

Horse Heaven Wind Project EFSEC Review
Data Request No. 3
July 22, 2021
Supplemental Response

The following contains Scout’s supplemental response to EFSEC’s data request “Recreation-1”. Both the original response provided to EFSEC on 8/18/2021, as well as the new supplemental response is provided for this data request. With submittal of this supplemental response, all EFSEC data requests provided to Scout on 7/22/21 have been fully responded to.

Data Request 3 Item ID	Code Citation Application Section	Item	Question or Information Request.	Applicant Response (bold text indicates response conclusion and Applicant commitments, including commitments to provide supplemental materials).
Recreation-1	WAC: 463-12-145 Section 4.2.4	Ice Age Flood – National Geologic Trail (IAF-NGT)	Comments were received concerning impacts to the IAF-NGT and hiking trails within the vicinity of the Project. Provide data related to the features of the IAF-NGT and hiking trails and their proximity to the Project. Provide potential impacts to the IAF-NGT and hiking trails within the vicinity of the Project.	<p><u>--Original Response:</u> This analysis will be provided to EFSEC under separate cover at a later date.</p> <p><u>--New Supplemental Response:</u> The Project would not directly impact access to or change the characteristics of the IAF-NGT routes or associated features, as no IAF-NGT features or routes are present within the Project Lease Boundary. The geologic characteristics for which these routes and features were established would remain unchanged by the construction and operations of the Project. The Project would be visible to varying degrees from portions of the IAF-NGT routes and features, but the visibility of the Project from these routes/features would be similar to the visibility of other existing built infrastructure, including residential/commercial development, roadways, electrical lines, and the existing Nine Canyon wind facility. Users accessing IAF-NGT features via I-82 or the other primary or secondary routes in the Project vicinity would not be impacted beyond the transportation impacts discussed in Section 4.3 of the ASC. As a result, access to the IAF-NGT routes and features is not expected to be significantly affected by the Project’s construction and operation. Project related impacts to other hiking trails in the vicinity of the Project Lease Boundary would be similar to those described in Section 4.2.4 of the ASC, and include temporary construction traffic and varying degrees of visual effects.</p> <p>Additional details and information related to the IAF-NGT is provided in Attachment “Recreation-1”.</p>

Attachment Recreation-1

Horse Heaven Wind Farm, LLC (i.e., the Applicant) and its contractor (Tetra Tech, Inc.) reviewed publicly available information regarding the Ice Age Floods National Geologic Trail (IAF-NGT) and hiking trails within 25 miles of the Project from the National Parks Service (NPS) (NPS 2011), Ice Age Floods Institute (IAFI) (IAF 2021), Bureau of Land Management (BLM) (BLM 2021), Washington Department of Natural Resources (DNR) (DNR 2021), recreational advocacy groups including the Washington Trails Association (WTA 2021), AllTrails (AllTrails 2021), and the Washington Home Town Off-Highway Vehicle Web Map (WHT 2021), and other land management and recreational resources as referenced in Section 4.2.4 of the Project's Application for Site Certification (ASC).

The following provides a description of the IAF-NGT and other trails, as well as an assessment of the Project's potential impact on these resources.

1.0 IAF-NGT

IAF-NGT is a network of geological features left behind by a series of cataclysmic floods that occurred at the end of the most recent Ice Age, when glacially dammed lakes ruptured and large volumes of water rushed through the northwestern United States, creating unique geological features in this region of Washington (NPS 2011 and IAFI 2021). The IAF-NGT consists of a network of modern highway routes which connect these unique geologic features (NPS 2011 and IAFI 2021). Designation and management of the IAF-NGT is funded as part of the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009.

The Applicant mapped the primary and secondary IAF-NGT routes and features in the Project's vicinity to assess the potential for the Project to affect the IAF-NGT and its features (Figure 1). Within the 25-mile recreation analysis area, there are both primary and secondary IAF-NGT routes as well as 24 features. These features include discrete points such as lakes, peaks, quarries, and groupings of boulders and other exposed geologic features, as well as broader geologic features on the landscape such as valleys, gaps, and bluffs, groupings of hills, and geologic extents of glacial deposits. There are no IAF-NGT routes or features within the Project Lease Boundary.

