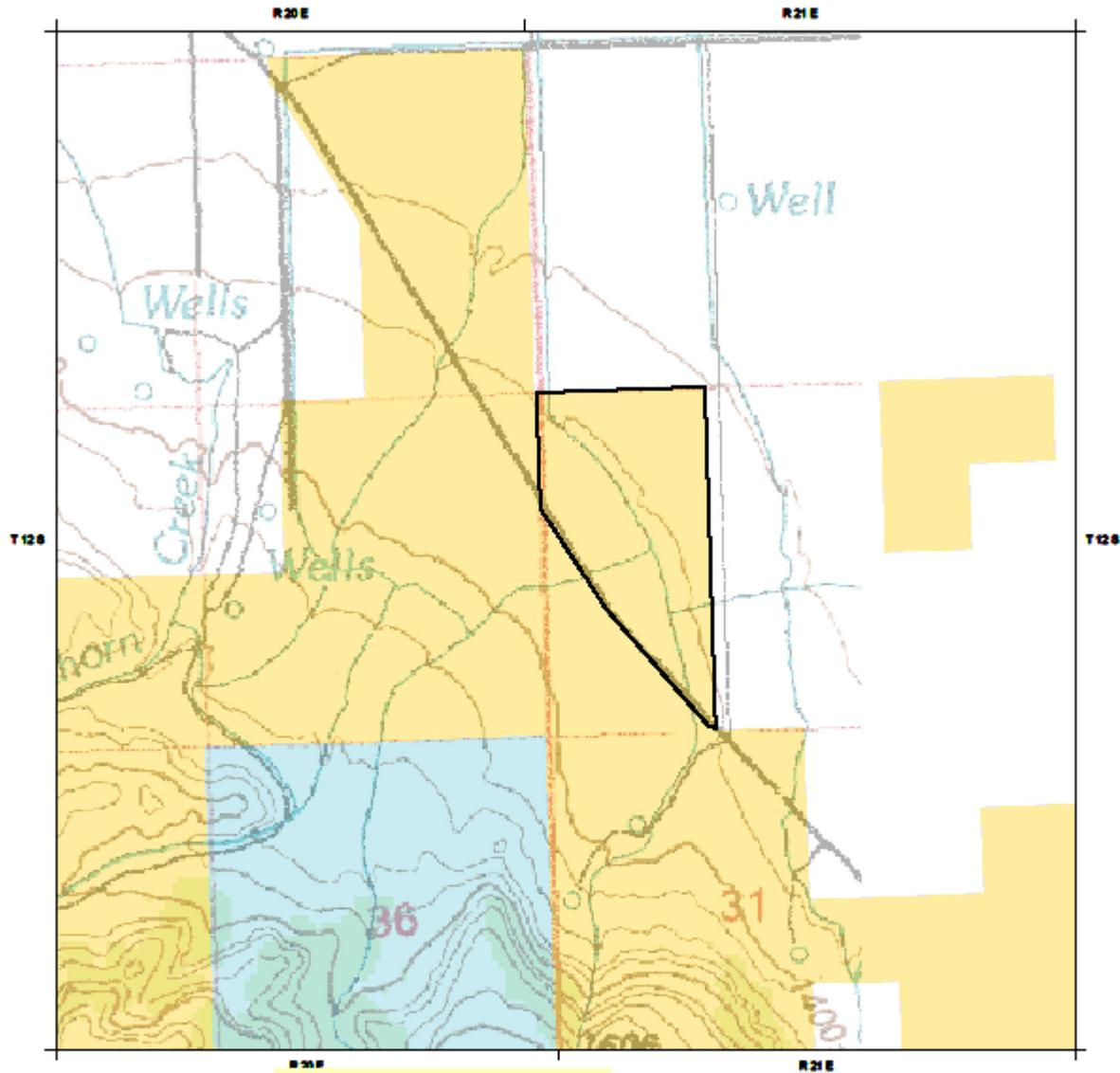
US Dept. of the Interior  
Bureau of Land Management  
Twin Falls District, Idaho

**Legend**

- Hub Butte-Western Sg
- Bureau of Land Management
- Military, Department of Defense
- Private; other
- State

A scale bar showing distances from 0 to 1 mile. Below the scale bar are the logos for the Bureau of Land Management and the National Oil and Gas Lease program. Text next to the logos reads: "For more information, please contact your local BLM office or visit our website at www.blm.gov. This is a public information product. It is not intended to be used as a legal document. For more information, please contact your local BLM office." The BLM logo is on the left and the National Oil and Gas Lease logo is on the right.

