NPS Form 10-900 OMB No. 1024-0018 (Expires 5/31/2012)

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NAT. REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form.* If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. **Place additional certification comments, entries, and narrative items on continuation sheets if needed (NPS Form 10-900a).**

1. Name of Property

historic name Green River Drift Trail Traditional Cultural Property

other names/site number The Drift; 48SU7312

2. Location

street & number Linear corridor that generally follows the upper Green River & crosses BLM Pinedale & Bridger Teton National Forest lands. [ ] not for publication [X]

city or town Cora [ ] vicinity

state Wyoming code WY county Sublette code 035 zip code 82925

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,

I hereby certify that this x nomination ___ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property x meets ___ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

__ national x statewide __local

Signature of certifying official/Title — July 8, 2013 Date

USDA - Forest Service Intermountain Region
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property X meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria.

Mary M. Hopkins — June 17, 2013 Date
Signature of commenting official

Wy State Historic Preservation Office
Title — State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

X entered in the National Register

___ determined eligible for the National Register

___ determined not eligible for the National Register

___ removed from the National Register

___ other (explain:) _____

Barbara Wyatt — 11-22-13
Signature of the Keeper — Date of Action

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Green River Drift Traditional Cultural Property
Name of Property
Sublette County, Wyoming
County and State

Section number Additional Documentation Page 37

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,

I hereby certify that this _x_ nomination ___ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property _x_ meets ___ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

___ national _x_ statewide __local

Robin D Hawks 9/12/2013
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

Bureau of Land Management
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property _✓_ meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting official Date

Title State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

Green River Drift Trail Traditional Cultural Property
Name of Property

Sublette County, WY
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply.)

- [X] private
- [X] public - Local
- [X] public - State
- [X] public - Federal

Category of Property
(Check only **one** box.)

- [ ] building(s)
- [X] district
- [ ] site
- [ ] structure
- [ ] object

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1		buildings
		district
19		site
37		structure
3		object
60		**Total**

Name of related multiple property listing
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

Ranches, Farms, and Homesteads in Wyoming, 1860-1960

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)

Agriculture/ Agricultural Field
Agriculture/Animal Facility

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)

Agriculture/ Agricultural Field
Agriculture/Animal Facility

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions.)

Other: Stock Trail

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions.)

foundation: stone
walls: log
roof: metal
other: wood
concrete

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance of the property. Explain contributing and noncontributing resources if necessary. Begin with **a summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, setting, size, and significant features.)

Introduction to the Green River Drift Trail

For more than one hundred years, the Green River Drift Trail (Drift) has functioned as the essential connector between seasonal grazing lands for cattle ranches in the Upper Green River Valley. As a traditional cultural property, it has played a pivotal role in the development of ranching in the area as well as in the development of relationships between Federal land managing agencies and private property owners. The Drift provides the route for Upper Green River Cattle Association (Association) members and other area ranchers to trail cattle from spring grazing at the southern end of the Drift to summer and fall grazing at the northern end. In the fall, the cattle "drift" back to the south on their own along the well-worn route of the Drift. Established by 1896, the Drift continues to be used by area ranchers as well as those ranchers belonging to the Upper Green River Cattle Association to herd their cattle. It represents the traditional land use patterns as well as ranching practices of the area. As cowboys[1] continue to move cattle by horse along the Drift, land continues to be used as it was a century ago when the Drift was first utilized.

The path of the Drift has remained remarkably stable throughout its history. Before the establishment of the Drift, various big game animals passed through this area during their seasonal migrations.[2] The path of the Drift made use of natural features such as draws and creeks to funnel the cattle onto a common path and provide a stable supply of water and feed. Over time these natural features were augmented by man-made constructs such as fences, reservoirs, roads, and bridges. While the addition of these features on the landscape may have slightly altered the route of the Drift, these alterations in the course are believed to be very minor in scope. Overall, the overall route and use of the Drift today is very similar to its route and use in its early history.

Ranches in the Upper Green River Valley region are dispersed along waterways and valleys that contain irrigable land for producing hay. The headquarters are generally located there. Grazing land is located further out from the headquarters and ranchers rotate grazing areas from the headquarters, surrounding mesa, desert, foothill, and mountain pasture based on a spring, summer, fall, and winter feeding pattern. In the spring, starting from May 1- May 25, the cattle of the Association members graze Bureau of Land Management (BLM) allotments on the Little Colorado Desert or the Mesa. The Blue Rim on the Desert and the Mesa are common allotments. Association members also utilize one private allotment that encompasses both the Desert and the Mesa, as well as two private allotments north of Highway 191.

Spring grazing on BLM managed land lasts about two months – May through June. Cowboys from the Association start removing cattle from spring BLM pastures and trailing them up to 60 miles north beginning the middle of June and ending the middle of July. There is a 3 to 4 week period for trailing the cattle to the mountains from the time they are taken off the spring pasture until they are on the U.S. Forest Service pasture systems. Each ranch's cattle herd is on the trail approximately two weeks. Summer grazing begins June 16 and lasts through October 15 of every year. Bulls are put in with cows in June and early July for the breeding season. The haying season corresponds with the summer grazing season.[3]

The cattle of the Association graze in a common allotment on the Bridger-Teton National Forest known as the Upper Green River Cattle Allotment. This allotment contains four separate pasture systems: the Gyp Deferred Grazing System where the cattle must leave the Drift at varying locations depending on the cycle of the rotation to access this area, the Tosi-Tepee Creek Deferred Pasture System where the cows leave the Drift at Tosi Creek to reach the system, the Fish Creek Pasture System, and the Mosquito Lake Pasture System, the latter two are accessed by following the Drift to its end point. A deferred grazing system describes the process by which cattle enter the foothills of a pasture system in the spring and migrate to the high country and then drift down the other side to a low pasture in the fall. The following year cattle use the opposite low pasture first and the other pasture in the fall. This allows the grass a longer recovery time. The Gyp, Tosi-Tepee Creek, and Fish Creek are all deferred systems. The Mosquito Lake system is a rest-rotation system. Four

[1] The term "cowboy" is used throughout the document to refer to both men and women.
[2] Mark Miller. Trapper's Point National Register Nomination. 2006.
[3] Albert and Jonita Sommers, personal correspondence, 01/01/2010 and Byron Hunter and H. W. Pearson, *Type of Farming and Ranching Areas in Wyoming.* Bulletin No. 228. (Laramie: University of Wyoming Agricultural Experiment Station and United States Department of Agriculture, 1938), p. 110 -120.

pastures comprise the system, which works by resting one pasture every year while the other three are grazed. The rested pasture is rotated every year.[4]

As cold weather arrives, the cattle drift back to the foothills on their own. The cattle drift south, back toward the headquarters and are rounded up, trailed to the headquarters and shipped to market. Most cattle sales occur in October and November after the cattle have drifted south out of the summer and fall grazing pastures. In the winter, cattle graze on irrigated pastures and meadows where they are also fed hay. Winter feeding generally lasts from five to six months, depending on snow fall and amount of grass for grazing .[5]

Summary Paragraph

The Green River Drift Trail is located in rural Sublette County, Wyoming and meets the registration requirements for Cattle Trails and Driveways described in the *Ranches, Farms, and Homesteads in Wyoming, 1860-1960* Multiple Property Document. It extends for 58 miles, with an additional 41 miles of spurs, from high desert mesas in the southern part of the county to the Bridger-Teton National Forest in the northern part of the county. As a traditional cultural property, the Drift is a district containing different features. These include two-track vehicle trails, gravel county roads, stock driveways, stock trails, highway underpasses, fences, and bridges. It ranges from fifty feet in width where the driveway is fenced to over a mile wide where the cattle are allowed to spread out. The land surrounding the Drift is mostly agricultural and very sparsely populated; it ranges from salt desert shrub basins, to rolling sagebrush steppe, to irrigated high valleys, and finally ends in mountains. The Drift follows the Green and New Fork Rivers for much of its route and has the Wind River Mountains as its backdrop to the north and east, the Wyoming Range in the far distance to the west, and the Gros Ventre Mountains to the north. At the southern end, views are wide and expansive and contain sagebrush covered hills with draws; views narrow to mountain valleys and wetlands and high, closed-in mountains at the northern end.