The distance from the Project Lease Boundary to each of the features of the IAF-NGT is provided in Table 1. The nearest IAF-NGT feature is Badger Coulee, which is located approximately 0.84 miles north of the Project Lease Boundary (see Figure 1). The Badger Coulee feature is a 15-mile long valley that was a former course of the Yakima River prior to the ice age flood deposits. Other features in close proximity to the Project Lease Boundary include the Kiona Quarry, Yakima River Badlands, Chandler Butte Landslide, and the Pendant Flood Bar. The IAF-NGT secondary route of Interstate 82 (I-82) bisects the eastern portion of the Project Lease Boundary (See Figure 1).

The Project would not directly impact access to or change the characteristics of the IAF-NGT routes or associated features, as no IAF-NGT features or routes are present within the Project Lease Boundary. The geologic characteristics for which these routes and features were established would remain unchanged by the construction and operations of the Project. As described in the ASC's recreation analysis (see Section 4.2.4 of the ASC), views of the Project facilities may be fully or partially obstructed or viewers may have more wide-open views depending on the location of a specific recreational resource. The Project would be visible to varying degrees from portions of the IAF-NGT routes and features, but the visibility of the Project would be similar to other existing built infrastructure, including residential/commercial development, roadways, electrical lines, and the existing Nine Canyon wind facility. Refer to Section 4.2.2 of the ASC for more information regarding aesthetic impacts of the Project. As discussed in Section 4.3 of the ASC, I-82 would be temporarily affected by construction-related traffic but would not cause a reduction in service levels, and minimal impacts to traffic and to transportation infrastructure are expected during operations. Users accessing IAF-NGT features via I-82 or the other primary secondary routes in the Project vicinity would not be impacted beyond the transportation impacts discussed in Section 4.3 of the ASC. As a result, access to these routes and features is not expected to be significantly affected by the Project's construction and operation.

Table 1: IAF-NGT Resources within 25 miles of the Project Area

Attachment 1 IAF-NGT Feature #	IAF-NGT Features Within 25 miles	Approximate Distance from Project Lease Boundary (miles)
1	Pendant Flood Bar	1.97
2	Wallula Trailhead crack-lodged boulders	4.73
3	Wallula Gap	4.29
4	Twin Sisters at Wallula Gap	4.61
5	Lake Lewis	7.67
6	Wallula Junction rhythmites	5.37
7	Cummins Bridge rhythmites	10.72
8	Reese Coulee old flood	12.44
9	Gardena Cliffs Rhythmites	16.06
10	Smith Canyon Coulee	9.48
11	Lake Lewis Isles	4.09
12	Yakima Bluffs	5.96
13	Ancient Ice Age Flood Deposits	5.74
14	Red Mountain Peak	4.83
15	Badger Coulee	0.84
16	Kiona Quarry	1.42
17	Yakima River Badlands	1.87
18	Chandler Butte Landslide	1.46
19	Erratics & Bergmounds -Rattlesnake Slope	11.32
20	Rattlesnake Mountain / Lalik	12.15
21	Clastic Dike polygon network	14.17
22	Yakima Barricade Bergmounds	24.17
23	Cold Creek flood bar	24.96
24	Hanford Ranch National Monument	8.52

2.0 HIKING TRAILS

The Applicant provided an evaluation of Project related impacts to hiking trails within 25 miles of the Project Lease Boundary in Section 4.2.4 of the ASC. Additional data sources (see above) were reviewed in response to the EFSEC data request. No new hiking trails were identified within the Project Lease Boundary; however, additional trails were identified within 25 miles of the Project Lease Boundary based on these additional data sources. Table 2 lists the recreational resources within 25 miles of the Project as well as hiking opportunities associated with these recreational resources; the locations of these resources are shown in Figure 1. Project impacts to newly identified hiking trails in the vicinity of the Project Lease Boundary would be similar to those described in Section 4.2.4 of the ASC and include temporary construction traffic and varying degrees of visual effects.

Note that BLM trail data identified non-inventoried trails on private land within the Project Lease Boundary (not listed in Table 2); however, these trails appear to be associated with existing roads and private property access, and are not a part of a designated recreation area. Similar trails were also mapped within the AllTrails database, but these trails were not associated with designated trails or trailheads (AllTrails 2021). A review of the Washington Home Town Off-Highway Vehicle Web Map did not identify motorized trails within the Project Lease Boundary (WHT 2021).

