

Figure 4: OVERVIEW -- Proposed Hunting Areas Under Alternative B (Preferred Alternative)



Legend

-  hunting prohibited
-  hunting permitted

Ownership within NPS Boundaries

-  PRIVATE
-  TOWN
-  STATE

-  NPS boundary
-  Town boundaries
-  structures
-  bike paths
-  foot trails
-  roads

NOTES:
Map subject to revisions as public safety needs dictate.

Hunting on non-federal lands subject to owners' permission.

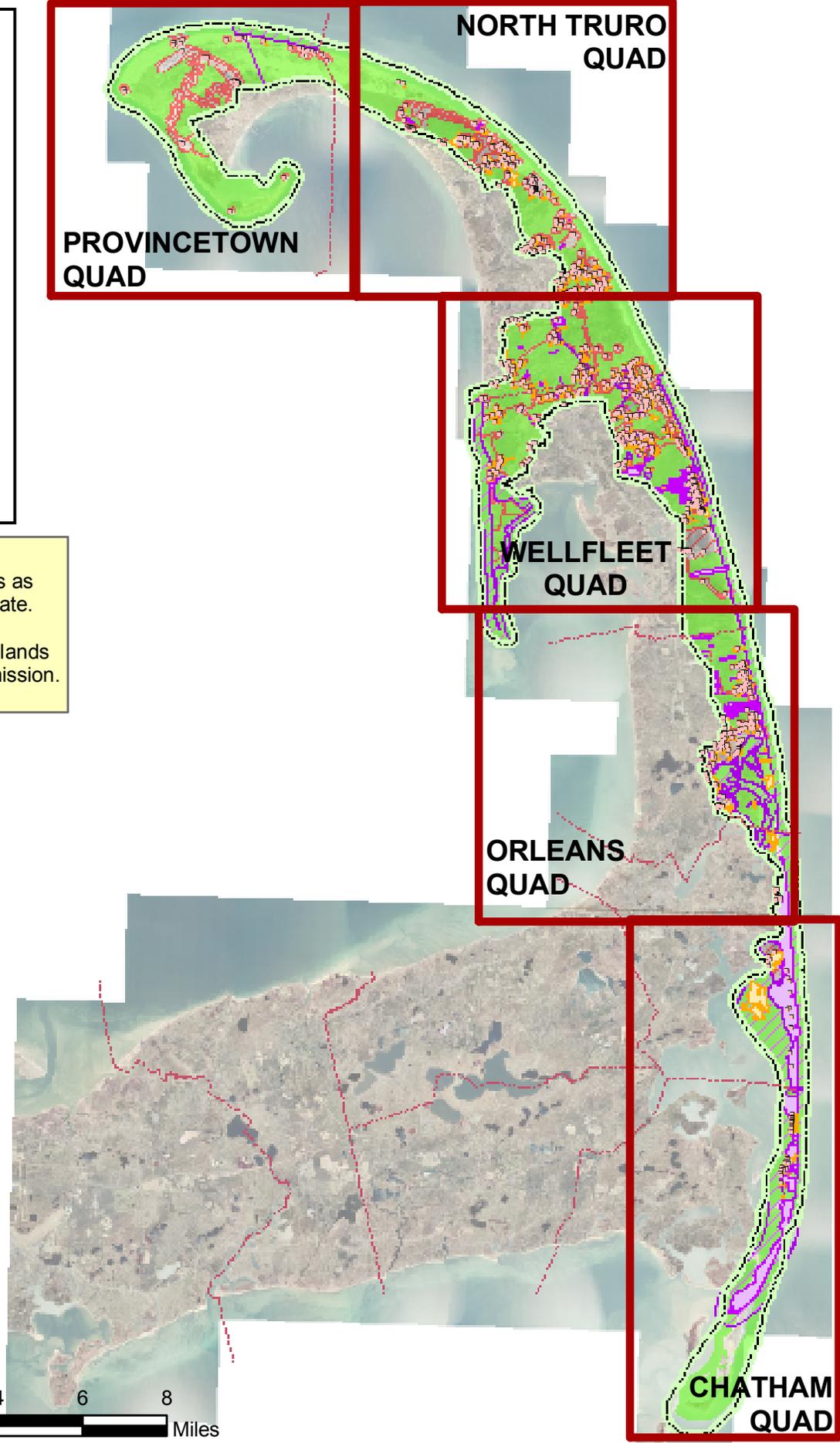


Figure 4a: Proposed Hunting Areas Under Alternative B (Preferred Alternative)

Cape Cod National Seashore
National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

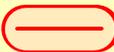


NOTES:
Map subject to revisions as public safety needs dictate.