The setting is rural with few buildings noticeable. However, segments of the Drift do travel through areas of both residential and industrial development that began over 40 years ago and within the period of significance. This development is a continued progression of settlement in the area. The Pinedale Anticline oil and gas development is located on lands through which the Drift crosses. Dirt and gravel roads, rigs drilling natural gas wells, and producing wells are all visible from the Drift. However, much of the Drift in this area runs through the bottom of draws, and from the bottom of these, the development is generally not visible. The Middle Mesa Well, a watering location for cattle along the Drift, is located in the center and west side of the Pinedale Anticline; much of the development can be seen from this point. Most residential development is in the form of ranchettes and located near the Cora Y, the junction of Highways 352 and 191. Additional small-scale residential development has taken place further north and closer to the U.S. Forest Service managed lands. This residential development is located outside the nominated boundary.

Narrative Description

Green River Drift Traditional Cultural Property

Overview

The Drift begins where the cattle come out of the BLM allotments on the Little Colorado Desert and cross the New Fork River at the Olson Bridge and New Fork Cattle Bridge. At these places they are no longer utilizing the grazing allotments for grazing, but are on the trail. This southern end of the Drift consists of a variety of spur lines that meet the main trail near the Middle Mesa Well. Ranchers who hold grazing permits on the Mesa use spur lines to connect to the main trail. By providing the mechanism by which ranchers get their cattle to the main Drift trail, these spur lines are instrumental to the operation of the Drift. Once herds reach the Middle Mesa Well, they follow the main trail north. The Drift ends where the U.S. Forest Service designated driveway reaches the U.S. Forest Service allotments. The U.S. Forest Service allotment is the destination point of the Drift. While herding may take place within both the BLM and U.S. Forest Service allotments, this is a separate ranch activity from the practice of the Drift.

The Drift is a district whose components are all identified as contributing. There is a main trail as well as spur lines that meet the main trail. These segments contain the trail as well as structures and objects such as bridges, roads, and fences. The Drift has been broken into seventeen segments based on the practice and daily routine while trailing along the Drift. Kent Price, fourth generation Association member, described the segments as, "These are trails that everybody

[4] Albert and Jonita Sommers, personal correspondence, 01/01/2010.
[5] Byron Hunter and H. W. Pearson, *Type of Farming and Ranching Areas in Wyoming.* p. 110 -120.

on the Drift knows and if they were asked to go use them, they would know where to go."[6] Names of Drift segments and features are according to how the traditional users of the Drift refer to them. While the names of the trail features and segments are names used by the traditional users, the segment numbers found in the following inventory and on the accompanying maps are simply an organizational tool for the purposes of this nomination. Segments are based on a day's cattle drive; in general, these also correspond with topographical features and the locations of various structures and objects along the route. The cattle are left at good places to water and in locations that naturally hold them in a group as much as possible. The following description identifies segments beginning at the southern end of the Drift and moves north. Many of the components of the Drift are necessary to define, these definitions follow:

Stock Drive – a linear property that defines a route used to move livestock by hoof. A drive can be comprised of a variety of transportation resources and property types, including stock trails, two-track vehicle roads, county roads, and stock driveway.

Stock Trail – a dirt path that generally meanders and that has been created by livestock hoofs.

Two-track Vehicle Road – a set of parallel wheel tracks separated by a center mound, generally located in a pasture and branches off from a county road or highway.

County Road – a crowned-and-ditched gravel or flat bladed gravel or dirt road that is maintained by the County.

Driveway – a linear route that is fenced on either side and generally follows a major vehicle route, such as a highway.

Dugway – a road cut into a hillside.

Drift Fence – a post and wire fence built to stop the cattle from migrating past a certain point.

Counting Gate - a wire fenced area that has a holding pen on each end and a narrow, 15-foot-long passage where only one cow can fit.

Cut Grounds – an open area, vaguely defined either by fences, roads, or topographic features where cowboys separate the cattle according to which ranch's herd they belong.

Landscape Description

The following description has broken the Drift into three larger sections. Each section is distinct from the other two in topography and landscape. The surrounding landscape and setting is described for these three sections. The description begins at the southern end of the Drift and goes north.

Beginning of Drift to Cora Y (Segments 1 – 9)

Lands on the Mesa rise from the New Fork River Valley on the south and east and from the Green River Valley on the west. The land is high and open, broken only by wide draws. Sagebrush covers the treeless landscape, now dominated by oil and gas development. This development is located on the north and east parts of the Mesa. Views from the top of the Mesa extend for miles to the closest mountain ranges while views from the bottom of the draws only go a couple hundred yards from one side to another. Cowboys try to keep the cattle at the bottom of the draws along the stock trails, on two-track roads, and on or next to the county road. This keeps the cattle in a tighter bunch and makes it easier to trail them.

Cora Y

The Cora Y is located at the junction of Highway 191 and Highway 352 and is a transition point along the Drift. Cattle come off the Mesa, where there have been few fences to assist with trailing, and begin to shift into fenced driveways. The land becomes more hilly, but remains sagebrush and grass covered. A residential development dominates the view at the Cora Y, with houses on the east side of Highway 352.

Cora Y to Red Gate (Segments 10 – 17)

[6] Kent Price, September 15, 2011, Green River Drift Federal Agency Meeting, Pinedale BLM Field Office, Pinedale, WY.

The landscape and views change dramatically as the cattle trail north to the Forest with the Wind River Mountains as its backdrop to the east. Sagebrush covered hills lie directly to the west. The Drift narrows into a fenced trail as it follows the highway north, into increasingly forested, mountainous land. It follows the highway and Green River to the base of the Gros Ventre Range, where the allotment begins.

Segment Descriptions

1. Bertram Draw to Middle Mesa Well (spur line), stock trail, 5.5 miles

The trail starts in the Bertram Draw on the Mesa, travels past the **Bertram Reservoir** and meanders out of the Betram Draw at the southeast corner of the Luman allotment. Kay Luman, a rancher once belonging to the Association, built the earthen Bertram Reservoir in the 1930s. The trail continues along the east fence of the Luman allotment emerging on top of the mesa. At the northeast corner of the Luman allotment it heads for the Middle Mesa Well. The drift is in the form of a stock trail that meanders up the Bertram Draw until the draw crests on the top of the Mesa.

2. Soap Hole Draw to Middle Mesa Well (main Trail), stock trail 10.1 miles

The main trail crosses the **New Fork Cattle Bridge** and continues up a draw crossing over to the Soaphole Draw through a saddle in the land. It continues up the Soaphole Draw until it comes out on top of the mesa. The New Fork Cattle Bridge is a three-span timber-iron Howe pony truss bridge with a plank deck built by Association members in 1945. The Association paid for extensive repairs to the bridge in 1969, 1970, and again in 2005. The **Upper**, **Lower**, and **Blue Reservoirs** are located in the Soap Hole Draw. The reservoirs are earthen. They are used to water cattle and provide a stopping point and place to rest. The **Middle Mesa Well** is a water well and was first drilled and established in 1968.

3. Oil Well Draw to Middle Mesa Well 4.1 miles (spur line), stock trail

On top of the Mesa, the spur trails from the Lovatt and Oil Well draws converge together at or near the Middle Mesa Well. In the Oil Well Draw, the trail consists of a stock trail that travels by three unnamed earthen reservoirs. These reservoirs were built in the 1960s.

4. Lovatt Draw to Middle Mesa Well 5.4 miles (spur line), two-track trail

In the Lovatt Draw, the two-track trail passes the **Pit**, **Old**, and **Upper Reservoirs** (second reservoir by the name of "Upper") which are all earthen. The Pit Reservoir was built in 1967 and Luman built the Old Reservoir in the early 1930s. The Upper Reservoir was built prior to the 1960s. Like the other reservoirs, they were built to provide necessary water for the cattle and horses.

5. Middle Mesa Well to Hennick Draw (main Trail), stock trail and an abandoned county road, 3.1 miles

The trail continues north—northwest to where it drops off the Mesa into the Hennick Draw. This segment of the Drift consists of a stock trail and a short length of an old county road that has been abandoned.

6. Rocky Butte Draw to Hennick Draw (spur line), stock trail, 8.8 miles

This spur line consists of a stock trail that travels up Rocky Butte Draw before following the **Mount Airy allotment drift fence** and then angles across the Mesa until it reaches the main trail. It passes the **Butane Well**, the **old earthen reservoir by the Rocky Buttes**, the earthen **Upper Reservoir** (third reservoir by the name of "Upper"), built in 1967, and the **Windmill Well**. Both wells provide water to the cattle. Just before the descent down Hennick Draw, the stock trail from the Rocky Butte Draw joins the main trail.

