

**From:** [Christina Caprio](#)  
**To:** [Moon, Amy \(UTC\)](#)  
**Subject:** Horse Heaven Hills Wind Project  
**Date:** Friday, June 11, 2021 1:15:31 PM  
**Attachments:** [Video.mov](#)

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External Email

Hi Amy!

I just wanted to share a video My daughter just took on Clodfelter Road in Kennewick, Washington showing a flock of Sandhill Cranes. Last week I also saw a Ferruginous hawk fly over my car in that same area. Sometimes I get to even witness a Bald Eagle flying over the area that has a nest in the area.

These birds would be potentially killed by the proposed wind/solar project. The Ferruginous hawk is endangered and has at least four active nests in the purposed area.

Thank you for your time,

Christina Caprio  
Horse Heaven Hills resident  
Environmental /EIS scientist

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Ira Johnson](#)  
**To:** [EFSEC \(UTC\)](#)  
**Subject:** Horse Heaven Hills wind farm  
**Date:** Friday, May 20, 2022 10:16:41 PM

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External Email

I read where you approved building a wind farm in Benton county. I for one do not like the ideal. Could you send me a mailing address so I could send you some information on wind turbines. Because evidently you haven't done much research into wind turbines or solar panels.

Sincerely  
Ira Johnson

**From:** [Vicky Keller](#)  
**To:** [EFSEC \(UTC\)](#)  
**Subject:** Horse Heaven Windfarm  
**Date:** Friday, May 20, 2022 8:55:00 AM

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External Email

Again, Inslee has struck. Screw Washington residents, you know what is best. Such good little minions. I would pray for your souls but you have none to pray for.

So disgusted with your lack of individuality to take all concerns into consideration and do what a community desires.

Vicky

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

**From:** [Ira Johnson](#)  
**To:** [Owens, Joan \(UTC\)](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: 10 Wind Turbine Failures  
**Date:** Thursday, May 26, 2022 1:18:00 PM

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External Email

Hi Joan;

Thank you for responding to my email I sent to your department on May 20th,2022. Below is a film on wind turbines. One incident is in Washington state.

Subject: 10 Wind Turbine Failures

An interesting look at ten wind turbine failure events that sometimes had tragic consequences. There are over 341,000 wind turbines in the world and most failures are due to faulty equipment or extreme weather.

<https://biggeekdad.com/2022/05/10-wind-turbine-failures/>

**From:** [Ira Johnson](#)  
**To:** [Owens, Joan \(UTC\)](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: Fw: Wind Power!  
**Date:** Thursday, May 26, 2022 1:23:48 PM

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External Email

Hi Joan;  
Ira Johnson again with more info.

Subject: Fw: Wind Power!

This feel-good, tree-hugging lipstick's been on the mirror since the beginning. It's now just a really, really bad joke. And *expensive* really, really bad joke. But, not to worry...it's only TAX DOLLARS...you know...somebody ELSE'S money, right? Ohhh...and by-the-way; the end-game challenge is disposing of the remains...most of the blades are made of long-life, non-biodegradable, toxic materials! They're transporting them to, and burying them in, Wyoming. *Rhino*

### **Wind Power!!**

Not sure this will get much coverage from the woke side...it doesn't fit their narrative. They really need to consider the consequences of their short term attention problems. The developers reap rewards from the tax credits and overpriced power and in the end walk away from the problems they know are coming. What a mess.

I think Germany may have seen the light with wind power....now they want to purchase gas from Russia. Again, they need to think this through.

**Not a good report on wind produced electricity. Environmentalists wanted turbines in and now want them out. Most of us didn't want to pay for this experiment but it looks like we're nailed again!!!! Don**

**14,000 ABANDONED WIND TURBINES LITTER THE UNITED STATES**





The towering symbols of a fading religion, over 14,000 wind turbines, abandoned, rusting, slowly decaying. When it is time to clean up after a failed idea, no green environmentalists are to be found. Wind was free, natural, harnessing Earth's bounty for the benefit of all mankind, sounded like a good idea. Wind turbines, like solar panels, break down. **They produce less energy their entire time in service before they break down than the energy it took to make them.** The wind does not blow all the time, or even most of the time. When it is not blowing, they require full-time backup from conventional power plants.



Without government subsidy, they are unaffordable. With governments facing financial troubles, the subsidies are unaffordable. It was a nice dream, a very expensive dream, but it didn't work.



California had the "big three" of wind farm locations — Altamont Pass, Tehachapi, and San Geronio, considered the world's best wind sites. California's wind farms, almost 80% of the world's wind generation capacity, ceased to generate even more quickly than Kamaoa Wind Farm in Hawaii. There are five other abandoned wind farms in Hawaii. When they are abandoned, getting the turbines removed is a major problem. They are highly unsightly, and they are huge, and that's a lot of material to get rid of.



Unfortunately the same areas that are good for siting wind farms are a natural pass for migrating birds. Altamont's turbines have been shut down four months out of every year for migrating birds after environmentalists filed suit. According to the Golden Gate Audubon Society 75-110 Golden Eagles, 380 Burrowing Owls, 300 Red-Tailed Hawks and 333 American Kestrels are killed by the turbines every year. An Alameda County Community Development Agency study points to 10,000 annual bird deaths from Altamont wind turbines. The Audubon Society makes up numbers like the EPA, but there's a reason why they call them bird Cuisinarts.



Palm Springs has enacted an ordinance requiring their removal from San Gorgonio Pass, but unless something else changes abandoned turbines will remain a rotting eyesores, or the taxpayers who have already paid through the nose for overpriced energy and crony-capitalist tax scams will have to foot the bill for their removal.



President Obama's offshore wind farms will be far more expensive than those sited in California's ideal wind locations. Salt water is far more damaging than sun and rain, and offshore turbines don't last as long. But nice tax scams for his crony-capitalist backers will work well as long as he can blame it all on saving the planet.

source: <https://americanelephant.wordpress.com/united-states/>

"Environmentalists" wanted them put up – now "Environmentalists" want them pulled down!!!!

Wind generators have a very limited life span (about 15 years I have heard). The entire energy used to manufacture them and dismantle them is far greater than the electricity that they generated in their entire lifetime!!! They were never an option for base-load power for industry anyway! Still - they kept a lot people in employment in China, while they were "flavour of the month" ... in China!!!

The costs for a utility scale wind turbine range from about **\$1.3 million** to **\$2.2 million per MW** of nameplate capacity installed. **Most of the commercial-scale turbines installed today are 2 MW in size and cost roughly \$3-\$4 million installed.**

# State/Federal Status High Risk Shrubsteppe Wildlife Impacted by Proposed Scout Horse Heaven Hill Wind Turbine/Solar Farm

Collected/Summarized by: Christina Caprio, Environmental Scientist

## Summary:

Without question, wind turbines cause deaths to wildlife, including birds, bats, mammals and insects. Wind turbines have huge footprints; therefore, their impact area is massive. Wildlife that are struggling to survive and are listed as candidate, threatened or endangered are disproportionately impacted. For instance, the **ferruginous hawk** has active nests (according to the proposed wind/solar farm company, Scout's research data) on the proposed wind turbine/solar farm. This hawk is listed as endangered. Very few of these hawks exist in Washington state. The largest source for the deaths of this bird is collision with wind turbines. The **Columbian sharp-tailed grouse** and **Greater sage-grouse** are also endangered. According to the wind-watch.org, "A renewable-energy company subsidiary pleaded guilty on federal criminal charges Tuesday (March 29, 2022) and ordered to pay \$8 million in fines and restitution for killing more than 150 eagles at wind farms in eight states (National Wind Watch 2022)." According to the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW), "In 2002, only 20% of historical ferruginous hawk nesting territories in Washington were occupied, with many vacant for years (2022)." This makes the existing active nests on the proposed wind/solar farm that much more important! The **Sandhill Cranes (both the *Grus canadensis tabida* and *Grus canadensis*)** fly over the Horse Heaven Hills (the proposed wind/solar farm locations) regularly. These birds are listed as endangered. According to the WDFW, there are only about 100 adult and subadult birds in Washington and there are only about 40 breeding pairs. These birds will flock in large numbers both very low and very high in the sky above my home, near the middle of the proposed farm. These windmills have the potential of decimating both the endangered ferruginous hawk and endangered Sandhill Crane populations. These proposed windmills are of the largest size being close to the size of the Space Needle in Seattle. Again, the footprint is ginormous both on the ground and in the air space surrounding them. The bald eagle is protected by the Migratory Bird Treaty Act and the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act. According to Endangered.com, "The Bald Eagle is usually quite sensitive to human activity while nesting, and is found most commonly in areas with minimal human disturbance (Endangered 2014)." The Bald Eagle is seen flying through the Horse Heaven Hills. One does periodically fly over my home. According to Dr. Trieb, Institute of Engineering Thermodynamics, explains that migrating insects select fast moving airstreams to efficiently travel. As a result, a large number of insects can be expected to be traveling through wind farms. The German study estimated approximately 24,000 tons of insects cross through a single German wind farm (Trieb 2018). Both the **Townsend's big-eared bat** and **Western bumble bee** are listed as species of concern in the decreasing "priority habitat" shrubsteppe environment of the proposed wind/solar farms (WDFW 2022). Both the bat and the bee are pollinators. Pollinators are key to crop pollination and hence food production. The proposed windmills will be placed within the shrubsteppe and farm plots where pollination is needed and occurring at a rapid rate when blooms occur. According to wind-watch.org, "Bats, which die at a rate seven times higher than birds, are killed

when the moving blades cause a drop in air pressure, bursting blood vessels in their lungs. They are usually found near wind farms in the late summer, possibly as they follow migrating moths (National Wind Watch 2017).” The population of the western bumble bee is at the lowest known and is continuing to decline. According to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, “In a recent status assessment, International Union of Conservation for Nature identified three Washington species as facing high or extremely high risk of extinction: western bumble bee and Morrison’s bumble bee were ranked Vulnerable, and Suckley cuckoo bumble bee was ranked Critically Endangered. A 90-day finding by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service concluded that the western bumble bee petition presented substantial information that indicated that action may be warranted due to potential threats; therefore, a status review is currently being conducted to determine if the western bumble bee warrants listing under the Endangered Species Act (WDFW 2022).”

Reduction at the bottom of the food chain (insects), also potentially impacts the population of species up the chain. According to the USGS, “A key challenge facing the wind industry is the potential for turbines to adversely affect wild animals both directly, via collisions, as well as indirectly due to noise pollution, habitat loss, and reduced survival or reproduction. Among the most impacted wildlife are birds and bats, which by eating destructive insects provide billions of dollars of economic benefits to the country’s agricultural sector each year (2022).” This is not even mentioning the impacts to the other high-risk wildlife listed below (At Risk Species Impacted section, page 6). There are approximately 31 high risk species potentially negatively impacted by the proposed wind/solar farm. There are 12 animals, 12 birds, three insects, two amphibians, and two reptiles that are either candidate listed, threatened species or endangered species in either Washington state or nationally that live in the shrubsteppe ecosystem. This summary also does not address the impact to the 1,000s and 1,000s of migrating ducks, Canadian geese, Snow geese and other birds who cross over my home in the Horse Heaven Hills regularly, or the wildlife that call the Horse Heaven Hills home such as deer, pronghorn antelope, elk, cougar, chukar, grouse, ducks (mallards continually nest in my backyard), jackrabbits, cottontail rabbits, quail, coyotes, pheasants, sparrows, finches, hawks, eagles, bald eagles, thrashers, and so on. According to the WDFW, “The pronghorn antelope is the rarest and least known hoofed mammal classified as a game species in the state of Washington. By the start of the 20th century, pronghorn antelope were extirpated from Washington. The Yakama tribe reintroduced pronghorn onto the Yakama Reservation in Washington, releasing 198 animals from 2011 to 2019. We conducted a fourth biennial aerial survey on March 2-3, 2021 in parts of Benton, Klickitat, and Yakima counties in south-central Washington, including parts of the Yakama Reservation and private lands. The objective of the survey was to obtain a minimum population estimate for pronghorn. We counted a total of 216 pronghorn from the air and an additional 34 from ground counts, for a total minimum population estimate of 250 pronghorn (WDFW 2022).” I have personally seen these animals in the Horse Heaven Hills multiple times. A program that is beginning the reestablishment of a species in Washington would be impacted by this proposed wind/solar farm. Owls land on Horse Heaven Hill homes, trees, and fences in the evenings all of the time. In fact, there are multiple owls calling to one another in the evenings when I walk outside. There are very unique animal interactions in the Horse Heavens that are exciting to witness. There are even hawks that work together to hunt on a regular basis (two to three hawks will do this).

The construction of the potential wind/solar farms will also impact the shrinking shrubsteppe environment. According to the WDFW, “The shrubsteppe is an arid ecosystem

found in Eastern Washington and other western states. As one of Washington’s most diverse ecosystems, shrubsteppe provides habitat for species found nowhere else in the state, such as the **Greater sage-grouse**, **sagebrush sparrow**, and **burrowing owl**. With an estimated 80% of historic shrubsteppe lost or degraded to development and agriculture since the arrival of non-native settlers, protecting remaining shrubsteppe habitats is more important than ever (WDFW 2022).” The major threats to shrubsteppe include but are not limited to windmill farms, solar farms, road/transmission line construction, fire, and soil disturbance, which all can be contributed to hazards from the potential solar/wind farms. There are listed (endangered or threatened, for example) plant species within the shrubsteppe environment that would have a negative impact as well, which are: Kincaid’s lupine, threatened, Golden paintbrush, threatened, Nelson’s Checker-mallow, threatened, Showy stickweed, Endangered, Spaulding’s Catchfly, threatened, Utanum Desert Buckwheat, threatened, Ute ladies'-tresses, threatened, and White Bluffs bladderpod, threatened (WDFW 2021).

## **Background on Shrubsteppe ecosystem: (copy and pasted from WDFW)**

The shrubsteppe is an arid ecosystem found in Eastern Washington and other western states. As one of Washington's most diverse ecosystems, shrubsteppe provides habitat for species found nowhere else in the state, such as the Greater sage-grouse, sagebrush sparrow, and burrowing owl. With an estimated 80% of historic shrubsteppe lost or degraded to development and agriculture since the arrival of non-native settlers, protecting remaining shrubsteppe habitats is more important than ever.

Here, at the northern extent of the great "Sagebrush Sea" that once sprawled across much of the American West, growing collaboration between agencies, Native American tribes, conservation organizations, local landowners, and other partners seeks to preserve and restore shrubsteppe ecosystems while supporting cultural and economic values.

Despite impacts from severe wildfires and habitat fragmentation, recovery programs are underway for species such as the Greater sage-grouse, pygmy rabbit, sharp-tailed grouse, and pronghorn antelope, while efforts including the Arid Lands Initiative and Conservation Reserve Program foster constructive partnership for the future of Washington's shrubsteppe.

Shrubsteppe is identified as a "Priority habitat" under the Priority Habitat and Species Program. Priority habitats are habitat types or elements with unique or significant value to a diversity of species.

### **A priority habitat may consist of:**

- A unique vegetation type such as shrubsteppe or a dominant plant species such as juniper savanna;
- A described successional stage such as old-growth forest; or
- A specific habitat feature such as cliffs.

In the Department's State Wildlife Action Plan "Habitats of Greatest Conservation Need" chapter, shrubsteppe includes these ecological systems of concern: the Columbia Plateau Low Sagebrush Steppe, Inter-Mountain Basins Big Sagebrush Steppe, and Inter-Mountain Basins Semi-Desert Shrubsteppe.

The State Wildlife Action Plan is part of a nationwide effort by all 50 states and five U.S. territories to develop conservation action plans for fish, wildlife, and their natural habitats—identifying opportunities for species' recovery before they are imperiled and more limited. A habitat of greatest conservation need is defined as an ecological system and community types that are essential to the conservation of Species of Greatest Conservation Need in Washington.

## Conservation threats and actions needed

As in other types of ecosystems, effects of climate change such as shifts in precipitation, drought, and wildfires may affect shrubsteppe plant composition, density, and distribution. Higher levels of rainfall increase plant growth and diversity, while drought negatively affects seedling survival in sagebrush systems and reduces shrub cover. These factors can also exacerbate increased climate change-induced alterations to frequency and intensity of wildfires, which can negatively affect native plants and loss of native shrub cover and expansion of annual grasses.



As in other types of ecosystems, effects of climate change such as shifts in precipitation, drought, and wildfires may affect shrubsteppe plant composition, density, and distribution *Alan Bauer*

### Major threats to shrubsteppe habitat

- Conversion of shrubsteppe to cropland
- Wind and solar power
- Residential development
- Soil disturbance
  
- Invasive plants
- Increased fire frequency and intensity
- Excessive grazing
- Roads and transmission lines

### Actions needed to maintain quality habitat

- Manage land to maintain the appropriate wildfire frequency and prevent catastrophic fires
- Control invasive species, especially cheatgrass
- Restore habitat and native species
- Restore damaged shrubsteppe habitats by replanting site adapted native shrubsteppe plant species
- Ensure grazing practices are consistent with the needs of fish and wildlife

WDFW strives to maintain and restore shrubsteppe to benefit all species. When you visit a WDFW wildlife area, you may see staff and volunteers planting native plants or removing invasive weeds.

In December 2020, WDFW worked with a Washington Conservation Corps crew from the Department of Ecology to pick millions of tiny sagebrush seeds by hand. These seeds were

planted to speed up the regrowth process on wildlife areas impacted by the [Pearl Hill fire](#) in September 2020. Watch the video below to learn more.

WDFW biologists are working with various stakeholder groups to work on solutions that may lead to managing fire cycles to have a smaller footprint and less intensity, which in turn should lead to conservation of shrubsteppe habitat.

**At-Risk Species Impacted** (Copy and pasted from WDFW for those species that live in shrubsteppe environments, Highlighted/red text shows significance)

**Birds** (copy and pasted from wdfw.wa.gov): (12 birds [adding in the Bald Eagle since I see one fly every so often])

**1. American white pelican (*Pelecanus erythrorhynchos*), Threatened**

**2. Burrowing owl (*Athene cunicularia*), Candidate**, population size of burrowing owls in Washington is low. This species is associated with shrubsteppe and grassland habitats, and has experienced a contraction of its range and decline in numbers due to loss of habitat and persecution of mammalian species that provide earthen burrows that owls use.

**3. Columbian sharp-tailed grouse (*Tympanuchus phasianellus columbianus*), Endangered**, population size of Columbian sharp-tailed grouse in Washington is low. The statewide population of this grouse species is distributed in seven subpopulations that are not sustainable. Shortages of nesting, brood rearing, and wintering habitats are important factors limiting population recovery. Maintaining the species in Washington will require restoring habitat and increasing populations.

**4. Ferruginous hawk (*Buteo regalis*), Endangered**, population size of ferruginous hawks in Washington is low. This species is impacted by the loss and fragmentation of shrubsteppe and grasslands from agriculture and residential development and associated declines in distribution and abundance of its primary prey, jackrabbits and ground squirrels. Direct sources of mortality include illegal shooting, electrocution from powerlines, and **collision with wind turbines.**

**NOTE: Studies conducted for Scout have active Ferruginous hawk nests on the potential Wind Turbine Farm. A wind turbine farm company had to pay for the killings of golden eagles.**

**5. Golden eagle (*Aquila chrysaetos*), Candidate**, population size of golden eagles in Washington is low. This species is of concern due to declines in the distribution and abundance of its primary prey species, jackrabbits and ground squirrels. Across its range, additional mortality factors include continued exposure to lead in the environment and collisions at **wind energy facilities.**

**NOTE: A wind turbine farm company had to pay for the killings of golden eagles.**

**6. Greater sage-grouse (*Centrocercus urophasianus*), Endangered**, population size of greater sage-grouse in Washington is low. This species requires large landscapes of sagebrush steppe, much of which has been degraded, fragmented, or lost. The primary threat is the combined impact of habitat loss, fragmentation, and degradation.

**7. Loggerhead shrike** (*Lanius ludovicianus*), **Candidate**, population size of loggerhead shrike in Washington is low. This species is strongly associated with shrubsteppe in Washington and has likely experienced a population decline in accordance with loss and conversion of shrubsteppe habitat.

**8. Sage thrasher** (*Oreoscoptes montanus*), **Candidate**, population of sage thrasher in Washington is low. The sage thrasher is a sagebrush obligate and is vulnerable to population declines and range contractions due to loss or degradation of shrubsteppe habitat.

**9. Sagebrush sparrow** (*Artemisiospiza nevadensis*), **Candidate**, population of sagebrush sparrow in Washington is low. The sparrow is a species of concern because large expanses of big sagebrush (*Artemisia tridentata*), its preferred habitat, have been lost or degraded.

**10. \*Sandhill crane (*Grus canadensis*), Endangered**, WDFW has listed all three subspecies of sandhill crane occurring in Washington—greater, lesser and Canadian—as state endangered. The Washington population size of greater sandhill cranes is critical but the trend is increasing; they **number about 100 adult and sub-adult birds, with about 40 breeding pairs**. WDFW has designated this subspecies as a "Species of Greatest Conservation Need." \*\*\*\*\*The Sandhill cranes fly over the horse heaven hills proposed farms regularly during migration from the Columbia River near Plymouth, WA to Walla Walla County preserve or the West Richland Dam/private hunting lands.

**11. \*Sandhill crane (greater) (*Grus canadensis tabida*), Endangered**, The Washington population of greater sandhill cranes is critical but the trend is increasing; **they number about 100 adult and subadult birds, with about 40 breeding pairs**. Three subspecies of sandhill crane occur in Washington—greater, lesser and Canadian. WDFW has listed all as state endangered.

**NOTE: The Sandhill cranes fly over the horse heaven hills proposed farms regularly during migration from the Columbia River near Plymouth, WA to Walla Walla County preserve or the West Richland Dam/private hunting lands. The wind turbines would potentially kill what is left of our birds.**

**Animals** (copy and pasted from wdfw.wa.gov) (12 animals):

**1.Black-tailed jackrabbit** (*Lepus californicus*), **Candidate**, population size of black-tailed jackrabbits in Washington is low. This species is vulnerable to loss of habitat connectivity from all four major connectivity threats: clearing and vegetation removal, development, roads and traffic, and the presence of people and domestic animals. Additionally, they are at considerable risk for increased mortality from vehicle traffic, persecution, and harassment by pets. Population monitoring is a challenge as no reliable census method exists for all population levels.

**NOTE: there are many of these jackrabbits in the Horse Heaven Hills**

**2. Pygmy rabbit** (Columbia Basin population) (*Brachylagus idahoensis*), **Endangered**, population of Columbia Basin pygmy rabbit in Washington is extremely small and is designated as a Distinct Population Segment for protection under the U.S. Endangered Species Act. Conservation threats to the Columbian Basin pygmy rabbit include loss and degradation of shrubsteppe primarily due to conversion and fragmentation of this habitat to cropland and development.

Reintroduction efforts utilize semi-wild breeding enclosures to produce juveniles that are released into suitable habitat with the goal of establishing self-sufficient populations. Corridors of dense shrub cover connecting areas of suitable habitat and private lands enrolled in the Conservation Reserve Program are critical to recovery efforts. Corridors of dense shrub cover connecting areas of suitable habitat are critical to recovery efforts.

Watch this video about efforts by U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife to recover the pygmy rabbit in the wake of devastating wildfires and other threats. See more information about Columbia Basin pygmy recovery efforts in the **Conservation** section.

**3. Cathlamet pocket gopher** - Mazama species (*Thomomys mazama louiei*), **Threatened**,

**4. Roy Prairie pocket gopher** - Mazama species (*Thomomys mazama glacialis*), **Threatened**

**5. Shelton pocket gopher** - Mazama species (*Thomomys mazama couchi*), **Threatened**

**6. Tenino pocket gopher** - Mazama species (*Thomomys mazama tumuli*), **Threatened**

**7. Yelm pocket gopher** - Mazama species (*Thomomys mazama yelmensis*), **Threatened**

Pocket gophers are the only truly subterranean rodents in North America and are rarely observed above ground. They are herbivores that require grasses and forbs for food and well-drained soil for burrowing. They are generally territorial and solitary outside the reproductive season, and produce one litter per year, with an average litter size of five young. After weaning, female offspring often establish a burrow system nearby, but male offspring disperse. Burrows include foraging tunnels and chambers for nesting and caching of food. Though territorial, burrow systems are often aggregated in favorable habitat. Pocket gophers are ecologically important as prey items and in influencing soils and plant species diversity, and their burrows are a retreat for amphibians, reptiles, and many invertebrates. Pocket gopher predators include owls, coyotes, and bobcats.

**NOTE:** There are many gophers that eat plant roots and bulbs in the Horse Heaven Hills

**8. Townsend's big-eared bat** (*Corynorhinus townsendii*), **Candidate**, **Shrubbe Steppe environment**, Townsend's big-eared bat occurs in small to moderately-sized aggregations at sites throughout the state, where it may be vulnerable due to loss, modification and disturbance of roosting and foraging habitat. Actions to reduce human disturbance and destruction of

important habitat and roosts are considered the most important conservation measures for Townsend's big-eared bats.

**\*NOTE:** there are many bats within the shrubsteppe Horse Heaven Hills environment that would be vulnerable to the windmills by the flight paths. Bats provide pollination. According to the USGS, "Dead bats are found beneath wind turbines all over the world. It's estimated that tens to hundreds of thousands die at wind turbines each year in North America alone." According to Wind-Watch.org, "Bats, which die at a rate seven times higher than birds, are killed when the moving blades cause a drop in air pressure, bursting blood vessels in their lungs. They are usually found near wind farms in the late summer, possibly as they follow migrating moths."

**9. Pronghorn antelope**, recovery programs in place within the Benton/Yakima Counties to re-establish the population.

NOTE: These antelopes roam all through the Horse Heaven Hills and I have seen them often in the hills surrounding my home. The state is working with the Yakama Indian Tribe to reestablish the animals in this area.

**10. Townsend's ground squirrel** (*Urocitellus townsendii townsendii*), *Candidate in SW of Yakima River, shrubsteppe environment*

**11. Washington ground squirrel** (*Urocitellus washingtoni*), **Candidate**, population of Washington ground squirrel is low. The Washington ground squirrel is associated with shrubsteppe and steppe in eastern Washington and is threatened by a number of factors, especially habitat loss, degradation, and fragmentation.

**12. White-tailed jackrabbit** (*Lepus townsendii*), **Candidate**, Shrubsteppe, Once abundant and broadly distributed across the bunchgrass communities of eastern Washington, the white-tailed jackrabbit is now rare and sparsely distributed due to the loss, degradation, and fragmentation of habitat and possibly disease and competition with black-tailed jackrabbits.

### **Insects** (copy and pasted from wdfw.wa.gov) (3 insects):

**1.\*Western bumble bee** (*Bombus occidentalis*), **Candidate**, The population size of the western bumble bee is lower than historic populations and the trend is declining. Populations crashed in the 1990s, likely due to a combination of disease and other factors. Bumble bees have recently become the focus of conservation concern and efforts due to their precipitous population declines and prodigious capabilities as pollinators.

In a recent status assessment, International Union of Conservation for Nature **identified three Washington species as facing high or extremely high risk of extinction: western bumble bee and**

Morrison's bumble bee were ranked Vulnerable, and Suckley cuckoo bumble bee was ranked Critically Endangered.

A 90-day finding by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service concluded that the western bumble bee petition presented substantial information that indicated that action may be warranted due to potential threats; therefore, a status review is currently being conducted to determine if the western bumble bee warrants listing under the Endangered Species Act.

**\*NOTE: Without bumble bees, pollination doesn't occur, food doesn't produce, and people starve. The Horse Heaven Hills is full of crops. They definitely would be impacted by windmills. This should set off alarms. The bottom of the food chain is the key to the success at the top of the food chain and this bumble bee is in trouble without additional impacts at this point in time.**

**2. Juniper hairstreak (Columbia Basin segregate) (*Callophrys gryneus*), Candidate,** population of the juniper hairstreak (Columbia Basin segregate) in Washington is low and the trend is unknown. This lycaenid butterfly species is recognized as a state "Species of Greatest Conservation Need" due to its rare and restricted hostplants [food for caterpillars (larvae)] and habitat types, small number of isolated populations, highly limited range and distribution, and threats to its habitat. Research is needed on this species to understand its life history and quantify specific habitat requirements including vegetation structure, food plant size and density, and key habitat features.

**3. Pacific clubtail/ White Belted Ringtail (dragonflies) (*Phanogomphus kurilis/ Erpetogomphus compositus*), Candidate,** population size of the Pacific clubtail in Washington is low and its population trend is unknown. The species is of concern due to the small number of isolated populations and continued threats to its habitat.

**NOTE: There are so many dragonflies in the Horse Heaven Hills!** Summer nights I have about 30 flying around my backyard alone.

**Amphibians (copy and pasted from wdfw.wa.gov) (2 amphibians):**

**1. Columbia spotted frog (*Rana luteiventris*), Candidate, Shrubsteppe,** Populations of this species in the Columbia Basin are declining, likely due primarily to habitat loss and alteration, although other factors such as fish stocking may also cause declines. This species is aquatic, so drying of ponds and creeks related to agricultural water withdrawals is a threat in the region.

**NOTE: This frog shows up in my pool every year with no major waterways near my home – just typical shrubsteppe environment in the Horse Heaven Hills**

**2. Western toad (*Anaxyrus boreas*), Candidate, Shrubsteppe,** population of western toad is unknown in the lowland Puget Trough. Declines have been documented there and in the lower Columbia River below Bonneville Dam. Of about 107 historical sites in those areas, only about 19 are thought to remain. Elsewhere in the state, these toads are locally common in many areas

NOTE: In the evenings, frogs can be heard singing in the Horse Heaven Hills on most nights

**Reptiles** (copy and pasted from wdfw.wa.gov) (2 reptiles):

**1.Common sharp-tailed snake** (*Contia tenuis*), *Candidate, Shrubsteppe*, These snakes are rarely encountered and little studied. This species is a Washington "Species of Greatest Conservation Need" based on the small number of documented populations, patchy distribution, and lack of information. Nothing of what is known about this species in Washington explains their apparent rarity, but there is also no evidence that they are more common based on the small number of observations reported to WDFW and iNaturalist.

NOTE: Construction causes destruction of snake habitats.

**2.Northern sagebrush lizard** (*Sceloporus graciosus*), *Candidate, shrubsteppe*, The northern sagebrush lizard is a Washington "Species of Greatest Conservation Concern" based on the species' rarity and obligate association with sand dunes in the Columbia Basin. Greater than 70 percent of this habitat type has been lost since the 1970s.

**Additional At-Risk Wildlife Details** (copy and pasted from wdfw.wa.gov):

Some species such as the Greater sage-grouse require large areas of undisturbed shrubsteppe to survive, as they rely on big sagebrush for cover and as a year-round food source and are highly sensitive to human disturbance, particularly during the breeding season. The federally-endangered pygmy rabbit is another species that depends on the sagebrush and undisturbed deep soil of shrubsteppe landscapes.

**"At-risk" species** include animals that are listed as sensitive, threatened, or endangered at the state or federal level.

Greater sage-grouse (*Centrocercus urophasianus*)



Male and female greater sage-grouse

Governmental agencies and nongovernmental organizations are attempting to restore populations of greater sage-grouse with the aid of land acquisition, habitat improvement, conservation programs, and translocations. Between 2004 and 2016, WDFW, Yakima Training Center, Yakama Nation, and others collaborated to translocate this species from other states (Nevada, Oregon, Idaho, and Wyoming) to augment existing populations in Washington.

Ferruginous hawk (*Buteo regalis*)



Ferruginous hawk Wallace Keck - National Park Service

The population size of ferruginous hawks in Washington is low. This species is impacted by the loss and fragmentation of shrubsteppe and grasslands from agriculture and residential development and associated declines in distribution and abundance of its primary prey, jackrabbits and ground squirrels. Washington State is on the northwestern edge of the species' breeding range. In 2002, only 20% of historical ferruginous hawk nesting territories in Washington were occupied, with many vacant for years.

Pygmy rabbit (*Brachylagus idahoensis*)



Pygmy rabbit

Major recovery efforts continue for the pygmy rabbit in Washington. In 2001, with as few as 16 pygmy rabbits known to exist in Washington, the WDFW and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) initiated a captive breeding program with the intent of reintroducing rabbits to the wild, but none of the pygmy rabbits from the first release in 2007 survived beyond the first year.

Columbian sharp-tailed grouse (*Tympanuchus phasianellus columbianus*)



Columbian sharp-tailed grouse

The population size of Columbian sharp-tailed grouse in Washington is low. Shortages of nesting, brood rearing, and wintering habitats are important factors limiting population recovery. Maintaining the species in Washington will require restoring habitat and increasing populations. The Columbian sharp-tailed grouse were the most abundant and important game bird in Eastern Washington during the 1800s. The current distribution of Columbian sharp-tailed grouse covers only about 2.8% of their historical range in Washington.

## **Bees (copy and pasted from the WDFW and wind-watch.org)**

**Pollinators need us, and we need pollinators.** Bees, birds, bats, butterflies, beetles, and other insects and small mammals play a very important role in our ecosystem and food production. In fact, pollinators bring us three-quarters of our food! They also keep our ecosystems healthy by helping plants reproduce.

This nearly invisible service that pollinators provide is increasingly in jeopardy. Check out the lessons and activities below to learn about different pollinating creatures, their importance to ecosystems around the world, and how you can help them.

Birds, bats, butterflies, moths, flies, beetles, wasps, small mammals, and most importantly, bees are pollinators. They visit flowers to drink nectar or feed off of pollen. Then, they move pollen from male structures of flowers to the female structure of the same plant species. This movement of pollen results in fertilization of the flower's eggs which then produce seeds to create a new generation of plants.

Pollination is good for both pollinators and plants. While plants get help with reproduction, pollinators are getting important nutrients from the sugary nectar, including carbohydrates, fats, vitamins, and minerals.

The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife is taking part in an initiative that unites Oregon, Washington, Idaho, and California in a conservation effort dedicated to understanding and protecting bumble bees. The Western States Bumble Bee Atlas will establish a regionwide network to gather data to provide a better understanding of bumble bee distributions and habitat needs. [This project](#) builds on work done since 2018 by the [Pacific Northwest Bumble Bee Atlas](#), a collaboration between state agencies and conservation organizations in Oregon, Washington, and Idaho. Fueled by volunteer community scientists, the atlas gathers data throughout the three-state area that helps shape conservation work.

The project is funded by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Wildlife and Sportfish Restoration program through a competitive State Wildlife Grant, the U.S. Forest Service, the Bureau of Land Management, and the Oregon Conservation and Recreation Fund. Now, California is joining this effort, extending the geographic area covered to almost 15% of the contiguous United States. Nearly 60% of North America's bumble bee species are known to occur in this region, underscoring the importance of this initiative.

**According to Wind-Watch.org**, wind turbines occupy a fairly small amount of space on the ground, leaving room for farming and grazing operations below them, they do occupy a large swath of air space. A typical 1.5-megawatt tower is 212 feet tall, with its 116-foot blades reaching as high as 328 feet. The blades themselves spin over about an acre of area when moving. Scientists know that birds and bats are killed by wind turbines, Tronstad said, with birds usually killed by striking a blade.

Bats, which die at a rate seven times higher than birds, are killed when the moving blades cause a drop in air pressure, bursting blood vessels in their lungs. They are usually found near wind farms in the late summer, possibly as they follow migrating moths.

Do turbines affect other types of animal or plant life?

“Little else is known,” Tronstad said.

Some scientists hypothesized insects might be attracted to wind farms, either because of the color of the blades, the heat put out by turbines, blinking lights atop the hubs that flash at night, or their location atop ridges.

“If there are more insects (near wind farms), we have no idea,” she said.

**Scientists do know that insects affect wind farms, however, by decreasing turbine efficiency. When their carcasses collect along the surface of the blades, the blade’s smooth surface becomes rough, swirling the air and decreasing power output by up to 50 percent.**



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**From:** [dehemitchell@charter.net](mailto:dehemitchell@charter.net) <[dehemitchell@charter.net](mailto:dehemitchell@charter.net)>

**Sent:** Monday, May 23, 2022 8:15 AM

**To:** Drew, Kathleen (UTC) <[kathleen.drew@utc.wa.gov](mailto:kathleen.drew@utc.wa.gov)>

**Subject:** ?

External Email

Where do I find a list of the decision makers on the proposed project in my area of 244 more wind producing machines. How many decision makers live in this area affected by the ugly project. It is easy to make a decision when you don't have to look out a window to see the results. The wind blows on the coast, put them there.

From: Margaret Hue  
29204 S 816 PR SE  
Kennewick, WA 99338  
509-528-0925  
m.hue39@gmail.com

TO: Derek Sandison, Director  
Washington State Department of Agriculture  
1111 Washington Street SE, 2nd Floor  
PO Box 42560  
Olympia, WA 98504-2560

June 5, 2022

Dear Director Sandison,

I am writing to express concern of the possible future chemical trespass off of the Horse Heaven Hills Wheat farms if the Proposed HHH 244 Wind Turbine Farm is approved. These are proposed on over 24 miles of the HHH ridge from Finley to just south of Kennewick then above Badger Canyon to above Kiona/Benton City.

Since this issue has been quiet for almost 30 years, let me remind you how when the dry land wheat farms first applied 2-4-5T on HHH wheat fields with aircraft in 1946-47 caused the first damage to grapes. Yet, no one knew symptoms of the herbicide on grapes so it took several years before testing proved it was 2-4-D. But what farm it came from was unknown as many neighbors and thousands of acres were sprayed on HHH. This damage onto grapes continued for 40 years and in the 1980's through the 1990's damage became more intense with the use of sulfonyleureas and landmaster. But damage continued to grapes but now also to diversified agriculture. Extensive damage to grapes, cherries, peaches, asparagus, alfalfa, pastures, and homeowners trees, shrubs and gardens from Kiona/Benton City, Red Mountain, Badger Mountain, Badger Canyon, Kennewick, Finley to 9 Mile Canyon. From 1988-1993 hearing after hearing finally achieved removal of aerial application of herbicides and Category 1 insecticides from part of Benton, Franklin and Walla Walla counties. After the restrictions were in place it wasn't until 1998 when the grape industry took off and the 5 years of residues of sulfonyleureas and other tank mixes left our soils. Yields came back, but not before the many farmers lost their lands from the low yields and continual damage in the 80's and early 90's. WSDA documented Paraquat that had drifted across 400 sq miles of Tri-Cities with positive analysis in August of 1988. Art Losey, Director of Pesticide Division stated this (the Paraquat drift) followed the same drift pattern of the last 40 years.

In 1988, the **burden of proof** was always on the victims then as the WSDA would enforce with positive analysis, yet EPA and WSDA allowed sulfonyleureas to be applied with no capability to find the chemical even in the field just sprayed. So of course there was no way to test on repeated repeated repeated exposure on downwind crops. Is

that still the rule? If so, does WSDA have capability to test in the field directly sprayed of all the herbicides applied by HHH dry land wheat farmers? Does the WSDA have the capability to analyze those herbicides in grapes, orchards, alfalfa, trees and in off target drifts on sensitive downwind areas of the 400 square miles of Tri-Cities?

WSU put plant bioassays out in 1989-1993 and found symptoms of sulfonyleureas and damage on sensitive plants that were weekly changed and watched them over 6 weeks or more to document symptoms and if there was damage or not. They found highly sensitive areas of Kiona, Badger Canyon and Finley at 9 Mile Canyon Area had symptoms most of the time as they were hotspots for drift. But the significant thing was the repeated repeated exposure damaged the immune system of the plant and would not recover.

So the problem I see is the 244 wind machines are placed throughout the HHH drylands wheat farms over 24 miles and some areas will have wind machines up to 6 rows deep especially above Badger Canyon. The wind machines will not only dry out soils around the machines but the air can potentially dry out the chemicals, picking them up along with the air flow and transport particles around from the ground applications of herbicides on the wheat fields and fallow ground fields. Even if ground applied as the land is farmed around the turbines the machines can not help but disturb air movement up to the height 500-650 ft, as some turbines will be as tall as the space needle and air movement may be disturbed higher than the length of the blades as the cooler air mixes. The question is will there be potential for off-target drift? The Batelle Meteorology Study after the Paraquat drift in August 1988 said the canyons, inversions, and topography is unpredictable and the location of the mountains below the ridge make it even more unstable. So if the turbines are acting like a slower airplane and disturbing the applications over 72,000 acres continually, more land than a single plane may have applied like approximately 850 Acres when paraquat drifted over 400 sq miles of Tri-Cities. Are downwinders vulnerable to repeat what took 50 years to resolve? How do we know or not know? The burden should be on WSDA to protect us downwinders.

Therefore, I am requesting a list of what chemicals are used on the HHH wheat farms and information on these chemicals that are being applied on dry land and fallow ground fields? What chemicals can be analyzed in the wheat fields? What chemicals can be analyzed in off-target sites? To what levels can the chemicals be analyzed and in what off-target crops can these herbicides be analyzed and at what level of exposure?

Can our state afford the damage on the wine grape industry as we know the grapes are extremely sensitive. They suffered for 50 years. Is the state going to allow them to be put at risk again? Periodically, I see yellow spots with a red dot on roses, reminding me that particles of perhaps bromoxinil or 2-4-D and sulfonyleureas are still floating off target. Furthermore, In the 80's and 90's when we had dust storms we would find chemical laden dust would be taken up in our plants as they were irrigated. These wind farms will have over 100 miles of dirt roads and chemical laden dust that will blow down

on sensitive areas. Will you have the plant bioassays out to verify this as WSU documented in 1989-93? Who will? Will you fund a grant to WSU to do the bioassays? Is Tri-Cities and diversified agriculture left to the burden of proof on us downwinders?

I believe there should be a baseline established for several years before any wind machines can be erected and continual studies to prove there is not chemicals drifting off target. If there is, then does the WSDA enforce them with shutting down the wind turbines? Will you enforce with symptoms on off-target plants? I really don't believe you have capability to find the chemical in dust, crops or downwind off-target fields. Thirty years ago 2-4-D was only found in the very tips of new growth on grapes. Yellow spots of sulfonuylureas could find bromoxinil or 2-4-D if the spot was punched out. The same for Paraquat and Diquat. Has anything changed?

What about the organic farms? Organic vineyards, gardens, crops? How are you going to protect them? Will they be at risk of losing their organic license if herbicide found on their plants? WSDA is the enforcement, what are the rules for herbicides going off target and enforcement?

This large 244 Turbine Wind Farm has many concerns but the potential loss and risk to diversified crops from herbicide drifting off target needs to be addressed. The wind machines will not shut off for the farmers to spray. So I believe they pose a huge financial risk and potential loss of revenue to the state and local downwind farmers and residents. In 1988 Following the Paraquat drift in Badger Canyon and the 400 square miles of Tri-Cities, the Department of Health did a study and determined there were illnesses that couldn't be explained. There were not any explanations as to the illnesses in Badger Canyon and the areas as per epidemics in these areas. It was determined they (DOH) couldn't prove they were ill from chemicals but they could not disprove it either. Tri-Cities and surrounding areas from Kiona/Benton City to Badger Canyon, to Kennewick to Finley across to Pasco, Burbank, Richland and West Richland do not want to relive any part of the herbicide drift that our area suffered with for 50 years, health wise or plant symptoms from off-target drift.

I appreciate your time reading this and look forward to the responses to the questions, the list of herbicides and WSDA testing capabilities of these herbicides. This can not be a wait and see response, there needs to be a proactive plan to prevent damage from re-occurring in this sensitive area of Benton County. The best plan is to speak against the 244 wind farm from being built here.

Sincerely,

*Margaret Hue*

Margaret Hue

CC: Ignacio Marquez, WSDA Regional Assistant to the Director Eastern/Central WA  
Governor Jay Inslee  
Senator Patty Murray  
Senator Maria Cantwell  
Congressman Dan Newhouse  
Senator Perry Dozier  
Senator Sharon Brown  
Representative Mark Klicker  
Representative Rude Skyler  
Representative Brad Klippert  
Representative Matt Boehnke  
Washington Wine Growers  
HOA 816 PR SE  
HOA Country Meadows  
HOA Cottonwood  
Save-the-Ridges HHH  
Annette Clary, Tri-City Herald  
House Environment and Energy Committee  
    Chair Noel Frame; Vice Chair Davina Duerr;  
House Rural Development, Agriculture and Natural Resources  
    Chair Mike Chapman; Vice Chair Sharon Shewmake  
Senate Agriculture, Water, Natural Resources and Parks  
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June 8, 2022

Dear PUD Engineers,

I am currently working on information concerning downwinders of the HHH Proposed 244 Turbine Wind Farm. I have read that David Keith, Harvard claims annual local temperature rises of 1.5 C is common but can be as much 2.0 C; that is 2.7-3.6 degrees F. Furthermore, he says northern Texas and central US sees a 2 degree temp rise locally across these areas near large Wind farms. Over a decade average study of the 4 largest wind farms in Texas flatlands, the local areas saw a .72 C or a 1.33 F degree rise. Articles in Wisconsin state the temperature rise is more in hills and varied terrains. Specifically, Keith said to expect a 2 degree rise at night near large farms. The proposed one on HHH is one of the largest ones. Our terrain and meteorology off HHH and into the Tri-City areas is unpredictable with inversions, turbulence, and air movement according to the Batelle Meteorology Study following a Paraquat application August 1988 that drifted over 400 sq. Miles of Tri-Cities from Kiona to Richland to Pasco to Finley to Canyon Lakes and back to Badger Canyon. That was without 244 wind machines disturbing air 600' in the atmosphere rising our local temperatures.

So my question is if there is a 2.7 degree F (which is 2 C) rise in temperature day and night what impact will that have locally on our Benton County grid and supply? Even a 2 F degree rise will cause more air conditioning day and night and on top normal temperatures how might that increase amount increase the power needed. It seems like Scout, a foreign owned company, who cares nothing about us locally, is creating a power with a wind farm that we locally do not benefit from but yet it will cause our increase in power bills from usage to offset a rise in temperature that the wind machines will cause. Makes us look like fools or very nice neighbors!

Are you engineers able to create an estimate of power usage increase for how much more power usage will be for the affected areas in Benton County from Kiona to Finley and in between? Including the increase average charged to residents and businesses for them to understand their extra power usage from increased temperature rise from the wind farm project on a monthly and yearly amount over 25 years. I know this is a projection but believe it is important for locals to be aware of it.

If that could be charted beginning with the decade average from Texas with 1.33 degree F rise. Then increase to the amounts of 2 degree F and 2.7 F (1.5 C) and highest of 3.6 degree F rise (the 2.0C) as Keith cited. Of course when we get 119 degrees of 10 days even near 110-119 like last year what would 2 deg F and 1.5 C and 2 deg C do to our power usage.

Granted a 2 degree rise in winter may be a benefit in heating but then a risk to agriculture as buds may break earlier and damage in frost may occur longer. Longer smudge pot season? Longer to mature fruit to get the sugar content? So many ripple effects.

I did not see anything on temperature rising mentioned in the Scout project but it is important for our community to be aware of the rise of temperature and consider this additional cost to homeowners and businesses but also be aware of the possible strain on the local PUD.

Of course this will also impact Franklin County, so I will ask them the same thing.

If allowed perhaps they, Scout and future buyers of the project and farmers leasing the lands should be putting this extra charge into a trust for future electrical costs and then paying the cost to the residents, businesses, agriculture etc. for the increased power cost for 25 years. Maybe this is a mitigation issue.

If you can review this and develop a chart to show the differences and seasons with various temperature rises, that could help determine if an issue for power cost increase to residents and how it will effect the local pud.

Thank you for the consideration.

Sincerely,



Margaret Hue

CC: Franklin County PUD Engineering Dept <https://www.franklinpud.com>  
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Save The Ridges HHH Dave Sharp; Judy Gosie

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June 8, 2022

Dear Dr. Moyer,

I stopped by yesterday looking find the person who replaced Dr. Clore these many years after he retired. I had met him numerous times dealing with chemical herbicide drift off of the Horse Heaven Hills onto my crops, mostly asparagus, a good indicator of 2-4-D within 24 hours of drift then WSDA would trace it to Badger Mountain Vineyard for positive analysis on the 1/8" tip of his grapes. They could not find the chemicals in asparagus, alfalfa, commercial flowers or trees for positive analytical testing, however during the many years in the 50's - 80's Dr. Clore and WSDA figured how to find some of the 2-4-D and / or Bromoxinil on grapes.

I am writing to bring up a few concerns on the Proposed 244 Turbine Wind Farm from Kiona to Finley along the HHH ridge.

1) For 45 years herbicides drifted over Tri-Cities surrounding areas from aerial application of herbicides applied on Dryland wheat fields in HHH. It was in the 1980's - 90's when they began applying Landmaster formulation but Monsanto stopped it around 1988-89 after severe damage in our area, however, Roundup and sulfonyleureass (su's) were all applied by aerial application on winter wheat, spring wheat and fallowground. It was primarily the repeated drifts of su's that stopped root growth and terminal growth on my crops but Monsanto even said I had more roundup on my place than on the fields sprayed because of the repeated exposures and drifts. The 16 acres of asparagus was termed a "plow out" on its first year 1988 as it turned yellow and deformed. It was a plow our field as I lost 75% of the stand according to USDA/IAREC who counted plants the following year. The 13 acres of flowers looked like someone burned every terminal tip. It was never harvested over 3 years as we couldn't get the height and shortened internodes deformed the plants and were stunted. After 5 years of numerous annual local hearings and legislative hearings, permits and monitoring, WSU bioassays, The Batelle Report on Meteorology after the 1988 Paraquat off HHH drifted over 400 Sq. Miles of Tri-Cities and EPA testing the WSDA removed 250,000 Acres of aerial application of herbicides in Benton County including HHH Dryland wheat fields, portions of Franklin and Walla Walla county in 1993. Dupont stated that it could take up to 5 years to rid the su's from our soils which made it 1998.

2) In 1998 wineries on Red Mountain, Kennewick and Tri-City area began flourishing and the wine industry boomed. Economically, the wine industry has brought revenues to the county and Tri-city area along with adding to the tourism industry as well and the trickle down to the community.

3) Now the Proposed 244 Turbine Wind Farm brings up real concerns that I believe will impact in a negative way the wine industry and diversified agriculture again.

- a) Chemical laden dust from the 100+ miles of roads they plan on putting in for installation of the 244 turbines.

- b) Ground application onto the wheat fields amidst the Wind Turbines may dry out the particles and create smaller fines that may circulate up into the atmosphere with the air movement of the 500- 600 ft rise of the blades allowing for off-target movement of herbicides again. The last time it took 50 years to stop drift off HHH in order for diversified agriculture and the grapes to prosper. This will more than likely happen and the burden of proof will again be on the downwinders to prove.

In 1989-93 WSU set out plant bioassays around Benton County from IAREC to Kiona, Benton City, West Richland, Richland, Pasco, Finley, 9 mile Canyon, Kennewick, Badger Canyon and then on HHH to Umatilla. Each week bioassays were replaced with new plants and the ones collected were watched for symptoms of herbicide for 6 weeks. What they found was Kiona, Badger Canyon and 9 Mile Canyon were hot spots for drift. It was found the dust storms caused damage on plants as su's were in the soils that came in the dust. (We had often commented that we would see symptoms after a dust storm and our fields were irrigated.) But lastly, it was found that the repeated repeated repeated exposures kept weakening the immune system of the plants and they would not recover. Repeated drifts were more harmful than one big drift. I fear that is what we will have is continual low doses.

Attached is a letter to WSDA Director Sandison asking what chemicals are applied on HHH? What are the WSDA testing capabilities in the field sprayed and off-target? What sensitive plants can they analyze and find the chemical in a drift? Have the capabilities of testing advanced since 1993? My fear is nothing has changed as for analyzing off-target drift. The WSDA will enforce with positive chemical analysis and they don't have the capability. Again the burden of proof is on us downwinders. So if that is the case, what can all of us downwind farms and residents do to protect against drift and chemical laden dust? I suggest preparation with a baseline on plant bioassays before wind machines are erected for several growing seasons and then if bioassays show something it is documented before and after wind machines is they are not stopped. But it is important we have a baseline established. It is a lot of work and effort on the part of diversified Ag and the wine grape growers but we all are left vulnerable.

The best solution is to project an estimate of loss 5%; 10%; 15% maybe up to 30% and see what the economic impact over 25 years is? I am hoping you can help with notifying the grape growers. The state needs to know how much economic loss could there be from potential drift to the wine industry? Who is responsible? Is it the growers and applicators if the wind machines are picking up the herbicides? Can the wind machines change the atmosphere and bring herbicides used back on the irrigated farms over the wheat fields? Texas has been having problems with grapes drifted on from crops treated to resist herbicides so roundup and Banvil; 2-4-D and others applied have posed problems. Can those be moving in dust. Is the wine industry and diversified Ag going to be a trade off for wind power? I hope you can help protect the wine industry.

Sincerely,

*Margaret Hue*

Margaret Hue

Attachment: Letter to Director Sandison, WSDA

CC: Dr. Naidu A. Rayapati, WSU/IAREC Professor and Director  
[commissioners@co.benton.wa.us](mailto:commissioners@co.benton.wa.us)  
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**From:** [kmburn@gmail.com](mailto:kmburn@gmail.com)  
**To:** [EFSEC \(UTC\)](#)  
**Subject:** Horse Heaven Hills Wind Farm EIS  
**Date:** Monday, June 6, 2022 8:58:57 AM

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### External Email

It has come to my attention that comments concerning what should be included in Scout Clean Energy's Environmental Impact Statement on the HHH Wind Project are due by June 10<sup>th</sup>. Here is list of the topics I want to see specifically addressed.

- Fire danger (10-30% of all catastrophic wind turbine accidents are fire related per Firetrace International and just one fire incident can cost up to \$4.5M to contain per Windpower Engineering. The closest fire stations to the proposed project are manned by volunteers.
- Ferruginous Hawk and shrub steppe ecosystem endangerment
- Acreage: Over 72,000 acres are in the project's lease boundary. The percentage of non-agricultural land is unknown.
- Tourism. The wine industry has spent a lot of time and money building up tourism centered around wine. Having these monstrosities visible from their tasting rooms would be a travesty.
- Agricultural herbicide/pesticide exposure to downwinders. The turbines will push these chemicals even farther down the line than wind alone does.

I would also to encourage some, if not all, the EFSEC council members to actually visit the Tri-Cities to see the topography of the Horse Heaven Hills and the proximity to residential areas this wind farm will actually be – it's much close than the 4 miles states in Scout's application. I don't understand how the council could make an intelligent and objective decision without seeing the area first hand.

Thank you,

Karen Brun  
105506 Tripple Vista Drive  
Kennewick, WA 99338  
509-628-0826

**From:** [Dennis Simmelink](#)  
**To:** [EFSEC \(UTC\)](#)  
**Subject:** Horse Heaven Order 883 On Land Use Consistency  
**Date:** Wednesday, June 8, 2022 7:25:29 PM

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External Email

This is unacceptable,, my family farm is in the way of this useless project which will provide little or no use to the grid,,, this will render our land useless and sterile,, have you seen the land involved?,,, we will do all we can to stop this project.

Dennis Simmelink  
98413 Lilliann Dr  
Kennewick, WA 99338  
509-947-2824

**From:** [Drew, Kathleen \(UTC\)](#)  
**To:** [Grantham, Andrea \(UTC\)](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Petitions: Collect and mail or drop off June 30, July 30 and August 30 and end of each month until a local hearing and determination made to stop the Wind Farm; Info sheet is replacing Fact Sheet , Flier on size of wind machine.  
**Date:** Monday, June 27, 2022 4:59:43 PM  
**Attachments:** [HHH PETITION AGAINST HHH WIND FARMS 2.pdf](#)  
[HHH INFO SHEET ON PROPOSED HHH WIND FARM.pdf](#)  
[HHH Map Location with some development areas.pdf](#)  
[Flier of Wind Farm Turbine vs. Space needle.pdf](#)

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**From:** Margaret Hue <m.hue39@gmail.com>

**Sent:** Wednesday, June 15, 2022 2:45 PM

**To:** Bill Monson <Billmonson@gooserridge.com>; Monica mike Hollenberg <momesq98@gmail.com>; Kevin Self <Kmswood60@gmail.com>; "Peter Nordquist (ed's Son)" <spacerecycler@gmail.com>; Brian Poteet <bpoteet74@gmail.com>; Rita Grn House <ritaporter@owt.com>; Blake Neighbor Below; Glory <bjroy78@gmail.com>; Tim & Bonnie Prater <tim@praterelectric.net>; Jason Banta <Jasen@banlinconstruction.com>; Anne Eerkes (ritas Neighbor 2nd Culdesac) And Josh And Twins Eerke <aerkes@gmail.com>; Darryl Osborn (mussers House) <Osbornda@gmail.com>; jasonmhatfield@hotmail.com; Ruth Winter <Ruth.winter@gmail.com>; Drew, Kathleen (UTC) <kathleen.drew@utc.wa.gov>; Kimberly Sherfey Next To Rita And Andy <kim@southpinegiftco.com>; Kathleen Stricker <kathleen@strickercre.com>  
**Subject:** Petitions: Collect and mail or drop off June 30, July 30 and August 30 and end of each month until a local hearing and determination made to stop the Wind Farm; Info sheet is replacing Fact Sheet , Flier on size of wind machine.

### External Email

Dear Tri-Cities residents, neighbors, friends, and colleagues,

My name is Margaret Hue, a teacher, a farmer, and a resident of Badger Canyon in West Kennewick for over 40 years. Thirty years ago, I was involved in the fight to remove 250,000 acres from aerial application of herbicides in Benton County. Once again, I find myself working for a Tri-Cities cause – to protect the Horse Heaven Hills (HHH) and surrounding areas below the ridge from Scout Clean Energy's (SCE) Wind Turbine Project. This wind farm will consist of 150 turbines between 657-671' tall or 244 turbines between 496-499' tall. The rotational diameter of the blades will be 417-459' or 518-557', respectively.

These turbines will do more harm than blemish the skyline. Other negative impacts could be adverse health effects (Ref: National Library of Medicine, Official Publication of The College of Family Physicians of Canada, May 2013) and rising temperatures (Ref: The Harvard Gazette, The Downside to Wind Power, 10/4/2018) plus the effect on crops such as vineyards, orchards, and other diversified agriculture. What effect will local rising temperatures of 2-3.6 degrees F have on crops such as vineyards, orchards, diversified agriculture, residents and local PUD's demand and cost on local power? How much extra power will residents pay for that annual rise in temperature when not receiving any power from the wind farm? The aesthetic beauty of the hills will be lost forever which will have a detrimental impact on tourism. Property values could be reduced in farm and residential

areas near large wind farms. It is possible, but doubtful, that the loss of revenue to schools from depreciated property could be made up by tax revenues from Scout Clean Energy's promises. I'm asking for your help to stop this travesty to our beautiful Horse Heaven Hills skyline. Here are some steps that can be taken:

- Read the attached **Information Sheet** about the wind turbine project being proposed by Scout Clean Energy and endorsed by Governor Inslee. Print a few copies for distribution.
- View and print the attached **Map Location Sheet** for proposed Horse Heaven Hills wind turbine locations. Please note that most of Kennewick, Pasco, Richland, West Richland, and outlying areas are not even shown as residential and developed lands. That omission appears to be deliberate on SCE's part so that the approving entity (the Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council [EFSEC]) will be kept in the dark about how close the proposed farm will be to residential areas.
- View and print the attached **Height Comparison Flyer** showing the height of the proposed wind turbines compared to the Seattle Space Needle. If you want copies of the flyer, they are available for pickup from Pam Minelli. Contact her at [pam\\_minelli@hotmail.com](mailto:pam_minelli@hotmail.com) or text to 509-539-6788.
- Print a copy of the attached **petition** and take it to your neighbors, co-workers, friends, and relatives for signature. Give them a copy of the Information Sheet. Anyone over 18 can sign. As soon as you get the petitions filled in, please mail them to Margaret Hue (address on the petition) asap or by June 30 so I am prepared for a July hearing. I will continue to collect petitions at the end of each month until a decision has been made.
- Ask your friends in other neighborhoods to do the same as listed above bulleted items. Keep a list with name, email, and phone # of those are willing to circulate a petition and hand out Information sheets so you can follow up with them and collect the signed petition forms. Alternatively, signed petitions can be mailed to me at 29204 S 816 PR SE Kennewick, WA. 99338.
- Contact anyone you know at our libraries, grocery stores, or other busy places such as Walmart, Lowes, and Home Depot for permission to gather petition signatures and/or hand out information sheets and let me know that permission has been granted. There are many people willing to help so keep their names and contact information so they can be added to the schedule. I have some volunteers already on a list.

Donate to the legal fund through [www.gofundme.com/f/save-our-horse-heaven-hills](http://www.gofundme.com/f/save-our-horse-heaven-hills)

**or send a check made out to HH Hills/Barry Bush directly to Barry Bush, 709 S. Hawaii St., Kennewick, WA 99336. To drop off cash, call 509-460-1051 first.** Any questions? Email Barry at [atomicbt@charter.net](mailto:atomicbt@charter.net). If Governor Inslee, who is on record as being in favor of this and has the final say, approves SCE's application, it will end up in the courts.

SCE's Environmental Impact Statement is to be released to EFSEC soon, followed by a public hearing. A date has yet to be determined for a hearing but it will probably be sometime in July or August. I want to present the signed petitions at that time. **So I'd like to collect as many petitions as possible at the end of each month, the first date to send them in is June 30, then July 30, August 30 and however long it takes until a hearing and until a decision is determined.** You can mail them or drop them off to me (address below). I am also asking that those who can **attend, speak against the wind farm at the hearing.**

Since the wind farm proposal has not been constantly in the news, many think it has been abandoned which couldn't be farther from the truth. It is vitally important that we stay vigilant and get all of our Tri-Cities neighborhoods from Kiona to Finley, Kennewick, Richland, West Richland, and across the river to Pasco actively involved and aware.

Please help spread the word and stimulate conversation about the number one Tri-Cities issue that will impact us forever. There is also an on-line petition at <https://save-our-ridges.org> but the one attached should also be signed as it is those signatures that will be given to Governor Inslee and EFSEC.

Thank you for helping and fighting for our Tri-Cities community and protecting our hills.