Hunting on non-federal lands subject to owners' permission.

 Example of 500-foot buffer for scale

 Example of 150-foot buffer for scale

 Example of 500-foot buffer for scale

Legend

-  hunting prohibited
-  hunting permitted

Ownership within NPS Boundaries

-  PRIVATE
-  TOWN

Other Features

-  NPS boundary
-  Town boundaries
-  structures
-  bike paths
-  foot trails
-  roads



Provincetown Quad

Figure 4b: Proposed Hunting Areas Under Alternative B (Preferred Alternative)



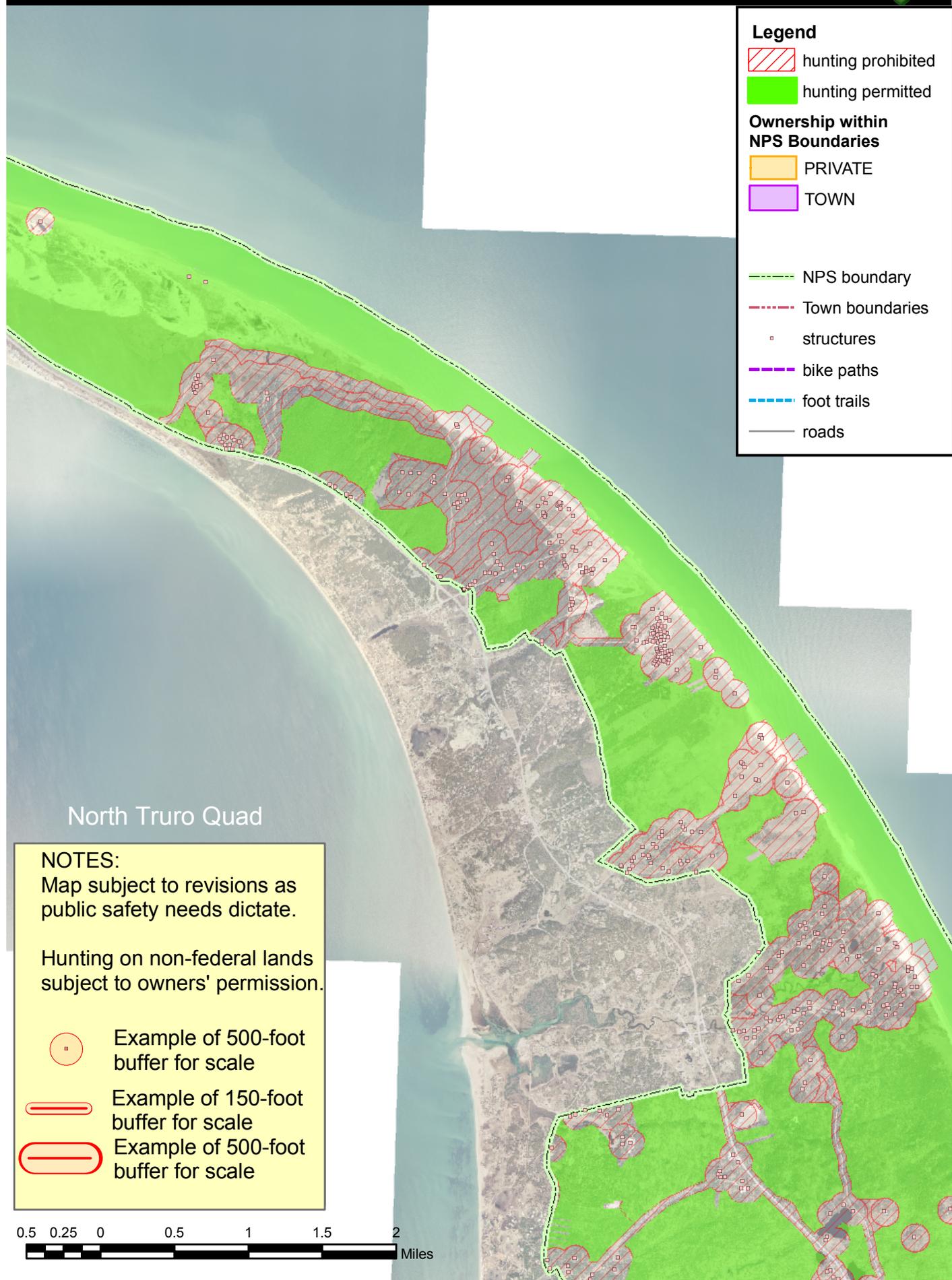
Legend

