

Worksheet
Determination of NEPA Adequacy (DNA)
U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management

OFFICE: Upper Snake Field Office, Idaho Falls District Office

NEPA Number: DOI-BLM-ID-I010-2016-0003-DNA

CASEFILE/PROJECT NUMBER: IDI-37642

PROPOSED ACTION TITLE/TYPE: Marvin Bagley Conservation Easement Acquisition

LOCATION/LEGAL DESCRIPTION: The Bagley property is located on Henry's Fork of the Snake River in Madison County within the Snake River Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC). It lies approximately eight miles north of Rexburg in Madison County, Idaho. The legal description for the property is Township 7 North, Range 39 East, section 27, Boise Meridian (see attached maps 1-3).

APPLICANT (if any): N/A

A. Description of the Proposed Action and any applicable mitigation measures

The proposed action is to acquire a conservation easement on an approximately 160 acres of pasture lands, cultivated fields, and riparian along the Henry's Fork of the Snake River in Madison County within the Snake River Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC). It lies approximately eight miles north of Rexburg in Madison County, Idaho. The acquisition of the conservation easement is pending Land and Water Conservation Funds (LWCF) appropriations for the Upper Snake/South Fork Snake River Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC) project.

The Bagley property offers approximately a half mile of river frontage, borders BLM on the South and East boundary. The main body (approximately 110 acres) of the property includes the riparian and pasture lands. The most northern portion (approximately 50 acres) of the property is cultivated in grain. They would want to retain the right to farm. All reserved areas, to be determined, would be included therein and are subject to the Conservation Easements terms and conditions. A county road runs along the north side, of the property boundaries.

The property has Henry's Fork River frontage and wetlands associated with the river. Wetland vegetation provides habitat to a number of wildlife species that are designated by the Idaho Department of Fish and Game as "species of greatest conservation need." Special status species that are likely to use the property include: Sandhill Crane, Trumpeter Swan, Northern Pintail, Hooded Merganser, American White Pelican, White-faced Ibis, California Gull, Franklin's Gull, Black-crowned Night-Heron, Bald Eagle and Swainson's Hawk. This landscape provides connectivity for wildlife moving along the river corridor.

This property is a private inholding within the Snake River ACEC, the area supports a variety of vegetative communities including cottonwoods, willow, water birch and other wetland

vegetation, sagebrush steppe, and cultivated fields. Protection of the property would provide open space and uninterrupted scenic views to members of the public floating/fishing along the Henry's Fork.

Acquisition of a conservation easement on the Bagley property meets BLM's management goals of maintaining open space, protecting crucial wildlife habitat, and promoting outdoor recreation opportunities and access along the Henry's Fork.

B. Land Use Plan (LUP) Conformance

LUP Name: Medicine Lodge RMP and EIS, Approved: 1985

Although not specifically provided for, the proposed action is in conformance with the Medicine Lodge RMP Management Area 9 (Snake River) decision (#10) to create the Snake River ACEC and develop an associated management plan for the purpose of protecting the unique natural resources that the river system provides

Other document: Snake River Activity/Operations Plan and Environmental Assessment #ID-030-036, Approved: 1991

Other document: Snake River Activity/Operations Plan Revision and Environmental Assessment EA# ID-310-2006-EA-3398, Approved: 2008

C. Identify applicable National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) documents and other related documents that cover the proposed action.

Medicine Lodge RMP and EIS (1985)

Snake River Activity/Operations Plan and Environmental Assessment (1991)

Snake River Activity/Operations Plan Revision and Environmental Assessment EA# ID-310-2006-EA-3398 (2008)

List by name and date other documentation relevant to the proposed action (e.g., biological assessment, biological opinion, watershed assessment, allotment evaluation, and monitoring report).

Pre-acquisition Liability Survey (PALS) (November, 2015)

Mineral Potential Report Memo to the Idaho State Office (January, 2015)

Title Commitment (May, 2015)

Biological Assessment for the BLM Upper Snake Field Office US Forest Service Caribou-Targhee Palisades Ranger District Snake River Activity/Operations Plan and US Fish and Wildlife Service Letter of Concurrence (2008) File #1004.1000

D. NEPA Adequacy Criteria

1. Is the new proposed action a feature of, or essentially similar to, an alternative analyzed in the existing NEPA document(s)? Is the project within the same analysis area, or if the project location is different, are the geographic and resource conditions sufficiently similar to those analyzed in the existing NEPA document(s)? If there are differences, can you explain why they are not substantial?

