

**From:** [Moon, Amy \(UTC\)](#)  
**To:** [Owens, Joan \(UTC\)](#); [Kidder, Ami \(UTC\)](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Horse Heaven Hills Wind Project  
**Date:** Thursday, June 17, 2021 7:51:19 AM  
**Attachments:** [Video.mov](#)

Public Comment #0397  
Horse Heaven Wind Project  
Docket #210011

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Joan and Ami-

I received this email. I think it may need to go into the general Horse Heaven comments. What do you think?

-Amy

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**From:** Christina Caprio <caprio\_lv@pocketinet.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, June 11, 2021 1:15 PM  
**To:** Moon, Amy (UTC) <amy.moon@utc.wa.gov>  
**Subject:** Horse Heaven Hills Wind Project

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:** [Mike Minelli](#)  
**To:** [Moon, Amy \(UTC\)](#)  
**Subject:** Horse Heaven Hills Wind Farm  
**Date:** Saturday, June 26, 2021 10:17:35 PM  
**Attachments:** [SCOUT PHOTOS.pdf](#)

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Public Comment #0398  
Horse Heaven Wind Project  
Docket #210011

External Email

Dear Amy Moon:

06/25/2021

This Scout Clean Energy photo was submitted to the State's decision board (EFSEC) in their application to show the visual impact the turbines will have on the Tri Cities.

One can see in the distance through the fog and haze the photo showing 1 of 7 major subdivisions which are located on or at the base of the Horse Heaven Hills. They include Badger Canyon, Clodfelter, Tripple Vista, Grand Bluff, Summit View, Cottonwood, Mercantile Village not to mention Benton City. There are thousands of people living there. Why have they been overlooked, unrepresented and unquantified?

The second photo was taken by a Tri Cities resident which shows much more clearly several subdivisions with the HHHills as a backdrop. This picture gives an accurate view of the visual impact on the population that will be most affected.

After comparing the photos is it possible that Scout has chosen to minimize the visual impact in an effort to gain your approval?

Without question we need to reduce carbon pollution....but not by creating visual pollution. The Scout Clean Energy wind farm is just too close to a metropolitan area of 300,000 people.

Sincerely,  
Mike Minelli



## SCOUT'S PHOTO: What's Missing?? 6 Subdivisions!









**From:** [Moon, Amy \(UTC\)](#)  
**To:** [EESEC \(UTC\)](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Scout Clean Energy Wind Farm on the Horse Heaven Hills  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 6, 2021 8:23:13 AM

Public Comment #0399  
Horse Heaven Wind Project  
Docket #210011

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Please file with other general comments. Thanks.

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**From:** mstrankman@aol.com <mstrankman@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, July 4, 2021 12:02 AM  
**To:** Moon, Amy (UTC) <amy.moon@utc.wa.gov>  
**Subject:** Scout Clean Energy Wind Farm on the Horse Heaven Hills

External Email

I wanted to voice my opposition against the proposed Wind Turbine Project by Scout Clean Energy on the Horse Heaven Hills.

Over the past few years, I have become more of an environmentalist. I think the Wind Turbine Project will have adverse effect on the wildlife in the Horse Heaven Hills area.

I would suggest that before a decision is made on the Wind Turbine Project, that some kind of environmental impact assessment be made.

Thanks for reading my comments!

Mark Strankman

**From:** [Moon, Amy \(UTC\)](#)  
**To:** [EESEC \(UTC\)](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Turbines in Tricities  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 6, 2021 8:34:42 AM

Public Comment #0400  
Horse Heaven Wind Project  
Docket #210011

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Please add to the general comments. Thank you.

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

From: Patricia Youngren <[pmyoungren@me.com](mailto:pmyoungren@me.com)>  
Sent: Saturday, July 3, 2021 1:39 PM  
To: Moon, Amy (UTC) <[amy.moon@utc.wa.gov](mailto:amy.moon@utc.wa.gov)>  
Subject: Turbines in Tricities

External Email

I am a fairly new resident of the Tricities and am looking for additional information regarding the plan to install wind turbines along Horse Heaven Hills ridge. I am not an Inslee hater, as so many here seem to be, and I voted for him. But this seems to be a major bone of contention to residents in the area. I am all for clean energy but wonder why the Tricities skyline is being defaced to provide power to California? I am also concerned about the recycling, or lack thereof, for the blades. Any information explaining why state government thinks this beneficial to the state of Washington and, more specifically, to the Tricities area would be greatly appreciated. Thank you for your time and attention.

Patricia Youngren  
And others

**From:** [Stephanie Swanberg](#)  
**To:** [EFSEC \(UTC\)](#)  
**Subject:** Horse Heaven Wind Farm Community Survey  
**Date:** Thursday, October 14, 2021 1:36:47 PM  
**Attachments:** [image002.png](#)  
[image003.png](#)  
[Horse Heaven Wind Project - Public Opinion Survey.docx](#)  
[Horse Heaven Wind Project Public Opinion Survey Data All 210409.pdf](#)

Public Comment #0401  
Horse Heaven Wind Project  
Docket #210011

## External Email

Hi,

Please include this survey in the public record concerning the Horse Heaven Wind Farm Project.

Thank you,

**Stephanie Swanberg**  
Government & Regional Affairs Director



**Office:** 509.736.0510 | **Direct:** 509.491.3233 | **Cell:** 509.546.1613  
7130 W. Grandridge Blvd. Ste. C, Kennewick, WA 99336  
[Stephanie.Swanberg@tricityregionalchamber.com](mailto:Stephanie.Swanberg@tricityregionalchamber.com)





## Horse Heaven Wind Project - Public Opinion Survey

Scout Clean Energy is seeking permit authorization through the Washington State Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council (EFSEC) for the Horse Heaven Wind Project that includes up to 244 turbine locations, two solar arrays and battery storage systems covering 24 miles of viewshed along the Horse Heaven Hills in Benton County.

The Tri-City Regional Chamber of Commerce is conducting a [public opinion survey](#) to help determine community sentiment about the proposed Horse Heaven Wind Project to identify issues of greatest interest and concern to the region.

The three-question [SURVEY](#) will be open for two weeks:

**Thursday, March 25<sup>th</sup> – Thursday, April 8<sup>th</sup>**

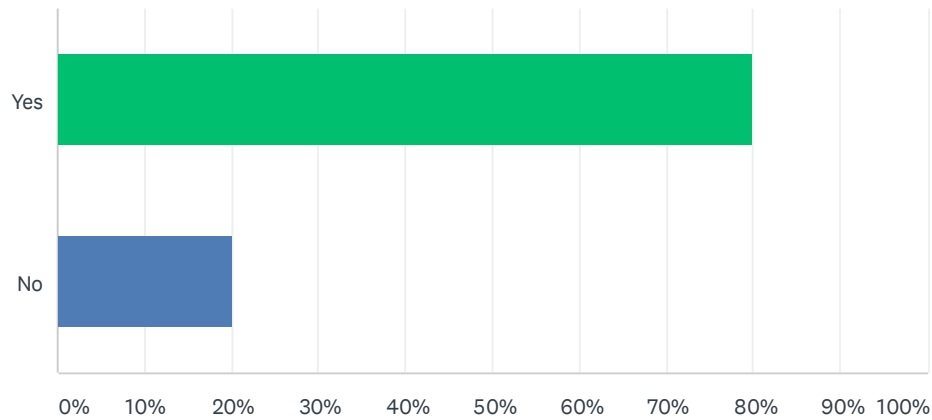
Let your voice be heard! Please take the survey & share it with others.

Wind Energy/Project Information Resources:

- [Horse Heaven Wind Project | EFSEC - The State of Washington Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council](#)
- [Scout Clean Energy Wind Farm Project in Benton County \(horseheavenwindfarm.com\)](#)
- [Save Our Ridges | Help Us Preserve the Panoramic Views in the Columbia Basin- Version 2 \(save-our-ridges.org\)](#)
- [Wind Power and Clean Energy Policy Perspectives – Benton PUD](#)
- Wind Power FAST FACTS – Benton PUD

## Q1 Should local government (Benton County) be part of the Wind Farm Project approval process?

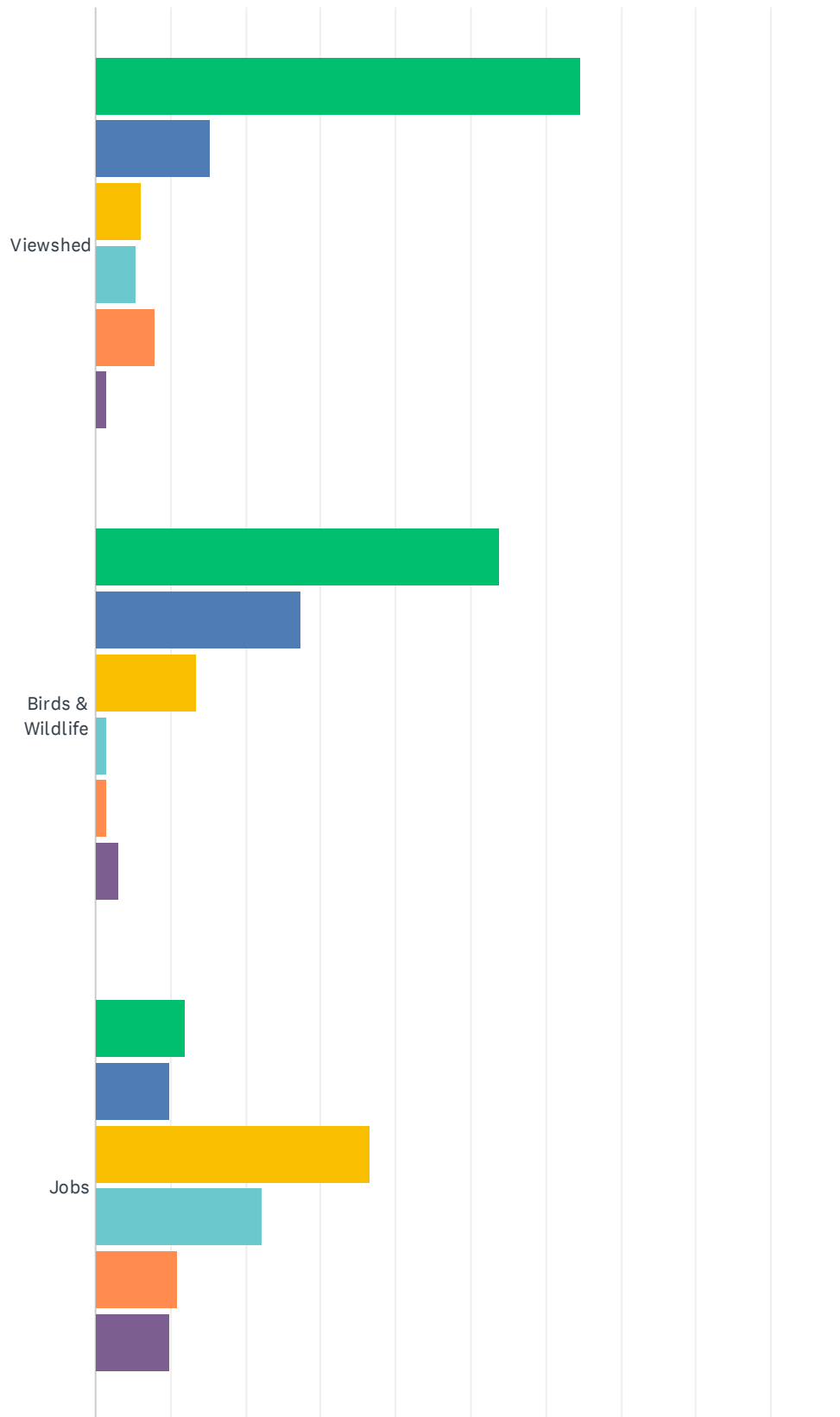
Answered: 2,183 Skipped: 37



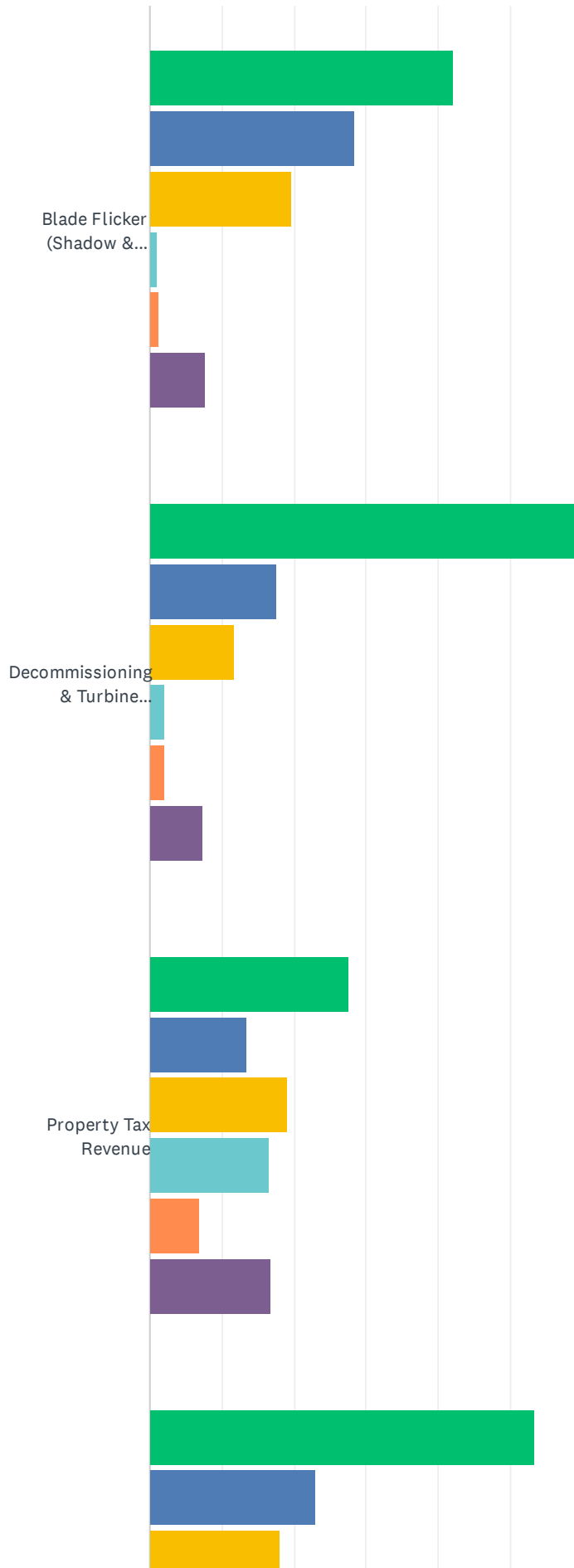
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	79.98%	1,746
No	20.02%	437
TOTAL		2,183

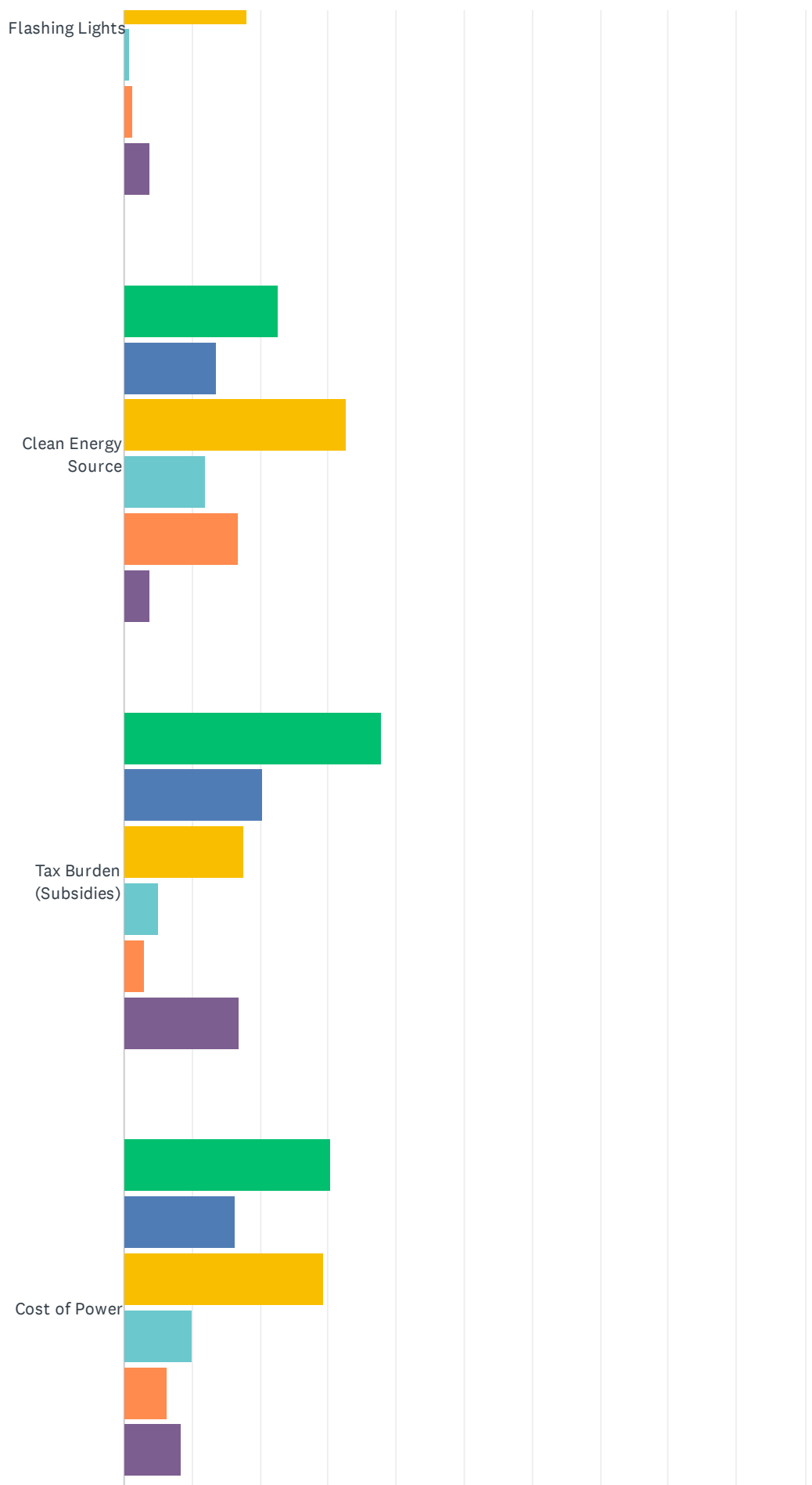
## Q2 Indicate the level of impact that the Horse Heaven Wind Project outcomes will have on the region:

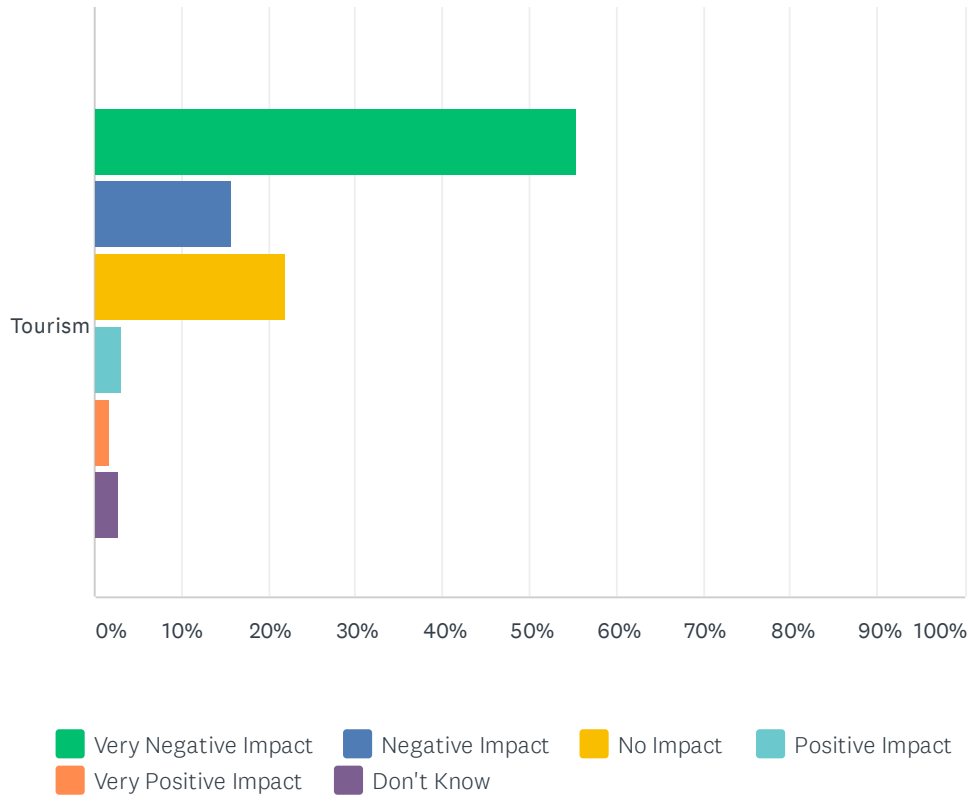
Answered: 2,217 Skipped: 3











	VERY NEGATIVE IMPACT	NEGATIVE IMPACT	NO IMPACT	POSITIVE IMPACT	VERY POSITIVE IMPACT	DON'T KNOW	TOTAL RESPONDENTS
Viewshed	64.67% 1,320	15.29% 312	6.03% 123	5.49% 112	7.94% 162	1.52% 31	2,041
Birds & Wildlife	53.67% 1,163	27.50% 596	13.43% 291	1.43% 31	1.48% 32	3.18% 69	2,167
Jobs	11.88% 255	9.74% 209	36.53% 784	22.13% 475	10.86% 233	9.93% 213	2,146
Blade Flicker (Shadow & Light)	42.10% 927	28.47% 627	19.71% 434	1.09% 24	1.32% 29	7.77% 171	2,202
Decommissioning & Turbine Disposal	59.46% 1,310	17.48% 385	11.76% 259	2.18% 48	2.09% 46	7.26% 160	2,203
Property Tax Revenue	27.68% 606	13.48% 295	19.05% 417	16.58% 363	6.94% 152	16.77% 367	2,189
Flashing Lights	53.43% 1,175	23.01% 506	18.01% 396	0.86% 19	1.32% 29	3.77% 83	2,199
Clean Energy Source	22.68% 497	13.56% 297	32.63% 715	11.82% 259	16.66% 365	3.70% 81	2,191
Tax Burden (Subsidies)	37.81% 830	20.36% 447	17.54% 385	4.97% 109	2.87% 63	16.90% 371	2,195
Cost of Power	30.36% 666	16.36% 359	29.22% 641	10.12% 222	6.24% 137	8.39% 184	2,194
Tourism	55.35% 1,216	15.61% 343	21.98% 483	3.19% 70	1.73% 38	2.73% 60	2,197

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
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1	Takes up tp much land mass, pōor choice for our āea	4/8/2021 1:12 PM
2	No discussions about how investment to this will impact local concerns like the achievement gap, mental health issues, and poverty. Sales tax, temporary jobs, and minor investment in local infrastructure is not enough.	4/8/2021 10:21 AM
3	The positives do not outweigh the negatives. Jobs will have a temporary bump but long term this is not a solution.	4/8/2021 9:35 AM
4	Government boondoggle	4/8/2021 7:58 AM
5	Please do not allow this to happen to our beautiful countryside.	4/8/2021 6:51 AM
6	It's a waste of taxes, they will not produce enough energy to pay for themselves for like 50 years. And after about thirty years they need major repairs. It's a stupid idea. Dam's and nuclear plants are better in every way.	4/7/2021 11:52 PM
7	Ugly and unsightly - a blight on nature	4/7/2021 11:45 PM
8	The benefits are very poor at best. Many more negatives than positives	4/7/2021 7:16 PM
9	Large use of land. Public money should be used for public energy. Company is out of state and lessens the local benefits.	4/7/2021 12:11 PM
10	turbines should be erected at point of consumption i feel. in western WA. or southern CA. if those markets need the power	4/6/2021 6:05 PM
11	make sure funds are evaluated and kept to maintain and decommission project.	4/6/2021 11:03 AM
12	Blades can not be recycled	4/6/2021 10:30 AM
13	Spoil Kennewick growth opportunities to the south	4/6/2021 5:39 AM
14	Need apples to apples comparison of energy produced by dams vs wind turbines. How many turbines are needed to produce asmuch as a dam.	4/5/2021 10:33 PM
15	Added justification for Olympia to remove dams and eliminate hydro power - very negative; this will happen. Then we will have excessive utility bills and rolling blackouts.	4/5/2021 3:47 PM
16	This project will greatly impact the overall appeal of our area in a very negative way, if this Colorado company wants to do a project like this put it in their own back yard. This area understands the positive aspect of both Nuclear power (a clean impact on both the region and clean energy) and hydro power!!! Our family has lived below this area and it will greatly effect our quality of life, property values and the wildlife!!! This should never be allowed to happen much less to a company located out of our area and state. We need to pass a law that does not allow these to go into our counties unless the power is used for our area (put the wind farms in your own area)!!!	4/5/2021 3:44 PM
17	These can ly ru. With there is hydro or natural gas back ups Why would we want this here especially when the power will go out ifbstate	4/4/2021 9:10 PM
18	Should not be much of a negative issue. More clean energy sources are good.	4/4/2021 7:25 PM
19	negative impact on natural wildlife. this area is known for what this wind project would destroy. the cost of these turbines is not worth what they actually bring to the table.	4/4/2021 2:23 PM
20	Is there a local (state) energy need? Is this a venture to sell energy to other areas?	4/4/2021 7:50 AM
21	Poor way to spend \$.	4/3/2021 11:10 PM
22	Our region does not need the energy and wind and solar does not help with capacity deficits	4/3/2021 9:27 PM
23	I have been in the tourism business for 40 years. I also owned a dryland weed farm that had turbines. To put this type of facility on the top of our Ridgeline in our community is a huge disaster. I am absolutely opposed to it	4/3/2021 9:12 PM
24	I am worried that resources (financial, land, materials, etc.) put towards this wind project would take away from being able to put in an energy source that is more efficient and would operate during times the Pacific Northwest is short on power (hottest and coldest days of the year).	4/3/2021 4:01 PM
25	unrecoverable impact of intact native plant communities/ecosystems	4/3/2021 12:04 PM

26	Low frequency vibration causes health problems to both humans and animals	4/2/2021 7:20 PM
27	Wind turbines have low availability (typically 30%) producing power only when the wind blows. They require expensive energy storage (e.g., batteries) to system-integrate their intermittent output. One nuclear facility would replace hundreds of wind turbines with a much smaller footprint.	4/2/2021 5:56 PM
28	The local PUDs will be forced to buy electcity at a much higher rate than hydro power. A wind turbins only last 25 years and will become too costly to refurbish or remove.	4/2/2021 5:36 PM
29	They are an ugly sight of our beautiful landscape.	4/2/2021 4:19 PM
30	Jobs would only be occasional or temporary. People would move away fish and wildlife would be tremendously impacted and why the hell would we want something so negative done in our state just to export the energy over to California who has Bandit obviously for reason Jay Inslee is a piece of crap and shouldn't be making decisions for we the people (90% opposing) that don't want something he needs to get kicked out of office he hasn't done anything good for us.	4/1/2021 11:27 PM
31	Wind turbines are a joke. Jobs come from Europe, turbines made there. Blades in lock when wind is over 25 mph, cost is outrageous payback is 20 years then need to replace immediatlym	4/1/2021 8:37 PM
32	Very positive impact on small family farms in the region	4/1/2021 1:50 PM
33	Short lifespan	4/1/2021 7:35 AM
34	Are they going to bury the blades in Benton County too? These are a net negative resource!	3/31/2021 9:13 PM
35	Total blight on the landscape!! Just say NO!!	3/31/2021 8:55 PM
36	Noise and vibration, they are not silent	3/31/2021 8:53 PM
37	protecting the skyline is a specious argument without basis in fact. The wind towers are better looking than the housing developments currently expanding in that direction.	3/31/2021 8:02 PM
38	Go nucear	3/31/2021 7:57 PM
39	Wind and solar power is not efficient , not clean or green , not reliable , and sure is heck not cheaper. Please say no to wind and solar power.	3/31/2021 6:39 PM
40	Extensive ugly eyesore, unnatural, destroys views	3/31/2021 5:23 PM
41	Don't harm my quality of life by putting in ugly manmade contraptions.	3/31/2021 5:08 PM
42	These do not promote clean energy. They fill our landfills, the are not recycle able, require mass concrete, damage wildlife and do not produce enough energy to operate our area.	3/31/2021 4:33 PM
43	We don't need any more obstacles in the path of natural flyaways. These wind turbines destroy the natural scenic beauty of our region. Greed is the motivation for destroying habitat, local communities and causing irreparable damage to our environment.	3/31/2021 3:39 PM
44	Much of Horse Heaven Hills is now private property and cannot be enjoyed anyways, if they don't feel like sharing then I say full steam ahead with the turbines, it is time to make America Green.	3/31/2021 1:54 PM
45	Unsightly. Irregular contribution to grid. Unfair burden to dry side of state for benefit of west side. Why not build wind farms on Washington coast? Answer to that question will tell why wind farms should not be built in the Horseheavens ridge.	3/31/2021 1:17 PM
46	They are ugly and they are not a green renewable energy with the cost of making them and the battery life. Maybe in the long run. They are littering our beautiful land	3/31/2021 12:00 PM
47	senic view, aircraft hazard,raise elect rates,\$ to out of state & we pay	3/31/2021 10:14 AM
48	They say it cheap power, but they are so subsidized...and ugly.	3/31/2021 8:40 AM
49	Add the damn wind farm	3/31/2021 6:42 AM
50	This farm will have no benefit to our area. None of our local utilities will be purchasing the power generated. Not enough jobs will come from this to help our economy.	3/31/2021 1:13 AM

51	There are numbers of how much processed oil each turbine requires to operate; changed yearly. The unique viewsheds we have will be decimated by these overgrown weeds. Who gets to pay for burying these fiberglass monstrosities after the are no longer useful? They become giant land destroying garbage..This is not a green renewable resource. Go nuclear.	3/30/2021 10:54 PM
52	It's unsightly. And the power is exported. We don't need that here.	3/30/2021 10:34 PM
53	Support is low in Washington State!	3/30/2021 10:27 PM
54	The wind doesn't blow all the time. You still have to have a backup power supply so we pay for double the infrastructure	3/30/2021 8:21 PM
55	Not reliable power source - ask Texas	3/30/2021 7:32 PM
56	decline in property values	3/30/2021 7:09 PM
57	Our wind blows in the spring and fall and our energy demands are in the Summer and Winter. We are a major migratory path for many bird species which will be adversely effected by this project which will line the pockets of those outside the Tri-cities.	3/30/2021 6:40 PM
58	Whether this project generates electricity for the Tri-Cities or not, we must do everything we can to support clean and renewable energy. We owe it to our children and grandchildren.	3/30/2021 6:22 PM
59	Butt ugly!!	3/30/2021 6:12 PM
60	No impact on tax revenue due to decreased value of surrounding property	3/30/2021 6:11 PM
61	Increases cost of power	3/30/2021 5:57 PM
62	What an eyesore on the beautiful hills	3/30/2021 5:35 PM
63	If the energy was staying local and lowering our own energy bills, I'd be in favor of it but it seems like all our energy projects around here do nothing for our local costs.	3/30/2021 5:32 PM
64	Job impact? Those are temporary jobs and not a lasting asset to our community. We do not need the property taxes that Scout says will be generated. It's a windfall that we never expected to have.	3/30/2021 4:29 PM
65	It is NOT "clean" or cheap!	3/30/2021 3:49 PM
66	There are many more efficient and "clean" forms of energy production. This will create "irreversible" damage to our landscapes and the environment where this project is staged to take place. I have seen what happens where these projects have been put in place first hand, lots of dead birds, unrecyclable components, oil everywhere on the ground, and an eyesore for everyone to look at that doesn't produce enough energy to be worth the time or resources.	3/30/2021 2:39 PM
67	huge negative impact on people that live in an area that look at the hills - could have a large impact on home resale values	3/30/2021 2:05 PM
68	The wind turbines are non recyclable. The power they produce will most likely be outsourced and not benefit our region. When driving through various parts of Washington and Oregon where the wind turbine farms exist, rarely are the turbines all functioning properly. The tax dollar spent to keep the machines up, the pollution from the oil it takes to run them, and the damage it causes to native bird paths is enough to stop this madness of a project.	3/30/2021 2:03 PM
69	Has anyone pulled any data in the massive resistance if these parks in Europe and especially in Germany, Denmark, Netherlands, Sweden, Norway etc. What does long time studies prove in the real power production numbers. What are you doing to recycle the old systems, nothing because there is no technology out there to correctly recycle old windmills	3/30/2021 12:37 PM
70	Demand for electricity can only go up. We need to keep the dams and add new technology as it becomes available. Decentralized solar power, I.e., solar panels on commercial buildings and private residences should be promoted and facilitated.	3/30/2021 12:22 PM
71	Unsightly to current residents in that area	3/30/2021 12:22 PM
72	Income for farmers!	3/30/2021 12:06 PM
73	Compared to the houses that will eventually be built there...these will have less impact	3/30/2021 11:36 AM
74	Sound pollution	3/30/2021 11:31 AM

75	These wind turbines will have a very negative impact on our local community, they will decrease our property values as well as be an eye sore to our views. I live on that hill and personally do not want them hanging over my head	3/30/2021 11:30 AM
76	Having worked in the electrical power industry, no amount of wind power will ever produce enough energy to replace the energy we get from nuclear and hydro power in this area or the US.	3/30/2021 11:23 AM
77	The disposal of these in itself is arrogant. To think it's ok to bury this stuff on out beautiful hill and make them grave yards for personnel agendas. We have lowest power rates in the country there is no need for these here, other then \$\$\$ for some green company with stakes in our local community.	3/30/2021 9:37 AM
78	We have beautiful hillsides south of Kennewick. These would ruin the view. I truly believe their impact on clean energy is negated by the disposal of parts and overall cost to purchase and maintain. I think they can place them in a less obtrusive location if they must build.	3/30/2021 9:23 AM
79	The damage it will do to the beauty of our area us terrible. We already have windmills across our hills as we enter the area. They are not an appealing site. We should use nuclear and dam power instead of windmills.	3/30/2021 9:18 AM
80	Turbine Farms are detrimental to both natural and man-made environments. This money should be invested in a nuclear energy source. I have a B.S. in Earth and Environmental Sciences.	3/30/2021 9:12 AM
81	Do not put them up! They will scare out landscape and views	3/30/2021 9:10 AM
82	There is nothing to gain from wind turbines, when we already have a power source in place that has been flowing for ages and we have been able to power our communities and communities in other states. I think these would be intrusive and an eye sore and the maintenance on these giants will be astronomical. Not to mention when they break or worse get an oil leak. We have enough energy on the East side to more than likely power our state these are not needed.	3/30/2021 9:02 AM
83	We have been duped. This is not clean energy.	3/30/2021 8:53 AM
84	We DO NOT want this ugly project in our neighborhood.	3/30/2021 8:52 AM
85	We are adamantly opposed to this project. The impact on the horse heaven hills would be heartbreaking, the distruction of the view of the hills would be disastrous. We live in an area that has a wonderful view of the hills from our front windows, to imagine the horror of seeing those baldes and towers daily, not to mention the flashing lights all night. We would have to sell the home we have lived in for nearly 30 years and relocate away from the tri cities. We can only imagine what it will do to our land values. Also the negative issue they create for the wild birds, especially the nesting hawks in the area.. Please find a way to keep a project like this away from the tri cities, and Washington state. The employment offered is temporary, with no long term gain to the area. Also from info we have received, the power from these windmills is not worth with the cost and negative impact on the land. Stay with hydro power. Its proven and in place now.	3/30/2021 8:32 AM
86	concerned because of them being in the migratory bird parh.	3/30/2021 7:32 AM
87	We want our beautiful view left alone NOT massive wind turbines that do not benefit the community at all.	3/30/2021 7:25 AM
88	No long term benefit to Tri-Cities. Completely oppose.	3/30/2021 7:03 AM
89	My property will lose value.	3/30/2021 6:49 AM
90	Try and build a Windfarm in Boulder County, Colorado, and watch what the local tree huggers in Boulder would do. They would have none of it! We are just a distant location for their investments. DO NOT ALLOW THIS!	3/30/2021 6:47 AM
91	These cause public land to be shut down, it belongs to the public!!	3/30/2021 6:43 AM
92	People keep focusing on the aesthetics of project, I want to know why we are fixated w/ marring 25 miles of landscape w/ an inefficient, weather-dependent energy source? Is this project to make people feel good? If you believe in climate change, then nuclear is the way to go! Columbia Generating Station produces enough energy to power up most of Seattle! Can you say the same for 25 miles of wind turbines?	3/30/2021 6:31 AM