-  hunting prohibited
-  hunting permitted

Ownership within NPS Boundaries

-  PRIVATE
-  TOWN

-  NPS boundary
-  Town boundaries
-  structures
-  bike paths
-  foot trails
-  roads



North Truro Quad

NOTES:
Map subject to revisions as public safety needs dictate.

Hunting on non-federal lands subject to owners' permission.

-  Example of 500-foot buffer for scale
-  Example of 150-foot buffer for scale
-  Example of 500-foot buffer for scale

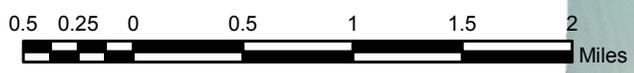
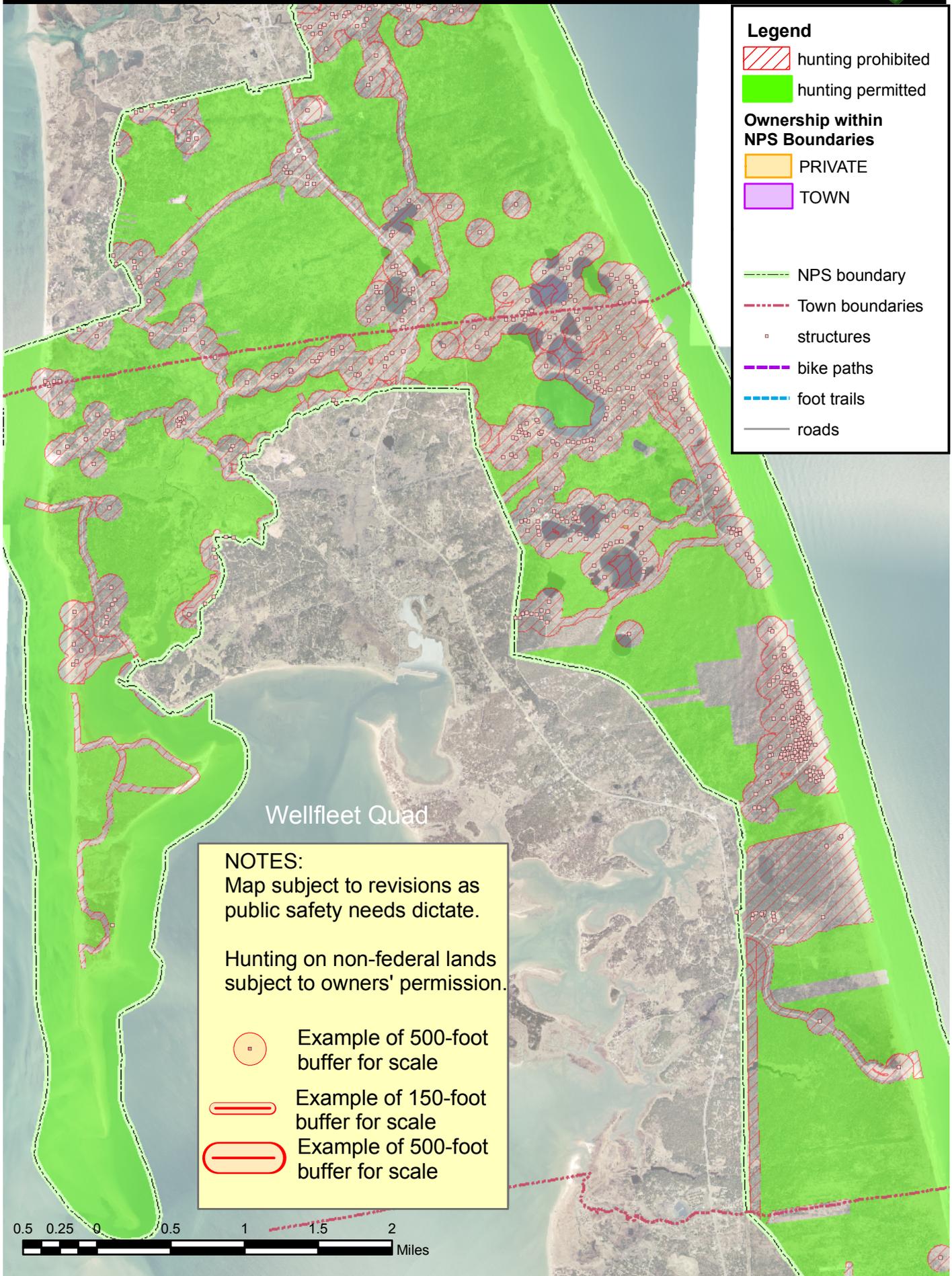