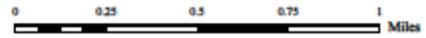
# Simon-Baker Allotment



US Depart. of the Interior  
Bureau of Land Management  
Twin Falls District, Idaho

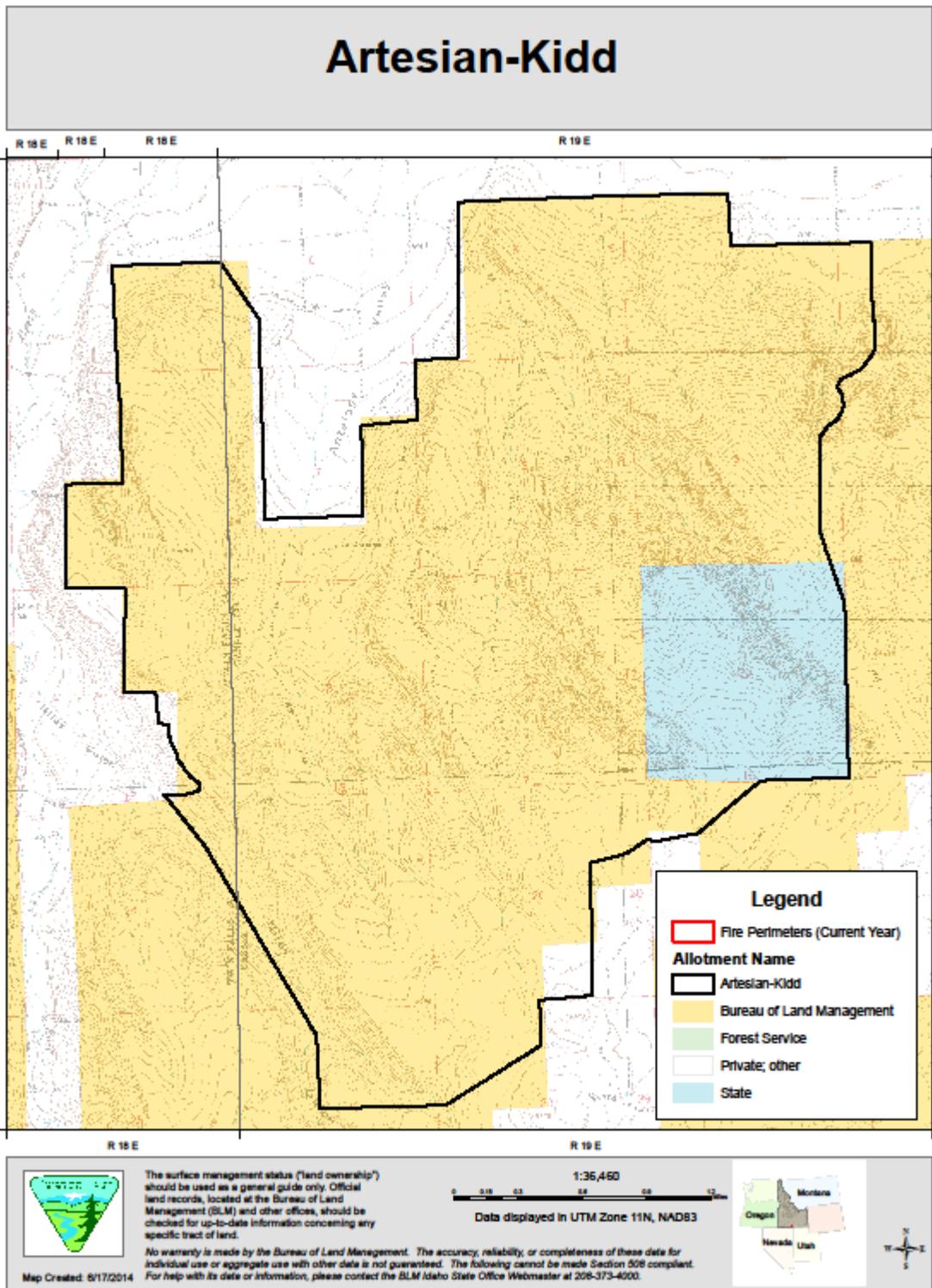
## Legend

-  Simon Baker West
-  Bureau of Land Management
-  Forest Service
-  Fish and Wildlife Service
-  Private; other
-  State