93	Nothing positive about us footing the bill to provide energy for outside areas and not our own.	3/30/2021 6:02 AM
94	There are plenty of other places away from the backdrop of the tri-cities. They seem to get a lot of wind on the coast. Maybe try that and see what coasties think of "green power" then.	3/30/2021 5:23 AM
95	It's the biggest waste on money! It cost more to money to move, power, and maintain them , then they will ever produce	3/30/2021 12:21 AM
96	Eastern Washington bares enough of these worthless, absolutely ridiculous eyesores. It is a total waste of money and the true environmental impact of disposal is astronomical! Not to mention completely ignored!! Farmers want the money from the leases at what cost to the majority of the people? 70 landowners desire for more income shouldn't out way the environmental impact. Put them somewhere else!! We have enough!!!! The ones we have should be removed! They are horrible, burn up and leak oil and half the time the don't even produce electricity or shut them down because we have an abundance of power!! I'd pay higher rates for power before seeing these be installed!!!	3/30/2021 12:15 AM
97	Disingenuous corporate endrun to avoid and honor local input - very negative impact.	3/29/2021 11:19 PM
98	It will ruin our scenic view if the horse heaven hills	3/29/2021 10:33 PM
99	The generation from this pyroject will displace clean, renewable, lower-cost hydro power in spring due to the court-ordered Oversupply protocol.	3/29/2021 9:27 PM
100	The history and views of the Horse Heaven Hills should not be marred by this wind project. Because it was mandated that what some call clean energy is only true when the wind blows. Battery back up has not proven to sustain loss power when the wind doesn't blow. Hydro is a clean renewable source, and more economical. Investor owned utilities are federally mandated to add renewables to their portfolios. So no benefit to the area and the power generated will be wheeled elsewhere and BPA rate payers locally don't need it. Wind farms can't be placed in the scenic Columbia Gorge but what is beautiful to one area doesn't mean the landscape isn't beautiful to who views it everyday. It's a known fact that other countries only build them here to get subsidies from the US and rate payers end up footing the Bill. Construction labor only lasts until the project is done and then the farm has a limited number of employees to maintain operation snd repair. Make sure there is a policy made for decommissioning or going bankrupt. Have those funds set aside in an account. We fought long snd hard against the one on the hills facing Union, OR. When Oregon subsidies (Energy credits) went away they stopped pursuing the project. The project at a thief Valley out of North powder got approved before anyone could fight it. So, I agree with stopping this project just so investor owned utilities have to meet "new" renewables and place them in areas that are home to wildlife and affect people's daily lives.	3/29/2021 9:15 PM
101	The cost & disposal are not worth having them. They are noisy and an eyesore.Not good for the environment, neither are the solar panels.	3/29/2021 8:54 PM
102	I don't see any benefit for our community at all	3/29/2021 8:34 PM
103	Who benefits from this manufacture of power?	3/29/2021 8:08 PM
104	Negative impact on views and property values	3/29/2021 7:59 PM
105	What will the costs be to purchase, install, and maintainin the wind farm? What would the price be per kilowat hour than the price we pay for hydro/nuclear power we pay now?	3/29/2021 7:27 PM
106	I think they look rather majestic	3/29/2021 7:07 PM
107	Adopt more nuclear energy in this region. It would add jobs and 24-7 energy. We have the talent pool here	3/29/2021 6:57 PM
108	Will cause rolling blackouts.	3/29/2021 6:52 PM
109	I think the change could be a positive draw. The wind mills can be a new skyline kind of like the cake bridge.	3/29/2021 6:45 PM
110	From my knowledge and from what I have seen first hand, typically contract workers are NOT from the local region and that they come from other areas. As for clean energy, we already have clean energy in the area. I do not support this project!	3/29/2021 5:26 PM
111	Turbines kill birds of prey and don't save any carbon. It takes hydrocarbons to build and demolish the turbines	3/29/2021 5:18 PM



112	If the electricity isn't benefitting our region, why allow them to damage our Washington wildlife, landscapes, landfills? Washingtonian's do not need to ruin Washington for the benefit of other states.	3/29/2021 5:14 PM
113	I don't understand why this is an issue. We already have wind turbines up there and power lines towards Finley. If we get cheaper power, tax write offs, and higher housing values for being local, I don't see a problem.	3/29/2021 4:41 PM
114	The impact of climate on hydro has not been shared, we may need this power.	3/29/2021 4:39 PM
115	Allow land owners to use their property as they see fit.	3/29/2021 4:37 PM
116	Jobs would be short term to construct, employ few to maintain.	3/29/2021 4:14 PM
117	Ah imagine sitting outside at one of the Red Mountain wineries....and staring at a sea of windmills that need subsidizing from MY tax dollars and pay for themselves in 20 years, just before decommissioning. Please NO!	3/29/2021 4:04 PM
118	I live in, and like, the Tri-Cities, but pleasing physical/geographical features is something we have very little of. Better to place the turbines in the the greater Tri-Cities area than in an area such as Ellensburg, where beauty does exist. (The turbines in that area are a serious eyesore.)	3/29/2021 3:55 PM
119	Salvage impact to our land fields of the blades n parts. Another waste clean up expense similar to Hanford waste clean up. They do wear out. And will be discarded	3/29/2021 3:54 PM
120	I would rather see productive wind turbines than housing development on the hills	3/29/2021 3:23 PM
121	No not allow this to proceed.	3/29/2021 3:17 PM
122	they are so pretty to look at!	3/29/2021 3:15 PM
123	I think it's a great idea, happy to be contacted for other information adammangel85@gmail.com	3/29/2021 3:06 PM
124	devalue homes in the area	3/29/2021 2:35 PM
125	The only questions you are asking are essentially money driven - it has nothing to do with how it impacts our (the communities) views and end up having an eyesore to view every single day. The company that is requesting to build this eye sore should build it in their own backyard not ours.	3/29/2021 12:45 PM
126	An inappropriate and unreliable power source for this area.	3/29/2021 12:25 PM
127	Make paragliding very hard from Kiona and make some flights impossible	3/29/2021 11:25 AM
128	Nothing green about wind power.	3/29/2021 11:24 AM
129	NEED: Washington already has abundant clean energy through hydro, so no need for this.	3/29/2021 11:23 AM
130	It's a good area for wind farm.	3/29/2021 11:22 AM
131	WHAT GOOD DO THEY DO IF THEY ARE NOT USED AND HOOKED UP TO USE. IT JUST COSTS ALOT OF MONEY FOR NOTHING	3/29/2021 11:14 AM
132	First the turbines; then the dams breached. Tri-citians will have to pay.	3/29/2021 11:09 AM
133	Graffiti on Nature - eyesore.	3/29/2021 11:03 AM
134	our dams and nuclear plants provide great renewable energy for our area and I oppose making our Horse Heaven Hills ugly to provide the west side with power.	3/29/2021 10:14 AM
135	The only people that benefit from the turbines are the companies installing/building them, and people leasing their ground. The small amount of power generated does not even stay in the local area. These turbines would be a huge detriment to all that is good in our area. There is also the glaring fact that Scout Energy chose to go to the State for approval, thus trying to shut out the Community that would be impacted.	3/29/2021 9:46 AM
136	Our region shouldn't have to pay the visual price for energy generated for others outside our State. The nuclear plant and hydro are both preferable sources of clean energy for us and they're already here. If more power is needed locally, let expand those two.	3/29/2021 9:45 AM
137	They're not needed.	3/29/2021 9:38 AM

138	It will be horrible. Very against.	3/29/2021 9:35 AM
139	We have a farm and home in horse heaven and the windmills have very destructive impact on the land.	3/29/2021 9:03 AM
140	We who live here shouldn't be shamed by the wheat farmers who would be the ONLY ones who may benefit from this ridiculous project. Build the ugly turbines somewhere else, as they will not be supplying energy in this area. This area already produces it's share of clean energy.	3/29/2021 8:35 AM
141	This is an inefficient method of energy production which benefits an out of state business.	3/29/2021 8:33 AM
142	We have nuclear power and power generated by dams. This is a waste of space, environment, resources and tax payers dollars. Not to mention an eye sore.	3/29/2021 8:23 AM
143	access to recreation area will be restricted	3/29/2021 7:52 AM
144	This is political-There are better green energy-try nuclear energy	3/29/2021 7:43 AM
145	The power provided by wind turbines is inconsistent. Wind energy is unnecessary in our area with nuclear and hydro power. This project will inhibit urban growth in that area and negatively impact those living there.	3/29/2021 7:32 AM
146	Wind and solar are a low density, intermittent energy sources that take a lot of land and are environmentally unfriendly for disposal.	3/29/2021 7:25 AM
147	Not on our Ridges!!! Opposed!!	3/29/2021 7:19 AM
148	Use hydro	3/29/2021 6:52 AM
149	It's bad enough going places that I used to frequent on vacations and seeing those monsters everywhere and destroying the once beautiful scenery. Why would I want it in my back yard. We don't need them, we have more than enough power between the dams and our Hanford site. WE DO NOT WANT THOSE UGLY THINGS IN OUR BACK YARDS.	3/29/2021 3:12 AM
150	Only30% efficient of rated output.. nameplate megawatt capacity for over 250 towers near. Equivalent to columbia generating plant. Its full power available 24/7/365 near 100% more steady winds on or near coast. Put it on west side where the power is needed and capture the more continuous off shore wind.	3/29/2021 2:59 AM
151	One (negative) step closer to removal of Columbia / Snake Rivers dams	3/28/2021 10:33 PM
152	We have nuclear waste that are more dangerous than wind turbines and solar arrays	3/28/2021 9:30 PM
153	wind turbines only provide power when it is least required.	3/28/2021 9:05 PM
154	We need proper studies and local involvement	3/28/2021 8:45 PM
155	green power on private land, couldn't be better	3/28/2021 8:26 PM
156	No positive reason to build the wind farm!!!	3/28/2021 8:20 PM
157	Wine industry tourism negative impact	3/28/2021 8:06 PM
158	It seems that people who want wind farm energy do not necessarily live where wind farms could be made. Wind farms are not aesthetically pleasing. There is also great concern about the disposal for the blades and products once they are no longer used. I say no to more wind farms. Hydro power is incredibly efficient and effective.	3/28/2021 8:06 PM
159	Wind turbines are a total waste. By the time they can make a profit, they must be rebuilt. No sense in ruining the Horse Heavens for that.	3/28/2021 7:44 PM
160	Negative- reduction in price of homes with strong views of the windmills	3/28/2021 6:38 PM
161	Some see our landscape as UGLY; those of us who have lived here for years treasure our unique landscape that has a plethora of flora and fauna. I'm POSITIVE that if a wind farm like this were proposed on the hills around Puget Sound (Cascades, Olympics or within metropolitan areas), it would be stopped dead in its tracks. BEGGING you to leave our pristine area alone. Built your energy farm where you live.	3/28/2021 5:51 PM
162	They are burying these in the ground when they are done with them. Large area of buried turbines buried in wyoming.	3/28/2021 5:13 PM

163	This is not an eye sore issue. These do not produce the energy needed as the wind is intermittent as well as violent at times which these cannot be run in. It wreaks havoc on the grid regarding hydro power as they have to shut down turbines when the wind is up. It takes hundreds of wind turbines to even come close to producing what one hydro turbine does. It doesn't help that the planets skipped the local county permitting and went straight to the overspending politicians in Olympia. All this does is created more taxes to pay the leases on the farmland.	3/28/2021 5:08 PM
164	the power genenerated is not for here but for California. So the limited power lines in the area will be loading up with power for them.	3/28/2021 3:05 PM
165	The damms bring plenty of power to this area, when do not need these windmills and solar panels to produce power, we have plenty. They are eyesores!! This project does nothing positive for our community and brings nothing positive to our community. The only ones that think they are benefiting are the property owners of where the windmills will be located. And after the windmills have been decommissioned who will be responsible for removing the eyesores?	3/28/2021 2:53 PM
166	They destroy the nature view	3/28/2021 2:52 PM
167	We gain nothing we need as Benton County residents. If other areas want these wind farms so bad, put them in their back yards! We don't want or need them here!	3/28/2021 2:42 PM
168	SAY NO TO THIS. HYDROPOWER ALL THE WAY.	3/28/2021 2:04 PM
169	If it helps with clean energy and the large costs I am currently paying for electric I am all for it. I hope with the jobs it will create local people will be hired not all brought in from companies. Keep clean Keep local	3/28/2021 2:02 PM
170	They wouldn't survive without subsidies	3/28/2021 1:35 PM
171	Wind turbines have relatively short lifespans and there isn't a closed loop for the parts' disposal. Therefore, there is a misnomer that they are a clean energy source. There are far too many tax subsidies for windfarms; the technology is established, therefore it is time to let the markets decide if they are worth the expense (eliminate the tax subsidies!).	3/28/2021 1:13 PM
172	Not in our backyard	3/28/2021 12:09 PM
173	They just look awful, like a dead forest!	3/28/2021 11:52 AM
174	we are so tired of being taken advantage of	3/28/2021 11:33 AM
175	A lot of unknowns... will peoples' views be ruined? Does anyone care about that??	3/28/2021 11:00 AM
176	Nobody wants to look upon these unsightly windmills when the view is what we bought our property for. They will have a negative effect on our property value!	3/28/2021 10:50 AM
177	Let those farmers do this to benefit us all	3/28/2021 10:20 AM
178	How about extreme land pollution!!!! Too many words for the space provided ☹	3/28/2021 10:02 AM
179	This is not the right location for this project.	3/28/2021 10:02 AM
180	Provides no benefit to us, other then spoiling views.	3/28/2021 9:40 AM
181	In Iowa and Nebraska the sound whir whir whir carries for 3 miles. The majority of these are within 3 miles and many less than a mile. In 1988 Batelle did an atmospheric test to determine drift of chemical particles that were applied on 860 acres approx 3 miles from my farm in badger canyon. This 860 acres drifted over 400 sq miles of Tri cities from kiona to WSU Tri cities to the processing plants in Pasco off 395 and Finley 9 mile canyon up to the top of HHH and all Tri cities in between. Batelle determined the hills and canyons were unique to Tri cities and no where else on the US could replicate. These canyons echo and carry sounds from 5-6 miles back with airplane applications that sounded like they are on the ridge. These are documented in WSDA records if one chooses to look for them. From 1988-1993 when aerial application was removed from over 125000 acres using herbicides and category 1 skull and crossbones chemicals. These canyons are unpredictable on sound that will carry to our residences on the ridges and below the ridges and we have no compensation for the noise and devalue of property we would have when people don't want the constant whir whir whir. With all the turbines there will be no silent nights, no beauty on the ridge and no more geese sounds as the constant whir will drown out their sounds especially when their scout energy map and their	3/28/2021 9:18 AM

scale show the majority of machines within 3 miles that lowans here on flat land. We have the canyons to emphasize it. Furthermore this power is to replace fossil fuels that Washingtonians don't use so why are we even considering this. Furthermore Our energy alternatives should consider USA companies, USA made products and made in America. Scout is an Australian company and backed by China to use their products. In Iowa the same thing has happened and China backs the company for their products that fail in a few years and replacement costs are expensive and left as a burden on the counties. The power isn't used in Iowa, it is sent to Chicago or Gary Indiana. This is info from my family from Iowa. After installation is done the company sells the company off (they have their money and maintenance hasn't started yet with breakdowns) then the new company wants to have new contracts. This has gone on in Nebraska and Iowa for years. The farmers are left with the 135-170 cu yards of concrete, the lines, the roads probably poorly maintained and adding to the Tri city dust storms. We don't need the power it needs to go to the states that use fossil fuels but we need to stop letting China products and make American products. I vote note to HHH eyesore wind machines

182	hydro and nuclear power make this region amazingly clean already, this wind farm would be for export only and the negatives far outweigh any upside for our community	3/28/2021 9:08 AM
183	unneeded regional power (we have nuclear/hydro)	3/28/2021 9:04 AM
184	My backyard would face this and it would destroy our view. Take a trip to Pomeroy and see what they have done to that beautiful country side. And for what we have more power here than any place in the country.	3/28/2021 8:19 AM
185	The people who OWN the land should be making this decision, not citizens who are worried about their view. If a private citizen is worried about the view they should buy the land.	3/28/2021 8:00 AM
186	Prevents sprawl. I rather have wind turbines than roads and McMansions put up there	3/28/2021 4:43 AM
187	They are an eyesore	3/28/2021 3:52 AM
188	After seeing how these things failed in Texas, and seeing how they ruin the natural landscape, how they impact people living close to them, how they are removed and destroyed from age or failure, they are just one more thing that will take up lots of room in the landfills. The impact on the birds and wildlife is immeasurable.	3/28/2021 12:58 AM
189	Turbines will ruin skyline on the ridges surrounding the area. They're an eyesore, as they are on Jump Off Joe area to the Wallula area.	3/27/2021 10:52 PM
190	Do these wind farms directly benefit the surrounding counties in lower electricity bills????	3/27/2021 9:59 PM
191	I would rather have turbine compared to homes and street lights scattering the hillside.	3/27/2021 9:45 PM
192	Don't build more stupid wind farms, we have all the power we need through dams and nuclear power plants all this is doing is destroying our Tri cities for power to be sold to another state that needs power. Let that state ruin their ski line with wind farms not ours.	3/27/2021 9:30 PM
193	Having these wild turbines will be an eye sore on our beautiful hillside with no benefit to our community! Place them away from populus areas where they will have less impact on large communities	3/27/2021 9:03 PM
194	Don't want them	3/27/2021 8:54 PM
195	We have nuclear and water power. Get rid of solar! Don't add to the mess. Crank up the nuclear as needed.	3/27/2021 8:44 PM
196	Windmills and solar panels will destroy the rural character of the area surrounding the Tri-cities.	3/27/2021 7:41 PM
197	Environmental impact	3/27/2021 7:16 PM
198	Just plain ugly. Build the on a hill by Puget sound as that is where their power will be heading.	3/27/2021 7:13 PM
199	Windmill blades are fiberglass and need replacement every 15 years. How is this a clean energy source? It's creating huge amounts of waste that will almost never break down. Very bad environmental choice.	3/27/2021 6:58 PM
200	Fire danger also takes up huge amount of land	3/27/2021 6:53 PM
201	I have lived in this beautiful area since 1948. Please help me and the citizens keep this project out of our area! I love living here!	3/27/2021 6:15 PM

202	The positives are not worth the negatives of having hundreds of flashing red lights and hundreds of windmills covering the horizon of our landscape	3/27/2021 6:10 PM
203	They are not efficient and when it is extremely cold they need energy from the grid to warm up. Also the land below the wind machines is no longer useable and is a loss for animal habitat. The cost of petroleum to produce the wind machines and transport them is enormous and they are not cost effective.	3/27/2021 6:04 PM
204	Pursue nuclear energy	3/27/2021 5:43 PM
205	This is my favorite thing about Tri-Cities, going to the hills.	3/27/2021 5:16 PM
206	They take over they landscape. Anyone old enough to have a say in this matter will have to view them the rest of there life because they wont ever go away. Just go look at areas that have them. They will only add more. The problem is politicians. I think it was Kittitas County years ago were against it and our then Governor stepped in and gave them permission to build them any. She should have been run out of the state.	3/27/2021 5:13 PM
207	Noise from turbines	3/27/2021 4:40 PM
208	Fuck your ineffecent green power not worth the time or effort especially for disposal	3/27/2021 4:15 PM
209	Nobody comes to Tri-Cities for tourism you donut	3/27/2021 4:09 PM
210	the electricity generated will go to California - let them put these turbines in their own back yard	3/27/2021 3:46 PM
211	When they start putting these things in the Columbia Gorge Scenic Area, then come back and we'll talk about putting them here.	3/27/2021 3:44 PM
212	What will the costs be of purchasing, installing & maintaining the wind farm? With that considered, what will be the price per kilowatt hour as opposed to the price we pay for hydro and nuclear power we have now?	3/27/2021 3:18 PM
213	Sometimes sacrifices need to be made for the greater, and long term good. Complaining about the view is small-minded and selfish.	3/27/2021 3:13 PM
214	It's just plain ugly and disgusting to look at. Too many of these ugly messes in our region. Put them along the Puget Sound and Lake Washington shorelines!	3/27/2021 2:34 PM
215	I have no issues with the turbines, my only hope is that the local citizens actually benefit from these.	3/27/2021 2:17 PM
216	These will not replace the dams and are a negative effect on our power grid right now.	3/27/2021 2:16 PM
217	Carbon Footprint is higher for Wind (concrete, wind blades, access) than for nuclear.	3/27/2021 1:57 PM
218	Views of Natural Habitat - Very Negative Impact	3/27/2021 1:42 PM
219	ugly across our beautiful hills	3/27/2021 1:27 PM
220	eye sore / visual pollution with no benefit to those impacted	3/27/2021 1:19 PM
221	Id rather see wind turbines than housing up on the hills. The turbines cause no problems. Where housing impacts all animals. Displacing them and not really giving native species the room they need be it animals or plants. Once they are gone they are gone. Where as the turbines have minimal impacts.	3/27/2021 1:12 PM
222	As a resident at the base of the HH hills - this is not in the interest of the community for many reasons.	3/27/2021 1:08 PM
223	Jobs plus, for a while, then nothing.	3/27/2021 1:06 PM
224	The beauty of the desert will be totally ruined with these useless windmills! Please don't allow them here!	3/27/2021 12:52 PM
225	Not only does the project have Hugh esthetic and environmental impacts it is a terrible energy investment.	3/27/2021 12:45 PM
226	After end of life expectancy, who is responsible for cleanup and return of property to it's original state.	3/27/2021 12:44 PM
227	Th community overall is tired of seeing the wind farms. Locate them further from town out of	3/27/2021 12:36 PM

	sight.	
228	We DO NOT want them on our horse heaven hills! I guarantee we won't see ANY reduction in our PUD bill.	3/27/2021 12:08 PM
229	it is not factor to produce energy, false advertising	3/27/2021 11:58 AM
230	I do not support the Horse Heaven Wind Project	3/27/2021 11:56 AM
231	This is a very inefficient energy source	3/27/2021 11:54 AM
232	Visual Pollution	3/27/2021 11:44 AM
233	Don't do it	3/27/2021 11:43 AM
234	Show me obe study that shows how the energy produced out weighs the carbon footprint of manufacturing, transporting, maintenance and disposal of the turbines. Lets talk about bird migration paths and the fact the the earth temperature beneath a turbine farm actually increases. They are a blight on the landscape for questionable environmental returns.	3/27/2021 11:36 AM
235	No to 244 windmills in landfills in 20 years. Are you kidding? That's the definition of renewable energy? n	3/27/2021 10:51 AM
236	People need to get over their "view" and move into the future of power.	3/27/2021 10:48 AM
237	Theres multi million acres in the state of Washington why put them in our back yard? This is ridiculous proposed area n why is beyond me?	3/27/2021 10:41 AM
238	Do not allow the wind project to be built.	3/27/2021 10:30 AM
239	Mich better than subdidised nuclear with far less contaminated waste that still is not being processed.	3/27/2021 10:29 AM
240	Less focus or dependency is needed on dams. Focus should be on salmon survival.	3/27/2021 10:16 AM
241	We don't need any more wind turbines here, especially those this size! There is no benefit to the Tri-Cities.	3/27/2021 10:16 AM
242	Wind farms are not clean energy. They will destroy the critical bunch grass habitat that the Horse Heaven Hills claim for. Horse Heaven. Along with the habitat all wildlife will be displaced or killed for the life time of the machines. Disruption of migration corridors as well. I am against any and all wind and solar projects in the State of Washington and the United States for that matter.	3/27/2021 10:14 AM
243	Big scam on the American people	3/27/2021 10:12 AM
244	Negative impact on public net billed power. Hydro must never spill in to allow a wind farm to generate power for the grid. Wind power is secondary to public power generation. That is the risk part of their license to operate in this region	3/27/2021 10:11 AM
245	we are not being told if the energy being produced will even be used for our region. where will it go. Why don't they build them in the area that will receive the power.	3/27/2021 10:11 AM
246	Concerned about impacts to cultural resources and traditional cultural properties	3/27/2021 10:09 AM
247	I'm a lifer born here 60 years ago these windmills are hideous I can see them on the edge of my hills and rue the day they will be across the top turning my beautiful desert into a giant windmill farm and filling up landfills with fiberglass every 3 years I say NONONONO	3/27/2021 10:09 AM
248	Waste of money, bad for environment, they don't do anything, the people's money not the state's money	3/27/2021 10:06 AM
249	Negatively affecting the operation of the established hydropower system (an existing renewable resource) by forcing it to be curtailed to accommodate the influx of wind energy. The project provides no additional reliability, capacity, or reduction in greenhouse gas emissions in the power production sector.	3/27/2021 10:01 AM
250	The noise is not good for people. Fires, waste generated are not accepable. Also no benefit to our community!	3/27/2021 9:54 AM
251	Where is this energy going to be consumed? Its likely getting shipped elsewhere in the state. We have Hydro and Nuclear. We have contrubited to wind power already with existing Wind	3/27/2021 9:44 AM



	turbines locally. Enough.	
252	As long as the government is not involved and it remains private to citizens, I think it is harmless, but not necessarily more fruitful than our current energy resources.	3/27/2021 9:35 AM
253	concrete for the bases will need thousands of cement mixer trip adding to pollution. Trucking all the components to the site will be thousands of trips and increased pollution. Blade disposal is also a negative due to trucking.	3/27/2021 9:33 AM
254	Jobs will have a temporary positive impact, but not a lasting positive impact.	3/27/2021 9:32 AM
255	Eye sore and will deter tourism for the wine industry	3/27/2021 9:31 AM
256	Wind and solar are not viable long term energy sources. The processes used to construct them are environmentally destructive. The return on investment is decades away. They are an ugly eye sore destroying the natural beauty of the proposed area. Tri Cities has a wealth of electrical generation options available. These would be installed to benefit other areas primarily.	3/27/2021 9:21 AM
257	This doesn't help the community of Tri-cities what so ever	3/27/2021 9:17 AM
258	Health of people who live close would be negatively impacted	3/27/2021 9:09 AM
259	not necessary, we have hydro power!!	3/27/2021 9:06 AM
260	Just build another nuclear reactor and leave our hiking trails and views alone.	3/27/2021 9:04 AM
261	There is no reason to put those things so close to town. It will devalue the whole area.	3/27/2021 9:02 AM
262	We have dams that supply our electricity. We do not need wind turbines.	3/27/2021 9:01 AM
263	I absolutely hate them and do NOT see any benefit for them. They ruin our view. Cause damage to our birds. Waste valuable land. Say NO to these dumb monstrosities.	3/27/2021 8:55 AM
264	Most of Washington's energy is clean, hydro power makes up the largest percentage. Our area does not support wind power well because it does not produce the amount of wind to get a good result.	3/27/2021 8:55 AM
265	This is not needed in our region. Why add something so ugly when we don't need it?	3/27/2021 8:52 AM
266	they never pay for themselves .....	3/27/2021 8:47 AM
267	Would be an eyesore to the landscape	3/27/2021 8:44 AM
268	Noise pollution	3/27/2021 8:43 AM
269	High cost. Low energy output. High maintenance cost. Not worthwhile.	3/27/2021 8:41 AM
270	Wind power will displace other low carbon emission sources Hydro and Nuclear to balance demand. This will provide zero or negative benefit to overall carbon emissions. The energy siting council should require an independent review of carbon emissions impact by qualified engineers	3/27/2021 8:40 AM
271	There is 600 cubic feet of steel reinforced concrete at the base of each one of those that never goes away. Very negative environmental impact	3/27/2021 8:27 AM
272	Obstruct our views in a big way!	3/27/2021 8:24 AM
273	Wind energy is too costly at this point, Life of machines is short, disposal a major problem. Profits limited to a few who own ground where they are placed and they already get a lot of government subsidies (CRP) Please place them on West side, they want the energy so they can look at where it comes from and they can deal with disposal too..	3/27/2021 8:18 AM
274	power is not for the TCs	3/27/2021 8:11 AM
275	Net energy loss for power. This is not an environmentally friendly solution	3/27/2021 8:10 AM
276	It has been demonstrated that these wind turbines are and have a negative effect on most everything around them. This is an investment by the investors for the investors to make money and walk away leaving the community with the lasting problems. The energy is not consistent. Laws require the BPA to accept the power whether we need it or not. We have environmentally consistent hydro power now. Let's keep it and look other directions.	3/27/2021 8:08 AM

277	More negative impacts: non-recyclable, short life span, unreliable, windmill graveyards remain for thousand years or more - a reminder they don't work, costly to build and maintain, removed billboards & replaced them with giant ugly windmills - Ladybird would be ashamed! They visually pollute our beautiful countryside. Please stop polluting our country with these windmills!	3/27/2021 8:05 AM
278	We have clean, effecient, paid for hydro-electric power now. Keep the dams. The fish have survived so far. I have no reason to think they won't continue to do so.	3/27/2021 7:56 AM
279	There is a positive impact for jobs only while installation is being done, after is unknown	3/27/2021 7:51 AM
280	Windmills are being pushed as green energy but they are not even close to that when considering how they are manufactured and how the old parts are disposed. This area does not have a need for the power they would generate. I have no interest in destroying the natural beauty of this area to sell power to other states. If this county wishes to get into the business of selling energy it should pursue nuclear energy.	3/27/2021 7:50 AM
281	This wind farm will permanently mar the vista of the entire south-western border of our area. It will not benefit us, as the energy generated will be for an entirely different region, and hydro power is readily available here. It's a poor plan, and it will ruin the beautiful views we now enjoy. Let Scout Energy build somewhere else.	3/27/2021 7:48 AM
282	Don't want it here.	3/27/2021 7:48 AM
283	Why should we suffer for electricity that is distained for CA per Scout reports?	3/27/2021 7:47 AM
284	There are plenty of other locations far from homes to go. Hanford area has miles and miles of wasted space that can be used.	3/27/2021 7:46 AM
285	We don not need an Oregon company to come into Washington to produce power. That will have no positive impacts to our area but will certainly have negative impacts. If our area wants/needs to produce wind energy we have the knowledge and expertise to make that happen and do not need out of state corporate doing it for us.	3/27/2021 7:46 AM
286	Not only are these damning to property values and would be very close to my home personally, we do not need this additional power source as it would largely be exported and we absolutely do not have a net positive way to recycle the components when they've reached their shelf life.	3/27/2021 7:40 AM
287	No jobs for locals, no power for the region, little benefit to energy that we already have plenty of	3/27/2021 7:30 AM
288	There is nothing good from these. It takes more energy to build one than it produces. The foot print needed is terrible	3/27/2021 7:25 AM
289	Wind turbines do not provide enough power . Their power supply maintenance is too costly . They work without wind , we have dams and reactor to power this area ,it's all we need here in this area even with it's recent growth over the past 10 ,and 20 years	3/27/2021 7:21 AM
290	This will be a tremendous eyesore and most of the energy created will not even stay here	3/27/2021 7:19 AM
291	Please do not ruin the beauty of our hills.	3/27/2021 7:16 AM
292	Noise	3/27/2021 7:14 AM
293	Ruin the landscape. Ugly. Large cost for little power.	3/27/2021 7:07 AM
294	What's the point? We already have a nuclear plant.	3/27/2021 6:57 AM
295	It would created much needed jobs and be a landmark for the Tri cites and give us a way to give to other communities	3/27/2021 6:57 AM
296	It's not right to saddle us with all the negative consiquences of a huge wind farm when we see no positive return locally....wind farms do not create enough permanant jobs to balance out the negatives.	3/27/2021 6:43 AM
297	Energy production is negligible compared to the environmental insult caused from production, transportation, and short lifespan of the units then the burden of disposal and replacement. They are not green energy!!	3/27/2021 6:37 AM
298	It's a shame that the view is ruined for a very little percentage of power realized.	3/27/2021 6:35 AM



299	Do NOT let them build!	3/27/2021 6:09 AM
300	Offsetting production of a non-emitting generation source (hydro) makes no sense. The water will pass the dams no matter what, if the generation is Offsetting the water just goes over the spillway, it does get stored to be used later.	3/27/2021 5:53 AM
301	Will not benefit local residents.	3/27/2021 5:46 AM
302	I think they're beautiful	3/27/2021 5:45 AM
303	Pollutes our skyline, closes-off land access to local hunters, hikers, photographers, et al. IF the west side of the state is in favor of wind farms, build them in their backyard.	3/27/2021 5:32 AM
304	This government needs to research useful energies; wind is it one of them.	3/27/2021 5:10 AM
305	Very inefficent	3/27/2021 4:53 AM
306	The huge tall wind farm will kill more birds. Destroy our Ridgeline views. It will blank like a Christmas tree that drives you crazy. That's why they belong out in the middle of a place like Starbucks. It is total environmental pollution to its worst extent. Destroying nature's animals and views. It is plain ugly ridgeline pollution	3/27/2021 2:15 AM
307	I work in the film industry as a Producer, Production Management and Location Management. In fact I have recently shot a feature film around and next to the current windmills. I know from experience that the windmills are a attraction to filmmakers. As they were for Portland based director Nathan Williams in "If There's a hell below"	3/27/2021 1:14 AM
308	Unsure what ur asking!	3/27/2021 1:11 AM
309	Loss of enjoyment of my home having to view wind turbines	3/27/2021 1:04 AM
310	they are expensive and do not pay for themselves and they are ugly and noisy	3/27/2021 12:54 AM
311	Inferior location, needs more wind and be closer to users	3/27/2021 12:34 AM
312	Wind turbines are Environmentally and economically unsound	3/26/2021 11:39 PM
313	Would ruin views of the area	3/26/2021 11:32 PM
314	Wind turbines bring a ton of jobs and cheaper power to our area.	3/26/2021 11:18 PM
315	Not worth it	3/26/2021 11:12 PM
316	Noise impact, health impact, not enough power density. Wind power is an "energy dead end". Read the papers by Miller an Keith, they used real world data. Wind is not the savior it's being billed as.	3/26/2021 10:56 PM
317	Destruction of our desert views. Wind energy is a short term clean energy that is expensive and the blades are non recyclable materials. Dams or nuclear would be much better alternatives and are much less of an eye sore.	3/26/2021 10:45 PM
318	They are NOT clean energy. It takes more to produce a wind turbine than the energy it creates. Stop now.	3/26/2021 10:29 PM
319	NOISE and who wants to buy property anywhere near the wind turbines? No one!	3/26/2021 10:26 PM
320	Positive impacts are minimal, negative impacts are very significant	3/26/2021 10:06 PM
321	nothing but a big eyesore to our region	3/26/2021 10:05 PM
322	I believe this is a good project for both the local economy and for the climate. Need to get away from fossil fuels.	3/26/2021 10:01 PM
323	Windmills across wheat fields looks picture perfect, like a windows background. I'm excited for the project!	3/26/2021 9:42 PM
324	It's not really green energy. It takes energy to make transport and decommission. Very bad for birds	3/26/2021 9:36 PM
325	This is an absolutely ridiculous question. How the heck are we - general citizens - supposed to have an informed idea about theses questions??	3/26/2021 9:36 PM