Figure 4c: Proposed Hunting Areas Under Alternative B (Preferred Alternative)



Legend

- hunting prohibited
- hunting permitted

Ownership within NPS Boundaries

- PRIVATE
- TOWN

- NPS boundary
- Town boundaries
- structures
- bike paths
- foot trails
- roads

NOTES:
Map subject to revisions as public safety needs dictate.

Hunting on non-federal lands subject to owners' permission.

- Example of 500-foot buffer for scale
- Example of 150-foot buffer for scale
- Example of 500-foot buffer for scale

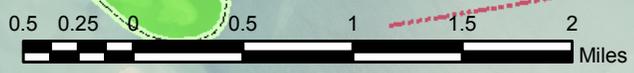
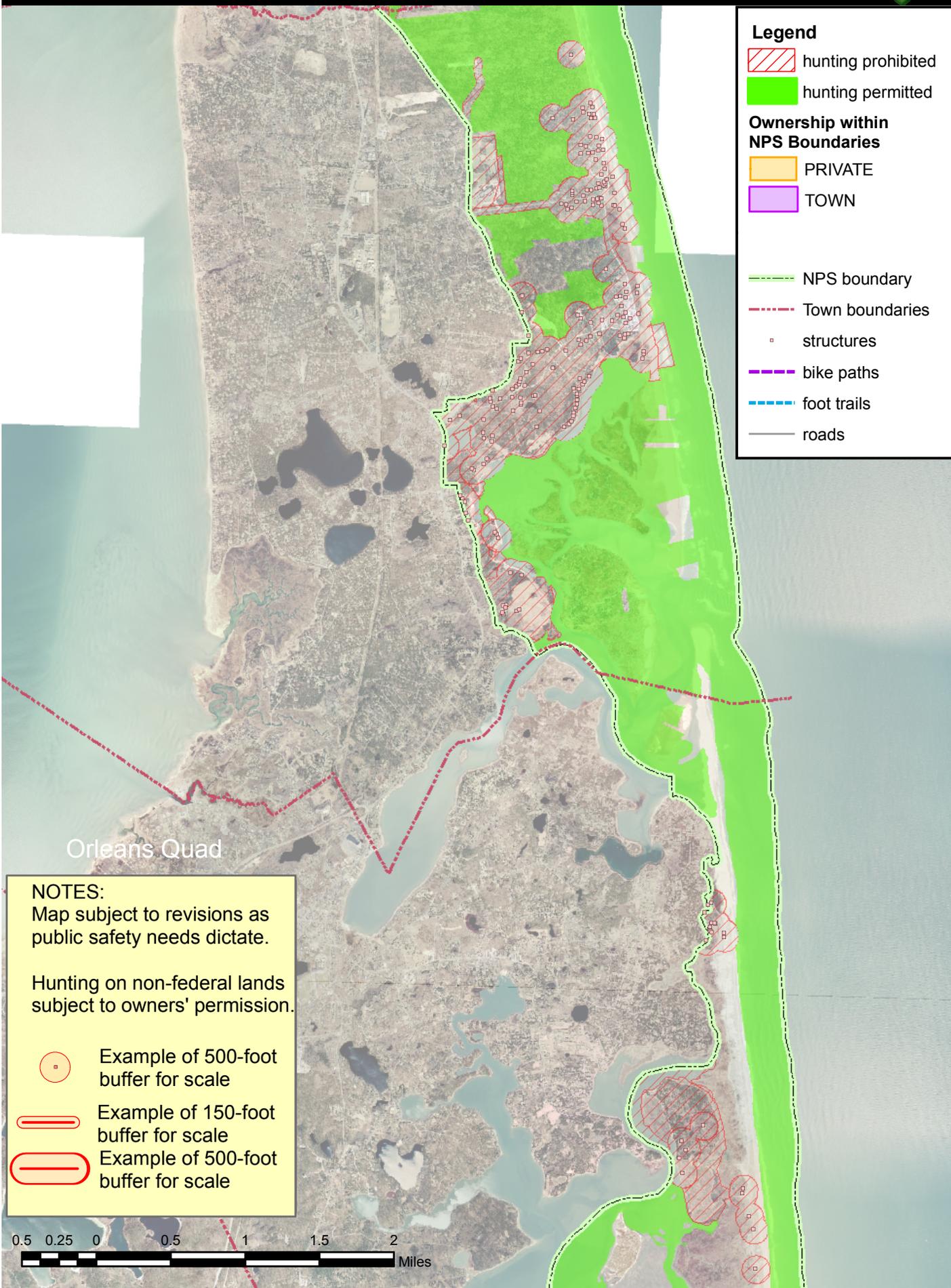