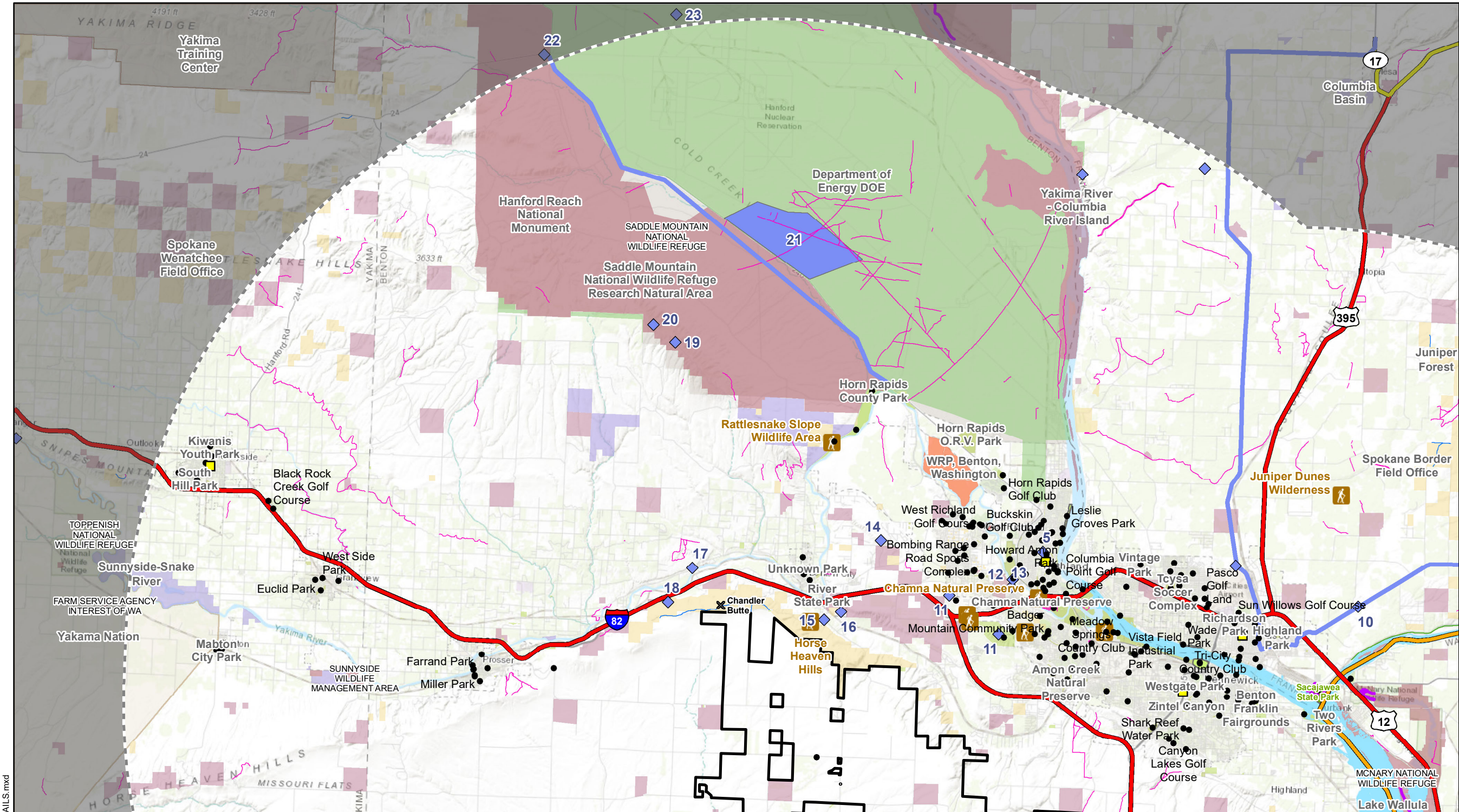
Also see our August 16, 2021 response to EFSEC data request “Land and Shoreline Use-1” in data package #2 regarding impacts to paragliding leaving from the BLM McBee trailhead. As described in that response, access to the McBee trailhead would not be affected by the Project.