Yes, the new proposed action is within the same analysis area and is a component of all of the alternatives analyzed in the Snake River Activity/Operations Plan Revision and Environmental Assessment EA# ID-310-2006-EA-3398 (see Issue 4: Land Ownership).

2. Is the range of alternatives analyzed in the existing NEPA document(s) appropriate with respect to the new proposed action, given current environmental concerns, interests, and resource values?

Yes, the range of alternatives analyzed in Snake River Activity/Operations Plan Revision and Environmental Assessment are appropriate with respect to the new proposed action because they were developed as a result of an extensive internal and external scoping and public review process. Environmental concerns, interests and resources values have remained essentially the same since the EA/Plan was completed.

3. Is the existing analysis valid in light of any new information or circumstances (such as, rangeland health standard assessment, recent endangered species listings, updated lists of BLM-sensitive species)? Can you reasonably conclude that new information and new circumstances would not substantially change the analysis of the new proposed action?

Yes, the existing analysis remains valid because environmental conditions and public sentiment have not changed since the approval of the plan. New information and new circumstances are not likely to change the analysis since the BLM and the public are committed to acquiring lands in this area for the protection of natural resource values.

4. Are the direct, indirect, and cumulative effects that would result from implementation of the new proposed action similar (both quantitatively and qualitatively) to those analyzed in the existing NEPA document?

Yes, the direct, indirect, and cumulative effects that would result from the new proposed action would be quantitatively and qualitatively identical to those described in the existing NEPA document.

5. Are the public involvement and interagency review associated with existing NEPA document(s) adequate for the current proposed action?

Yes, the Snake River Activity/Operations Plan Revision and Environmental Assessment was developed through an extensive internal and external scoping and public review process involving the U.S. Forest Service (USFS), Idaho Department of Fish and Game (IDFG), U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), the Shoshone–Bannock Tribes, Bonneville, Madison and Jefferson counties and many private individuals.

E. Persons/Agencies /BLM Staff Consulted

BLM Staff:

Mary D' Aversa, Idaho Falls District Manager
Karen Rice, Idaho Falls Associate District Manager
Jeremy Casterson, Upper Snake Field Manager
Jeff Cartwright, BLM Idaho State Office Realty Specialist
Jason Wright, Resource Coordinator
Brandy Janzen, Natural Resource Specialist
Monica Zimmerman, Outdoor Recreation Planner
Joe Larson, Geologist
Dan Kotansky, Hydrologist

Agencies/organizations contacted or consulted:

Anne Briggs, Department of Interior Solicitor
Anne Renaud- Wilkenson, Office of Valuation Services
Teton Regional Land Trust
Idaho Department of Fish and Game
Fremont County
Madison County
Farm Services Agency
Natural Resources Conservation Service
Shoshone-Bannock Tribes

Individuals contacted or consulted:

Marvin and Karen Bagley, Property Owners

Conclusion

Based on the review documented above, I conclude that this proposal conforms to the applicable land use plan and that the existing NEPA documentation fully covers the proposed action and constitutes BLM's compliance with the requirements of NEPA.

Note: If one or more of the criteria are not met, a conclusion of conformance and/or NEPA adequacy cannot be made and this box cannot be checked