Figure 4d: Proposed Hunting Areas Under Alternative B (Preferred Alternative)



Legend

-  hunting prohibited
-  hunting permitted

Ownership within NPS Boundaries

-  PRIVATE
-  TOWN

-  NPS boundary
-  Town boundaries
-  structures
-  bike paths
-  foot trails
-  roads

Orleans Quad

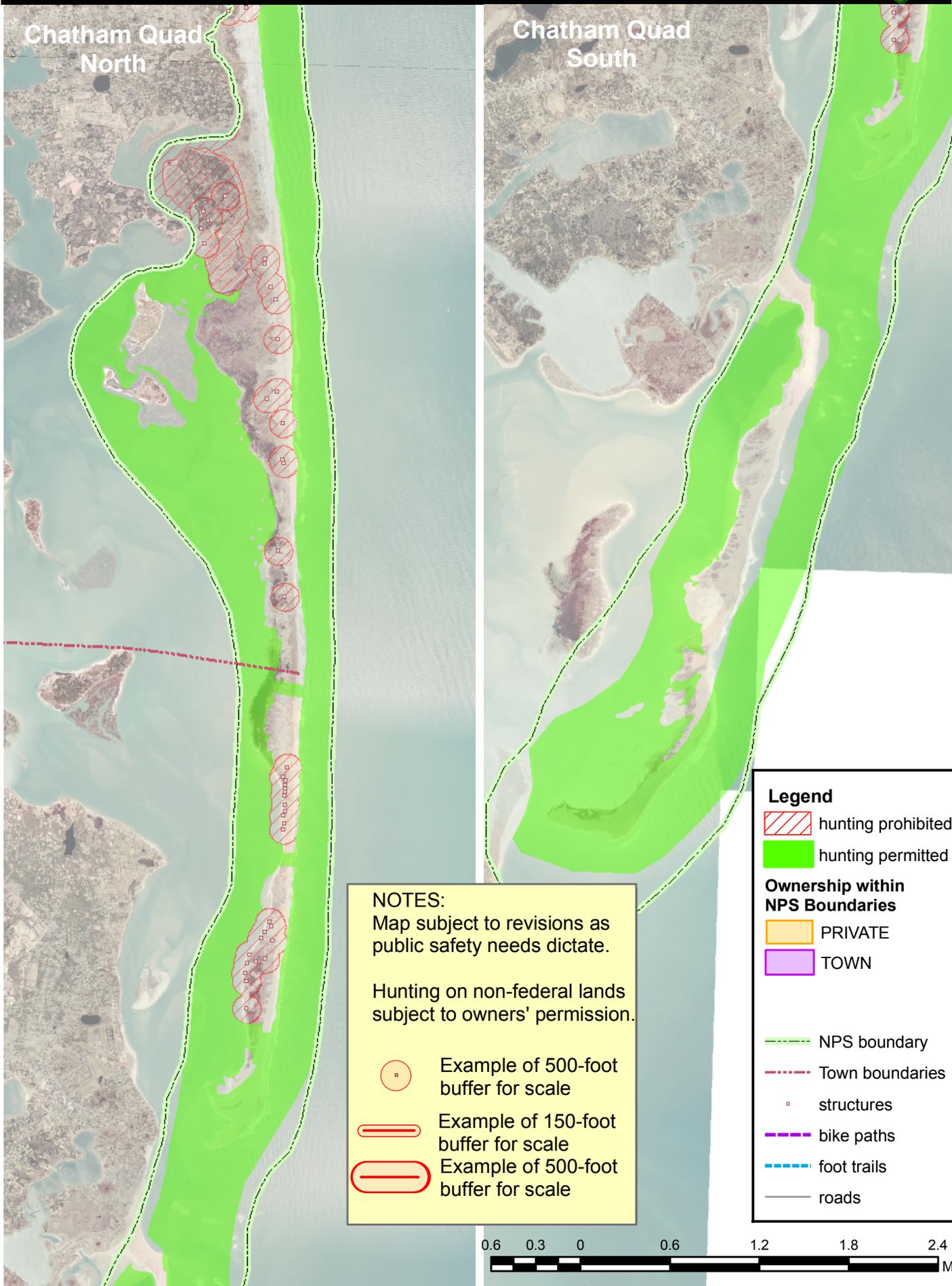
NOTES:
Map subject to revisions as public safety needs dictate.