326	Totally unnecessary project; wasted use of land	3/26/2021 9:30 PM
327	We don't need them not want them. Go put them in John Kerry's and Joe Biden's neck of the woods...	3/26/2021 9:24 PM
328	We do not need more sources of clean energy in this area. Our hydroelectric dams provide the power we need. Wind turbines use a large amount of energy and do not provide consistent enough energy to be very useful	3/26/2021 9:24 PM
329	A huge eye soar.	3/26/2021 9:19 PM
330	DON'T WANT THEM!!!	3/26/2021 9:18 PM
331	Fantastic opportunity for our community	3/26/2021 9:13 PM
332	They are just plain ugly looming.	3/26/2021 9:09 PM
333	Build it we need clean energy.	3/26/2021 9:07 PM
334	Manufactured in China. Turbines go out no safety landfill for them, they are not recyclable. The same with the blades and the rest. They are not recyclable so they will fill up land disposal sites and will take 100's of years to decompose, if ever. They are an eyesore.	3/26/2021 9:04 PM
335	These will be an eye sore on our beautiful landscape and will be located where the Tri Cities will continue to grow towards.	3/26/2021 8:51 PM
336	Very negative impact on view of hillsides and the beautiful shrub steppe landscape	3/26/2021 8:39 PM
337	I have seen first hand the Eagles, Hawks, Falcons, Migratory waterfowl. I have seen oil all over the base area. What a complete whitewash of crap this wind tech really is. We need clean energy, build clean generation Nuclear Power Plants!	3/26/2021 8:37 PM
338	They destroy the natural landscape. Never help the community. Will increase the landfills.	3/26/2021 8:36 PM
339	Interrupting the VIEW	3/26/2021 8:32 PM
340	It is not a cost effective nor effective alternative source of power generation.	3/26/2021 8:31 PM
341	The power is going to be sold to other states. Need more module reactors here and no wind farm.	3/26/2021 8:28 PM
342	No local companies are being ask to built this project. All outside companies. Sad for local businesses.	3/26/2021 7:54 PM
343	Do you believe in individual property rights and free enterprise and capitalism, or socialism. Looks like a lot of hypocritical sons of bitches in the TriCities. They are too used to sucking off the government tit.	3/26/2021 7:53 PM
344	We have perfectly functional, considerably less expensive hydroelectric power. We do not need them: they are expensive to maintain, inefficient, & offensive to the eye.	3/26/2021 7:46 PM
345	Consider project site along Snake River by 4 dams easterly to Idaho.	3/26/2021 7:45 PM
346	SE WA does not need the power and I am opposed to ruining the vista to provide power for large metropolitan areas far away from here. There is no way Seattle would put turbines in Puget Sound to provide clean energy for anyone! We should not have to ruin our natural beauty either	3/26/2021 7:36 PM
347	With our accesses to power already, why do we need them? I also don't like out of an out of area business coming in to take advantage of our local land, views, and resources.	3/26/2021 7:33 PM
348	If this project goes through it will adversely affect our strong hydroelectric as a renewable energy source. Seattle should not get to make this decision for us.	3/26/2021 7:32 PM
349	No thanks.	3/26/2021 7:18 PM
350	change dn local weather patterns	3/26/2021 7:16 PM
351	It intermittently reliable; noise and visually ugly. Not environmentally friendly when disposing. brings down property value	3/26/2021 7:07 PM
352	House cats kill more birds than turbines.	3/26/2021 6:55 PM

353	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N-yALPEpV4w">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N-yALPEpV4w</a>	3/26/2021 6:52 PM
354	Benton County area hills becomes an eyesore	3/26/2021 6:40 PM
355	no need in an area with nuclear and sustainable hydro power	3/26/2021 6:34 PM
356	Environmental risk -- oil spills.	3/26/2021 6:29 PM
357	How about questions about how ugly these wind monsters are. Have you been up by wind turbines and seen all the bird feathers and dead birds. Unsightly greed projects are very sad ...	3/26/2021 6:16 PM
358	They are trying to breach our dams	3/26/2021 6:04 PM
359	wind turbines are a scam; please stop wasting the public's money	3/26/2021 6:02 PM
360	Hydro power is the safe clean answer to power needs. Wind Turbines Destroys scenic natural beauty and tranquil serene views stops public recreational land use.	3/26/2021 5:58 PM
361	No wind turbines. Don't make enough power and takes away our beauty!!!	3/26/2021 5:57 PM
362	Don't want them. Unsightly. If needed locate somewhere not near any population. Need more nuclear energy. And dams need to be considered a sustainable source of energy..	3/26/2021 5:53 PM
363	Along with the highly subsidized costs. Any "green" benefit is lost with the negative aspects of decommissioned blades not being recyclable. Not to mention the mass of flashing lights and industrial aspects that will ruin the landscape.	3/26/2021 5:43 PM
364	I don't see any benefits for the citizens in Benton & Franklin Counties.	3/26/2021 5:33 PM
365	Not effective power production it only makes environmentalists happy	3/26/2021 5:27 PM
366	The windmills don't really help get more power. So don't ruin the ecosystem and residents view for nothing.	3/26/2021 5:23 PM
367	Made from Chinese Parts - Not US Parts	3/26/2021 5:23 PM
368	Jobs are temporary and the turbines are not recyclable	3/26/2021 5:21 PM
369	Our quality of life will be impacted if we all have to look at those machines for 20 years	3/26/2021 5:21 PM
370	Ruins the natural environment	3/26/2021 5:20 PM
371	Opposition is more political than practical	3/26/2021 5:17 PM
372	We live just downwind of the projected turbines and we're very worried of the noise these turbines make & our quiet will be impacted.	3/26/2021 5:16 PM
373	It would ruin our hills for local residents and guests alike!!	3/26/2021 5:15 PM
374	Keep those USELESS Turbines off the Horse Heavens. Put them on the West side of the State. So those MORON Liberals can feel like they are doing something for the FAKE Global Warming BS !!	3/26/2021 5:15 PM
375	We believe wind farms are majestic and beautiful! Solar farms are way worse to our environment, and beauty!	3/26/2021 5:15 PM
376	This project is the most detrimental in ALL aspects to the Tri-Cities that could possibly conceived.	3/26/2021 5:14 PM
377	the wind blow's to hard out here in badger canyon..we do not need them here, put them up on the back side of benton city to prosser..	3/26/2021 5:14 PM
378	No no no no no	3/26/2021 5:14 PM
379	I'm always surprised by the magical thinking in this area. Clean energy now	3/26/2021 5:13 PM
380	Windmills are just plain ugly when they obstruct views from our homes.	3/26/2021 5:12 PM
381	power produced is mainly for west side of state	3/26/2021 5:11 PM
382	Where are these things manufactured.	3/26/2021 5:11 PM
383	Doesn't benefit Tri-Cities at all.	3/26/2021 5:10 PM

384	Take away the natural landscape. Environmentalist should be up in arms and very much opposed to these wind mills	3/26/2021 5:10 PM
385	There needs to be a collection of facts about these issues presented to citizens	3/26/2021 5:08 PM
386	SCE is misrepresenting (lying) about most all things. We will have no normal growth because of the windfarm	3/26/2021 5:06 PM
387	Place them in the areas that need the power.	3/26/2021 4:51 PM
388	If this wind farm happens it should be built by an in state company like Energy Northwest	3/26/2021 4:45 PM
389	Build another power reactor if energy is needed.	3/26/2021 4:17 PM
390	health of nearby residents	3/26/2021 4:14 PM
391	solar OK Turbines no no no	3/26/2021 4:08 PM
392	It has not been proven that wind is cost effective or produced when power is needed. Plus negative impact on scenery.	3/26/2021 3:46 PM
393	We do not need this shit in our backyard	3/26/2021 3:45 PM
394	We don't need this project in the TriCities. We have nuclear and hydro, which are both more efficient, reliable, and less of an eyesore.	3/26/2021 3:44 PM
395	Ridiculous idea state bypassed local input total crap	3/26/2021 3:01 PM
396	We do not want these littering our open beautiful landscape. Destroys the beautiful landscape of our Badger Mountain area. Huge impact on desirability of new and existing homes in the areas affected. The open and beautiful landscape and views will be severely impacted negatively.	3/26/2021 2:55 PM
397	Mechanical Ugliness Views and Turbine Noise & Vibration	3/26/2021 2:33 PM
398	Who removes the broken wind farms if we as a nation have an economy downturn? In 1990 California had hundreds of wind mills left standing. Many with only two blades left. Very ugly to see	3/26/2021 2:33 PM
399	I just want them because of all these idiots that hate green power.	3/26/2021 2:31 PM
400	We already have the majority of our power generated by clean energy sources due to our hydro electric generation. My understanding is that most of this power will be transmitted to California. Build those turbines there or in Eastern Colorado	3/26/2021 2:20 PM
401	Some of these questions seem to be designed to skew the survey in favor of wind turbines as there is no room for explanation and they are not yes or no questions.	3/26/2021 1:58 PM
402	Too close to future Urban Growth Area expansion needs for future residents. Second concern is the responsibility of removal of the large concrete bases after the decommission process of the turbines. Who will address that and what kind of environmental impacts.	3/26/2021 1:49 PM
403	I get seasick and cannot drive safely when the windmills are present	3/26/2021 12:51 PM
404	Why must it be a go big or go home project?	3/26/2021 12:15 PM
405	Scars the view	3/26/2021 12:10 PM
406	Just ugly. Put in California back yard if they want the power.	3/26/2021 12:01 PM
407	More nuclear	3/26/2021 11:59 AM
408	The energy produced from this wind farm will only offset hydro, another renewable and will have no positive impact on carbon emissions.	3/26/2021 11:30 AM
409	We already generate more than enough clean, green energy. If other states need the power put these ugly useless wind turbine in their back yard.	3/26/2021 11:12 AM
410	This would not be beneficial to our beautiful landscapes	3/26/2021 11:09 AM
411	Don't waste time on wind mills.	3/26/2021 10:32 AM
412	The job gain would be short term and probably filled by workers from out of the area.	3/26/2021 10:25 AM

413	These projects use far more energy and resources to manufacture & maintain than they save while filling the bank accounts of those involved.	3/26/2021 10:17 AM
414	Real estate prices will be negatively affected and therefore property taxes	3/26/2021 10:04 AM
415	Power is not needed in the TriCities	3/26/2021 10:03 AM
416	No more useless wind turbines.... they are more costly to run then we will ever see any positive output. .why do we have to give up our beautiful hills so people on the west side will have the little energy they put out.	3/26/2021 10:01 AM
417	Wind turbines are ugly. Visual pollution of our community	3/26/2021 10:00 AM
418	How about extreme eye sore for those of who enjoy our natural ridgeline view? Makes me sick to think about.	3/26/2021 9:57 AM
419	These ginormous turbines will ruin the peaceful and historic views created by the Missoula Flood creating the beautiful geological landscape and paths taken by Lewis and Clark all the while decimating the birds and hurting the health and quality of life of people living all along Finley to Benton City	3/26/2021 9:55 AM
420	This is a diversification for farmers to get additional income from their land. It is a very positive thing for landowners.	3/26/2021 9:46 AM
421	No, no, no!	3/26/2021 9:35 AM
422	Take away from nuclear ( small reactors), Wind Farm could seek to locate somewhere else in Benton County-not on ridges overlooking Tri-Cities	3/26/2021 9:26 AM
423	Source Reliability and Spring Oversupply Fees - Negative	3/26/2021 9:19 AM
424	Visual pollution and land will never be restored to natural when turbines are no longer in use	3/26/2021 9:15 AM
425	I am concerned about the noise level. Will I hear them?	3/26/2021 9:08 AM
426	Very Positive impact for the private landowners whom may lease to scout energy.	3/26/2021 9:07 AM
427	This project should not even be considered for this area as it is wrong for us in more ways than you can imagine.	3/26/2021 8:52 AM
428	Windmills are not clean energy. They take up a huge footprint. They require tons of oil. These are proposed to be the size of the space needle.	3/26/2021 8:47 AM
429	We love our dams	3/26/2021 8:46 AM
430	community growth- very negative effect	3/26/2021 8:42 AM
431	Bypassing SEPA should not be allowed	3/26/2021 8:37 AM
432	An eye soar on our otherwise spectacular view out to horse heavens	3/26/2021 8:27 AM
433	They are a very bad fit for our area. We need to have our hills as they are and were when the wild horses ran there.	3/26/2021 8:16 AM
434	Blight on the surrounding landscape. Power not needed here and no customers yet identified.	3/26/2021 7:46 AM
435	CO2 emissions caused by concrete production for wind turbine foundations.	3/26/2021 7:17 AM
436	No benefit to this area as the power goes somewhere else.	3/26/2021 7:15 AM
437	We don't NEED this project. It makes zero sense when you outweigh what is already working. Plus this region is going to lose its topography and beauty. We are known for these hills and tree less mountains with our developing wine country. The health of this community will further decline for wildlife migratory birds and our human conditions. This is a very negative and predatory project on our local region!	3/26/2021 7:04 AM
438	Wrong location. SE Colorado better! Go where it will replace non-renewable sources like coal and oil! Not our reliable, clean, renewable hydro power!!	3/26/2021 7:04 AM
439	Can't reecycle the blades therefore it will use a lot of landfill space.	3/26/2021 6:35 AM
440	positive impact on STEM education (e.g. field trips)	3/26/2021 6:34 AM

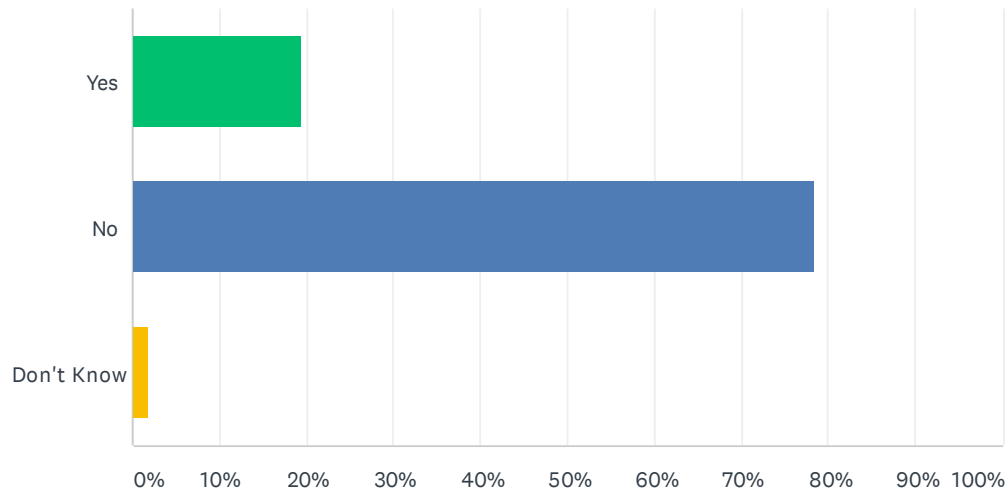
441	Constraints on land use by local residents and removal of high potential farming land from consistent and best use of the property for local and regional benefit.	3/26/2021 5:19 AM
442	Very positive growth of energy industry in Tri-cities. Very positive economic revenue influx for local businesses. There is very little tax subsidy on wind generation.	3/26/2021 4:24 AM
443	These fans are a costly, maintenance & repair burden that will never have the potential of producing enough power to pay the investment back to the taxpayers.	3/25/2021 11:10 PM
444	Unreasonable size and scope with little or no benefit to the community.. Total bypass and involvement of the local government. In violation of the building codes of the local business and residential the community at large is mandated to obey.	3/25/2021 10:42 PM
445	Where does Kennewick go to grow?	3/25/2021 10:41 PM
446	Health.... this is very damaging for folks that live close with hearing issues.	3/25/2021 10:14 PM
447	Ruins our beautiful area!!	3/25/2021 9:30 PM
448	Tri Cities says no to this project!	3/25/2021 9:23 PM
449	I think that these wind farms are not what they are cracked up to be. I also think that it is not fair that we are generating power for other people hundreds or thousands of miles away from here. So we feed them and give them all our power (hydro/wind) but they want to tell us how to live and breath. We have to live with it and look at it and they don't. That does t work for me. Also have you driven to Portland lately and seen how they ruined one of the most beautiful places on earth with these damn wind machines??? Not cool don't allow this please.	3/25/2021 8:05 PM
450	Wind power cannot replace 24x7, 365 days/yr electricity needed by hospitals, airports, food storage and emergency services. Texas provided an example of what happens when wind and solar are unavailable. The Northwest Energy was on a "no touch" order several times in recent years. Why are we not building a small, inherently safe, clean/green nuclear power play?	3/25/2021 7:50 PM
451	Helping stop deadly climate change - very positive impact!	3/25/2021 7:37 PM
452	The county commissioners directed SCE to pursue the permit for the project through the States EFSEC. This is a fact they aren't disclosing to the public.	3/25/2021 6:34 PM
453	We need to have more projects like this for our local workers.	3/25/2021 6:08 PM
454	While the visual impact may not be desirable, the long term need for additional energy sources as we further electrify transportation and other industries a high. However without equivalent battery storage to manage intermittent renewables like wind and solar the installation of these sources is premature as they do not readily address peak grid hours.	3/25/2021 5:22 PM
455	They are ugly and you still have to pay for reliable source of power because the wind doesn't blow all the time. They are an absolute waste of money.	3/25/2021 5:14 PM
456	Build a Nuclear facility and stop with this nonsense	3/25/2021 4:28 PM
457	Every informed person knows that when the wind blows, they just dial back the Columbia Generating Station -- there is no new or extra electricity produced by wind turbines.	3/25/2021 4:07 PM
458	Each windmill won't produce enough clean energy in it's lifetime to offset the amount of fossil fuels used to produce it. Keep this ugly garbage out of our town	3/25/2021 3:59 PM
459	Jobs and any positive economic impact are very short term while negative impacts will last life of the project and beyond	3/25/2021 3:54 PM
460	We don't need wind generated power. There is little to know wind during peek usage on hot summer days and frigid winter days. Wind blows most in Spring when usage is lower. Wind power has already caused our utility bills to go up.	3/25/2021 3:54 PM
461	They are an EYESORE.	3/25/2021 3:30 PM
462	This technology may be something for the future, but it is not there yet. They are an eyesore and will impact salability for homes nearby. Texas is a prime example of how delicate the power grid can be and unless there can be guarantees for the people that this effects there should not be this much money, time and energy put into this project. No one wants to look out their window and view a sea of wind turbines on the ridge.	3/25/2021 3:27 PM



463	<a href="https://www.forbes.com/sites/jamesconca/2021/03/08/wind-turbines-on-washingtons-horse-heaven-hills--how-not-to-pursue-a-green-new-deal/?fbclid=IwAR26ugwNI2ET8sffyx7KPSMCHiMu9qAeV8jPAHuetO1ZQECwiel6VZ7t5o0&amp;sh=4f87bb59508d">https://www.forbes.com/sites/jamesconca/2021/03/08/wind-turbines-on-washingtons-horse-heaven-hills--how-not-to-pursue-a-green-new-deal/?fbclid=IwAR26ugwNI2ET8sffyx7KPSMCHiMu9qAeV8jPAHuetO1ZQECwiel6VZ7t5o0&amp;sh=4f87bb59508d</a>	3/25/2021 3:21 PM
464	Potential negative impacts to Tri-Cities Airport	3/25/2021 3:19 PM
465	We don't need more wind power. It's not a 24/7 source of electricity.	3/25/2021 3:07 PM
466	This project only benefits a small workforce added to operate and maintain and a handful of land owners.	3/25/2021 3:04 PM
467	The local community misses out on revenue	3/25/2021 3:02 PM
468	Wind Turbines are not an economical source of energy. A waste of energy, time, property.	3/25/2021 2:57 PM
469	This project will offset clean, renewable hydropower not fossil fuels.	3/25/2021 2:57 PM
470	Instead of bringing local power it gives power to other states for less money than it costs to up keep the eye sores. Most of the time they don't work or are facing the wrong direction to even create energy.	3/25/2021 2:56 PM
471	For an area that produces so much hydro and nuclear power for many parts of the United States, we do not need to also house wind turbine which will take away from the beauty of the area and tourism to our ever growing region. Shockingly, our area actually has less than optimal wind for the turbines. I've read that this region would only lead to the turbines being 30% efficient meaning lots of unproductive time. This goes in the opposite direction of the 2030 vision of Tri-Cities of growing based on our beauty and outdoor activities and the tourism through our wineries with gorgeous views of these hills.	3/25/2021 2:55 PM
472	Taking a not-in-my-backyard stance will likely hurt future power projects, including nuclear.	3/25/2021 2:55 PM
473	We already have clean energy in the dams. The wind turbines will make it easier to breach the dams.	3/25/2021 2:52 PM
474	These windmills are not wanted!	3/25/2021 2:51 PM
475	Why would anyone want to pay the stupidly high price for subsidized unreliable power when we have the cheapest most reliable power available now with the Dams. This is just stupid an not needed in this area. Go put them somewhere that is using coal if you want to feel good about "saving the planet from fossil fuels"	3/25/2021 1:48 PM
476	This doesn't even benefit us. We bare the burden and all of the energy goes to other places like California.	3/25/2021 12:28 PM
477	Where is Don Quixote when you need him?	3/24/2021 4:10 PM

### Q3 In your opinion, is the Horse Heaven Wind Project worth the personal, environmental and economic impacts?

Answered: 2,210 Skipped: 10



ANSWER CHOICES		RESPONSES	
Yes		19.55%	432
No		78.55%	1,736
Don't Know		1.90%	42
TOTAL			2,210



**From:** Christina Caprio <caprio\_lv@pocketinet.com>

**Sent:** Sunday, November 28, 2021 9:25 AM

**To:** Moon, Amy (UTC) <amy.moon@utc.wa.gov>

**Cc:** Will McKay <will.mckay@co.benton.wa.us>; Judy <GOOSIE1515@aol.com>

**Subject:** Snow Geese Flying over Horse Heaven Hills Very Low

Public Comment #0402

Horse Heaven Wind Project

Docket #210011

External Email

Great Sunday morning!

Below is a video of snow geese flying very low over the Horse Heaven Hills. This occurs all if the time this time of year. I would sure hate to see them turned into burger from the proposed windmills.

Christina Caprio

Environmental Scientist

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Moon, Amy \(UTC\)](#)  
**To:** [Christina Caprio](#); [Barry Bush](#); [Judy](#); [Will McKay](#)  
**Cc:** [Owens, Joan \(UTC\)](#); [Grantham, Andrea \(UTC\)](#)  
**Subject:** RE: ferruginous hawk  
**Date:** Wednesday, January 12, 2022 10:28:09 AM

---

Christina-

Thank you for the comment and video.

-Amy

---

**From:** Christina Caprio <caprio\_lv@pocketinet.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 30, 2021 1:46 PM  
**To:** Barry Bush <atomicbt@charter.net>; Judy <GOOSIE1515@aol.com>; Will McKay <will.mckay@co.benton.wa.us>; Moon, Amy (UTC) <amy.moon@utc.wa.gov>  
**Subject:** ferruginous hawk

External Email

[Download Attachment](#)

[Available until Jan 29, 2022](#)

I believe this is the Ferruginous Hawk here in the Horse Heaven Hills that is on the endangered list that should help prevent the building of the Horse Heaven Hills Windmill Farm.

I have been seeing this one all around town this summer to current from Southridge High School to Clodfelter Road area and behind (towards Oregon) where I travel regularly.

Christina Caprio  
Environmental Scientist

[Click to Download](#)

IMG\_0390.MOV  
0 bytes

Sent from my iPhone

**RECEIVED**

April 3, 2021

**APR 29 2021**

**ENERGY FACILITY SITE  
EVALUATION COUNCIL**

Dear Sirs:

I attended both the March 16<sup>th</sup> and March 30<sup>th</sup> virtual meetings about bringing wind turbines and solar power to my region. The majority of the people were opposed to this idea as I am.

We have people who jeep, horseback ride, bike ride and hike in the Horse Heaven Hills and the closing of over 72,000 acres would hurt their outdoor interests.

I worked on Horse Heaven for many years and enjoyed looking at an unobstructed view of the panorama in any direction. The quiet and solitude was Unmeasurable. I don't want to give that up.

The power provided by the Benton County PUD is 92% carbon free and the only reason they use wind energy is because of being forced to by Initiative 937. Wind produced electricity is double the cost of hydro and not reliable at all. The wind doesn't blow all the time making it a terrible addition to the power grid. When electrical demand is on the wind may not be. Our utility districts have been great stewards of our supply. They have done studies showing that wind and solar power is not only unreliable but very expensive. They are against this project as well as the Benton County Commissioners and the Washington Dept. of Fish and Wildlife.

Studies show that windturbines are bad for bats and birds.

Please leave our shrub steppe alone.

Jack Pickard

(509)627-9244

1903 W. 15<sup>TH</sup>  
KENNEWICK, WA.  
99337

SPOKANE WA 990

6 APR 2021 PM 1 L



ENERGY FACILITY SITE EVALUATION COUNCIL  
621 WOODLAND SQUARE LOOP  
PO BOX 43172  
OLYMPIA, WA.  
98504-3172

98504-3172







*Keepers of the Story ~ Stewards of the Trail<sup>SM</sup>*

*We preserve, promote and teach the diverse heritage of Lewis and Clark for the benefit of all people*

March 25, 2021

Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council  
621 Woodland Square Loop P.O. Box 43172,  
Olympia, WA, 98504-3172

RE: Horse Heaven Wind Farm Project

Dear Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council:

RECEIVED

MAY 27 2021

ENERGY FACILITY SITE  
EVALUATION COUNCIL

Thank you for providing the Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation, Inc. (LCTHF) information on the Horse Heaven Wind Farm Project (HHWF). We are interested in submitting our comments on this matter, and we appreciate the opportunity to be a part of the Project process.

The Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation, Inc. (LCTHF) is a national organization established in 1969 and dedicated to preserving the historic accuracy of the story of the Lewis and Clark Expedition and protecting the cultural and historic integrity of the landscapes through which the Expedition traveled from 1803-1806. We currently have about 1,000 members organized in 22 local chapters across the country. Our membership comes from all walks of life who share a common passion for passing along the lessons that can be learned from this important era of our nation's history to future generations. This includes preservation of the landscape through which the Expedition traveled.

The Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail was designated by Congress in the National Trails System Act, (P.L. 90-543, as amended through P.L. 111-11, March 30, 2009 and the succeeding John D. Dingell, Jr. Conservation, Management and Recreation Act signed on March 12, 2019). It is 4,900 miles long and is officially recognized from Pittsburg, Pennsylvania to Fort Clatsop, Oregon. The trail is one of 30 National Scenic and Historic Trails in the collection of long-distance trails in our National Trails Systems.

We have been provided information that indicates the Horse Heaven Wind Farm Project would have a significant and negative effect on the viewshed of the Columbia River, Snake River and portions of the Yakima River that are within the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail. Our organization has inspected the area of the proposed encroachment of the Columbia River/Snake River/Yakima River viewshed, and we agree that the proposed Horse Heaven Wind Farm Project will have a detrimental effect on the viewshed of the rivers that are within the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail.

This portion of the Columbia River, Snake River and Yakima River is, of course, an integral part of the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail, and as such is entitled to certain protections. Significant Expedition locations and campsites in the 10 mile buffer zone include: campsite of October 16-17, 1805 at Sacajawea State Park and Interpretative Center at the mouth of the Snake River; Captain William Clark's view of the Yakima River on October 17, 1805; campsite of October 18, 1805 near Spring Gulch; campsite of April 26, 1806 at Fourmile Creek; campsite of April 27-28, 1806 at Yellepit; campsite of April 29, 1806 near Wallula, and campsite of April 30, 1806 on the Touchet River. There are also several area locations described by the Expedition involving rapids, Native American settlements and other unique features.



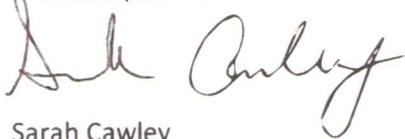
In addition, the visual effect at Sacajawea State Park and Interpretative Center would be significant and in a negative manner, with approximately 200 of the Horse Heaven Wind Farm Project's 244 towers visible. Also at that site is the Confluence Project site installation by acclaimed designer Maya Lin, just a few feet from the water's edge where the Snake River and Columbia River meet. The significance and importance of the integrity of Sacajawea State Park and Interpretative Center and its environs cannot be overstated.

Because the Horse Heaven Wind Farm Project will clearly have a negative effect of the viewshed of significant locations on the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail, we feel that any and all efforts to mitigate the effect of the Horse Heaven Wind Farm Project, including the project not being authorized or approved, should be undertaken.

Sincerely,



Louis N. Ritten  
President, LCTHF



Sarah Cawley  
Executive Director, LCTHF



Robert Heacock  
Chairman, LCTHF Trail Stewardship Committee  
LCTHF Washington Chapter Officer



**From:** [M.L](#)  
**To:** [EESEC \(UTC\)](#)  
**Subject:** Horse Haven Hills Wind Farm  
**Date:** Wednesday, February 16, 2022 4:42:36 PM

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External Email

We ABSOLUTELY OPPOSE this wind farm. We recently moved to the Tri-cities for a quieter way of life with wide-open views. We purchased a house just down the valley and across the river from Horse Haven Hills. Those beautiful hills are our view. To obstruct them with unsightly, giant towers is unthinkable.

In addition to the ruined view are many other factors including the sound and vibration that would likely affect the residents of Benton City.

Furthermore, our property values will decline. The increase in property tax revenues that you claim will not directly benefit the residents; their home equity does, however.

Being that this energy is not even slated to help our community, you are simply stealing from us to give power to folks who do not have to pay with their obstructed views, declining property values and increased noise pollution. Put the towers in their neighborhood!

--

[Scott and Maggie Lackey](#)

**From:** [Grantham, Andrea \(UTC\)](#)  
**To:** [Grantham, Andrea \(UTC\)](#)  
**Subject:** FW: A note on Horse Haven Site for Wind Turbines  
**Date:** Thursday, March 17, 2022 11:19:11 AM

---

**From:** [dave.postetter@comcast.net](mailto:dave.postetter@comcast.net) <[dave.postetter@comcast.net](mailto:dave.postetter@comcast.net)>

**Sent:** Tuesday, March 8, 2022 8:28 AM

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

**Subject:** A note on Horse Haven Site for Wind Turbines

### External Email

Kathleen – consider me a strong “NO!” against siting wind turbines at Horse Heaven. Without being long winded (no pun intended), here are my reasons:

1. Wind turbines are an ecological disaster – there is no way to recycle their blades so they end up in landfills
2. Turbines create noise and vibration, and they also reduce wind velocities, strongly impacting the local ecology
3. Turbine blades kill raptors – and in the case of the Horse Heaven site, among other birds the Ferruginous Hawk (which has a WA St recovery plan in place) would be negatively affected

Thanks for listening

Dave (Kenmore, WA)

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

---

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:** [EESEC \(UTC\)](#)  
**Subject:** Horse Heaven Windfarm  
**Date:** Friday, May 20, 2022 8:55:00 AM

---

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

---

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 Geronio 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 distributionAlan 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 Columbia 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**, **Shrubsteppe 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?

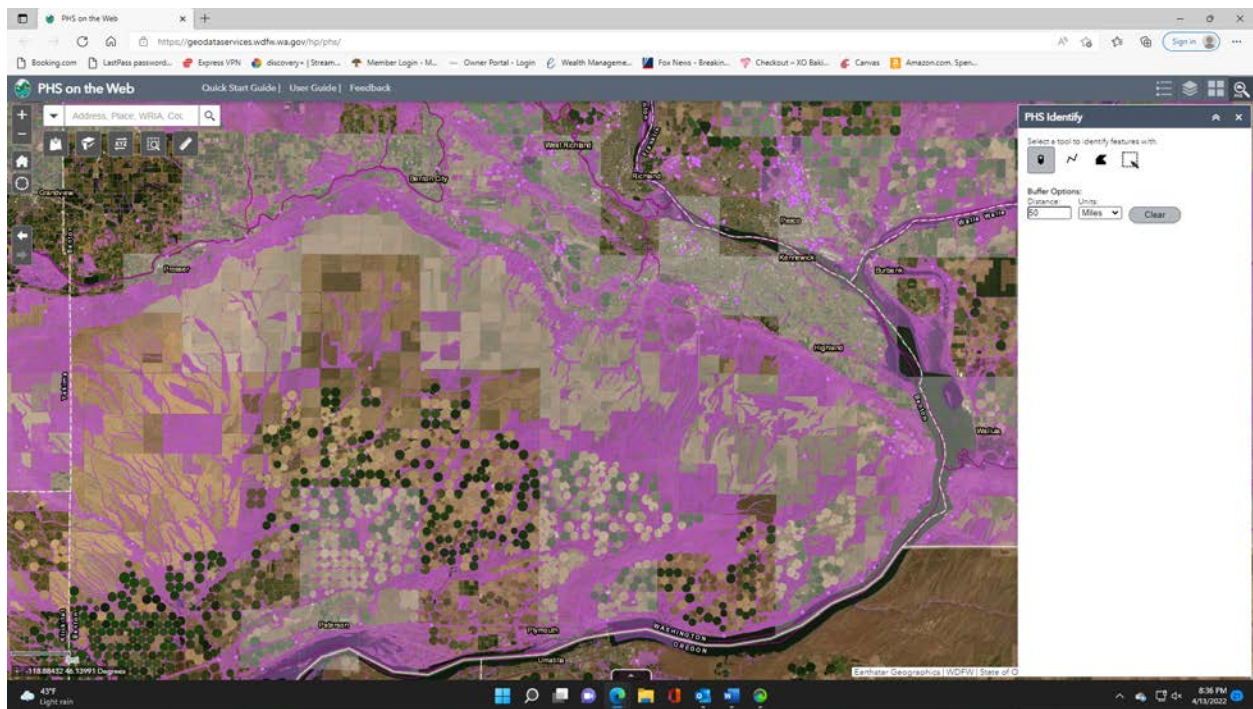
“Little else is known,” Tronstad said.

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  
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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 sulfonylureas 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 sulfonylureas 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,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "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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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)  
[jerome.delvin@co.benton.wa.us](mailto:jerome.delvin@co.benton.wa.us)  
[kathleen.drew@utc.wa.gov](mailto:kathleen.drew@utc.wa.gov)  
[Michelle Cooke <Michelle.Cooke@co.benton.wa.us](mailto:Michelle.Cooke@co.benton.wa.us)  
[greg.wendt@co.benton.wa.us](mailto:greg.wendt@co.benton.wa.us)  
Save The Ridges HHH Dave Sharp; Judy Gosie

Margaret Hue  
29204 S 816 PR SE  
Kennewick, WA. 9338  
509-528-0925  
[m.hue39@gmail.com](mailto:m.hue39@gmail.com)

Michelle M. Moyer, Ph.D  
Associate Professor  
Viticulture Extension Specialist  
WSU IAREC  
24106 North Bunn Road  
Prosser, WA 99350-8694

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

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)  
Wine Grape Growers Association  
[kathleen.drew@utc.wa.gov](mailto:kathleen.drew@utc.wa.gov)

**From:** [kmbrun@gmail.com](mailto:kmbrun@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:** [EESEC \(UTC\)](#)  
**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 <aeerkes@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

# A PETITION TO GOVERNOR INSLEE AND THE STATE ENERGY FACILITY SITE EVALUATION COUNCIL

***WE, CITIZENS OF WASHINGTON, HEREBY GIVE OUR SIGNATURE TO PETITION AGAINST THE HORSE HEAVEN HILLS WIND FARM PROJECT STRETCHING 24 MILES OF THE TRI-CITIES RIDGE LINE FROM SOUTH OF TRI-CITIES IN FINLEY, ABOVE SOUTH KENNEWICK, ABOVE BADGER CANYON EXTENDING TO KIONA/BENTON CITY.***

**THE WIND PROJECT DEVELOPER PLANS TO BUILD AND ERECT 244 WIND MACHINES TALLER THAN THE SPACE NEEDLE ALONG THE ENTIRE SKYLINE OF TRI-CITIES AND BADGER CANYON. *THERE HAS BEEN NO PUBLIC HEARING LOCALLY* SO OUR VOICE HAS NOT BEEN HEARD. THIS POWER IS NOT NEEDED LOCALLY AND WOULD LIKELY BE SOLD OUT OF STATE. THIS PROJECT SITE CONSTRAINS THE BENTON COUNTY GROWTH PLAN. THE WASHINGTON STATE FISH AND WILDLIFE EXPRESSED CONCERNS ABOUT INCREASED MORTALITY OF ENDANGERED AVIAN SPECIES, SUCH AS, FERRUGINOUS HAWKS AND MIGRATORY BIRDS SUCH AS SANDHILL CRANES. THE FRAGILE SHRUB STEPPE ECOSYSTEM WILL BE FURTHER DEGRADED AS WILL NATIVE PLANTS, SOME OF WHICH ARE PROTECTED. THE TRI-CITIES SKYLINE WILL BE FOREVER CHANGED. THE CONSTANT LOW FREQUENCY NOISE, BLADE FLICKER REFLECTIONS, AND 244 FLASHING RED LIGHTS ON THE MACHINES AT NIGHT POSE HEALTH RISK TO HUMANS INCLUDING HEADACHES, LOSS OF SLEEP, AND VERTIGO FROM THE CONSTANT NOISE THAT CAN CARRY OVER LONG DISTANCES. THERE IS EVIDENCE THAT TURBULENCE FROM LARGE WIND PROJECTS ACCELERATE MOISTURE LOSS FROM THE SOIL AND WILL INCREASE LOCAL TEMPERATURES. **WE HAVE GRAVE CONCERNS ABOUT IMPACTS TO OUR LOCAL WINE INDUSTRY, FRUIT ORCHARDS, AND DIVERSIFIED AGRICULTURE. PROPERTY VALUES WILL BE DECREASED.****

**I AM AGAINST CONSTRUCTION OF THE WIND FARM ON HORSE HEAVEN HILLS RIDGE OF TRI-CITIES AND BADGER CANYON.**

	PRINT LEGAL NAME	SIGNATURE	DATE	ADDRESS	CITY	STATE ZIP-CODE	EMAIL ADDRESS	PHONE
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Please return signed forms to Margaret Hue, 29204 S 816 PR SE Kennewick, WA 99338

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**INFORMATION SHEET ON THE PROPOSED HORSE HEAVEN HILLS (HHH) WIND FARM**  
**(WILL STRETCH 24 MILES FROM FINLEY, ALONG THE RIDGE LINE ABOVE BADGER CANYON TO**  
**KIONA/BENTON CITY AND WILL BE VISIBLE FOR MILES)**

**Developer:** Scout Clean Energy (SCE) is a Colorado company and is a portfolio company of Quinbrook Infrastructure Partners out of Australia. SCE currently has **NO** wind or solar projects under development or operating in its home state.<sup>1</sup>

**Acres:** The proposed project's lease boundary encompasses up to 72,428 acres (11,850 for turbines and 10,755 for solar). Two different turbine layouts are proposed: 244 turbines at 496-499' in height each or 150 turbines reaching between 657-671'. Blade span will be between 417-459' or 518-557', respectively.<sup>2</sup>

**Local Need:** Per Benton PUD, this area does not need the power from wind to meet current clean energy standards – the electricity produced here is already 93% carbon free. SCE has not been transparent about the quantity and destination of renewable energy and have put a lot of emphasis on selling it to large corporations.<sup>2</sup> Whatever is produced will be sent to the west side as SCE is expected to submit bids to deliver electricity to west side utilities; the rest siphoned off to California.<sup>3</sup> All three Benton County Commissioners and the Benton County Public Utility District disapprove of this project.<sup>4</sup> SCE purposely applied directly to the Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council (EFSEC), bypassing Benton County authorities, because of the opposition.