7. Hennick Draw to East Green River Road (main Trail), stock trail and county road, 1.9 miles

The drift continues as a stock trail down the Hennick Draw until it reaches pastures near the Green River known as the Hennick Fields. It travels along the barbed-wire fence along County Road 110 (East Green River Road).

8. Olson Bridge to Hennick Draw (spur line), county road, 17.6 miles

At the **Olson Bridge** a trail that comes off the Little Colorado Desert crosses the New Fork River on Olson Bridge at Olson's place. This marks the beginning of the Olson Bridge to Hennick Draw segment. The Olson Bridge is a steel T-girder bridge with a wood deck. The trail from the bridge at Olson's comes up County Road 123 and crosses Highway 351 onto County Road 110 or East Green River Road. The trail generally follows the County Road until it intersects with the main trail at the Hennick Draw. In the spring the trail goes through the Green River Ranch allotment, but in the fall the cattle trail around the east side of the allotment to reach the **cut grounds** just south of Highway 351. The Drift consists of the crowned-and-ditched gravel County Road, two-track roads, and stock trails in this segment.

9. East Green River Road to Drift Fence (main Trail), county road, 5.6 miles
The Green River Drift Trail continues north between the Hennick fence and County Road 110 to the Tyler Waterhole. The **Tyler Waterhole** is a place along the Green River where cattle can water from the Green River or the **Ada Ditch**, which has water rights for the Hennick fields and the Sommers ranch. The cattle water here when each herd of cattle is trailed to the mountains. In the fall, the cattle drifting to the cut grounds along Highway 351 water here as well. From the Tyler Waterhole the Drift follows the County Road more or less to the Drift Fence which is at Trappers Point, a National Register of Historic Places property, at the Cora Y (intersection of Highway 191 and Highway 352). The **Drift Fence** is a wire and wooden post fence that was constructed in 1921 with World War I wire. The Drift fence ranges from 1715 to 1995 feet from the south side of Highway 191 and creates one boundary of the cut grounds located here. The **Cora Y corrals** sit at the northeast corner of the **cut grounds**. Originally built in 1957 as wooden pole corrals, the Cora Y corrals were rebuilt in 1992 with metal poles. The highway and two other fence lines create the rest of the boundaries for the cut grounds, which were established in this location early in the history of the Drift. The Green River turns away from the Drift here by the Drift Fence and does not come along side the Drift again until it reaches the Circle S, a dude ranch in Segment 14.

This area is included in the Bureau of Land Management's Trapper's Point Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC) which is identified by the Pinedale Field Office in the 2008 Resource Management Plan (RMP). The BLM has identified Trapper's Point as a special management area due, in part, to the abundance of significant historic properties in this area. The Pinedale BLM Resource Management Plan states as a management goal for the area, "Preserve the viability of the big game migration bottleneck, cultural and historic resources, and important livestock trailing use."[7]

The Cora Y area and the ranching activities that take place here are the most visible part of the Drift. Many of the cattle drifting back out of the mountains in the fall are collected by their owners at this spot next to Highway 191. For a few weeks every fall, cowboys sort cattle by brand to each rancher's separate herd. Ranchers tally their losses, assess the condition of their stock, and calculate their expected income from that year's crop. This is the point at which many ranchers using the Drift determine the success of the year's efforts and plan for the future.

10. Drift Fence to Noble Lane (main Trail), stock trail and driveway, 2.5 miles
The trail goes through the **Highway Underpass**, a concrete underpass for Highway 191, up past the **water tanks** fed from the well in Swain's allotment, and into the Noble Lane. The Highway Underpass was originally constructed in circa 1940 and then reconstructed by the Wyoming Department of Transportation in 1992. The trail passes three galvanized steel rectangular water tanks. The BLM drilled a well in Edna Swain's allotment and ran a pipeline to these tanks in the Cora Stock Driveway in 1971. At the top of the hill as the cattle move north; they enter the **Noble Lane**, a cattle driveway, which is fenced with barbed-wire and posts on either side. Carroll Noble first granted approval for the lane on his land in 1940, with an easement being acquired in 1970. The Nobles were the largest private land tract donor and the first to grant an easement to the Association for the Drift. The Drift was fenced on either side of the Lane in 1970 after acquisition of the easement. Prior to this, the cattle were trailed up the road that is now Highway 352.

11. Noble Lane to Barlow's (main Trail), driveway, 6.6 miles
The driveway starts at the Noble Lane and proceeds north to the Barlow Corrals at the base of the Wright Hill. Along the Noble Lane the width of the driveway varies between 75 and 83 feet. Starting in the driveway at the south of the Noble Lane and proceeding north and east until it intersects the old highway road bed, the driveway then follows the old highway road bed until it turns east and runs over to the present highway. The driveway then parallels Highway 352 until it reaches the Barlow Corrals (the Barlow Corrals are not used by the Association members). Where the driveway is adjacent to the highway, it has an easement of 50 feet. Along this whole stretch the driveway crosses three irrigation culverts, the old wooden **Duck Creek Bridge,** and a cattle underpass. The underpass is placed so ranchers not belonging to the Association can move their cattle under the driveway while the drift cattle pass over the top. Coming out on the north end of the driveway the cattle can water at a ditch and spread out to graze and rest.

12. Barlow's to Marsh Creek Underpass (main Trail), driveway, 6.8 miles
The cattle continue north and down the **Mickey Adams Dugway**, on the west side of Wardell's pasture and onto Marsh Creek. Mickey Adams built this dugway along the steep hillside to ease travel. The driveway widens to 5070 to 7400 feet in width for 6.8 miles from Barlow Hill to the Mickey Adam's Dugway. Along Marsh Creek the driveway is 2200 to 2400 feet wide. The **Marsh Creek Underpass** is concrete and provides a route under Highway 352.

[7] Pinedale Bureau of Land Management, Resource Management Plan, pg. 2-54.

13. Marsh Creek Underpass to Counting Gate (main Trail), driveway, 3.8 miles
At Marsh Creek the cattle head northeast through the **Bloom Driveway**. The Drift becomes the Bloom Driveway at Marsh Creek to the Counting Gate where it is 180 to 3620 feet wide. The Bloom Driveway was originally built by the Civilian Conservation Corps in 1937 and cattle first used it in 1938.[8] This driveway goes to the **Counting Gate** where the cattle enter the U.S. Forest Service managed land from the BLM managed land. The Counting Gate is at 7980 feet elevation.

Between the Marsh Creek Underpass and Counting Gate, the driveway passes through two Association owned corners and one easement on private land. These corners were acquired from the developer of the Marsh Creek Subdivision and the easement was obtained from Mr. McClean to complete the continuity of the Driveway. The easement was acquired in either 1998 or 1999.[9]

The Counting Gate was first used in 1946. Jonita Sommers, a local rancher and historian, describes the counting gate as follows:

> The Counting Gate is a wire fenced area that has a holding pen on each end and a narrow passage where cattle trail through single file for about 15 feet. When the narrow passage was built it was used to spray paint each individual cow. Currently the counter and tallier stand near the narrow passage where the counter reads the brand and the tallier marks each cow under the correct ranch. The first pen is used to turn any cow back that needs to be looked at a second time. The second pen was once used as a horse pasture and to hold strays. The Counting Gate is built where the BLM managed land meets the U.S. Forest Service managed land. This is all done so the U.S. Forest Service has a count of how many cows each rancher is putting on the forest grazing allotment.[10]

14. Counting Gate to Circle S (main Trail), driveway, 4.5 miles
The drive turns north and the cattle are in a driveway fenced on both sides with barb wire and posts. The trail goes across the **Marsh Creek Ditch Bridge**, a timber stringer bridge with a wood plank deck. The trail continues across McDowell Flats, through the **old counting gate** that was used previous to the current Counting Gate, across Boulder Creek Bridge, Pot Creek Bridge, and comes out across from the Circle S Ranch, along Highway 352 again. From the Counting Gate to the Circle S Ranch, the driveway varies in width from 900 to 2850 feet. Although still standing, the old counting gate is no longer used. In the beginning, it was a log and pole fence with an alley. It also had some post and wire fence for the holding pen. The **Boulder Creek** and **Pot Creek Bridges** are both timber stringer bridges.