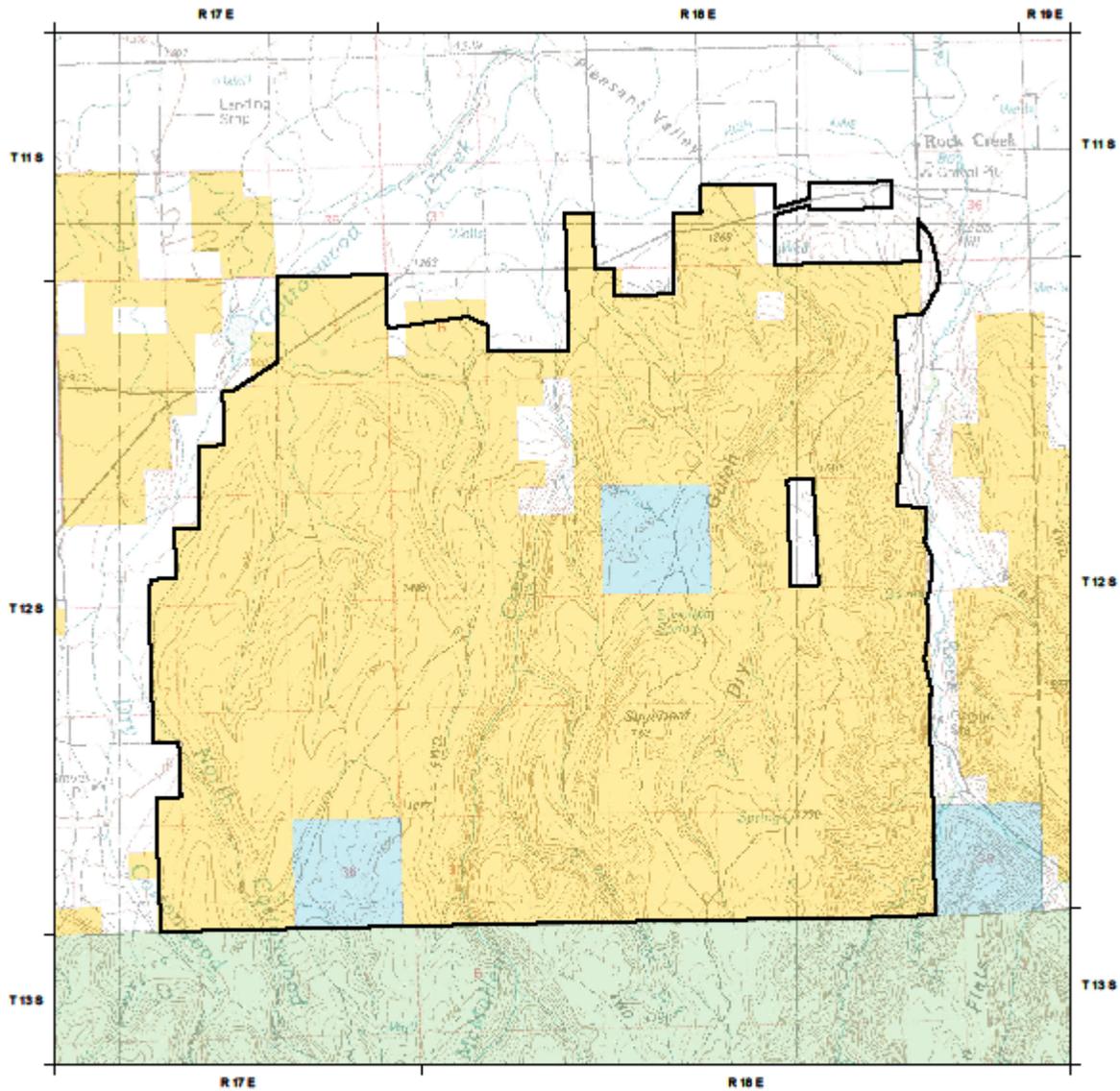


The National System of Public Lands is managed by the Bureau of Land Management, a bureau of the Department of the Interior. The Bureau is the lead agency for the management of these lands and is responsible for their protection and preservation.





# WESTERN STOCKGROWERS ALLOTMENT



**Legend**

- Alotment Boundary
- Bureau of Land Management
- Forest Service
- Private; other
- State



0 0.25 0.5 0.75 1 Miles

For more BLM land information and updates, contact your local office. For more information, visit [www.blm.gov](http://www.blm.gov). For more information, visit [www.fs.fed.us](http://www.fs.fed.us).