Hunting on non-federal lands subject to owners' permission.

-  Example of 500-foot buffer for scale
-  Example of 150-foot buffer for scale
-  Example of 500-foot buffer for scale



Figure 4e: Proposed Hunting Areas Under Alternative B (Preferred Alternative)



Chatham Quad North

Chatham Quad South

NOTES:
Map subject to revisions as public safety needs dictate.
Hunting on non-federal lands subject to owners' permission.

○ Example of 500-foot buffer for scale
 ○ Example of 150-foot buffer for scale
 ○ Example of 500-foot buffer for scale

Legend

- hunting prohibited
- hunting permitted

Ownership within NPS Boundaries

- PRIVATE
- TOWN

- NPS boundary
- Town boundaries
- structures
- bike paths
- foot trails
- roads



2.5 Alternative C – Eliminate Hunting

Alternative C considers the complete elimination of the hunting program. Hunting would be phased-out according to an implementation plan created by CACO staff.

Option 1 – Eliminate Pheasant Hunting: The pheasant hunt would be eliminated. Given that the pheasant hunt has been enjoined by a court injunction since 2003, a phase out of the hunt would not be necessary. CACO would coordinate methods to communicate the elimination of the hunt with MDFW and the hunting community.

Option 2 – Eliminate All Hunting: Develop and implement a plan to phase out all hunting within CACO. The plan would lay out a timeframe in coordination with MDFW that would not exceed five years to phase out the existing hunting programs. CACO would retain the management prerogative to implement proactive measures earlier should conditions indicate the need for a more immediate action.

2.6 NPS Preferred Alternative

Table 9 summarizes the three alternatives relative to the NPS goals and objectives identified in the Purpose and Need section (Section 1.1).

Alternative B, creating a modified hunting program, involves altering the current hunting program to provide the following:

- increase hunting opportunities for native upland game bird species
- apply adaptive management to phase out the pheasant stocking and hunting program
- simplify and more clearly define hunting areas
- expand hunting-related outreach to hunting and non-hunting users, and
- cooperative monitoring and management.

These modifications are designed to address many of the issues raised during the scoping process and in comments on the Final Draft EIS. These modifications to the hunting program provide a fair compromise relative to the other two alternatives and should appeal to a broad range of users. Implementing Alternative B reflects the appropriateness of continuing hunting at CACO, would improve visitors' experiences, provide management of hunting, provide a range of opportunities to enjoy park resources in a manner that will preserve them for future generations, and is consistent with NPS goals and policies. Therefore, Alternative B is the NPS preferred alternative as it meets the project purpose, while avoiding and minimizing adverse effects to the human environment.