Table 2: Hiking and Recreational Resources within 25 Miles of the Project Lease Boundary

(also see Section 4.2.4 of the ASC)

Recreational Resource Name	Management Unit	Distance from Project (closest point of resource)
McNary National Wildlife Refuge (H)	USFWS	2.7 miles E
Saddle Mountain National Wildlife Refuge (H)	USFWS	8.7 miles N
Cold Springs National Wildlife Refuge (H)	USFWS	11.3 miles S
Umatilla National Wildlife Refuge (H)	USFWS	11.4 miles SW
Irrigon Fish Hatchery	USFWS	13.9 miles S
Hanford Reach National Monument (H)	USFWS	14.3 miles N
Sunnyside Wildlife Management Area	USFWS	15 miles W
Washington Farm Service Agency Tracts	USFWS	24.7 miles W
Juniper Dunes OHV Area/ACEC/Wilderness Area (H)	BLM	15.3 miles NE
Hood Park	USACE	6.5 miles NE
Sand Station Recreation Area (Lake Wallula) (H)	USACE	8 miles S
Charbonneau Park (H)	USACE	12.5 miles NE
Fishhook Park (H)	USACE	18.5 miles NE
Johnson Butte (H)	DNR	Within Project Lease Boundary
Jump Off Joe Butte (H)	DNR	1.5 mile E
Chandler Butte (H)	DNR	1.8 miles NW
Goose Hill Butte (H)	DNR	2 miles NW
Sacajawea State Park (H)	WSP	5.2 miles N
Crow Butte Park (H)	WSP	22.2 miles SW
Hat Rock State Park (H)	OPRD	8.1 miles S
Irrigon Wildlife Area	ODFW	11 miles SW
Coyote Springs Wildlife Area	ODFW	21 miles SW
Horse Heaven Cemetery	Benton County	Within Project Lease Boundary
Hover Park (H)	Benton County	1.5 miles E
Wallula Gap Preserve (H)	Benton County	3 miles SE
Badger Mountain Centennial Preserve (H)	Benton County	4 miles NW
Two Rivers Park (H)	Benton County	4.5 miles NE
Candy Mountain Preserve (H)	Benton County	5 miles NW
Vista Park (H)	Benton County	5 miles NE
Rattlesnake Mountain Shooting Facility	Benton County	8 miles NW
Horn Rapids Park (H)	Benton County	9 miles NW
Boardman Park (H)	Morrow County	20.1 miles SW
Multiple Small Local Parks (H)	Multiple	variable
McBee Trailhead (Horse Heaven Hills) (H)	BLM	1.5 miles NW

(H) – Hiking Opportunities



Horse Heaven Wind Project



Figure 1

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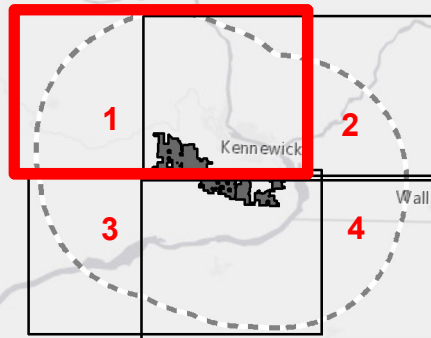
BENTON COUNTY, WA

Protected Areas Database

- Department of Defense (DOD)
- American Indian Lands
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Reference Map



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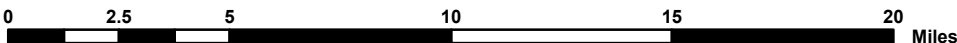
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* Ice Age Flood & Glacial Feature Name:

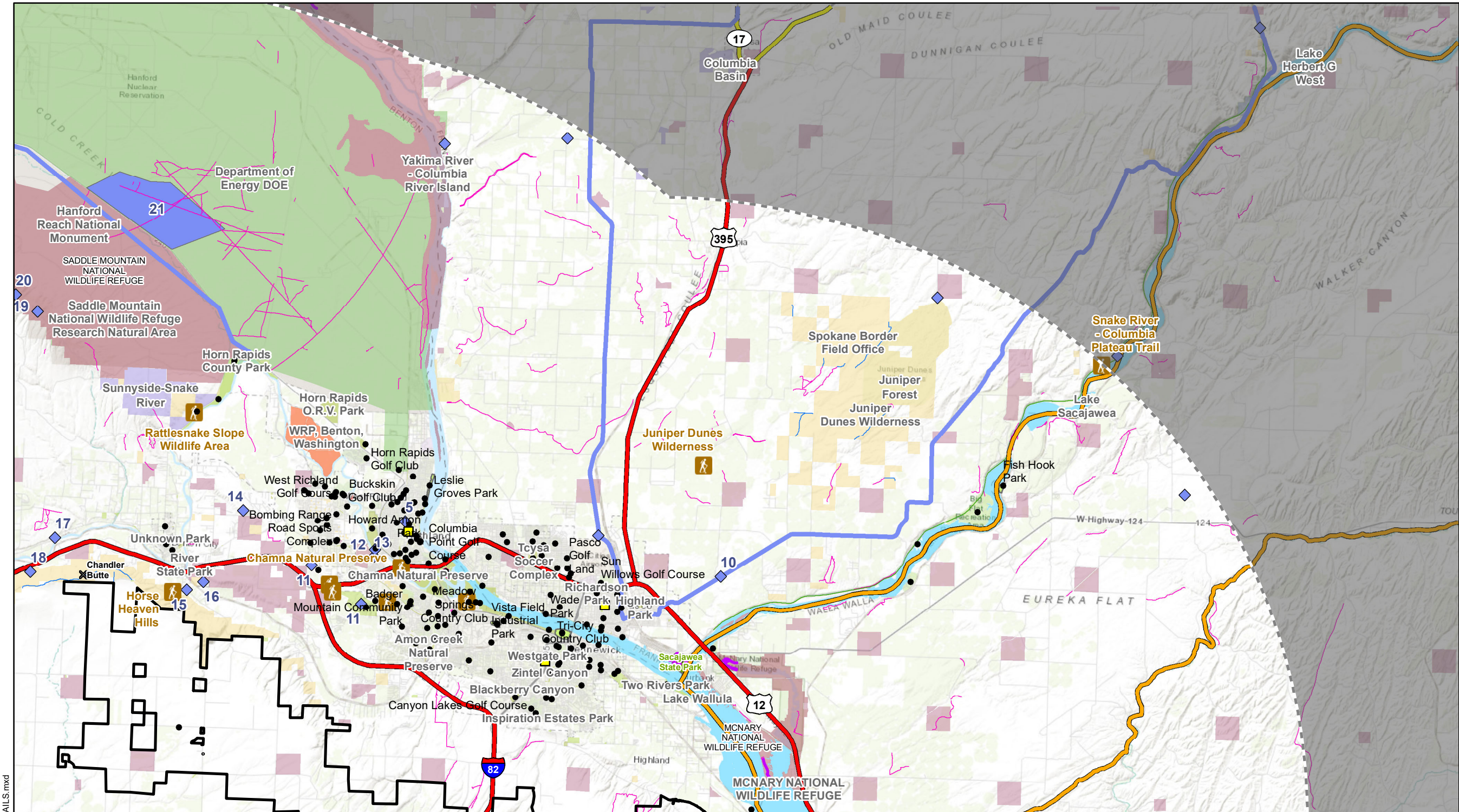
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| 5. Lake Lewis | 17. Yakima River Badlands |
| 6. Wallula Junction rhythmites | 18. Chandler Butte Landslide |
| 7. Cummins Bridge rhythmites | 19. Erratics & Bergmounds - Rattlesnake Slope |
| 8. Reese Coulee old flood | 20. Rattlesnake Mountain/Lalik |
| 9. Gardena Cliffs Rhythmites | 21. Clastic Dike polygon network |
| 10. Smith Canyon Coulee | 22. Yakima Barricade Bergmounds |
| 11. Lake Lewis Isles | 23. Cold Creek flood bar |
| 12. Yakima Bluffs | 24. Hanford Ranch National Monument |