15. Circle S to Forest Boundary (main Trail), driveway, 2.8 miles
The Drift is a narrow driveway that goes north next to Highway 352 where the cattle cross culverts that are in a boggy area across from the Circle S Ranch, culverts at the Jim Creek Ditch, and culverts to cross Jim Creek. It goes through a culvert underpass, "**The Tin Whistle**," so named by an old cowboy, Otto Miller, because it is so small in diameter that you think you are inside a tin whistle. The Tin Whistle is also used in the fall to load cattle that drift out of the allotments later than the rest. A stock-trailer is backed up to it and the cattle can be driven into the trailer.
Prior to reaching the Tin Whistle, cattle enter the south end of the Gyp Pasture System. In years that the cattle enter this southern end of the system first, they leave the Drift here.

The cattle are now in a narrow driveway on the west side of Highway 352. They cross steel culverts at both Gyp Creek and Gyp Spring. The driveway narrows to 50 feet as it runs along Highway 352 for 2.8 miles where it terminates at the end of the paved highway and enters forest land and the Upper Green River Cattle Allotment at the **Rock Creek Drift Fence**. In 1910, the Rock Creek Drift Fence was built as a buck and pole fence. It is a wire fence at the juncture of private land and the Forest land today.

The **Cabin at Rock Creek** was used for a cow camp and is located across the Green River from the Drift about a half a mile from the mouth of the creek, which is at the end of the pavement and the Rock Creek Drift Fence. The cabin was moved to this location from the DC Bar Dude Ranch where it was a saddle barn. In 1945, the barn was dismantled and the logs numbered and transported by horse and wagon. The barn was reassembled in its current location and became

[8] Jonita Sommers, *Green River Drift, A History of the Upper Green River Cattle Association*, SkyHouse Publishers, Helena, Montana, 1994, p. 96-97.
[9] Charles Price, personal correspondence, 08/31/2011.
[10] Jonita Sommers, personal correspondence, 01/01/2010.

known as the Cabin at Rock Creek. The cabin is log with a gable roof, saddle notching and sits on a rock foundation. The cabin is a discontiguous contributing element to the Green River Drift.

16. Forest Boundary to Kendall Bridge (main Trail), driveway, U.S. Forest Service road, and dugway, 2.9 miles
The cattle continue up the trail along the dirt road across the **Red Dugway**, past the Kendall Ranger Station to the Kendall Bridge. **Kendall Bridge** is a concrete simple deck beam bridge with a paved deck that was built in 1980 to span the Green River. The original Kendall Bridge was built in 1947 and replaced in 1970. The Gyp cattle leave the Drift here in the years that they enter the north pasture of the Gyp Pasture System first.

17. Kendall Bridge to Red Gate (main Trail), driveway and U.S. Forest Service road, 7.2 miles
The cattle cross the Kendall Bridge and continue north up the Forest Service road across Lime Creek, Klondike Creek, and Tosi Creek Bridge. The lead end of the cattle leave the trail to get to the Teepee-Tosi Pasture System after they cross the **Tosi Creek Bridge**, which is a timber stringer structure with a wood plank deck. The rest of the cattle still going north cross a sandy, mosquito-infested area known as the Mosquito Gardens, alongside a spring called the Rock Garden, and go on the road across a steel culvert for Nummy Creek to a bentonite pile. They continue north up the road over the Wagon Creek Hill to the Red Gate which is where they are separated to go into the last two pasture systems. The steel **Red Gate** was purchased by the U.S. Forest Service in 1985 and installed by Sprout and Jane Wardell. It replaced a wire gate and has been placed so that people will leave the gate shut and not allow the cattle to drift outside of the pasture.

Integrity

The Drift retains good to excellent integrity based on its period of significance of 1896-the present. The period of significance encompasses the period of time in which the Drift has functioned as a traditional cultural property (tcp). While features within the district have changed over time, those changes represent the use of the Drift as a tcp and the adaptations that are necessary for such a property to remain useable and functional. Every resource within the Drift has been determined contributing because each one retains good to excellent integrity based on the end of the period of significance being the present.

The Drift retains excellent integrity of location, feeling, and association. While slight variations have occurred over time, the Drift continues to follow the approximate route originally designated and continues to function as it did historically. While some easement boundaries were only just acquired and defined for the Drift in 2009, the boundaries of the Drift have existed with only minor deviation since the turn of the 20th century and the cattle have followed those boundaries since that time. The tradition of using horses and cowboys to trail cattle at the same time of year, with stops for water, rest, and gathering in the same places along the Drift combined with little change on the landscape contributes to the excellent integrity of feeling and association for this property.

Overall, the Drift retains excellent integrity of setting. The setting of the southern end of the Drift, from around Soaphole Draw to East Green River Road, has seen changes throughout the period of significance. In these locations, the surrounding BLM managed property is being heavily developed for oil and gas resources. The visual impact of this development is characterized by unpaved roads, dirt well pads, holding tanks, and pumps. The tanks and pumps are painted to help them blend into their surroundings. This development is consistent with the historic multiple-use role the BLM managed lands have served. Oil and gas development began in Sublette County in the late 1910s. First with the U.S. Forest Service and later with the BLM, regional ranchers adapted to fit the agencies' multiple-use goals. Sharing the land with continued industrial and recreational development fits within the traditional use of the Drift and the public lands on which it crosses.

From the East Green River Road to the Drift Fence and the Drift Fence to Noble Lane residential development has changed the setting within the period of significance. At the intersection of Highway 191 and Highway 352, known as the Cora Y, residential development has taken place in the last 40 years. Residences are mostly ranchettes consisting of a house and a few outbuildings on a few acres. In the northern-most regions of the Drift the Gyp or Hecox residential subdivisions exist. Like the development at the Cora Y, these areas are characterized by houses and small outbuildings on lots of a few acres. The developments on the northern portion of the Drift are currently sparsely built-up with nomore than a dozen houses. Other than this small-scale development, the setting of the Drift is largely unchanged from the early years of its use.

The Drift retains excellent integrity of design, materials, and workmanship. Designed elements of the Drift for which aspects of integrity of design, materials, and workmanship apply are the Cabin at Rock Creek and structures and objects, such as fences, bridges, and underpasses. By virtue of their nature, these properties must be continually maintained in order to continue to contribute to the property as a whole. Because the Drift is a traditional cultural property still in use, these properties have been and will continue to be updated. While many original materials have been replaced over time, the replacement of these materials has been in-kind and in-place. The changes to these properties aid in understanding the continued history and ongoing tradition of the Drift.

Contributing Elements

The entire length of the Green River Drift Trail contributes to the eligibility of the property. The Drift consists of seventeen segments based on the practice and daily routine while trailing along the Drift. In general, each segment is based on a day's cattle drive. These segments contain sites, structures, and objects that are also contributing. There are thirty-seven contributing structures, three contributing objects, and twenty-one contributing sites within these identified segments. Additionally each segment is also considered to be a contributing site. Each of these resources is a notable feature that has allowed the Drift to continue its ongoing use in the manner it has been used for generations. The resources counted were identified by the traditional users of the Drift and have had traditional names assigned to them. Resources that were not named, such as culverts and barbed-wire fences, were not counted as part of the Drift TCP. Exact numbers and measurements for the culverts are not exactly known. It is thought that there are less than a dozen culverts on the trail and that they measure no more than five feet in diameter. These unnamed resources were considered either landscape features and counted as part of the segment in which they occur or were not substantial in size or scale to strongly contribute to the property's historic significance. There are no non-contributing resources counted in this nomination.

Segment Number	Drift Segments	Contributing Structures	Contributing Buildings	Contributing Objects	Contributing Sites	Date of Construction/ Alterations
1	**Bertram Draw to Soap Hole Draw**	Bertram Reservoir				1938*[11]
2	**Soap Hole Draw to Middle Mesa Well**	New Fork Cattle Bridge				1945, 1969, 1970, 2005
		Upper Reservoir				1966*
		Lower Reservoir				1966*
		Blue Reservoir				1966*
		Middle Mesa Well				1966*
3	**Oil Well Draw to Middle Mesa Well**	First Reservoir				1960s
		Middle Reservoir				1966*
		Last Reservoir				1966*
4	**Lovatt Draw to Middle Mesa Well**	The Pit				1966*
		Old Reservoir				Early 1930s

[11] Dates followed by an * are taken from the Bureau of Land Management, Pinedale Field Office Range Improvements GIS data, http://www.blm.gov/wy/st/en/resources/public_room/gis/datagis/office/rangeimprove/pinedale.html, other dates are provided by Jonita Sommers.