Margaret Hue

[m.hue39@gmail.com](mailto:m.hue39@gmail.com)

29204 S 816 PR SE

Kennewick, WA. 99338





## INFORMATION SHEET ON THE PROPOSED HORSE HEAVEN HILLS (HHH) WIND FARM

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**Approving Authorities:** EFSEC has not visited our area or to understand our topography (canyons, valleys, and air movements/inversions). The members are relying on inaccurate information provided by the applicant, including output ratings vs. capacity factor, tax revenues, and proximity to residential areas. In addition, Governor Inslee has made it known that he is in favor of the HHH wind farm without waiting for the Environmental Impact Statement.<sup>5</sup> Inslee also recently gutted legislation that would have given Eastern Washington residents more input and a broader, long-term look at where wind and solar projects are sited.<sup>6</sup>

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#### **Sources:**

<sup>1</sup> Scout Clean Energy Projects (<https://scoutcleanenergy.com/super-projects/>)

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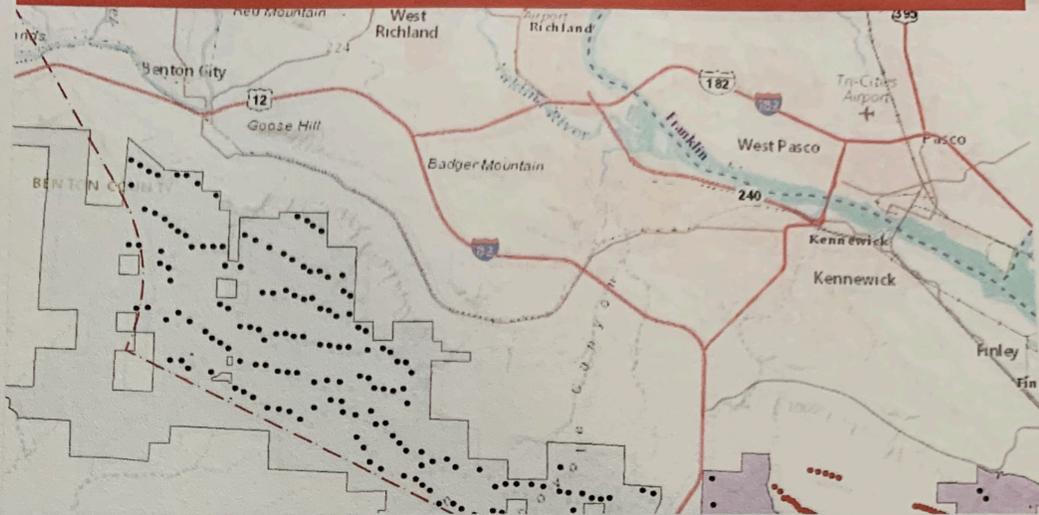
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From: Margaret Hue m.hue39@gmail.com  
Subject: Fact sheet developer map and with some development areas  
Date: May 28, 2022 at 7:58 AM  
To: Margaret Hue m.hue39@gmail.com



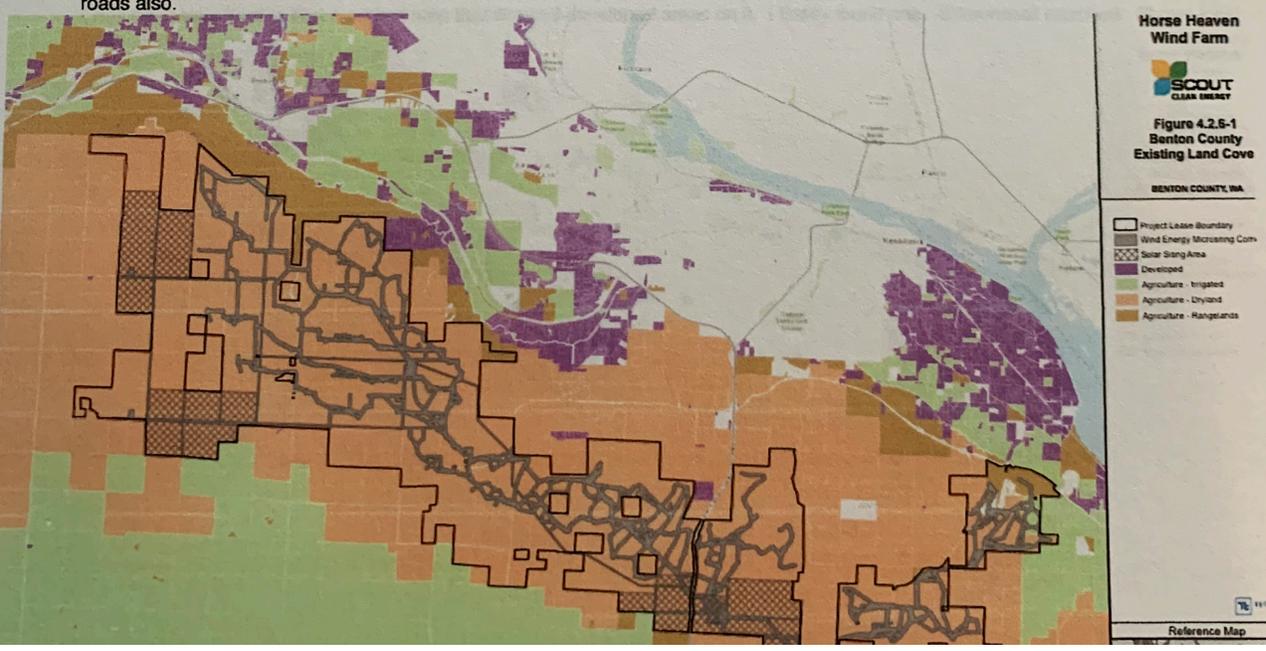
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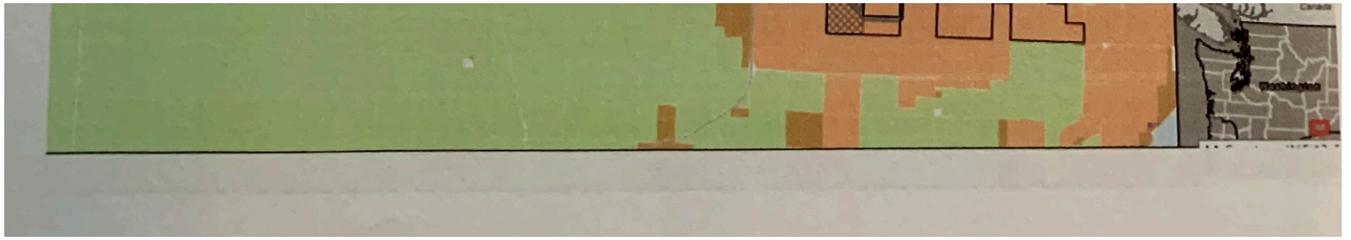


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save-our-ridges.org

*Horse Heaven Hills simulated photo*

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*605 feet*

How tall is a Horse Heaven Hills Wind Turbine?  
500 to 671 feet

*Observation Deck 520 feet*

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## **How to help?**

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Funds needed to help build the community awareness and to hire an attorney.

Or mail checks to:

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**709 S. Hawaii Street**

**Kennewick, WA 99336**

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[m.facebook.com/SaveOurRidgesTC](https://m.facebook.com/SaveOurRidgesTC)

[www.gopetition.com/petitions/just-say-no-to-the-horse-heaven-wind-farm.html](http://www.gopetition.com/petitions/just-say-no-to-the-horse-heaven-wind-farm.html)

**Contact:** Local commissioners at [commissioners@co.benton.wa.us](mailto:commissioners@co.benton.wa.us)

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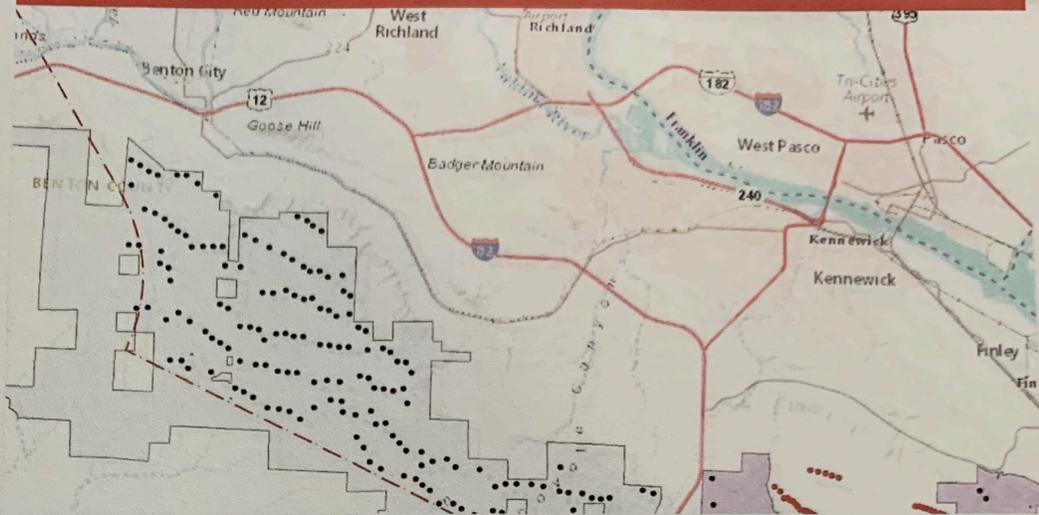
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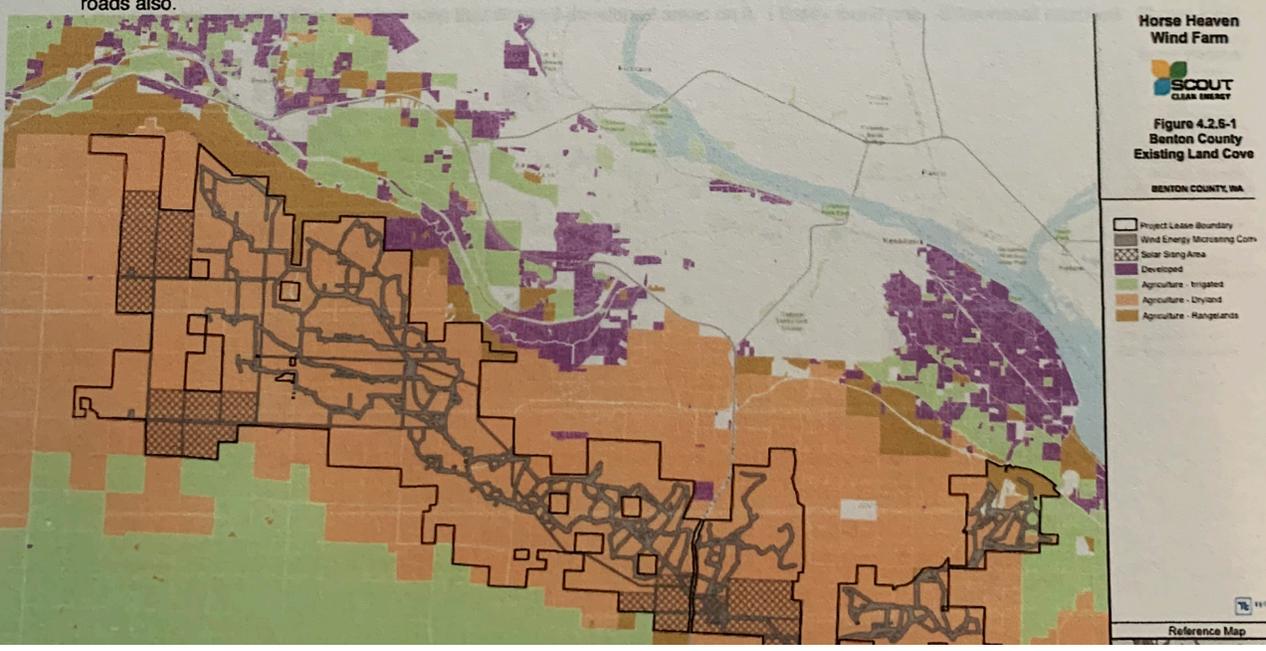
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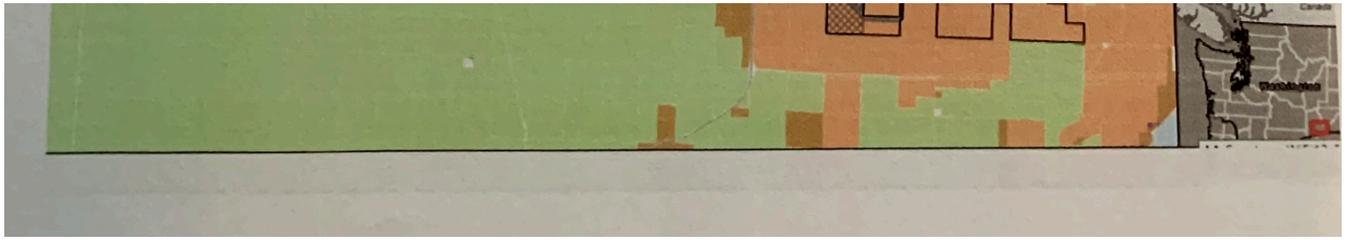


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*Observation Deck 520 feet*

*Space Needle*

## **How to help?**

**Donate at:** [www.gofundme.com/f/save-our-horse-heaven-hills](http://www.gofundme.com/f/save-our-horse-heaven-hills)

Funds needed to help build the community awareness and to hire an attorney.

Or mail checks to:

**Barry Bush**

**709 S. Hawaii Street**

**Kennewick, WA 99336**

**Go to:** [save-our-ridges.org/](http://save-our-ridges.org/)

[www.gofundme.com/f/save-our-horse-heaven-hills](http://www.gofundme.com/f/save-our-horse-heaven-hills)

[m.facebook.com/SaveOurRidgesTC](https://m.facebook.com/SaveOurRidgesTC)

[www.gopetition.com/petitions/just-say-no-to-the-horse-heaven-wind-farm.html](http://www.gopetition.com/petitions/just-say-no-to-the-horse-heaven-wind-farm.html)

**Contact:** Local commissioners at [commissioners@co.benton.wa.us](mailto:commissioners@co.benton.wa.us)

State of Washington Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council at <https://www.efsec.wa.gov/>

**From:** [Margaret Hue](#)  
**To:** [Bill Monson](#); [Monica mike Hollenberg](#); [Kevin Self](#); ["Peter Nordquist \(ed's Son\)"](#); [Brian Poteet](#); [Rita Grn House](#); [Blake Neighbor Below](#); [Glory](#); [Tim & Bonnie Prater](#); [Jason Banta](#); [Anne Eerkes \(ritas Neighbor 2nd Cuidesac\) And Josh And Twins Eerke](#); [Darryl Osborn \(mussers House\)](#); [jasonmhatfield@hotmail.com](#); [Ruth Winter](#); [Drew, Kathleen \(UTC\)](#); [Kimberly Sherfey Next To Rita And Andy](#); [Kathleen Stricker](#)  
**Subject:** Letter to Region X Administrator; Letter to WSDA Sandison on concern of 100+ miles of roads and contaminated dust from herbicides onto diversified Ag and residents; rising temperature concern from wind farm to Benton PUD  
**Date:** Wednesday, June 15, 2022 12:06:11 PM  
**Attachments:** [Office of the Regional Administrator, Casey Sixkiller Region X ,EPA.pdf](#)  
[Letter to Director Sandison, WSDA on HHH herbicides applied and testing capabilities.pdf](#)  
[Benton PUD Engineer Request for Chart on Increase in Temperature Rise from Proposed HHH 244 Turbine Wind Farm.pdf](#)

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Engineering Dept.  
Benton PUD  
PO Box 6270  
Kennewick, WA 99336  
[engservice@bentonpud.org](mailto:engservice@bentonpud.org)

June 8, 2022

Dear PUD Engineers,

I am currently working on information concerning downwinders of the HHH Proposed 244 Turbine Wind Farm. I have read that David Keith, Harvard claims annual local temperature rises of 1.5 C is common but can be as much 2.0 C; that is 2.7-3.6 degrees F. Furthermore, he says northern Texas and central US sees a 2 degree temp rise locally across these areas near large Wind farms. Over a decade average study of the 4 largest wind farms in Texas flatlands, the local areas saw a .72 C or a 1.33 F degree rise. Articles in Wisconsin state the temperature rise is more in hills and varied terrains. Specifically, Keith said to expect a 2 degree rise at night near large farms. The proposed one on HHH is one of the largest ones. Our terrain and meteorology off HHH and into the Tri-City areas is unpredictable with inversions, turbulence, and air movement according to the Batelle Meteorology Study following a Paraquat application August 1988 that drifted over 400 sq. Miles of Tri-Cities from Kiona to Richland to Pasco to Finley to Canyon Lakes and back to Badger Canyon. That was without 244 wind machines disturbing air 600' in the atmosphere rising our local temperatures.

So my question is if there is a 2.7 degree F (which is 2 C) rise in temperature day and night what impact will that have locally on our Benton County grid and supply? Even a 2 F degree rise will cause more air conditioning day and night and on top normal temperatures how might that increase amount increase the power needed. It seems like Scout, a foreign owned company, who cares nothing about us locally, is creating a power with a wind farm that we locally do not benefit from but yet it will cause our increase in power bills from usage to offset a rise in temperature that the wind machines will cause. Makes us look like fools or very nice neighbors!

Are you engineers able to create an estimate of power usage increase for how much more power usage will be for the affected areas in Benton County from Kiona to Finley and in between? Including the increase average charged to residents and businesses for them to understand their extra power usage from increased temperature rise from the wind farm project on a monthly and yearly amount over 25 years. I know this is a projection but believe it is important for locals to be aware of it.

If that could be charted beginning with the decade average from Texas with 1.33 degree F rise. Then increase to the amounts of 2 degree F and 2.7 F (1.5 C) and highest of 3.6 degree F rise (the 2.0C) as Keith cited. Of course when we get 119 degrees of 10 days even near 110-119 like last year what would 2 deg F and 1.5 C and 2 deg C do to our power usage.

Granted a 2 degree rise in winter may be a benefit in heating but then a risk to agriculture as buds may break earlier and damage in frost may occur longer. Longer smudge pot season? Longer to mature fruit to get the sugar content? So many ripple effects.

I did not see anything on temperature rising mentioned in the Scout project but it is important for our community to be aware of the rise of temperature and consider this additional cost to homeowners and businesses but also be aware of the possible strain on the local PUD.

Of course this will also impact Franklin County, so I will ask them the same thing.

If allowed perhaps they, Scout and future buyers of the project and farmers leasing the lands should be putting this extra charge into a trust for future electrical costs and then paying the cost to the residents, businesses, agriculture etc. for the increased power cost for 25 years Maybe this is a mitigation issue.

If you can review this and develop a chart to show the differences and seasons with various temperature rises, that could help determine if an issue for power cost increase to residents and how it will effect the local pud.

Thank you for the consideration.

Sincerely,



Margaret Hue

CC: Franklin County PUD Engineering Dept <https://www.franklinpud.com>  
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Save The Ridges HHH Dave Sharp; Judy Gosie

From: Margaret Hue  
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TO: Derek Sandison, Director  
Washington State Department of Agriculture  
1111 Washington Street SE, 2nd Floor  
PO Box 42560  
Olympia, WA 98504-2560

June 5, 2022

Dear Director Sandison,

I am writing to express concern of the possible future chemical trespass off of the Horse Heaven Hills Wheat farms if the Proposed HHH 244 Wind Turbine Farm is approved. These are proposed on over 24 miles of the HHH ridge from Finley to just south of Kennewick then above Badger Canyon to above Kiona/Benton City.

Since this issue has been quiet for almost 30 years, let me remind you how when the dry land wheat farms first applied 2-4-5T on HHH wheat fields with aircraft in 1946-47 caused the first damage to grapes. Yet, no one knew symptoms of the herbicide on grapes so it took several years before testing proved it was 2-4-D. But what farm it came from was unknown as many neighbors and thousands of acres were sprayed on HHH. This damage onto grapes continued for 40 years and in the 1980's through the 1990's damage became more intense with the use of sulfonylureas and landmaster. But damage continued to grapes but now also to diversified agriculture. Extensive damage to grapes, cherries, peaches, asparagus, alfalfa, pastures, and homeowners trees, shrubs and gardens from Kiona/Benton City, Red Mountain, Badger Mountain, Badger Canyon, Kennewick, Finley to 9 Mile Canyon. From 1988-1993 hearing after hearing finally achieved removal of aerial application of herbicides and Category 1 insecticides from part of Benton, Franklin and Walla Walla counties. After the restrictions were in place it wasn't until 1998 when the grape industry took off and the 5 years of residues of sulfonylureas and other tank mixes left our soils. Yields came back, but not before the many farmers lost their lands from the low yields and continual damage in the 80's and early 90's. WSDA documented Paraquat that had drifted across 400 sq miles of Tri-Cities with positive analysis in August of 1988. Art Losey, Director of Pesticide Division stated this (the Paraquat drift) followed the same drift pattern of the last 40 years.

In 1988, the **burden of proof** was always on the victims then as the WSDA would enforce with positive analysis, yet EPA and WSDA allowed sulfonylureas to be applied with no capability to find the chemical even in the field just sprayed. So of course there was no way to test on repeated repeated repeated exposure on downwind crops. Is

that still the rule? If so, does WSDA have capability to test in the field directly sprayed of all the herbicides applied by HHH dry land wheat farmers? Does the WSDA have the capability to analyze those herbicides in grapes, orchards, alfalfa, trees and in off target drifts on sensitive downwind areas of the 400 square miles of Tri-Cities?

WSU put plant bioassays out in 1989-1993 and found symptoms of sulfonyleureas and damage on sensitive plants that were weekly changed and watched them over 6 weeks or more to document symptoms and if there was damage or not. They found highly sensitive areas of Kiona, Badger Canyon and Finley at 9 Mile Canyon Area had symptoms most of the time as they were hotspots for drift. But the significant thing was the repeated repeated exposure damaged the immune system of the plant and would not recover.

So the problem I see is the 244 wind machines are placed throughout the HHH drylands wheat farms over 24 miles and some areas will have wind machines up to 6 rows deep especially above Badger Canyon. The wind machines will not only dry out soils around the machines but the air can potentially dry out the chemicals, picking them up along with the air flow and transport particles around from the ground applications of herbicides on the wheat fields and fallow ground fields. Even if ground applied as the land is farmed around the turbines the machines can not help but disturb air movement up to the height 500-650 ft, as some turbines will be as tall as the space needle and air movement may be disturbed higher than the length of the blades as the cooler air mixes. The question is will there be potential for off-target drift? The Batelle Meteorology Study after the Paraquat drift in August 1988 said the canyons, inversions, and topography is unpredictable and the location of the mountains below the ridge make it even more unstable. So if the turbines are acting like a slower airplane and disturbing the applications over 72,000 acres continually, more land than a single plane may have applied like approximately 850 Acres when paraquat drifted over 400 sq miles of Tri-Cities. Are downwinders vulnerable to repeat what took 50 years to resolve? How do we know or not know? The burden should be on WSDA to protect us downwinders.

Therefore, I am requesting a list of what chemicals are used on the HHH wheat farms and information on these chemicals that are being applied on dry land and fallow ground fields? What chemicals can be analyzed in the wheat fields? What chemicals can be analyzed in off-target sites? To what levels can the chemicals be analyzed and in what off-target crops can these herbicides be analyzed and at what level of exposure?

Can our state afford the damage on the wine grape industry as we know the grapes are extremely sensitive. They suffered for 50 years. Is the state going to allow them to be put at risk again? Periodically, I see yellow spots with a red dot on roses, reminding me that particles of perhaps bromoxinil or 2-4-D and sulfonyleureas are still floating off target. Furthermore, In the 80's and 90's when we had dust storms we would find chemical laden dust would be taken up in our plants as they were irrigated. These wind farms will have over 100 miles of dirt roads and chemical laden dust that will blow down

on sensitive areas. Will you have the plant bioassays out to verify this as WSU documented in 1989-93? Who will? Will you fund a grant to WSU to do the bioassays? Is Tri-Cities and diversified agriculture left to the burden of proof on us downwinders?

I believe there should be a baseline established for several years before any wind machines can be erected and continual studies to prove there is not chemicals drifting off target. If there is, then does the WSDA enforce them with shutting down the wind turbines? Will you enforce with symptoms on off-target plants? I really don't believe you have capability to find the chemical in dust, crops or downwind off-target fields. Thirty years ago 2-4-D was only found in the very tips of new growth on grapes. Yellow spots of sulfonuyureas could find bromoxinil or 2-4-D if the spot was punched out. The same for Paraquat and Diquat. Has anything changed?

What about the organic farms? Organic vineyards, gardens, crops? How are you going to protect them? Will they be at risk of losing their organic license if herbicide found on their plants? WSDA is the enforcement, what are the rules for herbicides going off target and enforcement?

This large 244 Turbine Wind Farm has many concerns but the potential loss and risk to diversified crops from herbicide drifting off target needs to be addressed. The wind machines will not shut off for the farmers to spray. So I believe they pose a huge financial risk and potential loss of revenue to the state and local downwind farmers and residents. In 1988 Following the Paraquat drift in Badger Canyon and the 400 square miles of Tri-Cities, the Department of Health did a study and determined there were illnesses that couldn't be explained. There were not any explanations as to the illnesses in Badger Canyon and the areas as per epidemics in these areas. It was determined they (DOH) couldn't prove they were ill from chemicals but they could not disprove it either. Tri-Cities and surrounding areas from Kiona/Benton City to Badger Canyon, to Kennewick to Finley across to Pasco, Burbank, Richland and West Richland do not want to relive any part of the herbicide drift that our area suffered with for 50 years, health wise or plant symptoms from off-target drift.

I appreciate your time reading this and look forward to the responses to the questions, the list of herbicides and WSDA testing capabilities of these herbicides. This can not be a wait and see response, there needs to be a proactive plan to prevent damage from re-occurring in this sensitive area of Benton County. The best plan is to speak against the 244 wind farm from being built here.

Sincerely,

*Margaret Hue*

Margaret Hue

CC: Ignacio Marquez, WSDA Regional Assistant to the Director Eastern/Central WA  
Governor Jay Inslee  
Senator Patty Murray  
Senator Maria Cantwell  
Congressman Dan Newhouse  
Senator Perry Dozier  
Senator Sharon Brown  
Representative Mark Klicker  
Representative Rude Skyler  
Representative Brad Klippert  
Representative Matt Boehnke  
Washington Wine Growers  
HOA 816 PR SE  
HOA Country Meadows  
HOA Cottonwood  
Save-the-Ridges HHH  
Annette Clary, Tri-City Herald  
House Environment and Energy Committee  
    Chair Noel Frame; Vice Chair Davina Duerr;  
House Rural Development, Agriculture and Natural Resources  
    Chair Mike Chapman; Vice Chair Sharon Shewmake  
Senate Agriculture, Water, Natural Resources and Parks  
    Chair Kevin Van De Wege; Vice Chair Jesse Salomon  
Senate Environment, Energy and Technology  
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**Region 10 (AK, ID, OR, WA)**  
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Phone: (206) 553-1200

June 15, 2022

Dear Regional Administrator, Mr. Casey Sixkiller,

Congratulations on your new position Regional Administrator Sixkiller. I am hoping you can help me.

It has been over 30 years since I came to Region X to ask for help with chemical drift off Horse Heaven Hills, primarily with sulfonulureas (su's) Dupont had numerous of them being applied by air above 400 sq. miles of Tri-Cities, that had a history of 40 years of 2-4-D drifting and damaging grapes. But the sulfonylureas in the 80's - early 90's being applied by air devastated diversified Ag, cherries, grapes, asparagus, commercial flowers as well as residential ornamentals, trees and gardens. Monsanto had Landmaster as well as roundup applied as well. Monsanto told me that I had more roundup on my field than on the Wheat fields sprayed. A result of so many drifts and repeated exposures. Between the many drifts of roundup, 2-4-D, Finesse & Harmony with Bromoxinil or 2-4-D tank mixes. I had reduced yields evidenced in 1984 on alfalfa so in 1987 we planted 16 A of asparagus and 13 acres of commercial flowers. In 1988 as a 1 year old asparagus field, I was told by field men they had never seen so many jumbo plants on a 1 year old field but 3 weeks later it was yellow and termed "a plow out field", the next year USDA counted plants and 75% were gone. My commercial flowers stopped growing and looked like a blow torch burned every terminal point on the plants. 6-8 weeks later a small amount of deformed stunted short internodes growth began opposite of the wheat farms. But for 3 years the flowers that were alive never reached a height or blooms to harvest.

In 1988, after a Paraquat drifted off about 850 A on HHH 2 1/2 miles SW of my farm, it was found with WSDA positive analysis over 400 sq. miles of Tri-Cities. The worst was in Badger Canyon, where I live. Over the following years after repeated hearings and boundary changes and regulations, damage continued to downwind irrigated lands. The wheat lands are about 1200' level and we sit 500'. Other damage on Cherry orchards were devastating as well and many lost 12-15" branches and in Kiona along with Cherry damage was a loss of a 20 year old peach orchard dead in the spring of 1987 after harvested in 1986. In Finley 100 acres of

grafts on to a new cherry orchard didn't grow. Years of damage, eventually they lost their farm and the family farm. But they weren't alone.

WSDA contracted Batelle Meteorology to investigate the weather and meteorology after the paraquat drift. They confirmed there are no areas in the US to replicate the unique HHH and ridge and irrigated farms below. The many hills and canyons draining into Badger Canyon but all along the area below the ridge is unpredictable with air currents, inversions and turbulence.

WSU/IAREC Dr. Mink in 1989-93 decided to put plant bio-assays in the HHH, Proser IAREC and down throughout the 400 sq. miles downwind of the HHH. These plants were changed weekly and demonstrated that off-target damage onto plant bioassays occurred. Finley, Kiona and Badger Canyon were hot spots and there were few weeks during the growing season that we did not have symptoms. It was also found that sometimes no applications were made but a wind storm had. Symptoms showed on the the bioassays which verified it came in the dust then watered into the plant. We would say since 1988 that when the wind storms blew dust and we irrigated it took in new symptoms, finally it was proven.

EPA Region X research on Cherries found small amount of su's representing a drift amount in September aborted significant fruit in the spring. If I recall 90% were aborted.

In 1993 WSDA finally removed aerial application from 250,000 A of Benton County including the HHH dryland wheat area and portions of the irrigated area in the 400 sq. miles and portions of Franklin and Walla Walla Counties. With 5 year residues in our high PH 8.0-8.5 soils that put us up to 1998 to rid our soils of su's. What happened in this irrigated area below the HHH ridge? Grapes...specifically wine grapes and numerous vineyards and wineries exploded that after 1946-47 kept dying after the first 2-4-5T drift damaged them. It took 50 years for grapes again to flourish as well as orchards and diversified Ag below the HHH Ridge.

So the concern of this letter is related to this: **The HHH wheat growers have leased ground for a 244 wind farm project by Scout Energy with over 100 miles of roads from Finley above Kennewick above Badger Canyon and on to Kiona.** Our local county does not want this as no power will be generated for here. But I bring up the herbicide questions and burden of proof and lack of testing.

- 1) Massive amounts of chemical laden soil of sulfonyleureas (Other drylands wheat farmers say harmony 18 mo+ residue) moving in dust storms will be increased from the installation and traffic on the 100+ miles of unimproved roads. There is no amount of water to keep the dust storms from moving dust on our Benton County grapes, orchards, diversified Ag, organic fields, residents and their homes as well as the 400,000 people. What damage can contaminated dust do to cherries in the fall and what damage in the spring as Region X documented in the late 890's and early 90's? What about damage on the wine grapes? Other Ag crops?

- 2) No analytical test for su's in off-target drifts. Is there a test in plants on the field sprayed yet? What crops have an analytical test for su's? Are there other new chemicals used on drylands wheat?
- 3) Burden of proof on the downwind victims as in 1946-1993 is not fair to 400,000 residents and diversified irrigated farmers.
- 4) Meteorology is too unpredictable on HHH and will fluctuate more.
- 5) No research exists on drylands wheat farmed between the 244 turbines (projected they taller than the space needle) and how the weather change will affect downwind irrigated farms. So downwinders of HHH Ridge will be an experiment and will suffer economic loss for certain with contaminated dust but what else?
- 6) In drier temperatures around wind machines can the machines dry out chemical particles more after applications and move more into a drift situation as the wind turbines pick up air to above 600' and air currents and fluctuation changes may also move particulates to downwind. No research has been done on this either. But when WSDA took 50 years to resolve aerial application, how are they going to enforce a large wind farm changing climate. Our area is unique as Batelle stated with drylands 700' above irrigated diversified crops and the meteorology opens up to the 400 sq. miles documented as the 40 year pattern 1946-1988 when the paraquat drifted.
- 7) Increased annual local temperatures 1.33 ave on Texas flatlands; Harvard cites 1.5 C to 2.0 C (2.75-3.6F) local increase in temperatures with 2.0 C increase at night. How this affects the local irrigated farm crops isn't known but grape and orchardist as again I don't find research on it. But farmers are worried that it can be devastating. Perhaps the delayed sugar content for early harvest and spring budding early and frost damage are some concerns.
- 8) I requested WSDA Director Sandison for information on these concerns of what herbicides and combinations are used on HHH, testing capabilities, and requesting plant bio-assays to get a baseline on what might be normal and if the wind machines are installed then we have a baseline to compare what is happening in dust and possible air dispersion. As mentioned, diversified Ag should not be experimented with. As Dr. Mink verified, it is the repeated repeated low dose exposures that our irrigated crops and plants could not recover from.

Perhaps you are aware of chemical laden herbicide and su dust moving from other areas? Certainly the Glean in Franklin county was application on the roadsides that went into fields but our situation is more likely the low dose repeated repeated exposure. Is there another way to test for off-target repeated exposure of low doses on plants? Do you have any studies on how to assess damage on low dose repeated exposures? It would not be unreasonable to look at 10 -15 dust storms in our area a year but when soils are loose there can be more and with the turbulence change of machines.

We, Benton County residents, diversified Ag growers and producers need to help in protecting our diversified crops, acreages, residences, yards and residents. The many risks on our local economic and diversified income from Ag can suffer astronomically from drift in dust, air movement from particulates and property values as we learned for 50 years. There is no WSDA regulation that is going to protect us when the meteorology and climate is changed. Again, I emphasize that We, downwinders of HHH, were experimented with for 50

years of drift and suffered with crop losses, economic loss to community, personal loss of our crops, reduced value of our lands and some who had to sell lost over 50% if not having to file bankruptcy. Can Mr. Szerlog help in determining risk evaluations to project losses on low dose repeated exposure? Is a low dose 1%, 2% but a second time now a 5%. What if after 2 years it is a 25%? How much is 25% of the wine grape industry in Benton County? What if its 30-50? Also, Mr. Kowalski can perhaps help with regulations and enforcement and can maybe understand why plant bioassays are needed. This area is unique and already unpredictable, we don't need it more unpredictable. We need to be pro-active. We don't know the future and just as no one knew the damage on cherries, grapes and diversified Ag crops in 1988 (except Dupont) many of us never recovered. So before we are experimented on again, we need your help and are looking to you to help us protect our diversified Ag in Benton County and the surrounding areas below the HHH ridge from Finley to Badger Canyon on to Kiona but also Prosser area as Dr. Mink had to document drift there before he could even do his research on plant bioassays.

The bottom line is this is not an area for the proposed wind farm. There are other areas that Wind farms can be put that do not have diversified Ag to be impacted. The long history of problems off these HHH in Benton County is more than a red flag.

Sincerely,



Margaret Hue

Attachment: Letter to WSDA Director Sandison

CC: Edward Kowalski, Enforcement and Compliance Assurance Division Region X EPA  
Michael Szerlog, Lab Services and Applied Science Division Region X EPA  
Governor Jay Inslee  
Ignacio Marquez, WSDA Regional Assistant to the Director Eastern/Central WA  
Senator Patty Murray  
Senator Maria Cantwell  
Congressman Dan Newhouse  
Senator Perry Dozier  
Senator Sharon Brown  
Representative Mary Dye  
Representative Mark Klicker  
Representative Rude Skyler  
Representative Brad Klippert  
Representative Matt Boehnke  
Washington Wine Growers

House Environment and Energy Committee  
Chair Noel Frame; Vice Chair Davina Duerr;  
House Rural Development, Agriculture and Natural Resources  
Chair Mike Chapman; Vice Chair Sharon Shewmake  
Senate Agriculture, Water, Natural Resources and Parks  
Chair Kevin Van De Wege; Vice Chair Jesse Salomon  
Senate Environment, Energy and Technology  
Chair Reuven Carlyle; Vice Chair Liz Lovelett  
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**Region 10 (AK, ID, OR, WA)**  
Environmental Protection Agency  
1200 Sixth Avenue, Suite 155  
Seattle, WA 98101  
Phone: (206) 553-1200

June 15, 2022

Dear Regional Administrator, Mr. Casey Sixkiller,

Congratulations on your new position Regional Administrator Sixkiller. I am hoping you can help me.

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grafts on to a new cherry orchard didn't grow. Years of damage, eventually they lost their farm and the family farm. But they weren't alone.

WSDA contracted Batelle Meteorology to investigate the weather and meteorology after the paraquat drift. They confirmed there are no areas in the US to replicate the unique HHH and ridge and irrigated farms below. The many hills and canyons draining into Badger Canyon but all along the area below the ridge is unpredictable with air currents, inversions and turbulence.

WSU/IAREC Dr. Mink in 1989-93 decided to put plant bio-assays in the HHH, Proser IAREC and down throughout the 400 sq. miles downwind of the HHH. These plants were changed weekly and demonstrated that off-target damage onto plant bioassays occurred. Finley, Kiona and Badger Canyon were hot spots and there were few weeks during the growing season that we did not have symptoms. It was also found that sometimes no applications were made but a wind storm had. Symptoms showed on the the bioassays which verified it came in the dust then watered into the plant. We would say since 1988 that when the wind storms blew dust and we irrigated it took in new symptoms, finally it was proven.

EPA Region X research on Cherries found small amount of su's representing a drift amount in September aborted significant fruit in the spring. If I recall 90% were aborted.

In 1993 WSDA finally removed aerial application from 250,000 A of Benton County including the HHH dryland wheat area and portions of the irrigated area in the 400 sq. miles and portions of Franklin and Walla Walla Counties. With 5 year residues in our high PH 8.0-8.5 soils that put us up to 1998 to rid our soils of su's. What happened in this irrigated area below the HHH ridge? Grapes...specifically wine grapes and numerous vineyards and wineries exploded that after 1946-47 kept dying after the first 2-4-5T drift damaged them. It took 50 years for grapes again to flourish as well as orchards and diversified Ag below the HHH Ridge.

So the concern of this letter is related to this: **The HHH wheat growers have leased ground for a 244 wind farm project by Scout Energy with over 100 miles of roads from Finley above Kennewick above Badger Canyon and on to Kiona.** Our local county does not want this as no power will be generated for here. But I bring up the herbicide questions and burden of proof and lack of testing.

- 1) Massive amounts of chemical laden soil of sulfonyleureas (Other drylands wheat farmers say harmony 18 mo+ residue) moving in dust storms will be increased from the installation and traffic on the 100+ miles of unimproved roads. There is no amount of water to keep the dust storms from moving dust on our Benton County grapes, orchards, diversified Ag, organic fields, residents and their homes as well as the 400,000 people. What damage can contaminated dust do to cherries in the fall and what damage in the spring as Region X documented in the late 890's and early 90's? What about damage on the wine grapes? Other Ag crops?

- 2) No analytical test for su's in off-target drifts. Is there a test in plants on the field sprayed yet? What crops have an analytical test for su's? Are there other new chemicals used on drylands wheat?
- 3) Burden of proof on the downwind victims as in 1946-1993 is not fair to 400,000 residents and diversified irrigated farmers.
- 4) Meteorology is too unpredictable on HHH and will fluctuate more.
- 5) No research exists on drylands wheat farmed between the 244 turbines (projected they taller than the space needle) and how the weather change will affect downwind irrigated farms. So downwinders of HHH Ridge will be an experiment and will suffer economic loss for certain with contaminated dust but what else?
- 6) In drier temperatures around wind machines can the machines dry out chemical particles more after applications and move more into a drift situation as the wind turbines pick up air to above 600' and air currents and fluctuation changes may also move particulates to downwind. No research has been done on this either. But when WSDA took 50 years to resolve aerial application, how are they going to enforce a large wind farm changing climate. Our area is unique as Batelle stated with drylands 700' above irrigated diversified crops and the meteorology opens up to the 400 sq. miles documented as the 40 year pattern 1946-1988 when the paraquat drifted.
- 7) Increased annual local temperatures 1.33 ave on Texas flatlands; Harvard cites 1.5 C to 2.0 C (2.75-3.6F) local increase in temperatures with 2.0 C increase at night. How this affects the local irrigated farm crops isn't known but grape and orchardist as again I don't find research on it. But farmers are worried that it can be devastating. Perhaps the delayed sugar content for early harvest and spring budding early and frost damage are some concerns.
- 8) I requested WSDA Director Sandison for information on these concerns of what herbicides and combinations are used on HHH, testing capabilities, and requesting plant bio-assays to get a baseline on what might be normal and if the wind machines are installed then we have a baseline to compare what is happening in dust and possible air dispersion. As mentioned, diversified Ag should not be experimented with. As Dr. Mink verified, it is the repeated repeated low dose exposures that our irrigated crops and plants could not recover from.

Perhaps you are aware of chemical laden herbicide and su dust moving from other areas? Certainly the Glean in Franklin county was application on the roadsides that went into fields but our situation is more likely the low dose repeated repeated exposure. Is there another way to test for off-target repeated exposure of low doses on plants? Do you have any studies on how to assess damage on low dose repeated exposures? It would not be unreasonable to look at 10 -15 dust storms in our area a year but when soils are loose there can be more and with the turbulence change of machines.

We, Benton County residents, diversified Ag growers and producers need to help in protecting our diversified crops, acreages, residences, yards and residents. The many risks on our local economic and diversified income from Ag can suffer astronomically from drift in dust, air movement from particulates and property values as we learned for 50 years. There is no WSDA regulation that is going to protect us when the meteorology and climate is changed. Again, I emphasize that We, downwinders of HHH, were experimented with for 50

years of drift and suffered with crop losses, economic loss to community, personal loss of our crops, reduced value of our lands and some who had to sell lost over 50% if not having to file bankruptcy. Can Mr. Szerlog help in determining risk evaluations to project losses on low dose repeated exposure? Is a low dose 1%, 2% but a second time now a 5%. What if after 2 years it is a 25%? How much is 25% of the wine grape industry in Benton County? What if its 30-50? Also, Mr. Kowalski can perhaps help with regulations and enforcement and can maybe understand why plant bioassays are needed. This area is unique and already unpredictable, we don't need it more unpredictable. We need to be pro-active. We don't know the future and just as no one knew the damage on cherries, grapes and diversified Ag crops in 1988 (except Dupont) many of us never recovered. So before we are experimented on again, we need your help and are looking to you to help us protect our diversified Ag in Benton County and the surrounding areas below the HHH ridge from Finley to Badger Canyon on to Kiona but also Prosser area as Dr. Mink had to document drift there before he could even do his research on plant bioassays.

The bottom line is this is not an area for the proposed wind farm. There are other areas that Wind farms can be put that do not have diversified Ag to be impacted. The long history of problems off these HHH in Benton County is more than a red flag.

Sincerely,



Margaret Hue

Attachment: Letter to WSDA Director Sandison

CC: Edward Kowalski, Enforcement and Compliance Assurance Division Region X EPA  
Michael Szerlog, Lab Services and Applied Science Division Region X EPA  
Governor Jay Inslee  
Ignacio Marquez, WSDA Regional Assistant to the Director Eastern/Central WA  
Senator Patty Murray  
Senator Maria Cantwell  
Congressman Dan Newhouse  
Senator Perry Dozier  
Senator Sharon Brown  
Representative Mary Dye  
Representative Mark Klicker  
Representative Rude Skyler  
Representative Brad Klippert  
Representative Matt Boehnke  
Washington Wine Growers

House Environment and Energy Committee  
Chair Noel Frame; Vice Chair Davina Duerr;  
House Rural Development, Agriculture and Natural Resources  
Chair Mike Chapman; Vice Chair Sharon Shewmake  
Senate Agriculture, Water, Natural Resources and Parks  
Chair Kevin Van De Wege; Vice Chair Jesse Salomon  
Senate Environment, Energy and Technology  
Chair Reuven Carlyle; Vice Chair Liz Lovelett  
HOA 816 PR SE  
HOA Country Meadows  
HOA Cottonwood  
Save-the-Ridges HHH  
Annette Clary, Tri-City Herald  
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kathleen.drew@utc.wa.gov  
Michelle Cooke <Michelle.Cooke@co.benton.wa.us  
greg.wendt@co.benton.wa.us

From: Margaret Hue  
29204 S 816 PR SE  
Kennewick, WA 99338  
509-528-0925  
m.hue39@gmail.com

TO: Derek Sandison, Director  
Washington State Department of Agriculture  
1111 Washington Street SE, 2nd Floor  
PO Box 42560  
Olympia, WA 98504-2560

June 5, 2022

Dear Director Sandison,

I am writing to express concern of the possible future chemical trespass off of the Horse Heaven Hills Wheat farms if the Proposed HHH 244 Wind Turbine Farm is approved. These are proposed on over 24 miles of the HHH ridge from Finley to just south of Kennewick then above Badger Canyon to above Kiona/Benton City.

Since this issue has been quiet for almost 30 years, let me remind you how when the dry land wheat farms first applied 2-4-5T on HHH wheat fields with aircraft in 1946-47 caused the first damage to grapes. Yet, no one knew symptoms of the herbicide on grapes so it took several years before testing proved it was 2-4-D. But what farm it came from was unknown as many neighbors and thousands of acres were sprayed on HHH. This damage onto grapes continued for 40 years and in the 1980's through the 1990's damage became more intense with the use of sulfonylureas and landmaster. But damage continued to grapes but now also to diversified agriculture. Extensive damage to grapes, cherries, peaches, asparagus, alfalfa, pastures, and homeowners trees, shrubs and gardens from Kiona/Benton City, Red Mountain, Badger Mountain, Badger Canyon, Kennewick, Finley to 9 Mile Canyon. From 1988-1993 hearing after hearing finally achieved removal of aerial application of herbicides and Category 1 insecticides from part of Benton, Franklin and Walla Walla counties. After the restrictions were in place it wasn't until 1998 when the grape industry took off and the 5 years of residues of sulfonylureas and other tank mixes left our soils. Yields came back, but not before the many farmers lost their lands from the low yields and continual damage in the 80's and early 90's. WSDA documented Paraquat that had drifted across 400 sq miles of Tri-Cities with positive analysis in August of 1988. Art Losey, Director of Pesticide Division stated this (the Paraquat drift) followed the same drift pattern of the last 40 years.

In 1988, the **burden of proof** was always on the victims then as the WSDA would enforce with positive analysis, yet EPA and WSDA allowed sulfonylureas to be applied with no capability to find the chemical even in the field just sprayed. So of course there was no way to test on repeated repeated repeated exposure on downwind crops. Is

that still the rule? If so, does WSDA have capability to test in the field directly sprayed of all the herbicides applied by HHH dry land wheat farmers? Does the WSDA have the capability to analyze those herbicides in grapes, orchards, alfalfa, trees and in off target drifts on sensitive downwind areas of the 400 square miles of Tri-Cities?

WSU put plant bioassays out in 1989-1993 and found symptoms of sulfonyleureas and damage on sensitive plants that were weekly changed and watched them over 6 weeks or more to document symptoms and if there was damage or not. They found highly sensitive areas of Kiona, Badger Canyon and Finley at 9 Mile Canyon Area had symptoms most of the time as they were hotspots for drift. But the significant thing was the repeated repeated exposure damaged the immune system of the plant and would not recover.

So the problem I see is the 244 wind machines are placed throughout the HHH drylands wheat farms over 24 miles and some areas will have wind machines up to 6 rows deep especially above Badger Canyon. The wind machines will not only dry out soils around the machines but the air can potentially dry out the chemicals, picking them up along with the air flow and transport particles around from the ground applications of herbicides on the wheat fields and fallow ground fields. Even if ground applied as the land is farmed around the turbines the machines can not help but disturb air movement up to the height 500-650 ft, as some turbines will be as tall as the space needle and air movement may be disturbed higher than the length of the blades as the cooler air mixes. The question is will there be potential for off-target drift? The Batelle Meteorology Study after the Paraquat drift in August 1988 said the canyons, inversions, and topography is unpredictable and the location of the mountains below the ridge make it even more unstable. So if the turbines are acting like a slower airplane and disturbing the applications over 72,000 acres continually, more land than a single plane may have applied like approximately 850 Acres when paraquat drifted over 400 sq miles of Tri-Cities. Are downwinders vulnerable to repeat what took 50 years to resolve? How do we know or not know? The burden should be on WSDA to protect us downwinders.

Therefore, I am requesting a list of what chemicals are used on the HHH wheat farms and information on these chemicals that are being applied on dry land and fallow ground fields? What chemicals can be analyzed in the wheat fields? What chemicals can be analyzed in off-target sites? To what levels can the chemicals be analyzed and in what off-target crops can these herbicides be analyzed and at what level of exposure?

Can our state afford the damage on the wine grape industry as we know the grapes are extremely sensitive. They suffered for 50 years. Is the state going to allow them to be put at risk again? Periodically, I see yellow spots with a red dot on roses, reminding me that particles of perhaps bromoxinil or 2-4-D and sulfonyleureas are still floating off target. Furthermore, In the 80's and 90's when we had dust storms we would find chemical laden dust would be taken up in our plants as they were irrigated. These wind farms will have over 100 miles of dirt roads and chemical laden dust that will blow down

on sensitive areas. Will you have the plant bioassays out to verify this as WSU documented in 1989-93? Who will? Will you fund a grant to WSU to do the bioassays? Is Tri-Cities and diversified agriculture left to the burden of proof on us downwinders?

I believe there should be a baseline established for several years before any wind machines can be erected and continual studies to prove there is not chemicals drifting off target. If there is, then does the WSDA enforce them with shutting down the wind turbines? Will you enforce with symptoms on off-target plants? I really don't believe you have capability to find the chemical in dust, crops or downwind off-target fields. Thirty years ago 2-4-D was only found in the very tips of new growth on grapes. Yellow spots of sulfonuylureas could find bromoxinil or 2-4-D if the spot was punched out. The same for Paraquat and Diquat. Has anything changed?

What about the organic farms? Organic vineyards, gardens, crops? How are you going to protect them? Will they be at risk of losing their organic license if herbicide found on their plants? WSDA is the enforcement, what are the rules for herbicides going off target and enforcement?

This large 244 Turbine Wind Farm has many concerns but the potential loss and risk to diversified crops from herbicide drifting off target needs to be addressed. The wind machines will not shut off for the farmers to spray. So I believe they pose a huge financial risk and potential loss of revenue to the state and local downwind farmers and residents. In 1988 Following the Paraquat drift in Badger Canyon and the 400 square miles of Tri-Cities, the Department of Health did a study and determined there were illnesses that couldn't be explained. There were not any explanations as to the illnesses in Badger Canyon and the areas as per epidemics in these areas. It was determined they (DOH) couldn't prove they were ill from chemicals but they could not disprove it either. Tri-Cities and surrounding areas from Kiona/Benton City to Badger Canyon, to Kennewick to Finley across to Pasco, Burbank, Richland and West Richland do not want to relive any part of the herbicide drift that our area suffered with for 50 years, health wise or plant symptoms from off-target drift.

I appreciate your time reading this and look forward to the responses to the questions, the list of herbicides and WSDA testing capabilities of these herbicides. This can not be a wait and see response, there needs to be a proactive plan to prevent damage from re-occurring in this sensitive area of Benton County. The best plan is to speak against the 244 wind farm from being built here.

Sincerely,

*Margaret Hue*

Margaret Hue

CC: Ignacio Marquez, WSDA Regional Assistant to the Director Eastern/Central WA  
Governor Jay Inslee  
Senator Patty Murray  
Senator Maria Cantwell  
Congressman Dan Newhouse  
Senator Perry Dozier  
Senator Sharon Brown  
Representative Mark Klicker  
Representative Rude Skyler  
Representative Brad Klippert  
Representative Matt Boehnke  
Washington Wine Growers  
HOA 816 PR SE  
HOA Country Meadows  
HOA Cottonwood  
Save-the-Ridges HHH  
Annette Clary, Tri-City Herald  
House Environment and Energy Committee  
    Chair Noel Frame; Vice Chair Davina Duerr;  
House Rural Development, Agriculture and Natural Resources  
    Chair Mike Chapman; Vice Chair Sharon Shewmake  
Senate Agriculture, Water, Natural Resources and Parks  
    Chair Kevin Van De Wege; Vice Chair Jesse Salomon  
Senate Environment, Energy and Technology  
    Chair Reuven Carlyle; Vice Chair Liz Lovelett  
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Margaret Hue  
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509-528-0925

Engineering Dept.  
Benton PUD  
PO Box 6270  
Kennewick, WA 99336  
[engservice@bentonpud.org](mailto:engservice@bentonpud.org)

June 8, 2022

Dear PUD Engineers,

I am currently working on information concerning downwinders of the HHH Proposed 244 Turbine Wind Farm. I have read that David Keith, Harvard claims annual local temperature rises of 1.5 C is common but can be as much 2.0 C; that is 2.7-3.6 degrees F. Furthermore, he says northern Texas and central US sees a 2 degree temp rise locally across these areas near large Wind farms. Over a decade average study of the 4 largest wind farms in Texas flatlands, the local areas saw a .72 C or a 1.33 F degree rise. Articles in Wisconsin state the temperature rise is more in hills and varied terrains. Specifically, Keith said to expect a 2 degree rise at night near large farms. The proposed one on HHH is one of the largest ones. Our terrain and meteorology off HHH and into the Tri-City areas is unpredictable with inversions, turbulence, and air movement according to the Batelle Meteorology Study following a Paraquat application August 1988 that drifted over 400 sq. Miles of Tri-Cities from Kiona to Richland to Pasco to Finley to Canyon Lakes and back to Badger Canyon. That was without 244 wind machines disturbing air 600' in the atmosphere rising our local temperatures.

So my question is if there is a 2.7 degree F (which is 2 C) rise in temperature day and night what impact will that have locally on our Benton County grid and supply? Even a 2 F degree rise will cause more air conditioning day and night and on top normal temperatures how might that increase amount increase the power needed. It seems like Scout, a foreign owned company, who cares nothing about us locally, is creating a power with a wind farm that we locally do not benefit from but yet it will cause our increase in power bills from usage to offset a rise in temperature that the wind machines will cause. Makes us look like fools or very nice neighbors!

Are you engineers able to create an estimate of power usage increase for how much more power usage will be for the affected areas in Benton County from Kiona to Finley and in between? Including the increase average charged to residents and businesses for them to understand their extra power usage from increased temperature rise from the wind farm project on a monthly and yearly amount over 25 years. I know this is a projection but believe it is important for locals to be aware of it.

If that could be charted beginning with the decade average from Texas with 1.33 degree F rise. Then increase to the amounts of 2 degree F and 2.7 F (1.5 C) and highest of 3.6 degree F rise (the 2.0C) as Keith cited. Of course when we get 119 degrees of 10 days even near 110-119 like last year what would 2 deg F and 1.5 C and 2 deg C do to our power usage.

Granted a 2 degree rise in winter may be a benefit in heating but then a risk to agriculture as buds may break earlier and damage in frost may occur longer. Longer smudge pot season? Longer to mature fruit to get the sugar content? So many ripple effects.

I did not see anything on temperature rising mentioned in the Scout project but it is important for our community to be aware of the rise of temperature and consider this additional cost to homeowners and businesses but also be aware of the possible strain on the local PUD.

Of course this will also impact Franklin County, so I will ask them the same thing.

If allowed perhaps they, Scout and future buyers of the project and farmers leasing the lands should be putting this extra charge into a trust for future electrical costs and then paying the cost to the residents, businesses, agriculture etc. for the increased power cost for 25 years Maybe this is a mitigation issue.

If you can review this and develop a chart to show the differences and seasons with various temperature rises, that could help determine if an issue for power cost increase to residents and how it will effect the local pud.

Thank you for the consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Margaret Hue".

Margaret Hue

CC: Franklin County PUD Engineering Dept <https://www.franklinpud.com>  
[will.mckay@co.benton.wa.us](mailto:will.mckay@co.benton.wa.us)  
[shon.small@co.benton.wa.us](mailto:shon.small@co.benton.wa.us)  
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[greg.wendt@co.benton.wa.us](mailto:greg.wendt@co.benton.wa.us)  
Save The Ridges HHH Dave Sharp; Judy Gosie

**From:** [Drew, Kathleen \(EFSEC\)](#)  
**To:** [Grantham, Andrea \(EFSEC\)](#)  
**Subject:** FW: HAPPY 4TH! REMINDING YOU TO GET PETITIONS SIGNED DURING THE FAMILY CELEBRATIONS  
**Date:** Wednesday, July 6, 2022 10:12:01 AM

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-----Original Message-----

From: Margaret Hue <m.hue39@gmail.com>  
Sent: Monday, July 4, 2022 7:59 AM  
To: Bill Monson <Billmonson@goosridge.com>; Monica mike Hollenberg <momesq98@gmail.com>; Kevin Self <Kmswood60@gmail.com>; Rita Grn House <ritaporter@owt.com>; Kimberly Sherfey Next To Rita And Andy <kim@southpinegiftco.com>; George Winter <gpwinter@gmail.com>; Ruth Winter <Ruth.winter@gmail.com>; Derrick Stricker <derrick@strickercre.com>; Drew, Kathleen (EFSEC) <kathleen.drew@efsec.wa.gov>; Blake Neighbor Below; Glory <bjroy78@gmail.com>; Brian Poteet <bpoteet74@gmail.com>; jasonmhatfield@hotmail.com; Tim & Bonnie Prater <tim@praterelectric.net>; "Peter Nordquist (ed's Son)" <spacerecycler@gmail.com>; Anne Eerkes (ritas Neighbor 2nd Culdesac) And Josh And Twins Eerke <aerkes@gmail.com>; Jason Banta <Jasen@banlinconstruction.com>; Jay West (nichols House) <jwest178@yahoo.com>; Rikki West (nichols House) <jwest178@yahoo.com>; kathleen Bumpaous <kathleen.bumpaous@gmail.com>; Karen Brun (triple Vista) Help Edit For Hhh Wind Farm <kmbrun@gmail.com>  
Subject: HAPPY 4TH! REMINDING YOU TO GET PETITIONS SIGNED DURING THE FAMILY CELEBRATIONS

External Email

HAPPY 4TH! WANTED TO ENCOURAGE YOU TO GET PETITIONS SIGNED AND SHARE WITH FAMILY AND FRIENDS DURING THE 4TH CELEBRATIONS. THE PETITION IS THE VOICE OF THE LOCAL COMMUNITIES IN BENTON AND PARTS OF FRANKLIN AND Walla Walla TO SPEAK UP AGAINST THEM. WE HAVEN'T HEARD ANY RELEASE YET FOR THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT BUT FEEL IT IS GIVING US EXTRA TIME TO GET INFORMATION OUT AND PETITIONS SIGNED. IF YOU CALL FRIENDS TELL THEM I AM ALSO AT RANCH AND HOME IN KENNEWICK DAILY. M-TH 3-7; FRI 10-7; SAT-SUN 10-5 WHERE THEY CAN SIGN AND RETURN PETITIONS TO ME.

AS OF LAST NIGHT TOTAL WE HAVE COLLECTED 1627 signatures and want ten thousand or more to make an impact! It is also a shame on you to the company and EFSEC for not giving us a voice locally and taking this out of Benton County

Have a safe a joyous celebration for America's Birthday!!!

Margaret Hue

> On Jun 6, 2022, at 8:16 AM, Margaret Hue <m.hue39@gmail.com> wrote:  
>  
> I copied the HOA 816, BUT ALSO, Country Meadows and Cottonwood HOA's as another concern.  
>  
> <Letter to Director Sandison, WSDA on HHH herbicides applied and testing capabilities.pdf>

**From:** [Drew, Kathleen \(EFSEC\)](#)  
**To:** [Grantham, Andrea \(EFSEC\)](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: Information on concern for crop losses to diversified Ag with HHH Wind farm  
**Date:** Wednesday, September 14, 2022 9:02:00 PM  
**Attachments:** [SIGN A PETITION FLYER .pdf](#)

---

**From:** Margaret Hue <m.hue39@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 14, 2022 2:08:12 PM  
**To:** will.mckay@co.benton.wa.us <will.mckay@co.benton.wa.us>; shon.small@co.benton.wa.us <shon.small@co.benton.wa.us>; jerome.delvin@co.benton.wa.us <jerome.delvin@co.benton.wa.us>; Drew, Kathleen (EFSEC) <kathleen.drew@efsec.wa.gov>; Michelle Cooke <Michelle.Cooke@co.benton.wa.us>; greg.wendt@co.benton.wa.us <greg.wendt@co.benton.wa.us>  
**Subject:** Information on concern for crop losses to diversified Ag with HHH Wind farm

External Email

Please read the information on the back and see how the potential for economic disaster with wind farm man made nature conflicting with Mother Nature. We have no baseline in Ag to prepare for such crop losses. It has been brought up that a small cherry problem began in Finley 20 years ago and after 25 years ago many orchards have no big cherries.... A small cherry virus was found in Yakima 5 years ago, but not the same symptoms and doesn't account for the 10-15 years. I knew some of these orchards during the drifts off HHH 30 years ago and they had big cherries. So what changed??? 20 years ago was phase 1 of nine mile canyon; 19 years ago was phase 2 and 14-15 years ago was phase 3. Is it coincidence?

Or does the research from Harvard and warming night temperatures along with the increased wind turbulence and changes in weather patterns and air movement cited from Gobi Desert downwind of large wind farms change the crops production? Do they cause drying in the orchard, change in moisture, lack of dew and do these have things to do with small cherries? WSU first said "we have no baseline" from 20 years ago. No one in Finley thought anything about why there is no more small cherries or even thought anything about it related to a wind farm. (35 years ago in 1986-87 I didn't know why alfalfa didn't grow like it did in the early 80's until I spent more money to plant asparagus and commercial flowers only to lose 75% of my stand of asparagus in 1988 and never harvested a flower in 3 years, It was 1998 when we found out our crop losses were from sulfonyleureas that drifted off HHH. I didn't ask enough questions then and I lost my farm because of it. So I am asking questions now!

What do we need for a baseline for all of our diversified Ag? Who needs to document this so it is reliable information? What type of baseline should Finley have because if more wind farms come in maybe their cherries will become smaller. Since there is no research on diversified Ag that we raise below large wind farms we have to raise questions. If not the small cherry issue may become a reality for 27 miles below HHH and a huge economic loss for Tri-cities and Benton County and Washington State. I have been in touch with

horticulture at WSU who is looking at weather data but cross referencing that data with wind farm operations is going to take time. Also, I have taken information to WSU Viticulture and am asking them what does the rising night temperature do to grapes, sugar content, harvests, delayed harvest, and what if small grape yields and tonnage as with the cherries in Finley,

I can't answer all the questions but I do see economic disaster. As Goose Ridge owner said, "it can be catastrophic!"

I think we all need to help with this issue of downwind problems and raise out of the box questions as this project can ruin diversified Ag for 70 years. That is a lot of revenue lost and farm foreclosures.

Margaret Hue  
[m.hue39@gmail.com](mailto:m.hue39@gmail.com)  
509-528-0925

# SIGN A PETITION

## AGAINST THE PROPOSED HORSE HEAVEN HILLS (HHH) WIND TURBINE FARM

- Project Scope: 150-244 wind turbines 499'-671' high along the HHH ridgeline from Finley to Kiona
- Developer Scout Clean Energy applied directly to the Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council, (EFSEC) in Olympia, bypassing Benton County local government



## SCOUT CLEAN ENERGY SIMULATED VIEW LOOKING ACROSS DALLAS ROAD AND BADGER CANYON TO HHH RIDGELINE

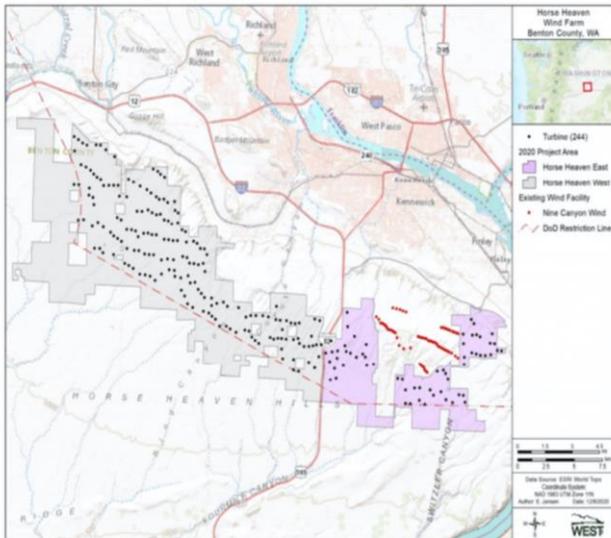


Figure 3. Proposed Turbine layout within the Horse Heaven Wind Farm in Benton County, Washington.

## 24 MILES FROM FINLEY TO KIONA ALONG THE HHH RIDGELINE

## To date, NO LOCAL PUBLIC HEARING...WE LOST OUR VOICE!

UPON DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT (DEIS) RELEASE, THE PUBLIC SHOULD HAVE 30 DAYS TO SEND COMMENTS TO EFSEC OR TESTIFY AT A VIRTUAL OR PUBLIC HEARING.

### SIGN A PETITION OR GET A FLYER AT THESE LOCATIONS:

#### DAILY DURING BUSINESS HOURS:

- FINLEY SHOPPER, 222608 E GAME FARM RD., FINLEY
- BENTON CITY PNW PROPERTY ADVISORS, 511 9TH ST., BENTON CITY
- KENNEWICK PIK-A-POP, 526 W COLUMBIA DR., KENNEWICK

#### DAILY 5-7 PM:

- BADGER CANYON, S 816 PR SE, KENNEWICK

### GET A FLYER ANY TIME AT THESE LOCATIONS:

- BADGER CANYON, S 816 PR SE, KENNEWICK
- 6026 W. CLEARWATER AVE, KENNEWICK

### SIGN A PETITION ONLINE:

CREATED BY



[mailto:decide\\_locally@gmail.com](mailto:decide_locally@gmail.com)

\*\*\*\*\*

### OTHERS OPPOSING THIS PROJECT:

[triciescares.org](http://triciescares.org)  
[save-our-ridges.org](http://save-our-ridges.org)



## ORCHARDISTS/DIVERSIFIED AGRICULTURISTS

- Average local annual temperature increases of 3-4° (or perhaps 4-10°?), mostly at night per a Harvard study.

Could this:

- Push bud break?
- Higher night temperatures at the wrong time?
- Delay ripening and fruit pick?
- Impact sugar content?
- Harvest pushed into frost season?
- Require more frost control when turbines stop?

Think “out-of-the-box” questions for your crops. How much will these things cost you?

## HERBICIDES & CHEMICAL DRIFT

- Sulfonylureas (SU) have been used in the HHH for 30 years with residues in the soils above 7.5 pH for 18+ months. There is currently no analytical SU testing and no way of knowing how often SU damage occurs without plant bioassays changed weekly and observed to document when SUs or any other herbicide are affecting the diversified crops, orchards, vineyards, or residential plants. SUs cannot be analytically detected in the ground.
- SU residue from fugitive dust storms during 100+ miles of road construction can cause repeated low dose exposures that attack terminal and root growth in all broadleaf plants and weaken a plant’s immune system such that it won’t recover.
- Diversified agriculture crops are more sensitive to wheat sulfonylurea (SU) herbicides per the EPA. Fall cherry SU damage study showed 90% flower abortion in the Spring with no other symptoms.
- An 850-acre study by Battelle confirmed paraquat from a HHH wheat field drifted over 400 square miles from Kiona to Pasco as far as Foster Wells Road to Finley, Canyon Lakes, and Badger Canyon.
- In 1993, WSDA pulled 250,000 acres in Benton County out of aerial application. This halted 50 years of damage to downwind diversified agriculture from 2-4-D, sulfonylureas, Bromoxynil and Roundup.
- Chemical laden dust from construction can impact diversified ag for 2 years or more.