/s/ Monica Zimmerman

Monica Zimmerman

Outdoor Recreation Planner

Date: 11/12/2015

/s/ Marissa Guenther

Marissa Guenther

NEPA Reviewer

Date: 11/12/2015

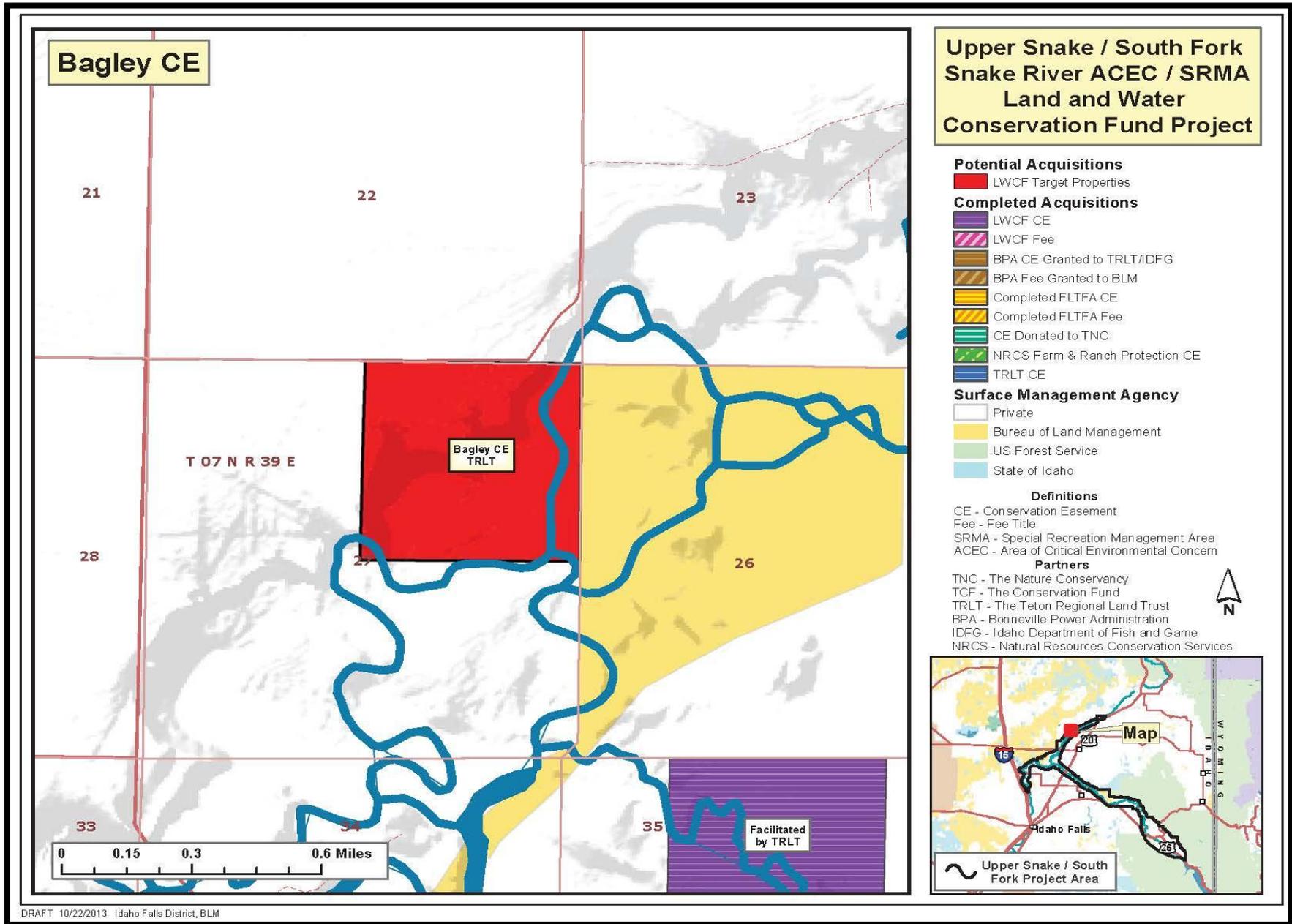
/s/ Jeremy Casterson

Jeremy Casterson

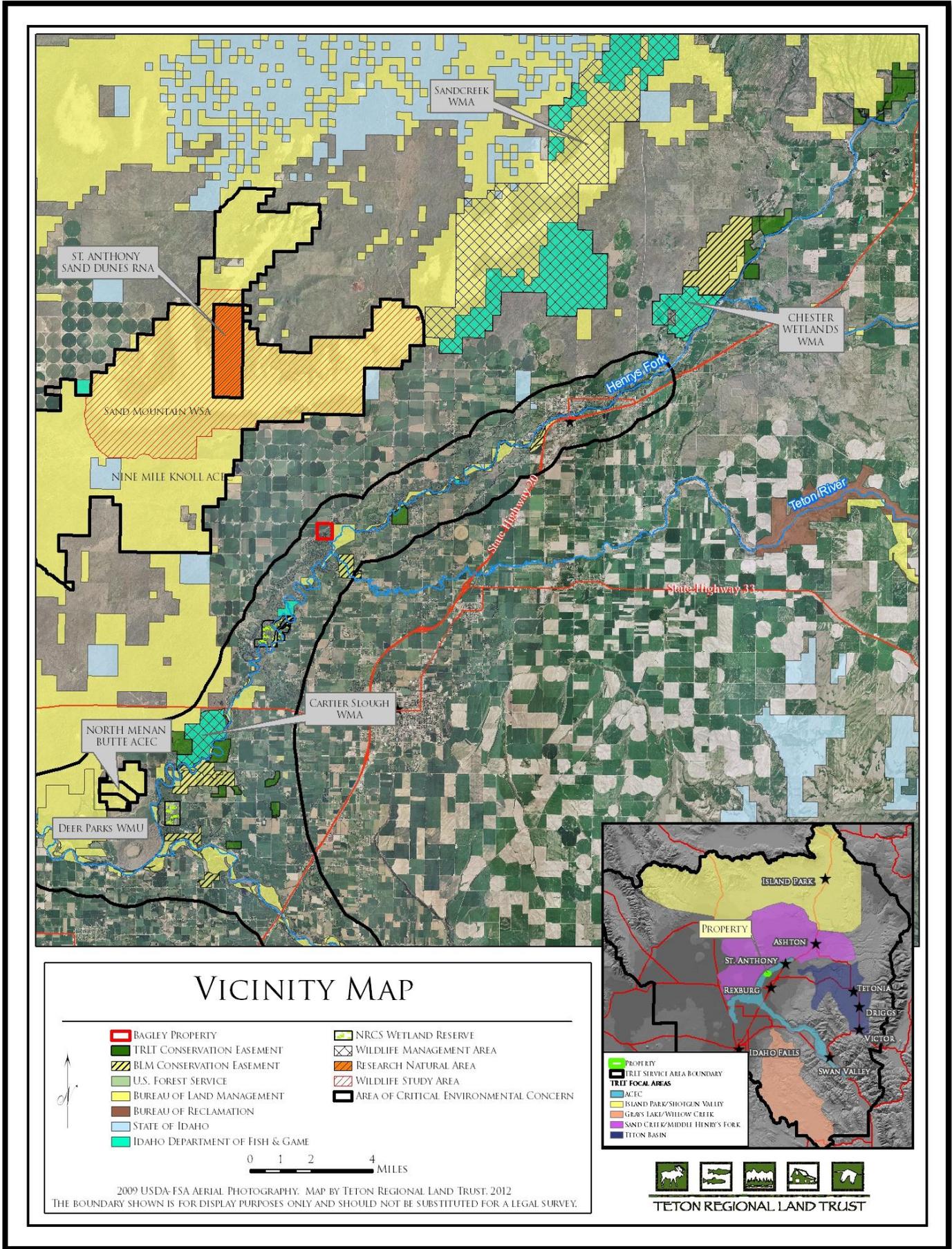
Upper Snake Field Manager

Date: 11/12/2015

Map 1 – Marvin Bagley Property



Map 2 – Marvin Bagley Property

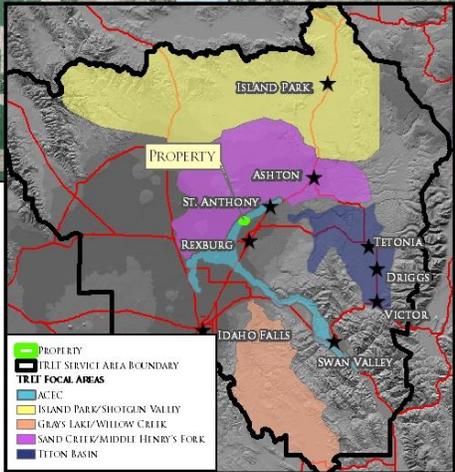


VICINITY MAP

- | | |
|---------------------------------|--|
| BAGLEY PROPERTY | NRCS WETLAND RESERVE |
| TRIT CONSERVATION EASEMENT | WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA |
| BLM CONSERVATION EASEMENT | RESEARCH NATURAL AREA |
| U.S. FOREST SERVICE | WILDLIFE STUDY AREA |
| BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT | AREA OF CRITICAL ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERN |
| BUREAU OF RECLAMATION | |
| STATE OF IDAHO | |
| IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF FISH & GAME | |