		Upper Reservoir				1941*
5	**Middle Mesa Well to Hennick Draw**					
6	**Rocky Butte Draw to Hennick Draw**	Mount Airy Allotment Drift Fence				Late 1930s
		Butane Well				1965*
		Reservoir by Rocky Buttes				1953*
		Upper Reservoir				1967
		Windmill Well				1941*
7	**Hennick Draw to East Green River Road**					
8	**Olson Bridge to Hennick Draw**	Olson Bridge				c. 1935
					Cut Grounds	1900-1910
9	**East Green River Road to Drift Fence**	Tyler Waterhole				1900-1910
		Ada Ditch				1899
		Drift Fence				1921
		Cora Y Corrals				1957, 1992
10	**Drift Fence to Noble Lane**	Highway Underpass				c. 1940, 1992
					Cut Grounds	1916
		Water Tanks				1971
11	**Noble Lane to Barlow's**	Noble Lane				1970
		Duck Creek Bridge				1940s
12	**Barlow's to Marsh Creek Underpass**	Mickey Adams Dugway				1910s
		Marsh Creek Underpass				1970
13	**Marsh Creek Underpass to Counting Gate**	Bloom Driveway				1937
				Counting Gate		1946

14	**Counting Gate to Circle S**	Marsh Creek Bridge				1934, 2011
				Old Counting Gate		Unknown, 1945 repairs
		Boulder Creek Bridge				Unknown, 1984, 2010 repairs
		Pot Creek Bridge				Unknown, 1977, 1985 repairs
15	**Circle S to Forest Boundary**		Rock Creek Cabin			1945
		Rock Creek Drift Fence				1910, 1970, 2010
		"Tin Whistle"				1970
16	**Forest Boundary to Kendall Bridge**	Red Dugway				1911
		Kendall Bridge				1947, 1970
17	**Kendall Bridge to Red Gate**	Tosi Creek Bridge				1960
				Red Gate		1985

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria
(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- [X] A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- [ ] B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- [ ] C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- [ ] D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations
(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- [ ] A Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- [ ] B removed from its original location.
- [ ] C a birthplace or grave.
- [ ] D a cemetery.
- [ ] E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- [ ] F a commemorative property.
- [x] G less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance
(Enter categories from instructions.)

Agriculture
Politics/Government

Period of Significance

1896 – present

Significant Dates

1896, 1905
1916, 1925
1934, 1946

Significant Person
(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

Euro-American

Architect/Builder

N/A

Period of Significance (justification)

The period of significance begins in 1896, with the first documented use of the Green River Drift Trail and ends in the present. The Green River Drift Trail continues to be used as a traditional cultural property and the period of significance reflects the stability of the tradition of trailing cattle along the Green River Drift Trail and its continuing significant role in the agriculture industry of the region.

Criteria Considerations (explanation, if necessary)
The Green River Drift Trail continues to be a traditional cultural property and therefore, the period of significance extends to the present. The Drift itself is approximately 115 years old and achieved its significance beginning in 1896. Its significance to the local ranching industry as well as culture in the Upper Green River Valley has continued to the present.

Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance and applicable criteria.)

The Green River Drift Trail is significant at the statewide level and meets the National Register of Historic Places criteria for significance under Criterion A in the areas of agriculture and politics/government. It also meets the registration requirements for Cattle Trails and Driveways described in the *Ranches, Farms, and Homesteads in Wyoming, 1860-1960* Multiple Property Document. It played a significant role in the development of the ranches in the Upper Green River Valley and specifically of the Upper Green River Cattle Association member ranches and is a representative example of a stock drift trail. The Drift meets the criteria for traditional cultural property as a property that represents a rural community's land use patterns and reflects the ranching community's traditional practices and values held for over five generations. The Drift showcases how a stock drive works and its significance within the ranching industry. It also highlights the relationship between federal agencies and ranchers through the use of public land for grazing. The trail has been continuously used since the 1890s to get the cattle in the Upper Green River Cattle Association from what are now the BLM allotments at the south end of the trail to what are now the United States Forest Service allotments at the north. The trail is 58 miles long with 41 miles of spurs. The Drift crosses BLM managed property, State of Wyoming property, private property, and United States Forest Service managed property. The trail also makes use of some county roads along its path.

Narrative Statement of Significance (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

The Green River Drift Trail is significant in the area of agriculture as a property that allowed for the development of the raising of livestock and growth of the ranching industry in the Upper Green River Valley. The Drift provides the transportation route for trailing cattle from spring range to summer and fall range and the return to private lands and therefore is integral to the grazing system developed over one hundred years ago in this region. This system requires the use of public, private, and State of Wyoming lands for grazing and relies on the Drift as the way to get cattle from winter and spring pastures in the south to better summer feeding in the north.

The Green River Drift Trail is significant in the area of politics/government for the role it plays in connecting private property owners and the federal government. As the link between private range and public range, the Drift represents the importance of the public lands to ranchers, the history of use of public lands, the change of public land administration over time, and the relationship between the U.S. Forest Service and BLM and private landowners. Since the inception of the U.S. Forest Service, cattle associations and ranchers have been as involved as possible in federal government decisions involving the use of public lands. The Drift represents this important relationship between property owners and the federal government in making decisions about the use of public lands and how those decisions affect the residents of the surrounding area.

Developmental history/additional historic context information (if appropriate)

Summary
The Green River Drift Trail (Drift) traditional cultural property is significant at the statewide level under Criterion A as illustrative of a cattle drift trail in Wyoming. It is also one of the only remaining cattle drift trails still in use in the same manner in which it was originally developed. The Drift traditionally played and continues to play a significant role in the operation and success of ranches belonging to the Upper Green River Cattle Association and other Upper Green River Valley ranchers who trail cattle along the Drift. It also demonstrates the relationship between federal agencies and private ranchers and the importance of this relationship in the management of area ranches, as well as ranches across Wyoming.

A stock drive is a defined route used to move livestock by hoof. Stock drives are separated into "long drives" and "short drives." A long drive was used to herd stock a considerable distance to markets, such as the drives that went through Wyoming to reach markets in Oregon, California, or Utah. A short drive was the route used to trail stock to better pasturage according to season, or to local markets.[12] The Drift is a short drive trail that includes driveways that are

[12] Pat H. Stein, *Historic Trails in Arizona From Coronado to 1940*, prepared for the Arizona State Historic Preservation Office, Phoenix, AZ, 1994, p. 43.

fenced, county roads that have been designated as the route for the Drift, and designated stock trails through draws and along rivers. An allotment is federal land assigned to a certain rancher or group of ranchers by the federal government for grazing purposes.[13]

The Green River Drift is a stock drive located in Sublette County, WY. In this region, ranching provided the traditional economic staple until recent growth in oil and gas fields has caused that industry to challenge ranching as the dominant economic driver in the area. Euro-American trappers inhabited the Green River Valley in the early to mid-19th century, which began to be settled by stockmen later in the century and the landscape became one of agriculture. Ranchers from the Upper Green River Cattle Association (Association) continue to use the Drift, established by 1896, to herd their cattle from the general area of the Little Colorado Desert north to summer grazing in the Bridger Teton National Forest, where they run in a common allotment. Cattle are herded and drift in the spring, but in the fall they almost exclusively drift back to the south. Cowboys spend days separating the cattle into each ranch's herd. Animals ready for market are sent and the others are moved to pasture near each ranch's headquarters for the winter. Trailing of the cattle to and from the Forest allotment in the Upper Green has become known as the Green River Drift because the cattle drift up and down the Green River with the seasons similar to the deer and antelope. [14]

Ranches utilize agreements with both the BLM and U.S. Forest Service for grazing and trailing cattle on and across public land. The Green River Drift and many of the area ranches existed before establishment of the U.S. Forest Service and BLM, as well as their regulation pertaining to the management of public lands. Significant changes in ranch operations over the years resulted from federal agency development, changes in range management, technology, and refinement of the ranching industry. Through the years and the changes, the Drift continues to play the important role of providing the cattle trail for migration to and from summer grazing pastures.[15]

The Green River Drift as a Traditional Cultural Property

Few people inhabit the region of Wyoming on which the Drift crosses. Home to nearly 9,000 people, Sublette County, which is approximately the size of Connecticut, has only 1.2 people per square mile.[16] The weather is extreme, the terrain rugged, and the conditions isolated, but it is a good place to raise cattle, as many of the county's residents have been doing for five generations. The ranchers have formed a community and these ranchers share everything from low cattle prices to spring storms and drought to weddings and funerals. Ranchers also assist each other in ranch related work. They help each other in the spring and fall especially with branding, vaccinating, pregnancy testing, shipping, and weaning. Neighbors rely on each other during these busy times of the year to get all of the work done. Each of these ranching activities is accompanied by a large meal, eaten all together, for those who helped. The practice of helping neighbors and friends with ranch duties that are vital to the success of the year, the health of the animals, and the condition of the range goes back to the first settlement of the area and this element of ranching is vital to the survival of the ranching culture.