## TOPOGRAPHY & METEOROLOGY

- The HHH topography and meteorology is unique only to the Tri-Cities and nowhere else in the USA replicates our area (Battelle Meteorology).
- The HHH topography is distinctive with dryland wheat at 1200’ above sea level and numerous canyons drawing the air down to 500’ to the valley floor where irrigated diversified agriculture resides. That air then spreads across Badger Canyon, Kiona, Finley, and the Tri-Cities.

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## RESEARCH

- There has been research within the turbine fields but no independent research on the impacts of large wind farms to downwinders.
- Research from the Gobi Desert showed increased climate change (rising heat), increased fluctuation of wind turbulence and increased fluctuation of wind patterns downwind.

## HOMEOWNERS

- Damage to residential plants, shrubs, and laws may be mistaken for nutrient deficiency, harmful insects, etc. and cost thousands of dollars for maintenance or replacement.
- Increased power costs
- Decreased property values, with a subsequent decrease in revenues to school
- Loss of view
- Noise and light pollution
- Shadow flicker
- Detrimental health effects (headaches, insomnia, dizziness)

## TOURISM

- Employs 4700 jobs vs. Scout Clean Energy’s estimated 16 permanent jobs post construction.
- In 2021, tourism brought in \$489.3M in revenue, resulting in \$51.2M in local and state taxes.

## OTHER ISSUES

- This project totally disregards the Benton County future growth plan.
- The impact to our unique and fragile shrub-steppe, migratory bird pathways, and at-risk/endangered species habitats is immeasurable.
- Man-made changes like this double the impact on farmers.
- The project developer has a 35-year lease with the option to renew for another 35 years. How much will it cost our region in tourism, property value loss, and damage to diversified agriculture over that time period?
- Wind power is an unreliable source of energy and must rely on backup power.
- Battery storage technology isn’t advanced enough to store wind-produced power.

# SIGN A PETITION

## AGAINST THE PROPOSED HORSE HEAVEN HILLS (HHH) WIND TURBINE FARM

- Project Scope: 150-244 wind turbines 499'-671' high along the HHH ridgeline from Finley to Kiona
- Developer Scout Clean Energy applied directly to the Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council, (EFSEC) in Olympia, bypassing Benton County local government



## SCOUT CLEAN ENERGY SIMULATED VIEW LOOKING ACROSS DALLAS ROAD AND BADGER CANYON TO HHH RIDGELINE

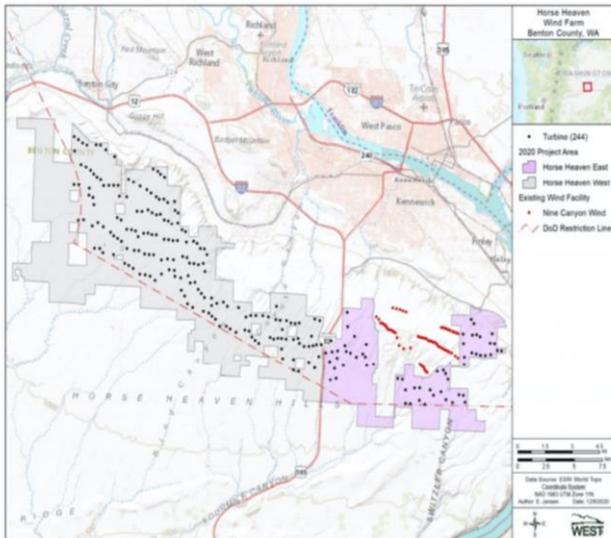


Figure 3. Proposed Turbine layout within the Horse Heaven Wind Farm in Benton County, Washington.

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**From:** Paul Krupin <[Paul@Presari.com](mailto:Paul@Presari.com)>  
**Sent:** Friday, October 14, 2022 9:04:48 AM  
**To:** Bumpus, Sonia (EFSEC) <[sonia.bumpus@efsec.wa.gov](mailto:sonia.bumpus@efsec.wa.gov)>  
**Subject:** Horse Heaven Hills Wind Turbine & Solar Project - DEIS Schedule

External Email

Sonia Bumpus, Director of EFSEC,  
[sonia.bumpus@efsec.wa.gov](mailto:sonia.bumpus@efsec.wa.gov)  
Tel 360-664-1363

I am writing to provide comments and to request that EFSEC re-schedule the release date for the draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) from late November 2022 to several weeks after the first of the new year in January, or even to mid to late March of 2023.

This will enable people to get past the holidays and focus adequate time and attention to the review of this immense proposed project, and intelligently and effectively engage the public in the discussion of the proposals.

I am recommending that the EFSEC extend the normal 30-day comment period to 45 days, and even to 60 days, for many important reasons:

- The project is huge. It extends about 25 miles from east to west and is up to 8 miles wide north to south. It encompasses nearly 115 square miles. It takes at least four hours to simply drive the project on a tour to even do a cursory look see of the lands that are affected by the proposals. Even then, only a limited amount of time is available for stops at the various key project locations to observe and grasp the significance of the locations and impacts of the project components. It takes several days to visit and survey the lands and resources in more detail with more time at the numerous locations.

- Three towns (Benton City, Kennewick, and Finley) and numerous sub-divided communities with tens of thousands of people in residence are within 1 to 4 miles of the proposed project boundary. Indeed, the number of homes, businesses, and people who live and work in the Tri-Cities who will be able to see the proposed wind turbines is significant. As of July 1, 2021, the U.S. Census Bureau estimates the population of the metropolitan area to be 308,293, making it the third-largest metropolitan area located entirely in Washington, after the Seattle metropolitan area and the Spokane metropolitan area. The members of these communities will need time to read, review, and digest the voluminous quantity of information in the draft EIS since they will be forced to look at the intrusive and long-lasting visual impacts of the decisions made in the draft EIS for many decades to come.
- The project documentation released so far indicates that the draft EIS review will be a formidable undertaking requiring many hours and involving numerous personnel of a wide range of disciplines. The project will result in significant biological, socioeconomic, physical and cultural impacts. Significant time will be needed to read, review, and digest the voluminous quantity of information in the draft EIS. The nature and magnitude of the diverse impacts are such that a broad spectrum of numerous technical, professional and community groups and associations will need to be notified, educated, and coordinated with in order to assure adequate and meaningful public engagement.

It is critical that a proper and comprehensive review be conducted to ensure that significant issues are not left out or that the advice and expertise of cooperating agencies are not ignored. The permit application documentation on the EFSEC website is voluminous and is not easy to use. Individual chapters and sections must be downloaded and printed in color in order to read, review and understand the specific technical and financial information and then conduct a reasonable and proper review and assessment of the project and the affected environments.

The locations, scope, magnitude and the nature and severity of the social, economic and environmental impacts of this project affects numerous interest

groups in the region and a coordinated public comment outreach will be needed in order to achieve adequate notice and engagement and to ensure informed decision-making. It is critically important that the public be adequately informed and that it is absolutely clear what the company is planning to actually do on the ground at specific locations or how they will limit environmental impact.

To this end I recommend and encourage the Washington State Energy Facility Siting Evaluation Council 1. Make improvements to the Internet website to make the posted documentation and graphical information easier to access, download and utilize; and 2. expedite the creation of social media profiles on Facebook and Twitter and then actively operate, integrate, maintain and improve the operations of those sites. These actions will ensure and maximize efficient communication and effective outreach of all pending council issues, events, engagement activities, and pending regulatory business to the public in real time.

Numerous federal and state agencies in the Pacific Northwest are doing an exemplary job using these social media technologies and integrating them with Internet web sites that houses and stores significant content and helpful resources. EFSEC and the public would greatly benefit from improving how it communicates and coordinates with the public if it were do so in a similar and complimentary manner.

For the reasons stated above, I highly recommend the following:

- Reschedule the release of the draft EIS to mid-to late January 2023 and maybe even to mid to late March 2023.
- Extend the public comment period of the draft EIS to 45 and even to 60 days due to the size and magnitude of the project and associated documentation.
- Schedule and conduct a series of public open house meetings in each of the directly impacted towns (Benton City, Kennewick and Finley). to brief the

public and allow them to receive information on the project and environmental impacts. These open house meeting should be scheduled early in the public comment period to allow people time to digest the information that they receive at the meetings.

- Create and operate social media sites on Facebook and Twitter to integrate with Internet resources to help inform, educate and coordinate with the public.

Additionally, please recognize and consider that even with this new schedule, taking road tours of the project area during the winter time will be problematic for many people due to snow and ice on the roads. Many of the roads are gravel and will require high clearance vehicles in order to access and see the lands where turbines are proposed. The onsite visits are important because people need see and understand the scope and magnitude of the project and the lands and resources that are being impacted. Only by getting out on the ground to see it with their own eyes will they be able to offer the best public comments.

Because of the immensity of the project and the difficulties in accessing the site during the winter, pushing the schedule for the release of the draft EIS out to March may be even better for all involved.

One last item for your consideration. Before you trigger the public review of the draft EIS, can you please verify that the company has identified sufficient sources of water for construction and dust abatement and control requirements. The local cities and irrigation districts have indicated that they cannot provide the company with the water it needs.

It would therefore be prudent to not release the draft EIS and cause a massive investment of time on the part of the public and all the local government agencies unless the company can confirm it has an adequate source and quantity of water needed to actually build the project.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions at all. I would

appreciate receiving an email reply letting me know you received this input.

Appreciatively,

Paul Krupin, BA MS JD  
2404 South Lyle St.  
Kennewick WA 99337

509-531-8390 cell 509-582-5174 landline [Paul@Presari.com](mailto:Paul@Presari.com)

**From:** Kevin Leary <[hbleary7@outlook.com](mailto:hbleary7@outlook.com)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 12, 2022 10:39:04 AM  
**To:** Bumpus, Sonia (EFSEC) <[sonia.bumpus@efsec.wa.gov](mailto:sonia.bumpus@efsec.wa.gov)>  
**Cc:** Judy <[goosie1515@aol.com](mailto:goosie1515@aol.com)>  
**Subject:** RE: Release of Horse Heaven Hills Wind Farm DEIS

External Email

Ms. Bumpus:

I urge you to release the Draft EIS of the Horse Heaven Hills in January 2023. If you release it over the holidays, this will not bode well for EFSEC as well as Governor Jay Inslee. I have helped write multiple EA's and EIS's and this is a typical government tactic to shove a controversial project down the proverbial public's throat. All governmental agencies know that a draft NEPA/SEPA document released over the holidays will get very little public review and provide little opposition to ramrod a project down the public's throat!

The additional 15 day review is meaningless during the holiday seasons when people are busy with family gatherings and travel. Public perception is everything in getting regulatory approval for controversial projects. Most of the general public in Eastern Washington State are much more accepting of small modular nuclear reactors than massive wind farms that destroy the last remaining viewshed we that are a living visual museum of the Pleistocene Missoula Floods. And finally, most people in Washington State are well aware of the current massive amounts of power we produce from our hydroelectric system and the massive amounts of energy currently generated in Eastern Washington and Oregon and exported to California State. Why should Washingtonians suffer losing their last viewshed in the Tri-Cities for the sake of Californians being able to power their Tesla's and keep their hot tubs going? Why not be energy efficient and construct these massive eyesores in the Sierra Nevada Mountains near the source of use? That is right-NIMBY (Not in My Back Yard)!

If this DEIS is released over the holidays, I expect things to get ugly in all aspects of this project including deep dives into public information request regarding such things as "special interest groups and miscellaneous companies/industries" campaign donations to various politicians, especially governor Jay Inslee and Senator Patty Murray. Both he and Patty Murray have literally stuck their necks out challenging the various EIS's completed on tearing down the Snake River Dams and exposed their bias for alternate energy sources to fill the loss of electrical power. Approving this project would assist both Inslee and Murray in their respective obsessions in tearing down these dams. Furthermore, EFSEC's reputation has certainly been tainted in the past with the massive failure of the WHOOPS project and several shady incidents associated with this massive nuclear power project failure.

In addition, everyone is cognizant that there is a whole suite of issues contributing to the decimation of fishery runs besides issues with the dams including the multiple impacts from climate change, overfishing-especially the use of gill-nets, non-point source pollution from agriculture/grazing as well as urban storm run-off, deforestation, massive river water intakes that include agriculture as well as the Columbia Generating Station, destruction of critical spawning grounds, etc.

In summary, I hope that common sense and decency prevail and that this DEIS document is released sometime in January 2023.  
Thanks for your consideration.

Sincerely-

Kevin D. Leary  
Hydrologist/Hydrogeologist and Soil Scientist

**From:** Dana Morgan <[dlmorganwsc@gmail.com](mailto:dlmorganwsc@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 12, 2022 10:14:42 AM  
**To:** Bumpus, Sonia (EFSEC) <[sonia.bumpus@efsec.wa.gov](mailto:sonia.bumpus@efsec.wa.gov)>  
**Subject:** Benton County Wa Wind Farm

External Email

This is a request to hold off **DEIS in January 2023 rather than during the 2022 winter holiday season.**

**Dana Morgan**  
**19103 Yakitat Pl NW**  
**Benton City Wa**  
**99320**

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** John Bloom <[johnb516@gmail.com](mailto:johnb516@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 12, 2022 9:27:41 AM  
**To:** Bumpus, Sonia (EFSEC) <[sonia.bumpus@efsec.wa.gov](mailto:sonia.bumpus@efsec.wa.gov)>  
**Subject:** Release of DEIS

External Email

I am requesting that the **DEIS** be released in January 2023. It is too important to be released for comment during the busy holiday season of 2022.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

**From:** MrsPadlock <[MrsPadlock@protonmail.com](mailto:MrsPadlock@protonmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 12, 2022 10:15:22 AM  
**To:** Bumpus, Sonia (EFSEC) <[sonia.bumpus@efsec.wa.gov](mailto:sonia.bumpus@efsec.wa.gov)>  
**Subject:** Release of DEIS

External Email

Please release the DEIS in January 2023 instead of during the 2022 winter holiday season. This will allow sufficient review without sacrificing time with family and friends.

Thank you for your consideration.

Marilyn Dickenson  
Kennewick, WA

Sent from Proton Mail for iOS

**From:** [Mike Minelli](#)  
**To:** [Bumpus, Sonia \(EFSEC\)](#); [Hafkemeyer, Ami \(EFSEC\)](#); [Moon, Amy \(EFSEC\)](#); [EFSEC \(EFSEC\)](#)  
**Subject:** EFSEC and Holiday EIS Release  
**Date:** Thursday, October 13, 2022 9:09:28 AM  
**Attachments:** [Bumpus Final Copy.docx](#)

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External Email

DEIS release date during the Holiday Season after 5 years of preparation by SCOUT ?

**From:** [Kevin Self](#)  
**To:** [EFSEC \(EFSEC\)](#)  
**Subject:** HH Wind Farm  
**Date:** Wednesday, October 19, 2022 11:37:01 AM

---

External Email

Please consider postponing the final EIS until January 2023. We need to get past the holiday season so more people will have the opportunity for a thorough review. This proposed project has a huge impact on the entire community our lives and future.

Regards  
Kevin Self

**From:** [pam\\_minelli](mailto:pam_minelli)  
**To:** [EFSEC \(EFSEC\)](#); [Drew, Kathleen \(EFSEC\)](#); [Bumpus, Sonia \(EFSEC\)](#); [Moon, Amy \(EFSEC\)](#); [Hafkemeyer, Ami \(EFSEC\)](#)  
**Subject:** Horse Heaven DEIS Release and Public Comment Period  
**Date:** Wednesday, October 19, 2022 2:39:08 PM

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External Email

October 19, 2022

Dear Chairperson Drew, Director Bumpus, Ms. Moon, Ms. Hafkemeyer and EFSEC Staff,

After patiently waiting months for the Horse Heaven Wind and Solar Project DEIS release, it is now scheduled for release before Thanksgiving and the winter holiday season. Therefore, the public comment period will fall during the winter holiday season. Even by extending the comment period to 45 days, full public participation will be limited during November and December due to vacations, holiday observances, EFSEC office closures, and possible bad weather.

For this reason, I request that the DEIS release date **be rescheduled for January 2022 or later** followed by a 45-day public comment period to ensure strong participation in the public comment period. Now that Scout Energy has been granted a seven-month extension, there is ample time to release the DEIS in the first quarter of 2023.

The Horse Heaven DEIS is projected to be several hundred pages long; it will surely be complex and technical due to the enormity of the project (The biggest wind project ever in the State). It will take both technical readers and the general public hours of reading to comprehend and respond to its contents. Therefore, **it is necessary to provide a 45-day comment period in January, 2023 or later free from holiday distractions.**

Your consideration of these requests is greatly appreciated.

Respectfully submitted,

Pam Minelli

[pam\\_minelli@hotmail.com](mailto:pam_minelli@hotmail.com)

509-539-6788

**From:** [Beki Reese](#)  
**To:** [EFSEC \(EFSEC\)](#)  
**Subject:** Release of DEIS for Horse Heaven Hills wind park  
**Date:** Thursday, October 20, 2022 12:00:56 AM

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External Email

As a resident of Benton City, which will be more affected by the proposed Horse Heaven Hills wind park than anywhere else in the Tri Cities, I am writing to respectfully request that the DEIS be released after the holidays (January 2023 or later) rather than before due to all the busy holiday activities. Things like school and family vacations and office closures , etc, will make public participation in open discussion and comment difficult to accomplish during the scheduled open comment period during November and December. This project has many ramifications for the county but for Benton City in particular. We deserve an adequate and fair amount of time when our minds are not focussed on family obligations to consider thoughtfully and responsibly how to respond to the DEIS of the proposed project.

Respectfully,  
Rebecca Van Buren  
Benton City Resident

**From:** [Vince Shawver](#)  
**To:** [EFSEC \(EFSEC\)](#)  
**Date:** Saturday, October 22, 2022 10:41:12 AM

---

External Email

Please extend the DEIS to after Jan 2023. Thanks vince shawver west richland wa

**From:** [taffy@gamefarmhay.com](mailto:taffy@gamefarmhay.com)  
**To:** [EFSEC \(EFSEC\)](#)  
**Subject:** Horse Heaven Wind and Solar Project DEIS  
**Date:** Sunday, October 23, 2022 6:48:11 PM

---

External Email

To whom it may concern:

Please release the DEIS after the holidays (January 2023 or later). Due to busy holiday activities, vacations, office closures, etc. public engagement in the open comment period will be difficult during November and December.

Sincerely,

Theresa Mercer  
Kennewick, WA

**From:** [Paul Krupin](#)  
**To:** [EFSEC \(EFSEC\)](#)  
**Subject:** Horse Heaven Hills Wind Farm Project Tour Guide - maps and GIS aerial photos  
**Date:** Thursday, October 27, 2022 2:08:33 PM  
**Attachments:** [HHH Road Tour Guide 102722.pdf](#)

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External Email

To the members of EFSEC,

Thank you for coming to Tri-Cities to see the proposed Horse Heaven Hills Wind Farm Project. The EFSEC notice indicates you are planning to go to the Horse Heaven Recreation Area in Benton City and to another location on Jump Off Joe Road south of Kennewick.

I respectfully wish to point out that neither of these locations is on the HHH project property but are located about a mile north of the project boundary. EFSEC members will therefore not be able to view the actual proposed site locations and will not be able to gain a reasonable or realistic description of what and where the applicant has proposed facilities. Basically, from these locations, you will not be able to even set eyes on the actual project itself.

The project is 25 miles from west to east and is 8 to 10 miles across from north to south. The project lands cannot be readily viewed from the two locations identified. Very simply, the proposed stops are in the valley below the elevation of the project. From these locations, you get to look up and the Horse Heaven Hills ridgeline blocks the view of the project lands, so all you will see is the sky above just a few of the northern-most proposed turbine locations.

In order to better assist you in clearly understanding what the Applicant has proposed, Dave Spark and I, both residents of Kennewick Washington, prepared a tour guide to the entire project area using the maps prepared by Scout in the permit application and using GIS imagery and digital maps available on CalTopo and from Benton County. The 53 page tour guide identifies the roads best used to access and view the many project locations in the most effective and cost and time saving way to grasp the project proposals.

The document contains maps, data and facts and offers no advocacy or positions whatsoever.

You may freely share the Horse Heaven Hills Tour Guide with the EFSEC members, agency staff, and any other interested parties or members of the public. The pdf file may also be viewed online or downloaded at the following web site.

Direct Link: <https://presari.com/files/media/204/hhhroadtourguide102722.pdf>

Short link: <https://presari.com/s/X30075000148800>

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Appreciatively,

Paul Krupin, BA MS JD  
2404 South Lyle Street  
Kennewick WA 99337  
509-531-8390 cell 509-582-5174 landline [Paul@Presari.com](mailto:Paul@Presari.com)



# Horse Heaven Hills Energy Project Tour Guide

Project Maps, Topo Maps, Land Ownership, and GIS Aerial Photos

Created by Paul J. Krupin and Dave Sharp



*Drone photos taken 500 feet above the ground at proposed turbine locations off Dennis Road and Weber Canyon. Provides perspective and insight into the question “who will be able to see the wind turbines”. Drone Photo Credit to Bruce Bjornstad, Richland Washington.*

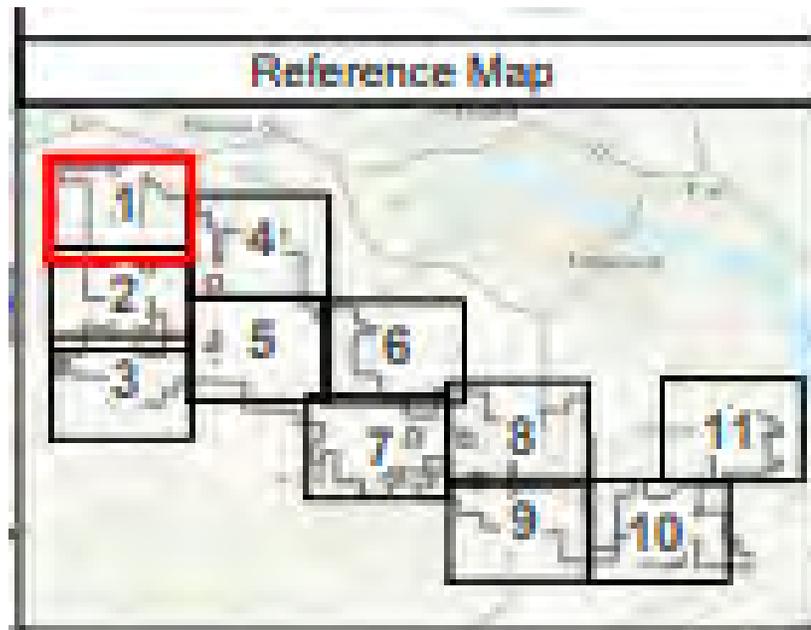
# Contents

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<i>Accessing the Project</i>	<b>2</b>
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## ***Planning Your Road Tour***

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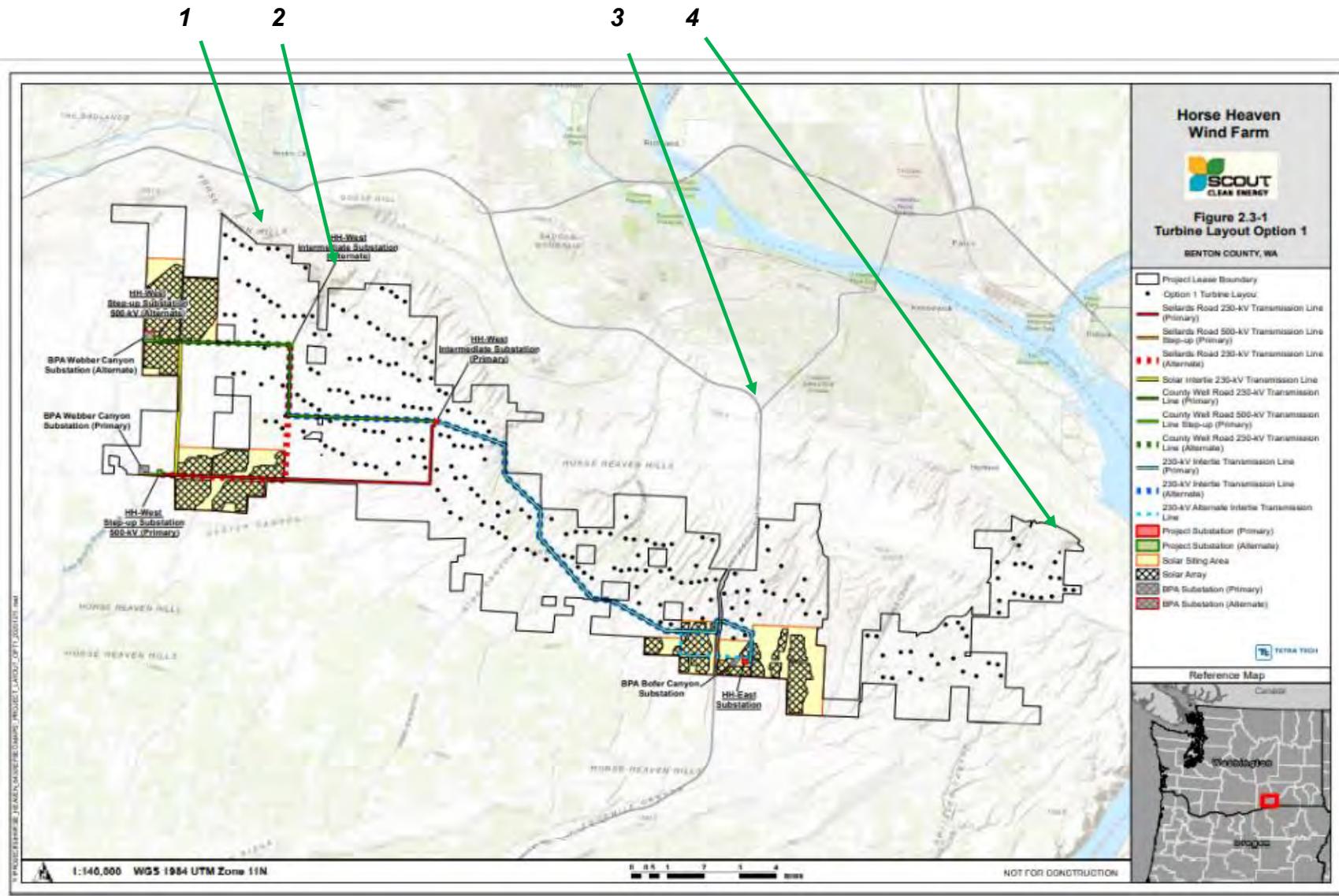


This reference map shows the location of each project area.

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There are four primary access roads to the project area from the north:

1. **McBee Road** (gravel)
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This road tour guide includes

- An overall project location map
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#### **From Badger Canyon exit from I-84, take South Badger Canyon Road heading south (Maps 5 & 6)**

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- Turns into Plymouth Road @ Smith Road Intersection, wind turbines to the east and west.

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- Turn on Bentley Road heading south, wind turbines to the west and east of the road.
- From Locust Grove Road, head south on Nicoson Roads, wind turbines at 3 to five miles.

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#### **State Road 395 south to Locust Grove and take the east side frontage road, Boffer Canyon Road south (Map 8)**

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#### *Map 9 - Bofer Canyon Road Area*

#### **From Kennewick take State Road 395 south towards Coffin Road Exit (Map 9)**

- Take Boffer Canyon south to Beck Road, large areas of solar arrays two to three miles west and east sides of Highway 395.

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### *Map 10 Bofer Canyon Beck Road Area*

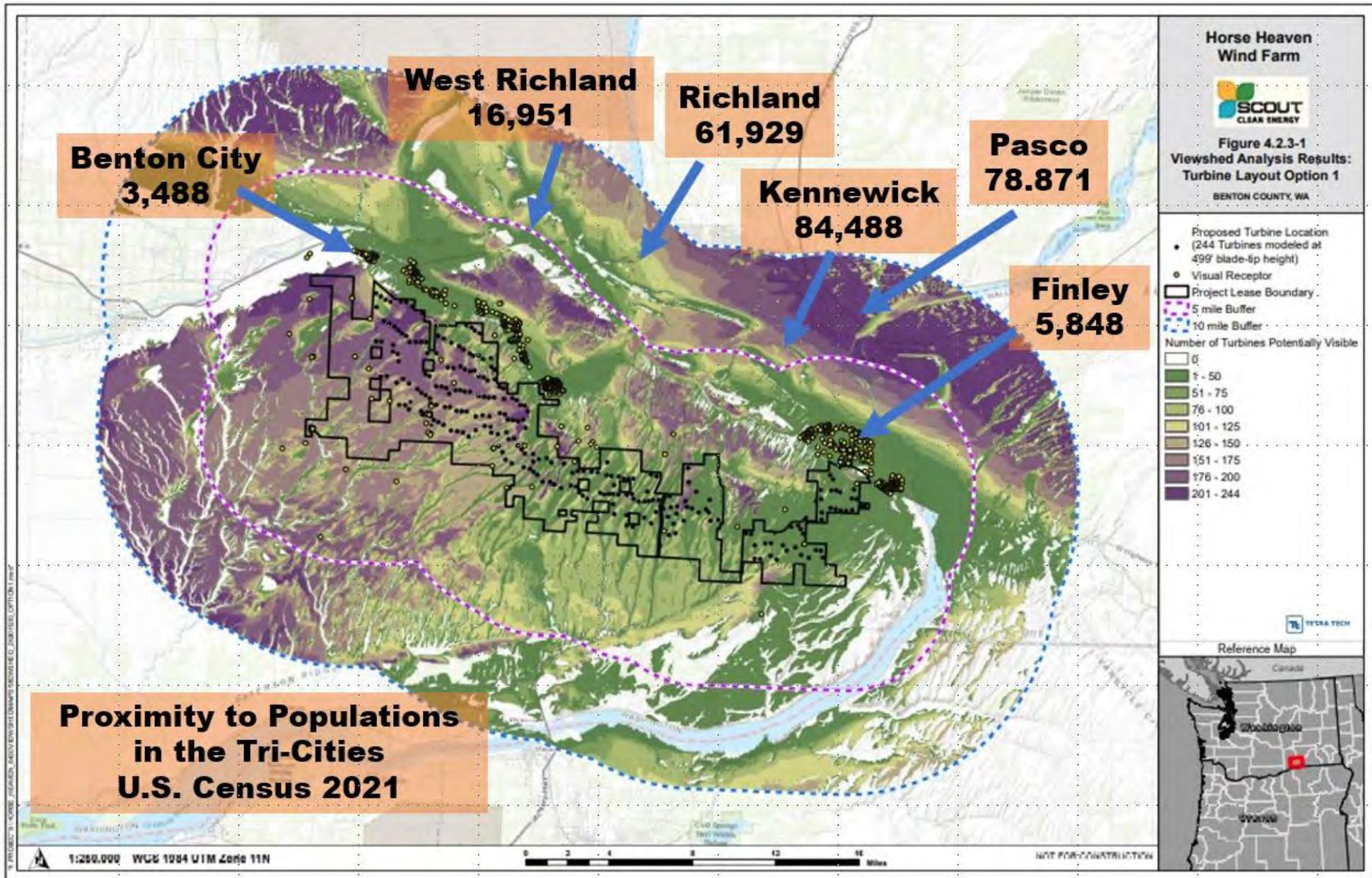
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- Take Beck Road four miles east of SR 395, wind turbines for four to five miles
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- Take Kirk Road east two miles to South Finley Road, wind turbines north and south of Kirk Road.

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**From Locust Grove take State Road 397 east six miles (Map 11)**

- Head south on Nine Mile Canyon Road, wind turbines to the south east at two to three miles
- Head south on South Finley Road, wind turbines at one to two miles.
- Head west on Kirk Road to return.



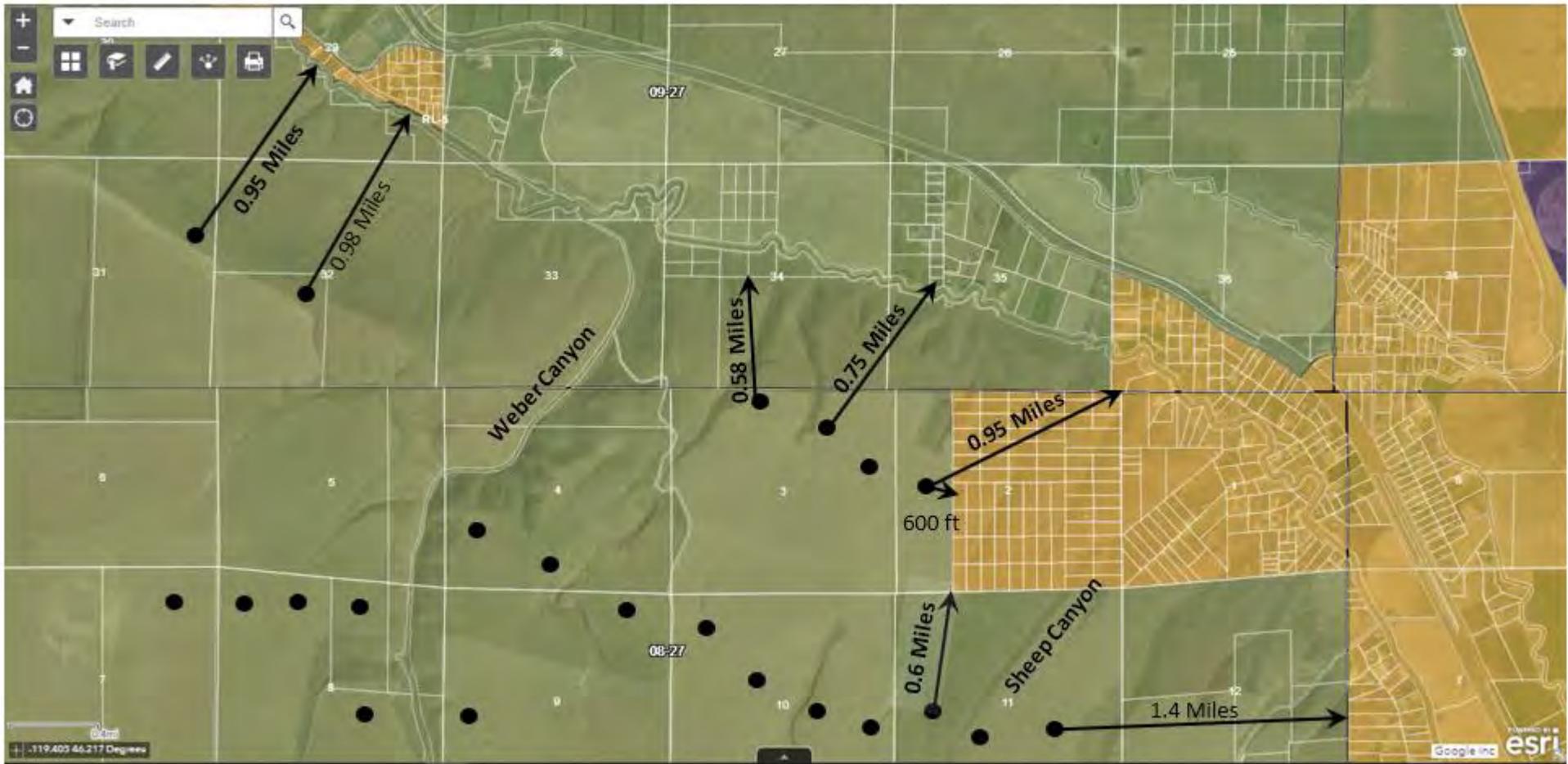
References: Viewshed Analysis Map from the HHH Wind Project Permit Application, Population Data from U.S. Census 2021

# Aerial Photo GIS Map of McBee Road south of Benton City



- County Road
- ..... Hiking Trail
- Proposed Wind Turbines based on Option 1
- Viewpoints - Analare Winery, McBee Grade Summit, McBee Road

Proximity of Wind Towers to Populated Areas-Township 8 & 9-Range 27

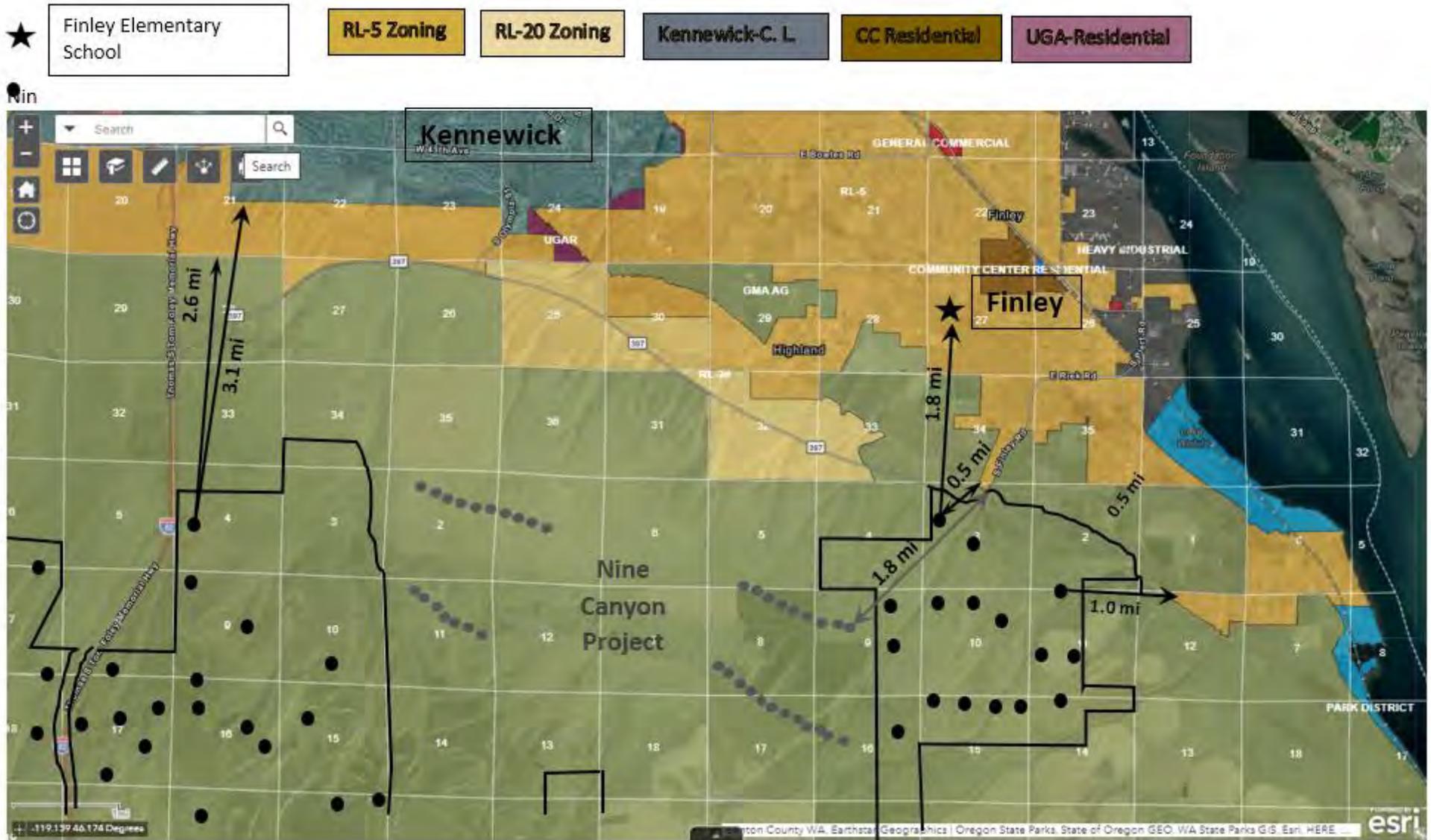


RL-5 Zoning

● Wind Turbine

--- Drainage

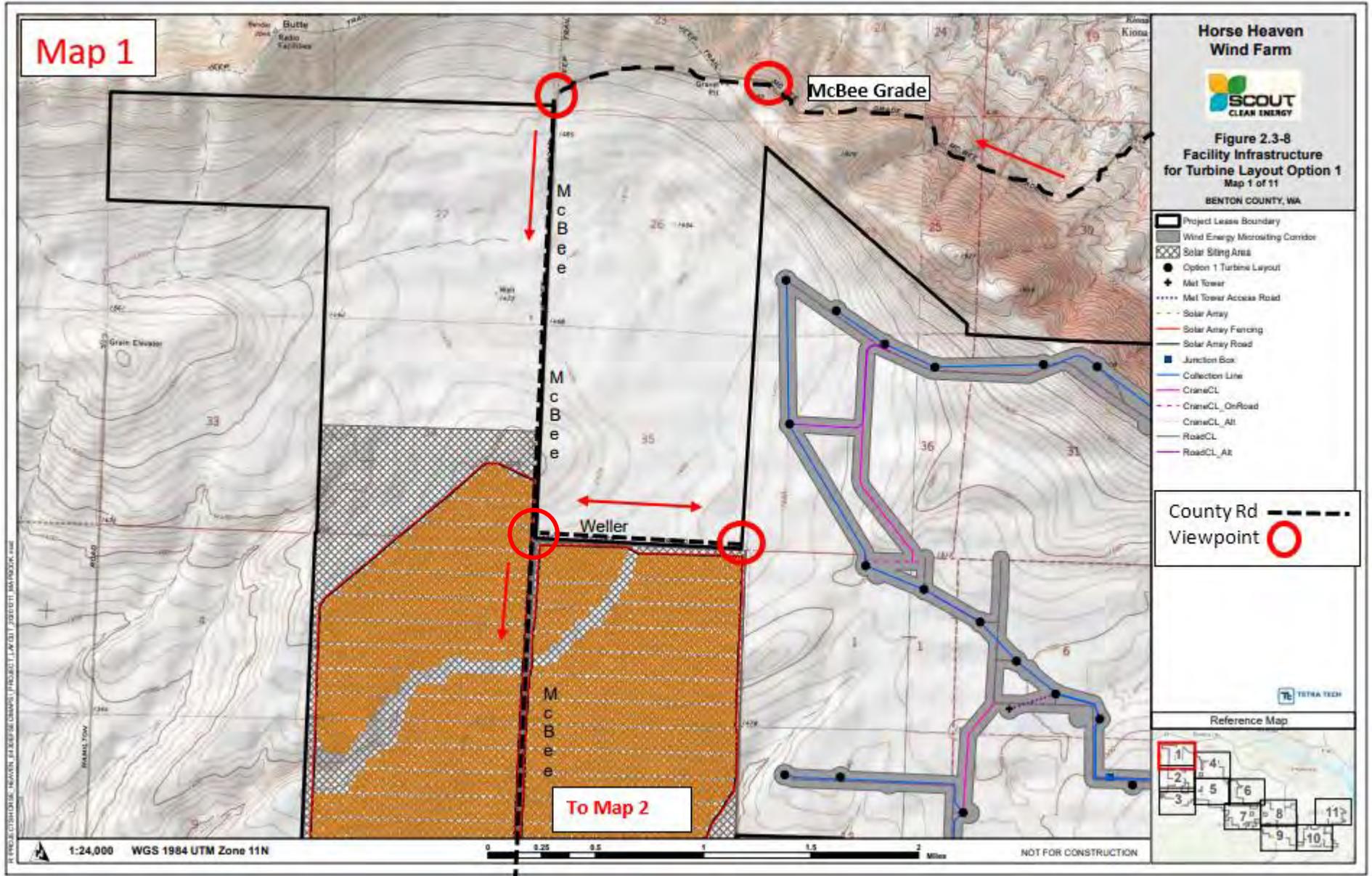
# Aerial Photo GIS Map of area south and west of Finley

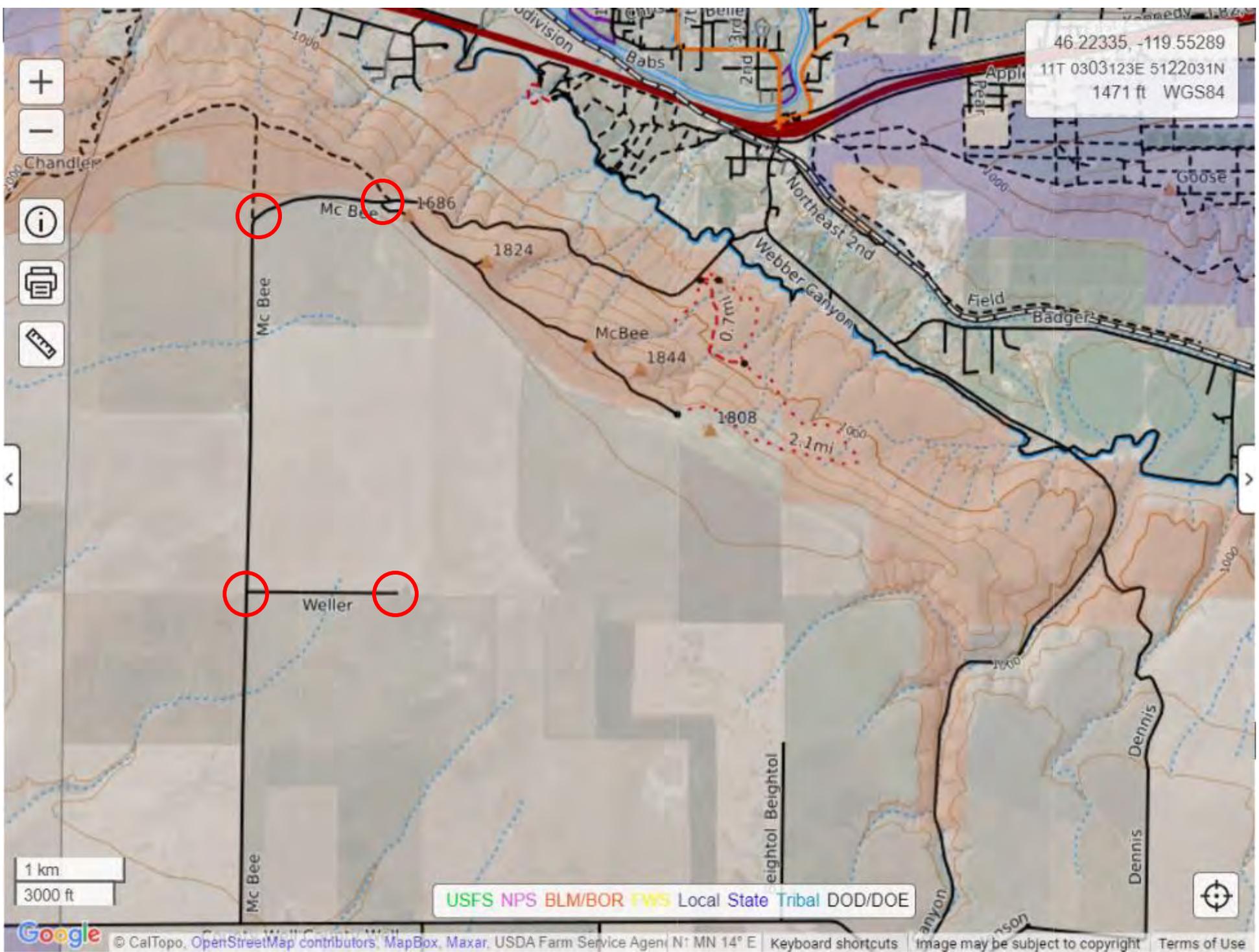


Project Maps 8, parts of 9, and Map 11 were overlaid to the County GIS system to Develop these maps. Turbine locations are approximate. Finley, WA is a Census Defined Place with population of 6,000. The majority of the area is zone as Rural -5 acre. There is also Rural Community Center Residential, and Urban Growth Area Residential.

The HH Project turbines are nominally 50% taller than NC, and located at generally higher elevations making their visual prominence more imposing.

Map 1 – Project Area 1 – McBee Road

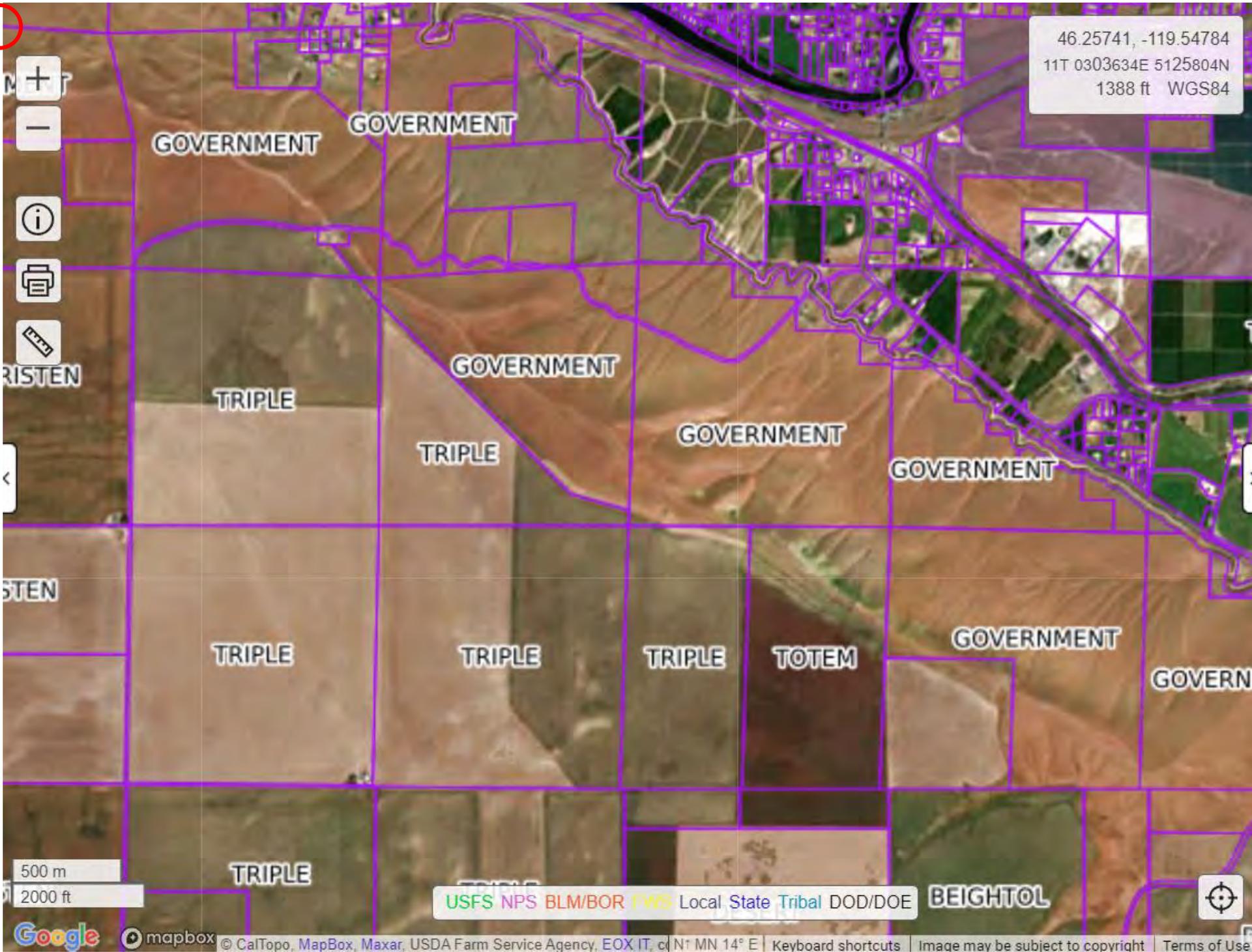








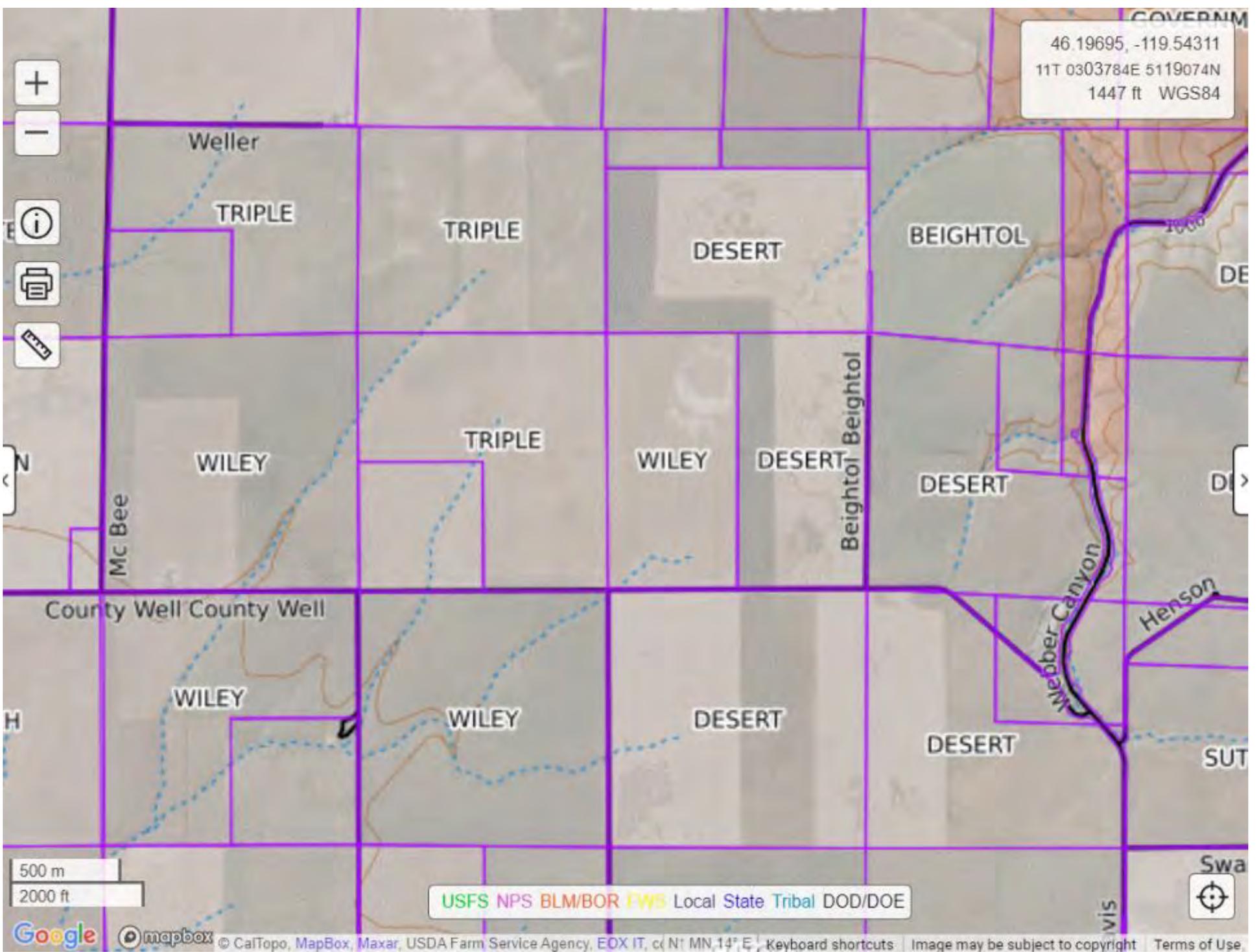
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 11T 0303634E 5125804N  
 1388 ft WGS84