**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>

**Property Values:** Evidence shows large wind farms can reduce home values up to over 5 miles away as much as 12%.<sup>7</sup> Greenfield Advisors, a real estate consulting firm in Seattle, states that the US has seen 0-35% decrease in property values. Just the visual intrusion of these large industrial machines could impact property values and could lower property taxes collected for local schools, making it difficult to operate and/or build schools without new bonds. An Ontario Superior Court Judge (2013) determined property values suffered with the court accepting a 22-55% reduction near large wind farms.<sup>8</sup> Research publications disputing these claims are almost all funded by green energy organizations or suppliers of green energy equipment.

**Habitat:** The project bisects the Pacific Migration Flyway. It will increase avian mortality of our diverse avian population including migratory birds and birds of prey such as the State-endangered Ferruginous Hawk that resides and nests in the HHH. Our fragile shrubsteppe ecosystem will be further degraded. The environmental impacts cannot be overstated.

**Health:** There is a growing body of evidence that low frequency noise from wind turbines can affect human health. Sleep interruption, noise and light issues, headaches, nausea, and vertigo are all potential issues.

**Jobs:** Scout Clean Energy's application estimates the Phase 1 workforce to be 26 at the start, ramp up to 467 six months later, and end after two months. The Phase 2 average workforce is estimated to be 271 over a 10-month period. There will only be 16-20 permanent jobs post-construction.<sup>2</sup> It is not clear how many of these construction or post-construction jobs would be locally sourced.

**Fire:** The wind turbines and solar panels present a serious fire risk,<sup>9</sup> especially when the nearest fire stations are manned by volunteers. Fighting a fire 499-671' in the air is impossible; fighting a ground fire under a wind turbine presents an additional danger from falling objects spreading to wheat fields and canyons stacked with tumbleweeds and cheatgrass.

**Green Energy:** Wind machines are not green or environmentally friendly. Building and erecting wind turbines requires hundreds of tons of materials — steel, concrete, fiberglass, copper, and more exotic stuff like neodymium and dysprosium used in permanent magnets. All of it has a carbon footprint. The International Renewable Energy Agency predicts that we'll have to deal with a cumulative 78 million metric tons of antiquated solar panel waste and tens of millions of tons of old turbine blades by 2050.<sup>10</sup>

**Reliability:** Wind power is unreliable and requires back up sources of power when wind is not available. Benton PUD data shows that the Nine Canyon Wind Farm has a 25% capacity factor and estimates that the HHH Wind Farm's will be 30% given the additional height of the turbines.

**Tourism:** We have a flourishing wine industry that brings in tourism that could be impacted by the aesthetics of the project. "Building wind farms can create land use conflicts, in particular when they are located in natural areas used for tourism and outdoor recreation. ... and studies have shown that opposition to wind farms most commonly stems from the fact that wind turbines degrade people's visual experience of the nature."<sup>11</sup>

**Alternatives:** Small nuclear reactors are the most feasible zero carbon replacement technology for fossil fuel power plants.<sup>12</sup>

**Funds are required for legal support and to build public awareness to stop this project. Please donate to [www.gofundme.com/f/save-our-horse-heaven-hills](https://www.gofundme.com/f/save-our-horse-heaven-hills). Cash can be dropped off at or checks can be made out and mailed to Barry Bush, 709 S. Hawaii St., Kennewick, WA 99336. Donations are not tax deductible at this time.**

#### Sources:

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

<sup>2</sup> Horse Heaven Application (<https://www.efsec.wa.gov/energy-facilities/horse-heaven-wind-project/horse-heaven-application>)

<sup>3</sup> A proposed \$1.7 billion wind and solar project generates hopes and fears in South Central Washington state, Seattle Times, Hal Bernton, 5/4/21 (<https://www.seattletimes.com/seattle-news/a-proposed-1-7-billion-wind-and-solar-project-generates-hopes-and-fears-in-south-central-washington-state/>)

<sup>4</sup> Wind Power Development Questioned, 9/3/20 (<https://www.bentonpud.org/Newsroom/Wind-Power-Development-Questioned>)

<sup>5</sup> Gov. Inslee supports wind farms ahead of Horse Heaven decision during Tri-Cities visit, Annette Cary, 2/23/22 (<https://www.tri-cityherald.com/article258656458.html>)

<sup>6</sup> Inslee guts legislation to look at how wind, solar projects would change Eastern WA, Annette Cary, 3/28/22 (<https://www.tri-cityherald.com/article258656458.html>)

<sup>7</sup> Gone with the Wind: Valuing the Visual Impacts of Wind Turbines through House Prices, Stephen Gibbons, London School of Economics and Political Sciences & Spatial Economics Research Centre, April 2014 (<http://www.spatial-economics.ac.uk/textonly/SERC/publications/download/sercdp0159.pdf>)

<sup>8</sup> Court says turbines reduce property values, but dismisses lawsuit against wpd, CountyLive, 4/28/13 (<https://www.countylive.ca/court-says-turbines-reduce-property-values-but-dismisses-lawsuit-against-wpd/>)

<sup>9</sup> The Wind Turbine Fire Problem, By the Numbers, 2/12/19 (<https://www.firetrace.com/fire-protection-blog/wind-turbine-fire-statistics/>);

The true cost of wind turbine fires and protection, 9/8/20 (<https://www.windpowerengineering.com/the-true-cost-of-wind-turbine-fires-and-protection/>);

The burning issue of wind turbine fires, 10/29/20 (<https://www.powerengineeringint.com/renewables/wind/the-burning-issue-of-wind-turbine-fires/>)

<sup>10</sup> Wind Turbines on Washington's Horse Heaven Hills – How Not To Pursue a Green New Deal, James Conca, 3/8/21 (<https://www.forbes.com/sites/jamesconca/2021/03/08/wind-turbines-on-washingtons-horse-heaven-hills--how-not-to-pursue-a-green-new-deal/?sh=97ec833508d6>)

<sup>11</sup> Wealth of Wind and Visitors: Tourist Industry Attitudes towards Wind Energy Development in Iceland, 6/30/21 (<https://www.mdpi.com/2073-445X/10/7/693>)

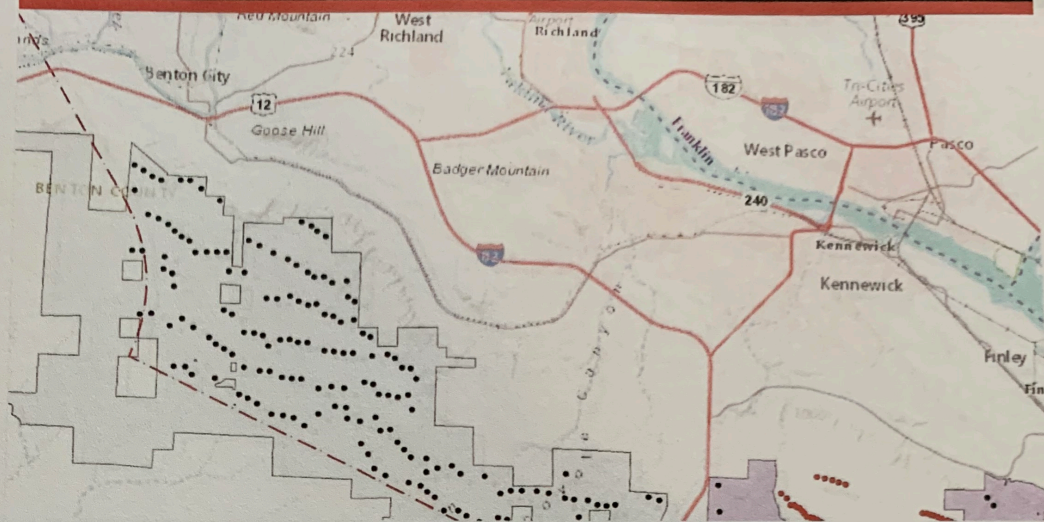
<sup>12</sup> Small Modular Reactors: Adding to Resilience at Federal Facilities, 1/25/18, (<https://www.energy.gov/ne/downloads/small-modular-reactors-adding-resilience-federal-facilities>)



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

M

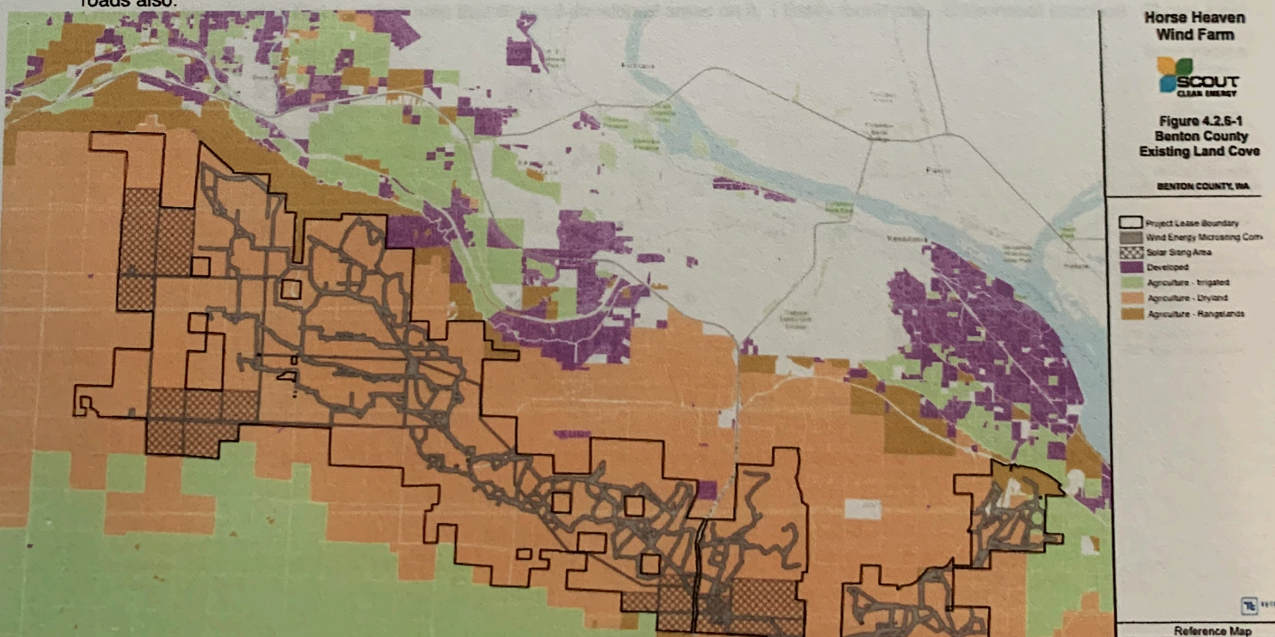
## 244 wind turbines over 500 ft tall could loom over the Tri-Cities soon! Please help stop this!

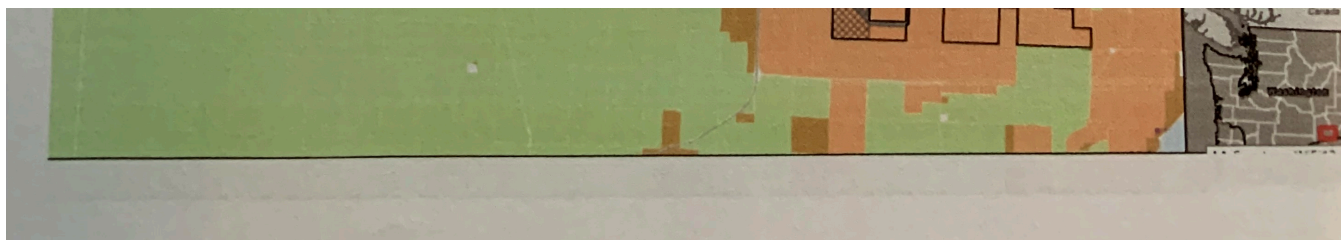


### Some concerns with the project:

- 244 wind turbines, from 499 - 671 feet tall, the Horse Heaven Hills Wind Farm, will scar our southern horizon, on TOP of the ridges! To compare- the Space Needle is 607 feet tall.
- Synchronized red flashing strobe lights along a 24 mile stretch from Benton City, through the Tri-Cities and on to Finley will be visible to about 85% of Tri-Citians nightly for the next 30 years

It has been very hard to find a project map that showed developed areas on it. I finally found one. Screenshot attached. Shows local roads also.









# Say No To The Horse Heaven Hills Wind Farm

save-our-ridges.org

*Horse Heaven Hills simulated photo*

The Horse Heaven Hills wind farm project would be up to 244 giant wind turbines  
on 24 miles of Tri-City ridgelines from Finley all the way to Benton City.

605 feet

Observation Deck 520 feet

Space Needle

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

## ***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 \(ritas Neighbor 2nd Culdesac\)](#) [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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Margaret Hue  
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509-528-0925

Engineering Dept.  
Benton PUD  
PO Box 6270  
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[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)  
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Save The Ridges HHH Dave Sharp; Judy Gosie

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 sulfonylureas 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 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 sulfonylureas 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,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "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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Office of the Regional Administrator, Casey Sixkiller  
**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.

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 sulfonylureas (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  
will.mckay@co.benton.wa.us  
shon.small@co.benton.wa.us  
jerome.delvin@co.benton.wa.us  
kathleen.drew@utc.wa.gov  
Michelle Cooke <Michelle.Cooke@co.benton.wa.us  
greg.wendt@co.benton.wa.us



**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@gooseridge.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 FRIEDS 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](#)

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**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 sulfonylureas 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

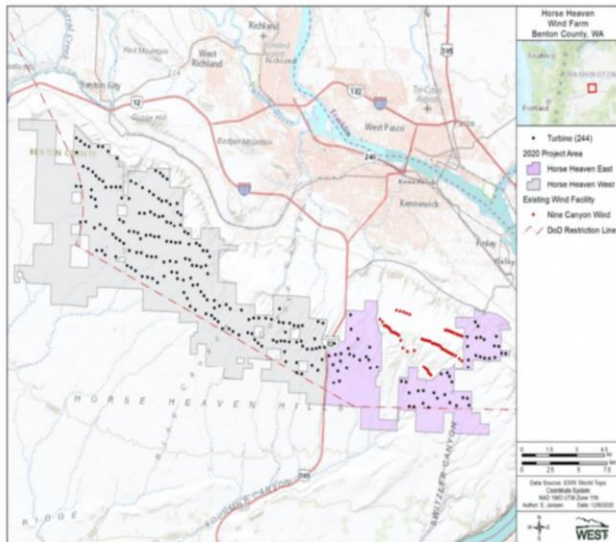


Figure 3. Proposed Turbine layout within the Horse Heaven Wind Farm in Benton County, Washington.

## 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:

[tricityscares.org](http://tricityscares.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-acres 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.

- The HHH meteorology is unpredictable with inversions, air turbulence, and air movement from altitude peak, canyons, and seven hills changing the wind patterns.

## 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.

---

**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 to 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 PI 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

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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](#)  
**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

---

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](#)

---

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.*



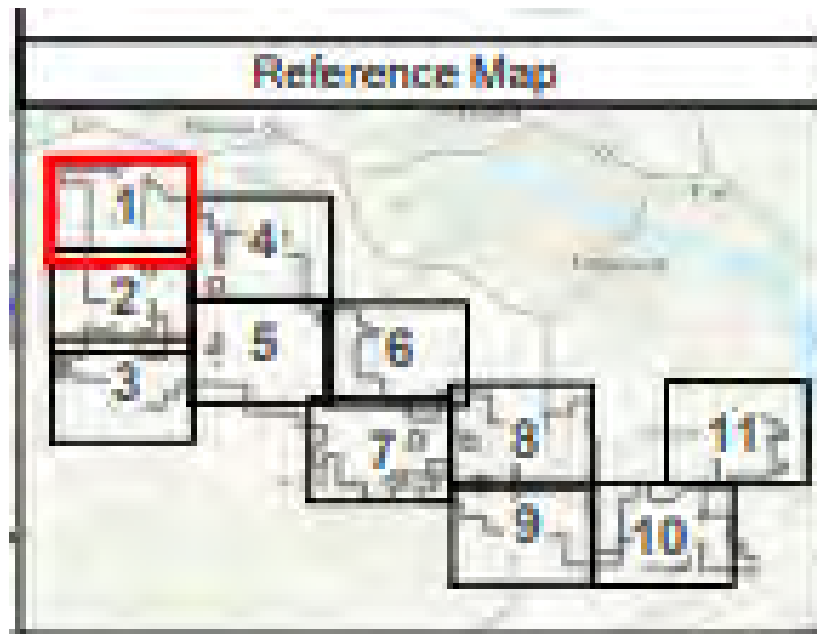
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## *Planning Your Road Tour*

The Horse Heaven Hills Wind & Solar Energy Project 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 at 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.

Four towns (Benton City, Richland, Kennewick, and Finley) and numerous surrounding sub-divided communities with tens of thousands of people in residences are located and are immediately adjacent to and within 1 to 5 miles of the proposed project boundary. West Richland, West Pasco, Pasco, and Burbank will also be able to see the turbines and lights at night. 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 red lights from the wind turbines will be visible from all the towns in the Tri-Cities at night.

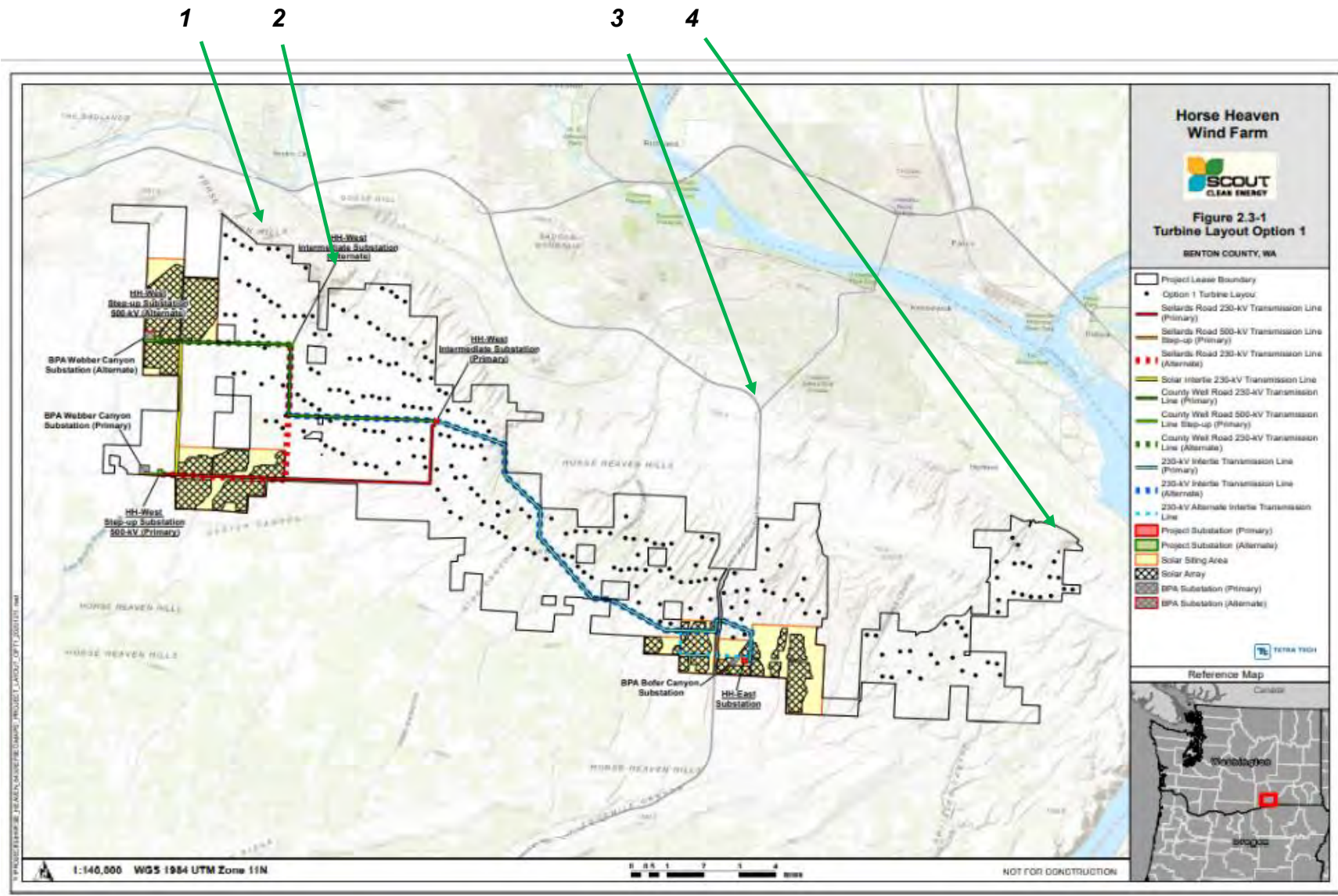


This reference map shows the location of each project area.

## Accessing the Project

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


1. **McBee Road** (gravel)
2. **Weber Canyon Road** (blacktop)
3. **Highway 395 & Bofer Canyon Road** - at the Locust Grove Exit on State Road 395 (blacktop)
4. **South Finley Road and/or Nine Mile Canyon Road off State Road 397** (blacktop)




Reference: Project Location map is from the HHH Project Permit Application to EFSEC.

Once you enter the project area, there are several roads that run east to west that you can use to access the central and southern portions of the project area.

- County Well Road (gravel)
- Cemetery Road (gravel)
- Sellards Road Gravel & blacktop)
- Locust Grove Road / SR 397 (blacktop)
- Beck Road / Kirk Road (gravel)

For each road on the tour, when driving these roads, the maps identify viewpoints as red circles. 

These are stops - places where you can see the proposed locations for the wind turbines and solar arrays.

Locations where drone photos on the cover were taken are identified with a blue star. 

### ***Maps with Primary Access Roads to Project Area Locations and What You Can See***

This road tour guide includes

- An overall project location map
- A map showing the populations of the closest affected communities.
- GIS Image overlay enlargements showing the distances of wind turbines to the closest residential areas

Then for each of the 11 project areas, the following maps provided.

- A project component map from the HHH application on the EFSEC website
- CalTopo Maps showing the existing roads and landscape
- CalTopo Maps showing the roads and land ownership by parcel.

### ***Maps 1, 2 & 3 McBee Road Area***

#### **From Benton City – McBee Road heading south (Maps 1, 2 and 3)**

- Weller Road, County Well Road, Cemetery Road and Sellards Road, all go into the wind turbine sites to the east
- Tyacke Road and Clodius Road go north and south through proposed solar array and wind turbine sites to the east

- McBee Road south goes into the proposed solar arrays west and east.

#### *Maps 4 & 5 Weber Canyon Area*

##### **From Benton City – Weber Canyon Road heading south (Maps 4 and 5)**

- Weber Canyon Road to Henson Road, Travis Road, Dennis Road all go into wind turbine sites
- Weber Canyon to County Well Road to Beightol Road
- Weber Canyon to Travis Road heading south to Cemetery Road, Sellards Road,

#### *Maps 5 & 6 South Badger Canyon Area*

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

- Badger Canyon Road heading south to Cemetery Road and Sellards Road, wind turbines located to the east and west

##### **From Sellards Road head east (Map 6)**

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

#### *Map 7 – South Badger Canyon – Locust Grove Area*

##### **Plymouth Road heading south to Locust Grove Road (Map 7)**

- Head east on Locust Grove Road, wind turbines from northwest to southeast for the next four miles.
- 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.

#### *Map 8- Highway 395 Boffer Canyon Area*

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

- Take Bofer Canyon Road south two to five miles, wind turbines on Johnson Butte to the east and southeast.

#### *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.



- Take Boffer Canyon north towards Kennewick, wind turbines along the crest of the Horse Heaven Hills west to east.

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

**From the Coffin Road exit (East side of highway) take Bofer Canyon Road north to Beck Road then head east (Map 10)**

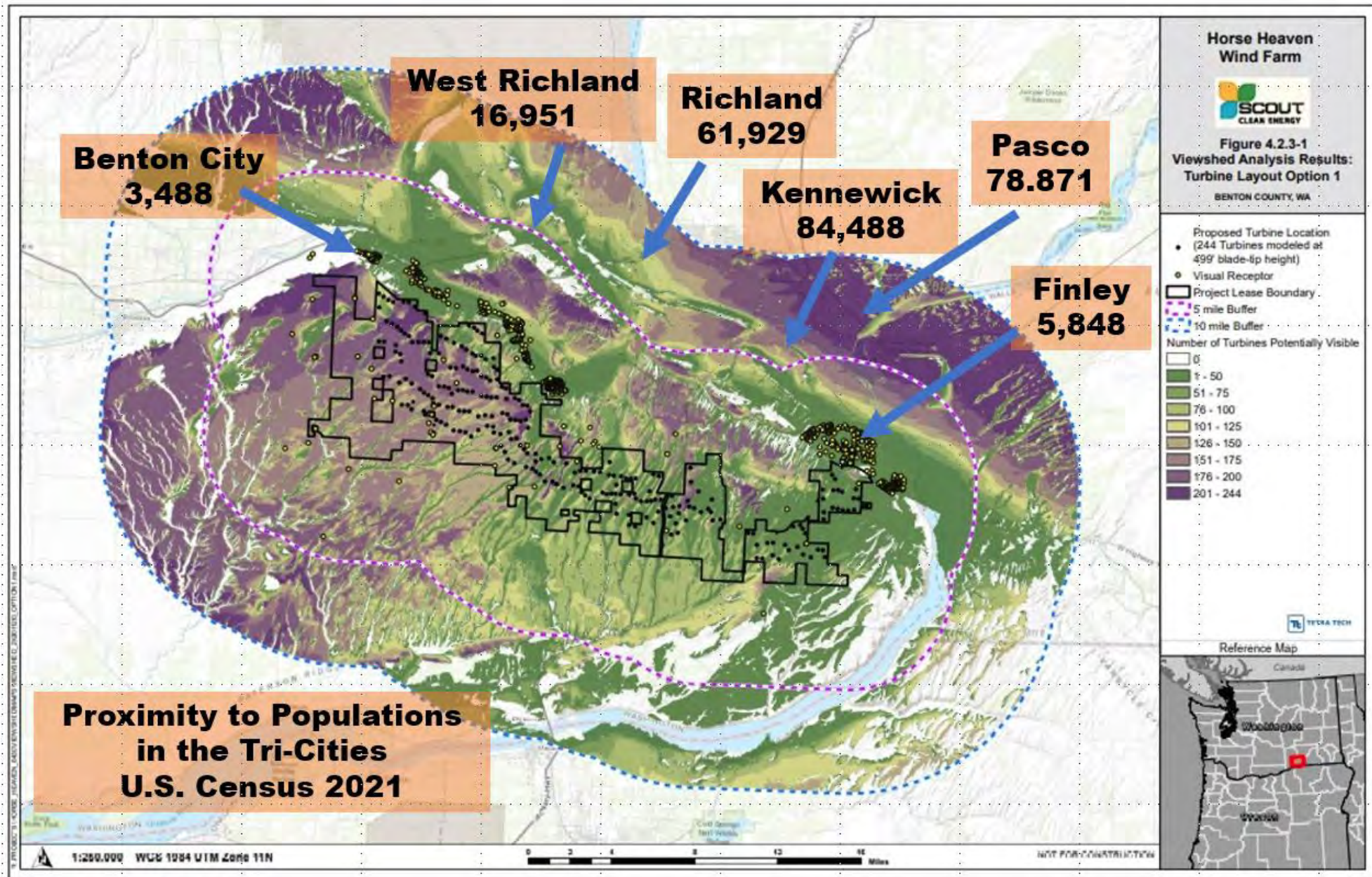
- Take Beck Road four miles east of SR 395, wind turbines for four to five miles
- Beck Road to Nine Mile Canyon Road heading north and south, wind turbines east and west
- Nine Mile Canyon Road to Kirk Road heading east and west, wind turbines north and south of Kirk Road.
- Take Kirk Road east two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