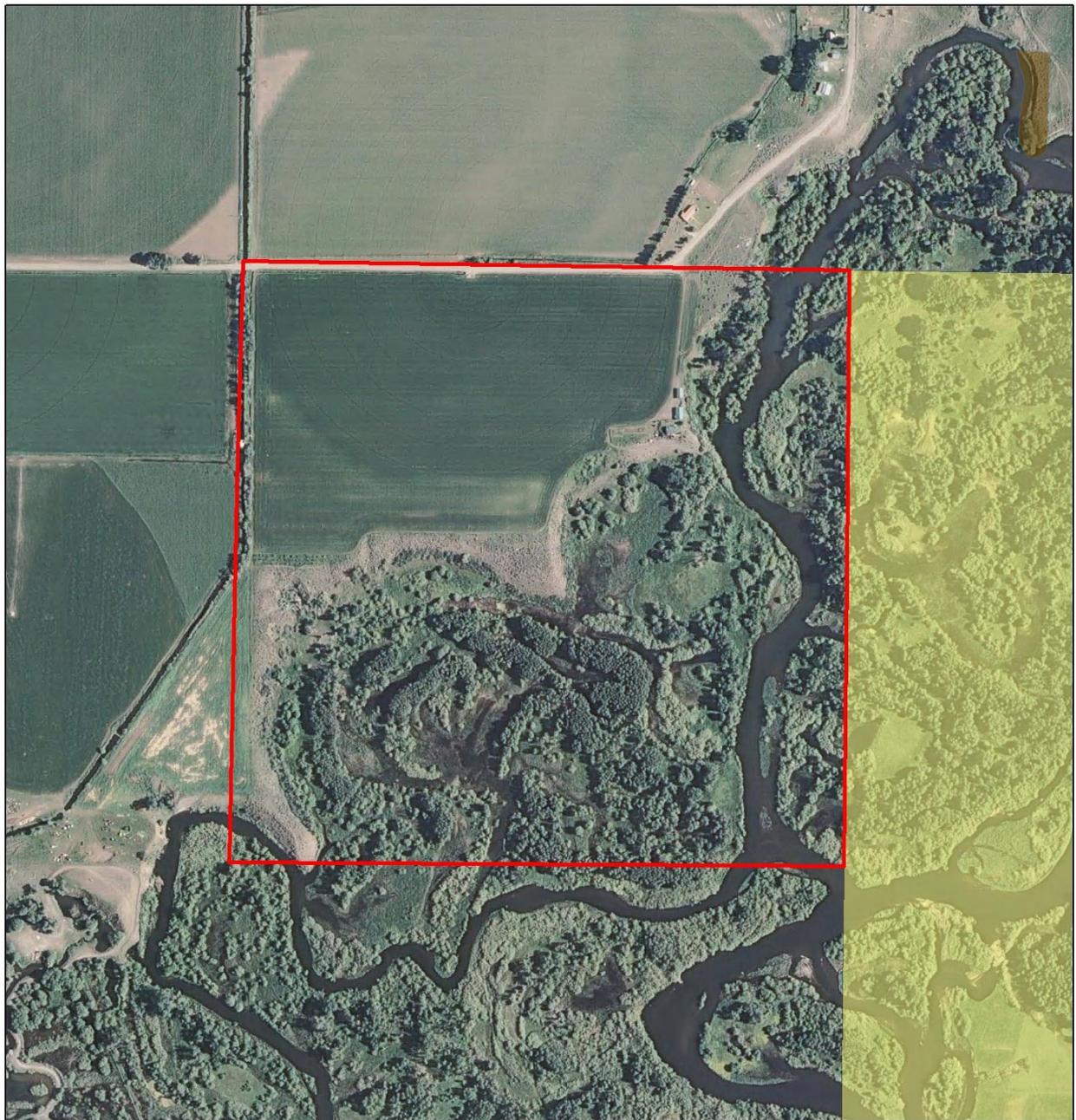
0 1 2 4 MILES

2009 USDA-FSA AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHY. MAP BY TETON REGIONAL LAND TRUST, 2012
 THE BOUNDARY SHOWN IS FOR DISPLAY PURPOSES ONLY AND SHOULD NOT BE SUBSTITUTED FOR A LEGAL SURVEY.



TETON REGIONAL LAND TRUST

Map 3 – Marvin Bagley Property



0 0.125 0.25 MILES

2009 USDA-FSA AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHY
MAP BY TETON REGIONAL LAND TRUST, 2012



TETON REGIONAL LAND TRUST
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PROPERTY MAP

-  BAGLEY PROPERTY
-  BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

THE BOUNDARY SHOWN IS FOR DISPLAY PURPOSES ONLY AND SHOULD NOT BE SUBSTITUTED FOR A LEGAL SURVEY.