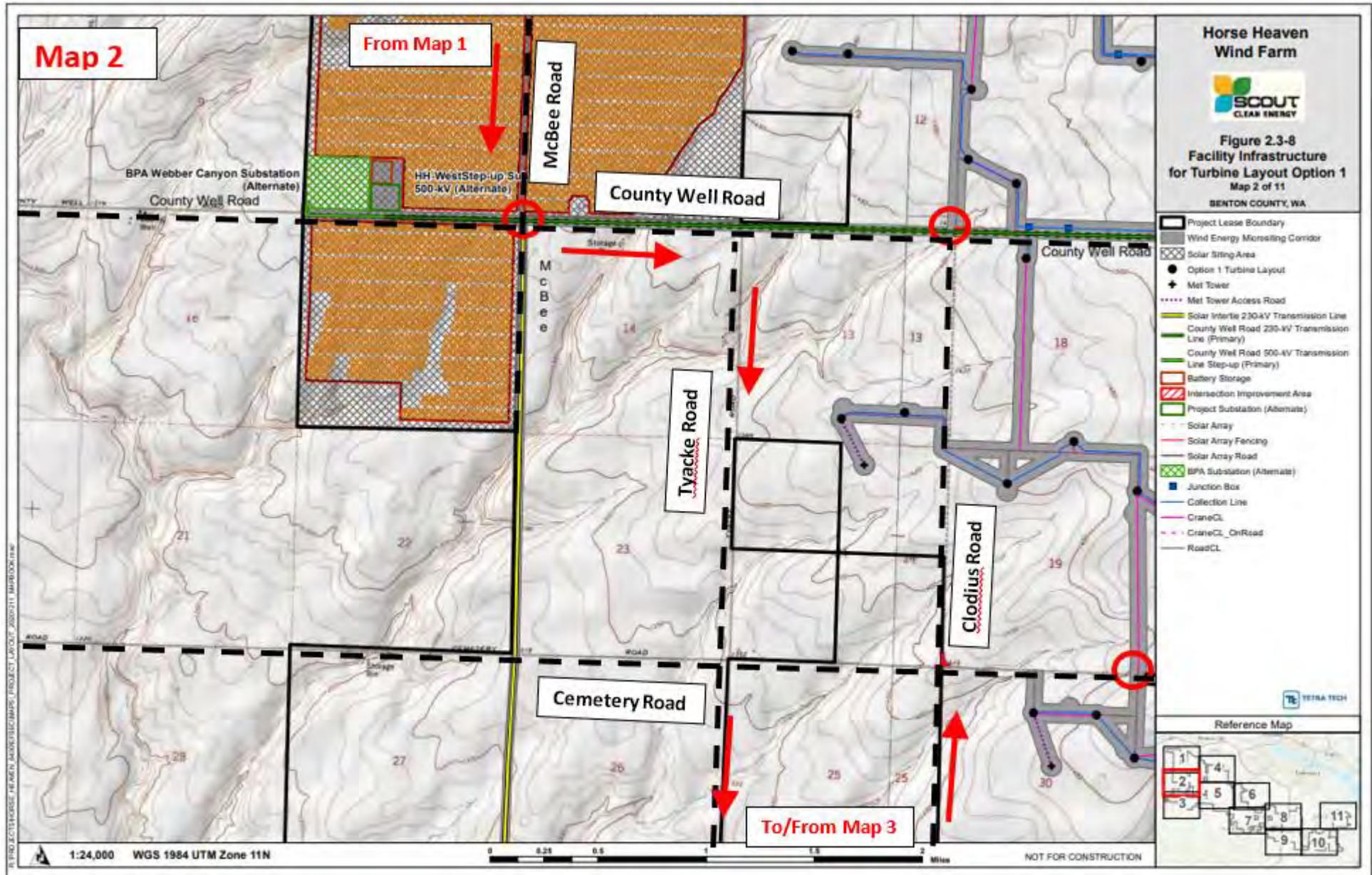
500 m  
 2000 ft

USFS NPS BLM/BOR FWS Local State Tribal DOD/DOE BEIGHTOL



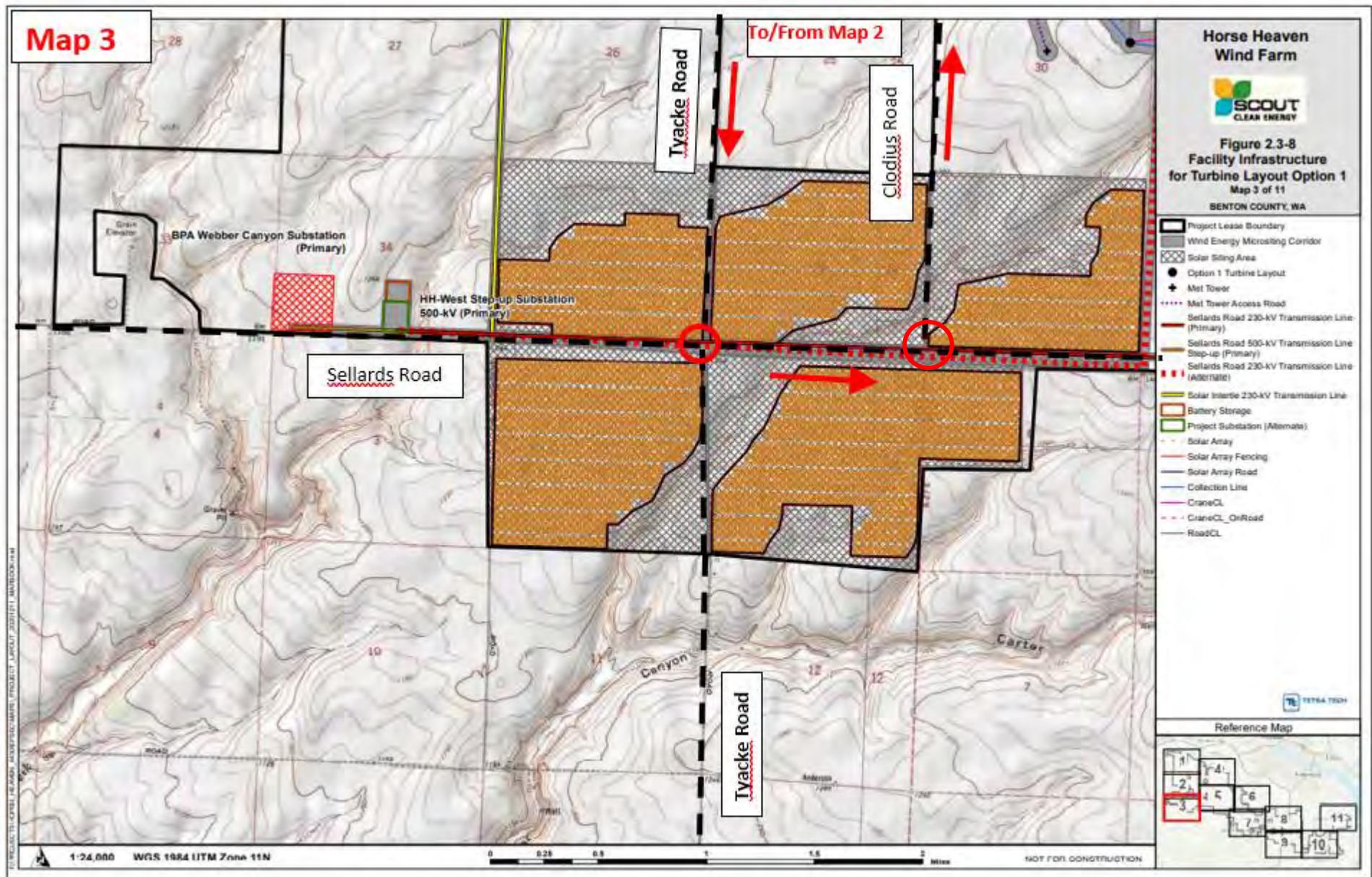






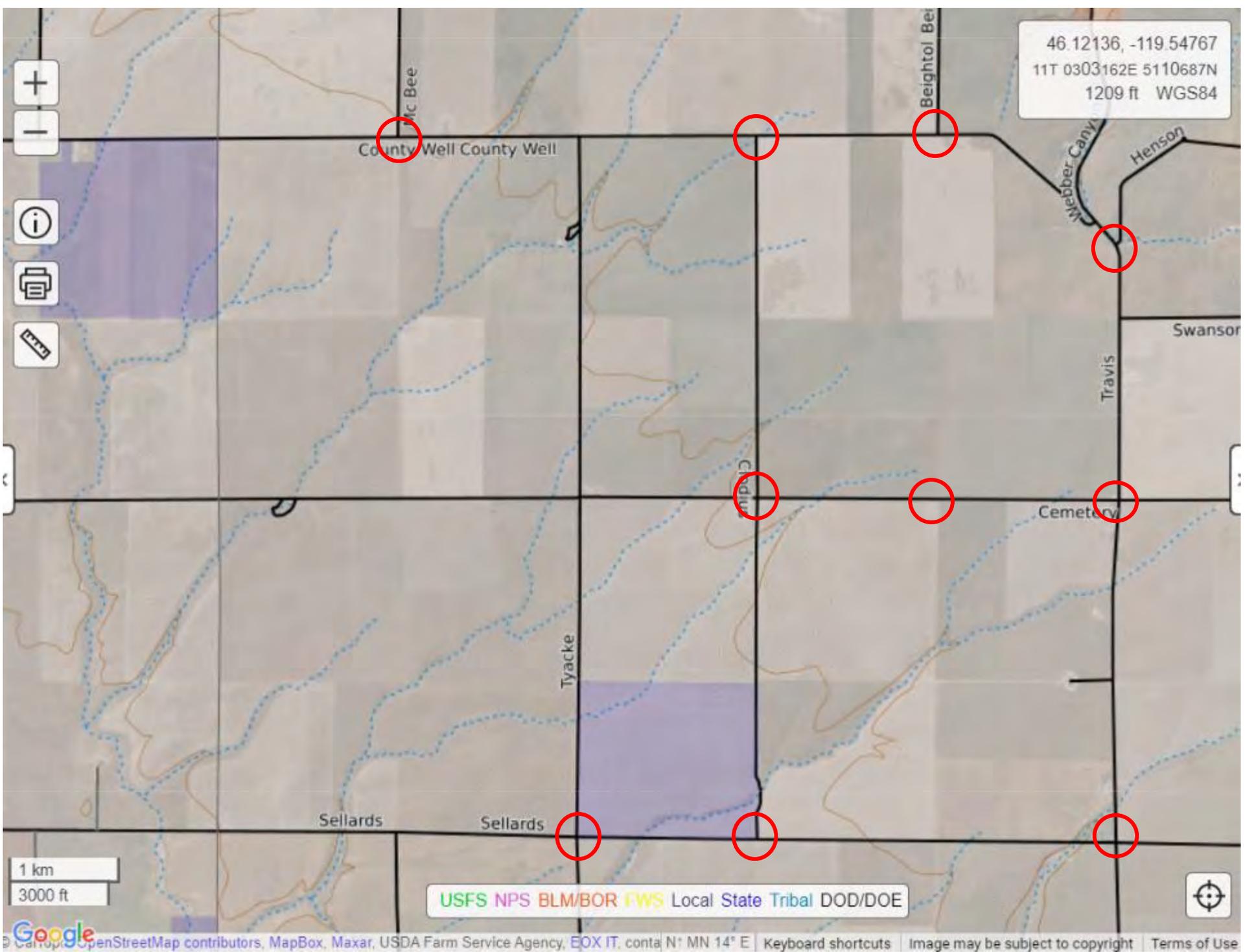
County Road - - - - -

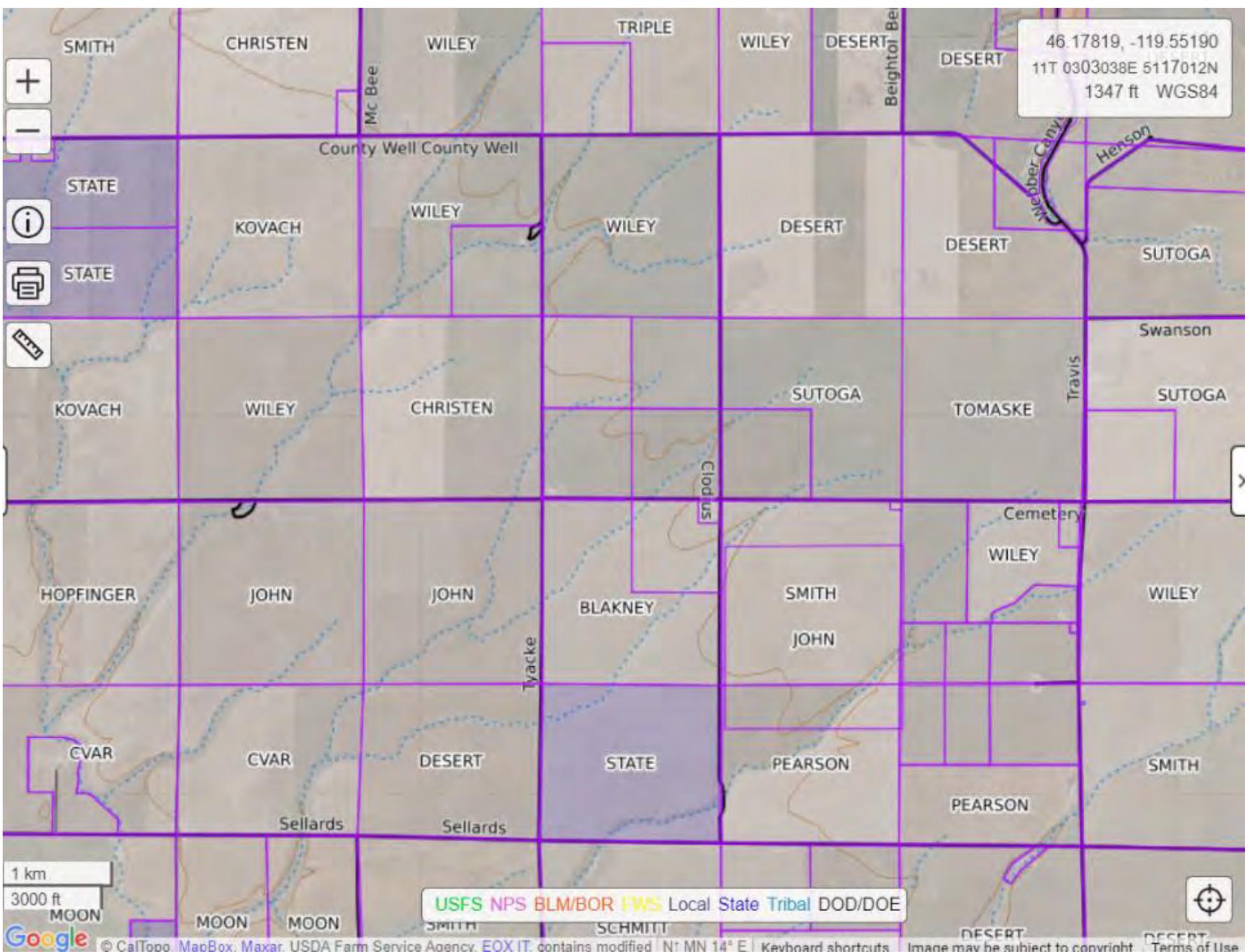
Viewpoint ○

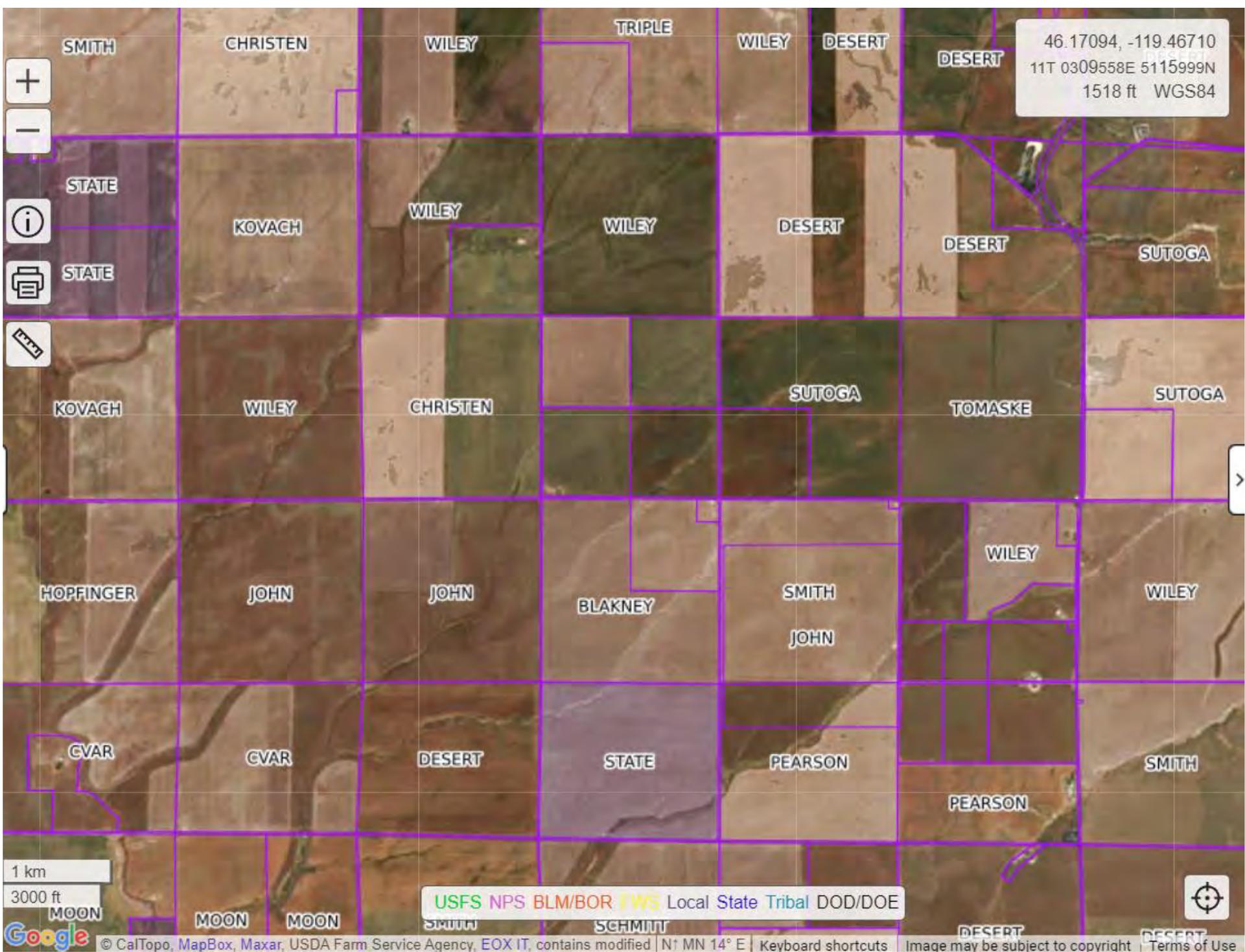


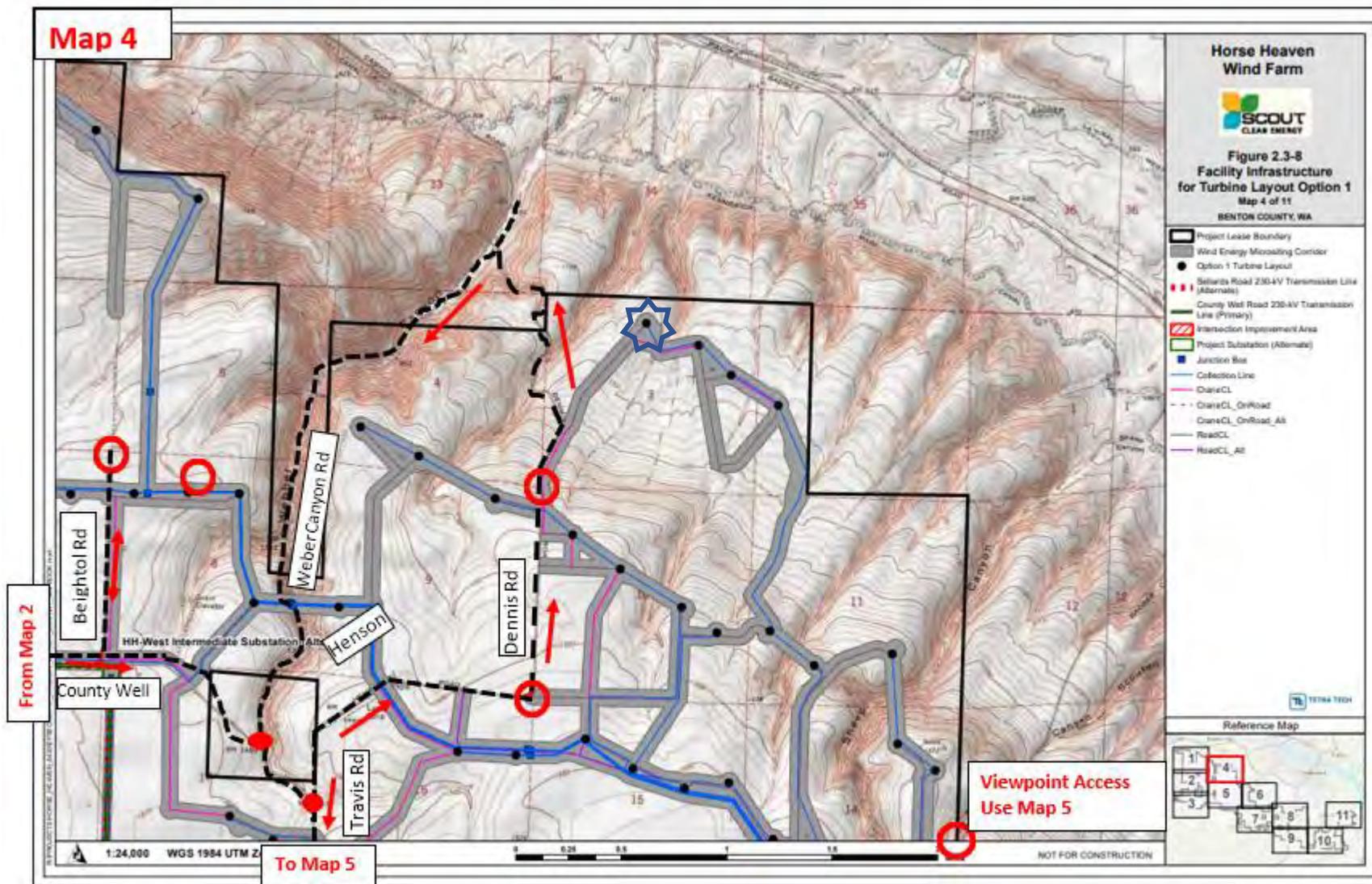
County Road - - - - -

Viewpoint ○





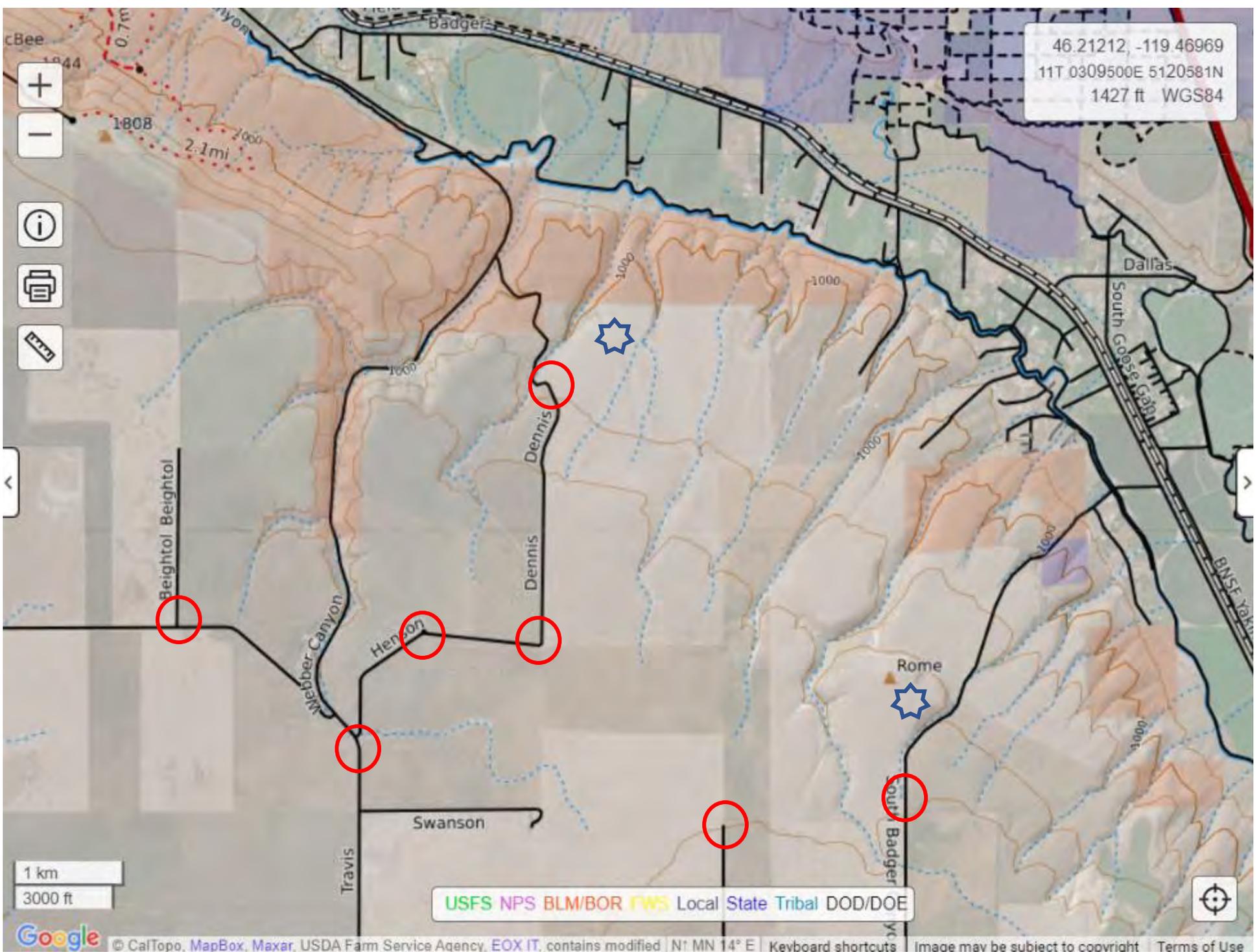


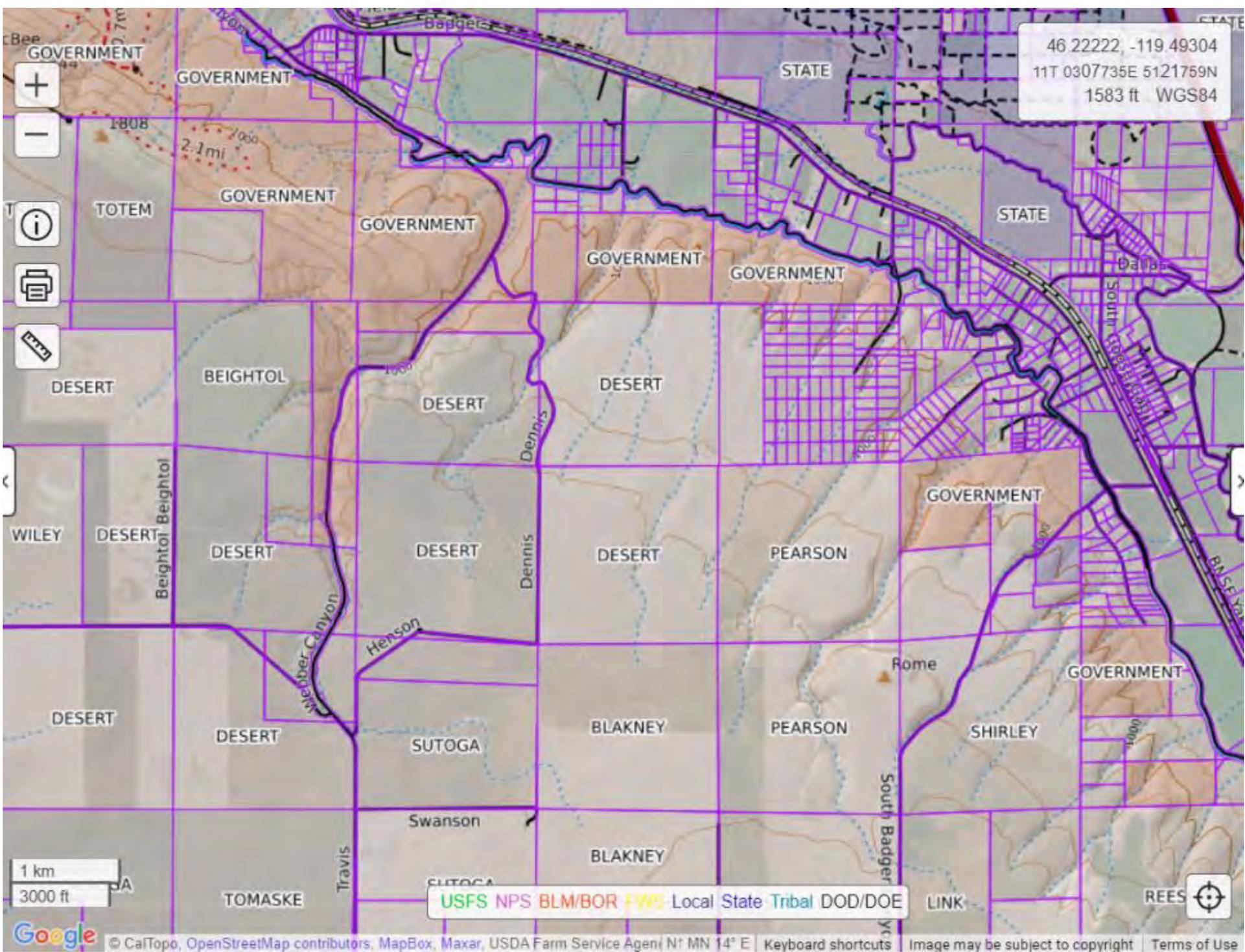


County Road — — — — —

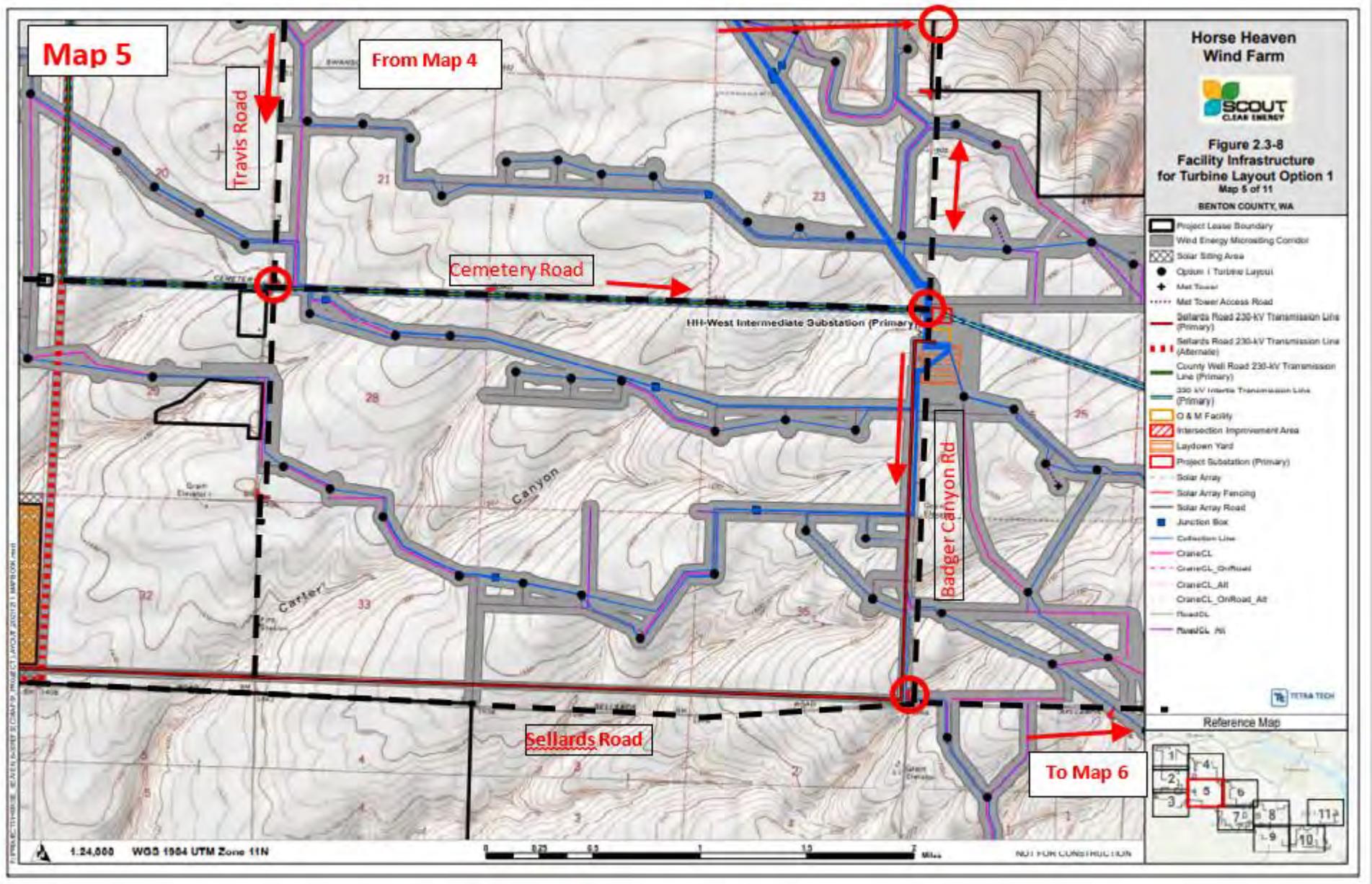
Viewpoint ○

Drone photo location ☆



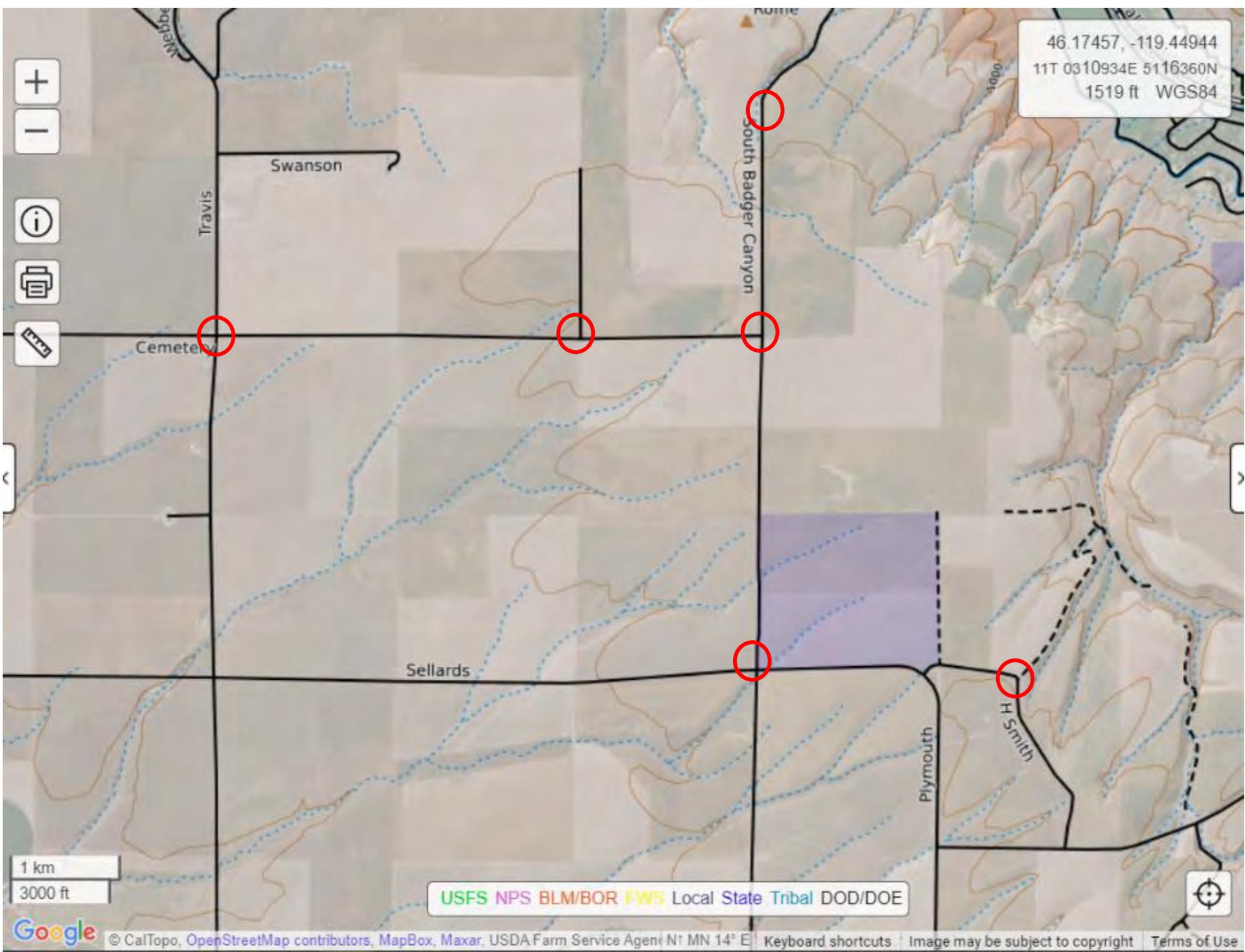


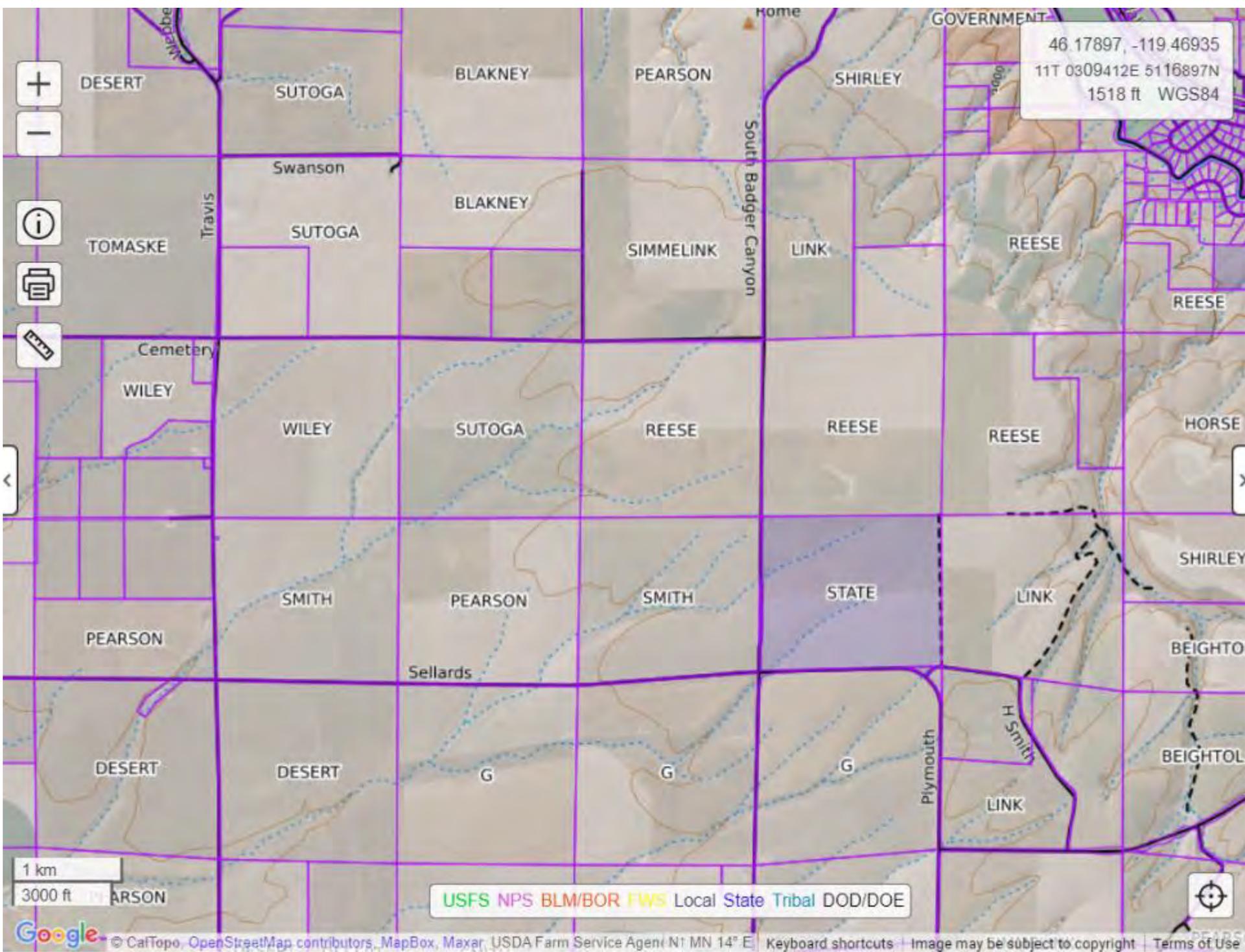


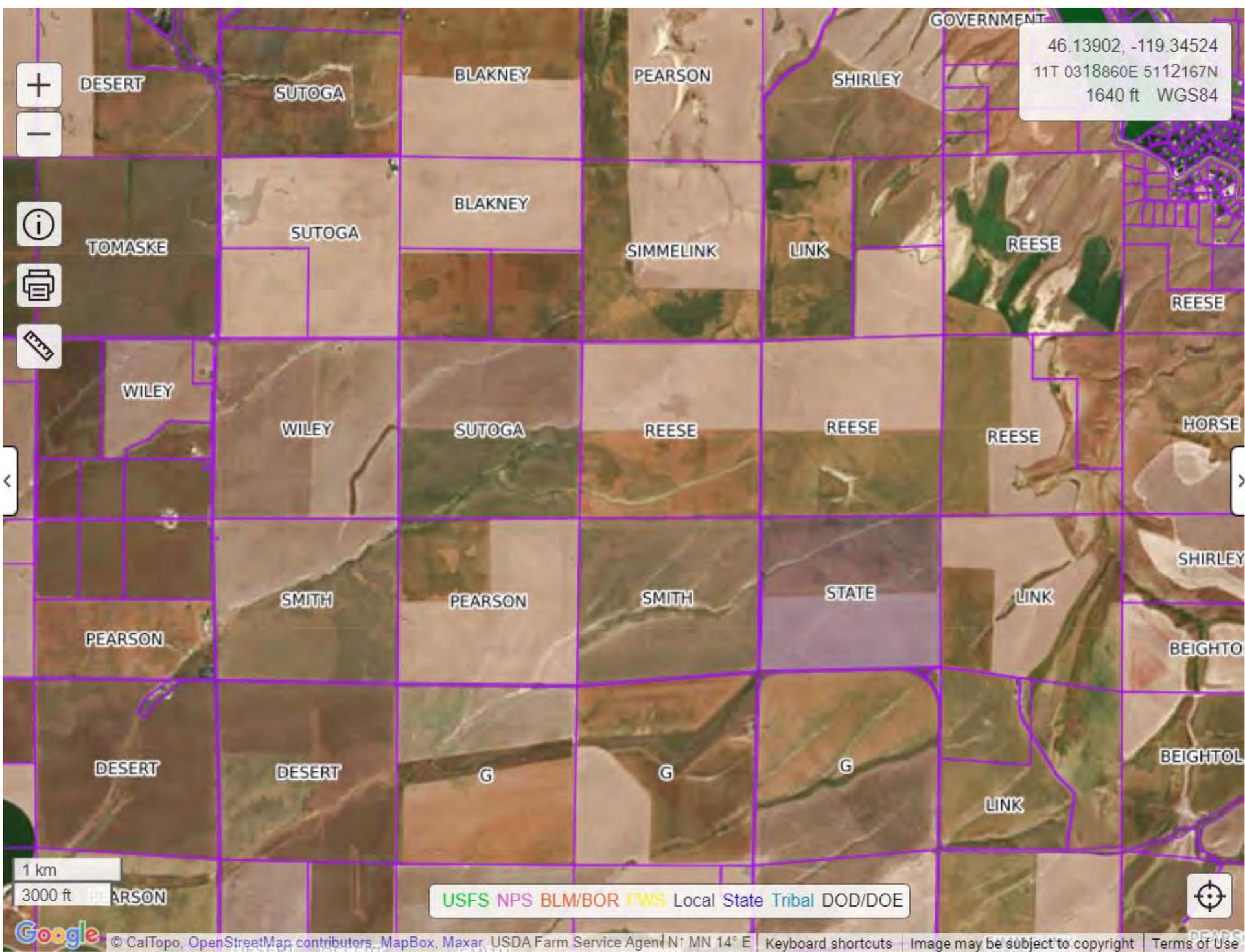


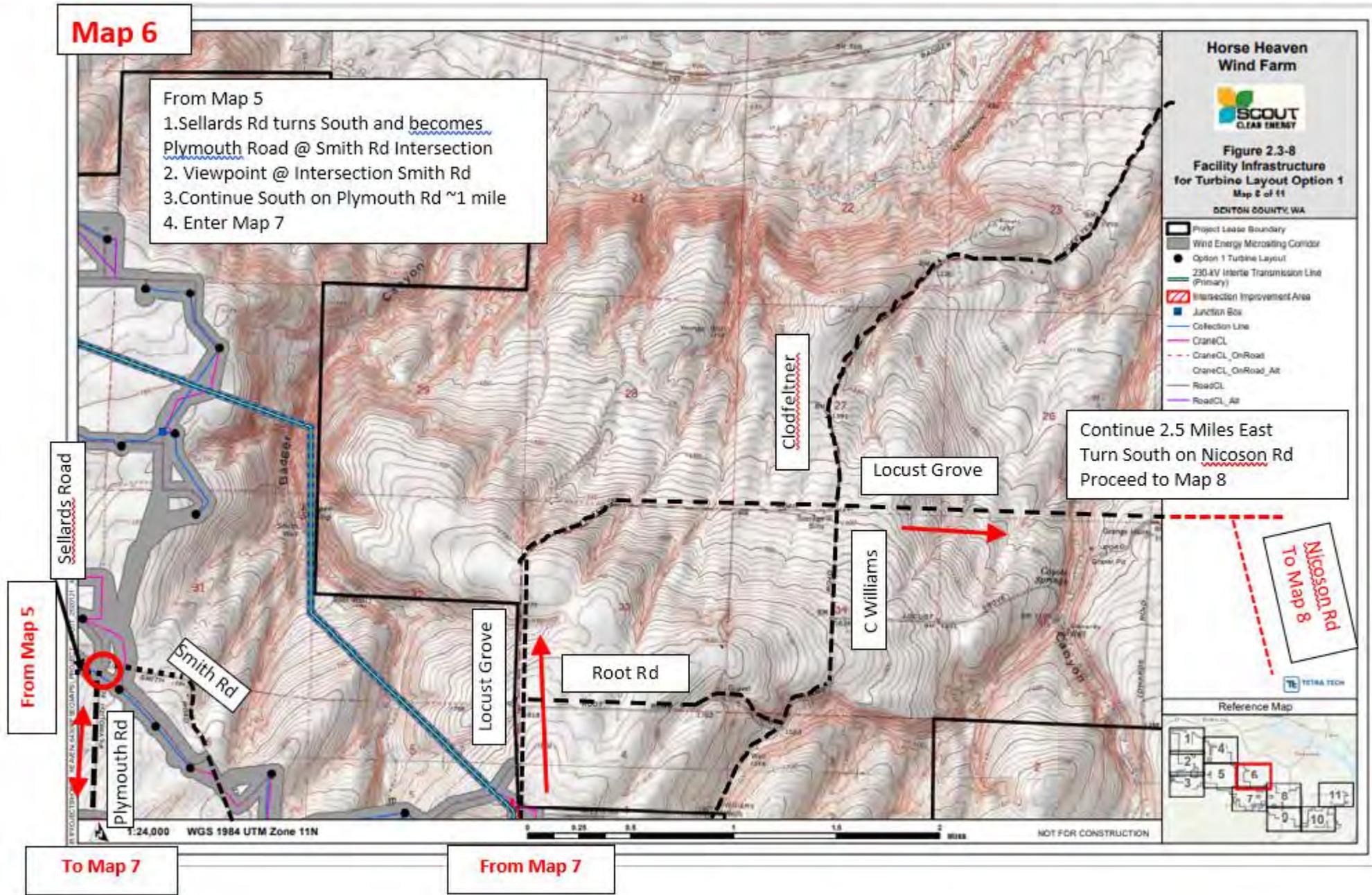
County Road - - - -

Viewpoint Option ○



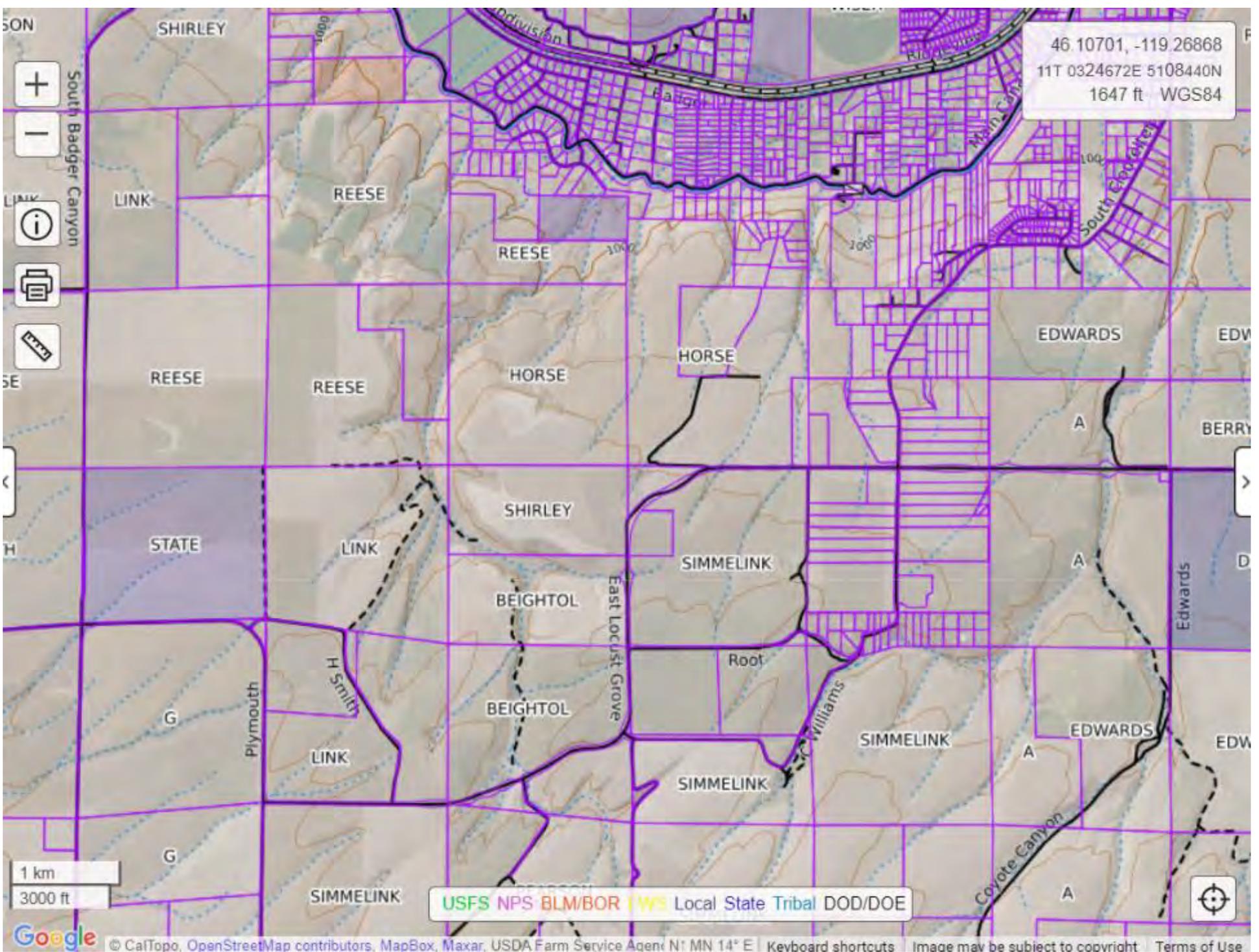


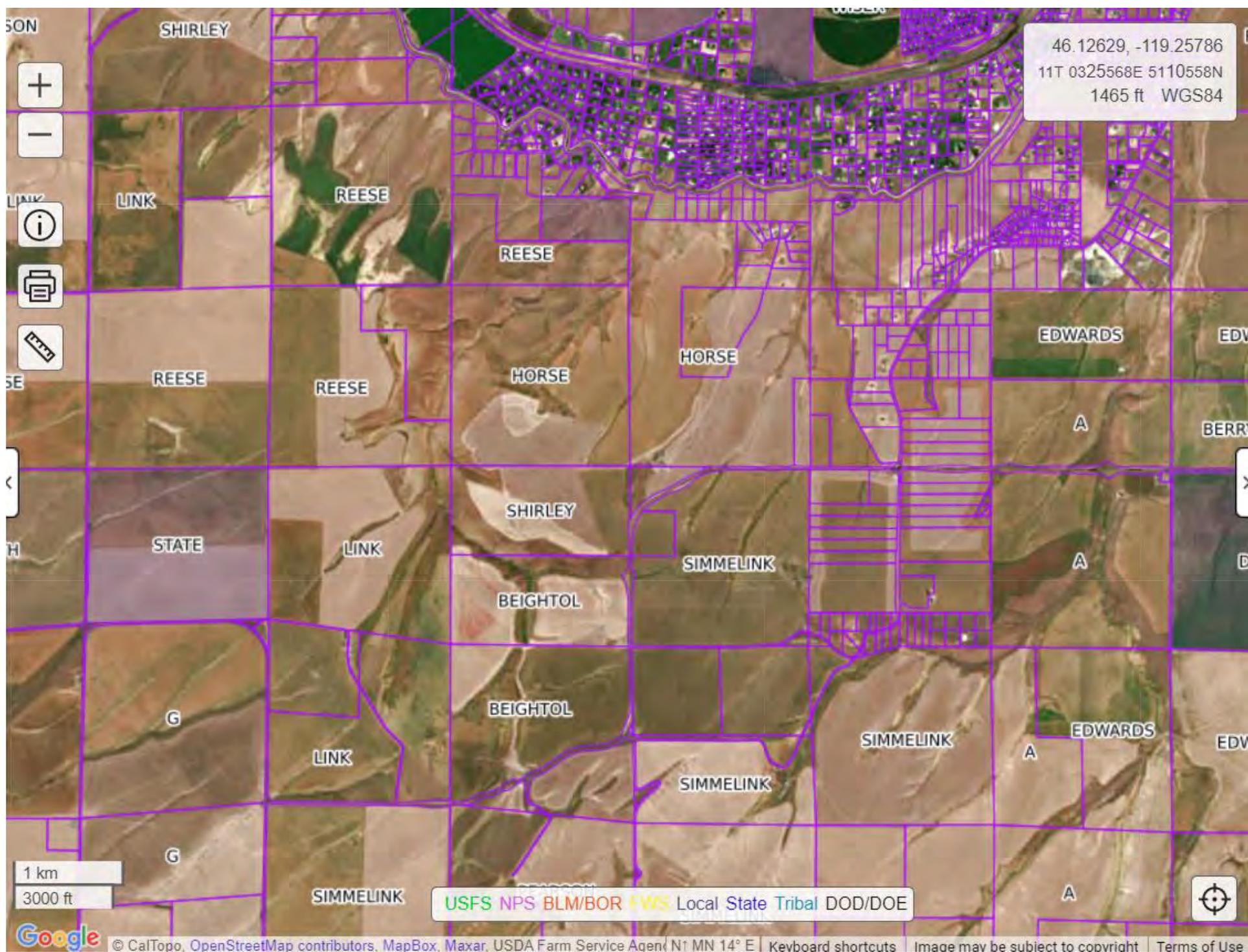


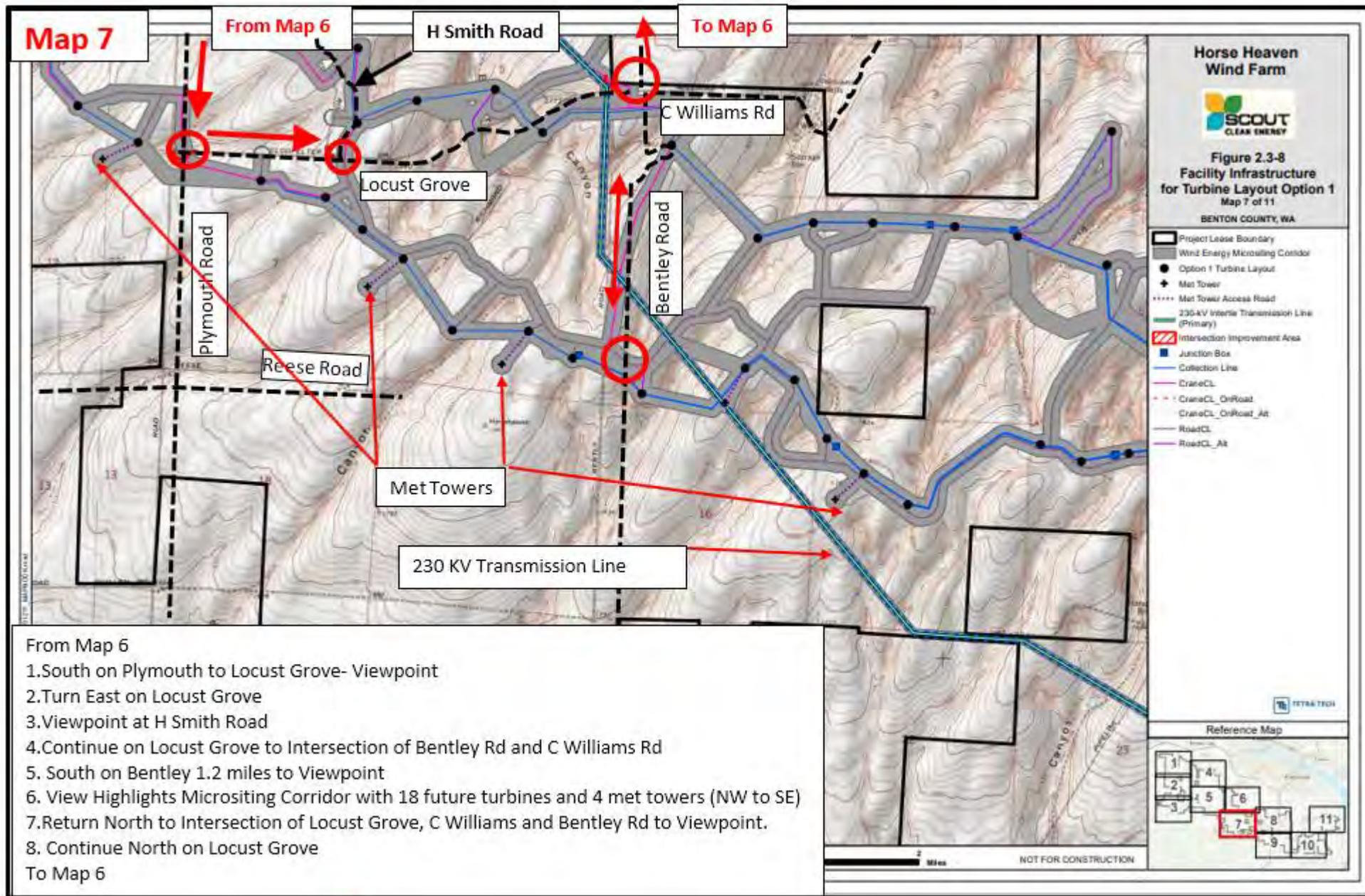


Road      - - - - -  
 Viewpoint      ○



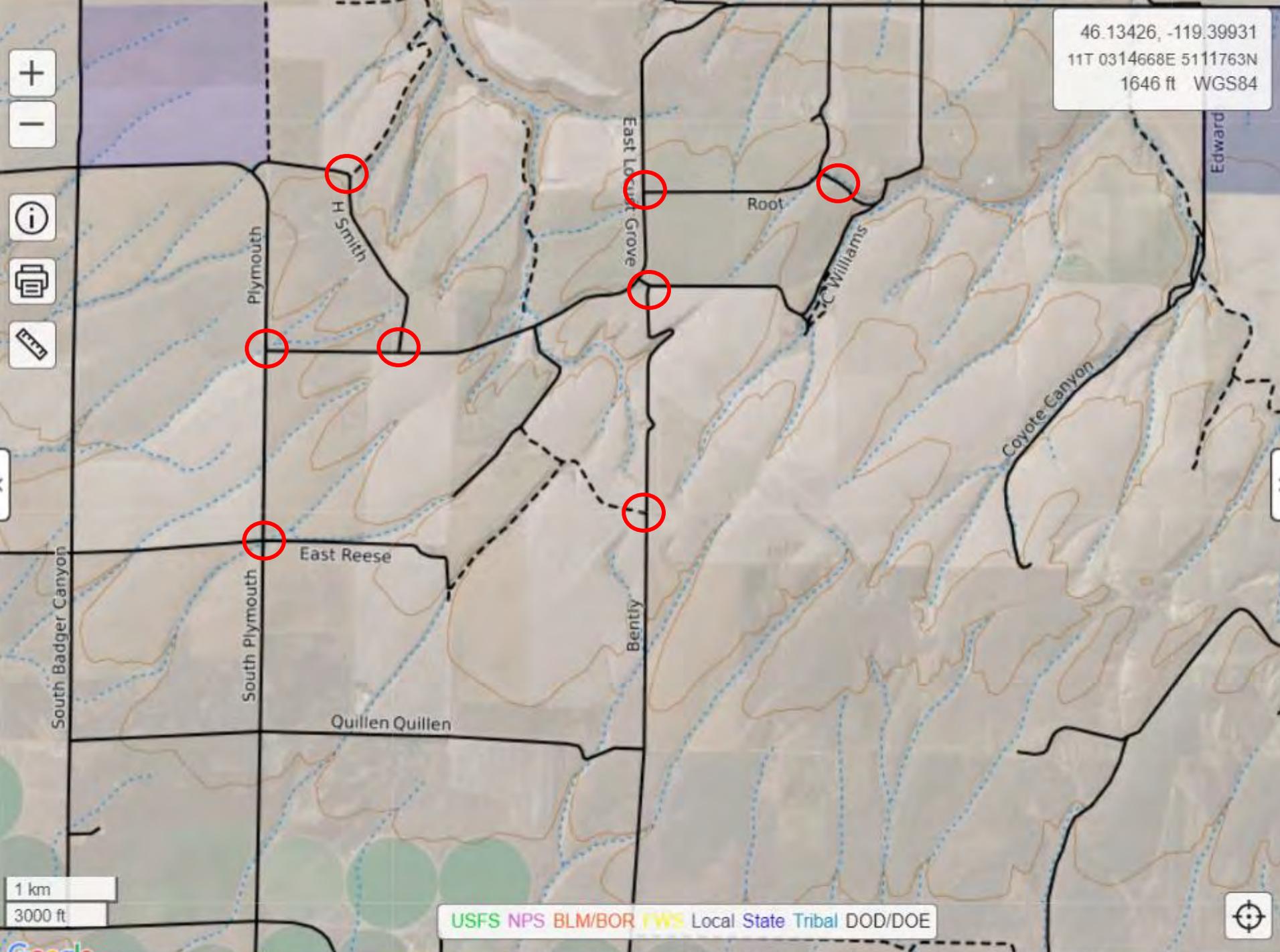
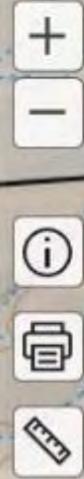