#### *Map 11 – Finley Area*

**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.

# Map Showing the Proximity of the Horse Heaven Wind Project to Populations in the Tri-Cities



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

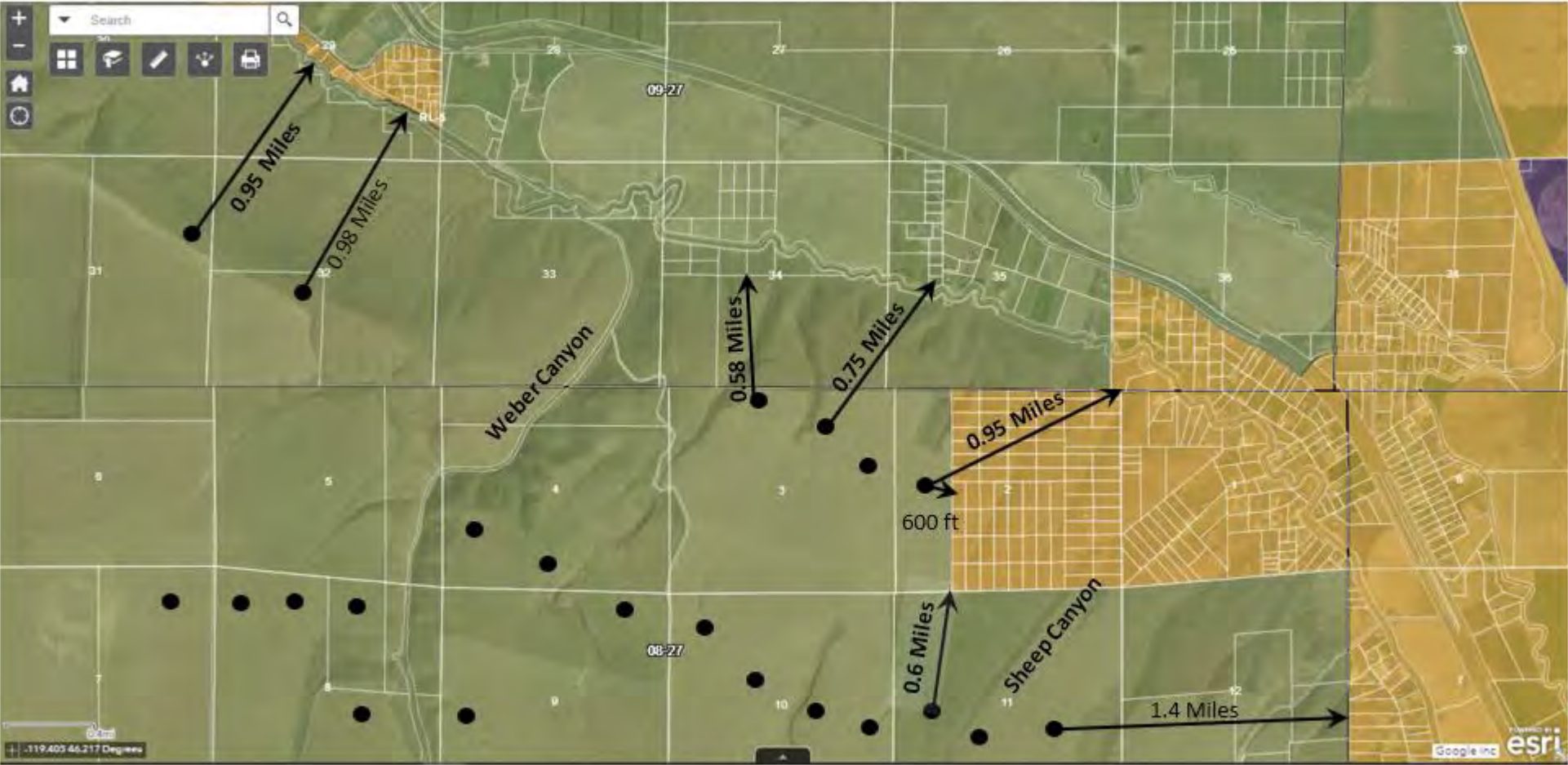


*Aerial Photo GIS Map of McBee Road south of Benton City*



- 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



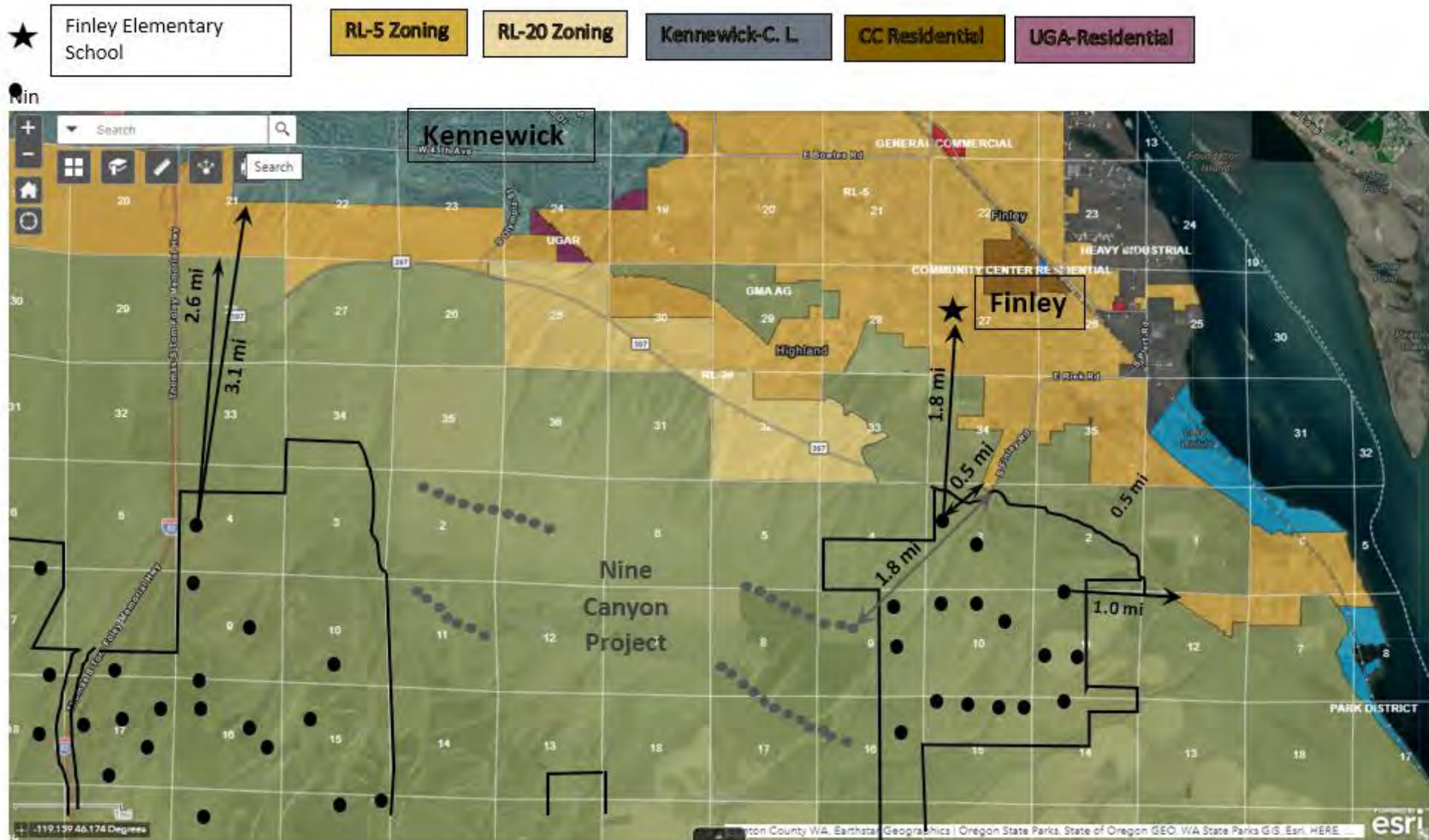
RL-5 Zoning

● Wind Turbine

- - - Drainage



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

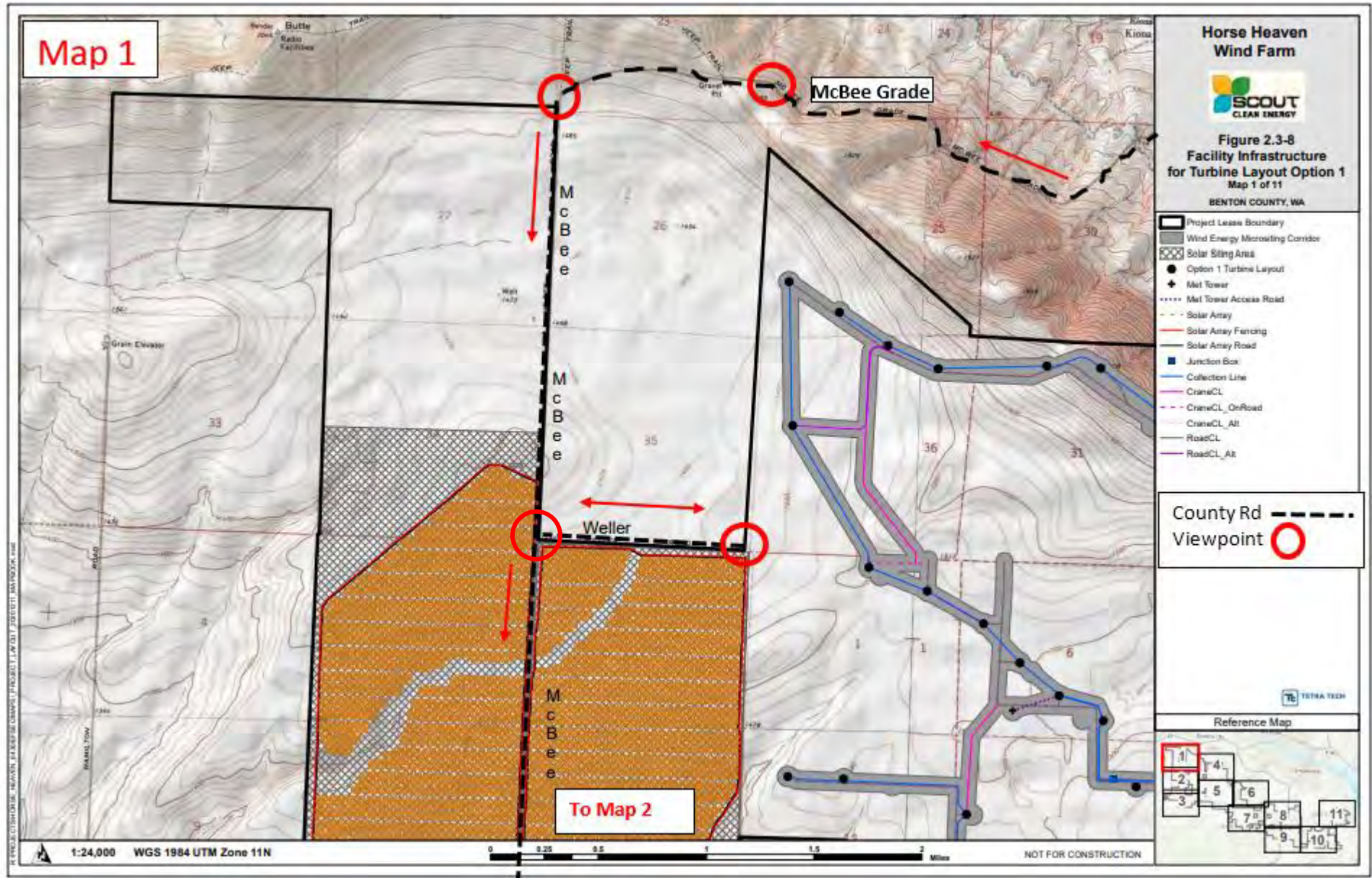


Project Maps 8, parts of 9, and Map 11 were overlaid to the County GIS system to Develop these maps. Turbine locations are approximate. Finley, WA is a Census Defined Place with population of 6,000. The majority of the area is zone as Rural -5 acre. There is also Rural Community Center Residential, and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

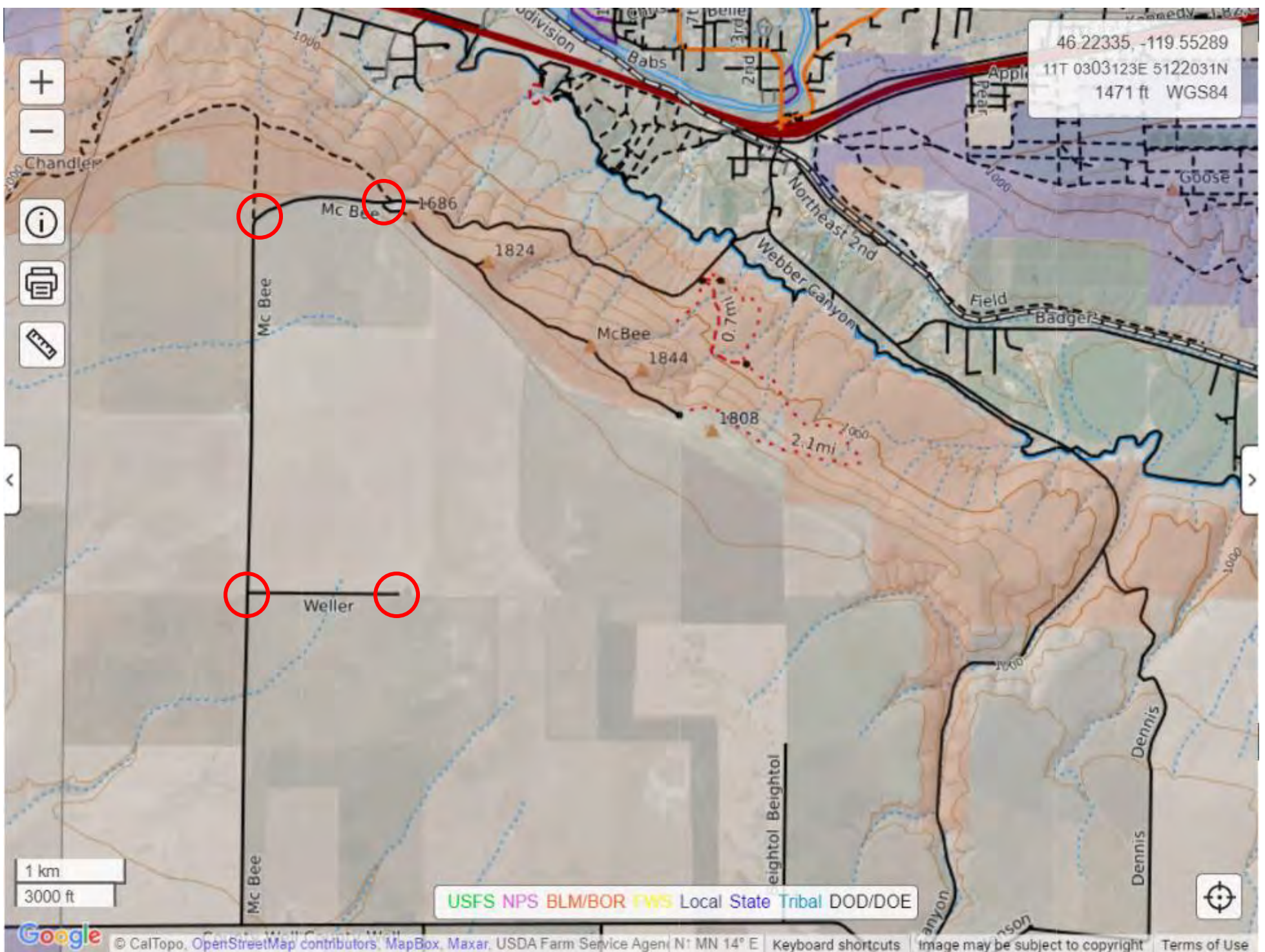
The HH Project turbines are nominally 50% taller than NC, and located at generally higher elevations making their visual prominence more imposing.



Map 1 – Project Area 1 – McBee Road



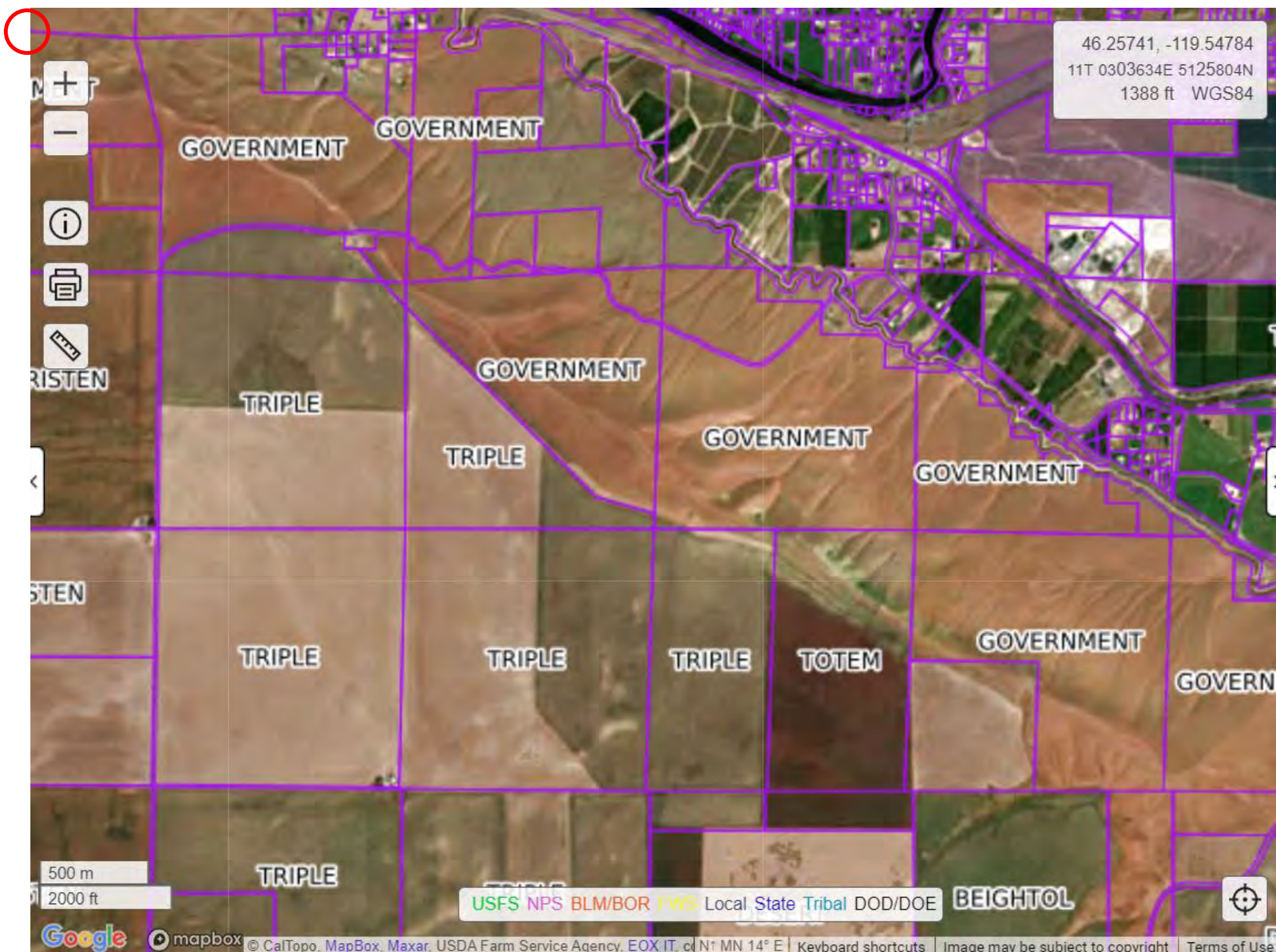




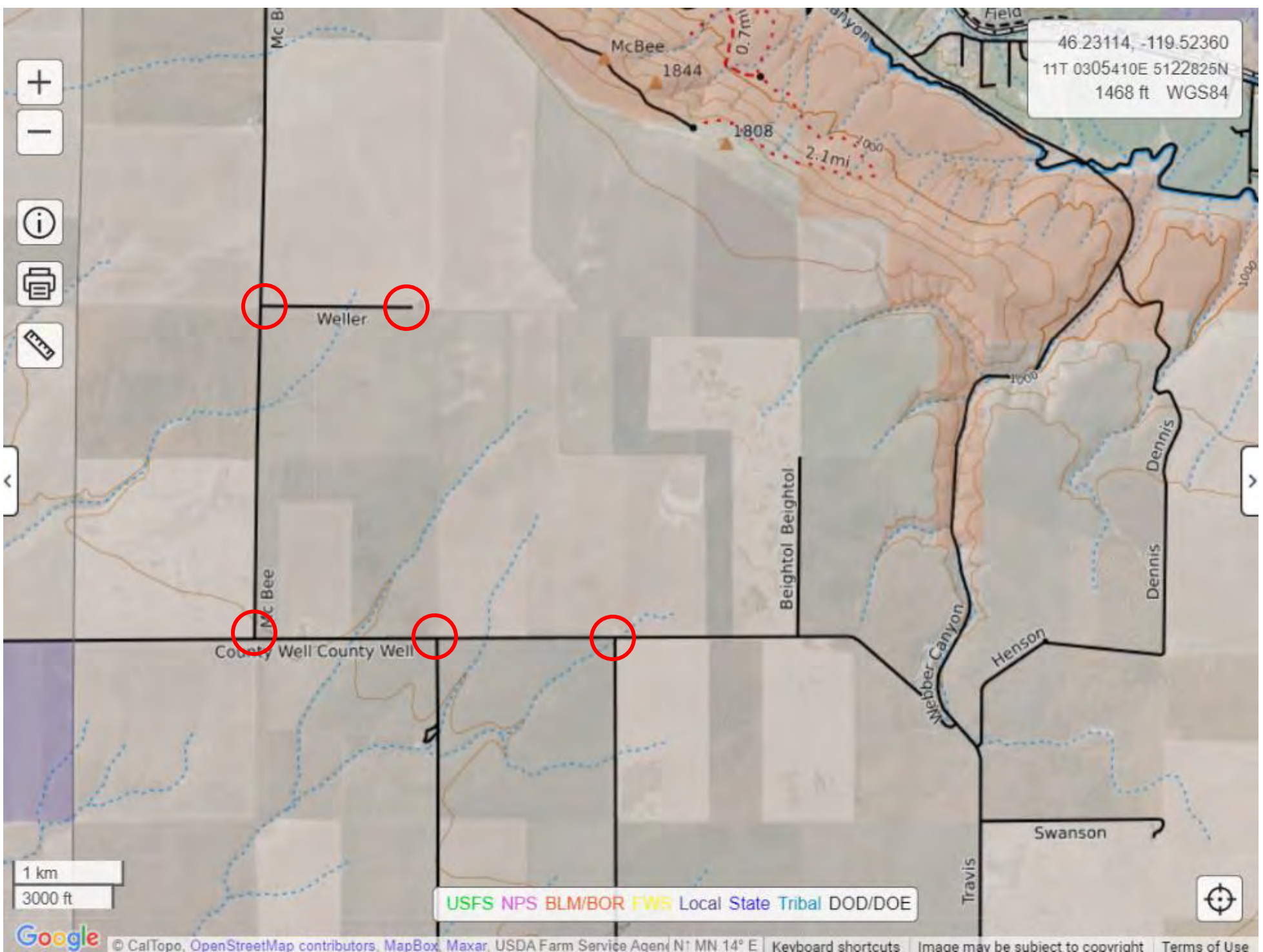










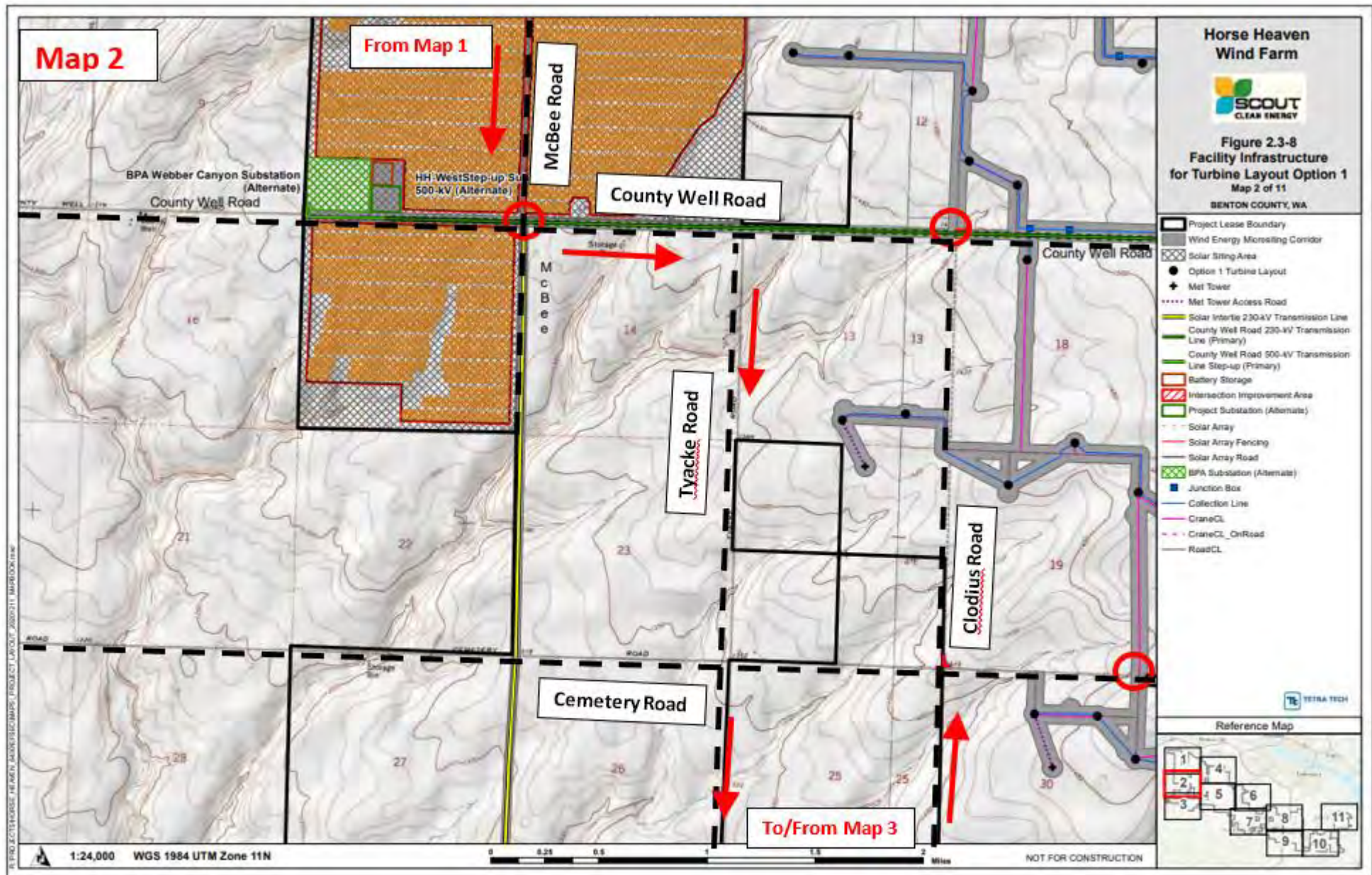








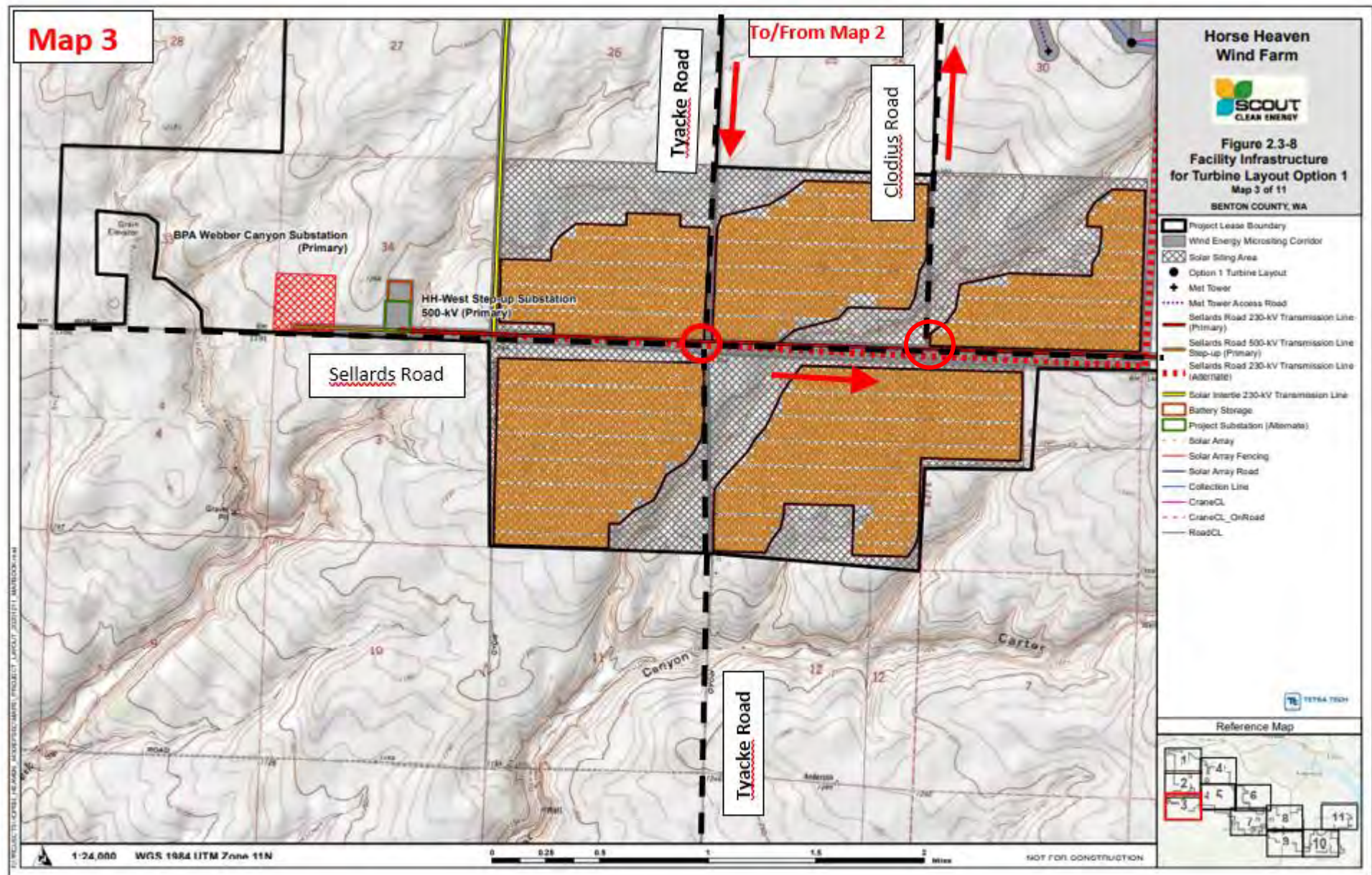




County Road - - - - -

Viewpoint ○

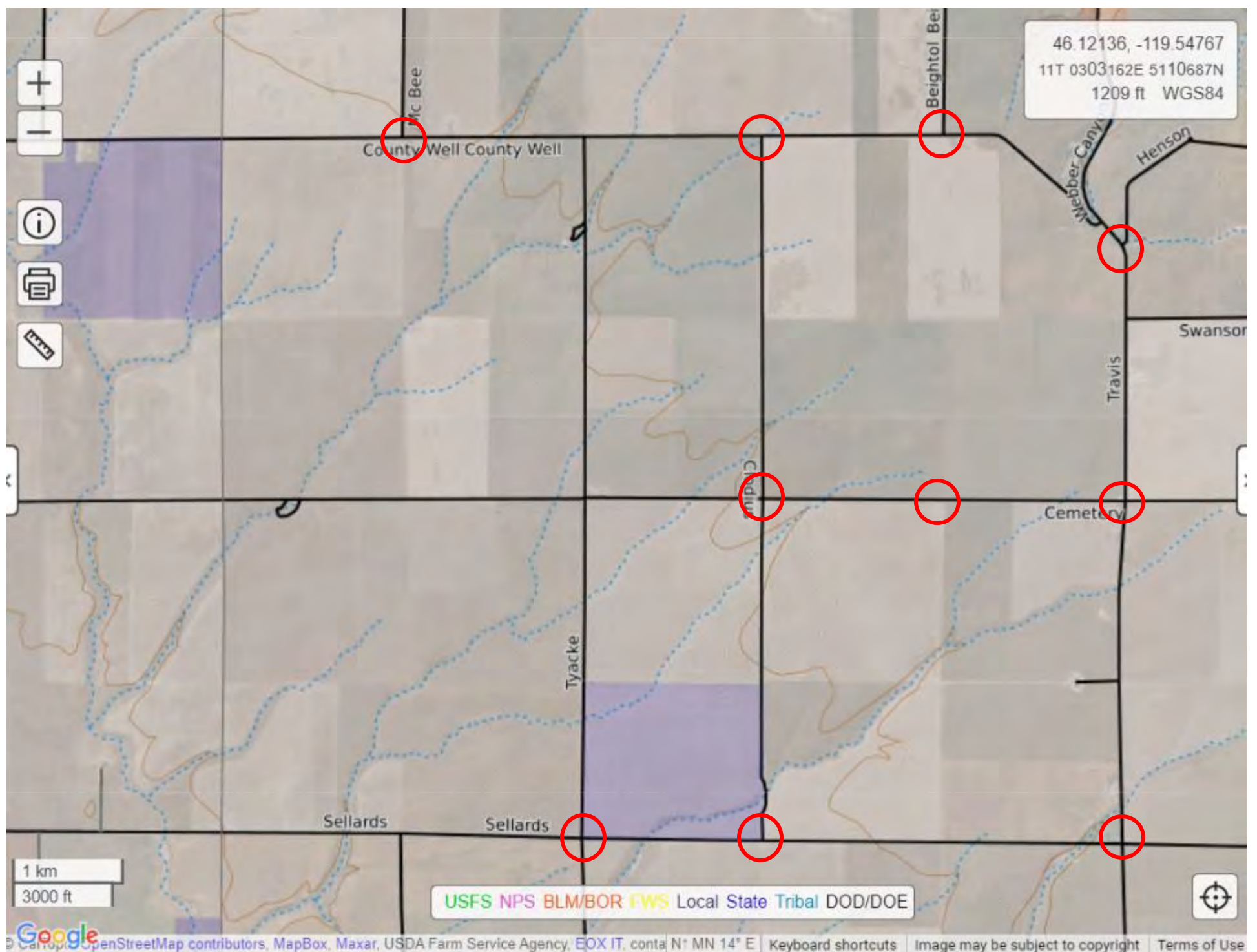


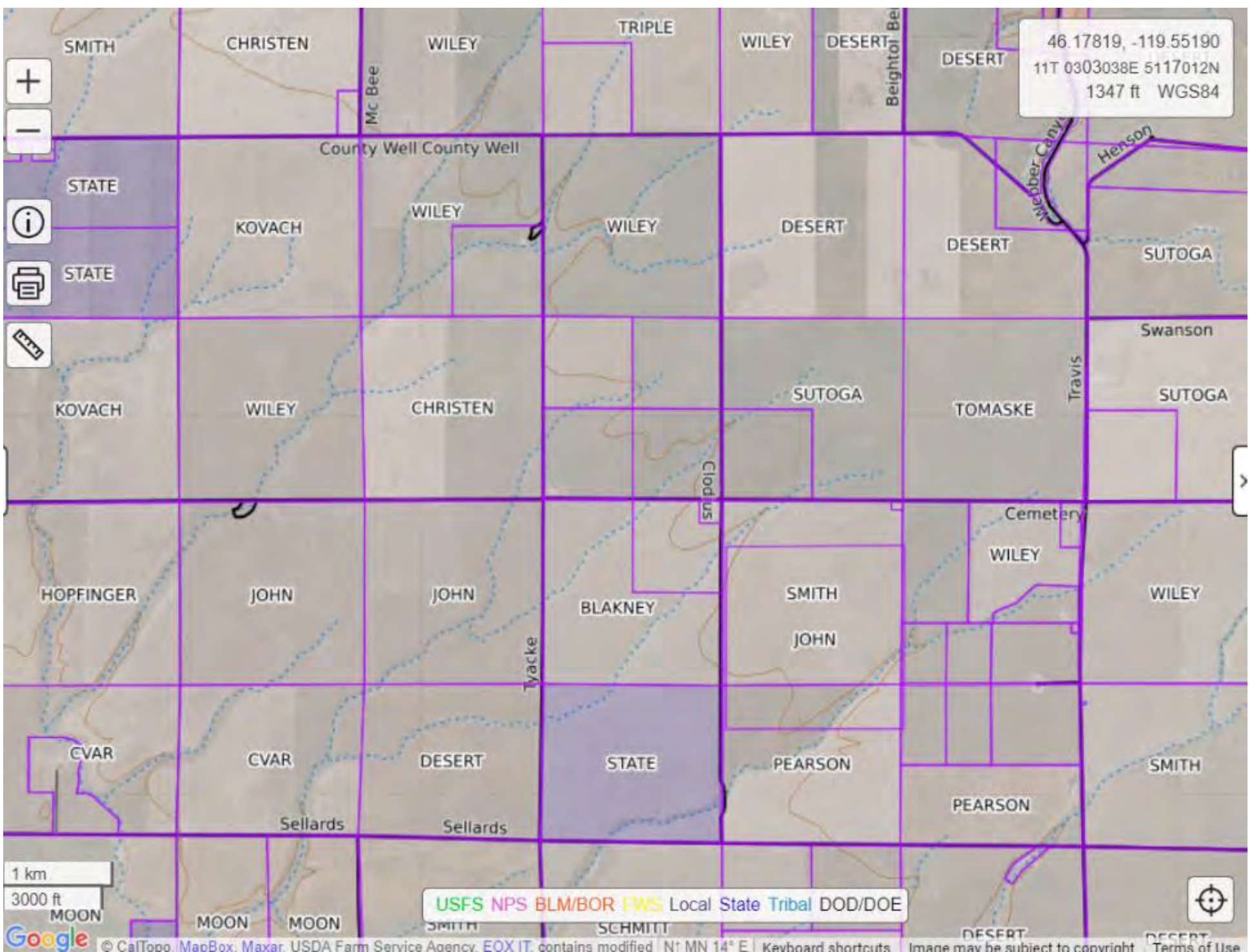


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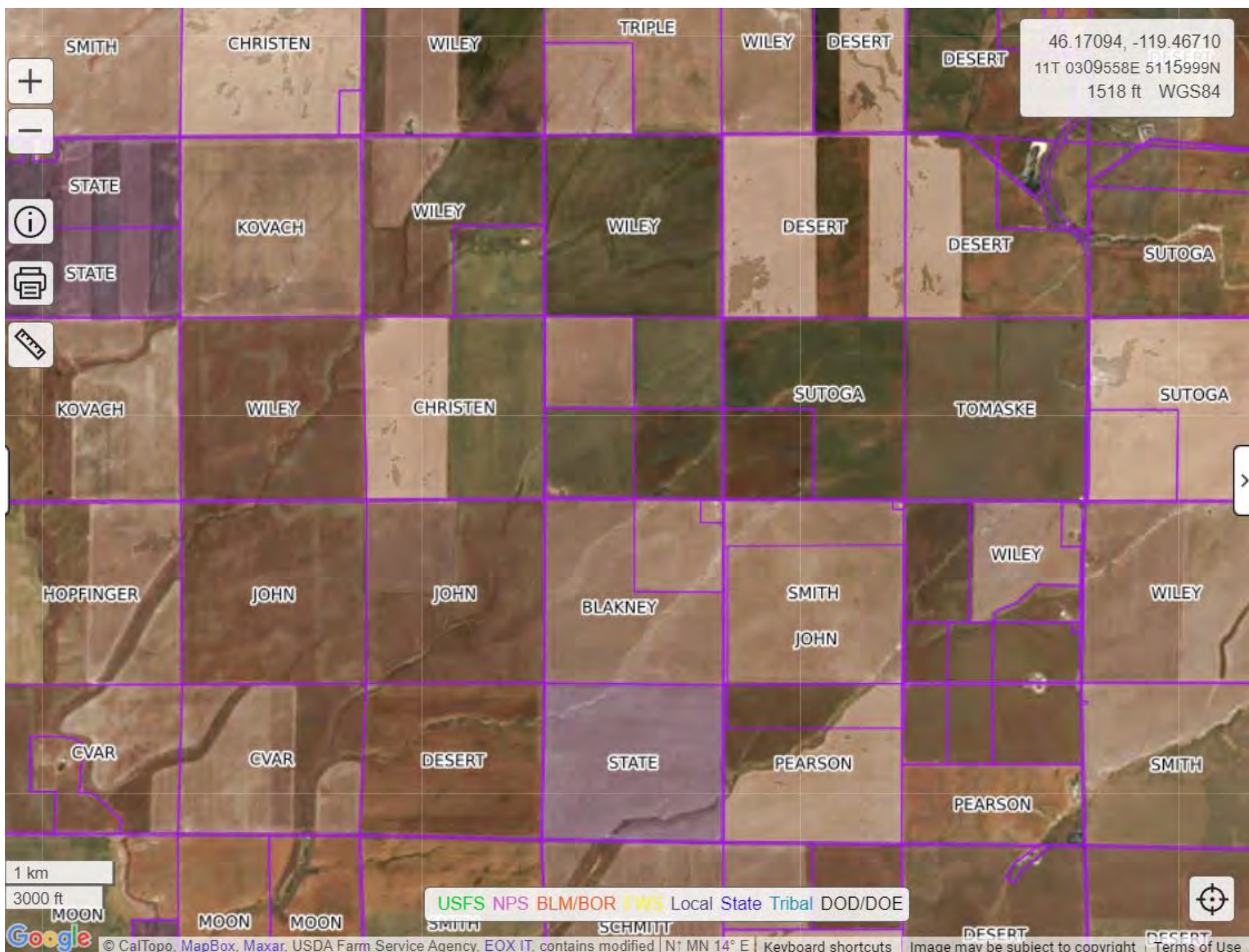
Viewpoint ○