While today's ranchers have all the modern conveniences of the 21st century, they continue to hold onto the core values of hard work, responsibility, community, stewardship of the land, and independence that brought their great-grandfathers together over a century ago. The agricultural group that uses the Drift is held together by the shared hardships, successes, and traditions that come with ranching in the west. Children begin working on the ranch from an early age and learn from their parents and grandparents the skills of an operation that include maintaining buildings as well as the land, horsemanship, working cattle; calving, branding, shipping, and more. From this tradition has grown a common language and dress, a shared working relationship with federal agencies, and a way of life. A rancher's profession keeps him or her occupied 365 days a year and leaves them at the mercy of outside forces so powerful they can make or break a whole operation. This occupation is much more than what one does, it is who one is. The ranchers who use the Drift share this identity that comes with the isolation of a specific place, the demanding nature of one's way of life, and tradition that develops through the generations.

Fourth generation rancher in the Upper Green River Valley, Rhonda Swain, summarized ranching in the following words,

[13] Jonita Sommers, *Green River Drift, A History of the Upper Green River Cattle Association*, SkyHouse Publishers, Helena, Montana, 1994, p. 371.
[14] Jonita Sommers, *Green River Drift, A History of the Upper Green River Cattle Association*, p. 1.
[15] Interviews with ranchers of the Upper Green River Cattle Association, Bud Jorgensen, Sprout and Jane Wardell, Charles Price, Albert and Jonita Sommers, Harry Steele. Interviews conducted between May and September 2011.
[16] U.S. Census Bureau.

> It's a story about joys and sorrows, and about helping out your neighbors. It is a story about close working relationships and of good times and bad. Last, but not least, it's a story about dedication to, and love for, the way of life that we have chosen.[17]

The Green River Drift reflects the practices of the vibrant ranching community in the Upper Green River Valley of Sublette County, WY. The ranchers in this community have utilized the Drift for over one hundred years and continue to pass down to subsequent generations both the way of ranching that incorporates the Drift and the traditions of the Drift itself. The Drift is deeply ingrained in the Upper Green River Valley rural community's pattern of land use. Ranches are located along river and creek bottoms with hay fields while grazing pastures are located further away and at higher elevations. The Drift serves to connect all of these properties and reflects these traditional ranch management practices. The Upper Green River Valley remains a rural, ranching community whose identity is deeply rooted in their way of life.

Historic Contexts

Overview of Ranching History in Wyoming[18]

A comprehensive historic context on ranching in Wyoming can be found in *Ranches, Farms, and Homesteads in Wyoming, 1860-1960,* 2011 Multiple Property Document.

The first cattle are thought to have entered Wyoming along the Oregon/California/Mormon Pioneer Trails through the central and southwestern parts of the state. During the 1850s and '60s, traders and the military established small herds of cattle near posts along the emigrant trails. Herders began pushing cattle through Wyoming from Texas to the Montana gold fields in 1866. By the 1870s, bison had disappeared from the range, closely mirroring the removal of Native Americans and the building of the transcontinental railroad, which, among other things, opened the grasslands to cattle. This along with an increase in demand for beef following the Civil War sent stockgrowers to Wyoming.[19] By the 1880s, cattle and sheep both entered Wyoming from Texas, Oregon, and the Midwest. The livestock industry stood at the helm of the economy in Wyoming.[20]

Laramie County and Cheyenne became the center of the early cattle industry in Wyoming by 1870. Cattle ranching flourished from that time, when European capital, particularly that from the British Isles, supported expansion of the industry, until the mid-1880s. The presence of over 90,000 cattle along the North Platte and the Union Pacific rail line, as well as grazing on the Laramie Plains supports a Cheyenne newspaper's 1871 boast that "immense herds of cattle are … on the rich grazing fields adjacent to Cheyenne."[21] Cattle were turned loose on the land and gathered only during big spring and fall round-ups. The spring round-up served to brand new calves, castrate bull calves, and attend to any health issues. During the fall round-up, cattle were selected for market or turned back onto the range for the next season.[22]

The losses of cattle during the winter of 1871 and 1872 were dismissed as aberrations and many of the prominent residents of the territory invested in the Wyoming cattle business, including Governors Campbell and Thayer. The decade of the 1870s was a good period for the early ranchers as costs were low and the Chicago stockyard prices were favorable. Yet ranchers worked to improve their herds and ranches. A. H. Swan and J. M. Carey introduced purebred Hereford cattle in 1878 and Herefords would have a large role in the Wyoming cattle industry. The endurance of the breed was tested by the severe winter of 1880-1881 and demonstrated that they were hardy, grew well, and had several other attributes that cattle breeders valued.[23]

Many stockgrowers secured as much land as possible under the land laws: 160 acres at $1.25 per acre under the Preemption Act of 1841, 160 acres free under the Homestead Act of 1862, 160 acres free under the Timber Culture Act of

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[17] Rhonda Swain, "Still a Way of Life." In *Seeds-Ke-Dee Revisited, Land of Blue Granite and Silver Sage, Historical Folklore of Wyoming's Green River Valley*, by Sublette County Artists' Guild, 307-310. Freeman, South Dakota: Pine Hill Press, Inc, 1998.

[18] The majority of this section is taken directly from Betsy Bradley, *Crow Creek/Cole Ranch Headquarters Historic District National Register of Historic Places Nomination Form*, Wyoming State Historic Preservation Office, Summer 2009, Section 8. Original citations have been maintained.

[19] T.A. Larson, *Wyoming: A History* (New York City: W.W. Norton & Company, 1984), p. 109-114.

[20] Larson, *Wyoming: A History*, pp. 120.

[21] T. A. Larson, *History of Wyoming*, Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 1978, p. 165; Horace W. Hewlett, *Territorial Wyoming and the Cattle Industry*, University of Wyoming, 1941, p. 102.

[22] Larson, *Wyoming: A History*, pp. 112.

[23] Larson, *History of Wyoming*, pp. 163-167; Writer's Program of the Work Projects Administration in the State of Wyoming, *Wyoming: A Guide to its History, Highways, and People* Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 1981, p. 100; Alvin H. Sanders, *The Story of the Herefords* Chicago: The Breeder's Gazette, 1914, pp. 694, 699.

1873, and 640 acres at $1.25 per acre under the Desert Land Act of 1877.[24] The need for access to water resulted in the concentration of land filings along creeks for ranch headquarters and the acquisition of water rights. Anywhere from 20 acres to 130 acres could generally support a cow and her calf on the range in Wyoming Territory. A rancher could claim no more than 1,120 acres under all of the applicable land laws in the late 1870s and 1880s. This number of acres could support between 8 and 56 head of cattle, depending on the range conditions. To adjust for necessary acreage to run much larger herds, the rancher ran cattle on the public domain, which was legal until the government could survey the land and decide what to do with it.[25] The expansion of cattle ranching between 1870 and the mid-1880s prompted cattlemen to find ways to acquire title to more land. The Union Pacific, which had completed its transcontinental railroad across Wyoming in 1869, was the recipient of some 4,580,000 acres of Wyoming land, odd-numbered sections in a 40-mile strip; the railroad began selling its land in 1884 and ranchers expanded their holdings.[26]