Road - - - - - Viewpoint ○

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1646 ft WGS84



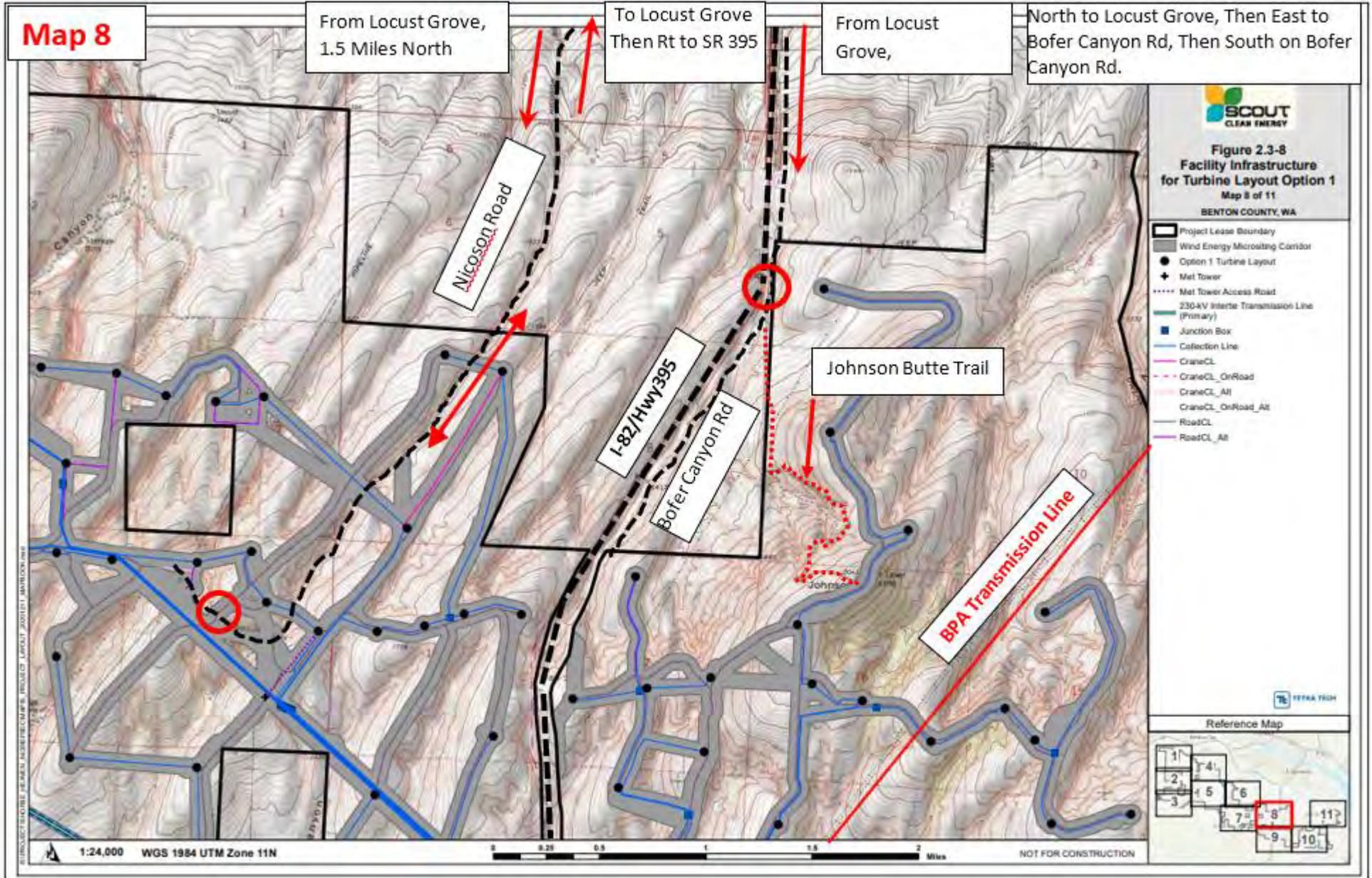
1 km  
3000 ft

USFS NPS BLM/BOR FWS Local State Tribal DOD/DOE



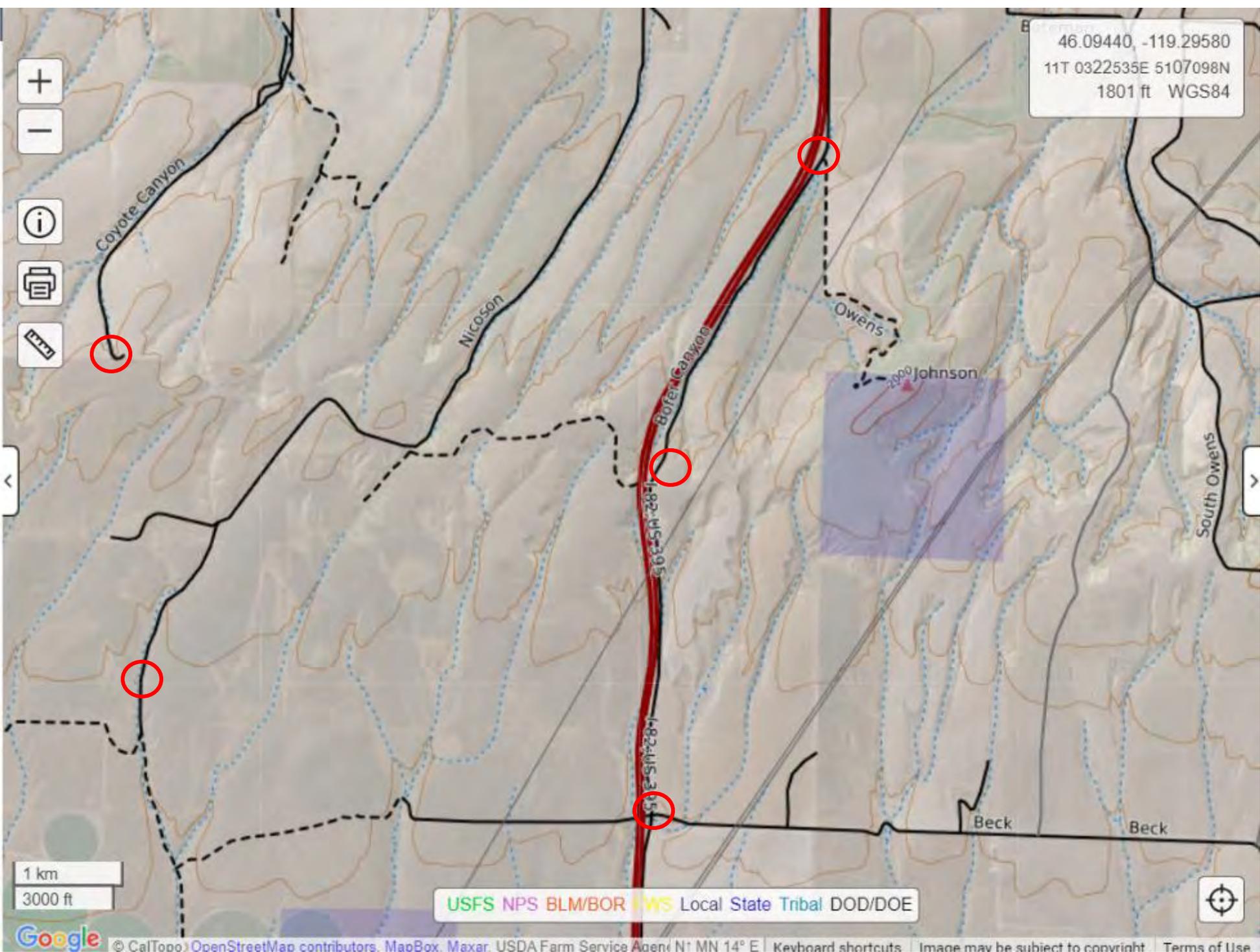


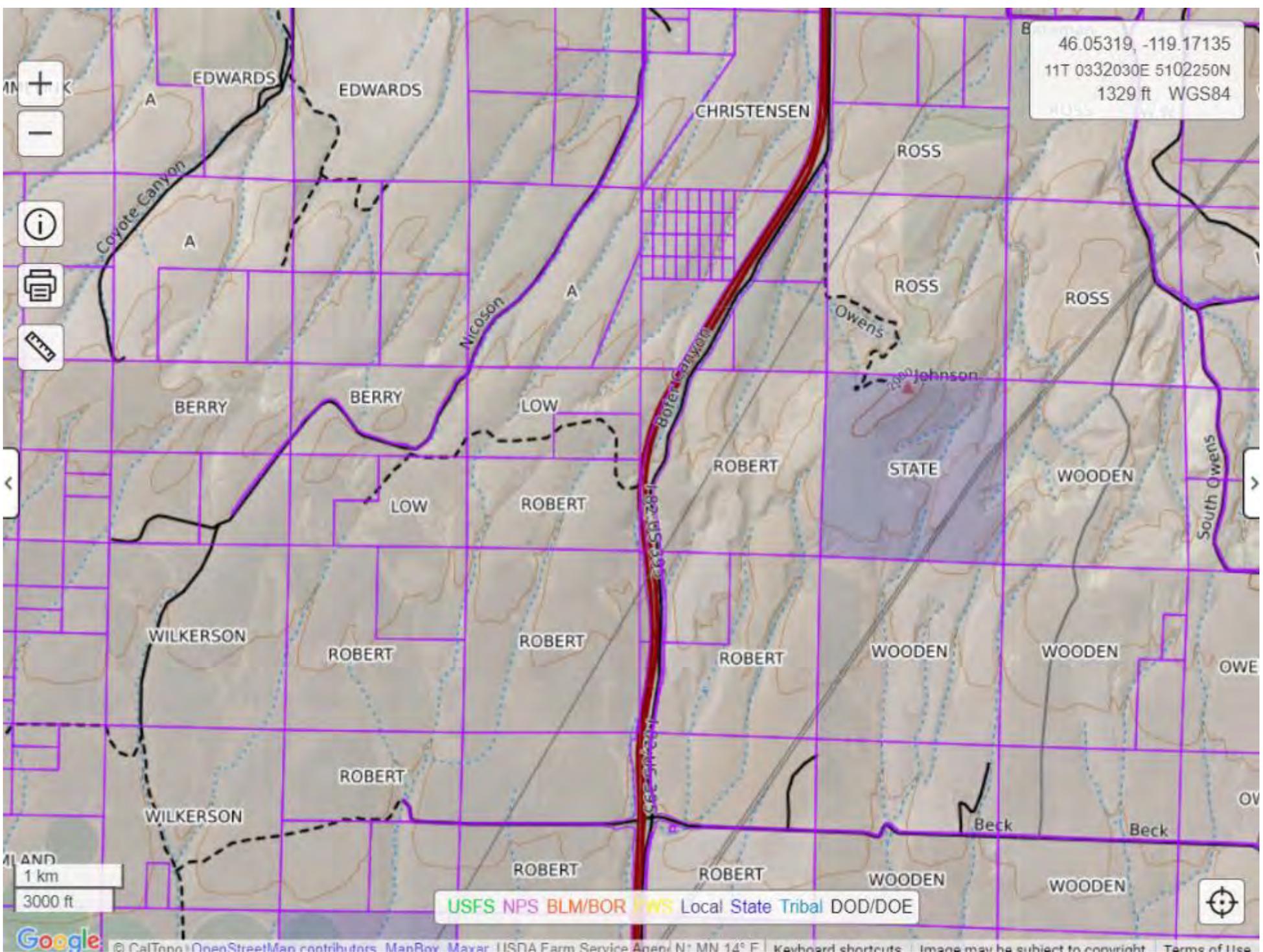




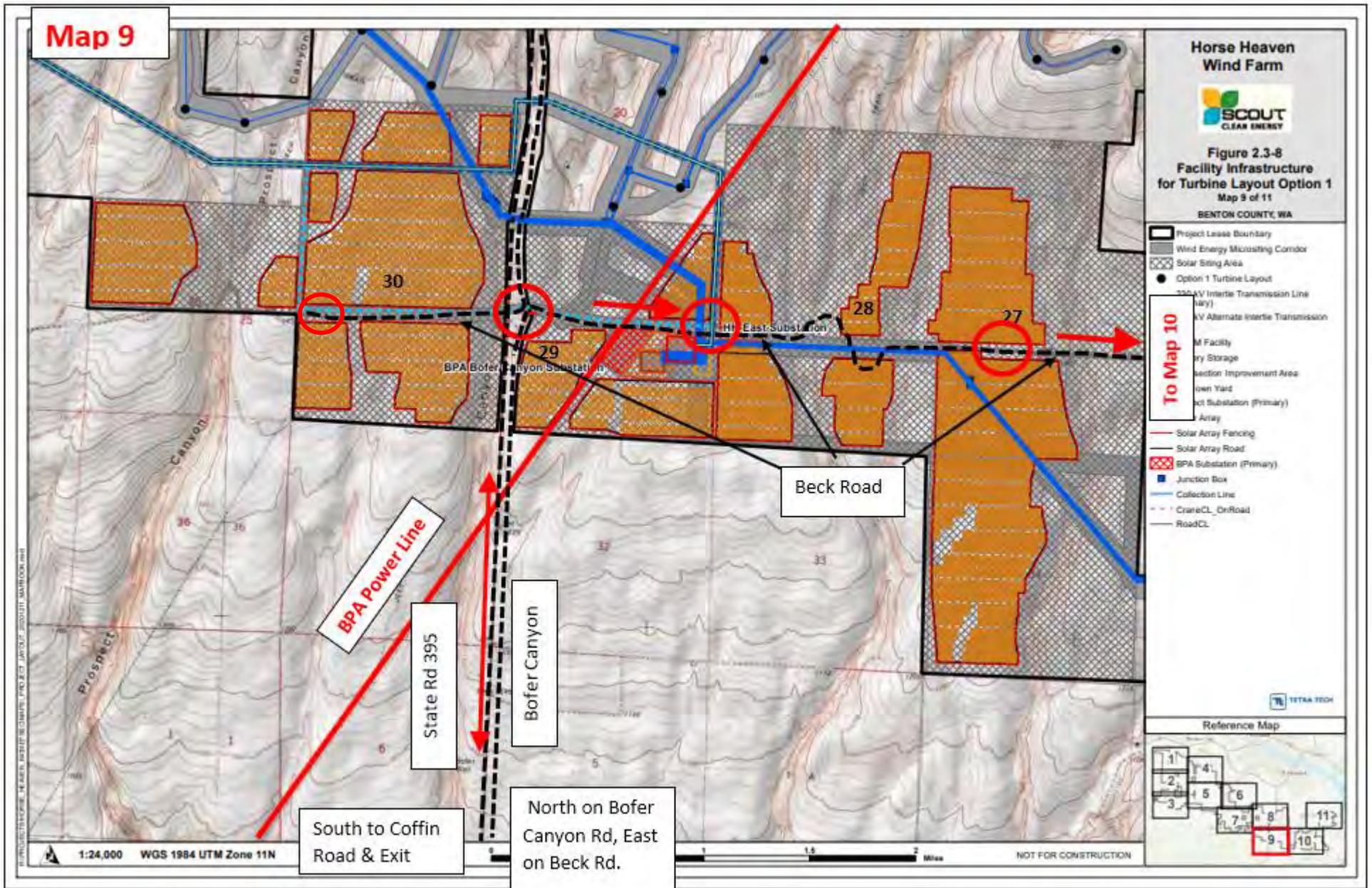
Road- 

Viewpoint 



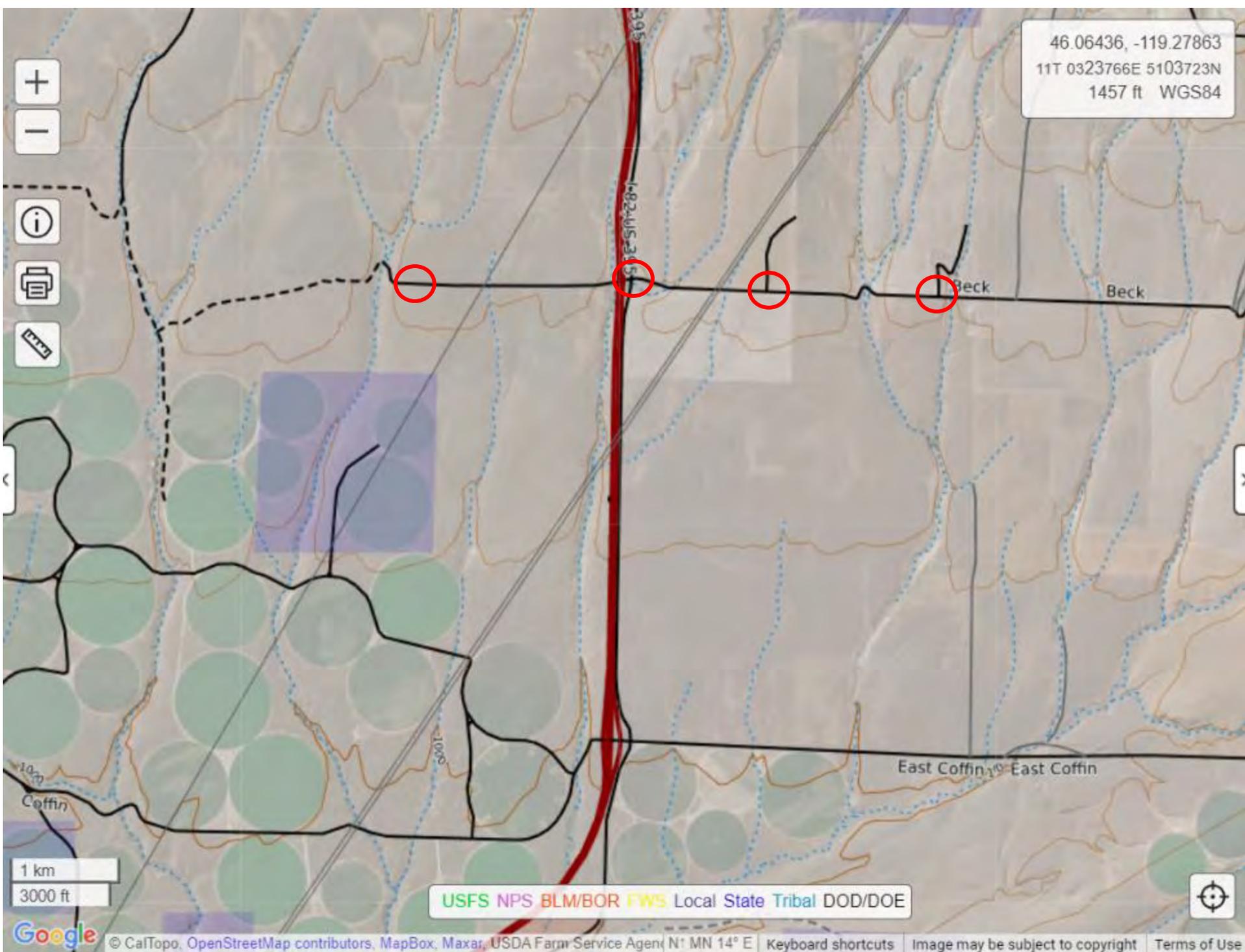




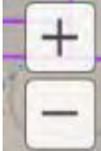


Road 

Viewpoint 



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1653 ft WGS84

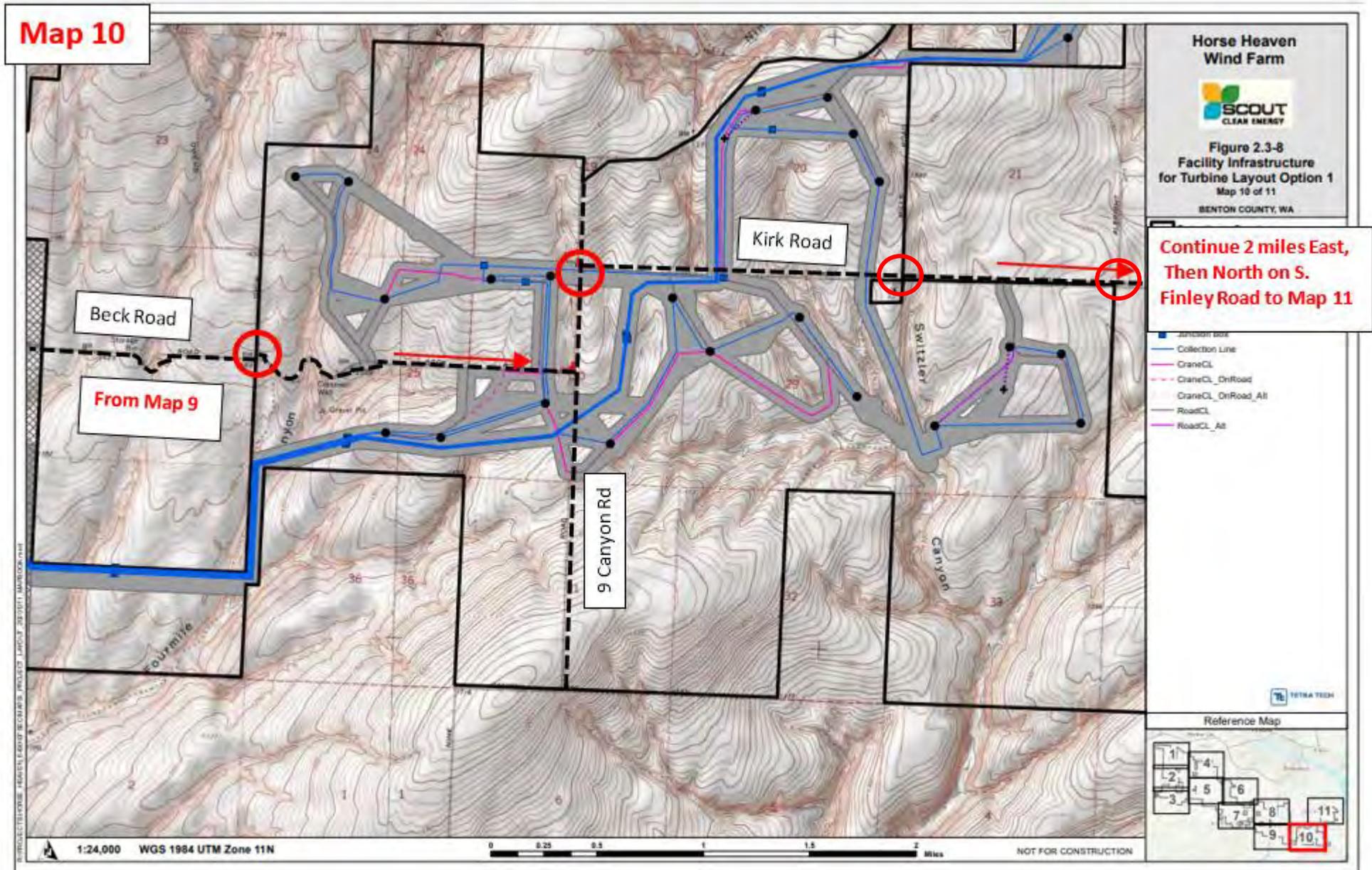


1 km  
3000 ft

USFS NPS BLM/BOR FWS Local State Tribal DOD/DOE

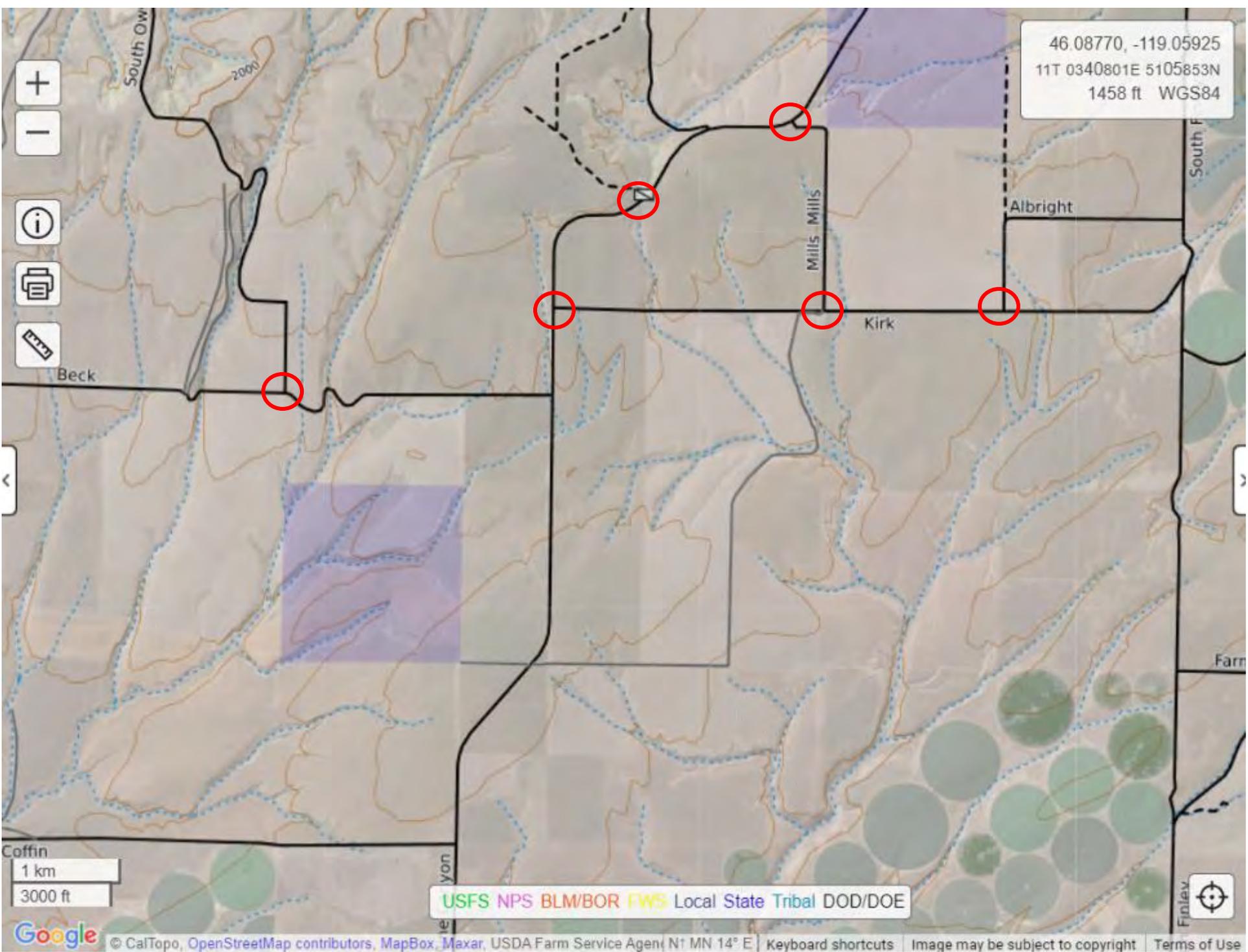




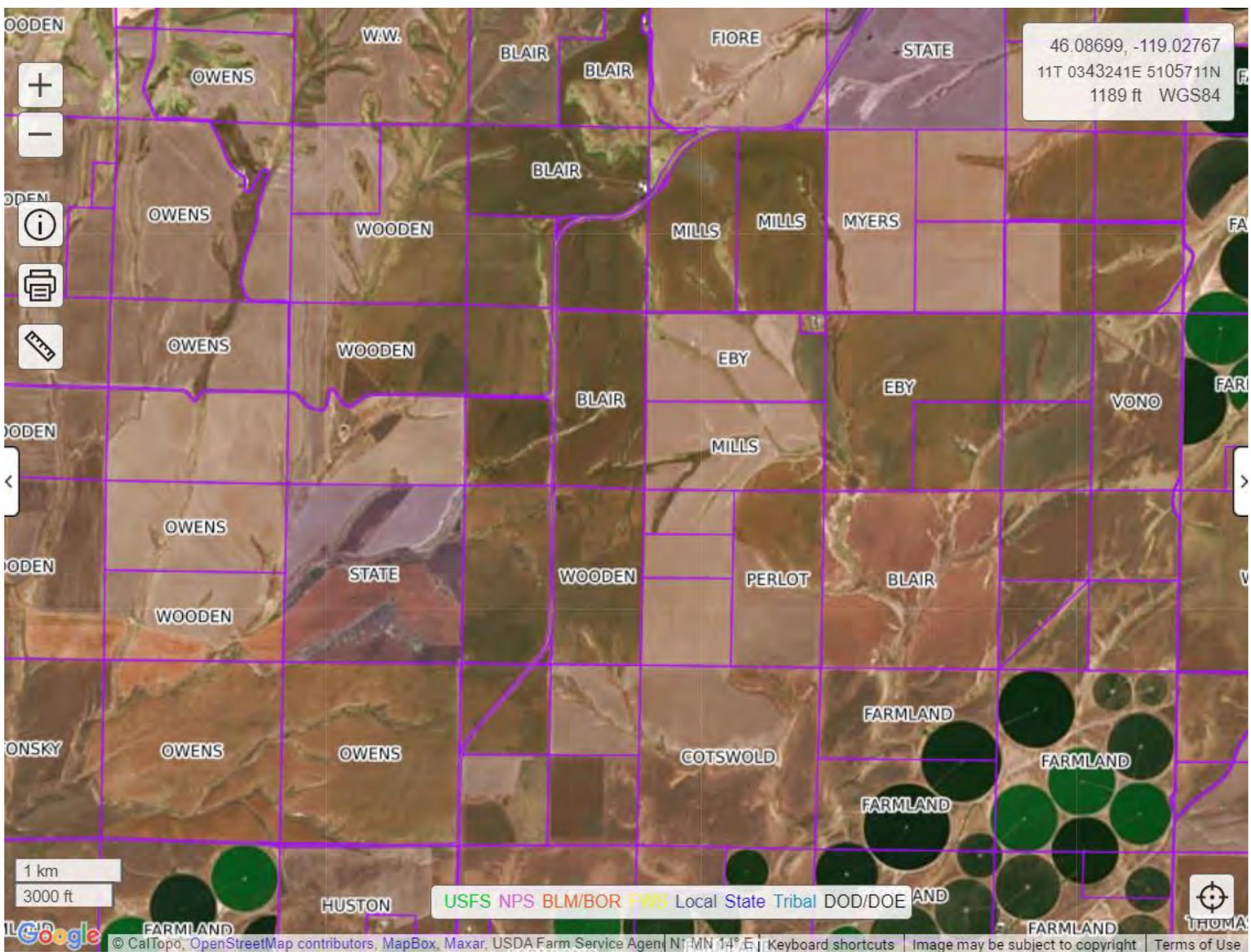


Road ———

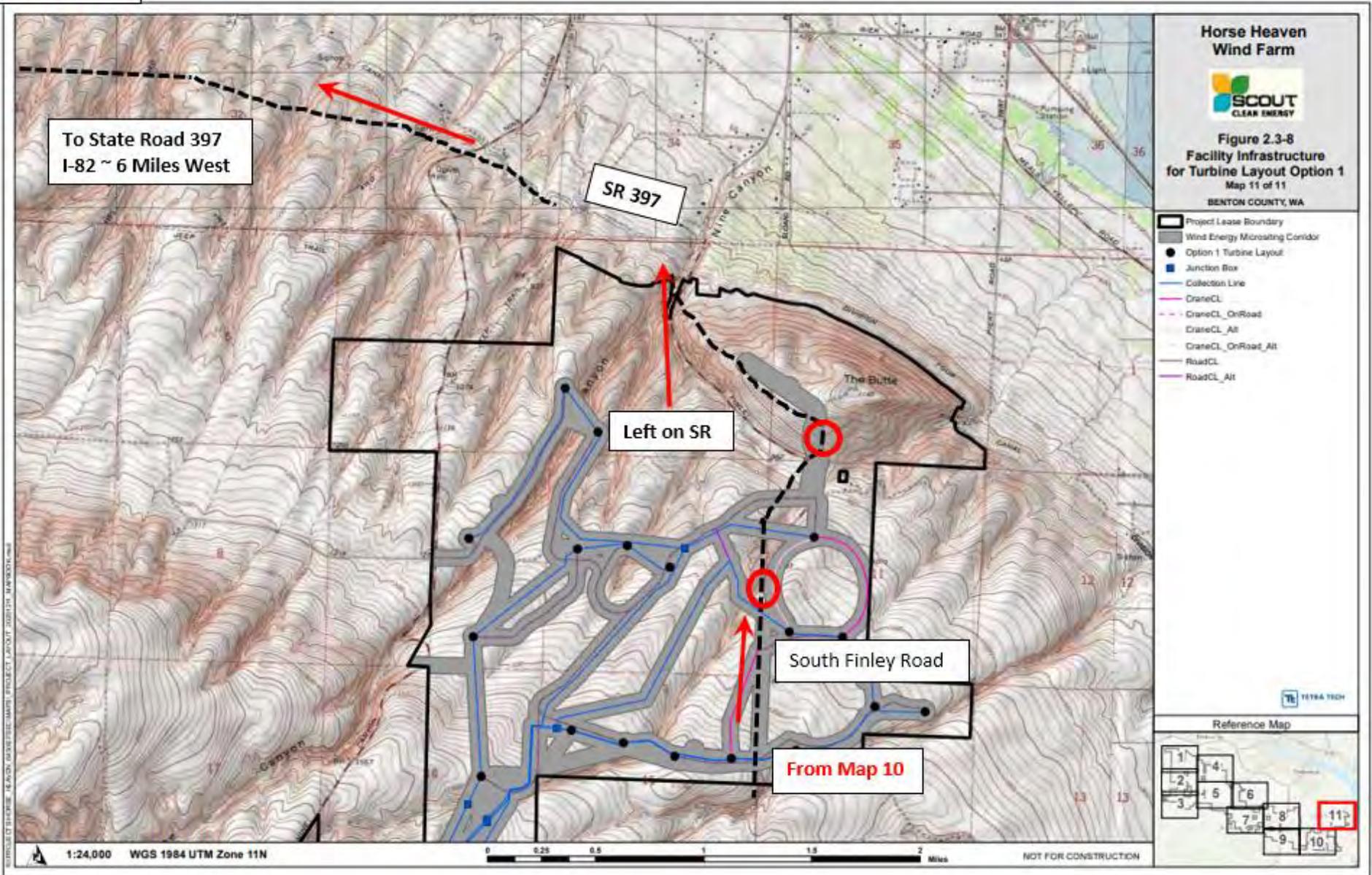
Viewpoint ○

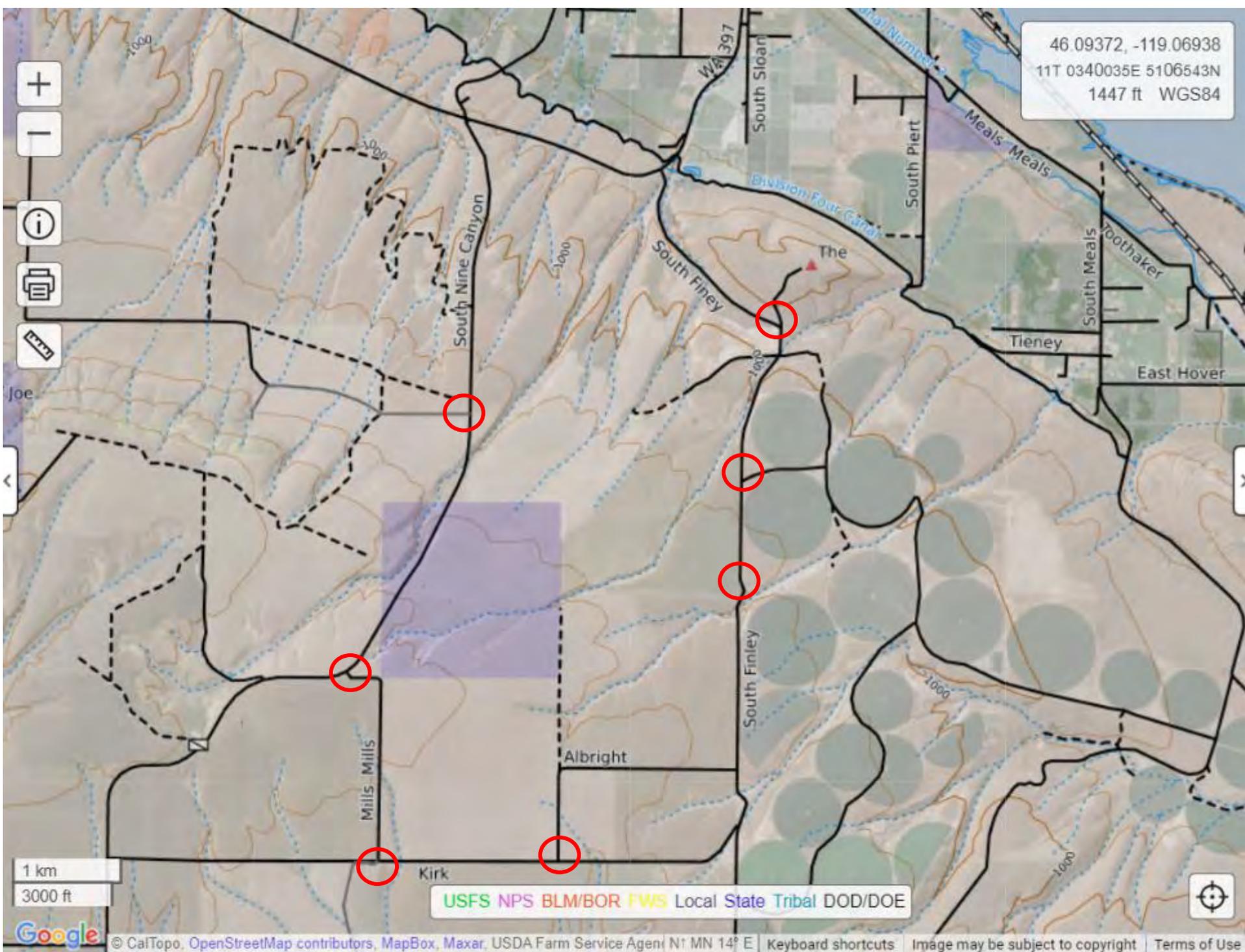


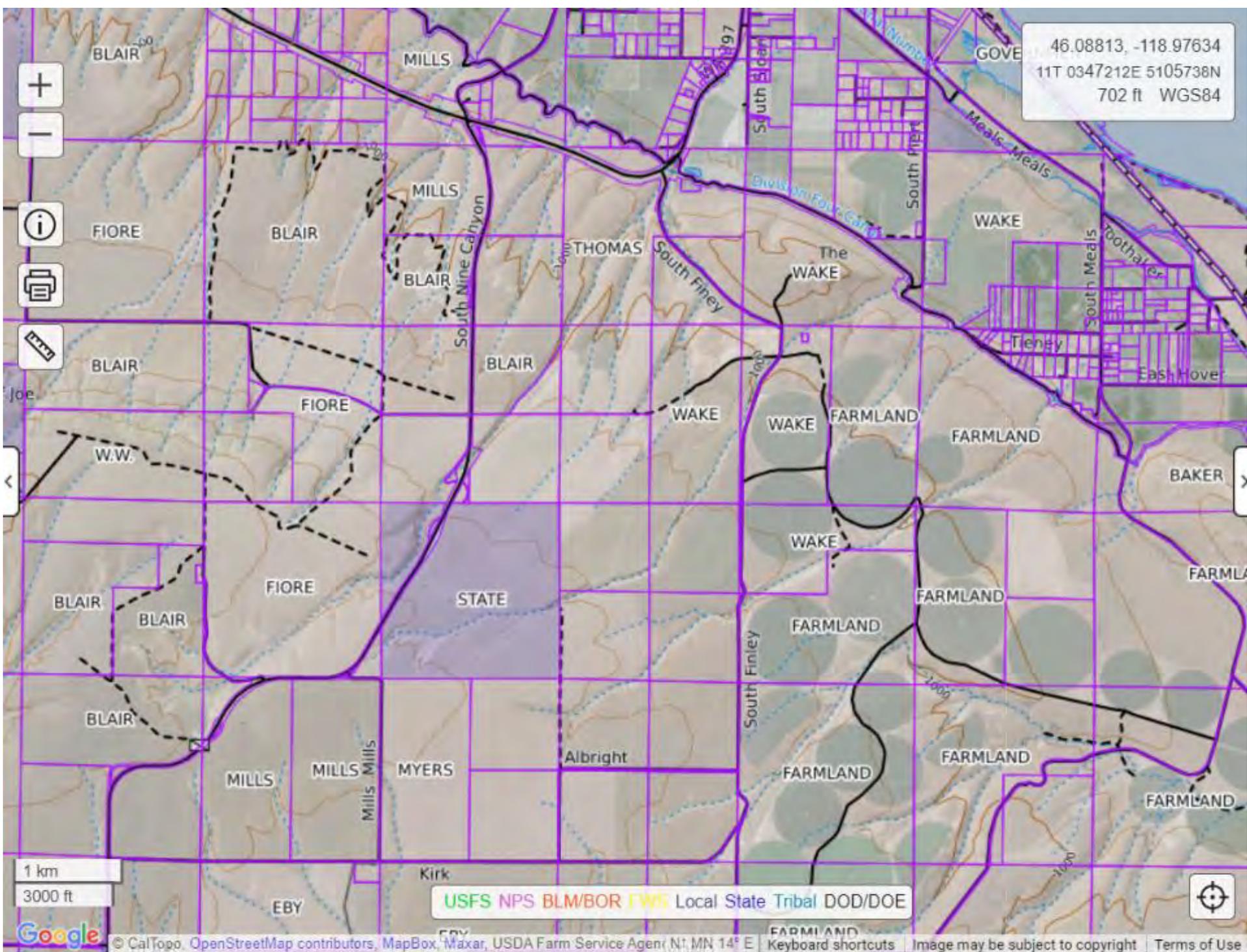


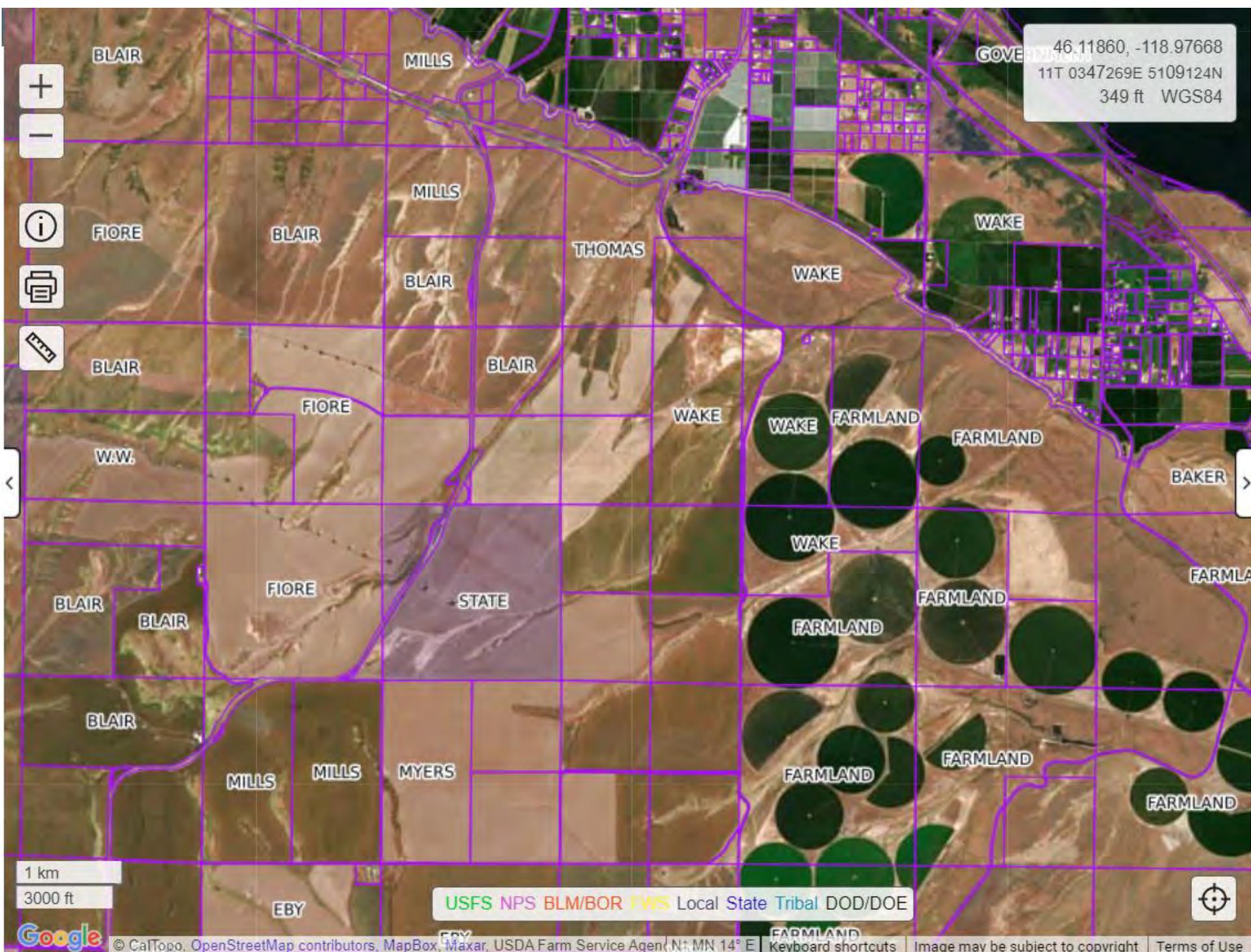


**Map 11**











# Horse Heaven Hills Energy Project Tour Guide

Project Maps, Topo Maps, Land Ownership, and GIS Aerial Photos

Created by Paul J. Krupin and Dave Sharp



*Drone photos taken 500 feet above the ground at proposed turbine locations off Dennis Road and Weber Canyon. Provides perspective and insight into the question “who will be able to see the wind turbines”. Drone Photo Credit to Bruce Bjornstad, Richland Washington.*

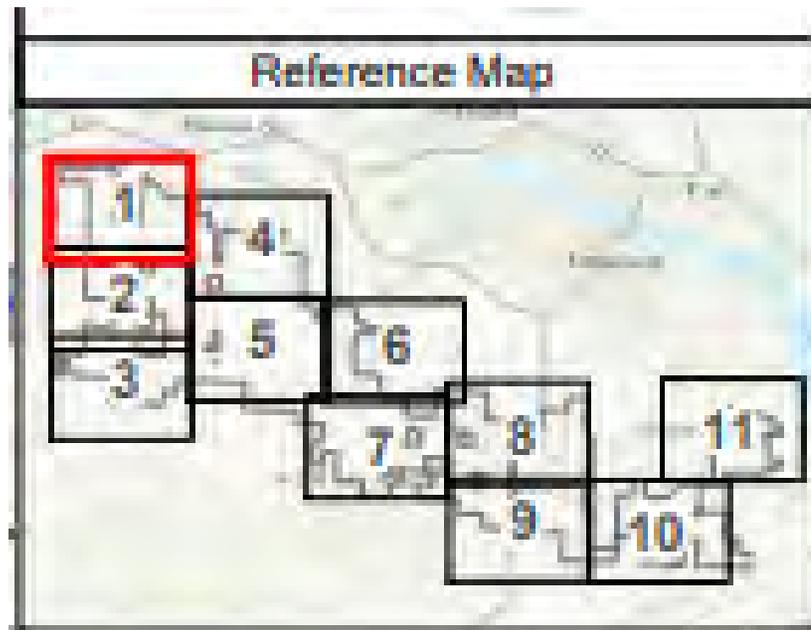
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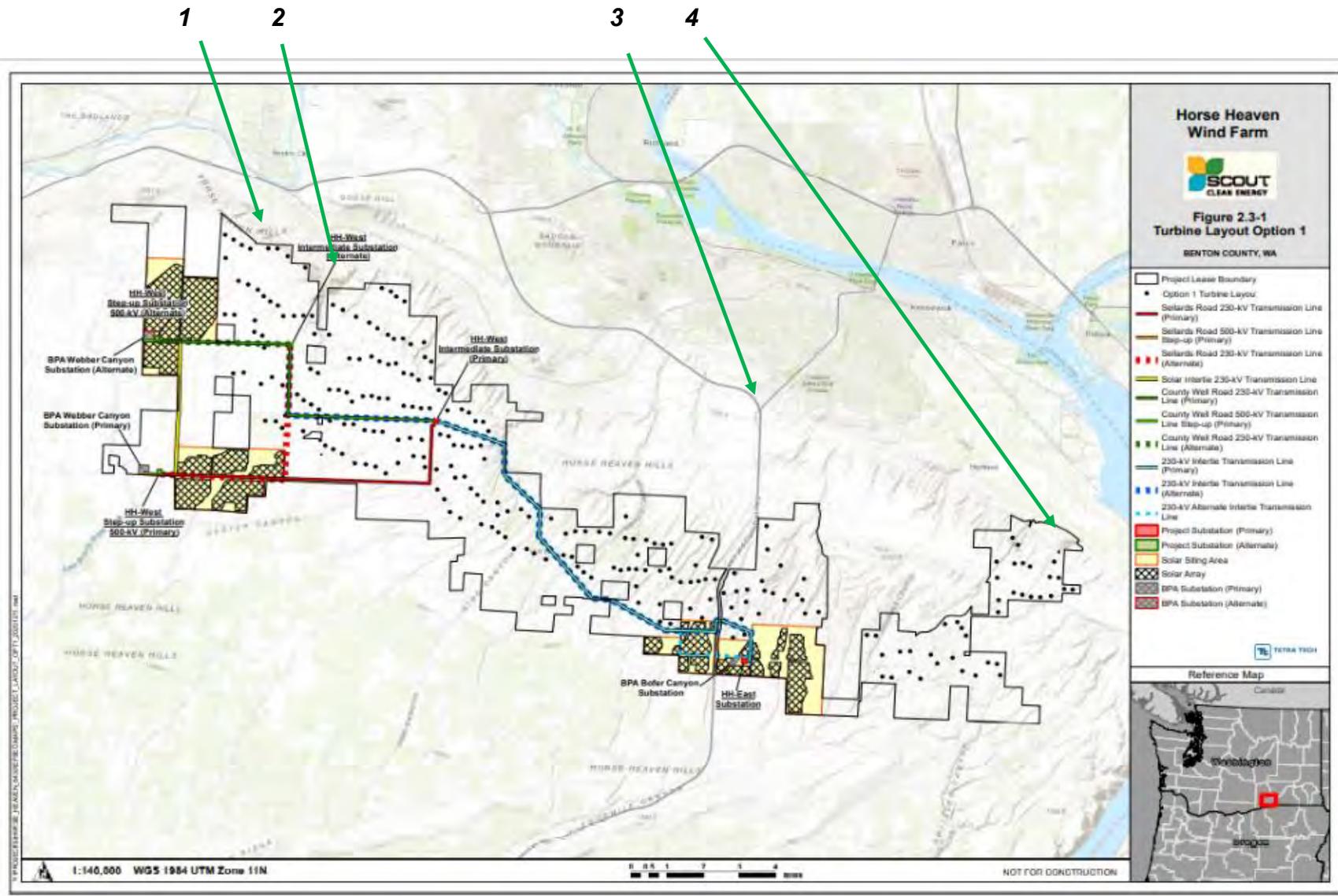


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### *Map 10 Bofer Canyon Beck Road Area*

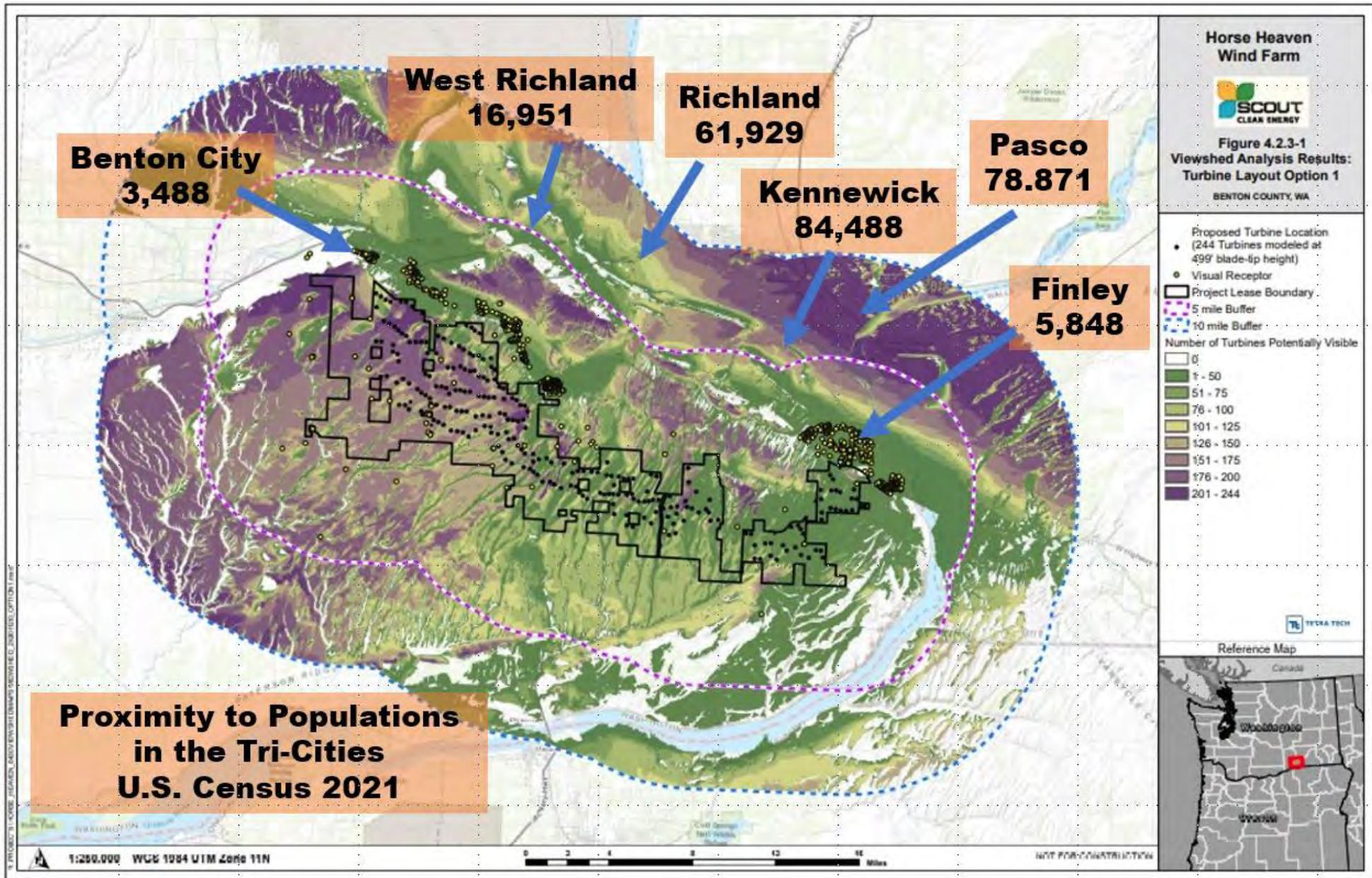
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**From Locust Grove take State Road 397 east six miles (Map 11)**

- Head south on Nine Mile Canyon Road, wind turbines to the south east at two to three miles
- Head south on South Finley Road, wind turbines at one to two miles.
- Head west on Kirk Road to return.



References: Viewshed Analysis Map from the HHH Wind Project Permit Application, Population Data from U.S. Census 2021

# Aerial Photo GIS Map of McBee Road south of Benton City



- County Road
- ..... Hiking Trail
- Proposed Wind Turbines based on Option 1
- Viewpoints - Analare Winery, McBee Grade Summit, McBee Road

Proximity of Wind Towers to Populated Areas-Township 8 & 9-Range 27

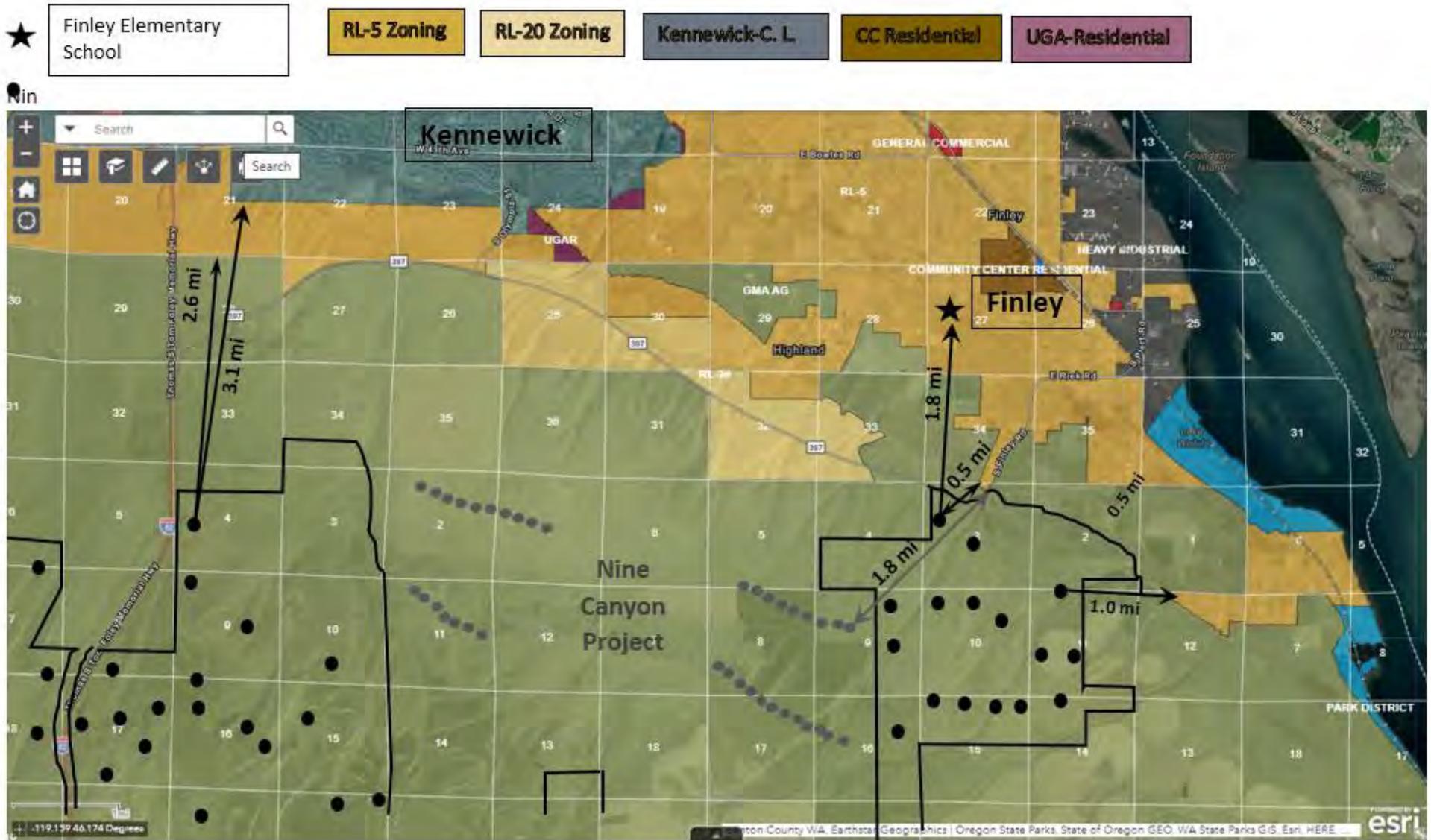


RL-5 Zoning

● Wind Turbine

--- Drainage

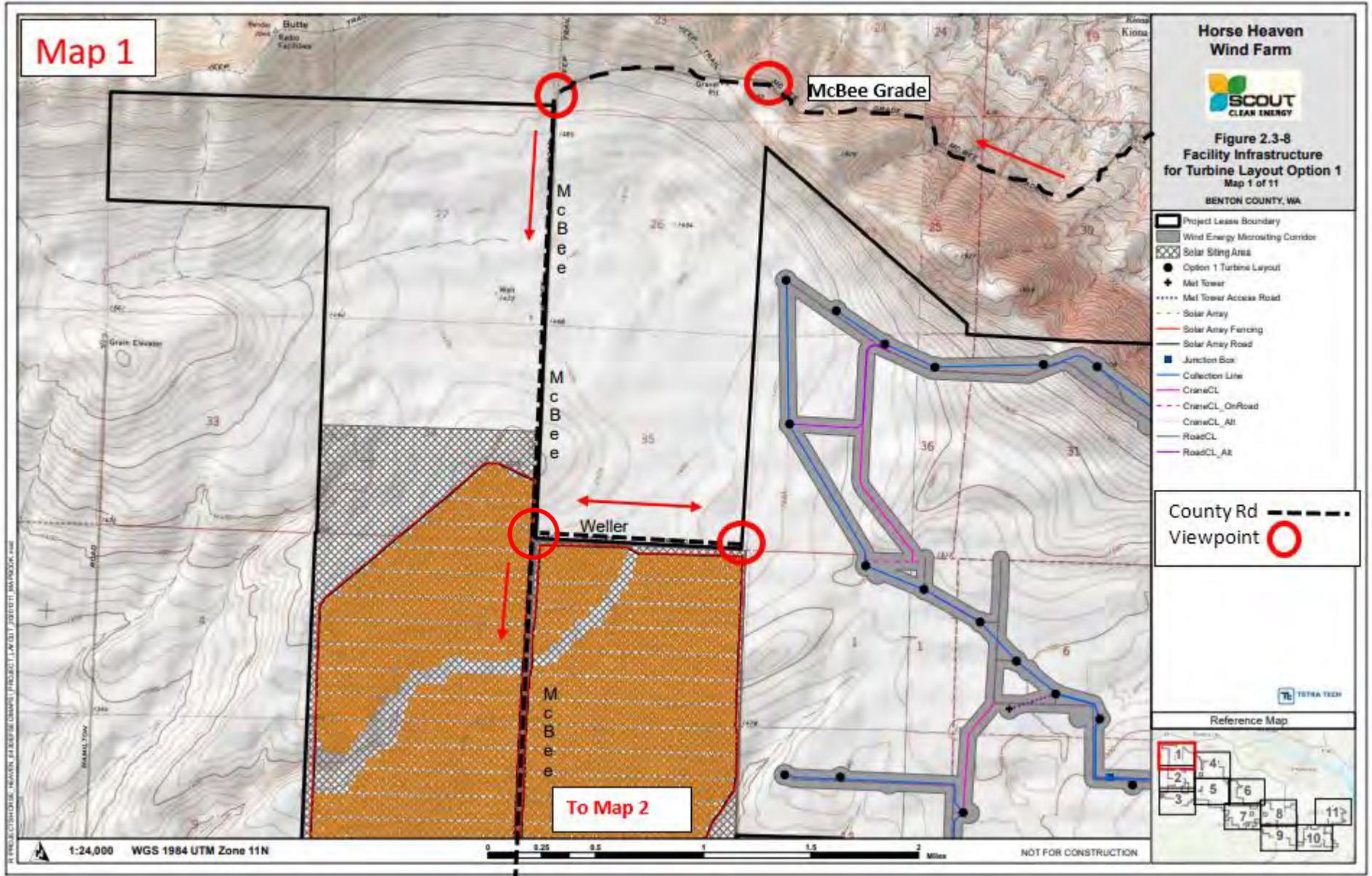
# Aerial Photo GIS Map of area south and west of Finley

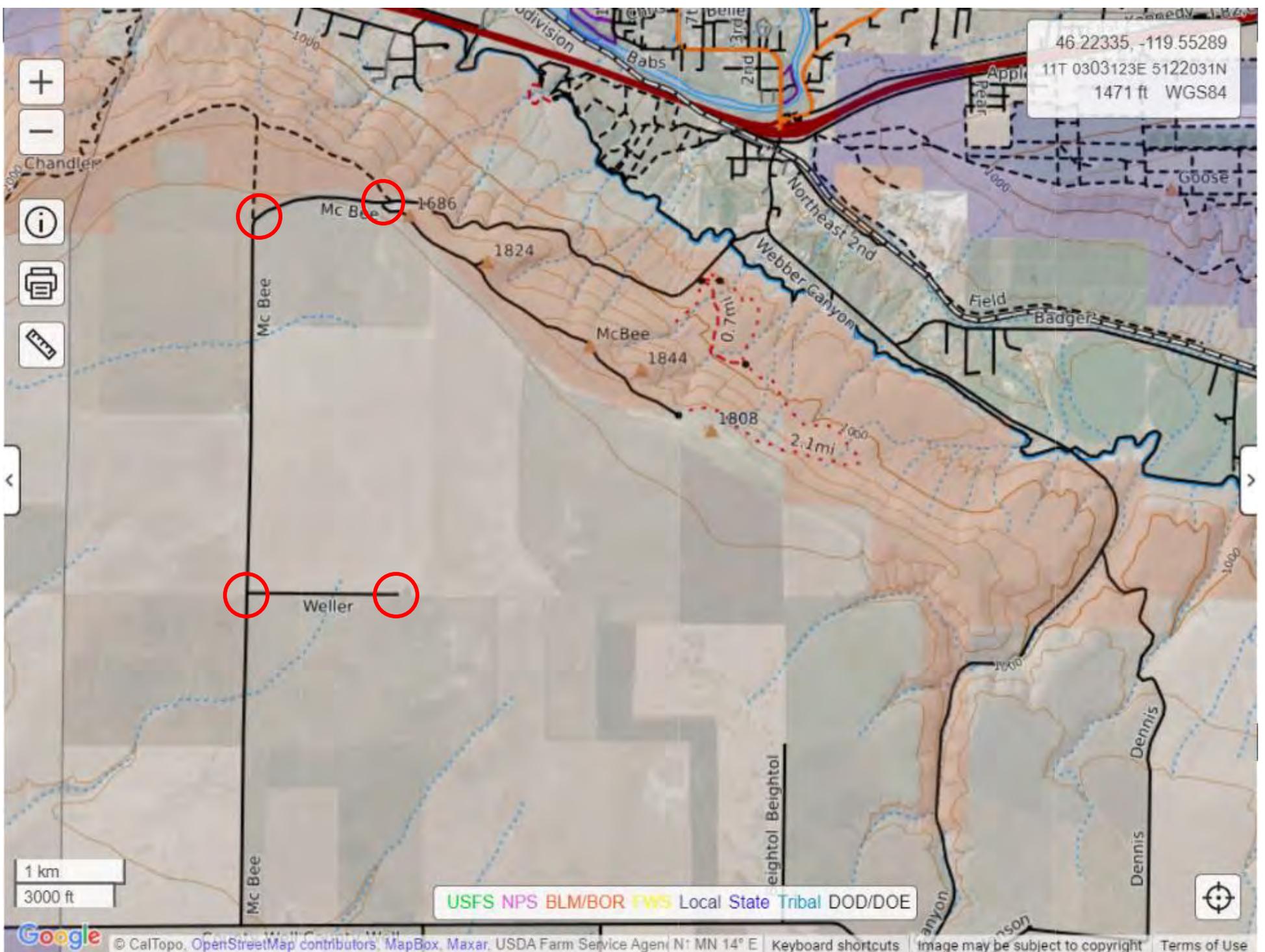


Project Maps 8, parts of 9, and Map 11 were overlaid to the County GIS system to Develop these maps. Turbine locations are approximate. Finley, WA is a Census Defined Place with population of 6,000. The majority of the area is zone as Rural -5 acre. There is also Rural Community Center Residential, and Urban Growth Area Residential.

The HH Project turbines are nominally 50% taller than NC, and located at generally higher elevations making their visual prominence more imposing.