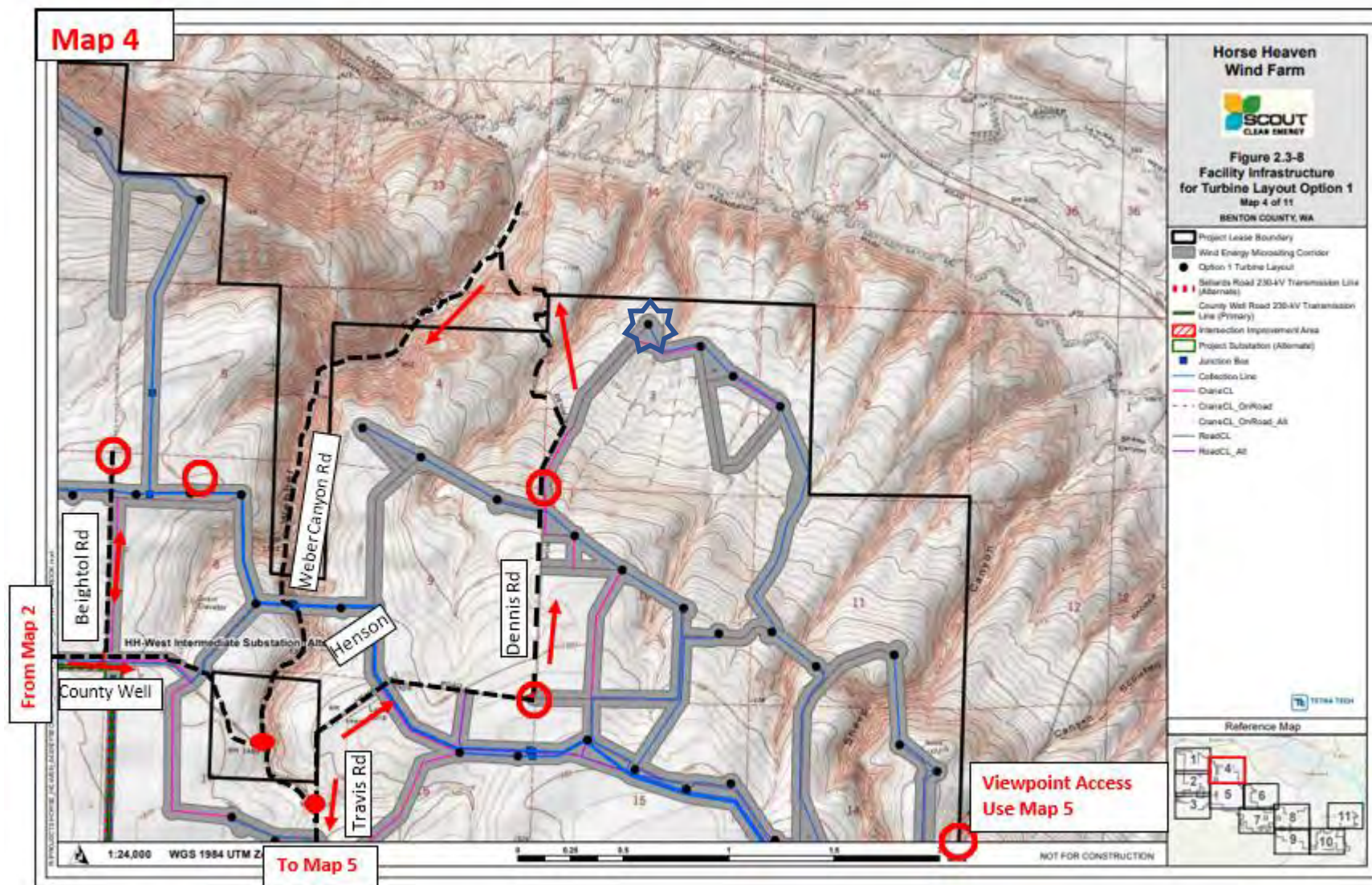










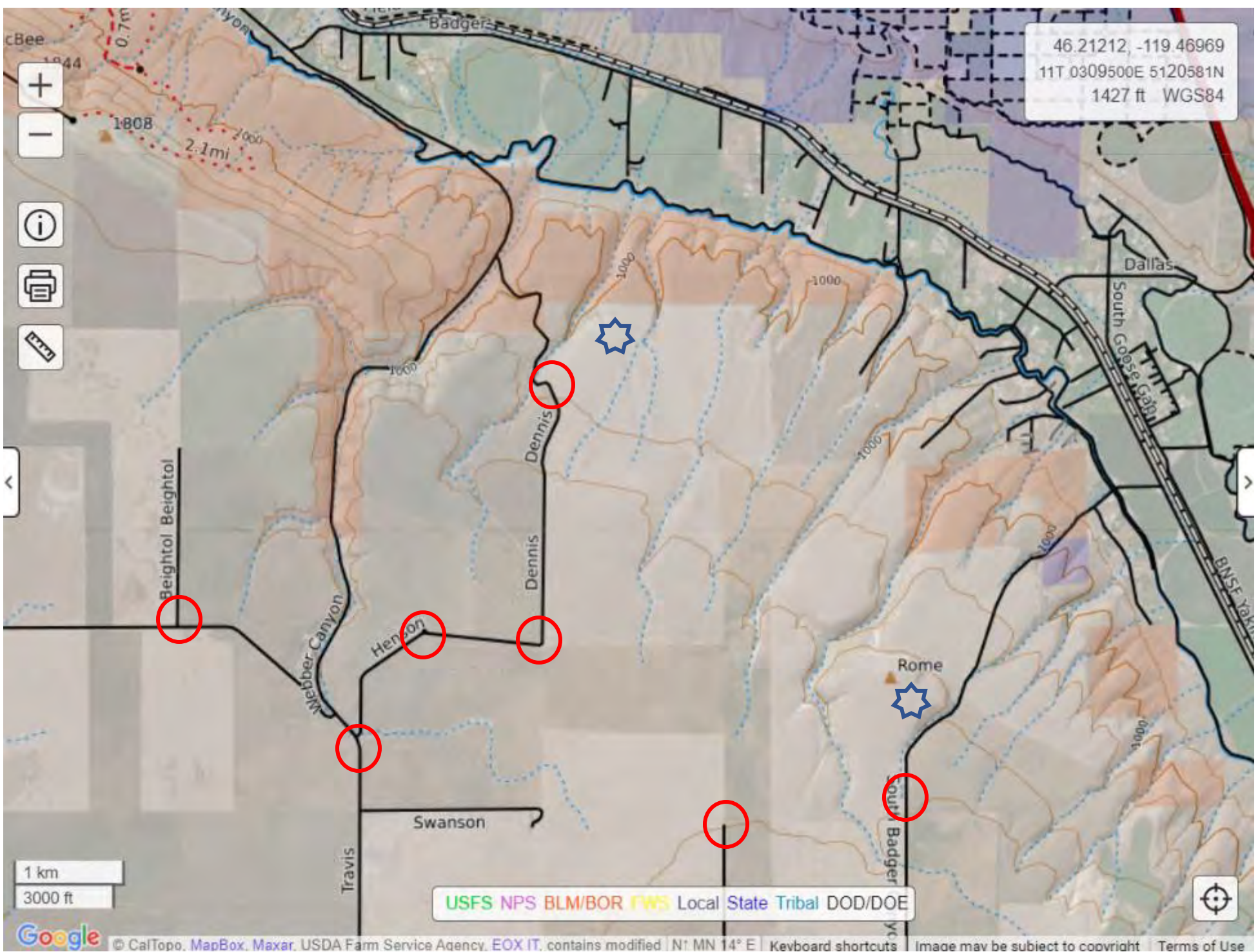


County Road - - - - -

Viewpoint ○

Drone photo location ☆

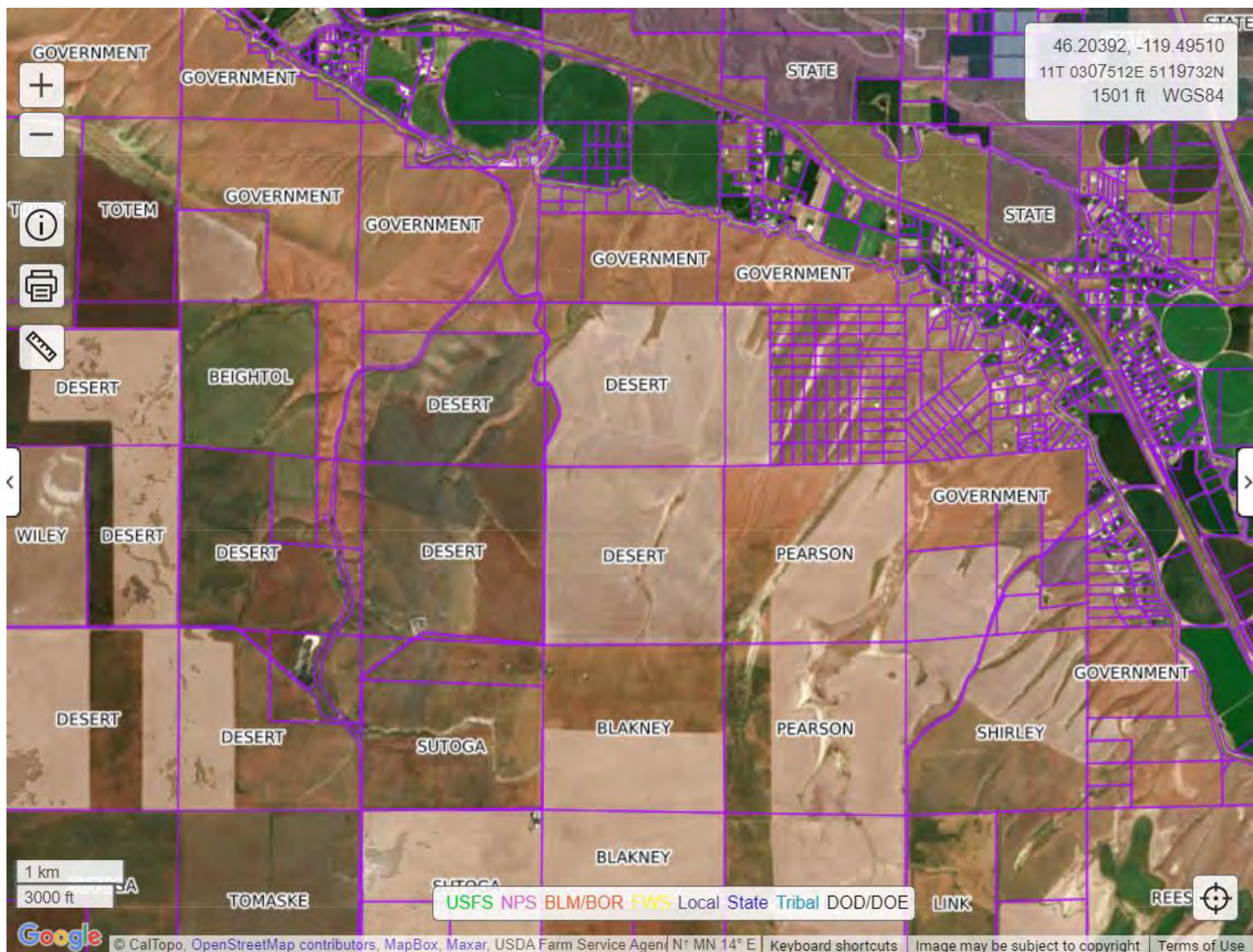




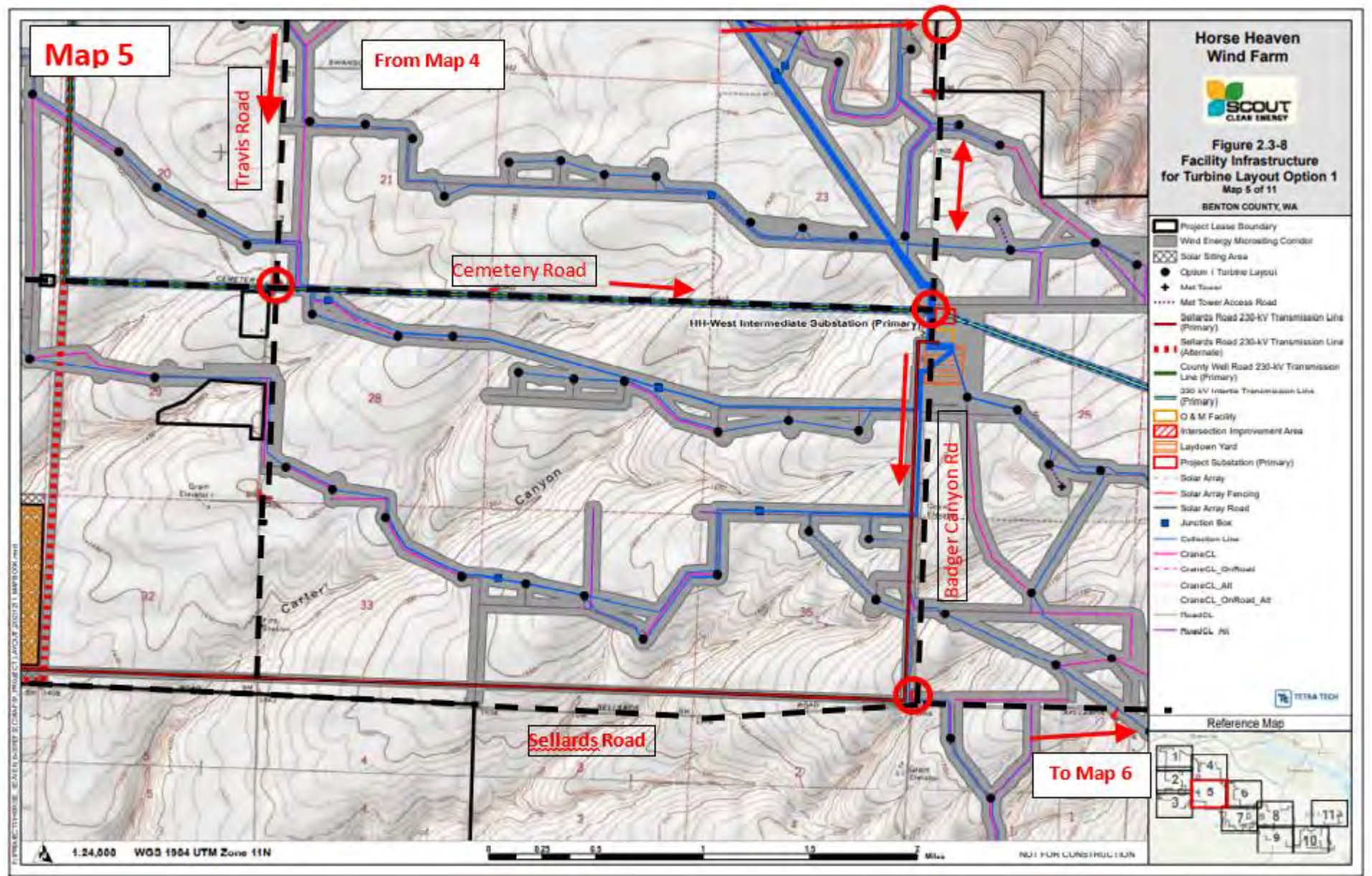








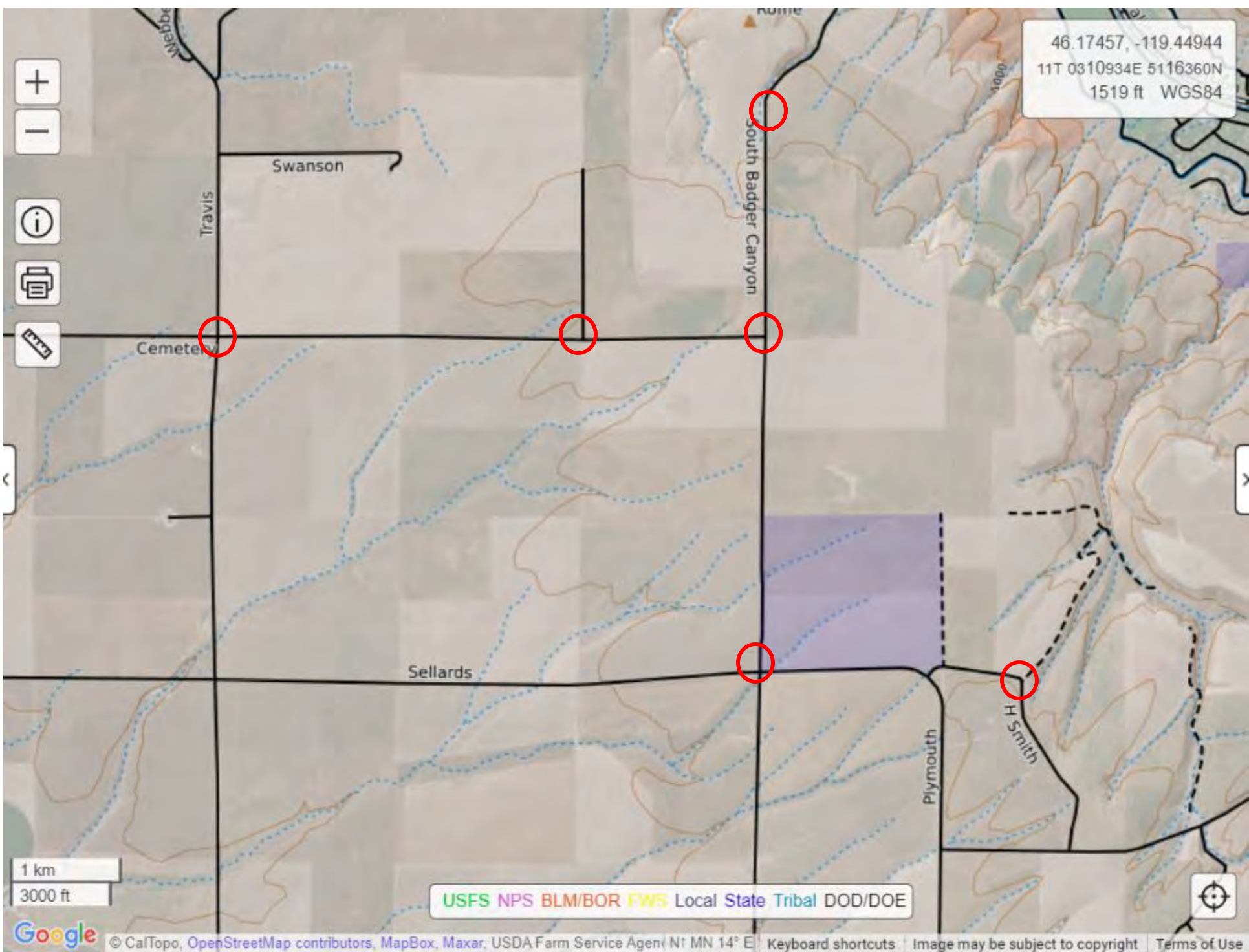




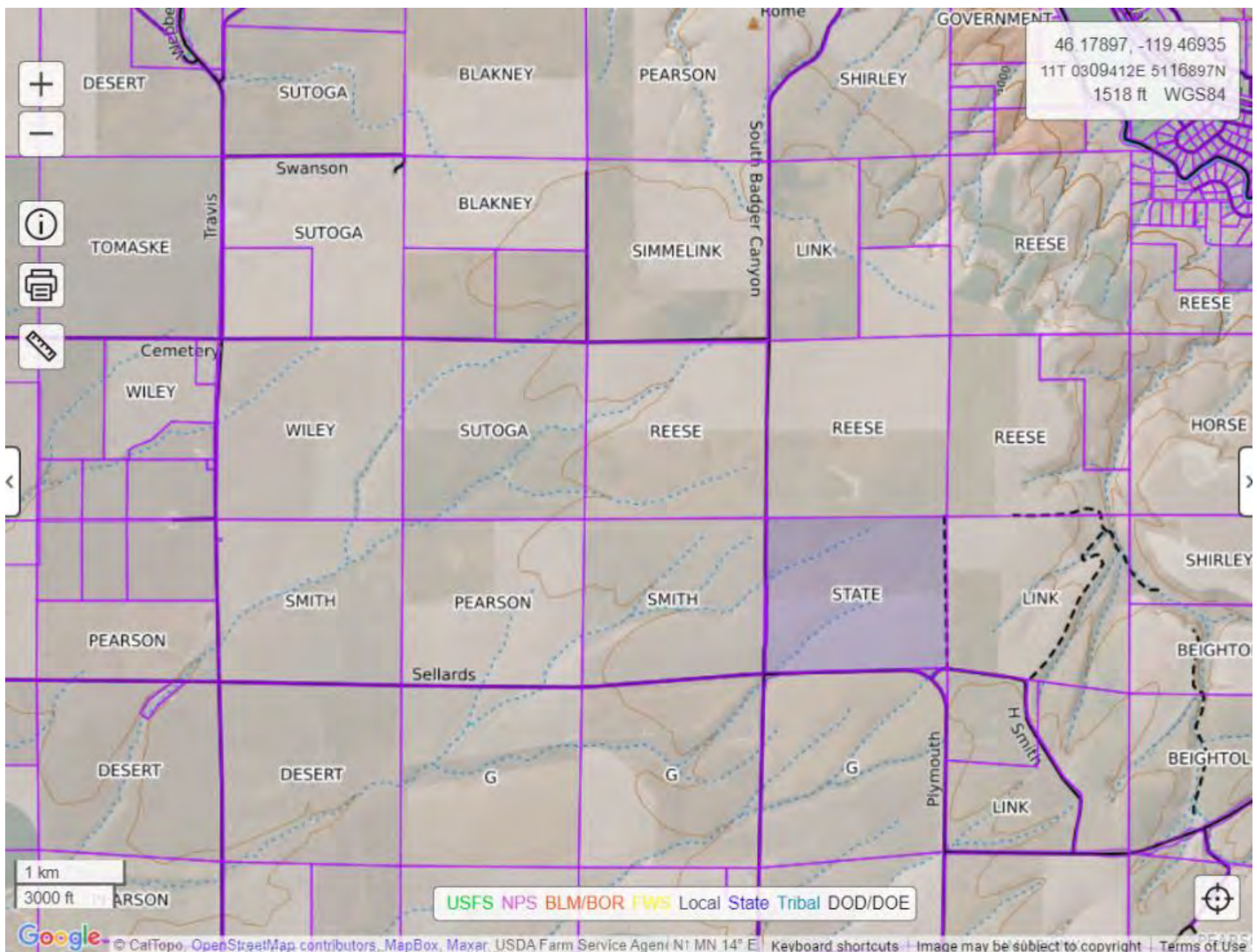
County Road — — —

Viewpoint Option ○

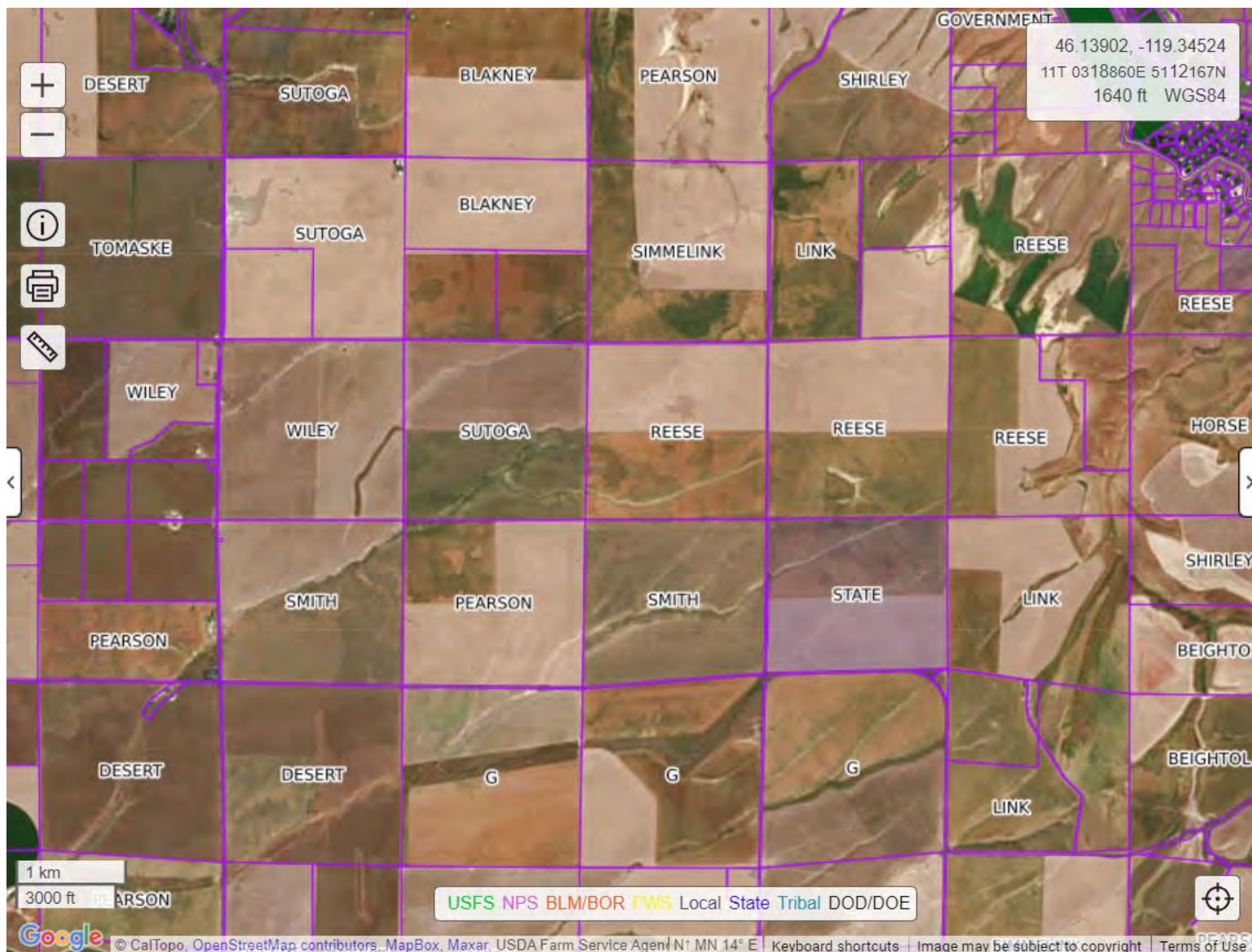




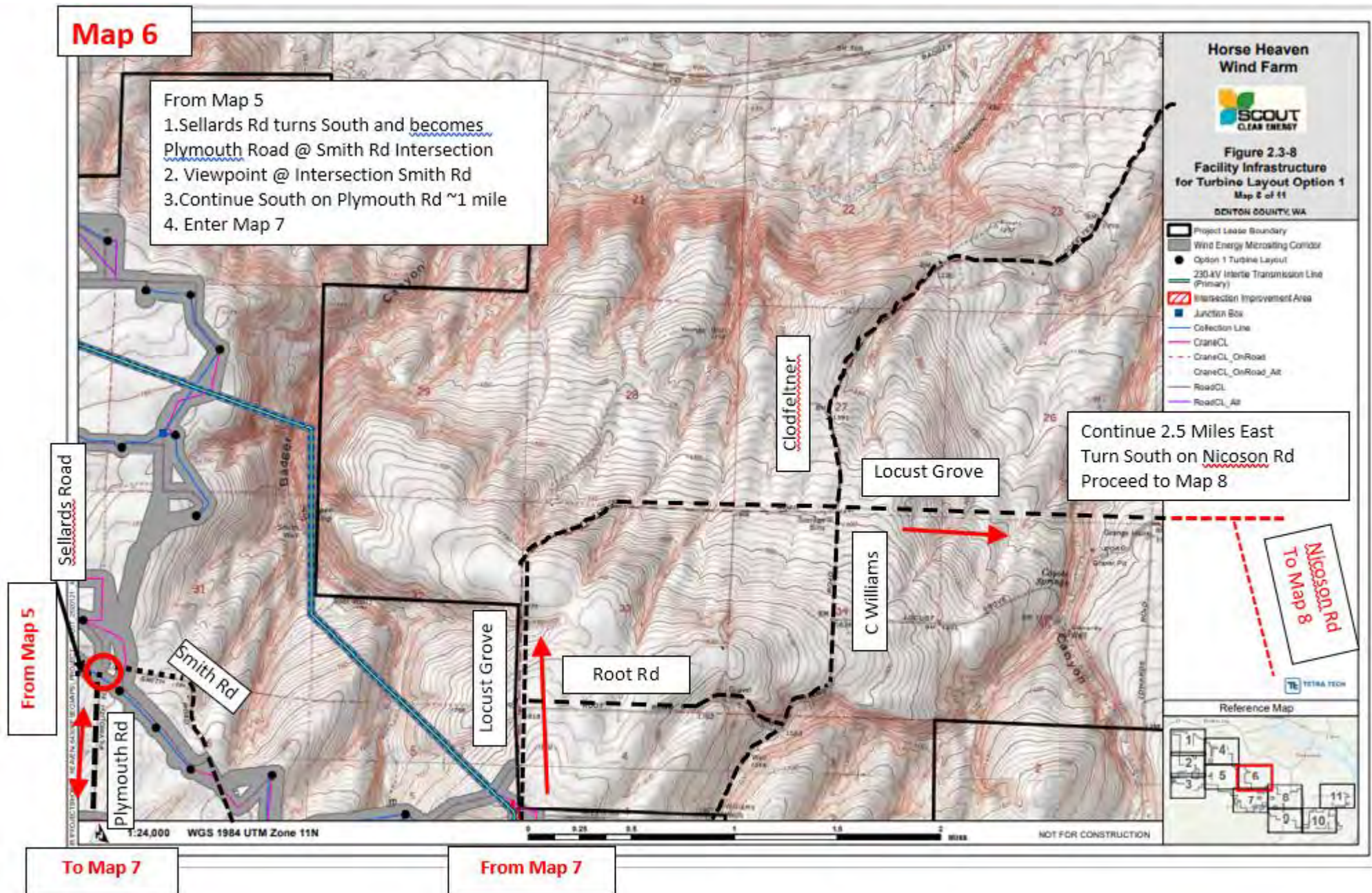




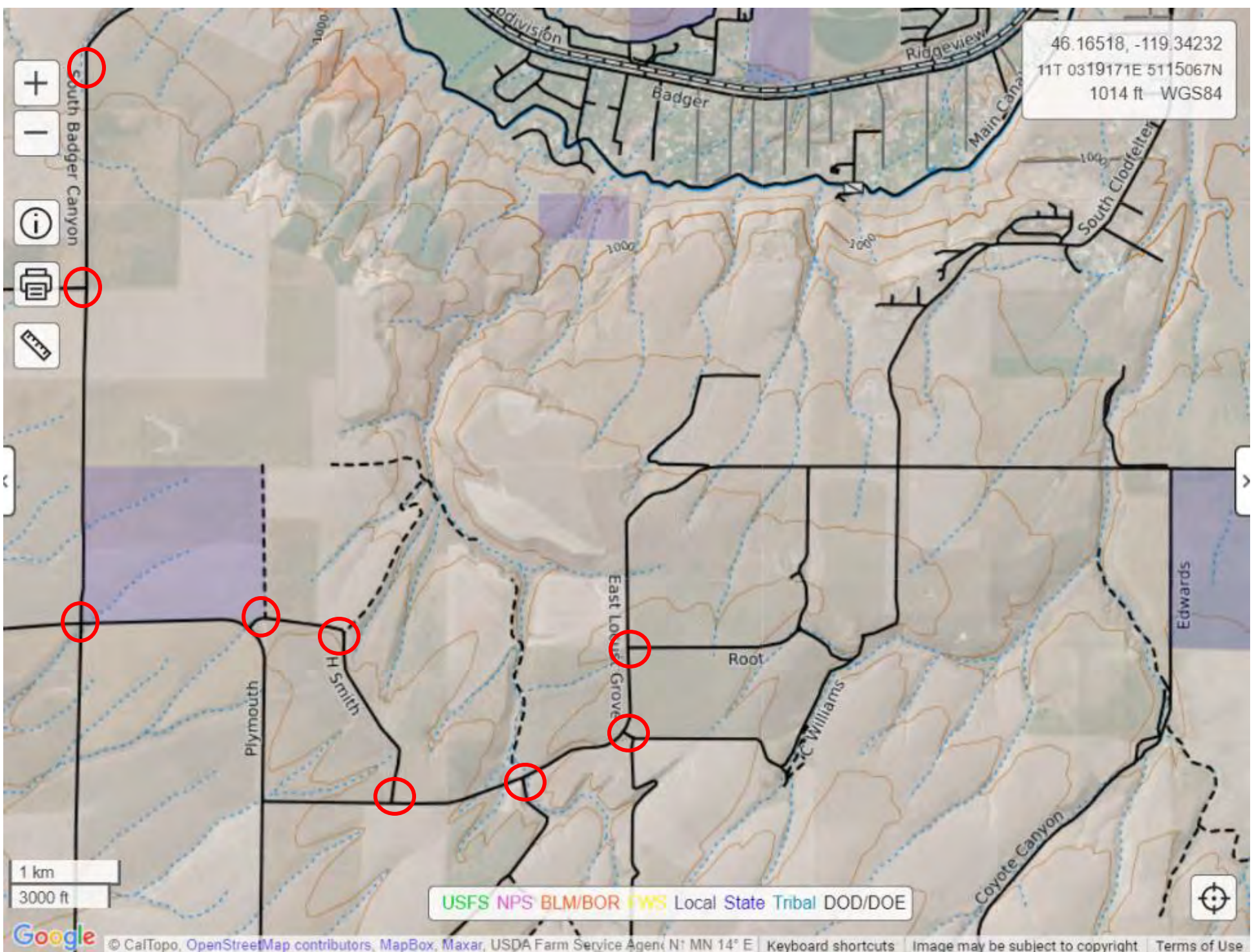




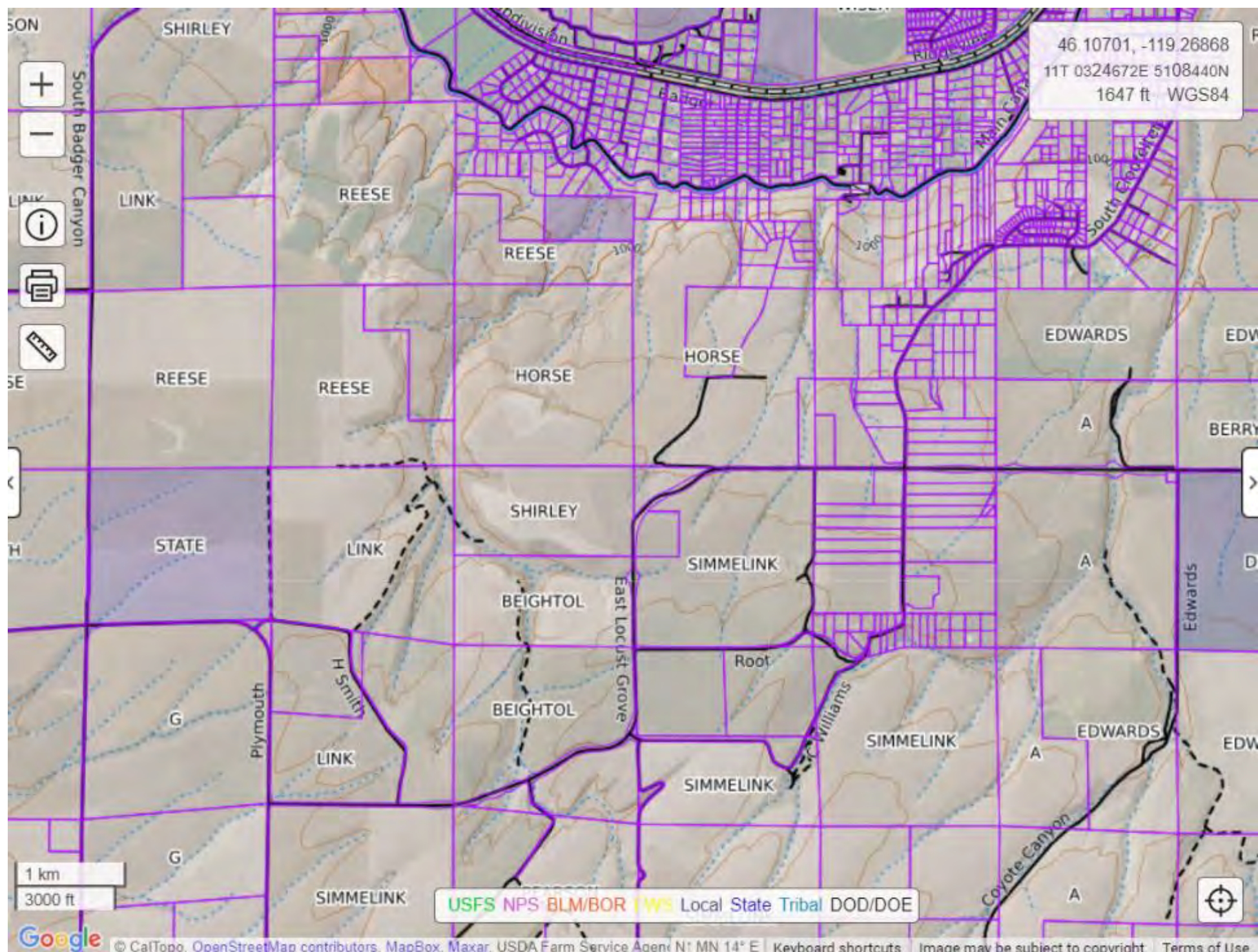




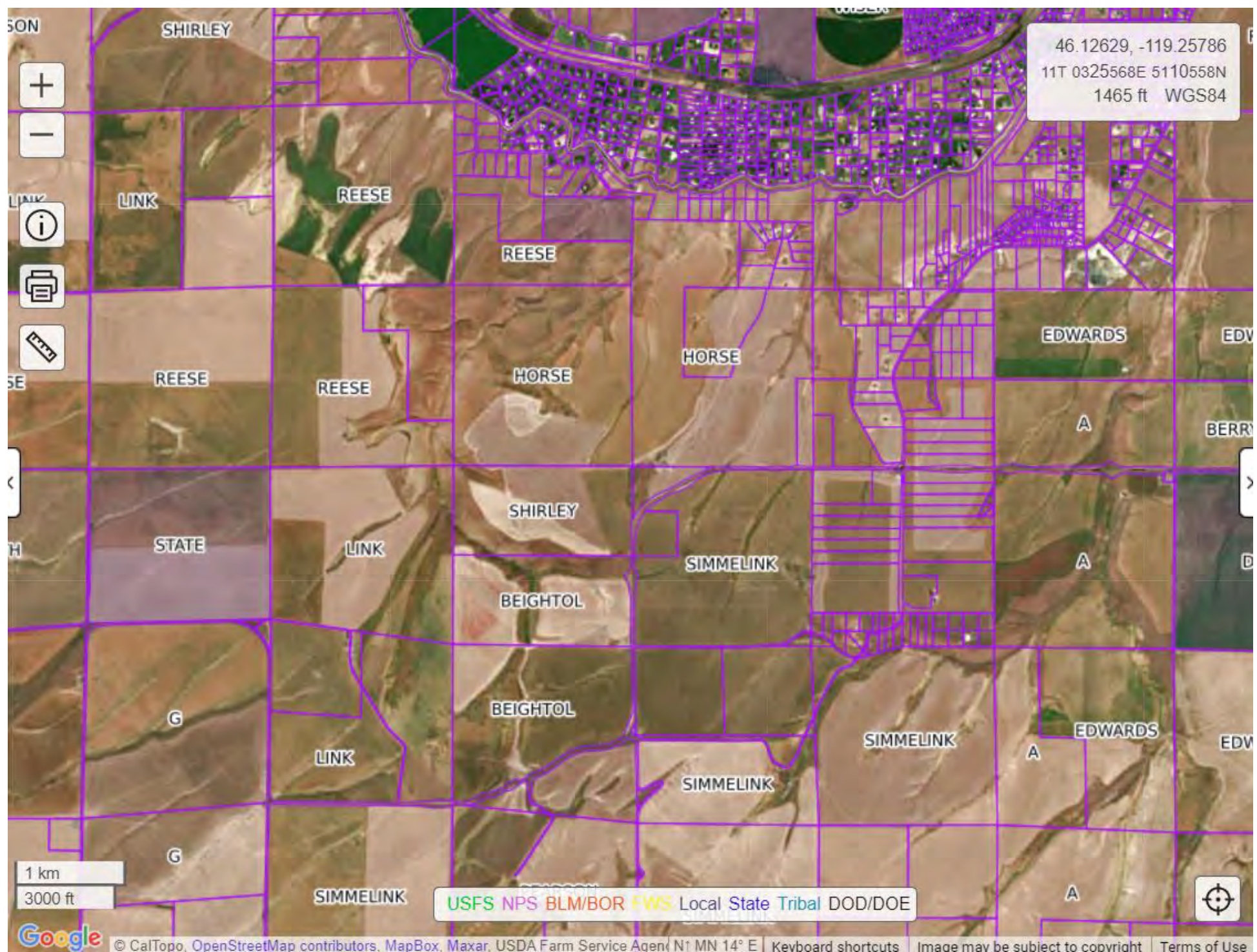




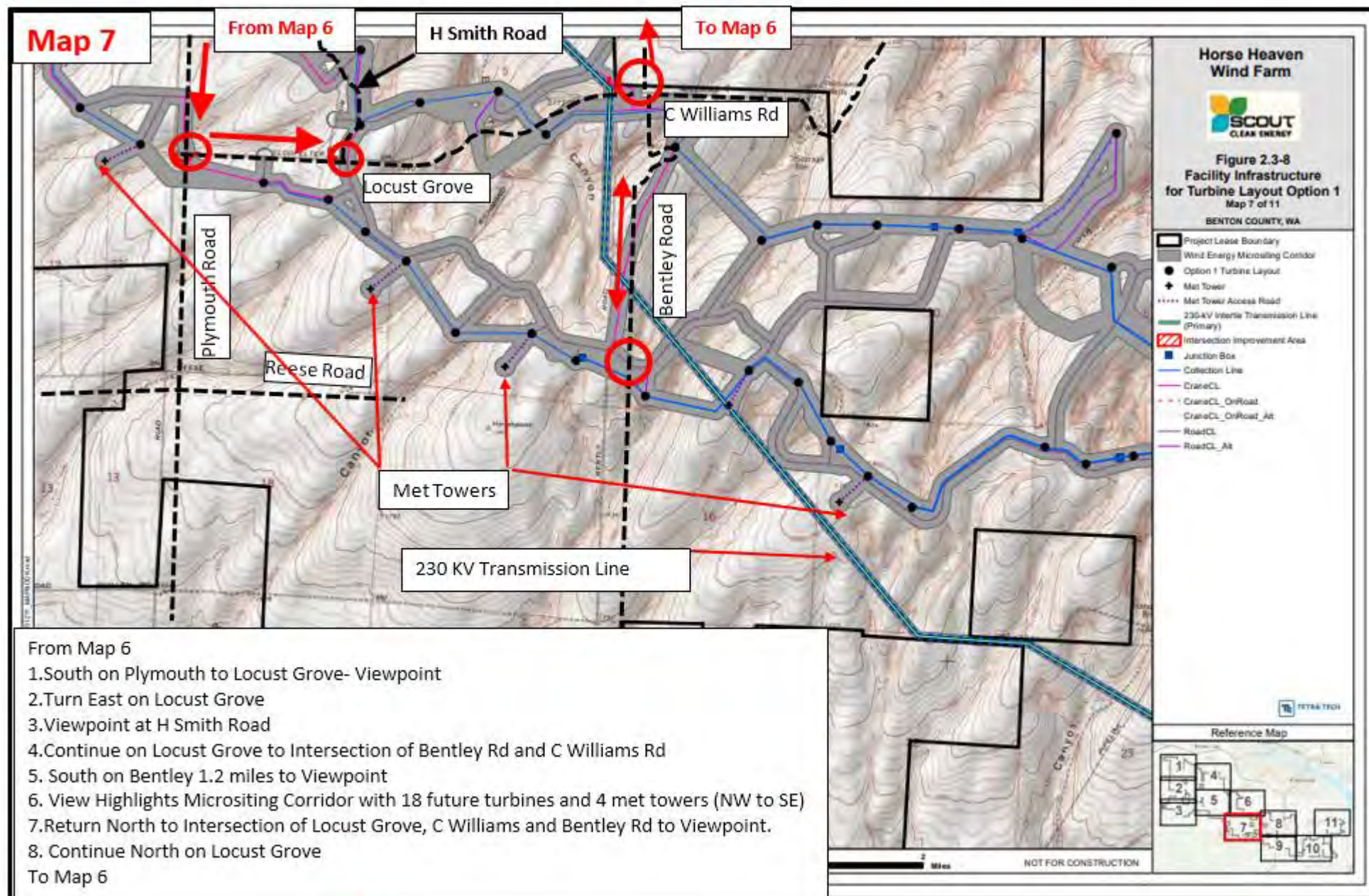






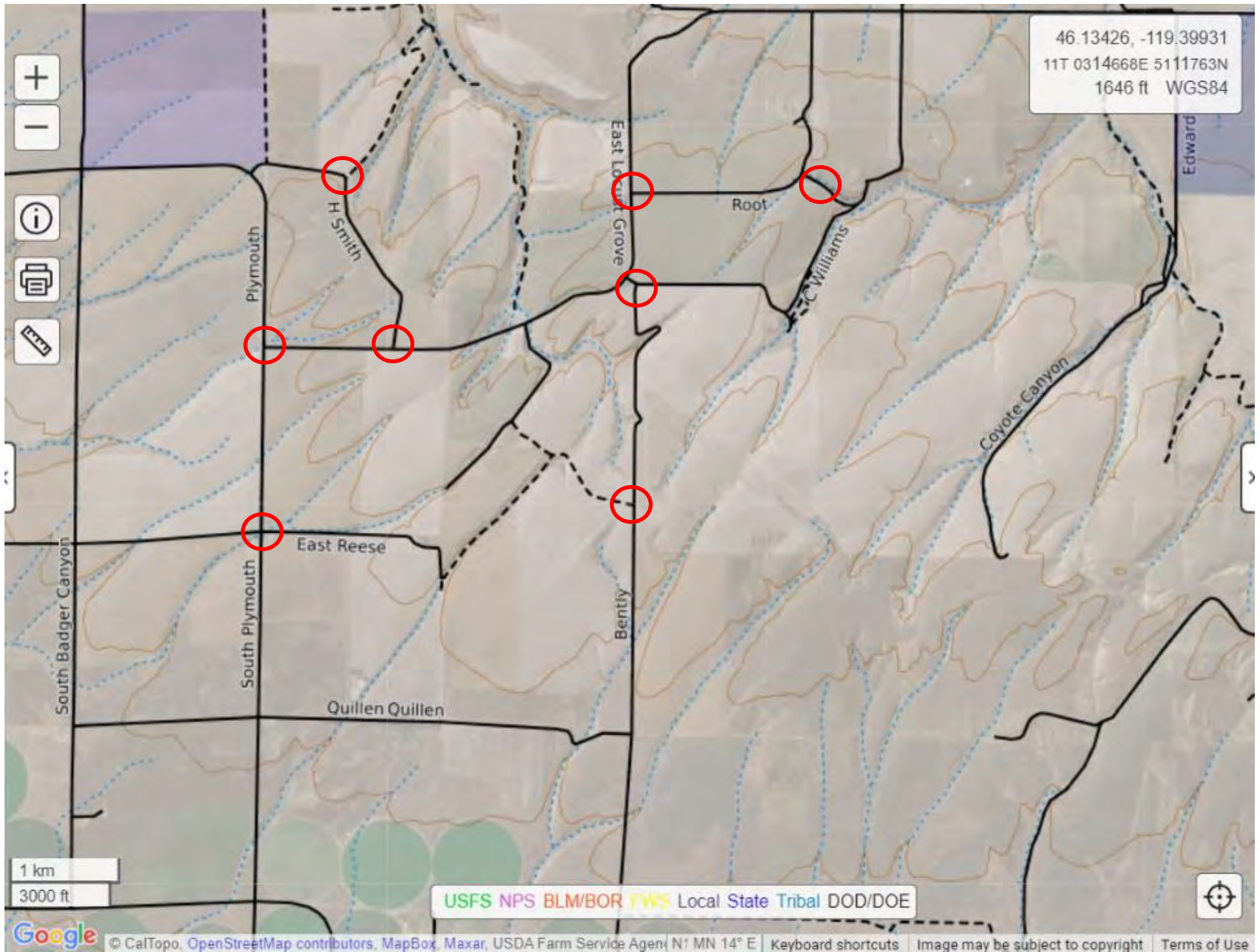




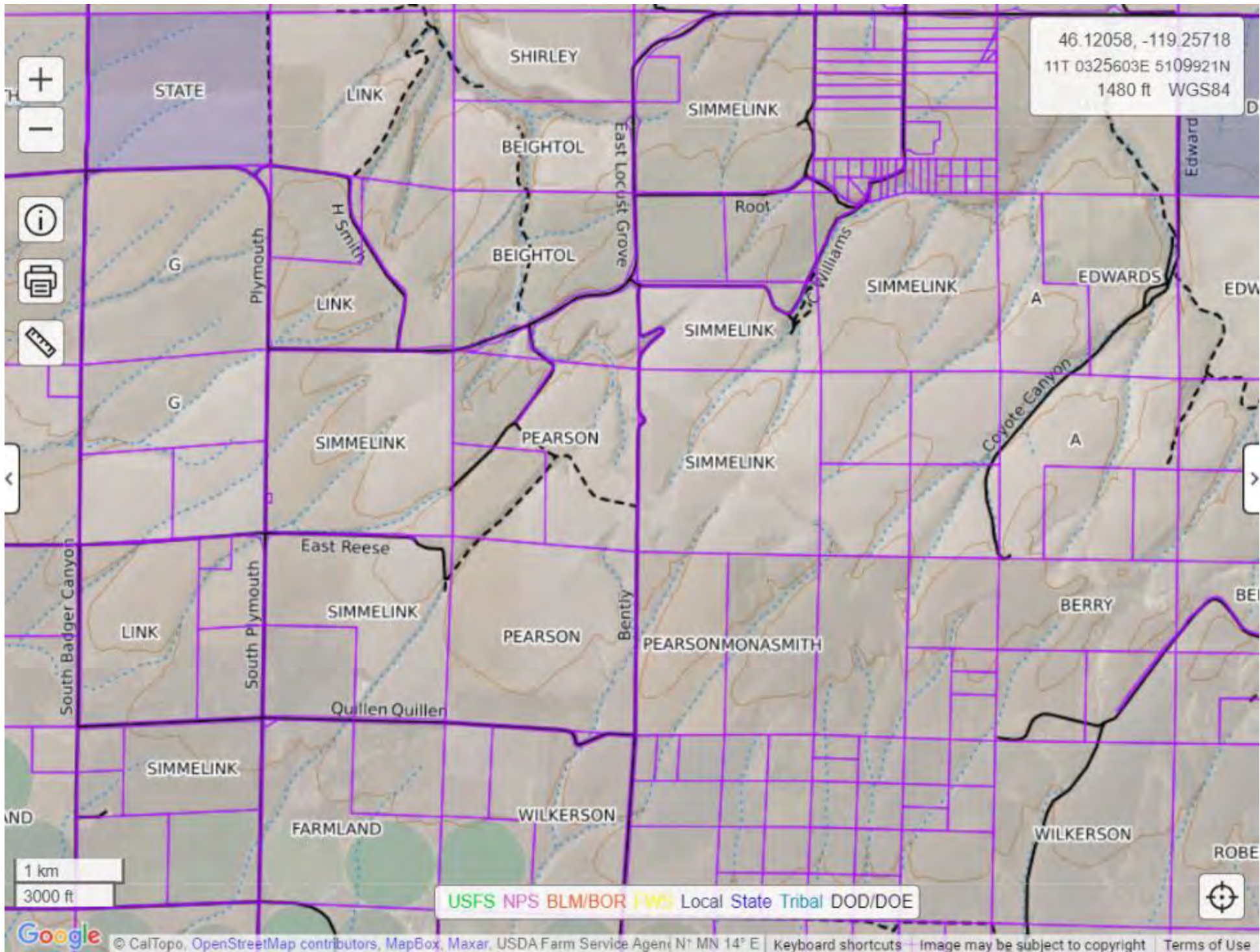


Road      Viewpoint

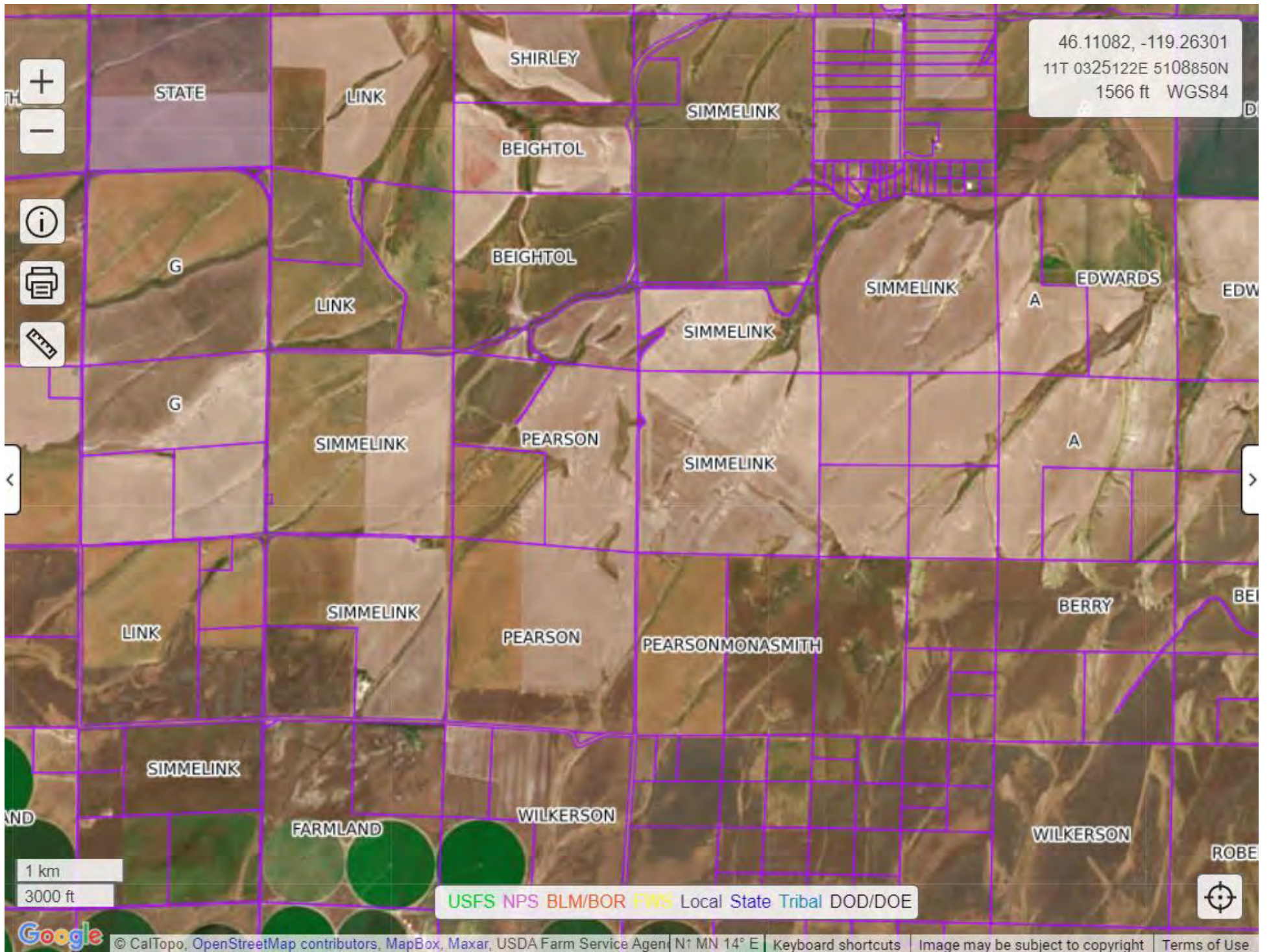