The Stock Association of Laramie County was established in 1873 and renamed the Wyoming Stock Growers Association (WSGA) in 1879. This prominent group located at the center of the early phase of the cattle industry in Cheyenne and influenced a broad variety of issues related to the business. The WSGA's first interests were organizing roundups and registering brands while it monitored freight rates and legislation. The influx of cattle from Texas, the diseases that this stock brought into the territory, and the overall improved breeding of Wyoming cattle were concerns the WSGA addressed during the 1880s. After western fed Texas steers were dismissed in eastern markets as tough and of low value, Wyoming ranchers introduced Kentucky Shorthorn, Hereford, and Aberdeen Angus into the breeding stock and the result was Wyoming beef that brought good prices, but was more expensive to produce.[27] While the WSGA focused mostly on the eastern part of the state, it exerted its control over the Upper Green River Valley in a variety of ways. Until 1994, the WSGA controlled brands.[28] It also conducted roundups and investigated cattle smuggling across the Wyoming-Idaho border in the Upper Green River Valley area. In addition, in 1882 M.E. Post and Francis E. Warren, well-known members of the WSGA, trailed approximately 15,000 head of cattle to the Valley from eastern Wyoming. Their herd made up the only large cattle outfit in the Upper Green River region.[29]

The high returns realized on cattle raising during the 1870s relied on the cattle "raising themselves" on the range with no supplemental feed. Nevertheless, the native grasses that grew adjacent to streams was cut as hay for winter use and used sparingly to feed cattle after severe winter storms. This hay was also sold in town to feed horses and therefore was a cash crop.[30]

The pattern of ranch development in Wyoming during the cattle boom was shaped by the acquisition of key parcels of land along creeks and water rights and the unrestricted use of the open range, government-owned land for cattle grazing. Ranch headquarters were typically located near the streams that cross the area, surrounded by irrigated hay meadows, which were used as pastures after the hay crop was made.[31]

The cattle industry estimated that 1,500,000 cattle grazed in Wyoming Territory during 1885 and 1886, the peak years of the Wyoming Territory cattle boom. After the devastating blizzards of the winters of 1886 – 87 in most of Wyoming and 1889 – 90 in the Green River Valley, the cattle industry in Wyoming changed. These blizzards caused animal losses of up to 90 percent for many ranchers and lead to a decentralization of the industry as the number of herds increased while the size of the herds decreased. At the end of the 1880s, the cattle industry's percentage of the territory's wealth had dropped from more than three-fourths to less than one-half of the total.[32]

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[24] Michael Cassity, *Wyoming Will Be Your New Home ...: Ranching, Farming, and Homesteading in Wyoming 1860 – 1960*, Historic Context Study, Wyoming State Historic Preservation Office, Draft, November 6, 2009, p. 32-35.
[25] Larson, *Wyoming: A History*, pp. 117-118.
[26] Larson, *History of Wyoming*, pp. 173-178.
[27] Larson, *History of Wyoming*, pp. 169-170; "Andrew Gilchrist, Stock Raiser;" hand-written document, Coutant Collection, Wyoming State Archives; Hewlett, pp. 110-111.
[28] Albert Sommers and Jonita Sommers, personal correspondence 1/1/2010 and 1/15/2010.
[29] John Rolfe Burroughs, *Guardian of the Grasslands: The First Hundred Years of the Wyoming Stock Growers Association*, Cheyenne, WY: Pioneer Printing and Stationary Co., 1971, p. 127-28, 150.
[30] Horace W. Hewlett, *Territorial Wyoming and the Cattle Industry*. University of Wyoming, 1941, pp. 106-107; T. A. Larson, "Ranching in Wyoming," in Judith Hancock Sandoval, *Historic Ranches of Wyoming* (Casper: Nicolaysen Art Museum, 1986), p. 6; Andrew Gilchrist Journal, Vol. 1; "Andrew Gilchrist, Stock Raiser."
[31] Byron Hunter and H. W. Pearson, *Type of Farming and Ranching Areas in Wyoming*. Bulletin No. 228. (Laramie: University of Wyoming Agricultural Experiment Station and United States Department of Agriculture, 1938), p. 115.
[32] Larson, *History of Wyoming*, pp. 190-193.

The period from 1890 through World War I was a productive time for ranchers with smaller herds that were kept in fenced pastures, grazed on public land, and who raised alfalfa and hay for winter feed. The United States Forest Service, established in 1905, assumed control of summer grazing land in National Forests and became an important partner to both cattle and sheep raisers. Ranchers and farmers in Wyoming enjoyed high prices for record yields during the years of World War I. The number of cattle on the state's ranches doubled between January 1913 and January 1919 and the value of that stock nearly tripled.[33]

Economic depression and hard times on the ranch followed the boom years for cattle ranching during World War I. From 1919 into the 1930s, low prices, surplus cattle, decreased meat consumption, and adverse weather conditions provided challenges for ranchers. Large cattle operations gave way to more family-owned and operated ranches that could supply smaller herds with supplemental feeding through exceptionally dry years. The number of cattle on Wyoming ranches in 1925 was only approximately 60 percent of the number in 1919; the value of the cattle dropped to less than a third of that in 1919. The Taylor Grazing Act of 1934 changed further the role of public land in cattle ranching. This statute eliminated homesteading except in conjunction with reclamation projects and established 16 million acres of public grazing land in Wyoming. Ranchers acquired permits to graze cattle, horses, and sheep on this land and by 1939 some 1,500 permits and licenses were issued. In the Green River Valley, the government issued the first grazing permits in 1936. Stockmen participated in range management through service on advisory boards and worked to avoid overgrazing.[34]

Wyoming cattle ranchers entered a period of prosperity again during the late 1930s, particularly after the wet year of 1938 restored somewhat the condition of the range. Beef cattle prices were above parity in 1939 and cattlemen enjoyed sounder financial positions and were poised to increase production significantly during World War II. The number of cattle on Wyoming ranches increased to over one million, comparable to the peak years from 1916 to 1919. The hay crop remained dominated by wild hay while alfalfa hay accounted for only a small portion. Cash receipts for livestock in Wyoming nearly doubled between 1939 and 1945 as prices rose rapidly until checked by price ceilings set by the federal government. Wyoming ranchers resented the federal cap set on fat cattle prices since rises in costs outstripped the wartime price increases, even as they continued to increase production. Cattle ranchers thrived during the war, despite labor shortages, and many were able to pay off debt, consolidate their land holdings, and acquire tractors and trucks that they could not afford during the 1930s. The number of ranches and farms in Wyoming began to decrease between 1940 and 1945, a trend that continued through the following decades.[35]

The post World War II period included both good and bad years for cattle ranchers. The more than 35 million acres in the state devoted to livestock grazing remained fairly constant as many other factors changed. The rural population decreased significantly and the number of farms and ranches decreased by half between 1940 and 1977; the 1960 census was the first to record more Wyoming residents living in urban areas than rural ones. The average size of agricultural operations more than doubled to 4,500 acres during that time. In 1969, 3,000 ranch and farm properties were in this size category. A trend to convert ranch land to other uses, including recreation and housing subdivisions, got underway. Nevertheless, receipts for cattle sales accounted for 60 percent of agricultural income in the state between 1950 and 1965. Higher cattle prices during the Korean War contributed to this statistic, though the drought of 1953 to 1955 affected operations during the same time period. The number of cattle in the state continued to be above one million during the post war years.[36]

By the 1970s, stock ranching was experiencing some additional challenges. The approximately 8,500 ranch and farm units in Wyoming at that time were collectively the state's largest employer and livestock dominated the source of income on the ranches. The average size of ranches increased due to the consolidation of operations. The early 1970s were a period of distress for ranchers and farmers. Net farm income in the state decreased by half from 1973 to 1974; it decreased significantly again during 1975. Ranchers avoided bankruptcy through outside income from oil and gas leases and rising land values. The legislature granted tax exemptions and the Bureau of Land Management deferred scheduled lease fee increases.[37]

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[33] Rheba Massey, "Ranching Context," Cheyenne: Wyoming State Historic Preservation Office, 1992, p. 2; Larson, *History of Wyoming,* p. 396.
[34] Larson, *History of Wyoming*, pp. 410, 430; Massey, p. 3.
[35] T. A. Larson, *Wyoming's War Years, 1941-1945*, Reprint edition: Cheyenne: Wyoming Historical Foundation, 1993. First edition, Stanford University Press, 1954, pp. 222-236, 240; *History of Wyoming*, pp. 487-489.
[36] Larson, *Wyoming's War Years*, p. 240 and *History of Wyoming,* pp. 523-524.
[37] Larson, *Wyoming's War Years*, p. 240 and *History of Wyoming,* pp. 523-528; Massey, p. 4; Erwin, Vol. 3., p. 355; Carl E. Olson, William E. Morgan and Raymond A. Marquardt, *Wyoming Agriculture: Past, Present and Future, An Economic Sector Study.* Laramie: University of Wyoming, 1971, pp. 1-3.