Map 1 – Project Area 1 – McBee Road

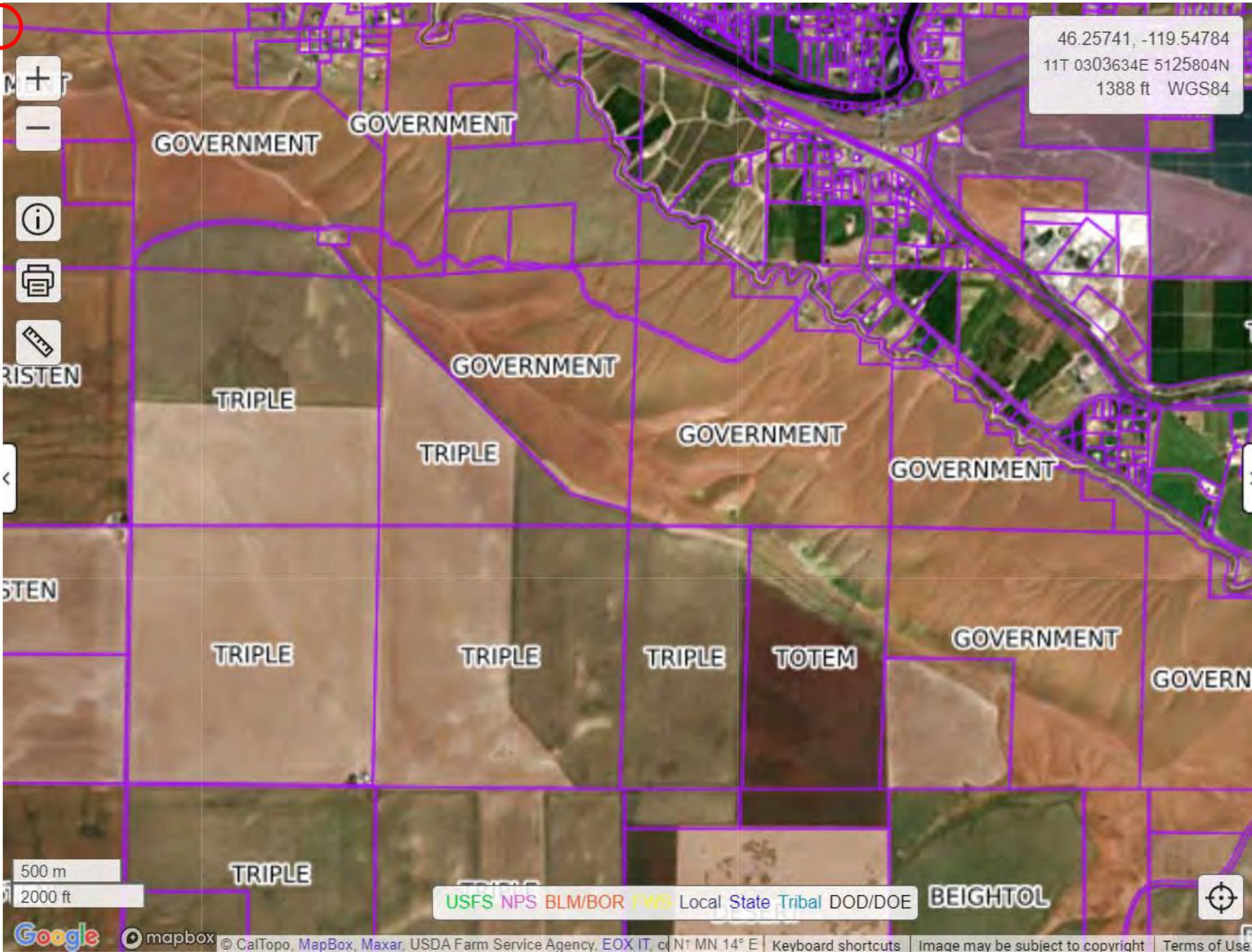








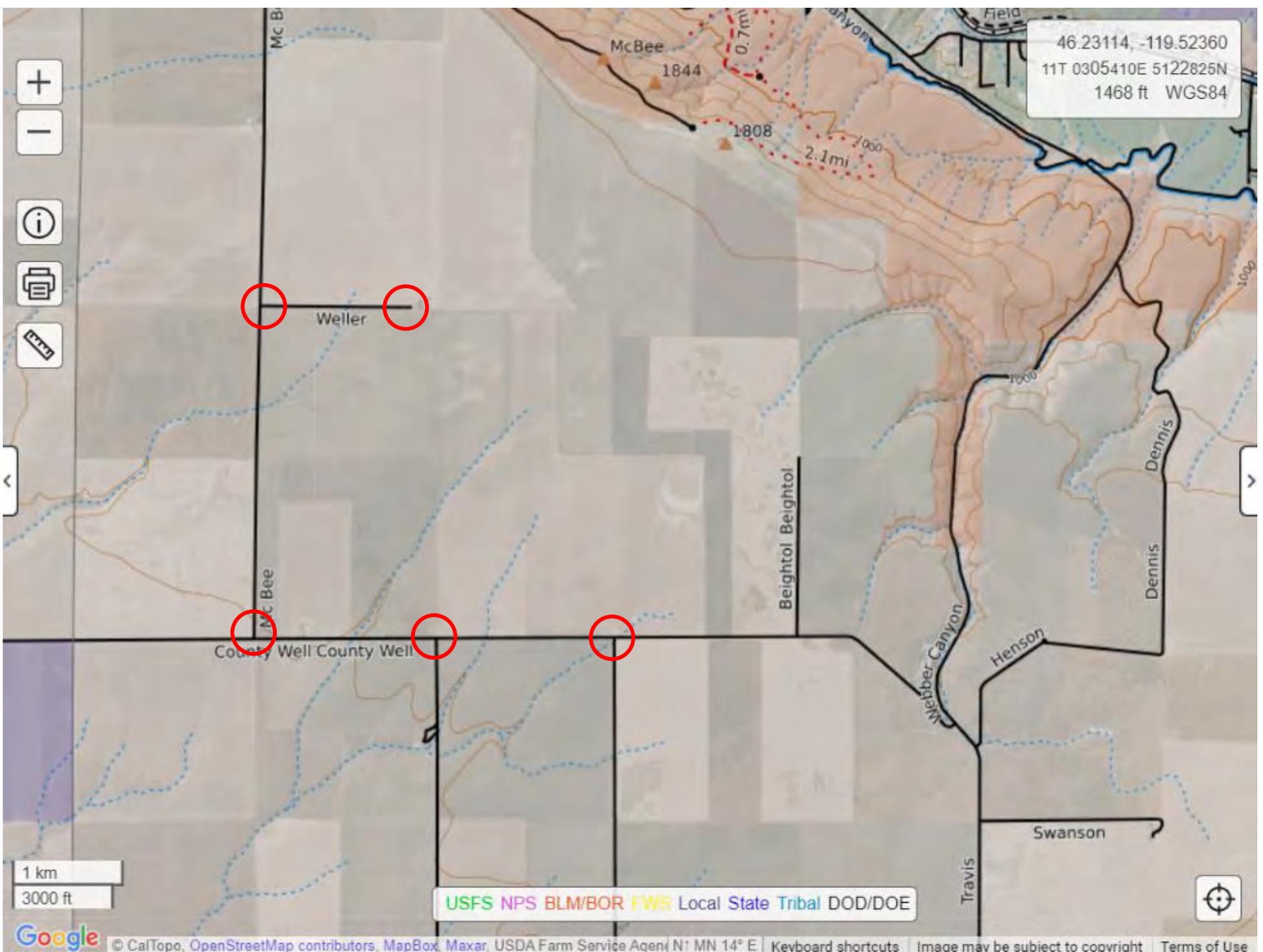
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 11T 0303634E 5125804N  
 1388 ft WGS84

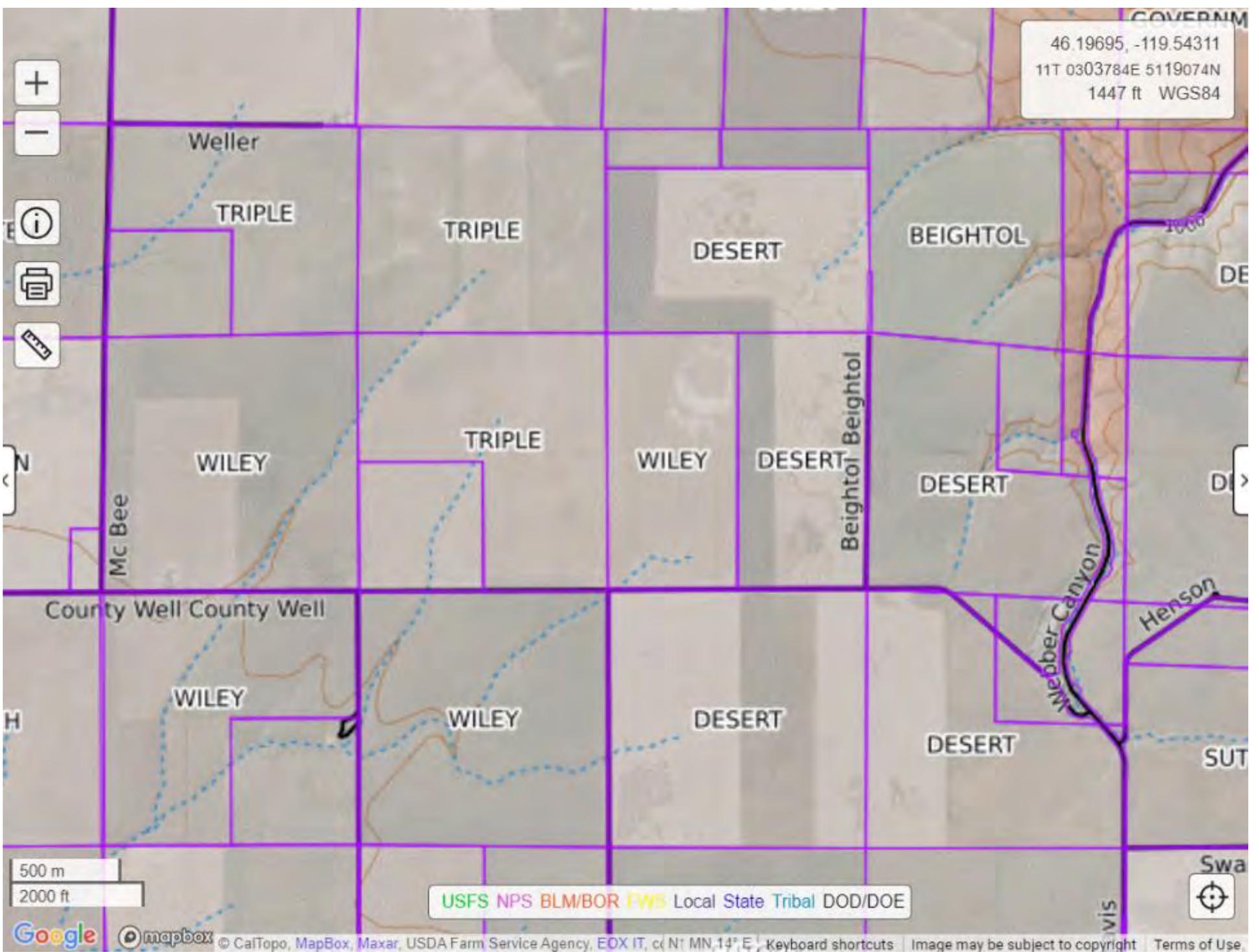


500 m  
 2000 ft

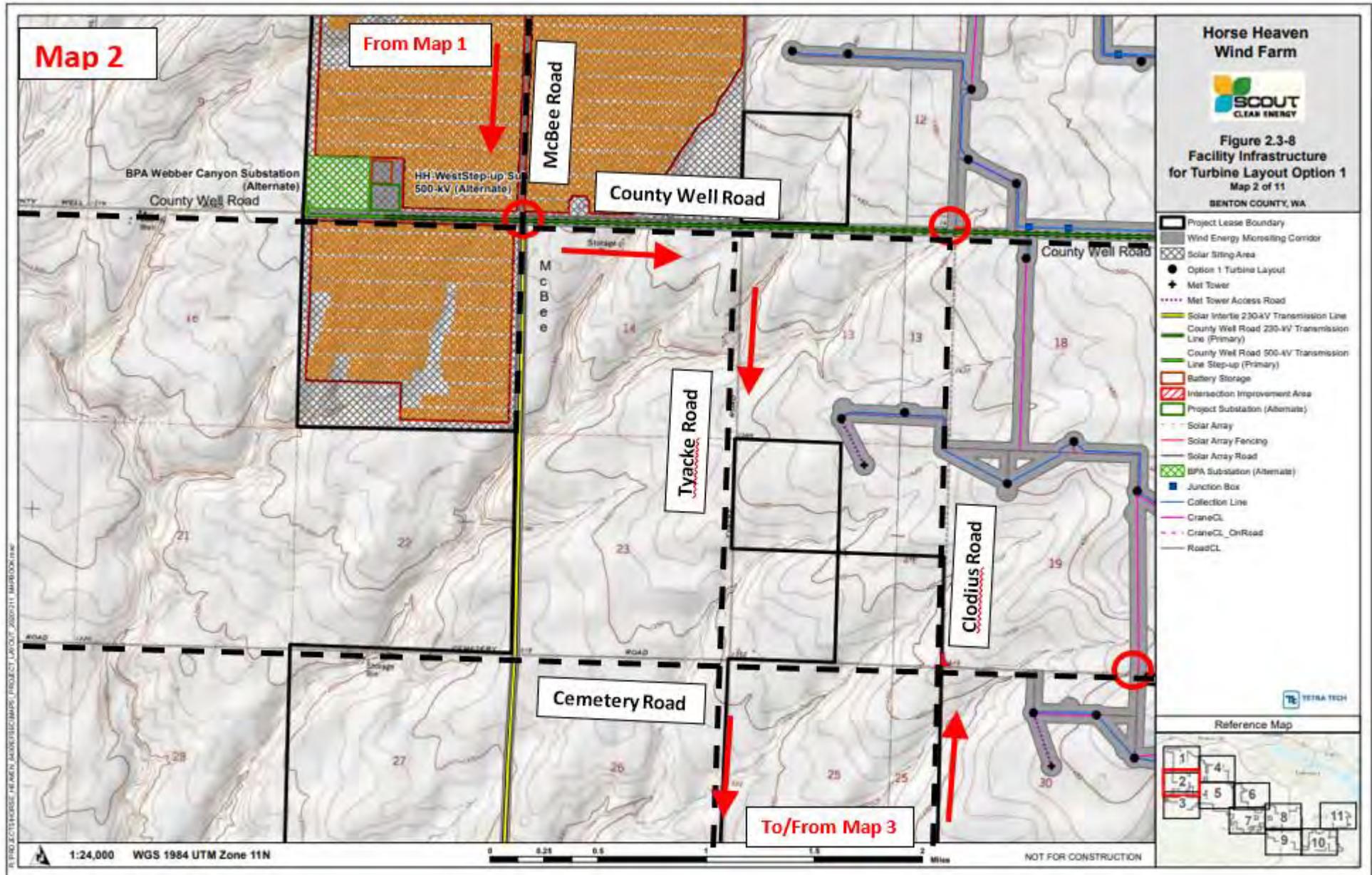
USFS NPS BLM/BOR FWS Local State Tribal DOD/DOE

BEIGHTOL



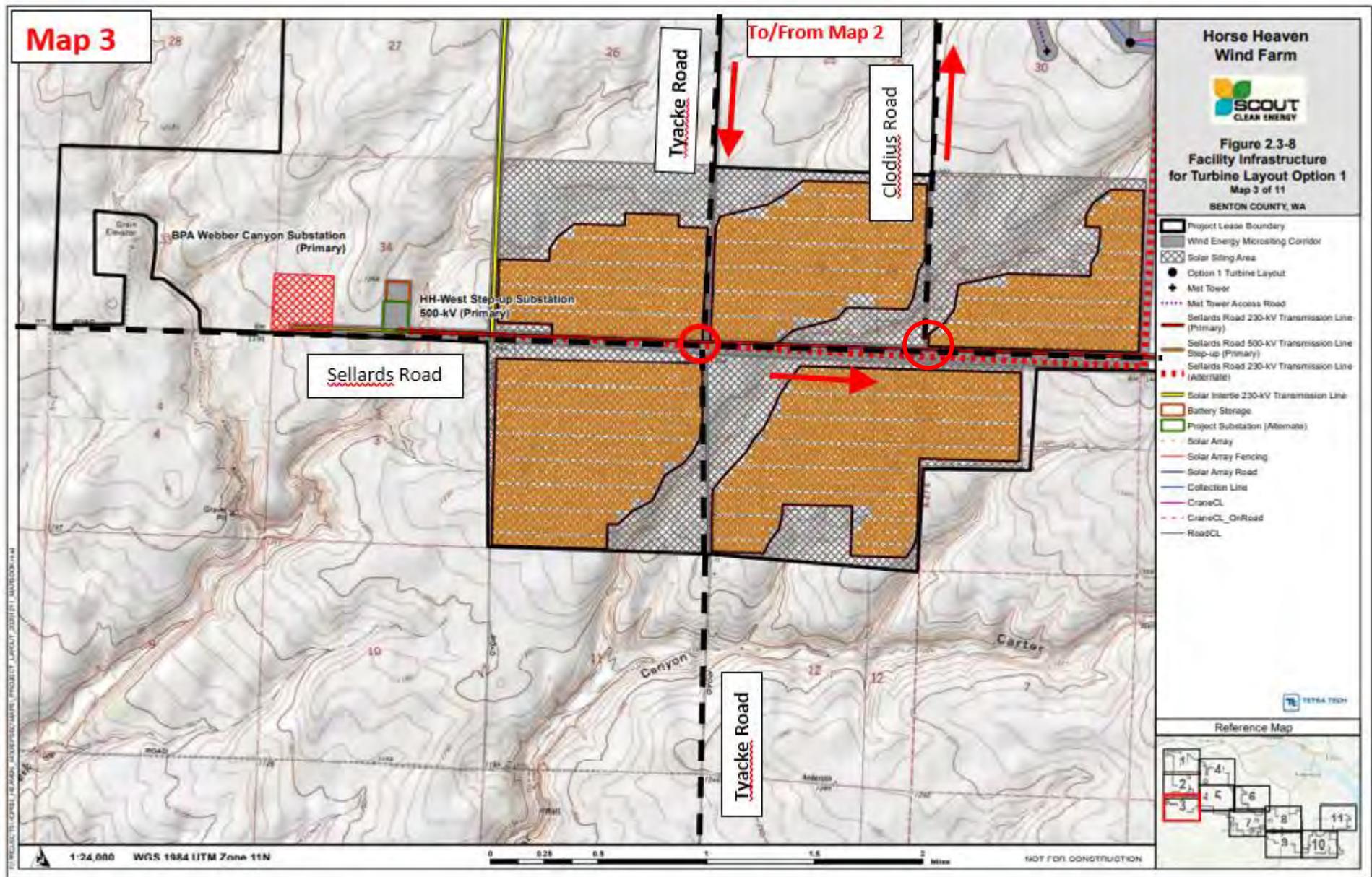






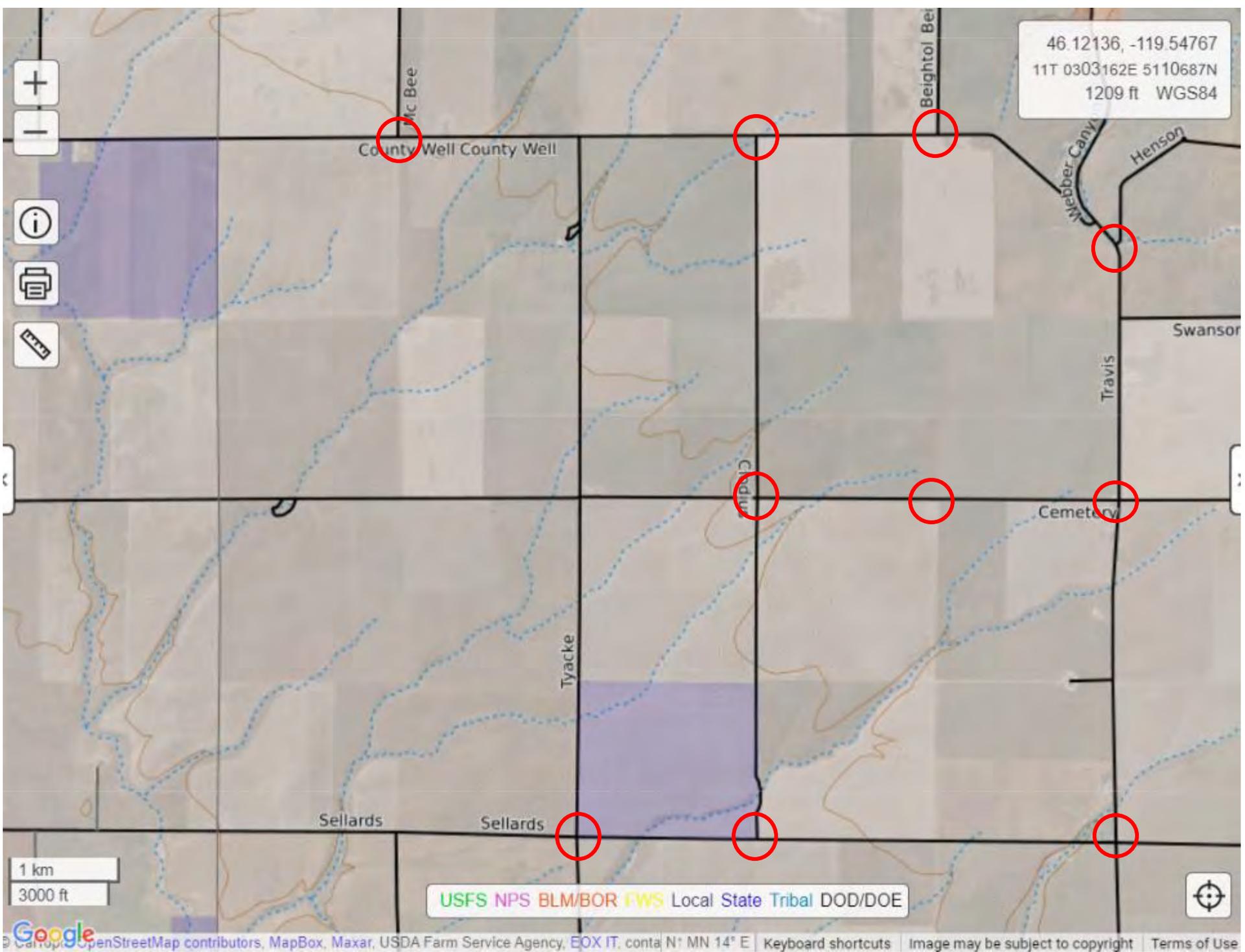
County Road - - - - -

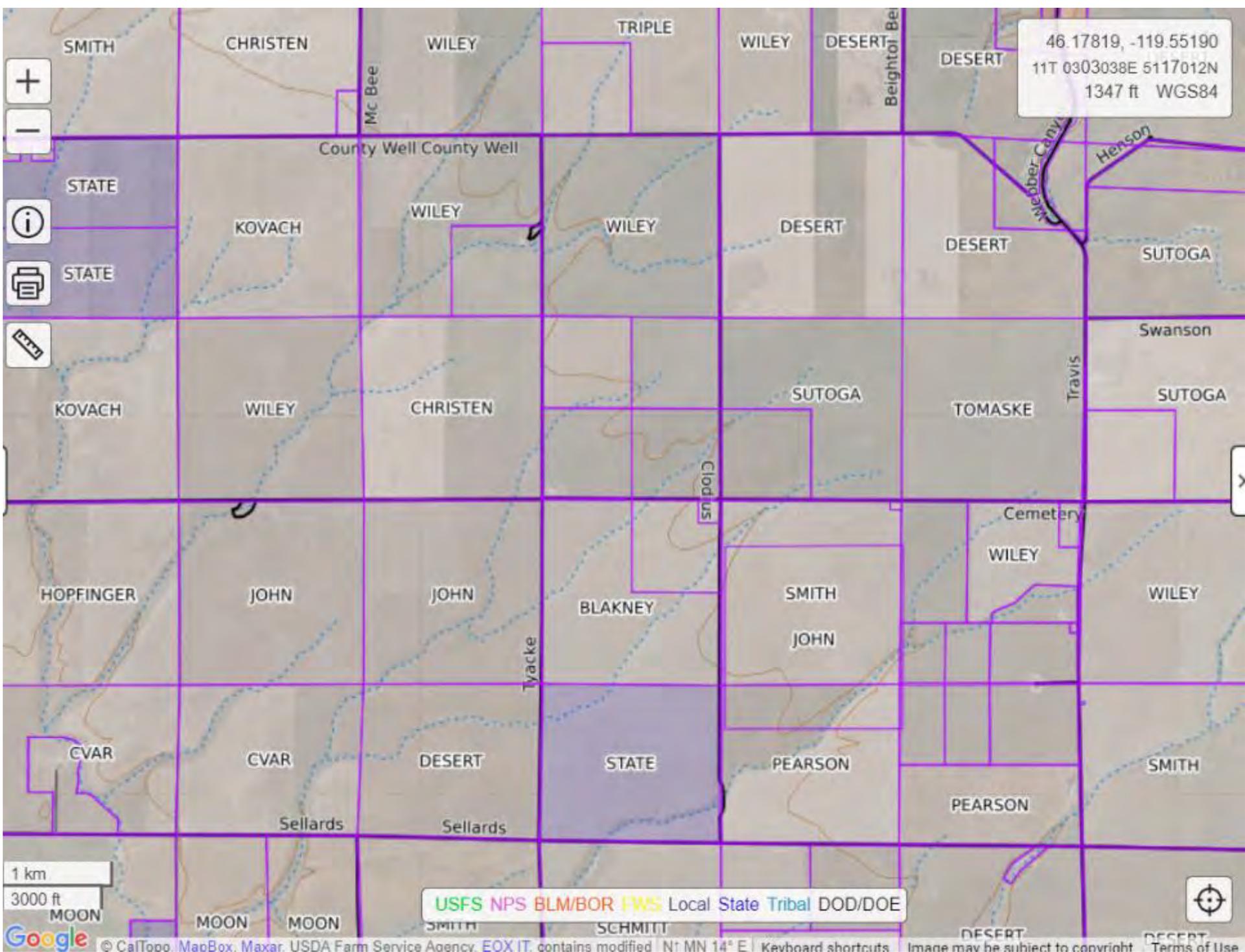
Viewpoint ○

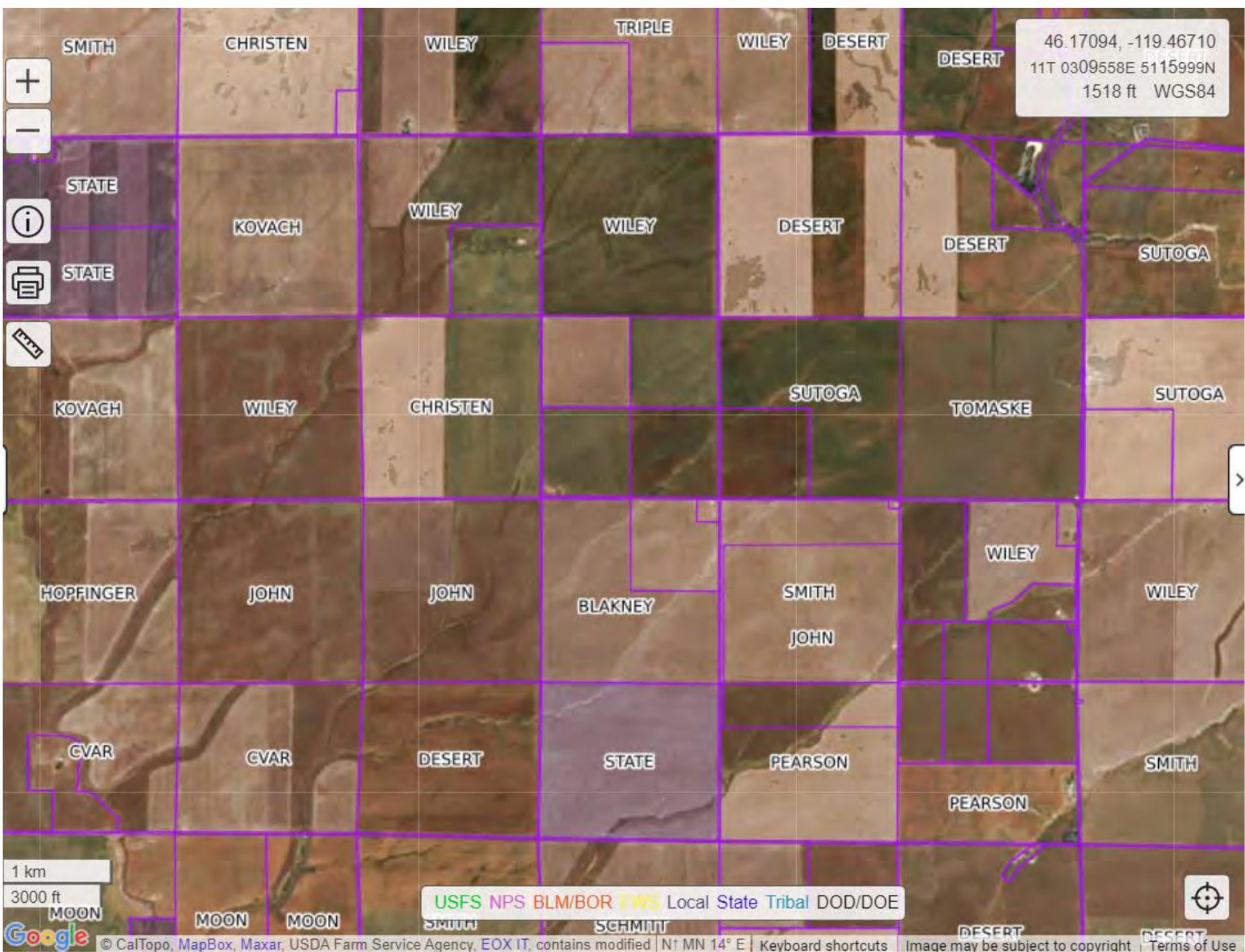


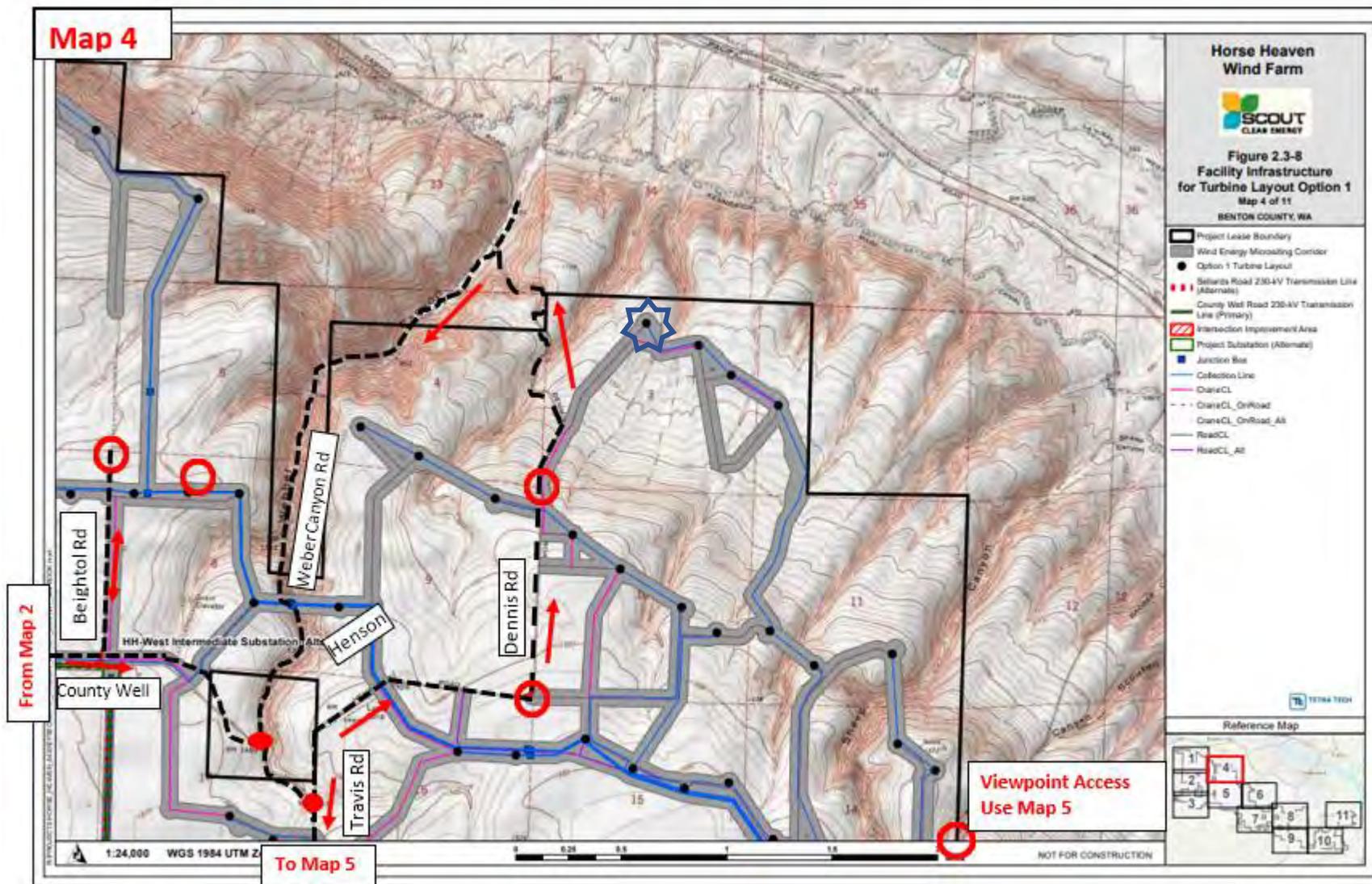
County Road 

Viewpoint 





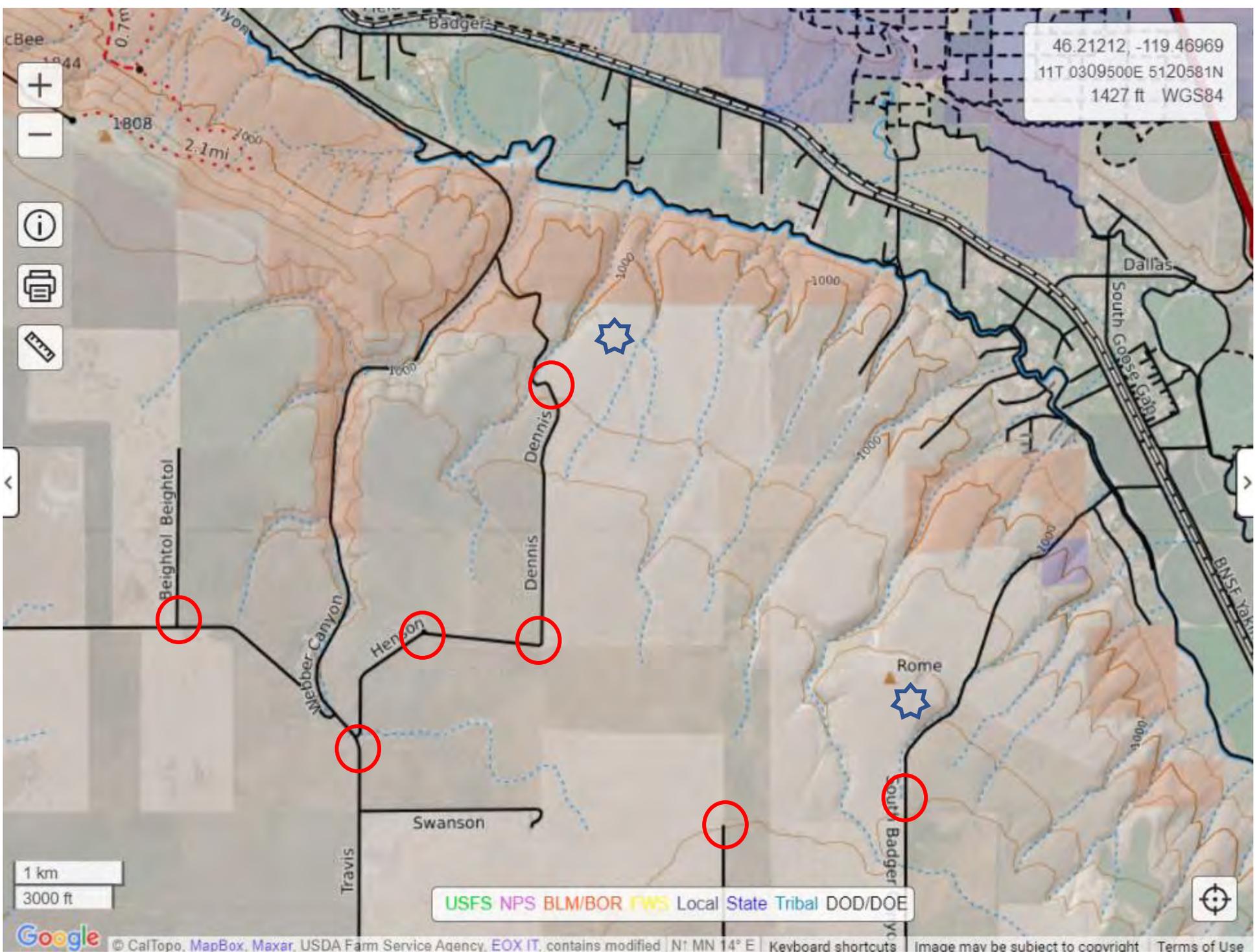




County Road — — — — —

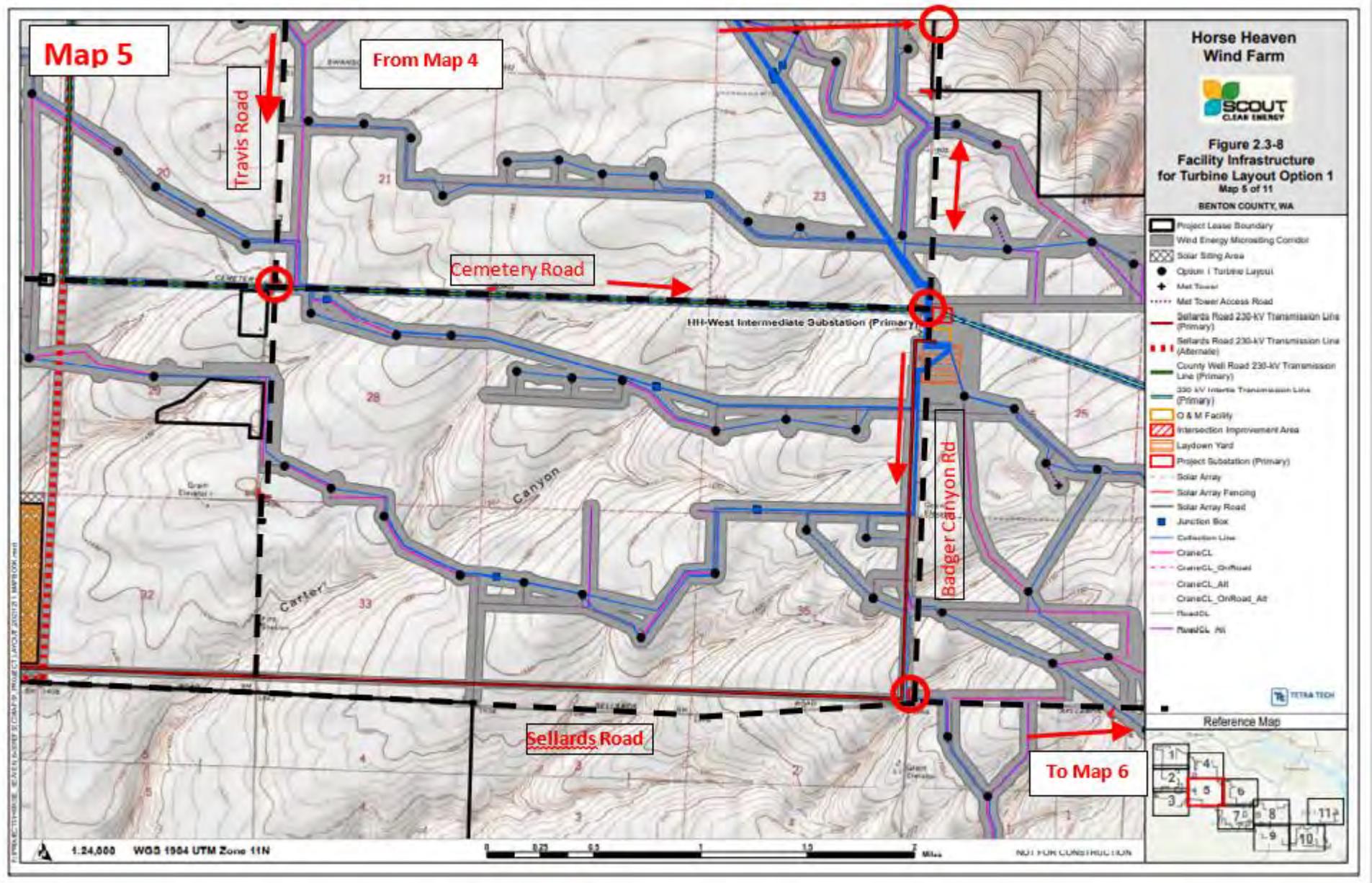
Viewpoint ○

Drone photo location ☆



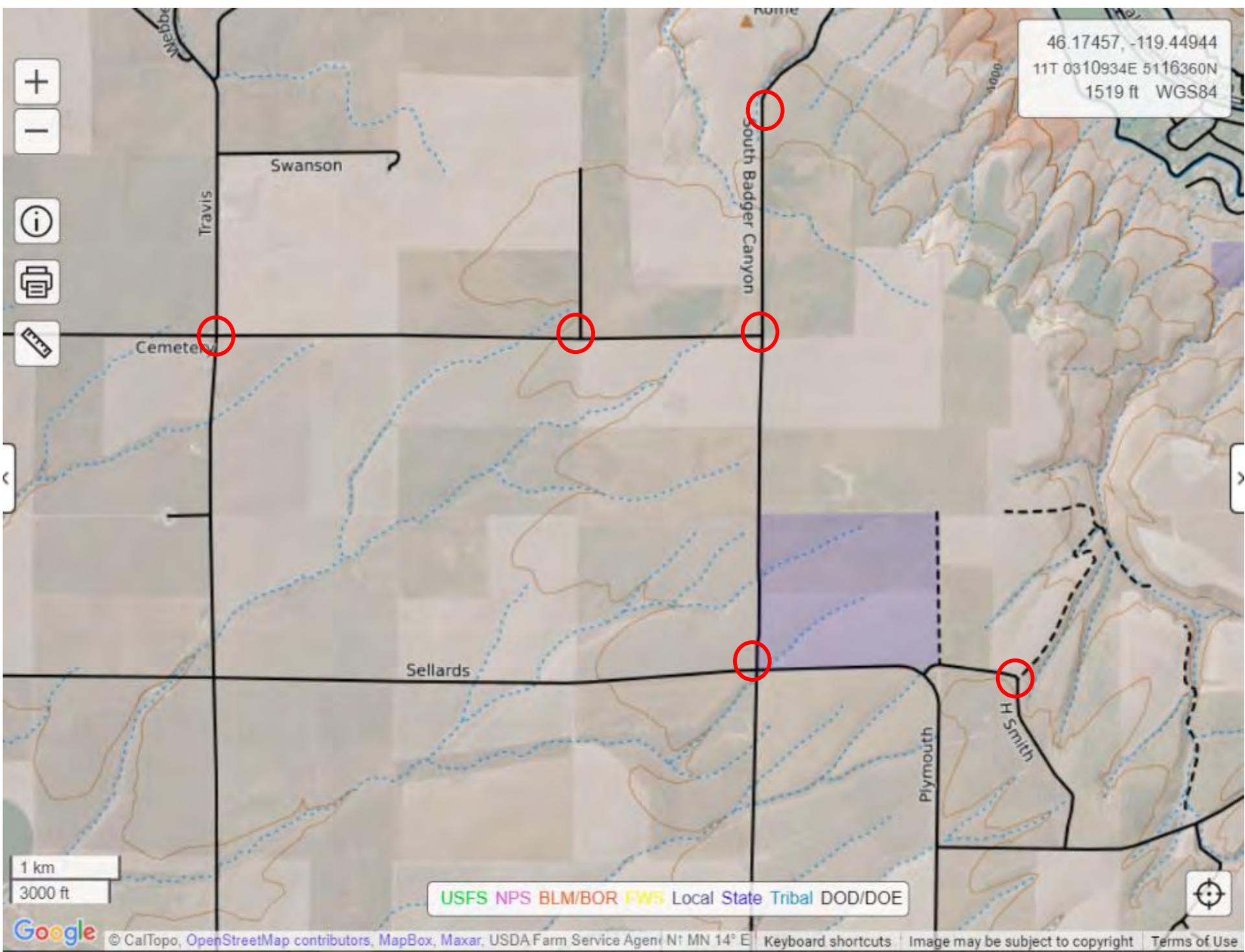


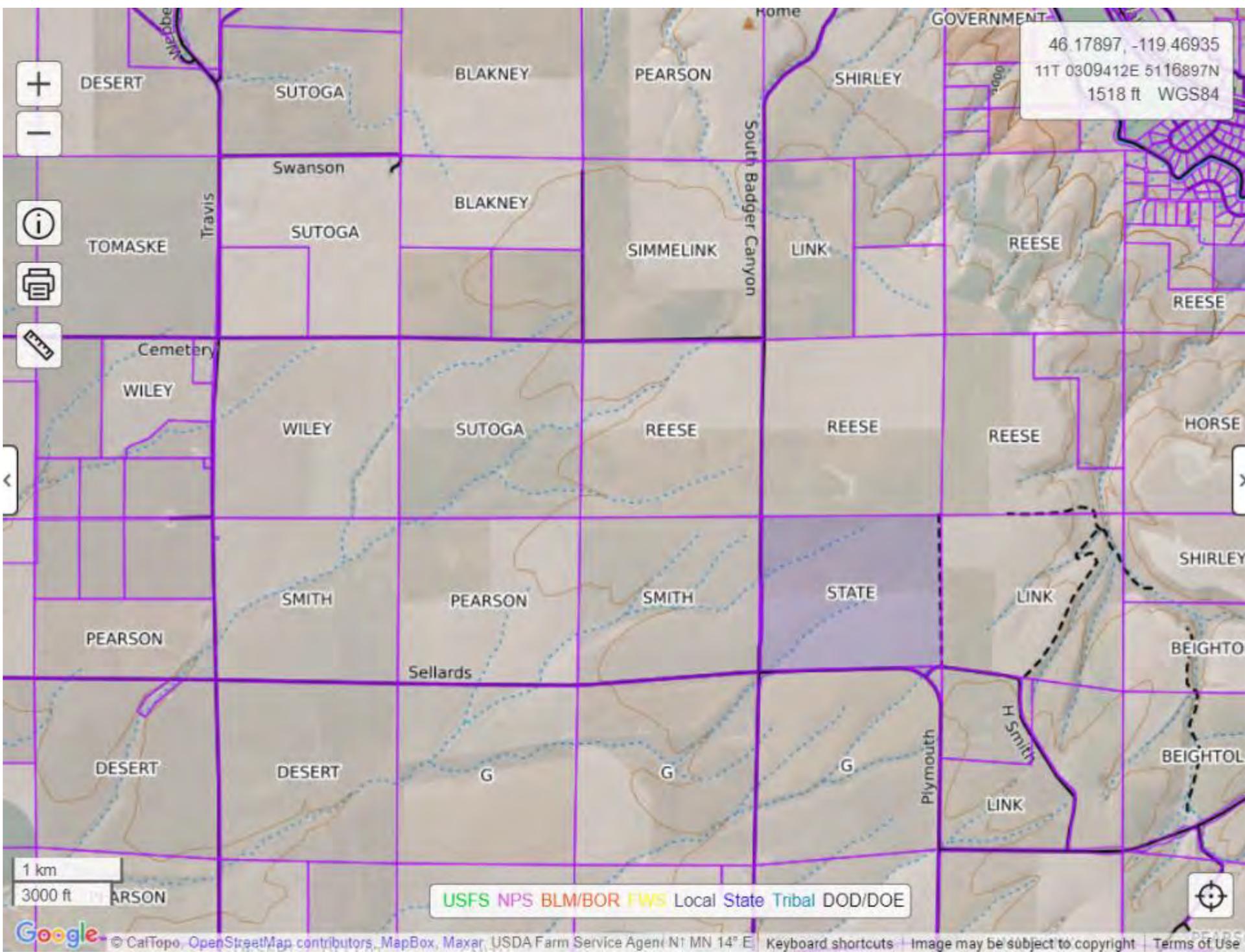


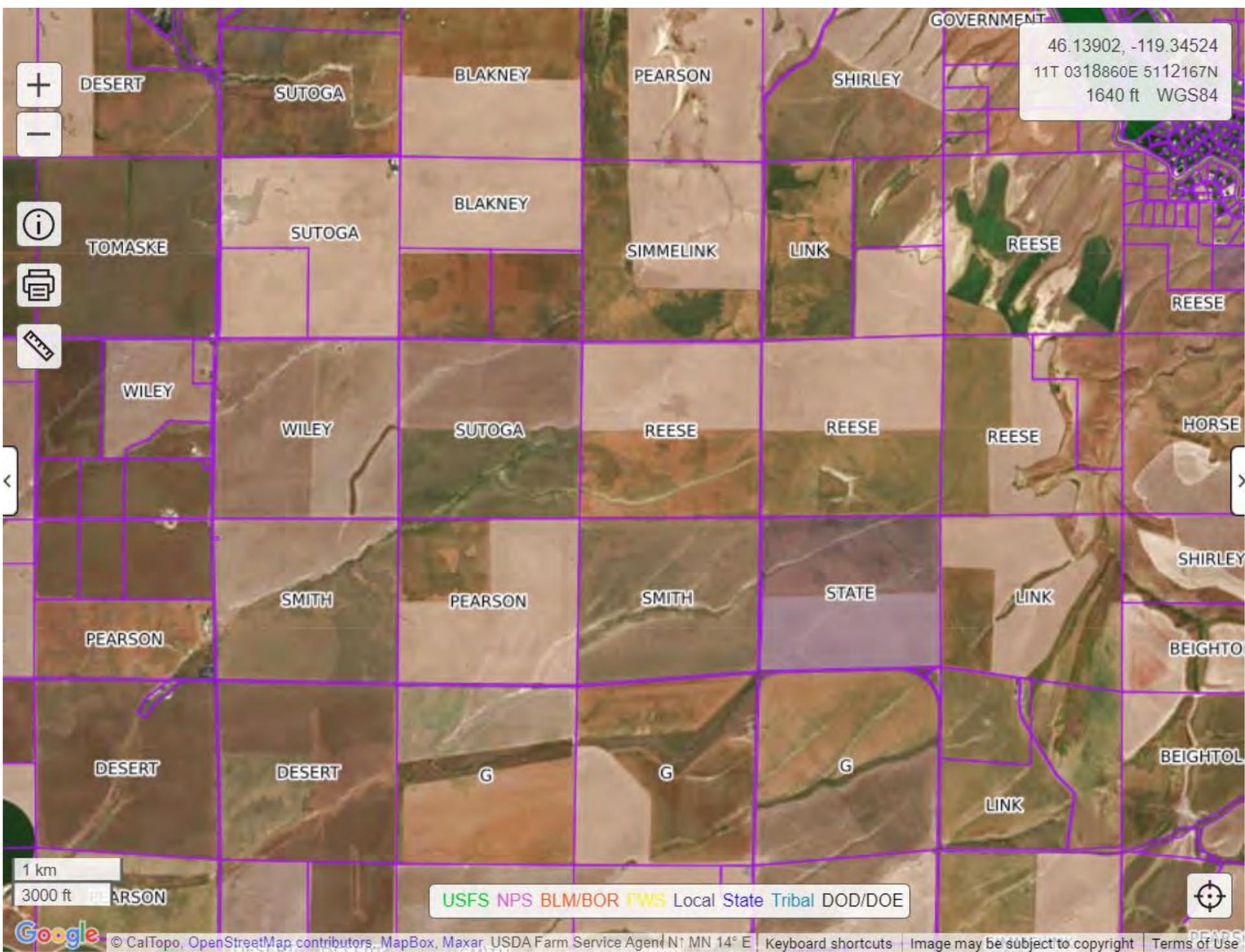


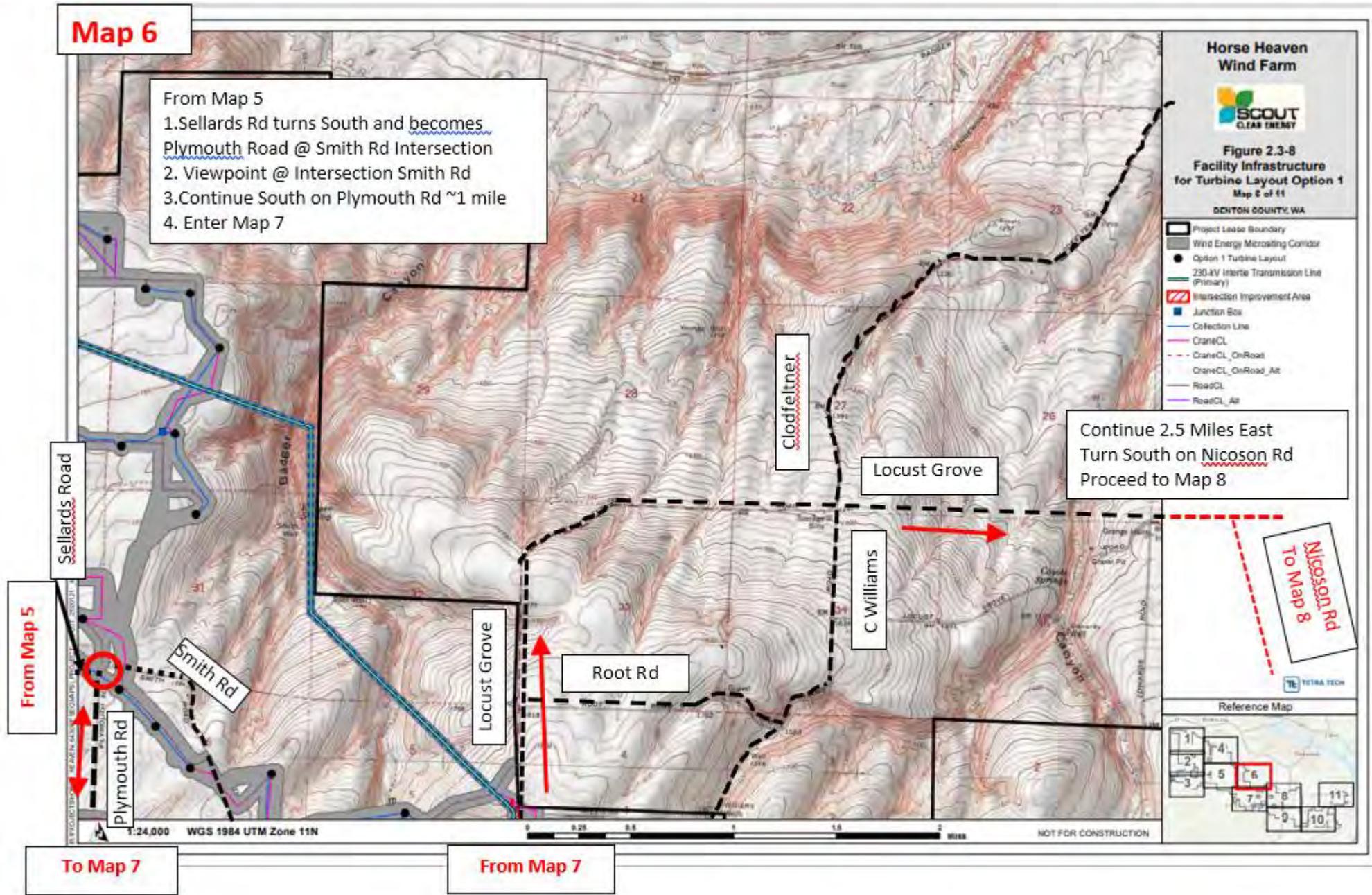
County Road - - - -

Viewpoint Option ○



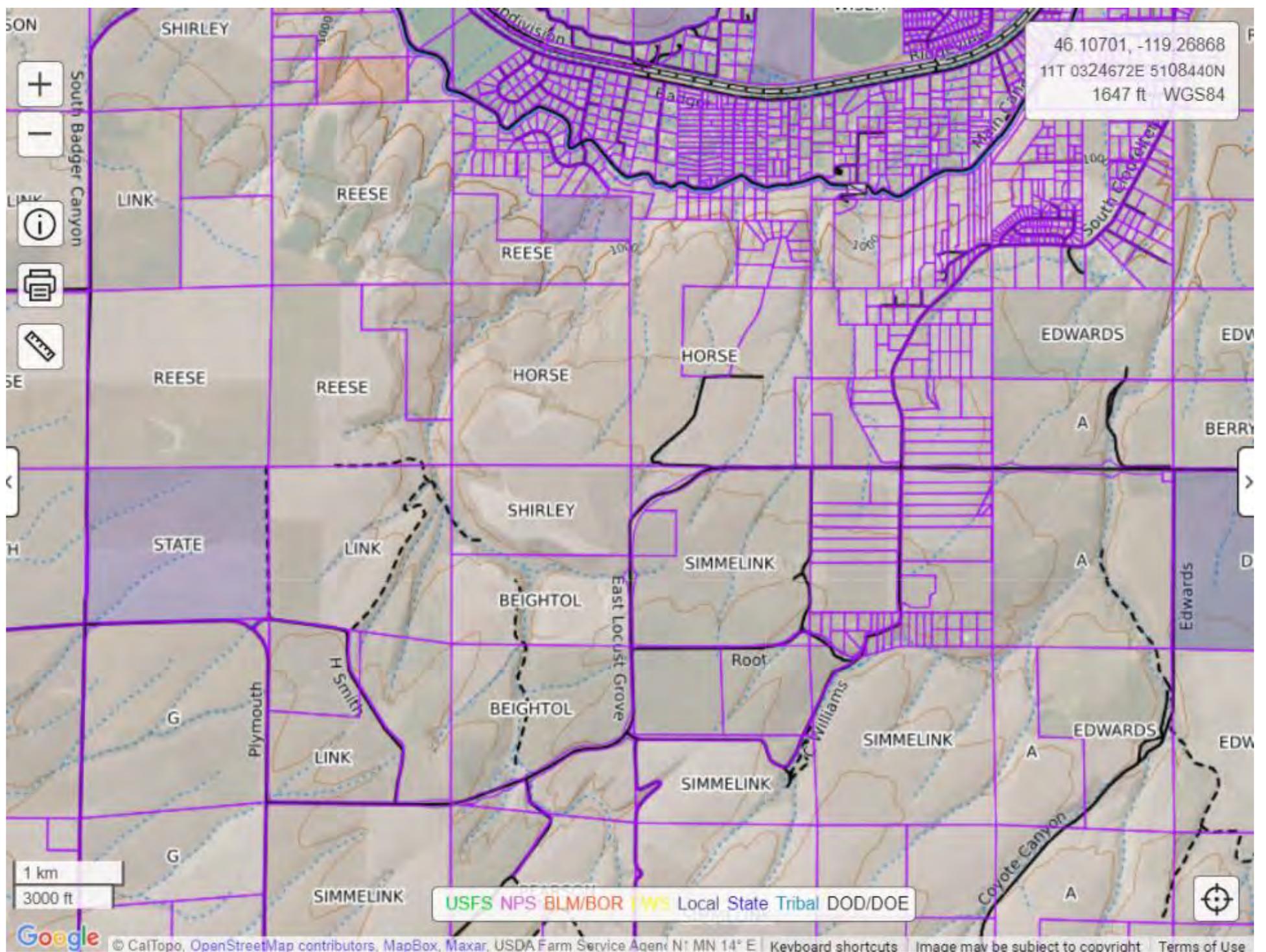


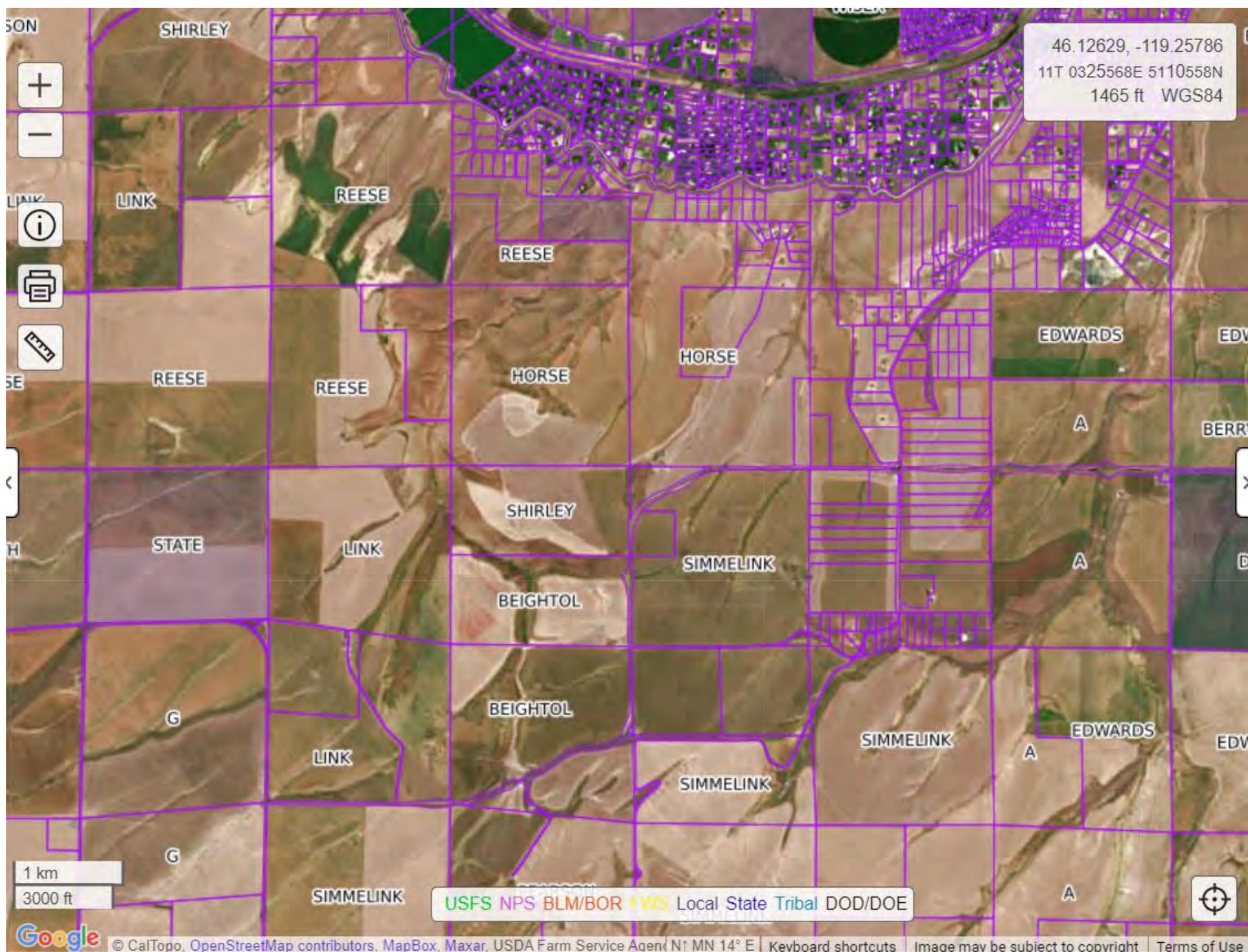


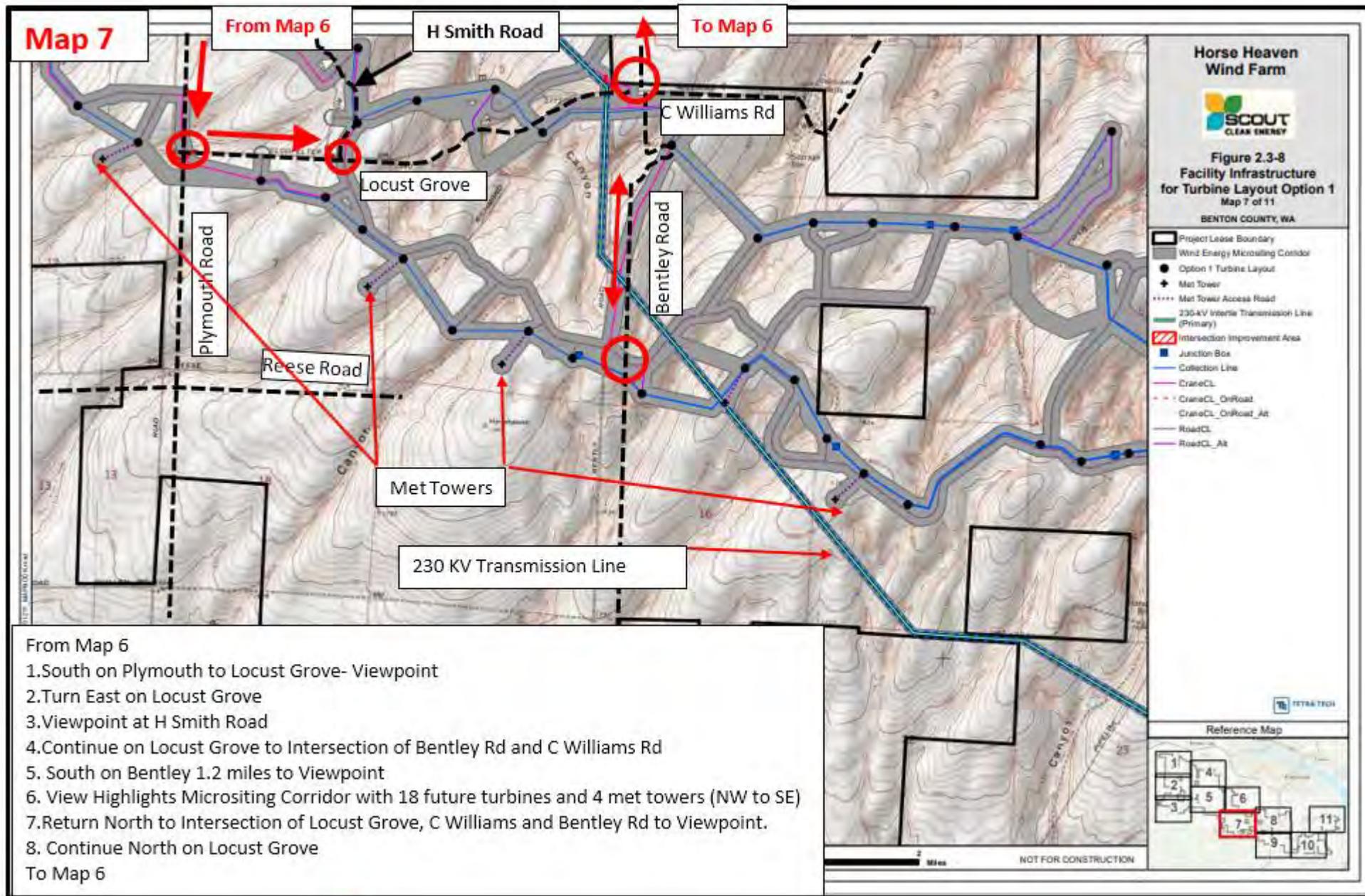


Road      - - - - -  
 Viewpoint      ○



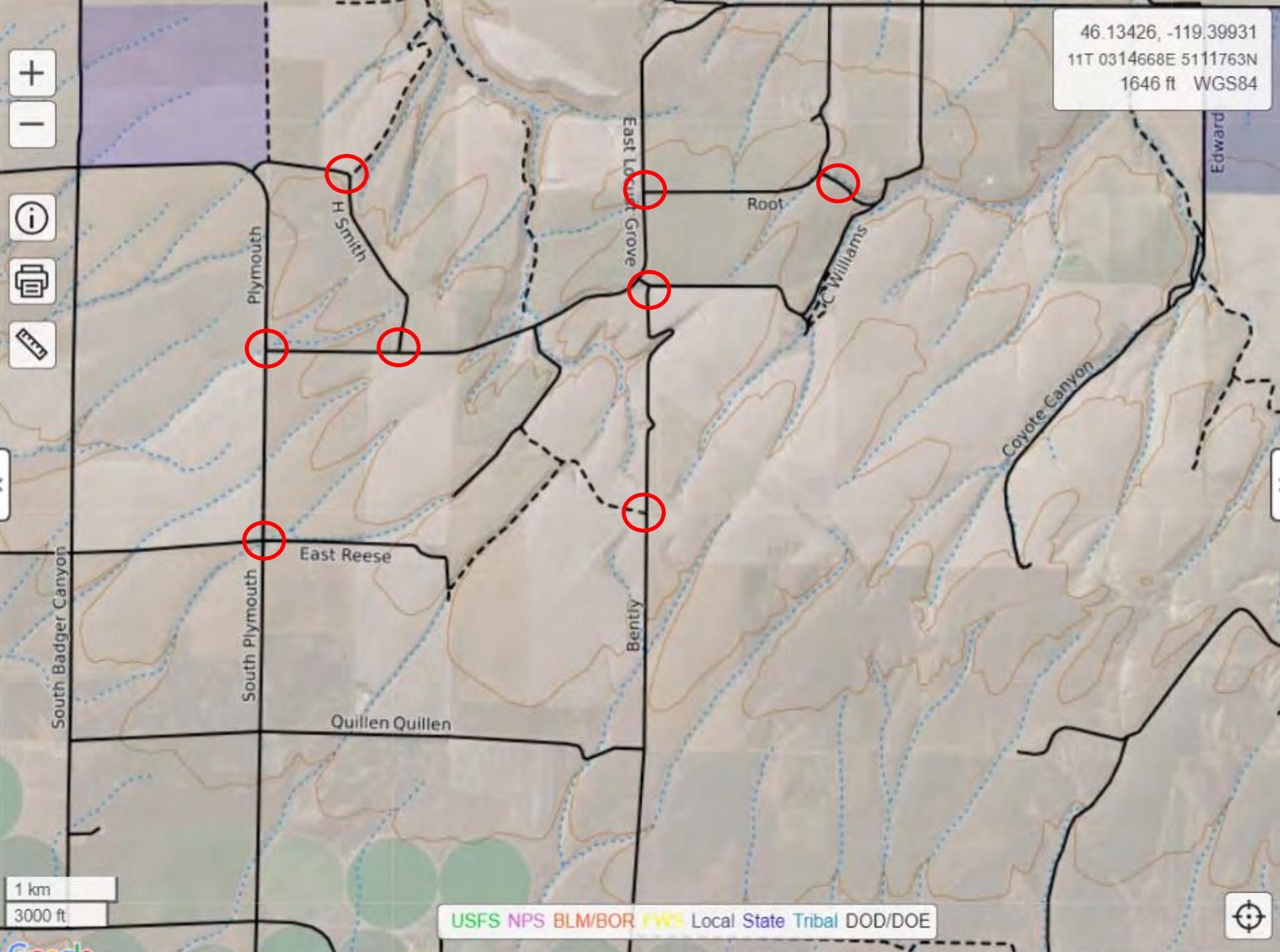
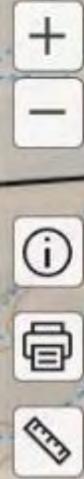