Table 9. Summary of Alternatives

Goals and Issues	Alternative A No Action	Alternative B Modified Hunting Program	Alternative C Eliminate Hunting
Goal 1. Balance diverse uses of the Park while minimizing effects to wildlife populations, ecosystems and sustaining natural processes			
Monitor populations of hunted species.	Additional monitoring would not be implemented.	Provides for some additional monitoring.	Additional monitoring would not be implemented.
Eliminate introduction of a non-native species into natural ecosystems.	Would continue introduction of the non-native pheasant into CACO's natural systems.	Would gradually eliminate stocking non-native pheasants over a 14 to 17 year period.	Would immediately eliminate the stocking of non-native pheasants.
Goal 2 Reduce or avoid conflicts during recreational uses of the Park			
Reduce potential conflicts between hunters and non-hunters.	Does not change current conditions.	Improves the delineation of areas opened and closed to hunting. Improves the availability of information regarding areas and times hunting may be encountered.	Would eliminate conflicts between hunters and non-hunters.
Goal 3. Protect natural and cultural resources, cultural heritage, and recreational values			
Maintain and protect natural resources.	Does not interfere with NPS efforts to maintain and protect natural resources.	Does not interfere with NPS efforts to maintain and protect natural resources.	Does not interfere with NPS efforts to maintain and protect natural resources, but may lead to unnaturally high deer populations that could damage these resources
Maintain cultural resources.	Does not affect practices that manage cultural resources.	Develops a cultural landscape, which in turn would improve quail habitat.	Does not affect practices that manage cultural resources.
Continue the customary activities that were in place when CACO was established.	Continues hunting as a customary activity.	Continues hunting as a customary activity, but eventually phases out the pheasant stocking. Provides increased opportunities to hunt native quail and turkey.	Eliminates hunting as a customary activity. Other uses remain the same.
<i>(continued)</i>			

Goals (in bold) and Issues	Alternative A No Action	Alternative B Modified Hunting Program	Alternative C Eliminate Hunting
Goal 4. Provide opportunities for future generations to enjoy the natural and cultural resources, cultural heritage, and recreation values of the CACO			
Provide uses that balance divergent contemporary interests while maintaining recreational opportunities for future generations.	Continues hunting as a recreational activity. Does not provide better delineation to aid in the separation of non-hunting and hunting recreational opportunities.	Continues all existing recreational activities. Provides for some enhanced hunting opportunities. Outreach efforts may further promote non-hunting uses.	Eliminates hunting as a recreational activity, thus does not maintain this type of recreational opportunity for future generations.
Provide enough land area to maintain existing recreational opportunities.	No change in land area for existing uses.	Provides ample hunting areas, better defines and slightly reduces those areas to enhance non-hunting uses.	Does not provide hunting areas.
Goal 5. Develop management solutions that address concerns related to the current hunting program to ensure diverse and high quality public experiences			
Maintain and improve safety.	Does not address potential safety issues.	Addresses potential safety issues by better defining areas open and closed to hunting, and by increasing no-hunting buffers along bike paths.	Eliminates possible safety issues by eliminating hunting.
Improve visitors' perception of hunting safety.	Does not address this perception.	Addresses this perception through improved information.	Does not address this perception as hunting would be eliminated.
Improve visitors' knowledge and awareness of hunting safety.	No attempts would be made to improve knowledge and awareness of hunting.	Expands outreach to all visitors regarding hunting regulations, safety, and areas open and closed to hunting.	Does not attempt to improve these aspects as hunting would be eliminated.
Resolve possible conflicts with NPS policies regarding the pheasant stocking program.	These conflicts would likely need to be addressed through an administrative waiver.	Eliminates these conflicts.	Eliminates these conflicts.

2.7 Environmentally Preferred Alternative

The Environmentally Preferred Alternative is defined by the CEQ as “the alternative that will promote the national environmental policy as expressed in the National Environmental Policy Act [Section 101(b)].” This section states that the Environmentally Preferred Alternative should:

- Fulfill the responsibilities of each generation as trustee of the environment for succeeding generations.
- Ensure for all Americans safe, healthful, productive, and aesthetically and culturally pleasing surroundings.
- Attain the widest range of beneficial uses of the environment without degradation, risk of health or safety, or other undesirable and unintended consequences.

- Preserve important historic, cultural, and natural aspects of our national heritage and maintain, wherever possible, an environment that supports diversity and variety of individual choice.
- Achieve a balance between population and resource use that will permit high standards of living and a wide sharing of life's amenities.
- Enhance the quality of renewable resources and approach the maximum attainable recycling of depletable resources.

In accordance with the analysis of effects of each alternative, Alternative B has been identified as the Environmentally Preferred Alternative.