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Horse Heaven Wind Project



Figure 1

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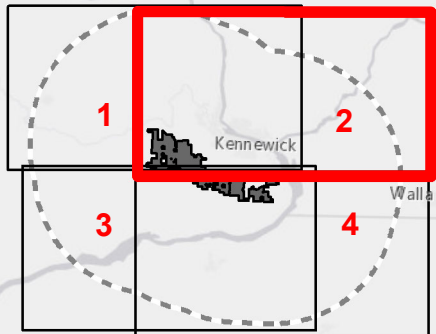
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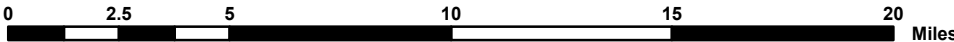
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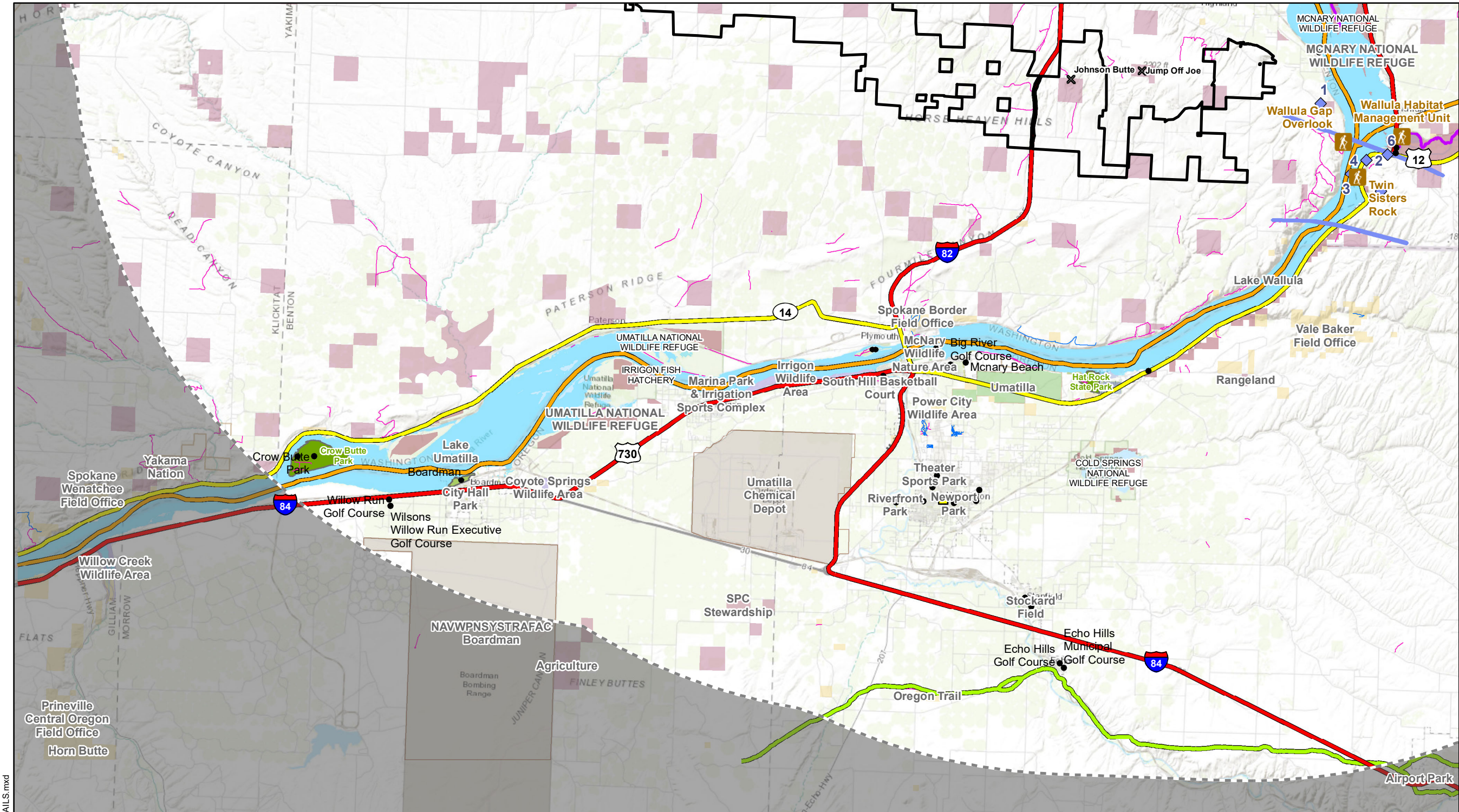
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Horse Heaven Wind Project



Figure 1

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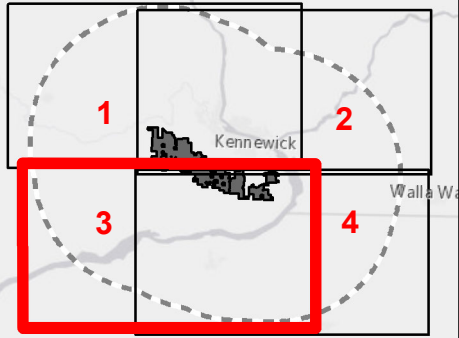
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- City
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 - County Park
- ### Ice Age Flood - National Geologic Trail Trails

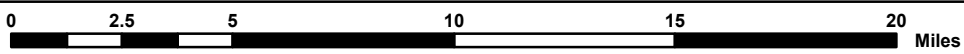
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Figure 1