Road - - - - - Viewpoint ○

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1646 ft WGS84

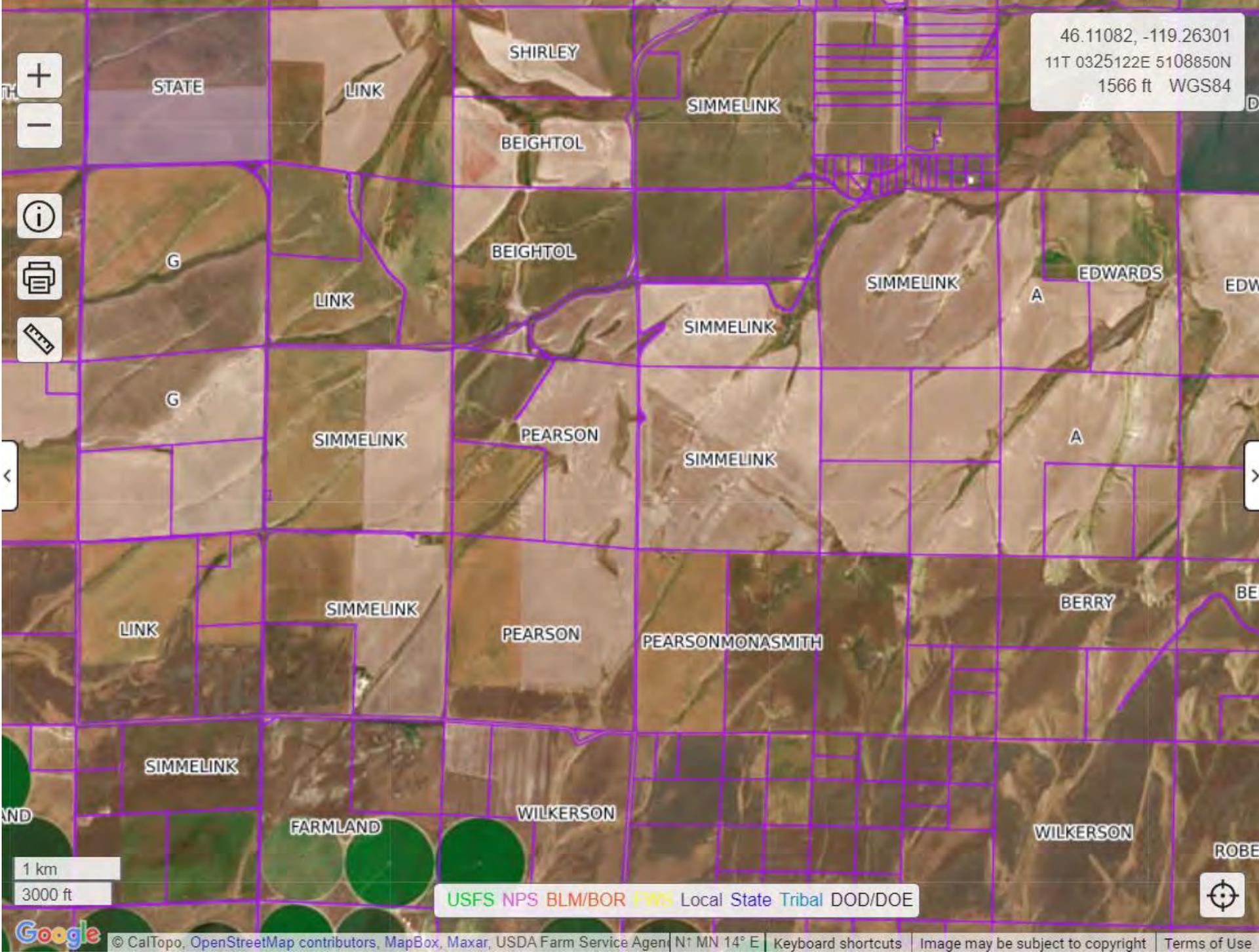


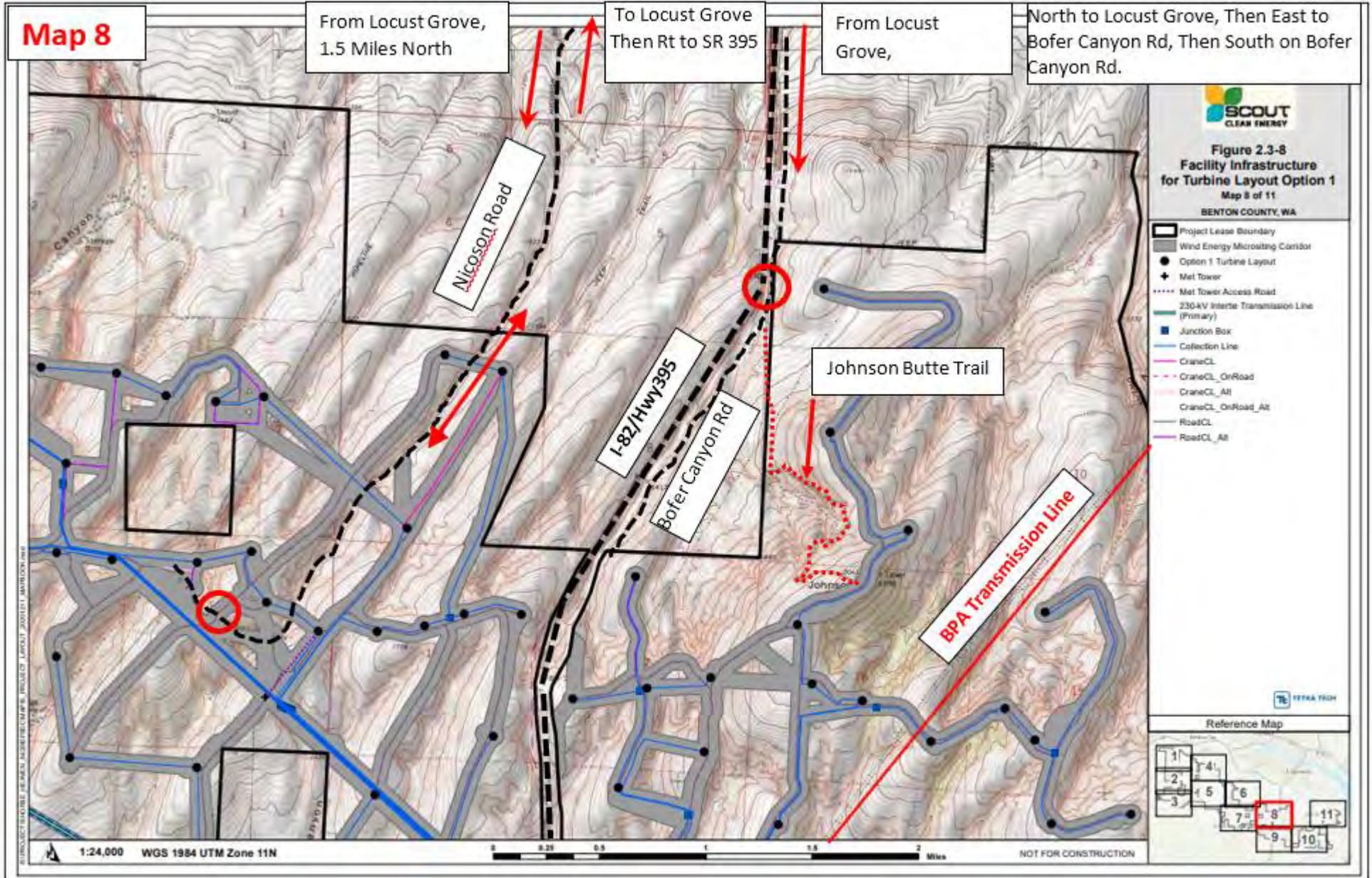
1 km  
3000 ft

USFS NPS BLM/BOR FWS Local State Tribal DOD/DOE



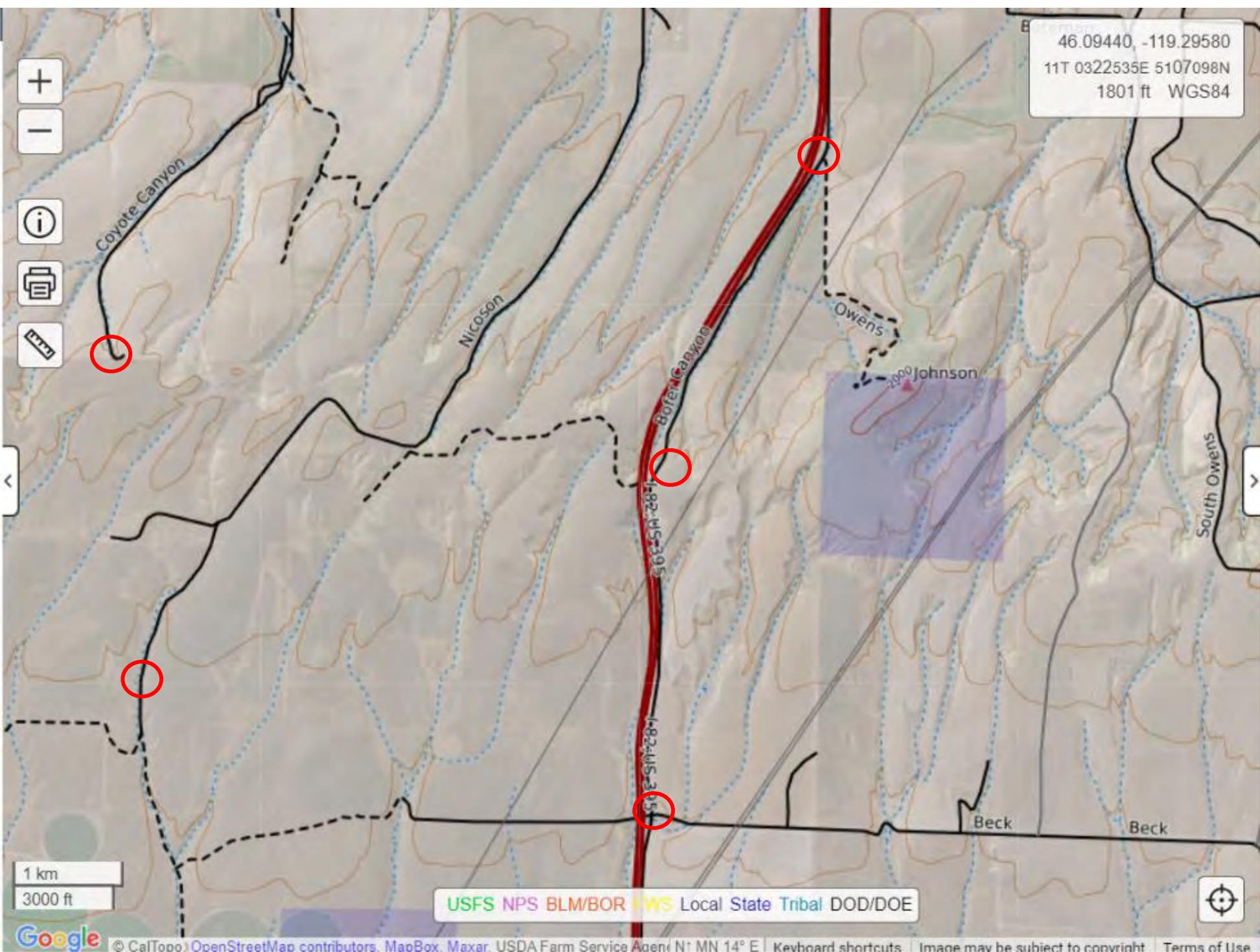


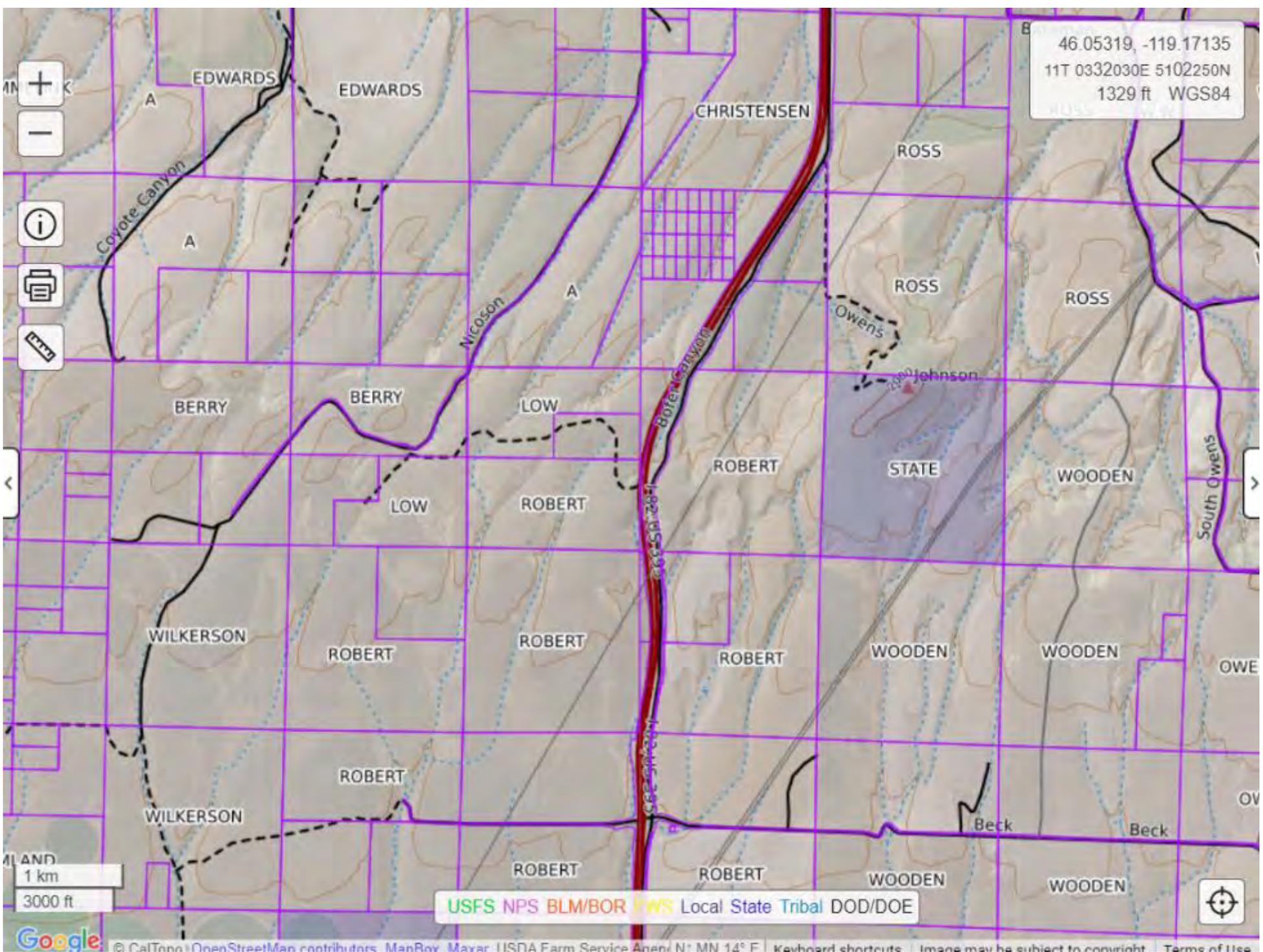




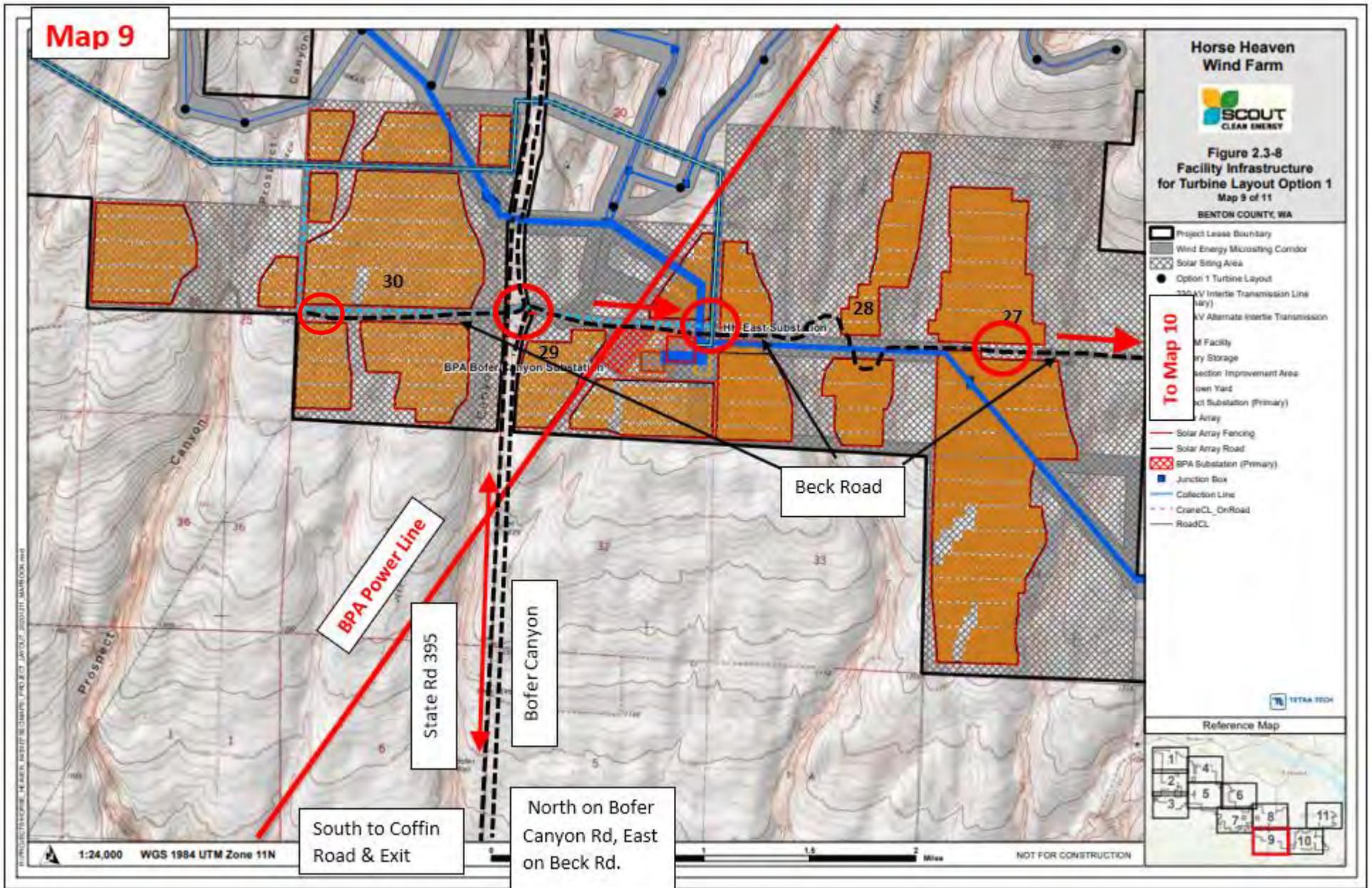
Road- 

Viewpoint 



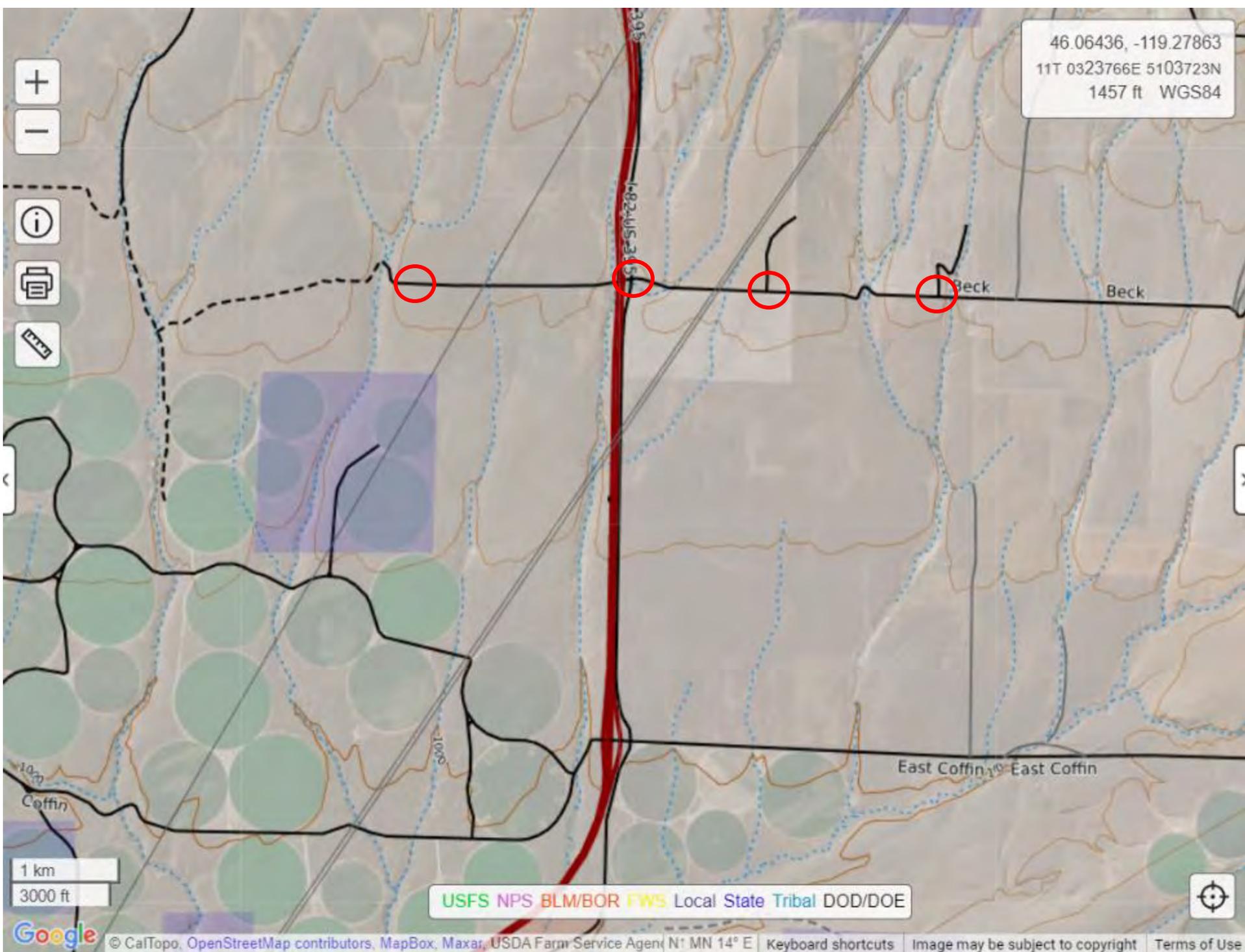




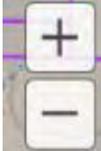


Road 

Viewpoint 



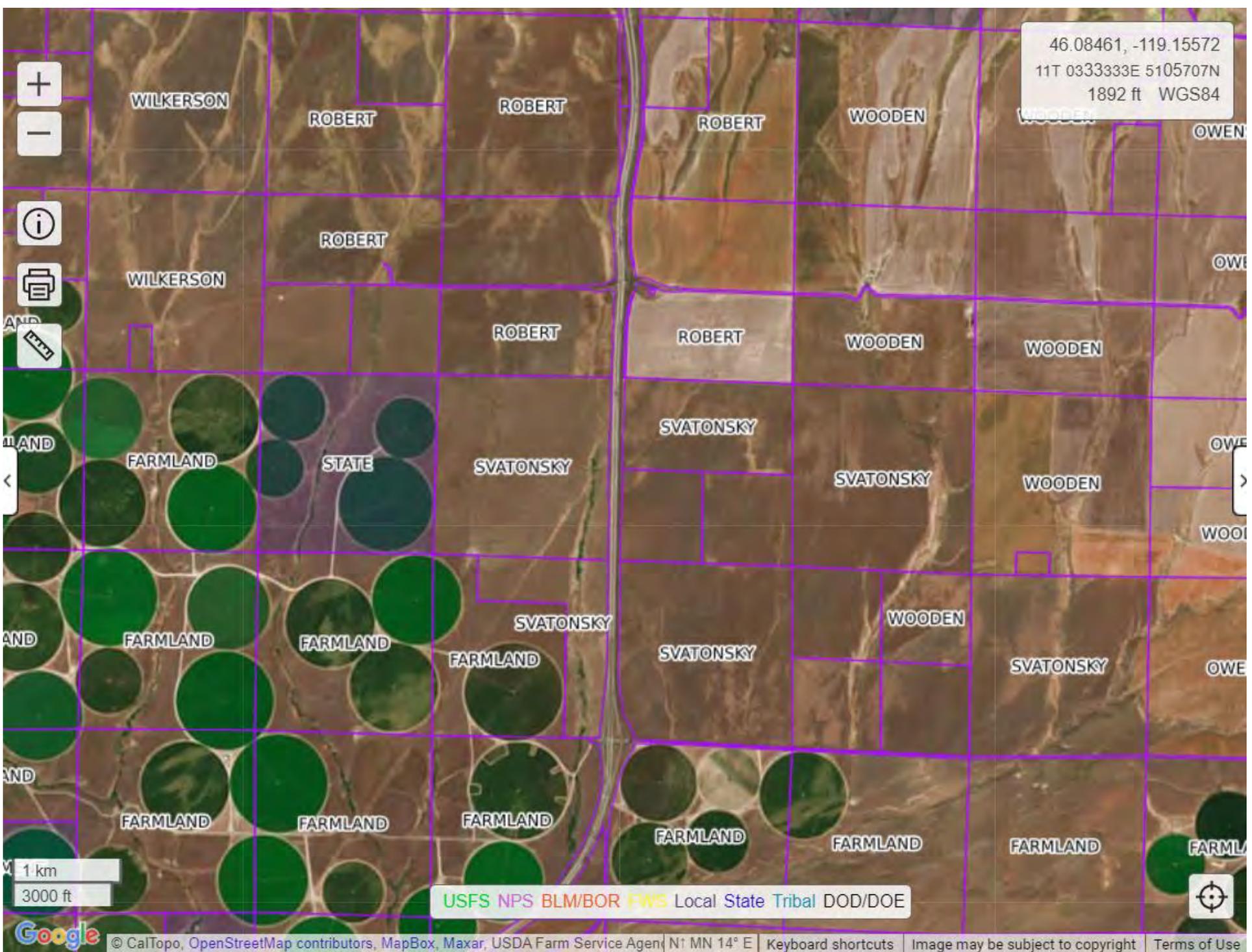
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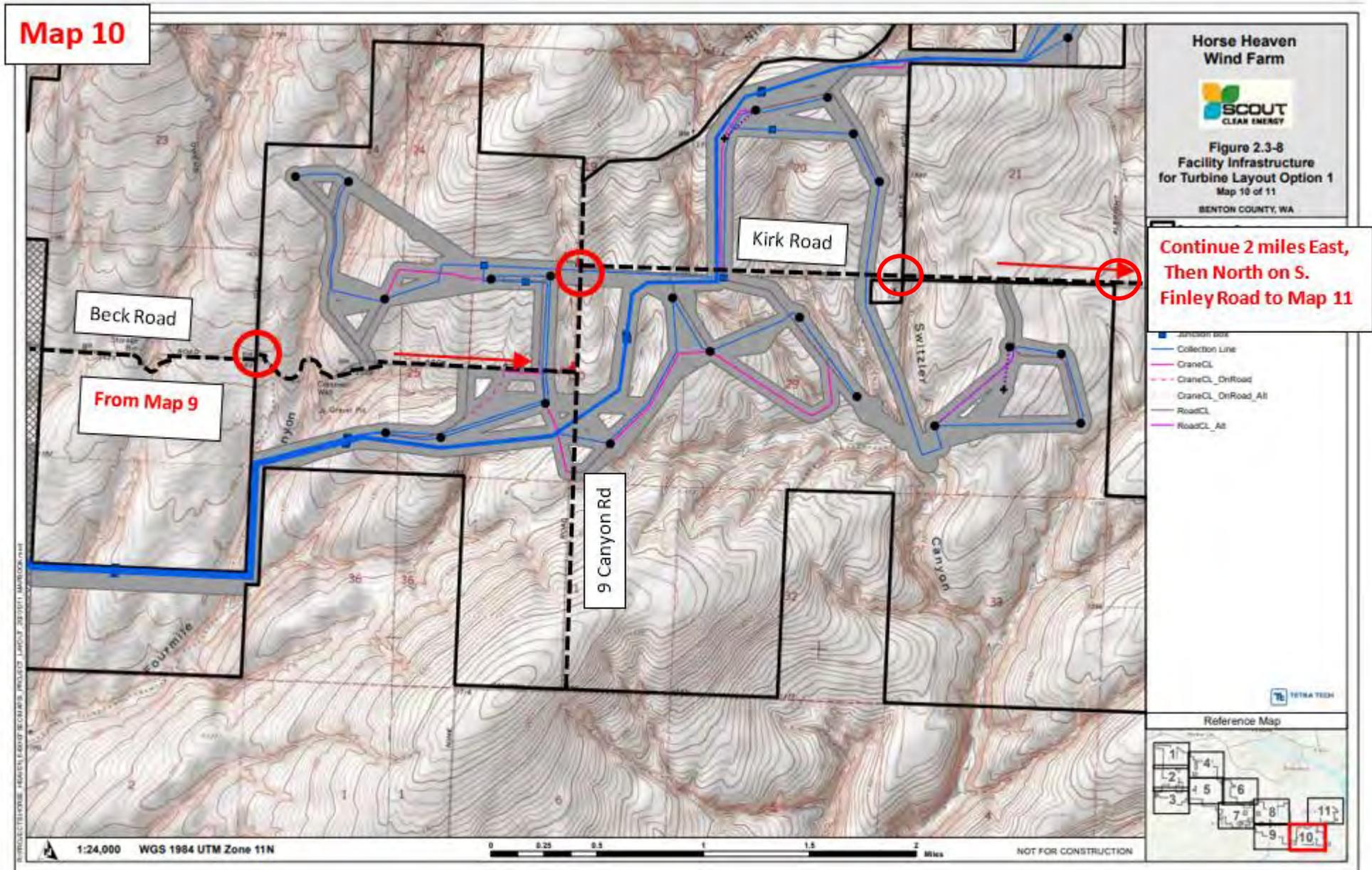


1 km  
3000 ft

USFS NPS BLM/BOR FWS Local State Tribal DOD/DOE

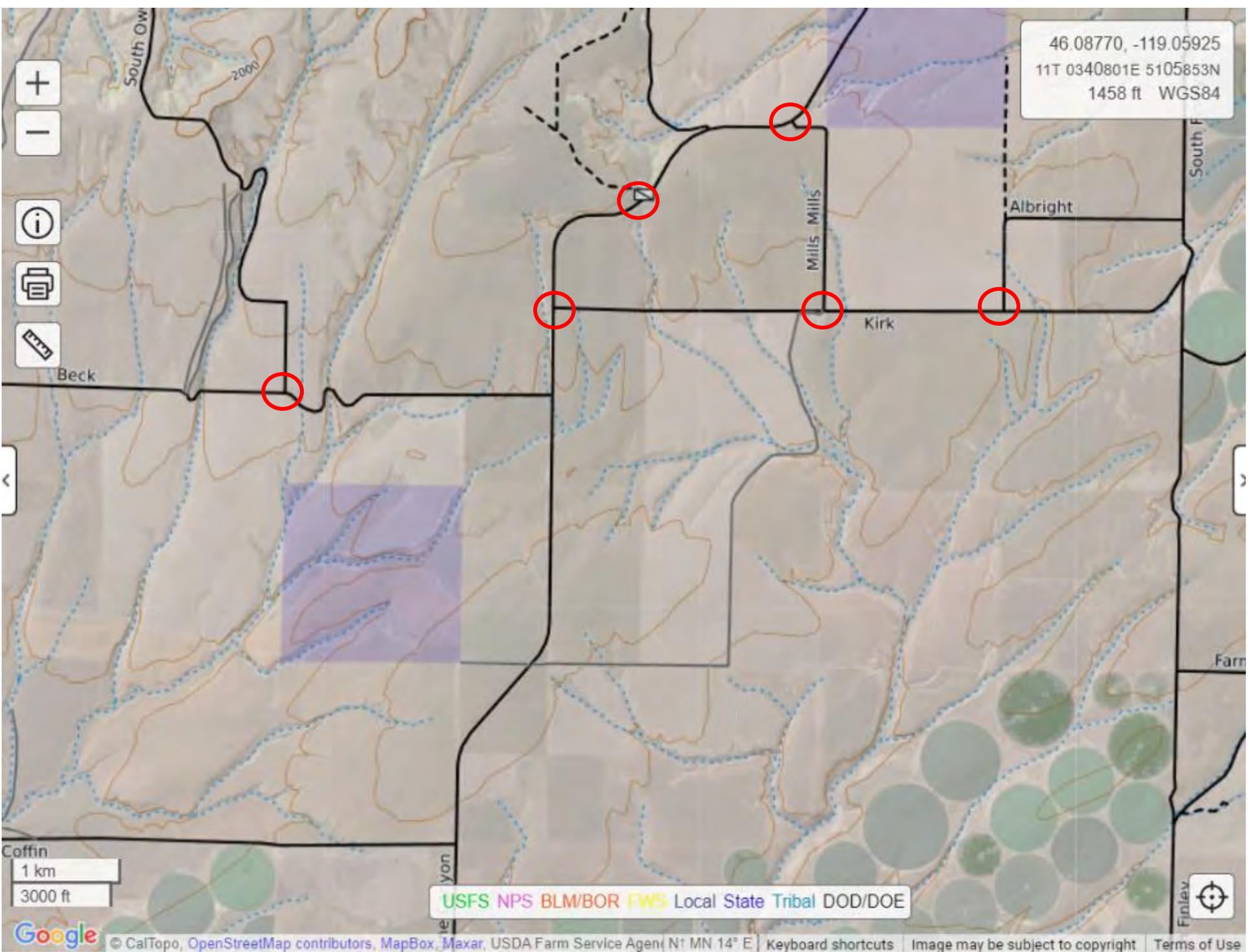


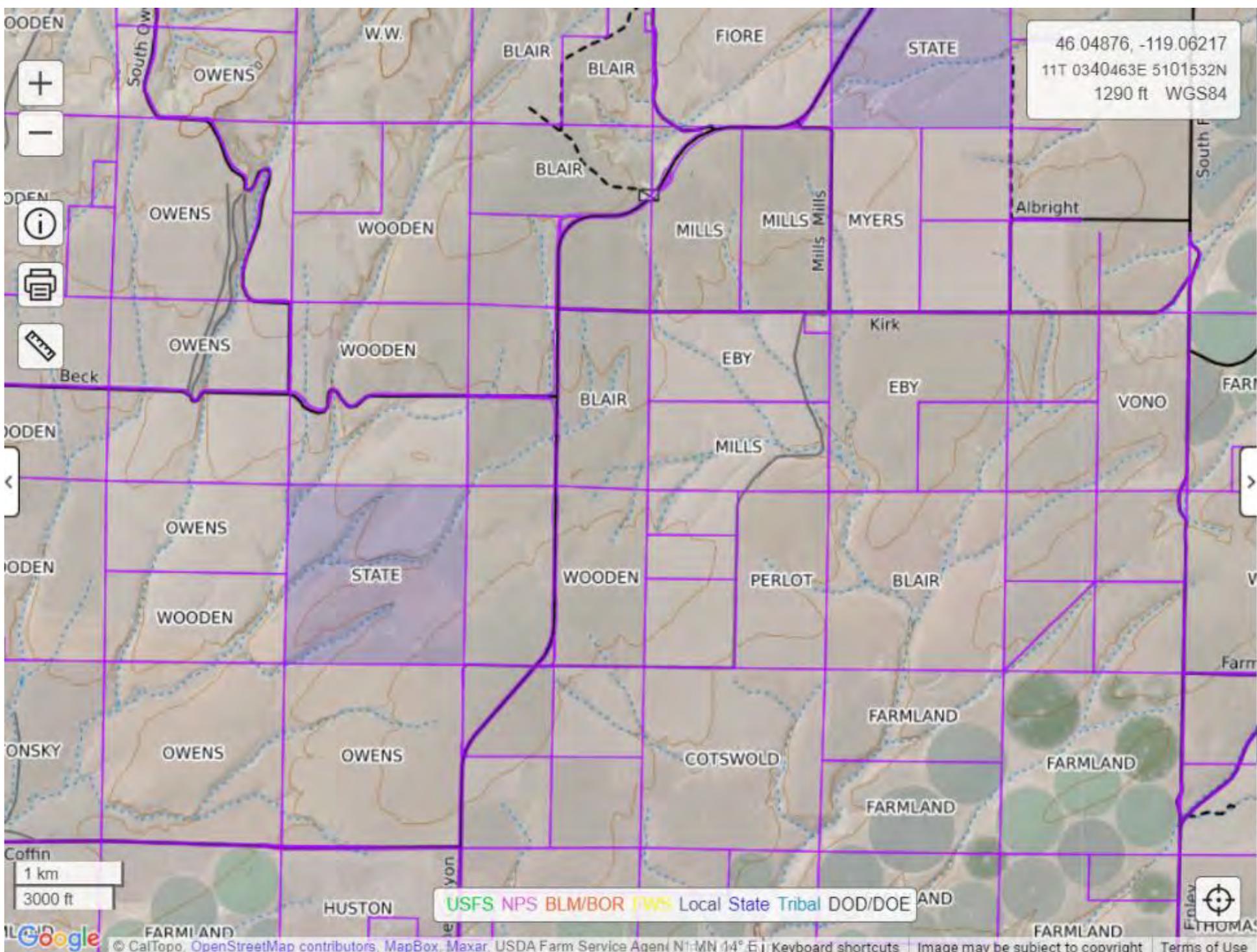




Road 

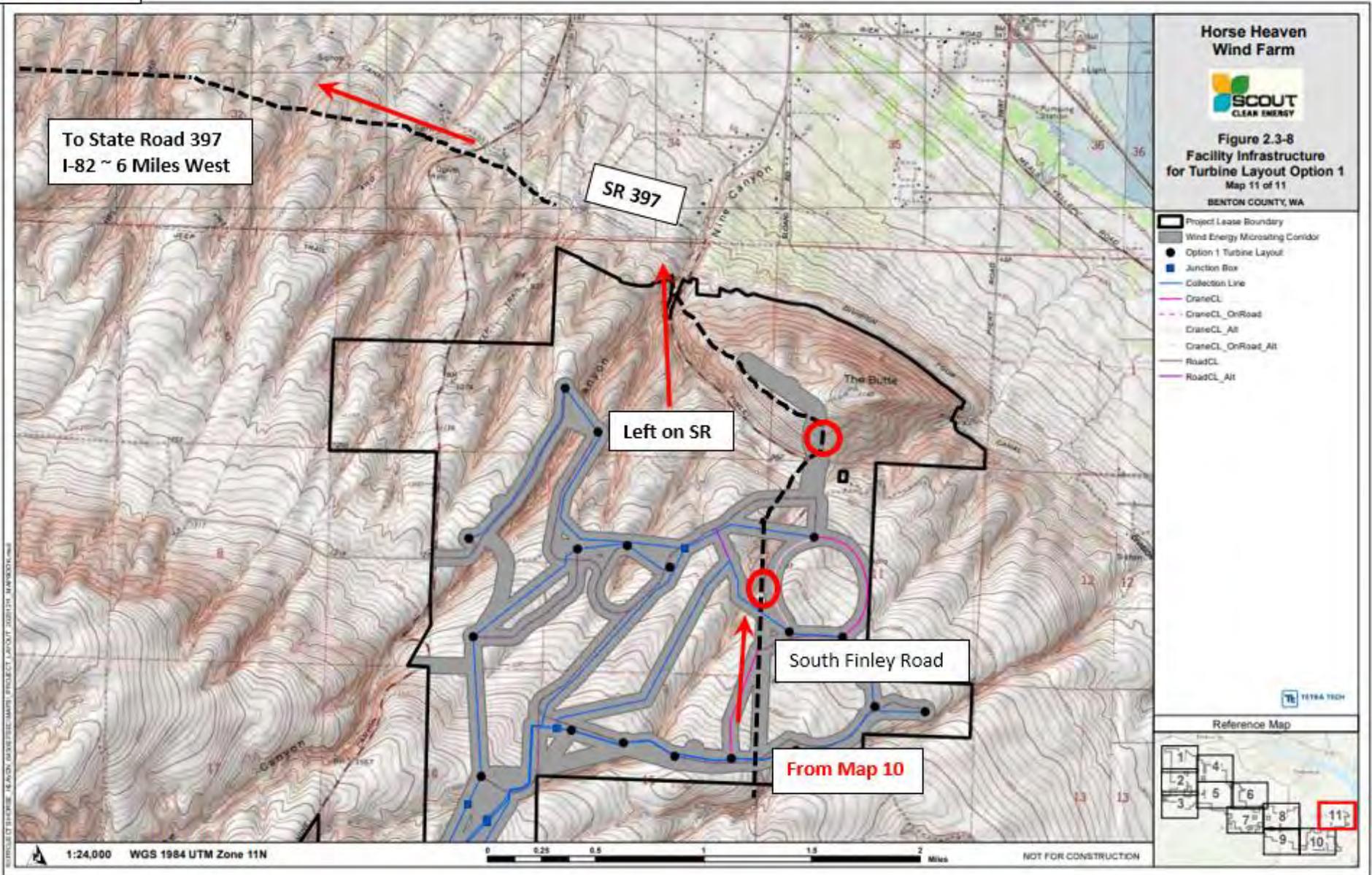
Viewpoint 

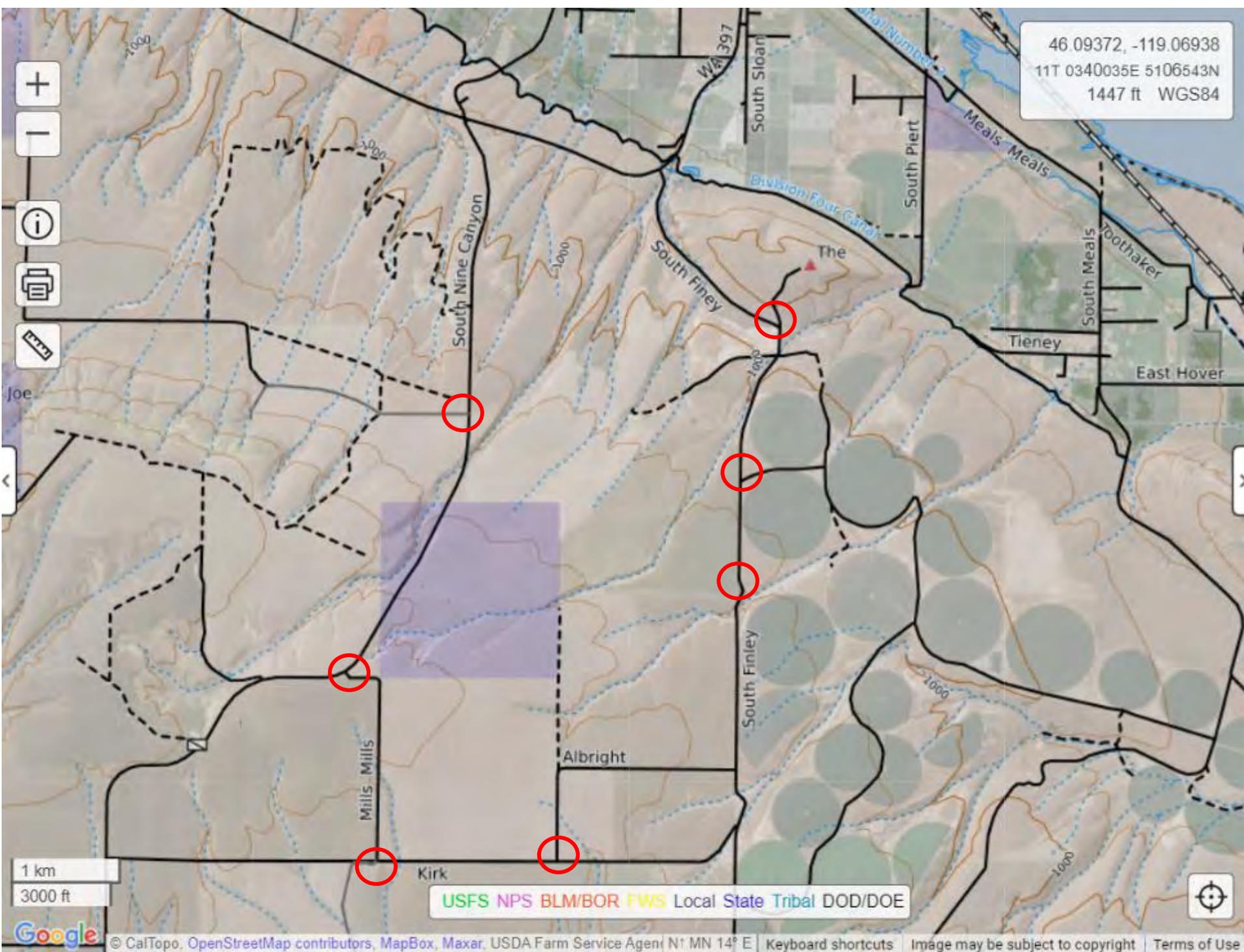


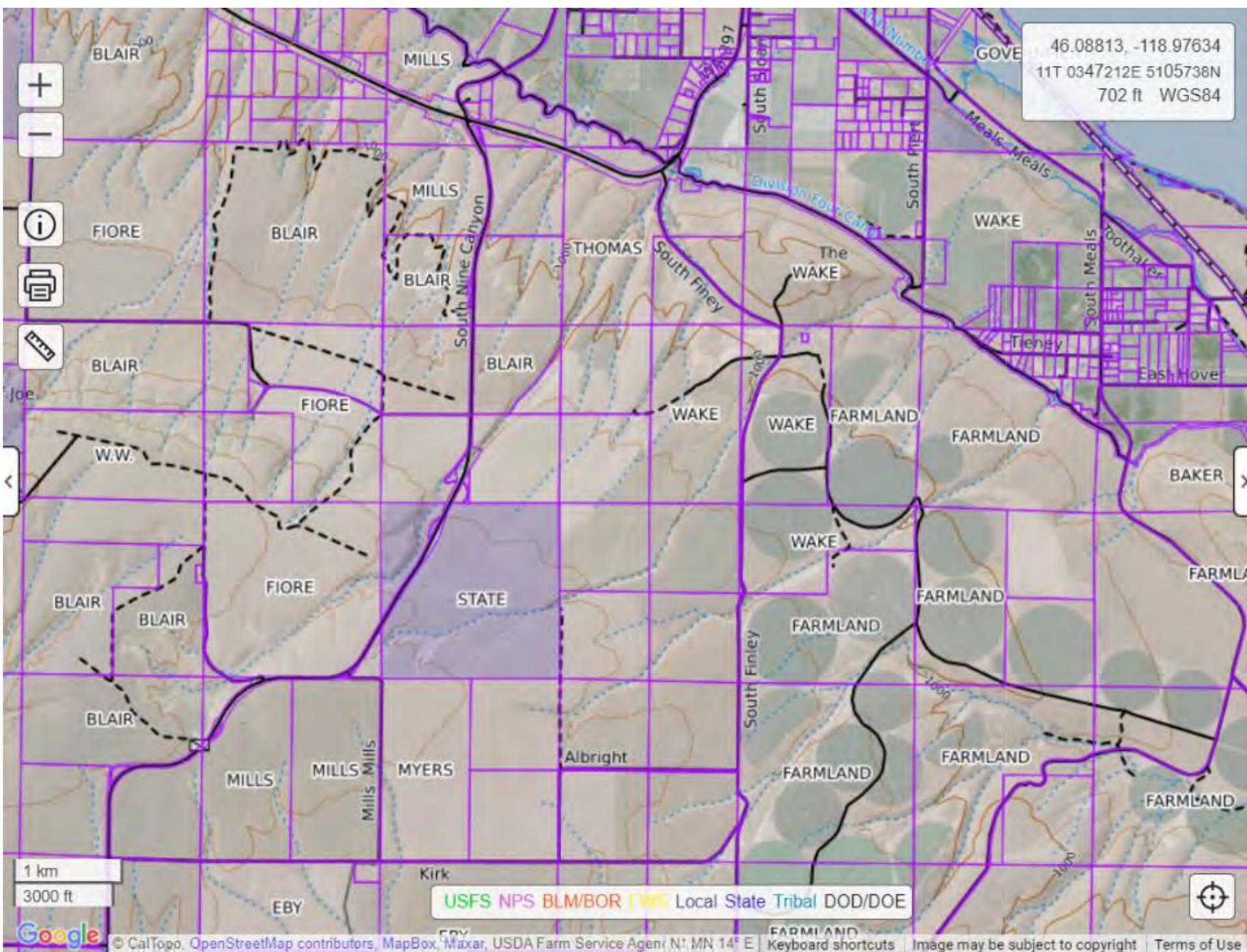


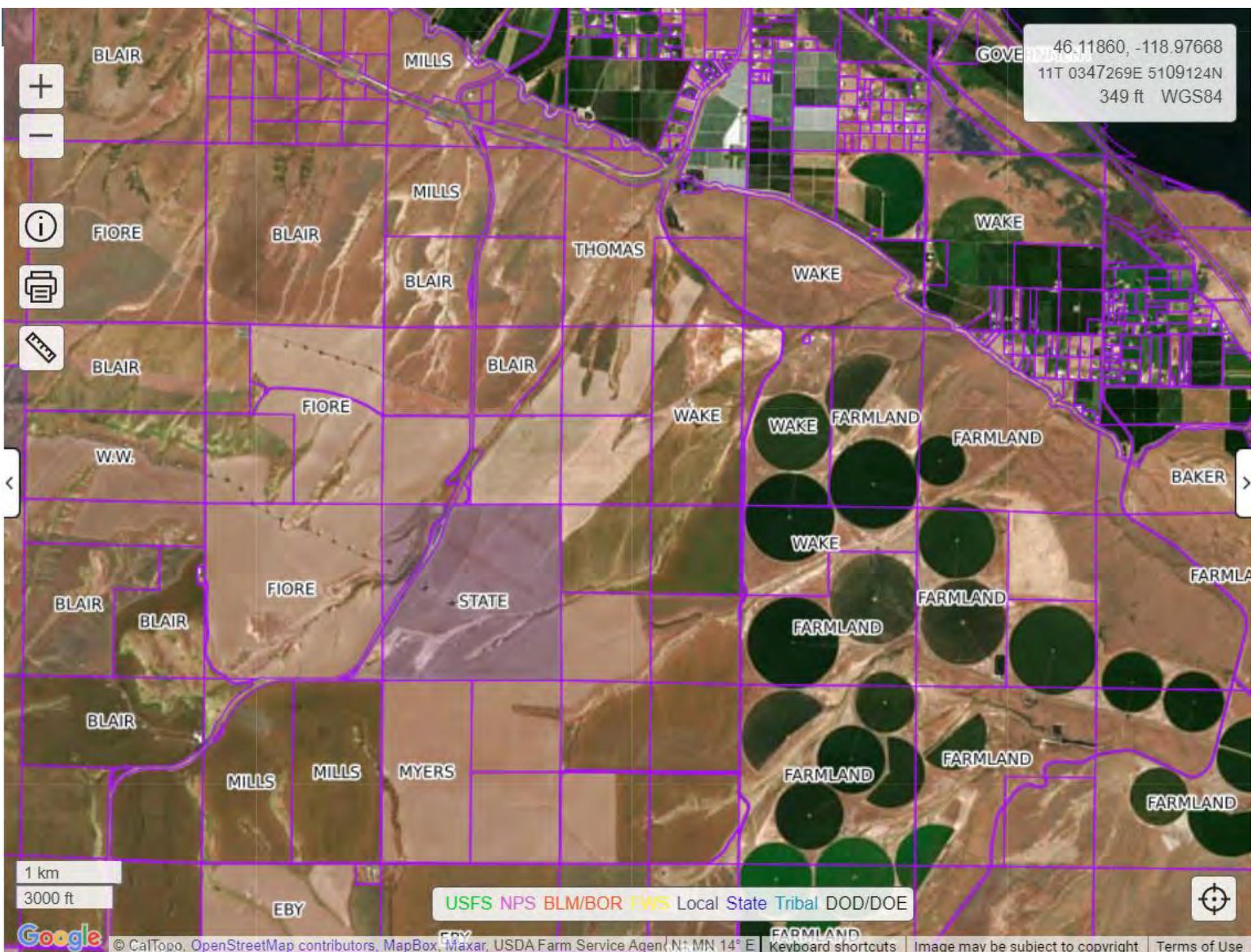


**Map 11**









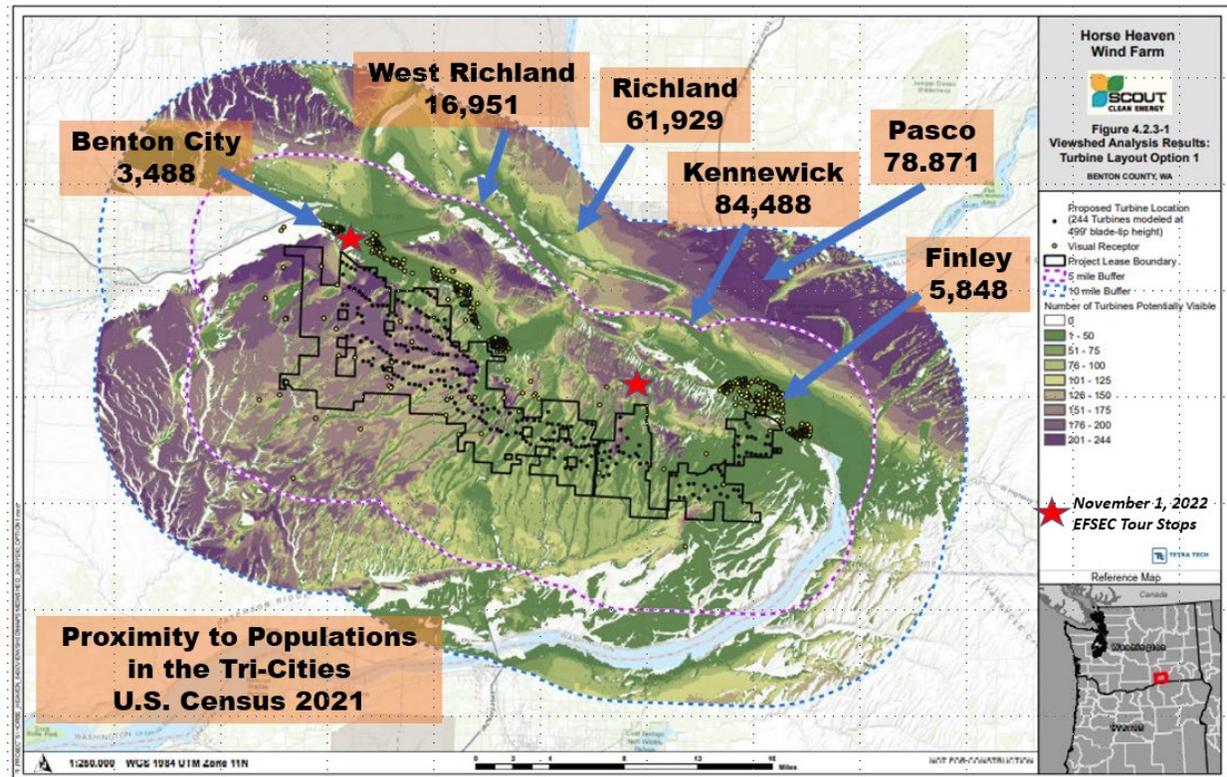
**From:** Paul Krupin  
**To:** EFSEC (EFSEC)  
**Subject:** Horse Heaven Hills Wind - Proximity to Populations in Tri-Cities  
**Date:** Friday, October 28, 2022 8:17:41 AM  
**Attachments:** image002.png  
image003.png  
image004.png

External Email

To provide some perspective for the EFSEC tour of the Horse heaven Hills project on November 1, 2022, Dave Spark and I prepared a data table and a graphic comparing the wind projects in the state of Washington to the nearby communities and associated populations of people in the Tri-Cities.

Using the data from the U.S. Census 2021, we identified the populations of the towns nearest the Horse Heaven Hills Wind Project on the Viewscope Analysis Results Graphic prepared by the Applicant and included in the Permit Application submitted to EFSEC. The graphic does not include the boundaries of the city limits for each town. The population data for the Tri-Cities was not included in the Permit Application. The Blue arrows point to the approximate locations of the centers of each town.

The red stars show the locations of the planned stops for the EFSEC tour on November 1, at the BLM Recreation Kiosk in Benton City and Jump Off Joe Road, along Highway 397 south of Kennewick.



Here is a table with the Census Data for the state and for the affected towns near the Horse Heaven Hills Project.

**Horse Heaven Wind Project - Proximity to Populations in the Tri-Cities**

Project Name/Area	Sorted by Distance from Community		
	Community Data		
	Community	Dist-Miles	Population
Horse Heaven - Finley	Finley	0.5	5,858
Horse Heaven - Mcbee	Benton City	1.3	3,488
Horse Heaven - Weber Canyon Badger	Kennewick	1.0/3.1	84,488
Horse Heaven - Weber Canyon Badger	Richland	3.1	61,929
Horse Heaven - Weber Canyon Badger	West Richland	4.5	16,951
Horse Heaven - Finley	Burbank	5.0	3,522
Horse Heaven - 395 - Finley	Pasco	8.1	78,871
Horse Heaven - McBee	West Pasco	8.3	1,592

Horse Heaven - McBee	Prosser	10.6	6,106
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Tri-Cities Total with rural population 308,293  
 Benton County Adjacent Community Population 172,714  
 Franklin County Adjacent Community Population 83,985

Wind Turbine Data from National Wind Turbine Data Base  
 Population data from the U.S. Census 2021  
 Distances Measured from Map-Approximate

## Washington State Wind Projects-Proximity to Population

Sorted by Distance from Community

Wind Project Data						Community Data		
Project Name	# Turbines	Turbine Size-MW	Total Height-ft	Hub Height-Ft	Capacity-MW	Closest Community	Dist-Miles	Population
HH Option 1	244	2.82	499	262	737	Finley/Benton C/Kenn	0.5/1.3/3.1	93,834
HH Option 2	150	5.5	671	410	825	Finley/Benton C/Kenn	0.5/1.3/3.1	93,834
Nine Mile Canyon	63	1.3/2.3	299/415	197	96	Finley-Note 2	1.8	6,000
Linden, WA-Note 3	25	2	409	257	50	Goldendale	4.5	3,459
Stateline WA Portion	454	0.4	241	164	181.6	Finley	6.2	357
Windy Point	175	2.3	414	262	402.5	Goldendale	7.0	3,459
Swauk Valley	5	0.8	276	180	4	Cle Elem	9.4	2,115
Kittitas Valley	48	2.1	407	262	100.8	Cle Elem	10.6	2,115
Rattlesnake Flat	58	2.7	497	262	156.6	Ritzville	12.5	1,680
Palouse Project	64	2	427	262	128	Colfax	12.5	2,891
Skookum Chuk	38	3.6	492	269	136.8	Bucoda	12.5	668
Goodnoe Hills	47	2.2	459	279	103.4	Goldendale	21.0	3,459
White Creek	87	2.3	415	262	204.7	Goldendale	22.0	3,459
Wild Horse	127	1.8	351	262	228.6	Ellensburg	25.0	21,579
Wild Horse	22	2	351	144	272.6	Ellensburg	24.0	21,579
Hopkins Ridge	87	1.8	351	220	156.6	Colfax	25.0	2,891
Marengo	78	1.8	384	220	140.4	Walla Walla	25.0	32,793
Tucannon	116	2.3	440	262	266.8	Walla Walla	25.0	32,793
Lower Snake River	119	2.3	428	262	273.7	Colfax	25.0	2,891
Vantage Pt	60	1.5	389	262	90	Ellensburg	26.3	21,579
Big Horn	133	1.5	389	262	199.5	Prosser/Goldendale	28.1	6,202
Big Horn	24	2	404	262	50	Prosser/Goldendale	28.1	6,202
Juniper Canyon	64	2.4	418	262	153.6	Prosser/Goldendale	28.1	6,202
Harvest	45	2.3	415	262	103.5	Goldendale	30.0	3,459

Wind Turbine Data from National Wind Turbine Data Base  
 Population data from the U.S. Census 2021  
 Distances Measured from Map-Approximate

Appreciatively,

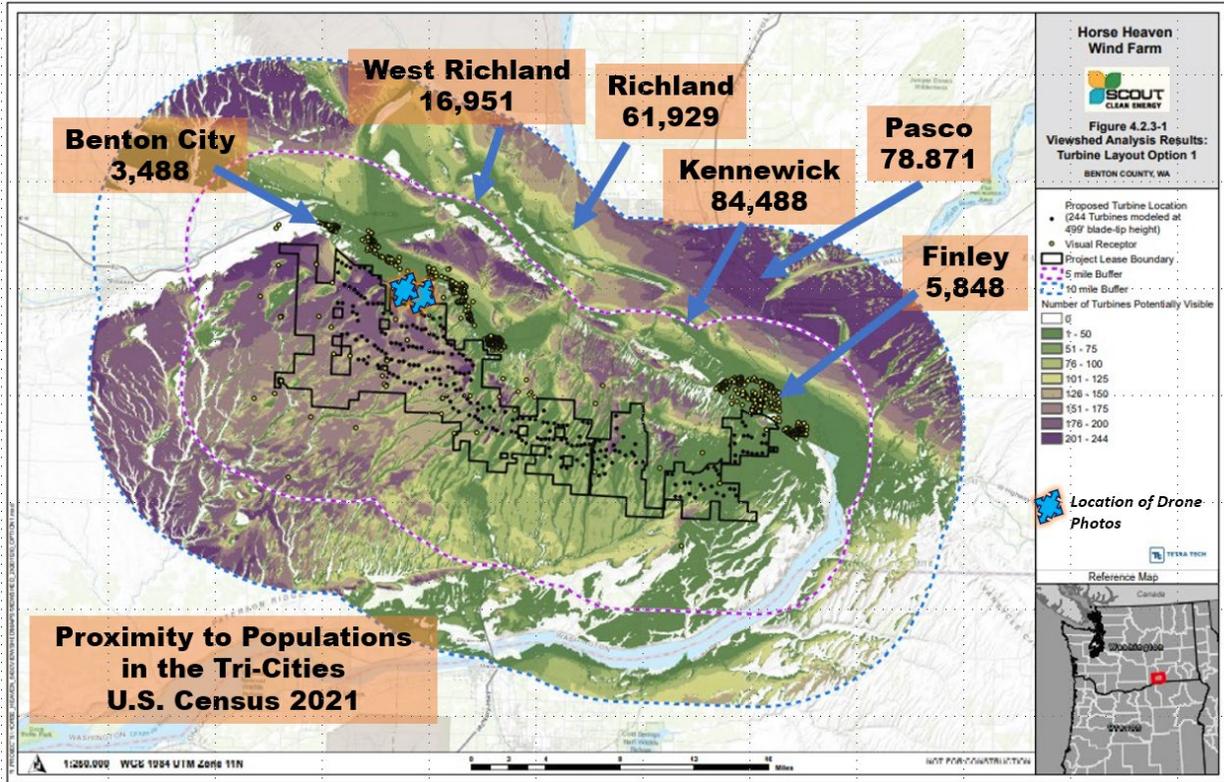
Paul Krupin, BA MS JD  
 509-531-8390 cell 509-582-5174 landline [Paul@Presari.com](mailto:Paul@Presari.com)

From: Paul Krupin  
To: EFSEC (EFSEC)  
Subject: Horse Heaven Hills Wind Project - Drone Photos showing the Proximity to Populations in Tri-Cities  
Date: Friday, October 28, 2022 8:48:28 AM  
Attachments: image005.png  
image002.png  
image004.png  
image009.png  
image010.png

External Email

To provide some perspective for the EFSEC tour of the Horse Heaven Hills project on November 1, 2022,

The blue quad stars show the locations of the drone photos provided below. The drone photos were taken last week on October 24, 2022. The drone is 500 feet above the ground at proposed turbine locations off Dennis Road and Weber Canyon. Provides perspective and insight into the question “who will be able to see the wind turbines?”. Drone Photo Credit to Bruce Bjornstad, Richland Washington.



Drone photo looks NW towards Benton City and Prosser.



Drone photo looks northeast towards West Richland, Richland, and Kennewick.

Appreciatively,

Paul Krupin, BA MS JD  
509-531-8390 cell 509-582-5174 landline [Paul@Presari.com](mailto:Paul@Presari.com)

**From:** [Mike Minelli](#)  
**To:** [EFSEC \(EFSEC\)](#)  
**Subject:** Public Comment Period for Horse Heaven  
**Date:** Monday, October 31, 2022 10:58:49 PM

---

External Email

November 19, 2022

Dear Director Bumpus,

Thank You for taking my call last Friday. I had many questions about the siting process for the Horse Heaven Wind and Solar Project. Your responses were most helpful.

One of the topics we discussed was the date that the DEIS would be made public. We also discussed the 30 days of public comment. My understanding was the release to be about Nov. 22, 23 or 24<sup>th</sup>. I'm concerned with the comment period relative to the overlap of major holidays. Using 30 calendar days a Nov. 22,23 or 24 EIS release would fall on (or +/-) Christmas Eve. Using 30 work days five holidays will be affected: Thanksgiving, Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, New Years Eve. And New Years day. Also there are 2 State Days Off. In addition Hanukkah begins on Dec. 18 and ends on Dec. 26<sup>th</sup>. The end of the 30 days will fall on Jan. 10. We know the Holidays can be hectic with travel, family gatherings, meals, church time etc. The period between Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Years and Hanukkah is often time off for many and likely EFSEC staff.

Most would agree that the 30 days of public comment during this time of the year will significantly limit a full public response. The total collective population of the towns and cities located at the base of the Horse Heaven Hills is comparatively large. The cities of Kennewick, Richland, Pasco, West Richland, Benton City, Finley and Burbank totals 261, 383 people according to the 2022 census. This compares to 233,003 for Spokane which is the state's second largest city.

I believe it would be in EFSEC's best interest to welcome and encourage as much comment and input as possible from the people most affected. The combination of a very large windfarm project in close proximity to a large population could attract national attention and negatively affect future green energy projects statewide especially in Benton and Franklin counties. I am suggesting that the public comment period begin around January 2 and run for the required 30 day period. This will give a clean and uninterrupted period for a full and transparent response. Although the 15 additional days totaling 45 is appreciated it would include the major distractions and disjointed periods mentioned above.

Thank You Ms. Bumpus for your consideration in this matter. I look forward to talking with you again.

Sincerely,

Mike Minelli      Contact Info: [compari64@gmail.com](mailto:compari64@gmail.com) (509) 378 8775

**From:** [pam\\_minelli](#)  
**To:** [Bumpus, Sonia \(EFSEC\)](#); [Drew, Kathleen \(EFSEC\)](#); [EFSEC \(EFSEC\)](#)  
**Subject:** Local Input in HH wind Project  
**Date:** Wednesday, November 2, 2022 8:41:42 PM

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External Email

November 2, 2022

Dear Chair Drew, Director Bumpus and EFSEC Staff,

It is my understanding that the EFSEC process includes local input in the approval process of Washington State energy projects.

Currently EFSEC is reviewing Scout Energy's application for the gigantic HH Wind/Solar Project sited near over 300,000 residents of the Tri-Cities area. We locals wish to have a voice in the approval process for the HH Wind Project.

I would be most appreciative if you could provide answers to the following questions related to local input in this approval process:

1. Please provide the names of the voting representatives on the EFSEC Council for Benton County.

-When roll call is taken at the beginning of EFSEC monthly meetings, Ed Brost and Derek Sandison of the Department of Agriculture seem to be associated with the HH Project. When I ask Benton County officials, they know nothing about Mr. Sandison representing Benton County.