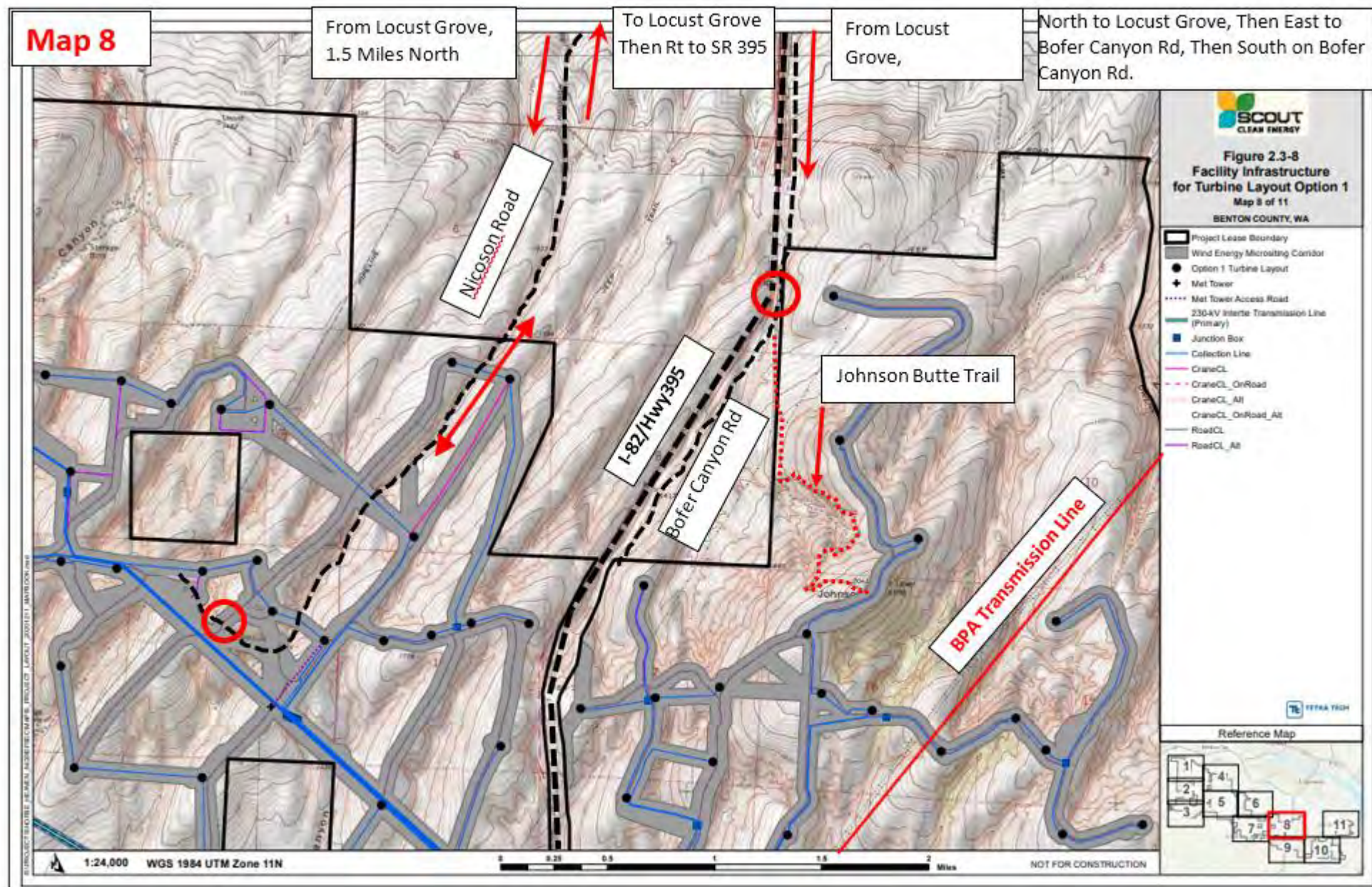








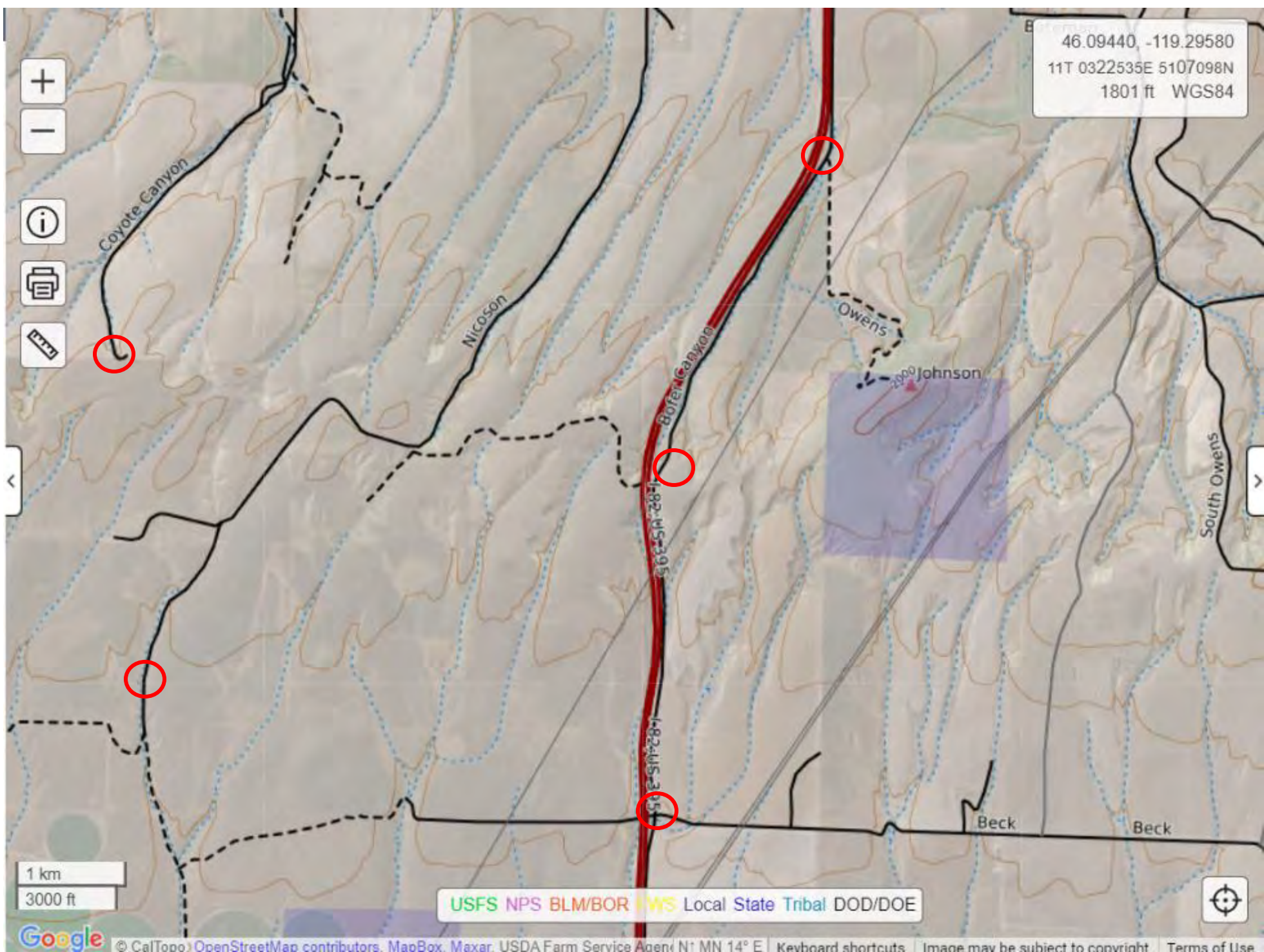




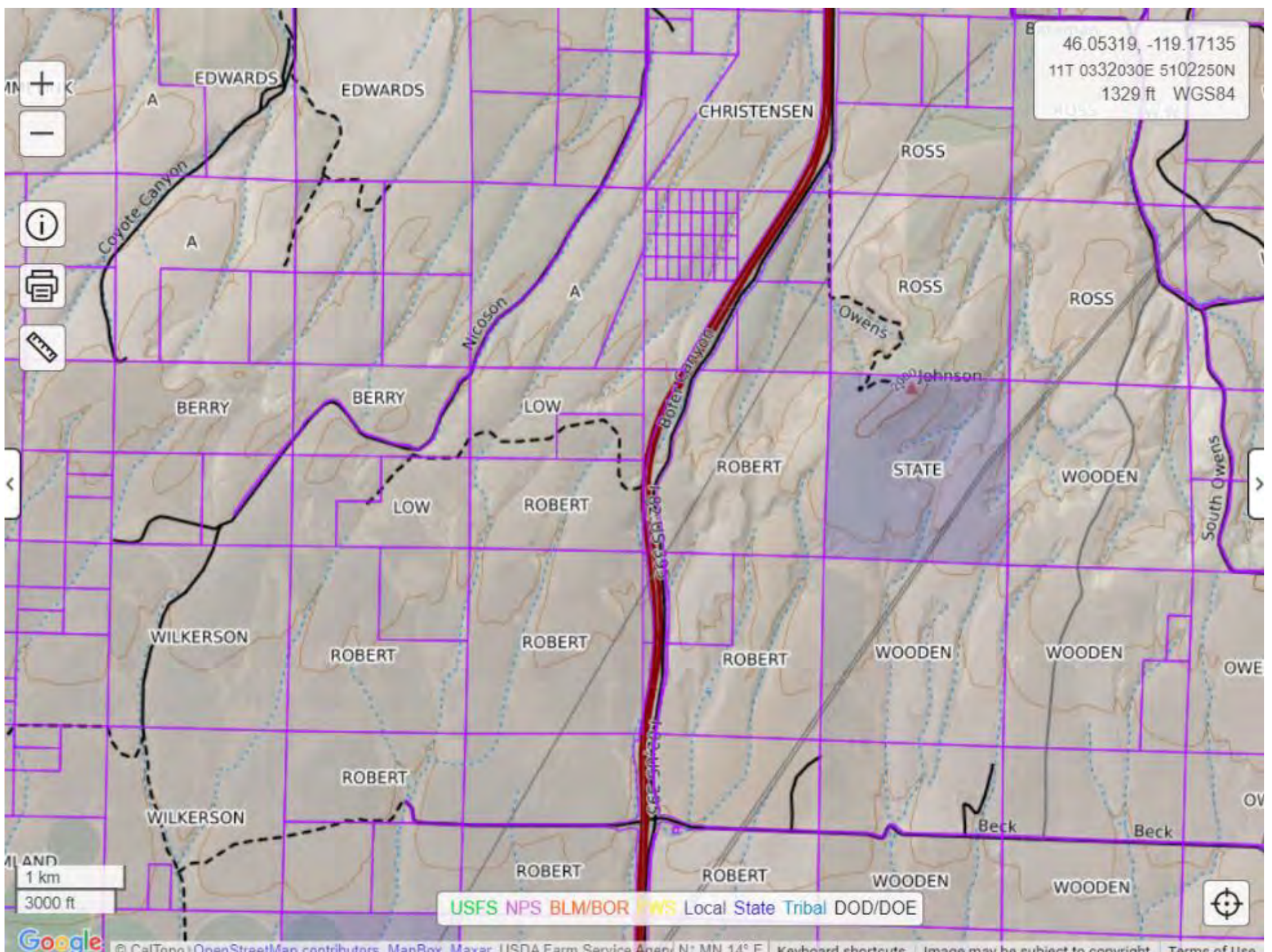
Road- - - - -

Viewpoint





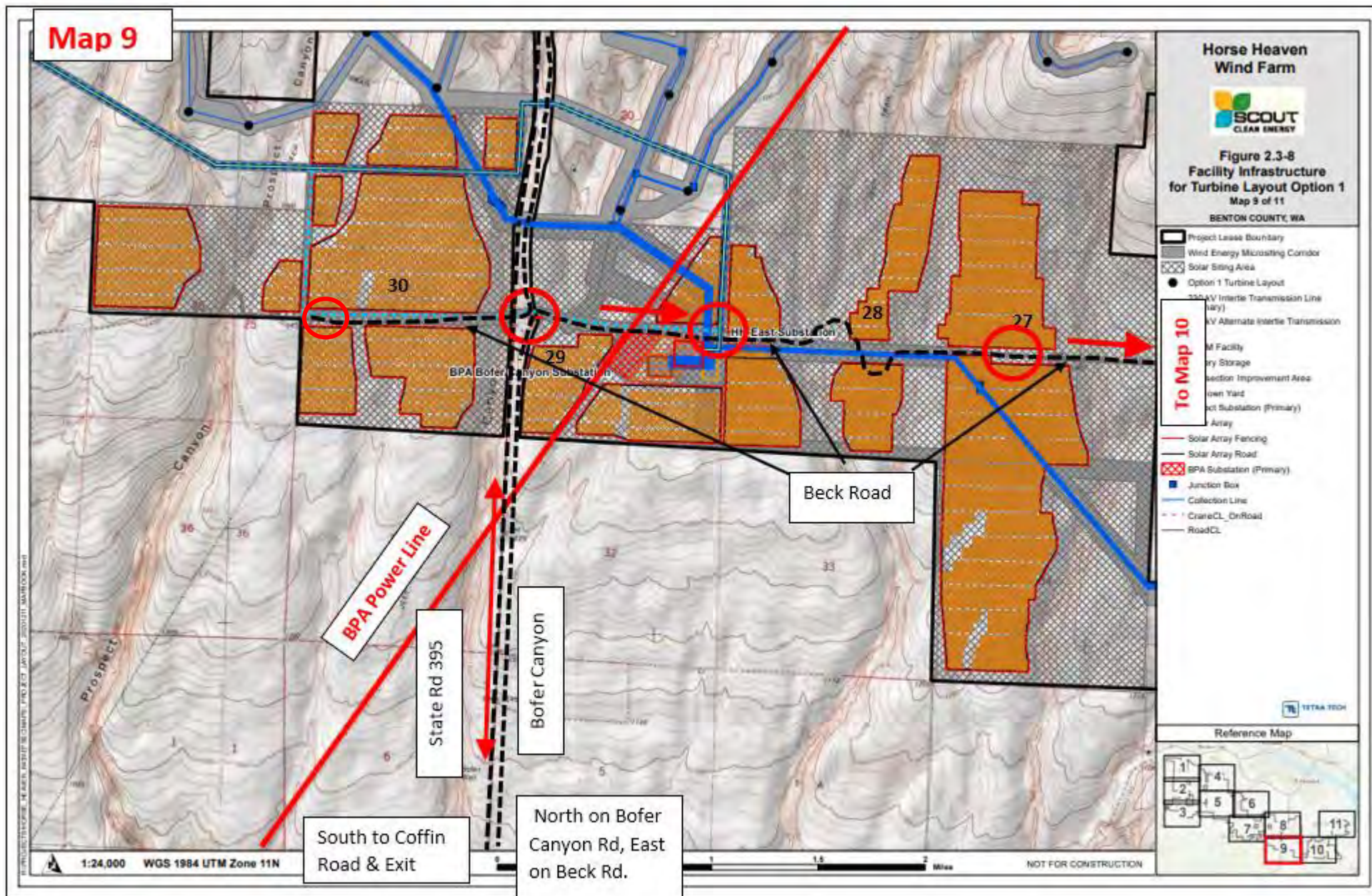








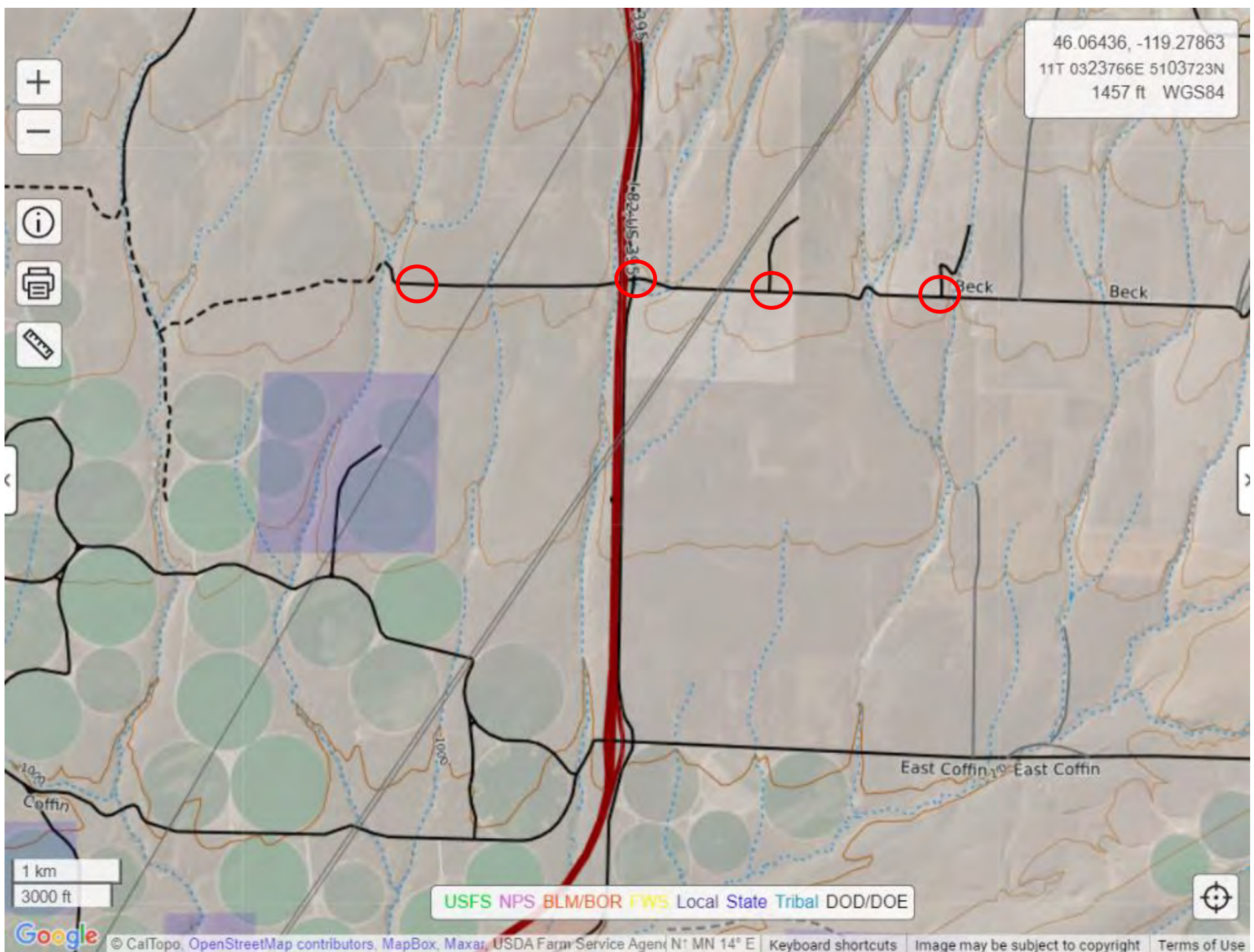




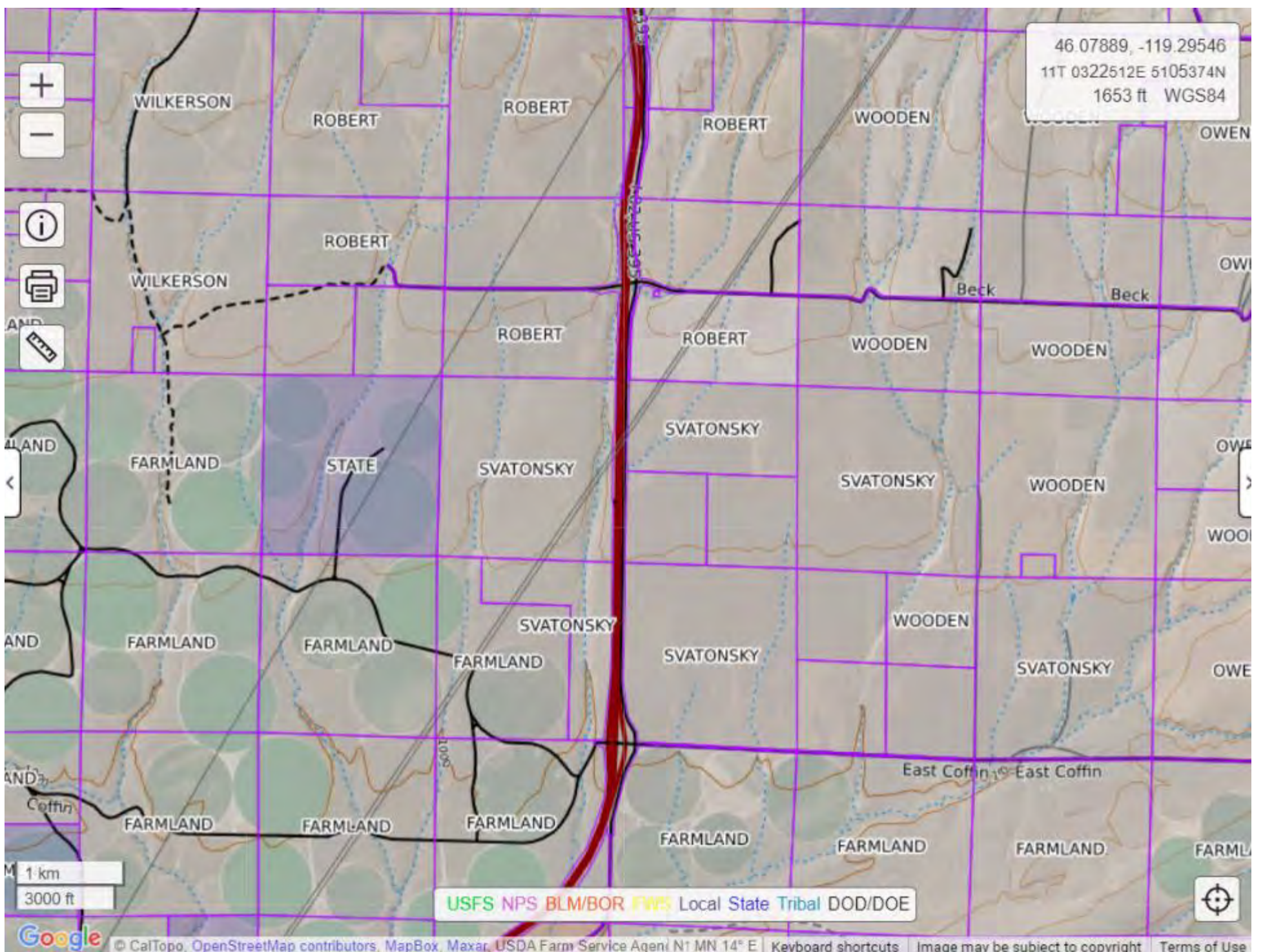
Road - - - - -

Viewpoint ○










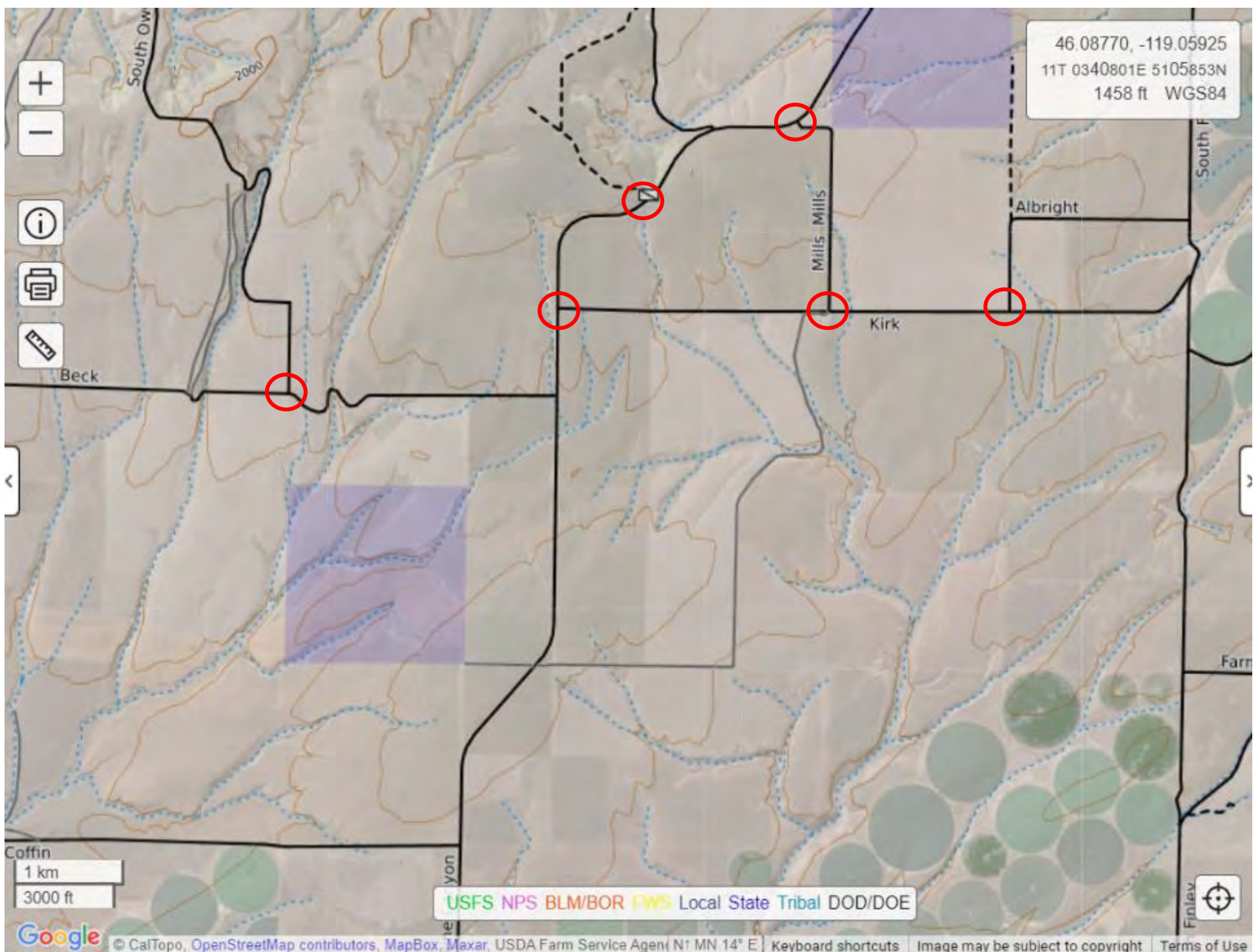




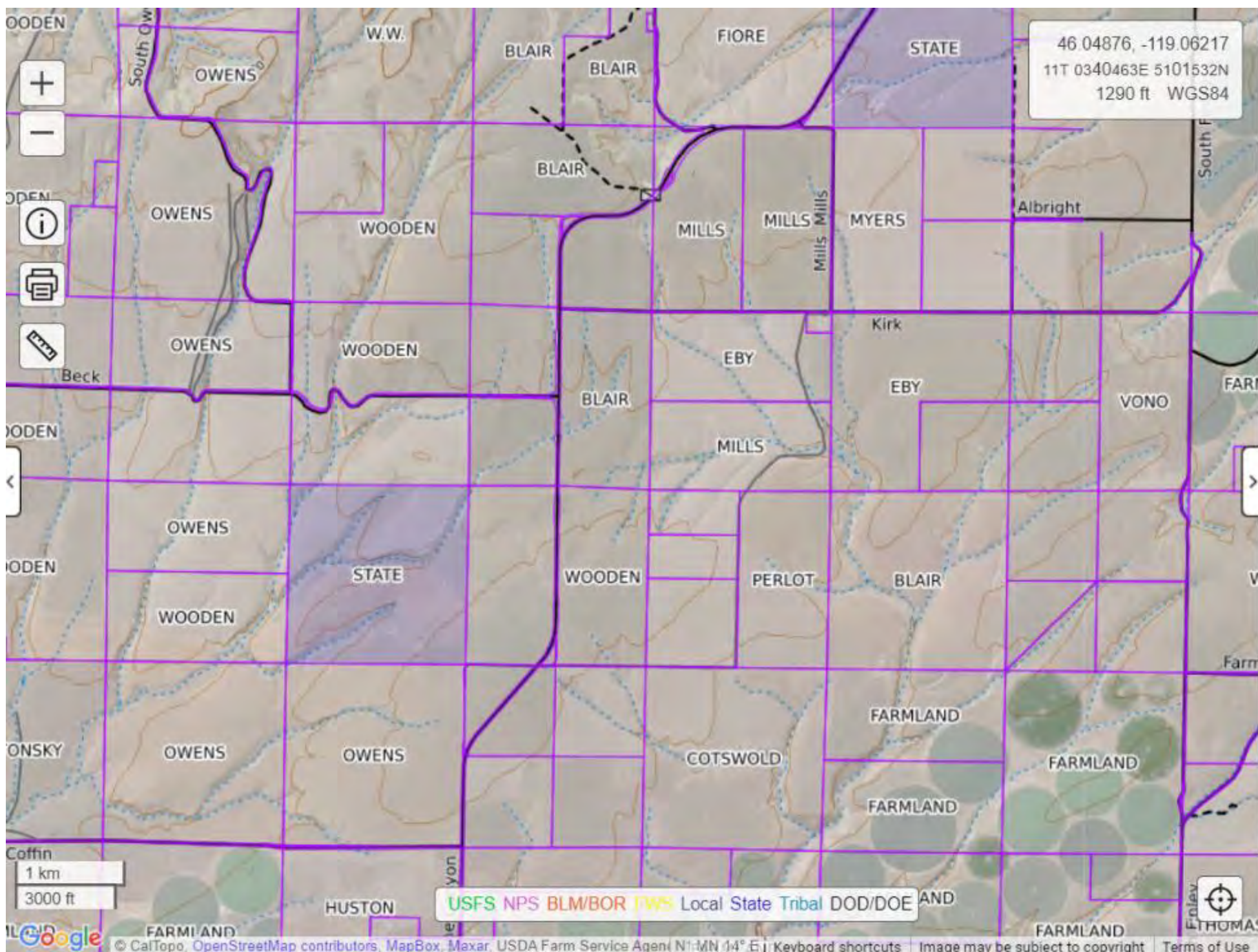


Viewpoint 







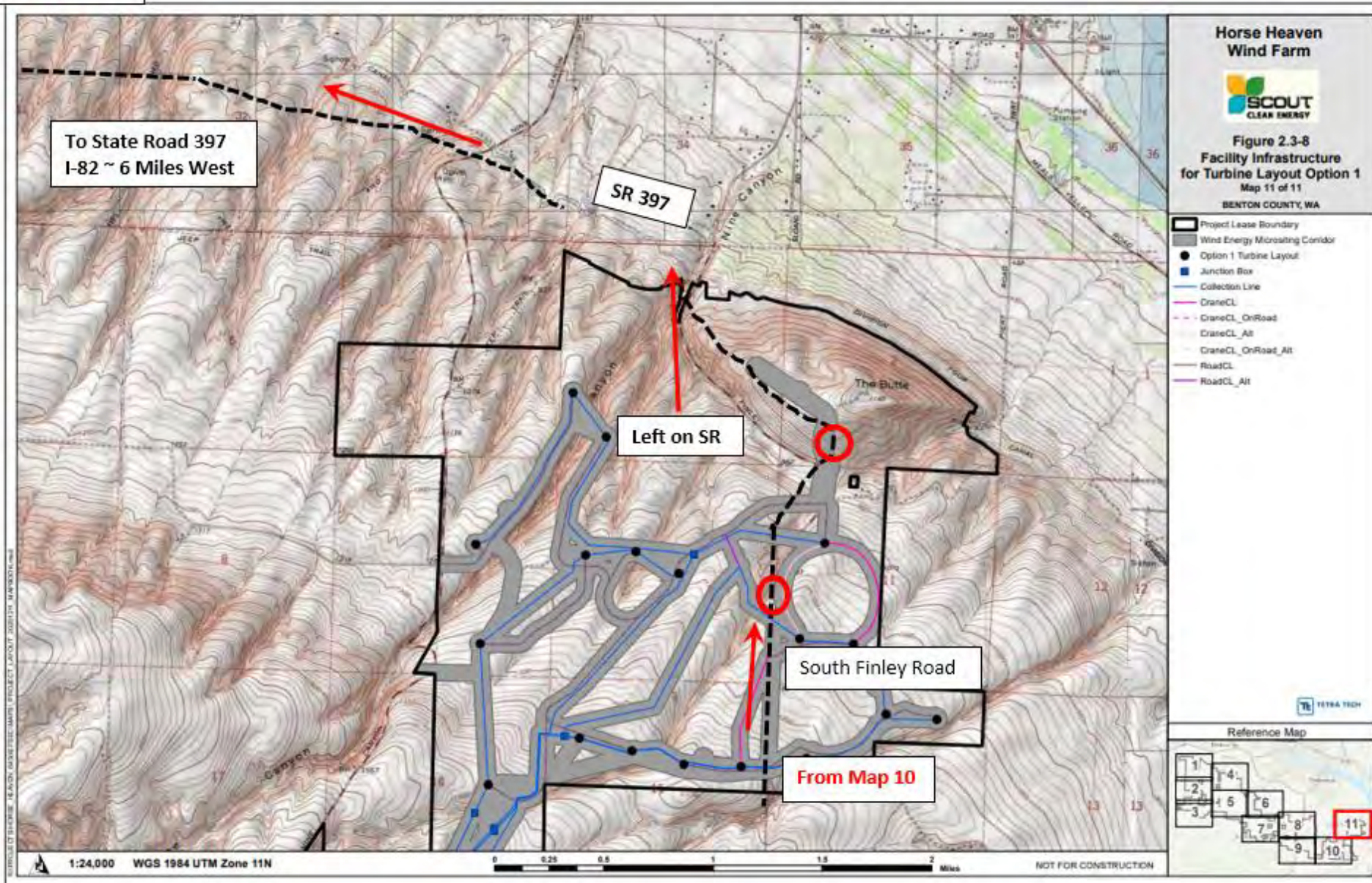




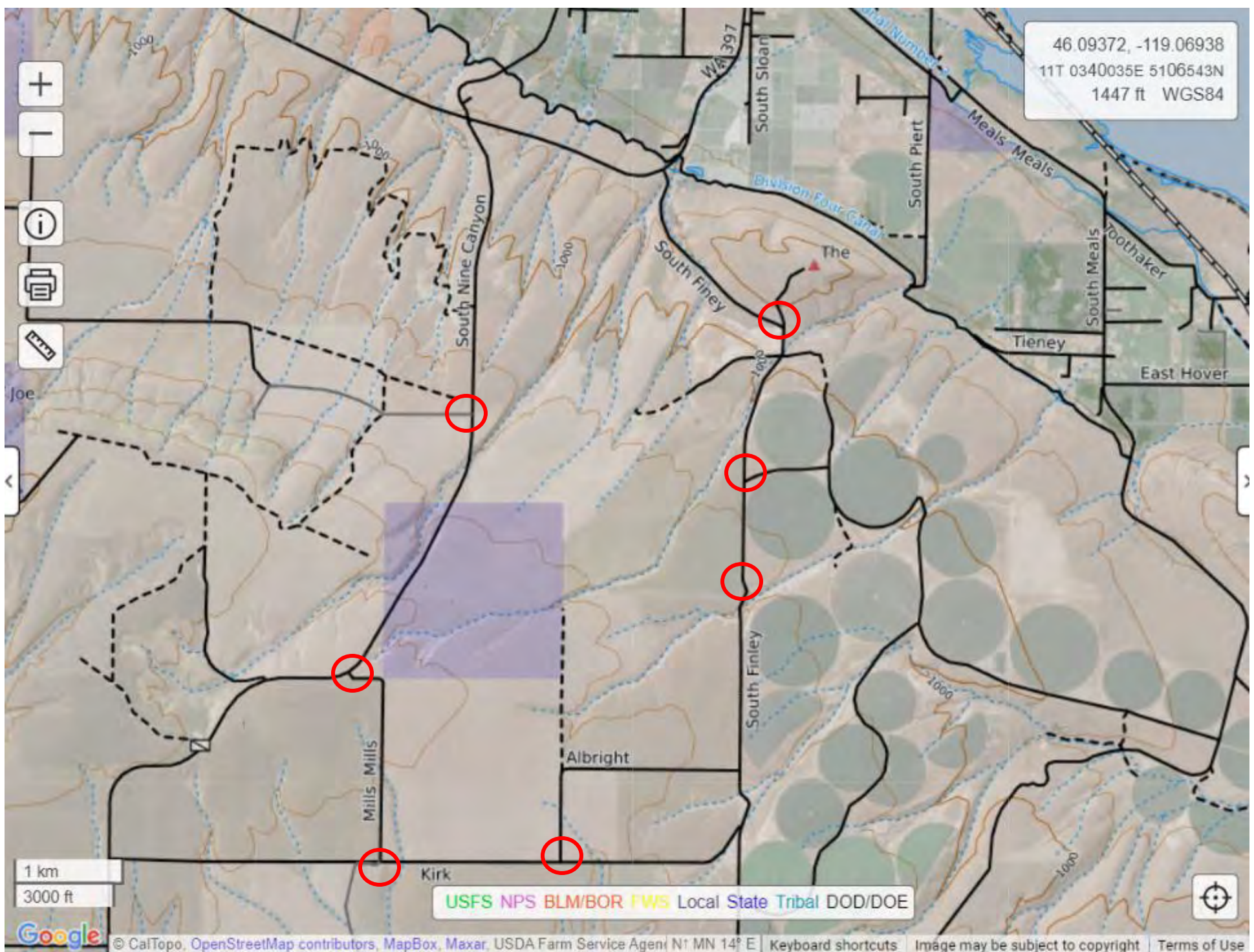




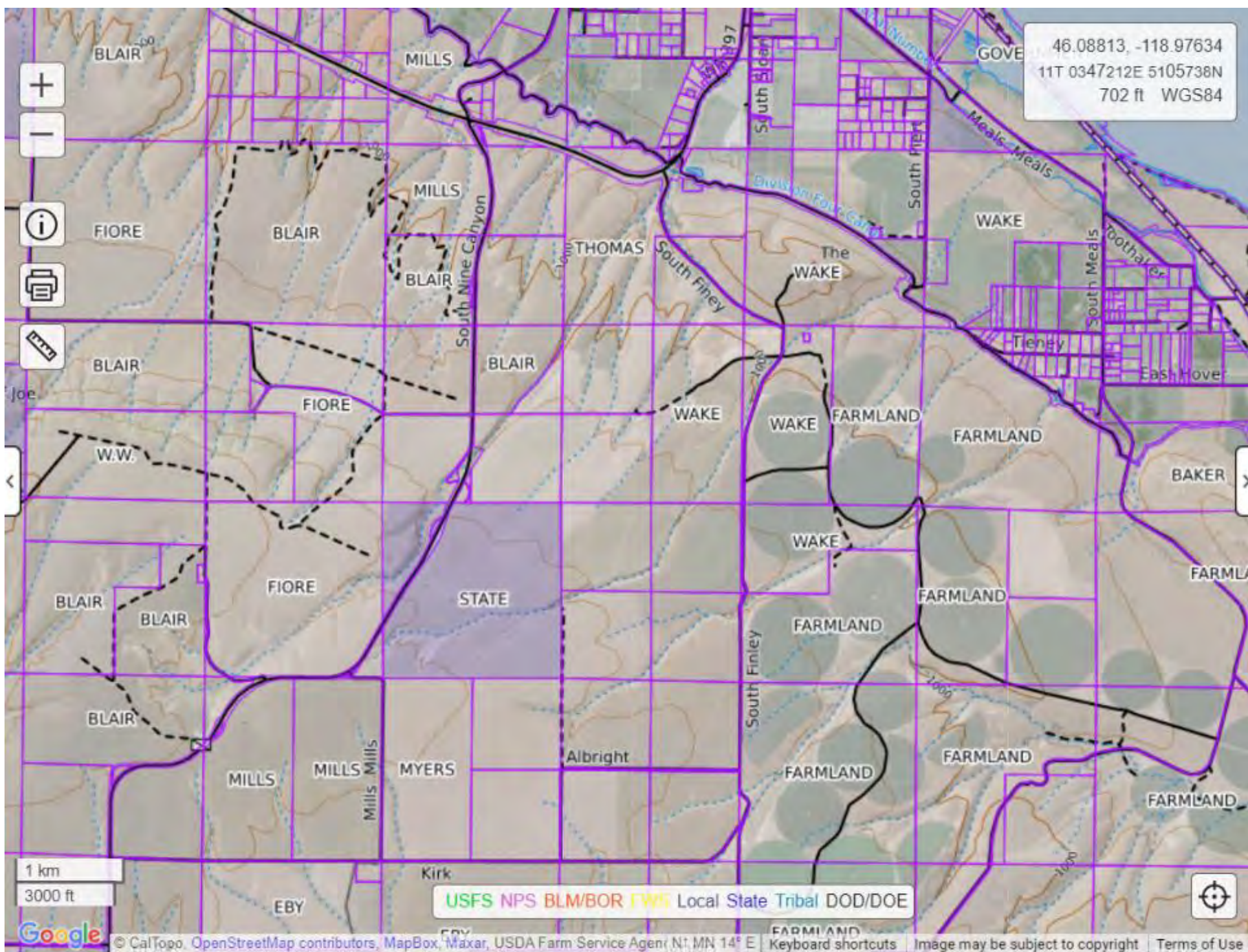
# Map 11



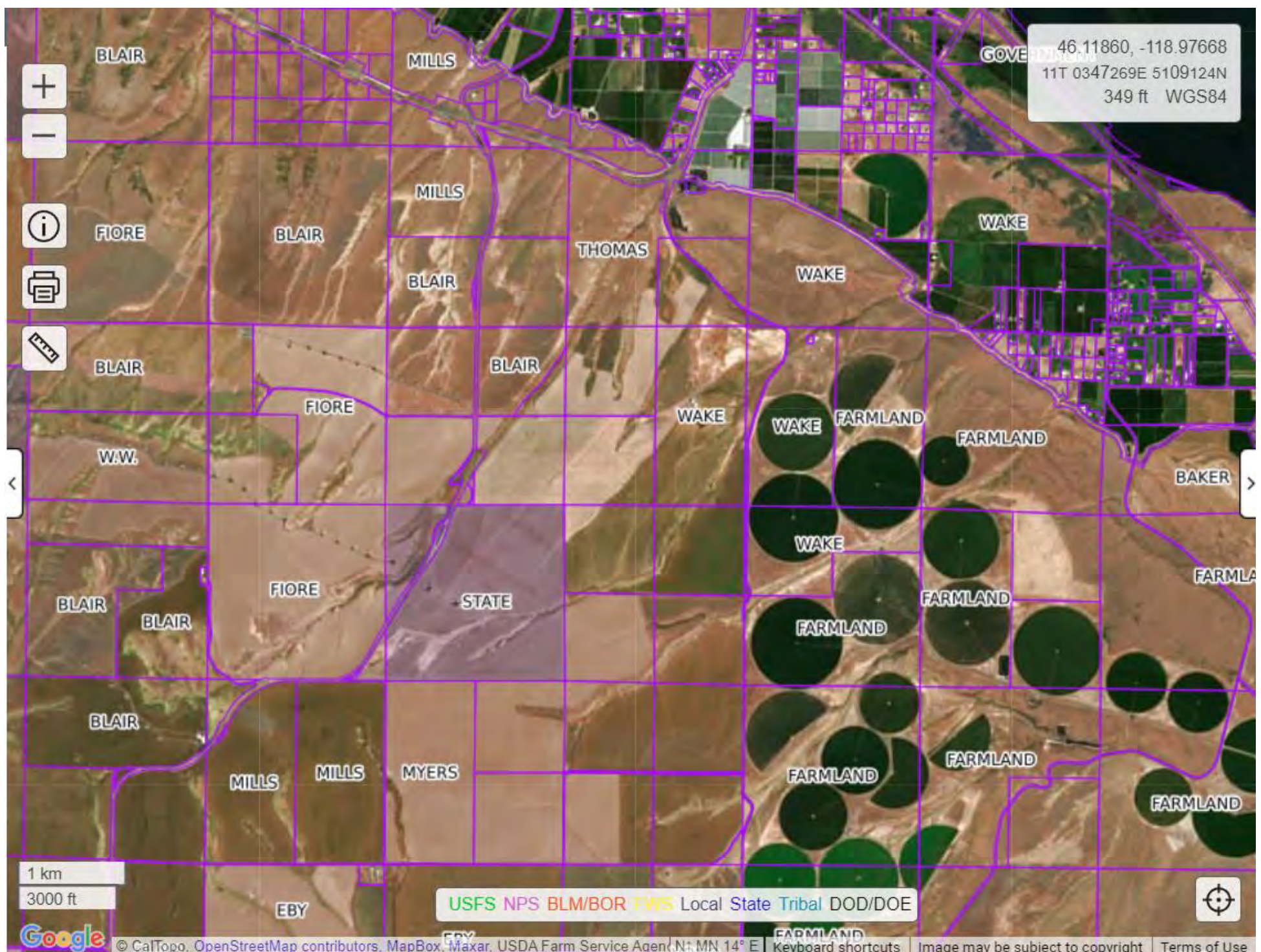














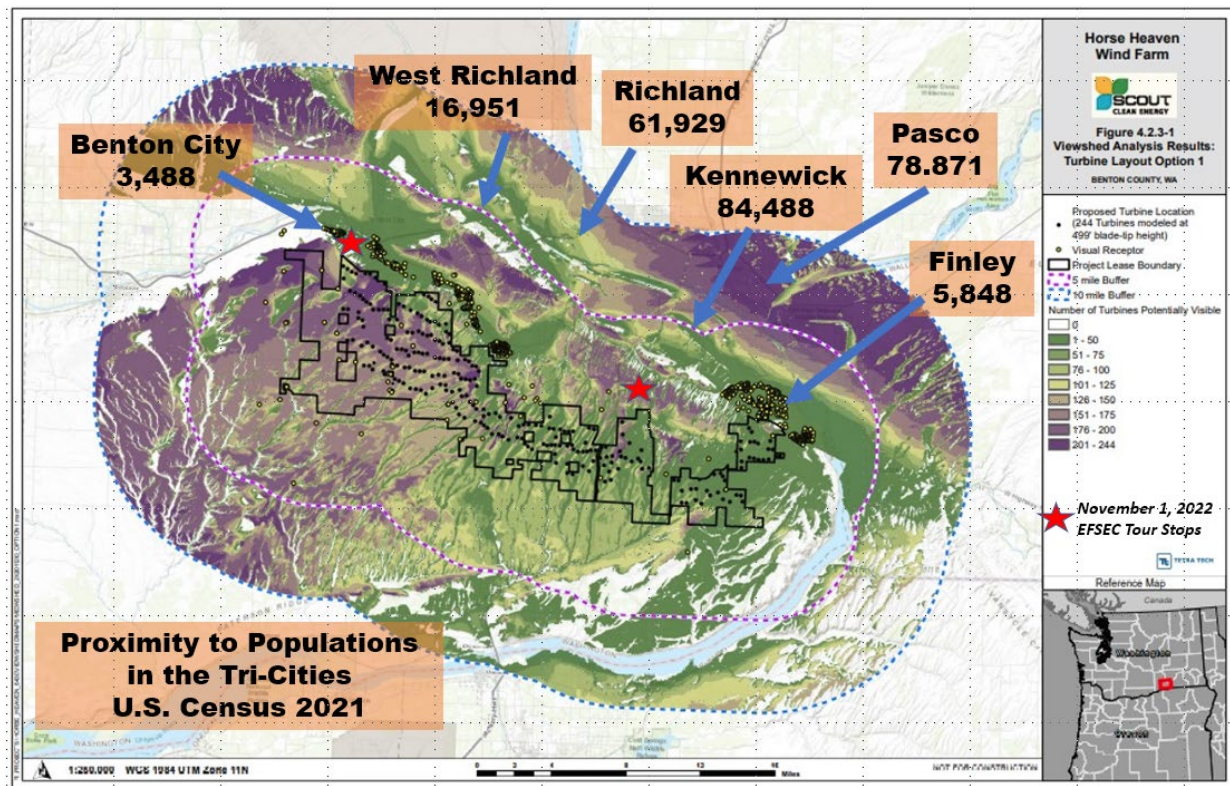
From: Paul Krupin  
To: EFSEC (EFSEC)  
Subject: Horse Heaven Hills Wind - Proximity to Populations in Tri-Cities  