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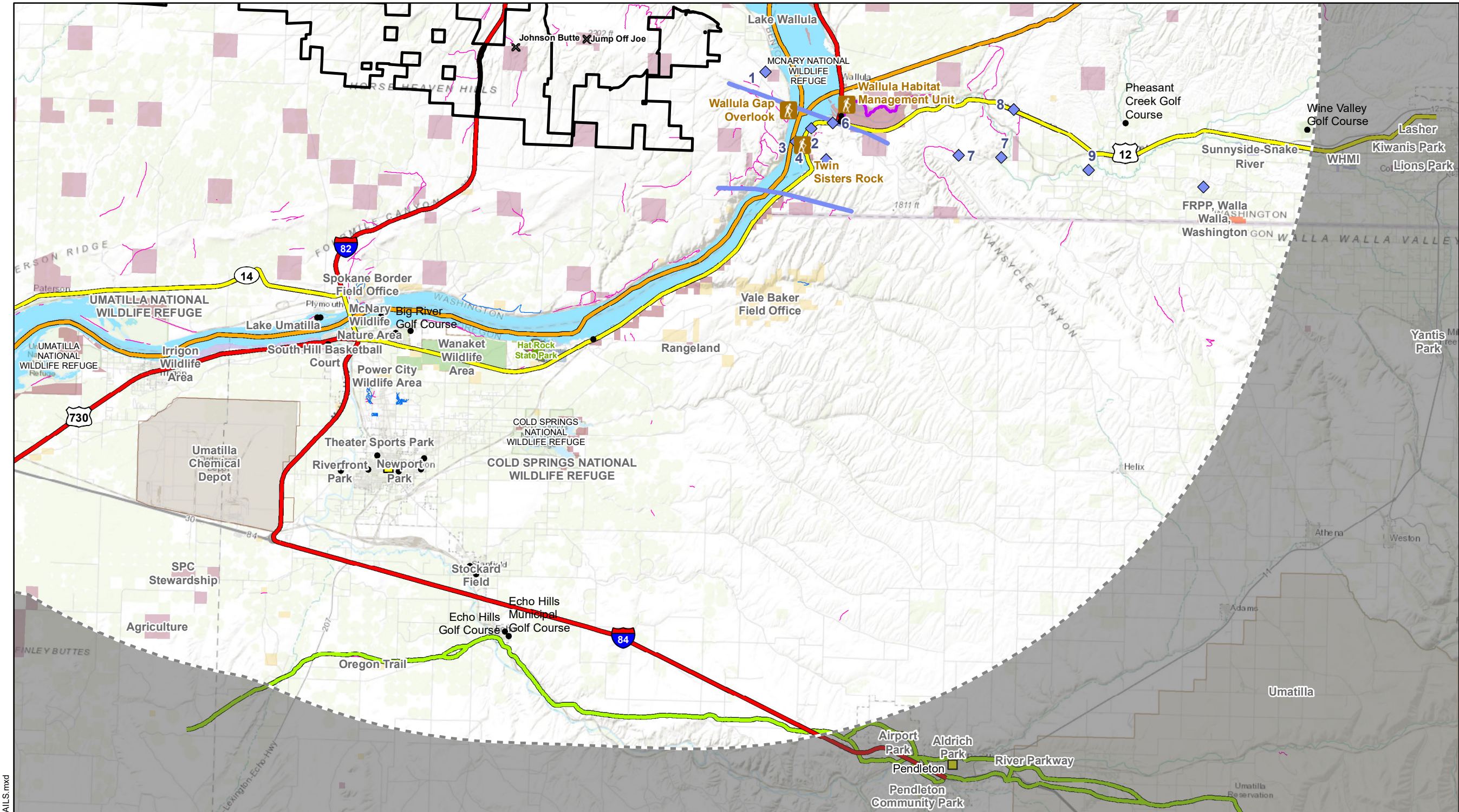
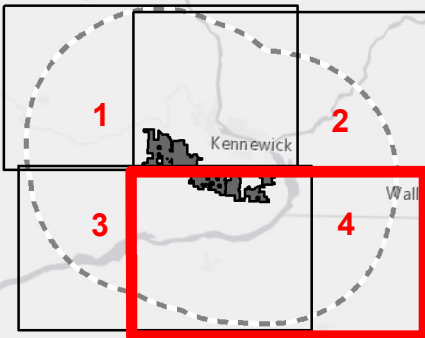
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