3. Is it true that Benton County officials and locals are forbidden to talk with Mr. Brost (our local rep on EFSEC) about the HH Wind Project?

4. According to the EFSEC monthly minutes, Ed Brost attended 7 of 10 meetings in 2022. In 2021, he attended EFSEC meeting on May 18 and November 16 only. Can EFSEC staff confirm that he's in good health and able to attend future meetings?

5. According to EFSEC monthly minutes, Derek Sandison has attended 6 of 10 monthly meetings in 2022. In 2021, he attended EFSEC meetings on July 20 and

May 18. Will Mr. Sandison be in attendance when upcoming votes and adjudication for the HH Wind Project are on the EFSEC agenda?

6. With the Chair appointed by the Governor and representatives from 5 state agencies comprising 6 votes, how many votes are permitted for local representatives on the Council?

In advance, thank you for your response.

Sincerely,

Pam Minelli  
16518 So Fairview Loop,  
Kennewick, WA 99338

pam\_minelli@hotmail.com

509-539-6788

**From:** [Coleman E, Kyle](#)  
**To:** [EFSEC \(EFSEC\)](#)  
**Subject:** Horse Heaven Hills Wind Farm  
**Date:** Thursday, November 3, 2022 8:51:28 AM

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External Email

Once a huge supporter of wind energy, I have completely reversed my opinion now that I am better educated on the poor efficiency of the source. Please scrap plans for the Horse Heaven Hills wind Farm and remove all wind machines in Washington State. It has become an embarrassment and abuse of land.

Kyle Coleman  
Kennewick, WA

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

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**From:** Dave Sharp <[davesharp.pe@gmail.com](mailto:davesharp.pe@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, November 3, 2022 9:01:36 AM  
**To:** Bumpus, Sonia (EFSEC) <[sonia.bumpus@efsec.wa.gov](mailto:sonia.bumpus@efsec.wa.gov)>  
**Subject:** Re: Horse Heaven Tour

External Email

In the spirit of full disclosure, although I have no financial interest in the project, my residence is in an area that will be significantly and negatively impacted by the project.

On Thu, Nov 3, 2022 at 7:43 AM Dave Sharp <[davesharp.pe@gmail.com](mailto:davesharp.pe@gmail.com)> wrote:

Sonia,

I am writing this as a private citizen regarding the Horse Heaven Project.

The weather did none of us any favors, and I appreciate that EFSEC attempted to make what you could of the situation. However, there was disappointment among a number of attendees, myself included, that you did not go up on the property. A large part of the public issue with this project is the proximity to a large number of residents that are living in zoned developments. The tour should have also included that aspect.

I was personally disappointed that the applicant's representative attempted to change the McBee stop at the last moment, claiming poor road conditions. On advice of the representative, the second stop was also changed. The new second stop was also not on property, and the Finley portion of the project was not even visible.

Both the east and west ends of the project are particularly sensitive for a number of reasons and EFSEC was deprived of the opportunity to see one of those.

Weather and road conditions were a factor, but not unsurmountable. I could personally vouch for the safety of the McBee Road to the #1 stop, and did that. I could not for the second stop, so I was silent.

Looking at road maps after the tour, State Road 397 leads east from the Locust Grove exit (where we exited for the second stop) to the Finley vicinity. South Finley Road (paved) then leads directly through the area where the turbines are proposed on the East end. Being curious, I looked at the project transportation map 4.3-1 in the ASC. SR 397 and South Finley Road is the main transportation route to access the project. That would have been an obvious choice for stop #2. I can't help but wonder why it was not chosen.

So here we are! The process, which is meant to be totally open and transparent, among other things requires complete transparency from all. This misstep, if not corrected, will only add to the distrust that many local residents have around this project.

Note: I have no financial interest in this project.

**From:** [Paul Krupin](#)  
**To:** [EFSEC \(EFSEC\)](#)  
**Subject:** Horse Heaven Hills Wind Farm Tour and DEIS schedule  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 8, 2022 8:40:58 AM

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External Email

I'm writing to express surprise and dismay about the conduct of the EFSEC tour of the Horse Heaven Hills Project.

The tour did not stop at locations on the project boundary and did not even set eyes on any of the lands within the project boundary at all. The project area is 25 miles east to west and 8 miles north to south and the EFSEC members never even went to a location that allowed them to see the lands in question.

Even the drive to and from the tour stop locations failed to even recognize, observe or explain the number and proximity of residential developments adjacent to the project area. You drove down a highway and stayed at an elevation where the hills blocked the view on all sides.

The tour failed to reach the objective of providing EFSEC with a reasonable view of the lands and proposed locations of project components.

You did not go to a location that enabled you to see the project in a meaningful way or gain any insight whatsoever of how the project will impact over 300,000 people who live in the Tri-Cities within ten miles of the project.

Further, the road and weather conditions EFSEC experienced that curtailed access to the project area will get worse during the winter and it will make it very difficult for any members of the public to access the roads to see the site and the affected environment.

This means that in order for the public to be able to get access and do reasonable evaluation, the release of the draft EIS should be postponed until March 2023.

I am a resident of Kennewick WA and I live in the area that will be affected directly by the project.

Appreciatively,

Paul Krupin, BA MS JD

509-531-8390 cell 509-582-5174 landline [Paul@Presari.com](mailto:Paul@Presari.com)

**From:** [Mike Minelli](#)  
**To:** [EFSEC \(EFSEC\)](#)  
**Subject:** A Turbin's View From The Horse Heaven Hills  
**Date:** Saturday, November 12, 2022 3:42:55 PM

---

External Email

To: The Members of EFSEC

The attached photo is at the hub height of 400 ft for the GE 5.5MW Turbine looking toward the Tri Cities from a ridge in the Horse Heaven Hills. The applicant states in their application 2.2.1 page 9 : Turbin Visibility approximately 87% of the area located within 5 miles and 83% of the area within 10 miles would be visible. The Tri Cities and surrounding area population is approx. 300,000.

The applicant's photos grossly underestimates the visual impact on the Tri Cities.

Photo Courtesy of David Troyan



**From:** [kmbrun@gmail.com](mailto:kmbrun@gmail.com)  
**To:** [EFSEC \(EFSEC\)](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Horse Heaven Wind Project DEIS Release  
**Date:** Monday, November 14, 2022 3:54:56 PM

---

External Email

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**From:** Karen B  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 9, 2022 10:12 AM  
**To:** [sonia.bumpus@efsec.wa.gov](mailto:sonia.bumpus@efsec.wa.gov)  
**Subject:** Horse Heaven Wind Project DEIS Release

Ms. Bumpus, I am writing to you asking that the Draft EIS for the HH wind project be delayed until after January 2023 and that the public comment period be extended to 60 days.

Your staff has been working on this for months. The Benton and Franklin County residents, the ones impacted by the largest project of its kind in Washington if not the entire U.S., should be extended the courtesy of adequate time to review what is purported to be a very extensive document. Scheduling the public comment period over the biggest holiday season of the year is unfair and unreasonable. Put yourself in our shoes - how would you feel? I beg you to reconsider.

What is the big rush? You've already given Scout two extensions so pushing the release through now smells of a deliberate attempt to thwart public comment.

Karen Brun  
105506 E. Tripple Vista Drive  
Kennewick, WA 99338  
509-628-0826

**From:** [Gaye Tesar](#)  
**To:** [EFSEC \(EFSEC\)](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: Extend Draft EIS Release Date  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 15, 2022 11:38:17 AM

---

External Email

Dear Ms. Bumpus & Committee Members:

As an impacted homeowner, I request that you re-schedule the release date for the draft EIS for January 2023 and request a 60-day public comment period to give those impacted the most time to adequately review this massive industrial project.

Gaye Tesar  
3707 S Keller St  
Kennewick WA  
(509) 440-0744

Gaye

**From:** [Judy](#)  
**To:** [EFSEC \(EFSEC\)](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: Sonia Bumpus - HHH Industrial Turbine Wind Project Questions & Requests , etc.  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 15, 2022 11:40:55 AM

---

External Email

I was recently informed that public comments should be sent to [efsec@efsec.wa.gov](mailto:efsec@efsec.wa.gov) rather than to a single member of the team in order to be documented. Not sure if this is true or not but just in case I'm forwarding my letter to Ms. Bumpus to [efsec@efsec.wa.gov](mailto:efsec@efsec.wa.gov)

From: goosie1515@aol.com  
To: sonia.bumpus@efsec.wa.gov  
Sent: 11/7/2022 11:00:55 PM Pacific Standard Time  
Subject: Sonia Bumpus - HHH Industrial Turbine Wind Project Questions & Requests , etc.

Dear Sonia Bumpus & Committee Members:

I have the following questions and requests:

1. The water source listed on Scout's application is the City of Kennewick (2-86: 2.62 + 2.6.2.2). I know that they are not the water source. Why hasn't this been corrected online? When people read the application, they are being misinformed. It's very misleading because people will obviously think the City of Kennewick approves this application since it's indicated that they are supplying the water which is untrue. The correct water source should be listed or if there is none, that should be indicated on the application.
2. It was stated during the EFSEC meeting (10.18.22) that there was a request for open public comments prior to this meeting and six comments were received. When was this public comment request made? Was an email sent out to people on your list? People I talked with didn't receive any notification.
3. Remarks have been made by numerous people that the comment period during the holidays is completely unfair. People are busy with attending parties, holiday meal planning, grocery shopping, making special dinners, shopping for gifts, wrapping gifts, decorating their homes, writing Christmas cards and letters and children are home on vacation adding even more stress, etc. Will EFSEC employees be on vacation during that time? Kathleen Drew said Scout's appeal for a 7-month extension was a reasonable request. Isn't it only fair and a reasonable request to give the public an extension for comments as well? There have been 2 requests by Scout for extensions; one on 2/8/21 and again on 9/27/22 and both were heartily approved by EFSEC. This is our first request for an extension after the holidays and for at least a 60-day comment period for a project as massive as this one.
4. Who will be responsible when there's a turbine fire? Which fire department has the equipment to fight this type of fire in a desert where there are copious amounts of tumble weeds and dried grasses that burn rapidly and will spread quickly to surrounding homes. Who will be responsible for the damage and the loss of homes and animals?
5. Concerning the Tri-Cities tour of the HHH project. Why weren't the local people allowed to ask questions of the applicant? We are the ones who will be most affected by this massive industrial wind project and we aren't given a voice? I think that's extremely unfair. We were told only council members could ask questions. Why? Who were the council members in attendance? Why weren't they identified so we all knew who they were? Another tour needs to be scheduled during better weather so you can

drive on the roads to the locations of the proposed turbines and the locals should have the right to ask questions.

6. Why is this proposed project located so close to people's homes? Why in the desert where it will be a dust bowl during construction and a fire hazard from the turbines with no way to put out a fire on a turbine the height of the Seattle Space Needle? A visit needs to be planned in the middle of summer when it's hot and dry so you are able to see the dangers of building a project like this in the middle of a desert. It would be much better to site this project off shore or on the east side where there is lots of rain and wind.

I look forward to your answers. Thank you for your time and consideration,

Judy Guse  
104902 E Tripple Vista Dr  
Kennewick, WA 99338

**From:** [Dana Morgan](#)  
**To:** [EFSEC \(EFSEC\)](#)  
**Subject:** Horse Heaven Hills Wind Farm  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 15, 2022 11:49:01 AM

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External Email

I'm adding my voice to likely I'm adding my voice to likely numerous others to ask that EFSEC 1) delay release of the draft environmental impact statement on Scout Clean Energy's proposed wind project for Benton County until the new year and 2) extend the public comment period to 60 days.

Regarding the draft EIS release plan, and with EFSEC's best reputational interest in mind, releasing the draft just prior to the holiday season might be seen by critics of the project, and possibly local news media, as, at best, ill-thought timing and, at worst, a well-thought-out strategy to diminish public awareness and mitigate input. Regarding the extension request to 60 days, aside from the opportunity to encourage greater public participation in the process, an extension will demonstrate stakeholder equity vis-à-vis Scout's two previously approved extension requests, including their most recent appeal for a seven-month extension of their application for site certification.

Thank you for considering these requests, and for the dedicated work EFSEC employees have put forth to date to carefully manage an issue of great interest and importance to the residents of Benton County and the Tri-Cities area. numerous others to ask that EFSEC 1) delay release of the draft environmental impact statement on Scout Clean Energy's proposed wind project for Benton County until the new year and 2) extend the public comment period to 60 days.

Regarding the draft EIS release plan, and with EFSEC's best reputational interest in mind, releasing the draft just prior to the holiday season might be seen by critics of the project, and possibly local news media, as, at best, ill-thought timing and, at worst, a well-thought-out strategy to diminish public awareness and mitigate input. Regarding the extension request to 60 days, aside from the opportunity to encourage greater public participation in the process, an extension will demonstrate stakeholder equity vis-à-vis Scout's two previously approved extension requests, including their most recent appeal for a seven-month extension of their application for site certification.

Thank you for considering these requests, and for the dedicated work EFSEC employees have put forth to date to carefully manage an issue of great interest and importance to the residents of Benton County and the Tri-Cities area.  
Dana & Rachel Morgan  
19103 Yakitat Pl NW benton City Wa  
99320

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [PM Stauffer](#)  
**To:** [EFSEC \(EFSEC\)](#)  
**Subject:** Draft EIS Petition  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 15, 2022 12:07:12 PM

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External Email

DEIS for the Horse Heaven Windfarm project

I have been following the HH windfarm project for the last two years, following the local public hearings and also the EFSEC meetings. I have voiced my concerns at these meetings. Now we are close to the release of the draft Environmental Impact Statement and I am very concerned about the timing of the DEIS; with the holidays approaching, it is essential to give us an opportunity to read and understand the scope and impact of the planned wind farm, and to give all an opportunity to comment on the DEIS.

Please wait with the release of the draft environmental impact statement until the new year and allows a public comment period of 60 days.

Thank you for your consideration

Best regards,  
Markus Stauffer

**From:** [Gene & Ruby Torrey](#)  
**To:** [EFSEC \(EFSEC\)](#)  
**Subject:** Environmental Impact Study Scout Clean Energy  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 15, 2022 12:19:30 PM

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External Email

Dear Committee Members

I am writing to request that you re-schedule the release date for the draft EIS for January 2023 and request a 60-day public comment period to give those impacted the most time to adequately review this massive industrial project.

We believe this is a reasonable request from those who will be most impacted by this project. We will see and live with the visual, financial and environmental impact of this development daily, monthly and for years to come.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Gene Torrey  
1814 S. Jefferson Pl.  
Kennewick, WA  
509-396-9125

**From:** [Mark Morton](#)  
**To:** [EFSEC \(EFSEC\)](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: DEIS Request  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 15, 2022 12:45:57 PM

---

External Email

See below for the HHH Wind Farm DEIS request for delay.

Dear Committee Members:

Please re-schedule the release date for the draft EIS for January 2023 and that the public comment period be extended to 60 days to give those impacted the most time to adequately review this massive industrial project.

At the EFSEC meeting on 10/18/22, EFSEC Chair Kathleen Drew said that the developer's (Scout Clean Energy) appeal for a 7-month extension was a reasonable request. It only stands to reason that the public in the Tri-Cities, who will be impacted the most by this massive industrial wind project, be extended the same courtesy. A delay in the DEIS release of a month and an extension for comments of 15 more days seems to be a reasonable requests in light of the delay that was granted to the developer. As you know, there have been 2 requests by Scout Clean Energy for extensions; both were heartily approved by EFSEC, and to my knowledge this would be the first delay requested for public interaction.

**Thank You For Your Consideration,**

Mark Morton  
3262 Mt Adams View Dr, West Richland  
509 727 2929

**From:** [John Williamson](#)  
**To:** [EFSEC \(EFSEC\)](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: EFSEC HHH Draft EIS Release & Public Comment Period  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 15, 2022 12:51:08 PM

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External Email

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **John Williamson** <[williamson.johnr@gmail.com](mailto:williamson.johnr@gmail.com)>  
Date: Wed, Nov 9, 2022 at 5:56 PM  
Subject: EFSEC HHH Draft EIS Release & Public Comment Period  
To: <[sonia.bumpus@efsec.wa.gov](mailto:sonia.bumpus@efsec.wa.gov)>

Please re-schedule the release date for the draft EIS for January 2023 and request a 60-day public comment period to give those impacted the most time to adequately review this massive industrial project.

Sincerely,

John Williamson  
6020 Majestia Ln, Pasco, WA 99301  
509-554-3872

**From:** [gayle.graves](#)  
**To:** [EFSEC \(EFSEC\)](#)  
**Subject:** Horse Heaven Hill wind farm project  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 15, 2022 1:14:47 PM

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External Email

Dear EFSEC staff,

I respectfully request you postpone the environmental impact statement to respect the public time frame to respond to the statement. The expected release is right before the holidays and comment time would be impacted by not having a real opportunity to respond. Many citizens are still not aware of the project, nor the impact. The perspective window of release and respond time certainly is not a strategy that makes it favorable to support this kind of project.

This proposed wind farm is reflective of oversight regarding the Pacific Flyway, Shrub steppe destruction and associated construction initiating herbicide and pesticide down wind. All equal concerns on the heavy burden on the public to reflect and make known the wind farms impact that cannot be reversed.

Respectfully,

Gayle Graves

**From:** [Katherine Chung](#)  
**To:** [EFSEC \(EFSEC\)](#)  
**Subject:** EIS Draft  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 15, 2022 3:50:45 PM

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External Email

Dear Ms. Bumpus & Committee Members:

Please re-schedule the release date for the draft EIS for January 2023 and allow a 60-day public comment period to give those impacted the most time to adequately review this massive industrial project.

Thank you,

Katherine Chung

5360 Grant St. West Richland WA 99353  
206 401 4974

**From:** [Dale Gergely](#)  
**To:** [EFSEC \(EFSEC\)](#)  
**Subject:** Horse Heaven Hills Industrial Turbine wind project  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 15, 2022 4:28:45 PM

---

External Email

This email is to request that you please postpone the release of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the subject project until at least January 2023. I also request that the public comment period be extended to 60 days. As I believe I will be impacted by this project. The extra time will allow me to adequately review its impact on me and provide comment if necessary.

Thank you for your consideration.

Dale Gergely

86903 E. Haven View

Kennewick.

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

**From:** [Bob Johnson](#)  
**To:** [EFSEC \(EFSEC\)](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Release of Horse Heaven Hills Wind Farm DEIS  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 15, 2022 7:47:47 PM

---

External Email

I was recently informed that in order for our Horse Heaven Hills wind farm project letters to be documented on the EFSEC website, the letters need to be sent to [efsec@efsec.wa.gov](mailto:efsec@efsec.wa.gov) rather than to individual members of the team.

Therefore, I am forwarding my previous letter I sent to Ms. Bumpus to: [efsec@efsec.wa.gov](mailto:efsec@efsec.wa.gov)

Kind regards,

Robert A Johnson

---

**From:** Bob Johnson  
**Sent:** Monday, October 17, 2022 11:33 AM  
**To:** [sonia.bumpus@efsec.wa.gov](mailto:sonia.bumpus@efsec.wa.gov)  
**Cc:** Judy <[goosie1515@aol.com](mailto:goosie1515@aol.com)>  
**Subject:** Release of Horse Heaven Hills Wind Farm DEIS

Dear Ms. Bumpus:

I implore you to release the Draft EIS of the Horse Heaven Hills in early 2023, i.e., January, February, March and **NOT** in late November, 2022 as currently planned, and, if possible, to also extend the 30 day review period by at least 15 additional days.

This Scout Windmill Project DEIS will be far too complex and important to our lives to release it in December, which is hands down the worst month of the year to give all citizens ample time to thoroughly and completely review and respond to a report of this magnitude and life-long consequences!

**IF** it is EFSEC's motive to limit comments and input as much as possible from the people most permanently affected by this project, then the report will be released in late November/early December. If this happens, then it will be more than obvious that the EFSEC does not care about or respect the original purpose for which the EIS process was created and designed to accomplish: present the facts of both sides of the issue and not be governed or influenced/dictated by political ideology of a few politicians whom don't even live here. A Nov/Dec release of the report will also

demonstrate a complete and total disregard by the EFSEC of the thoughts and desires of the citizens of Benton/Franklin Counties.

Conversely, if the DEIS is released in early 2023, then the EFSEC will have demonstrated that they want the EIS process to function as it was designed and purposed – to allow us the proper amount of time and access to other industry professionals to help us present a complete and transparent response.

In summary, please keep politics out of this process; Gov. Inslee has made it clear on the results he wants BEFORE we, the people, have fully been heard. Let this process be ethical and morally administered on behalf of the EFSEC, showing decency and fairness in this process. After all, this is our home, where we live, work and enjoy life, which should be respected and not dismissed or taken lightly.

It is my opinion that we legally and morally deserve ample time to have a say in this matter.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,

Robert A Johnson  
A 50-year resident and business person of the Tri-Cities  
509-948-1878

**From:** [keeweegirl@frontier.com](mailto:keeweegirl@frontier.com)  
**To:** [EFSEC \(EFSEC\)](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Scout Clean Energy Wind Project  
**Date:** Wednesday, November 16, 2022 7:31:17 AM

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External Email

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**From:** keeweegirl@frontier.com <keeweegirl@frontier.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, November 12, 2022 3:53 PM  
**To:** 'sonia.bumpus@efsec.wa.gov' <sonia.bumpus@efsec.wa.gov>  
**Subject:** Scout Clean Energy Wind Project

Good afternoon Ms. Bumpus,

We joint with many others to request the following:

EFSEC delays release of the draft environmental impact statement on Scout Clean Energy's proposed wind project for Benton County until the new year, and extend the public comment period to 60 days

Releasing the draft just before the holiday season seems to limit public awareness and input.

The extension request to 60 days may encourage greater public participation in the process.

Our sincere 'Thank You' for considering these requests, and for all the work that is being done to manage such an important issue for the Benton County residents and the Tri-Cities area.

Regards,  
James & Linda Redding  
25903 Country Meadows Lane  
Kennewick, WA 99338  
509-396-5016

**From:** [Marleen Lechelt](#)  
**To:** [EFSEC \(EFSEC\)](#)  
**Subject:** Scout Energy project  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 15, 2022 12:10:43 PM

---

External Email

We are reaching out to you to ask that you wait until after the first of the year 2023 to release Scout Energy project for comment, releasing this during the holidays will cause undo stress and not give all the people that will be affected by this project a fair chance to do the research that we need to do with the time that is allotted . We ask equality be given to all parties affected.

Thank you ,  
Randy and Marleen Lechelt  
34203 Cantera St.  
Kennewick, Wa. 99338

Sent from my iPad

**From:** [David Bennett](#)  
**To:** [EFSEC \(EFSEC\)](#)  
**Subject:** Regarding the release date for the draft EIS  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 15, 2022 4:19:47 PM

---

External Email

Dear Ms. Bumpus and to all Committee Members,

I'm writing to ask you to please consider rescheduling the release date for the draft EIS for a date in January of 2023, and also provide a 60--day window for public comments, (especially those whose lives may be the most adversely affected by an industrial undertaking of this magnitude. The holidays are hectic enough, and around Christmas, with family gatherings and traditionally so much preparation involved, having the extra time to devote to thoroughly review and adequately comment on something like this is much more demanding than it would be in the first two months of the New Year when things have quieted down a bit.

Thank you for your careful consideration and attention to this matter.

Best regards,

David V. Bennett

11 S. Underwood St.

Kennewick, WA 99336

Phone # (509) 378-1627

Docket Number: EF-210011

SPOKANE WA 990

1 DEC 2022 PM 4 L



From:

Cameron Smith

1722 W 6th Ave

Kennewick Wa 99336

**RECEIVED**

DEC 08 2022

**ENERGY FACILITY SITE  
EVALUATION COUNCIL**

Deliver to:

EFSEC

Re: EF-210011

621 Woodland Square Loop

PO Box 43172

Olympia, WA 98504



98504-



Write your comment:

I am for the Wind Farms, It will positively affect the area - Not only for work but to produce more energy for the area/State.

Docket Number: EF-210011

SPOKANE WA 990

1 DEC 2022 PM 4 L



From:

Terry Mitchell

8106 Canyon Dr  
Pasco WA 99301

RECEIVED

DEC 08 2022

ENERGY FACILITY SITE  
EVALUATION COUNCIL

98504-



Deliver to:

EFSEC

Re: EF-210011

621 Woodland Square Loop

PO Box 43172

Olympia, WA 98504



Write your comment:

Excellent Source for added jobs to  
the Tricity Community and Surrounding  
Areas.

~~T. Mur~~

Docket Number: EF-210011

SPOKANE WA 990

1 DEC 2022 PM 4 L



From:

Andy Wangsisongkham  
215903 E Cochran RD  
Kennewick, WA 99337

RECEIVED

DEC 08 2022

ENERGY FACILITY SITE  
EVALUATION COUNCIL

98504-



Deliver to:

EFSEC  
Re: EF-210011  
621 Woodland Square Loop  
PO Box 43172  
Olympia, WA 98504



Write your comment:

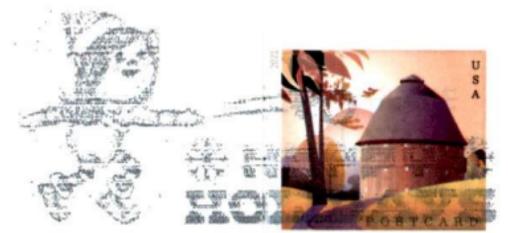
I am in support of the  
horse heaven clean energy center.



Docket Number: EF-210011

SPokane WA 990

1-DEC 2022 PM 3 L



From:

Kelli Ramsey

PO Box 211

Benton City, WA

RECEIVED  
991320

DEC 08 2022

ENERGY FACILITY SITE  
EVALUATION COUNCIL

Deliver to:

EFSEC

Re: EF-210011

621 Woodland Square Loop

PO Box 43172

Olympia, WA 98504



98504-



Write your comment:

I Support the Horse Heaven Clean Energy Center. I will provide well needed jobs to the area and help build a clean energy future. Wind mills do NOT Kill as many Birds as you can does!



Docket Number: EF-210011

SPOKANE, WA 990

1 DEC 2022 PM 3 L

From:

DAVID WOLFGRAMM

6711 W 9TH PI

KENNEWICK, WA 99336

RECEIVED

DEC 08 2022

ENERGY FACILITY SITE  
EVALUATION COUNCIL

98504-



HOLIDAYS

Deliver to:

EFSEC

Re: EF-210011

621 Woodland Square Loop

PO Box 43172

Olympia, WA 98504



Write your comment:

I BELIEVE WE SHOULD ADD MORE WIND TURBINES BECAUSE THEY ARE:

- RENEWABLE ENERGY
- REDUCES THE USE OF FOSSIL FUELS
- REDUCES ENERGY IMPORTS
- NON-POLLUTANT
- CREATES NEW JOBS
- COST-EFFECTIVE IN THE LONG RUN

THIS AREA OF WASHINGTON SEEMS TO BE AN IDEAL AREA FOR WIND TURBINES.

Docket Number: EF-210011

1 DEC 2022 PM 3 L

From: Foster  
227 University Dr  
P. Okland WA 99354

RECEIVED

DEC 08 2022

ENERGY FACILITY SITE  
EVALUATION COUNCIL

98504-



Deliver to:

EFSEC

Re: EF-210011

621 Woodland Square Loop

PO Box 43172

Olympia, WA 98504



Write your comment:

its a great idea to Bring the windfarm  
in. it will bring jobs and economic  
resources to the area.

Docket Number: EF-210011

SPOKANE WA 990

1 DEC 2022 PM 3 L

From:

Wendy Morales  
1041 W. 27<sup>th</sup> AVE  
KENN. WA 99337



Deliver to:

EFSEC

Re: EF-210011

621 Woodland Square Loop

PO Box 43172

Olympia, WA 98504



RECEIVED

DEC 08 2022

ENERGY FACILITY SITE  
EVALUATION COUNCIL



Write your comment:

I am in favor of the  
windmill solar farm.  
I say "YES"



Docket Number: EF-210011

SPOKANE WA 990

1 DEC 2022 PM 3 L

From:

Misty Tarr  
PO Box 195  
Benton City, WA  
99320

RECEIVED

DEC 08 2022

ENERGY FACILITY SITE  
EVALUATION COUNCIL



Deliver to:

EFSEC  
Re: EF-210011  
621 Woodland Square Loop  
PO Box 43172  
Olympia, WA 98504



Write your comment:

I am in support of Horse  
Heaven clean energy center

Docket Number: EF-210011

SPOKANE WA 990

1 DEC 2022 PM 3 L



From:

Steve Aiken

225606 East Walter PR 5F

Kennewick WA 99337

Deliver to:

EFSEC

Re: EF-210011

621 Woodland Square Loop

PO Box 43172

Olympia, WA 98504



RECEIVED

DEC 08 2022

ENERGY FACILITY SITE  
EVALUATION COUNCIL

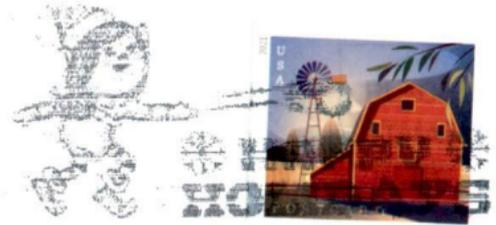




Docket Number: EF-210011

SPOKANE WA 990

1 DEC 2022 PM 3 L



From:

JAMIE A Bryant Bogar  
110 S. Van Buren Ct  
Kennewick WA 99336

Deliver to:

EFSEC  
Re: EF-210011  
621 Woodland Square Loop  
PO Box 43172  
Olympia, WA 98504

RECEIVED

DEC 08 2022

ENERGY FACILITY SITE  
EVALUATION COUNCIL



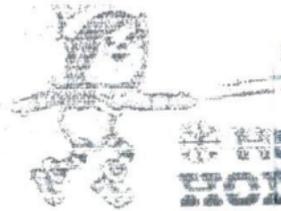
Write your comment:

I Am in support of the Horse Heaven Clean Energy Center. I look forward to the increase in Washington Jobs. Please approve the project in the necessary timeframe to allow us to make clean energy.

Docket Number: EF-210011

SPokane, WA 990

1 DEC 2022 PM 3 L



From:

Jewel Abilene Bogar

110 S. Van Buren

C. t. Kennewick, WA

99336

Deliver to:

EFSEC

Re: EF-210011

621 Woodland Square Loop

PO Box 43172

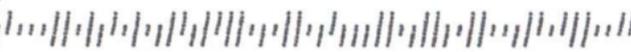
Olympia, WA 98504



RECEIVED

DEC 08 2022

ENERGY FACILITY, SITE  
EVALUATION COUNCIL



Write your comment:

I am in Support of the local  
Windfarm project. Our Union  
Workforce is thankful for the  
agreement signed with Scot  
Clean Energy and will be proud  
to help build Washington's clean  
energy future. I am also in support  
of how this will help our local  
economy

Docket Number: EF-210011

SPOKANE WA 990

1 DEC 2022 PM 3 L

From:

CASSANDRA LOZA

6040 PARADISE WAY

WEST RICHLAND, WA 99353

RECEIVED

DEC 08 2022

ENERGY FACILITY SITE  
EVALUATION COUNCIL



Deliver to:

EFSEC

Re: EF-210011

621 Woodland Square Loop

PO Box 43172

Olympia, WA 98504



Write your comment:

I SUPPORT THE HORSE HEAVEN CLEAN ENERGY CENTER, IT WILL DEFINITELY BENEFIT CREATING MORE JOBS FOR US

Docket Number: EF-210011

1 DEC 2022 PM 3 L



From:

Loren English

103 S Pawes

Kenn. Wa.

99 336

RECEIVED

DEC 08 2022

ENERGY FACILITY SITE  
EVALUATION COUNCIL

Deliver to:

EFSEC

Re: EF-210011

621 Woodland Square Loop

PO Box 43172

Olympia, WA 98504



Write your comment:

I support the horse heaven Clean energy Center  
we need the jobs and work and it will benefit  
the Washington State

Docket Number: EF-210011

SPOKANE WA 990

1 DEC 2022 PM 3 L



From:

John Grage

6005 Kent Lane

Pasco WA 99301

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DEC 08 2022

ENERGY FACILITY SITE  
EVALUATION COUNCIL

98504-

Deliver to:

EFSEC

Re: EF-210011

621 Woodland Square Loop

PO Box 43172

Olympia, WA 98504



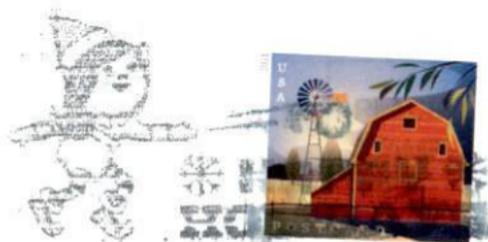
Write your comment:

I say yes

Docket Number: EF-210011

SPOKANE WA 990

8 DEC 2022 PM 3 L



From:

Travis Swayer  
415 Wells Gap Rd  
Prosser, WA 99350

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DEC 15 2022

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EVALUATION COUNCIL

Deliver to:

EFSEC

Re: EF-210011

621 Woodland Square Loop

PO Box 43172

Olympia, WA 98504



Write your comment:

Please approve the project in the necessary time frame to allow our clean energy transition possible and ensure quality jobs for our local work force.

Docket Number: EF-210011

SPOKANE WA 990

8 DEC 2022 PM 4 L



From:

Sonya Englert  
4811 S Auburn PL  
Kennewick WA 99337

Deliver to:

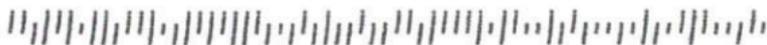
EFSEC  
Re: EF-210011  
621 Woodland Square Loop  
PO Box 43172  
Olympia, WA 98504

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DEC 15 2022

ENERGY FACILITY SITE  
EVALUATION COUNCIL

98504-



Write your comment:

I am writing to express my support  
for the Horse Heaven Clean Energy  
Center.

Please approve the project in the  
necessary timeframe

Docket Number: EF-210011

SPOKANE WA 990

10 DEC 2022 PM 4 L



From:

Bob Leyard

2398 Copperhill St.

Richland, WA

99354

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DEC 15 2022

ENERGY FACILITY SITE  
EVALUATION COUNCIL

Deliver to:

EFSEC

Re: EF-210011

621 Woodland Square Loop

PO Box 43172

Olympia, WA 98504



98504



Write your comment:

I support the Horse Heaven Clean Energy Center for several reasons. The project will help meet Washington State's clean energy transition while creating good paying jobs. In addition, it will contribute \$260M in new tax revenue for our community. I know there has been some public scrutiny, but I believe the majority of people can see the advantages of going forward with this project.

Let's get this project going!

**I support the  
permitting of the  
Horse Heaven Clean  
Energy Center  
because:**

- Climate change is threatening our future. Preventing the development of clean energy facilities creates roadblocks to stemming the climate crisis.
- It has been demonstrated that any negative environmental or wildlife impacts from the facility can and will be mitigated.
- Projects like this will be instrumental for Washington to achieve its goal to become carbon neutral by 2045.

SEATTLE WA 980

9 FEB 2023 PM 5 L

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FEB 15 2023

ENERGY FACILITY SITE  
EVALUATION COUNCIL

EF-210011

621 Woodland Square Loop

PO Box 43172

Olympia, WA 98504





I support the

# Horse Heaven

CLEAN ENERGY CENTER

COMMENT SUBMITTED BY

A PERSONAL NOTE

**Marjean Stoker**  
Everett WA

**I support the permitting of the Horse Heaven Clean Energy Center because:**

- Climate change is threatening our future. Preventing the development of clean energy facilities creates roadblocks to stemming the climate crisis.
- It has been demonstrated that any negative environmental or wildlife impacts from the facility can and will be mitigated.
- Projects like this will be instrumental for Washington to achieve its goal to become carbon neutral by 2045.

PHOENIX AZ 852

9 FEB 2023 PM 5 L

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EVALUATION COUNCIL

EF-210011

621 Woodland Square Loop

PO Box 43172

Olympia, WA 98504





I support the  
**Horse Heaven**  
CLEAN ENERGY CENTER

COMMENT SUBMITTED BY

A PERSONAL NOTE

**Joanna McPherson**  
Spokane WA

**I support the  
permitting of the  
Horse Heaven Clean  
Energy Center  
because:**

- Climate change is threatening our future. Preventing the development of clean energy facilities creates roadblocks to stemming the climate crisis.
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- Projects like this will be instrumental for Washington to achieve its goal to become carbon neutral by 2045.

SPOKANE WA 990

9 FEB 2023 9:14  
**RECEIVED**

FEB 15 2023

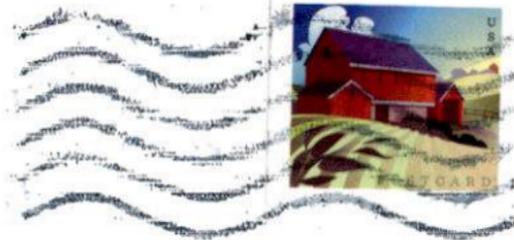
**ENERGY FACILITY SITE  
EVALUATION COUNCIL**

EF-210011

621 Woodland Square Loop

PO Box 43172

Olympia, WA 98504





I support the  
**Horse Heaven**  
CLEAN ENERGY CENTER

COMMENT SUBMITTED BY

**Carla Carnegie**  
**Otis Orchards WA**

A PERSONAL NOTE

All over WA state we must  
make progress to a more  
healthy climate taking all the  
measures possible to do so.

**I support the  
permitting of the  
Horse Heaven Clean  
Energy Center  
because:**

- Climate change is threatening our future. Preventing the development of clean energy facilities creates roadblocks to stemming the climate crisis.
- It has been demonstrated that any negative environmental or wildlife impacts from the facility can and will be mitigated.
- Projects like this will be instrumental for Washington to achieve its goal to become carbon neutral by 2045.

SEATTLE WA 980

9 FEB 2023 PM 4 L

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FEB 15 2023

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EF-210011

621 Woodland Square Loop

PO Box 43172

Olympia, WA 98504





I support the

# Horse Heaven

CLEAN ENERGY CENTER



COMMENT SUBMITTED BY

Emily Munson  
Seattle WA

A PERSONAL NOTE



I wholeheartedly  
Support it!!!  
♡ 😊

**I support the  
permitting of the  
Horse Heaven Clean  
Energy Center  
because:**

- Climate change is threatening our future. Preventing the development of clean energy facilities creates roadblocks to stemming the climate crisis.
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SEATTLE WA 980

10 FEB 2023 PM 4 1

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EVALUATION COUNCIL

EF-210011

621 Woodland Square Loop

PO Box 43172

Olympia, WA 98504





I support the  
**Horse Heaven**  
CLEAN ENERGY CENTER

COMMENT SUBMITTED BY

A PERSONAL NOTE

Meryle A. Korn  
Bellingham WA

KEEP UP THE  
EXCELLENT WORK!

**I support the  
permitting of the  
Horse Heaven Clean  
Energy Center  
because:**

- Climate change is threatening our future. Preventing the development of clean energy facilities creates roadblocks to stemming the climate crisis.
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- Projects like this will be instrumental for Washington to achieve its goal to become carbon neutral by 2045.

SEATTLE WA 980

6 FEB 2023 PM 7 L

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FEB 15 2023

ENERGY FACILITY SITE  
EVALUATION COUNCIL

EF-210011

621 Woodland Square Loop

PO Box 43172

Olympia, WA 98504





I support the

# Horse Heaven

CLEAN ENERGY CENTER



COMMENT SUBMITTED BY

A PERSONAL NOTE

Mary Howard  
Burien WA

There's not going to  
be clean Air for my  
grandkids or  
great grandkids

Should of done something A long Time Ago

**I support the  
permitting of the  
Horse Heaven Clean  
Energy Center  
because:**

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- Projects like this will be instrumental for Washington to achieve its goal to become carbon neutral by 2045.

PORTLAND OR 972

7 FEB 2023 PM 6 L

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FEB 15 2023

ENERGY FACILITY SITE  
EVALUATION COUNCIL

EF-210011

621 Woodland Square Loop

PO Box 43172

Olympia, WA 98504





I support the  
**Horse Heaven**  
CLEAN ENERGY CENTER

COMMENT SUBMITTED BY

A PERSONAL NOTE

**Janet Nace**  
Brush Prairie WA

**I support the  
permitting of the  
Horse Heaven Clean  
Energy Center  
because:**

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SEATTLE WA 980

8 FEB 2023 PM 7 L

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FEB 15 2023

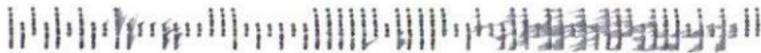
ENERGY FACILITY SITE  
EVALUATION COUNCIL

EF-210011

621 Woodland Square Loop

PO Box 43172

Olympia, WA 98504





I support the  
**Horse Heaven**  
CLEAN ENERGY CENTER

COMMENT SUBMITTED BY

A PERSONAL NOTE

**Derek Benedict**  
**Lynnwood WA**

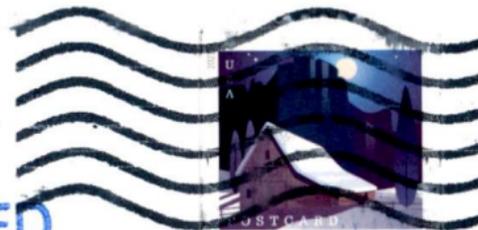
**I support the  
permitting of the  
Horse Heaven Clean  
Energy Center  
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SEATTLE WA 980

15 FEB 2023 PM 2 L

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MAR 02 2023

ENERGY FACILITY SITE  
EVALUATION COUNCIL

EF-210011

621 Woodland Square Loop

PO Box 43172

Olympia, WA 98504





I support the

# Horse Heaven

CLEAN ENERGY CENTER

COMMENT SUBMITTED BY

A PERSONAL NOTE

Kate O'Brien  
Bothell WA

*Supporting farmers and  
business/clean sustainable  
energy is good.*

I support the permitting of the Horse Heaven Clean Energy Center because:

- Climate change is threatening our future. Preventing the development of clean energy facilities creates roadblocks to stemming the climate crisis.
- It has been demonstrated that any negative environmental or wildlife impacts from the facility can and will be mitigated.
- Projects like this will be instrumental for Washington to achieve its goal to become carbon neutral by 2045.

SPOKANE WA 0000

13 FEB 2023

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MAR 02 2023

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EF-210011  
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PO Box 43172  
Olympia, WA 98504





I support the  
**Horse Heaven**  
CLEAN ENERGY CENTER

COMMENT SUBMITTED BY

A PERSONAL NOTE

**Linda Mintun**  
**Spokane WA**

**I support the  
permitting of the  
Horse Heaven Clean  
Energy Center  
because:**

- Climate change is threatening our future. Preventing the development of clean energy facilities creates roadblocks to stemming the climate crisis.
- It has been demonstrated that any negative environmental or wildlife impacts from the facility can and will be mitigated.
- Projects like this will be instrumental for Washington to achieve its goal to become carbon neutral by 2045.

TACOMA WA 983  
OLYMPIA WA  
14 FEB 2023 PM 3 L

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MAR 02 2023

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EF-210011

621 Woodland Square Loop

PO Box 43172

Olympia, WA 98504





I support the  
**Horse Heaven**  
CLEAN ENERGY CENTER

COMMENT SUBMITTED BY

A PERSONAL NOTE

**Michael Nielsen**  
Sequim WA

**I support the  
permitting of the  
Horse Heaven Clean  
Energy Center  
because:**

- Climate change is threatening our future. Preventing the development of clean energy facilities creates roadblocks to stemming the climate crisis.
- It has been demonstrated that any negative environmental or wildlife impacts from the facility can and will be mitigated.
- Projects like this will be instrumental for Washington to achieve its goal to become carbon neutral by 2045.

RECEIVED  
25 FEB 2023 PM 3:11



MAR 02 2023

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EVALUATION COUNCIL**

EF-210011  
621 Woodland Square Loop  
PO Box 43172  
Olympia, WA 98504





I support the  
**Horse Heaven**  
CLEAN ENERGY CENTER

COMMENT SUBMITTED BY

A PERSONAL NOTE

**Amber Kaplan**  
**Spokane WA**

*We need to keep  
a good & steady pace  
toward clean, sustainable energy!*

**I support the  
permitting of the  
Horse Heaven Clean  
Energy Center  
because:**

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SEATTLE WA 98101

21 FEB 2023 PM 6 L  
**RECEIVED**



**MAR 02 2023**

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EVALUATION COUNCIL**

EF-210011

621 Woodland Square Loop

PO Box 43172

Olympia, WA 98504





I support the

# Horse Heaven

CLEAN ENERGY CENTER



COMMENT SUBMITTED BY

A PERSONAL NOTE

**Keith Tuley**  
Seattle WA



**I support the  
permitting of the  
Horse Heaven Clean  
Energy Center  
because:**

- Climate change is threatening our future. Preventing the development of clean energy facilities creates roadblocks to stemming the climate crisis.
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- Projects like this will be instrumental for Washington to achieve its goal to become carbon neutral by 2045.

*Margaret A. Graham*

SEATTLE WA 980

21 FEB 2023 PM 7 L

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MAR 02 2023

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EF-210011

621 Woodland Square Loop

PO Box 43172

Olympia, WA 98504



I support the  
**Horse Heaven**  
CLEAN ENERGY CENTER

COMMENT SUBMITTED BY

A PERSONAL NOTE

**Margaret Graham**  
Seattle WA

**I support the  
permitting of the  
Horse Heaven Clean  
Energy Center  
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SEATTLE WA 980

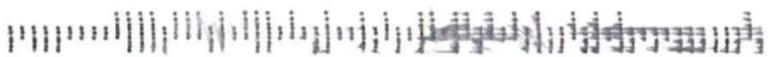
21 FEB 2023 PM 7 L

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MAR 02 2023

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EVALUATION COUNCIL

EF-210011  
621 Woodland Square Loop  
PO Box 43172  
Olympia, WA 98504





I support the  
**Horse Heaven**  
CLEAN ENERGY CENTER

COMMENT SUBMITTED BY

A PERSONAL NOTE

**John Belaire**  
Auburn WA

**I support the  
permitting of the  
Horse Heaven Clean  
Energy Center  
because:**

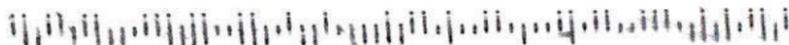
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- It has been demonstrated that any negative environmental or wildlife impacts from the facility can and will be mitigated.
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MAR 09 2023

**ENERGY FACILITY SITE  
EVALUATION COUNCIL**

EF-210011  
621 Woodland Square Loop  
PO Box 43172  
Olympia, WA 98504





I support the

# Horse Heaven

CLEAN ENERGY CENTER

COMMENT SUBMITTED BY

**Erwina Peterson Peterson**  
**Yakima WA**

A PERSONAL NOTE

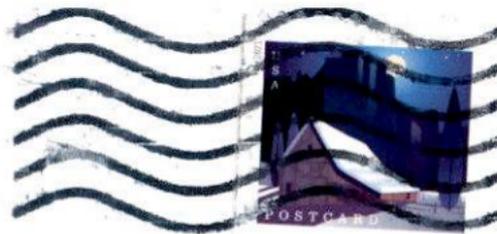
*Because we need to  
be concerned about  
our Environment!*

**I support the  
permitting of the  
Horse Heaven Clean  
Energy Center  
because:**

- Climate change is threatening our future. Preventing the development of clean energy facilities creates roadblocks to stemming the climate crisis.
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SEATTLE WA 980

23 FEB 2023 PM 2 L  
RECEIVED



MAR 09 2023

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EVALUATION COUNCIL  
EF-210011

621 Woodland Square Loop  
PO Box 43172  
Olympia, WA 98504





I support the

# Horse Heaven

CLEAN ENERGY CENTER



COMMENT SUBMITTED BY

A PERSONAL NOTE

Shirley Newton  
Kenmore WA

We are keepers of the earth  
and as such we need to take  
measures to ensure not only  
the well being of the human  
race but the animals, the earth  
& climate to ensure a brighter future

**I support the  
permitting of the  
Horse Heaven Clean  
Energy Center  
because:**

- Climate change is threatening our future. Preventing the development of clean energy facilities creates roadblocks to stemming the climate crisis.
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SEATTLE WA 980

25 FEB 2023 PM 5 L

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EVALUATION COUNCIL

EF-210011

621 Woodland Square Loop

PO Box 43172

Olympia, WA 98504





I support the  
**Horse Heaven**  
CLEAN ENERGY CENTER

COMMENT SUBMITTED BY

**Pam Kiesel**  
**Kirkland WA**

A PERSONAL NOTE

THIS IS VERY  
IMPORTANT!

**I support the  
permitting of the  
Horse Heaven Clean  
Energy Center  
because:**

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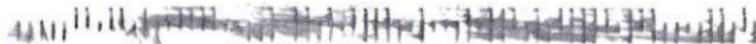
SEATTLE WA 980  
23 FEB 2023 PM 3 L  
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**MAR 09 2023**

**ENERGY FACILITY SITE  
EVALUATION COUNCIL**

EF-210011  
621 Woodland Square Loop  
PO Box 43172  
Olympia, WA 98504





I support the  
**Horse Heaven**  
CLEAN ENERGY CENTER

COMMENT SUBMITTED BY

A PERSONAL NOTE

**Kay Michel**  
**Maple Valley WA**

**I support the  
permitting of the  
Horse Heaven Clean  
Energy Center  
because:**

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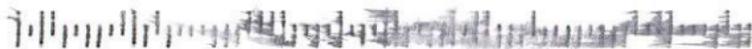
TACOMA WA 983  
OLYMPIA WA  
6 MAR 2023 PM 7:1

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MAR 7 5 2023

ENERGY FACILITY SITE  
EVALUATION COUNCIL

EF-210011  
621 Woodland Square Loop  
PO Box 43172  
Olympia, WA 98504





I support the

# Horse Heaven

CLEAN ENERGY CENTER

COMMENT SUBMITTED BY

**Debra Curtis**  
**Gig Harbor WA**

A PERSONAL NOTE

*Our environmental  
issues are at a critical  
bypass. This is urgent  
for our survival.*



I support the  
**Horse Heaven**  
CLEAN ENERGY CENTER

COMMENT SUBMITTED BY

**Heather Kennedy**  
Bremerton WA

A PERSONAL NOTE

We need better  
Recycling and  
Education on it  
& clean energy

**I support the  
permitting of the  
Horse Heaven Clean  
Energy Center  
because:**

- Climate change is threatening our future. Preventing the development of clean energy facilities creates roadblocks to stemming the climate crisis.
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TACOMA WA 983  
OLYMPIA WA  
20 MAR 2023 PM 4 1  
**RECEIVED**



MAR 23 2023

**ENERGY FACILITY SITE  
EVALUATION COUNCIL**

EF-210011  
621 Woodland Square Loop  
PO Box 43172  
Olympia, WA 98504



**From:** [mboguske@everyactioncustom.com](mailto:mboguske@everyactioncustom.com) on behalf of [Matthew Boguske](#)  
**To:** [EFSEC \(EFSEC\)](#)  
**Subject:** Docket Number EF-210011  
**Date:** Saturday, March 11, 2023 11:27:24 AM

---

External Email

Dear Director Sonia Bumpus,

I am writing to ask that the Final EIS for Horse Heaven Hills Wind Project in Benton County take a stronger and more specific look at how the project can be designed to avoid impacts on the environment.

I support Washington's 100% clean energy target to combat the climate crisis. Audubon's science suggests that we may lose 389 species of N. American birds if warming climbs to 3 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels. We are also in a biodiversity crisis. Conservation and clean energy must go hand in hand.

The Horse Heaven Hills Wind Project will be the largest renewable energy project in our state's history. As currently proposed, the project may cause unacceptable harm to state-listed Ferruginous Hawk and create barriers to landscape connectivity for shrub-steppe wildlife across a 113-square-mile area. But the project could be considerably improved with more clarity on conservation measures and an alternative design.

The final EIS must include the following information and analysis to uphold our state's commitment to, and appreciation for, our wildlife and the connected landscapes they need. The final EIS must:

- Identify specific design features, mitigation measures, and associated performance standards that will avoid adverse impacts related to wildlife movement and habitat connectivity within the Project Lease Boundary and at the regional level.
- Commit to how the proposed Project will avoid significant impacts on the Ferruginous Hawk population at the regional level by avoiding turbines within two miles of all documented nests and mitigating for direct and indirect loss of core and range habitat for all nests within six miles of the project.
- Include an alternative for analysis that features an explicit design for and commitment to turbine siting and other project components that minimizes impacts to the state-listed species and wildlife connectivity.
- Use the best available science to evaluate the magnitude and scale of impacts on birds due to turbine operation.

The build-out of renewable energy in Washington can be achieved in a way that honors the legal and sovereign rights of Treaty Tribes and balances the needs of both people and wildlife. We look to this Council and its staff to provide the leadership needed to achieve this vision.

Sincerely,  
Mr. Matthew Boguske  
8500 148th Ave NE Apt B1005 Redmond, WA 98052-3495  
[mboguske@yahoo.com](mailto:mboguske@yahoo.com)

**From:** [geoffskews@everyactioncustom.com](mailto:geoffskews@everyactioncustom.com) on behalf of [Geoff Skews](#)  
**To:** [EFSEC \(EFSEC\)](#)  
**Subject:** Docket Number EF-210011  
**Date:** Thursday, March 23, 2023 8:19:17 PM

---

External Email

Dear Director Sonia Bumpus,

I am writing to ask that the Final EIS for Horse Heaven Hills Wind Project in Benton County take a stronger and more specific look at how the project can be designed to avoid impacts to the environment.

I support Washington's 100% clean energy target to combat the climate crisis. Audubon's science suggests that we may lose 389 species of N. American birds if warming climbs to 3 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels. We are also in a biodiversity crisis. Conservation and clean energy must go hand in hand.

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Sincerely,  
Mr. Geoff Skews  
PO Box 4816 Frisco, CO 80443-4816  
[geoffskews@yahoo.com](mailto:geoffskews@yahoo.com)

**From:** [MICHAEL kildall](#)  
**To:** [EFSEC \(EFSEC\)](#)  
**Subject:** Horse Heaven Wind Farm general comment  
**Date:** Sunday, March 26, 2023 3:43:14 PM

---

External Email

Washington state has over 100 miles of ocean coastline with more consistent wind making that a better choice. We do not need a wind farm in the tri-cities or Washington state for that matter. The Northwest Power Council hasn't even signed on for it.

Michael Kildall

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

**From:** [EFSEC \(EFSEC\)](#)  
**To:** [EFSEC mi Comments](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Docket Number EF-210011  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 19, 2023 9:16:15 AM

---

-----Original Message-----

From: andy\_mcc@everyactioncustom.com <andy\_mcc@everyactioncustom.com>  
Sent: Wednesday, April 19, 2023 7:42 AM  
To: EFSEC (EFSEC) <efsec@efsec.wa.gov>  
Subject: Docket Number EF-210011

External Email

Dear Director Sonia Bumpus,

I am writing to ask that the Final EIS for Horse Heaven Hills Wind Project in Benton County take a stronger and more specific look at how the project can be designed to avoid impacts to the environment.

I support Washington's 100% clean energy target to combat the climate crisis. Audubon's science suggests that we may lose 389 species of N. American birds if warming climbs to 3 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels. We are also in a biodiversity crisis. Conservation and clean energy must go hand in hand.

The Horse Heaven Hills Wind Project will be the largest renewable energy project in our state's history. As currently proposed, the project may cause unacceptable harm to state-listed Ferruginous Hawk and create barriers for landscape connectivity for shrub-steppe wildlife across a 113-square mile area. But the project could be considerably improved with more clarity on conservation measures and an alternative design.

The final EIS must include the following information and analysis to uphold our state's commitment to, and appreciation for, our wildlife and the connected landscapes they need. The final EIS must:

- Identify specific design features, mitigation measures and associated performance standards that will avoid adverse impacts related to wildlife movement and habitat connectivity within the Project Lease Boundary and at the regional level.
- Commit to how the proposed Project will avoid significant impacts to the Ferruginous Hawk population at the regional level by avoiding turbines within two miles of all documented nests and mitigating for direct and indirect loss of core and range habitat for all nests within six miles of the project.
- Include an alternative for analysis that features an explicit design for and commitment to turbine siting and other project components that minimizes impacts to the state-listed species and wildlife connectivity.
- Use the best available science to evaluate the magnitude and scale of impacts to birds due to turbine operation.

The build-out of renewable energy in Washington can be achieved in a way that honors the legal and sovereign rights of Treaty Tribes and balances the needs of both people and wildlife. We look to this Council and its staff to provide the leadership needed to achieve this vision.

Sincerely,  
Mr Andrew McCormick  
10208 NE 23rd St Bellevue, WA 98004-2714 andy\_mcc@hotmail.com

**From:** [EFSEC \(EFSEC\)](#)  
**To:** [EFSEC mi Comments](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Docket Number EF-210011  
**Date:** Monday, April 24, 2023 12:12:08 PM

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-----Original Message-----

From: Ryan Tolar <rtolar65@gmail.com>  
Sent: Wednesday, April 19, 2023 2:18 PM  
To: EFSEC (EFSEC) <efsec@efsec.wa.gov>  
Subject: Docket Number EF-210011

External Email

I am writing to express my determined opposition for the Horse Heaven Clean Energy Center. This project is not well planned and will destroy our areas natural beauty. Please oppose this agenda.

**From:** [EFSEC \(EFSEC\)](#)  
**To:** [EFSEC mi Comments](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Docket Number EF-210011  
**Date:** Monday, April 24, 2023 12:14:34 PM

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-----Original Message-----

From: lindareilly@everyactioncustom.com <lindareilly@everyactioncustom.com>  
Sent: Friday, February 24, 2023 4:24 PM  
To: EFSEC (EFSEC) <efsec@efsec.wa.gov>  
Subject: Docket Number EF-210011

External Email

Dear Director Sonia Bumpus,

I am writing to ask that the Final EIS for Horse Heaven Hills Wind Project in Benton County take a stronger and more specific look at how the project can be designed to avoid impacts to the environment.

I support Washington's 100% clean energy target to combat the climate crisis. Audubon's science suggests that we may lose 389 species of N. American birds if warming climbs to 3 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels. We are also in a biodiversity crisis. Conservation and clean energy must go hand in hand.

The Horse Heaven Hills Wind Project will be the largest renewable energy project in our state's history. As currently proposed, the project may cause unacceptable harm to state-listed Ferruginous Hawk and create barriers for landscape connectivity for shrub-steppe wildlife across a 113-square mile area. But the project could be considerably improved with more clarity on conservation measures and an alternative design.

The final EIS must include the following information and analysis to uphold our state's commitment to, and appreciation for, our wildlife and the connected landscapes they need. The final EIS must:

- Identify specific design features, mitigation measures and associated performance standards that will avoid adverse impacts related to wildlife movement and habitat connectivity within the Project Lease Boundary and at the regional level.
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- Include an alternative for analysis that features an explicit design for and commitment to turbine siting and other project components that minimizes impacts to the state-listed species and wildlife connectivity.
- Use the best available science to evaluate the magnitude and scale of impacts to birds due to turbine operation.

The build-out of renewable energy in Washington can be achieved in a way that honors the legal and sovereign rights of Treaty Tribes and balances the needs of both people and wildlife. We look to this Council and its staff to provide the leadership needed to achieve this vision.

Sincerely,  
Ms. Linda Reilly  
1703 Giles Ave NW Olympia, WA 98502-4733 lindareilly@q.com

**From:** [EFSEC \(EFSEC\)](#)  
**To:** [EFSEC mi Comments](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Docket Number EF-210011  
**Date:** Friday, April 28, 2023 11:31:09 AM

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Thanks,  
~Joan Owens

NOTE: EFSEC email addresses have changed to [@efsec.wa.gov](mailto:@efsec.wa.gov)! Please update your EFSEC contacts.

## Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council

Executive Assistant

Email: [joan.owens@efsec.wa.gov](mailto:joan.owens@efsec.wa.gov)

Phone number: (360) 664-1920

EFSEC Email: [efsec@efsec.wa.gov](mailto:efsec@efsec.wa.gov)

EFSEC phone number: (360) 664-1345

Address: 621 Woodland Square Loop SE, Lacey WA 98503-3172

Mailstop/P.O. Box: 43172

[www.efsec.wa.gov](http://www.efsec.wa.gov)

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**From:** Sandy <petersonrs1@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 10, 2023 10:31 AM  
**To:** EFSEC (EFSEC) <efsec@efsec.wa.gov>  
**Subject:** Docket Number EF-210011

### External Email

We are lifelong residents of Puget Sound. We love our area and want to protect its health.

We are writing to express our support for the Horse Heaven Clean Energy Center and the role it will play in helping Washington achieve the ambitious decarbonization goals we set for ourselves with the passage of the Clean Energy Transformation Act (CETA) in 2019. We believe strongly in impact mitigation and value EFSEC's process, but know that Washington's ability to realize a carbon-free future will depend on permitting large-scale clean energy projects in a timely manner just like the Horse Heaven Clean Energy Center. This is a good project with appropriately identified mitigation measures, and backed by an experienced team that will produce up to 1,150 MW of renewable energy through a combination of wind, solar, and battery storage technology.

With the passage of CETA, Washington established itself as a leader in the fight to curb global emissions. The state now has a responsibility to ensure the clean energy transition can be achieved in the necessary timeframe to facilitate fossil plant retirement, and in doing we can set an example for the rest of the nation to follow.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sandra and Rob Peterson  
Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

**From:** [Bumpus, Sonia \(EFSEC\)](#)  
**To:** [EFSEC mi Comments](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Cares  
**Date:** Monday, June 5, 2023 10:58:11 AM

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**From:** David Sandretto <dsandretto@ci.benton-city.wa.us>  
**Sent:** Monday, June 5, 2023 10:29 AM  
**To:** Bumpus, Sonia (EFSEC) <sonia.bumpus@efsec.wa.gov>  
**Subject:** Cares

External Email

Sonia,

Cares represents our interests in this wind turbine project, we want them to find a compromise that works for both of us.

**From:** [Bumpus, Sonia \(EFSEC\)](#)  
**To:** [EFSEC mi Comments](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Horse Heaven Wind Farm  
**Date:** Monday, June 5, 2023 10:58:12 AM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)

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**From:** SCRIMSHER Michael (Framatome) <michael.scrimsher@framatome.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, June 5, 2023 10:32 AM  
**To:** Bumpus, Sonia (EFSEC) <sonia.bumpus@efsec.wa.gov>  
**Subject:** Horse Heaven Wind Farm

External Email

Dear EFSEC:

Tri-Cities CARES (TCC) with the support of the "Save Our Horse Heaven Hills" group was approved as an intervenor in the Horse Heaven Wind project adjudication process.

The Tri-Cities CARES organization has been doing and continues to an exceptional job of representing our local Tri city area communities in the Horse Heaven Wind Project adjudication process.

We want to confirm my/our support for their intervention in the process.

Please confirm receipt and applicability to this project.

Best Regards

Michael & Wendy Scrimsher

O = 509-375-8238

C = 509-392-9722

[Michael.Scrimsher@framatome.com](mailto:Michael.Scrimsher@framatome.com)

**framato**me

Blessed are those who can give without remembering and receive without forgetting.

**From:** [Bumpus, Sonia \(EFSEC\)](#)  
**To:** [EFSEC mi Comments](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Tri-Cities CARES Represents ME  
**Date:** Monday, June 5, 2023 10:58:15 AM

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**From:** taffy@gamefarmhay.com <taffy@gamefarmhay.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, June 5, 2023 9:58 AM  
**To:** Bumpus, Sonia (EFSEC) <sonia.bumpus@efsec.wa.gov>  
**Subject:** Tri-Cities CARES Represents ME

External Email

Tri-Cities CARES efforts represents ME. I am a resident of Benton County. The work they are doing representing our region in stopping or mitigating the impacts of the Horse Heaven Wind Project adjudication process is needed to cover all aspects of representation. I want to confirm my support for their intervention in the process.

Theresa Mercer

**From:** [Bumpus, Sonia \(EFSEC\)](#)  
**To:** [EFSEC mi Comments](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Support Tri-Cities CARES as Intervenor  
**Date:** Monday, June 5, 2023 10:58:18 AM

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**From:** Eugene Guse <eg1515@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, June 5, 2023 9:44 AM  
**To:** Bumpus, Sonia (EFSEC) <sonia.bumpus@efsec.wa.gov>  
**Subject:** Support Tri-Cities CARES as Intervenor

External Email

Dear EFSEC Director, Sonia Bumpus,

Tri-Cities CARES has been doing an excellent job of representing me and our local communities in the Horse Heaven Wind Project adjudication process. I am pleased with the job Tri-Cities CARES is doing as an intervenor and want to confirm my support for their continued work in this process and not under the Benton County umbrella whose sole issue is land use. My concern is for wildlife, aesthetics, human and domestic animal health, safety, quality of life, lack of local control, diminished property values, etc., which are the focused issues of Tri-Cities CARES. Tri-Cities CARES has my full support in representing me as an intervenor during the adjudication process.

Gene Guse

104902 E Tripple Vista Dr

Kennewick, WA 99338