Date: Friday, October 28, 2022 8:17:41 AM  
Attachments: image002.png  
image003.png  
image004.png

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 Viewshed 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)

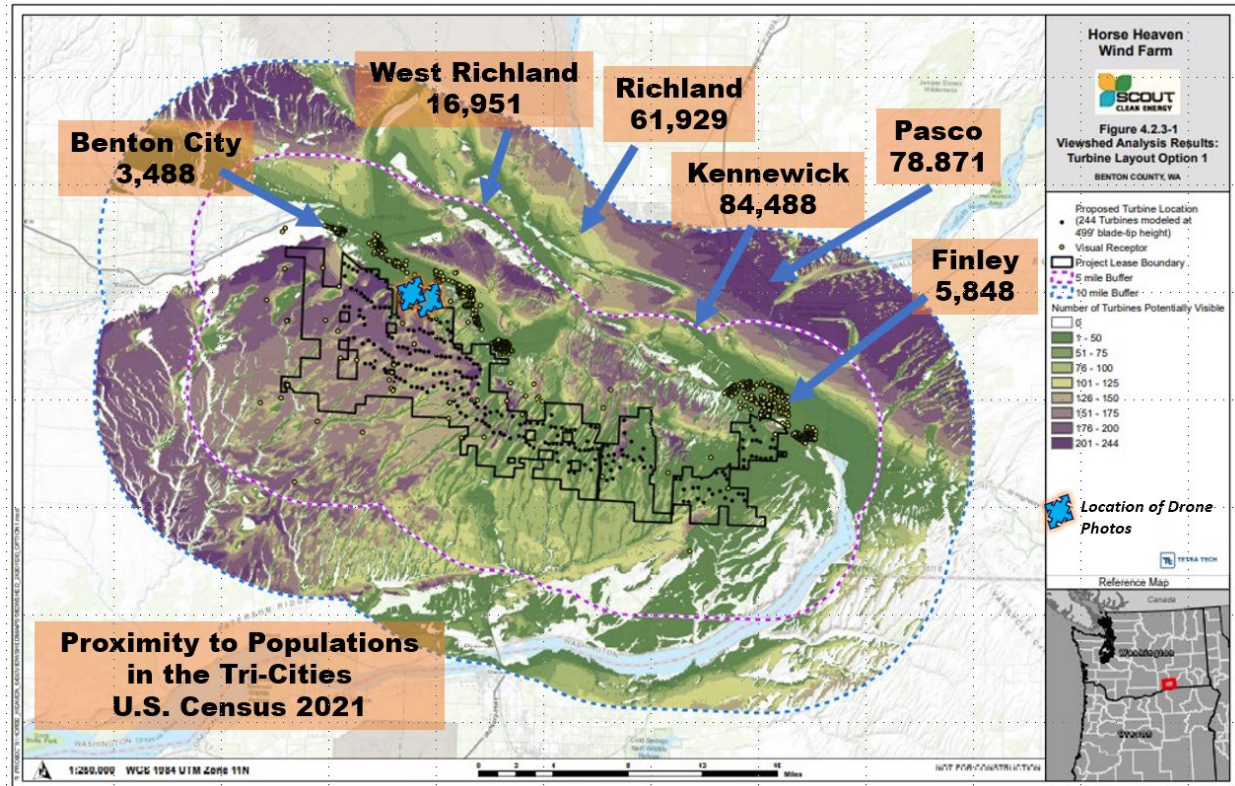


From: Paul Krupin  
To: EFSEC (EFSEC)  
Subject: Horse Heaven Hills Wind Project - Drone Photos showing the Proximity to Populations in Tri-Cities  
Date: Friday, October 28, 2022 8:48:28 AM  
Attachments: image005.png  
image002.png  
image004.png  
image009.png  
image010.png

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

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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

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