The 1980s witnessed the "farm crisis" across the nation and in Wyoming. Low prices, high interest rates, and drought combined to make the 1980s a difficult decade for ranchers. Increased mechanization during the 1970s, which saw high exports, mainly to the Soviet Union, led to more borrowing to finance the machinery. In the early 1980s, government support programs for agriculture were cut as part of large-scale government spending cuts. World market prices fell and operators' income turned negative. Many operations that borrowed money in the 1970s failed during the farm crisis. Cattle numbers dropped, and then stayed low due to continued low prices and bad weather. The lowest number of cattle since 1960 was in 1991. The cattle industry stayed relatively constant during the 1990s, while the sheep industry fell significantly. The sheep industry is no longer a major player in Wyoming agriculture.[38]

At the turn of the 21st century, ranching in Wyoming faces a number of threats. In 2009, 43% of Wyoming's land was privately held, and of that land, 93% was in agricultural production. However, the concern continues that the agricultural way of life is disappearing due to a variety of factors. These include the aging of agricultural operators and the effects of the estate tax; currently, farmers and ranchers 65 years old and older own 8.7 million acres in Wyoming. The limited profitability of Wyoming agriculture is another concern. Profits peaked in 1993 and have decreased since then. 2002 and 2006 registered negative net gains across the state due to drought. Income struggles make it difficult to keep land in agricultural production when it is much more profitable as development. Rising land values (despite lower income levels) make it more difficult to enter the ranching industry, or for families to turn operations over to the next generation. The average ranch price has more than tripled since 1993. Between 2003 and 2006, nearly 600,000 acres of prime agriculture land became residential (a loss approximately the size of Rhode Island). Another factor is the uncertainty about livestock grazing on federal lands. Competing uses of federal land continues to feed the debate about the use of federal lands for grazing.[39]

A rise in conservation easements being donated or sold on ranch lands across Wyoming testify to the concern of ranch owners about the future of their agricultural land and a continued commitment to good stewardship of the land. Wyoming's first agricultural land trust, the Wyoming Stock Growers Agricultural Land Trust, which started in 2001, now holds 57 conservation easements on a total of 149,000 acres across Wyoming.[40] Three of the six Association ranches have conservation easements on at least part of their land.[41]

History of Ranching in the Upper Green River Valley and the Role of Public Lands

The history of ranching in the Upper Green River Valley roughly parallels that of the rest of the state. Although ranching began later, it played a significant role in the economy and lifestyle of the region, as it has throughout Wyoming. Cattle associations formed early, and allowed the ranchers in the Valley to operate more independently than other parts of the state.[42]

The first cattle entered the Upper Green River Valley in 1878 and belonged to Ed Swan and Otto Leifer, who lived near the present townsite of Big Piney. In 1879, Daniel B. Budd and Hugh McKay brought more cattle to the Valley and Budd established the town of Big Piney. Ranchers and their cattle steadily drifted into the Valley and took advantage of the lush river bottom grazing. The hard winter of 1886-87 that hit the rest of Wyoming bypassed the Green River Valley. However, the area suffered its own "Equalizer Winter" during 1889-90 when ninety percent of cattle in the area perished. The loss from severe weather devastated both prosperous and poorer ranchers, thus, it was known as the "Equalizer Winter".[43]

Area ranchers supported the development of many of the towns in Sublette County. Many ranchers, cowboys and their families established towns or helped to settle them. Big Piney, Cora, Pinedale, Daniel and many other small towns relied on the business of surrounding ranches to sustain them. Ranchers held a prominent position within the community, "they have long been the pillars of the community, supporting the town [Pinedale] economically, socially, and politically."[44]

In 1890, the ranchers in the area formed the Big Piney Roundup Association. This association formed in response to the devastating winter the previous winter. It strove to improve management of cattle on the range so that hay could be

[38] Thomas Foulke, Roger H. Coupal, and David T. Taylor, *Trends in Wyoming Agriculture*, University of Wyoming Cooperative Extension Service, 2005.
[39] D. Hulme, C. Andersen, K. Parady, J. Hamerlinck, S. Lieske, I. Burke. 2009. *Wyoming's State of the Space: A Comprehensive Review of Land Use Trends in Wyoming*, William D. Ruckelshaus Institute of Environment and Natural Resources. University of Wyoming-Laramie, WY, p 9 – 11.
[40] Wyoming Stock Growers Agricultural Land Trust, *Home on the Range*, June 2011, http://www.wsgalt.org/Home%20on%20the%20Range/June%2011%20HOTR.pdf accessed January 11, 2012.
[41] Jonita Sommers, personal correspondence, January 4, 2011.
[42] Weidel, Nancy. *Sommers Ranch Headquarters Historic District National Register of Historic Places Nomination*. 2008.
[43] Ann Chambers Noble, *Images of America: Big Piney*, Arcadia Publishing: Charleston, SC, 2011.
[44] Ann Chambers Noble, *Images of America: Pinedale*, Arcadia Publishing: Charleston, SC, 2008, p. 7.

cultivated along the river and creek bottoms. The first recorded use of the Drift was in 1896 by ranchers belonging to the Big Piney Roundup Association. By 1900, different "wagons" emerged for each geographical area the association encompassed. Wagons were comprised of cowboys hired by ranchers who traveled with chuckwagons and managed the herds since there were no fences to keep them contained. The wagons handled the cattle while the ranchers put up hay. This allowed for better management of both the range and the cattle. All later cattle associations in the area formed from the Big Piney Roundup Association.[45]

In 1891, another significant change for area ranchers came in the form of forest reserves formed under the General Public Lands Reform Law Act. This resulted in the 1902 decision by the Federal Government to require permits to run livestock on the forest reserves. In 1905, the United States Forest Service was officially established as part of the Department of Agriculture. In just one year, the U.S. Forest Service established a system for grazing permits on range allotments which were accompanied by fees, an action the local stockmen protested. According to the *Pinedale Roundup*, stockmen called a meeting during which they framed and signed a petition to send to the U.S. Forest Service asking the Secretary of Agriculture to rescind the grazing fee order. The petition read in part,

> ... To further burden us with a special grazing tax will, we feel, be a sore injustice and one which will seriously interfere with the maintaining of our homes here, and keeping our heads above water. We feel that the hardships made necessary by following our pursuits here should be taken into consideration by you, and our request granted.[46]

These fees were 10 cents for the first 100 head of cattle and 20 cents for all other 100 head from May 15 until October 31.[47] This permit system continues today; the federal government issues permits/leases for grazing on federal lands at a set fee for each animal unit per month (AUM). An AUM is the amount of forage required to feed one cow and her calf for one month.[48] Grazing permits/leases are renewed every 10 years as long as permitees remain in compliance with the terms and conditions of the permit.[49]

The U.S. Forest Service worked to create a system of multiple uses for public lands; within this goal, it worked to improve the range. A *Big Piney Examiner* article from 1914 describes the U.S. Forest Service's plans for using increased funding to enhance grazing areas, "... through the construction of additional trails, drift fence, and through water development and like means."[50] In the early twentieth century, as the federal government became more engaged in range management, it demanded that stock driveways be well defined and regulated. The U.S. Forest Service also began marking the location of driveways with small metal signs posted on trees, fences, and other objects.[51]

The Upper Green River Cattle Association was created in 1916 and was known first as the Upper Green River Cattle and Horse Growers Association. It changed its name to Upper Green River Cattle Association in 1925 to reflect its focus on cattle.[52] In 1916, the *Pinedale Roundup* ran an article, "Green River Stockmen Perfect Working Organization," about the creation of the Association. The article states in part,

> The organization of this association is one of the most important of the separate organizations now existing in this section using the Bridger forest. Many matters of importance were taken up, settled upon and will be put into effect in the handling of the stock problem this year.
>
> The range used by the members of this association has been used almost continuously for the past seventeen to twenty years by some of the members and prior to the creation of the forests, in which respect more than an ordinary interest is felt by the individual members in the handling of the grazing problem on the Bridger and Teton areas which have been used for such a long period of time and the

[45] Jonita Sommers, personal correspondence, 8/25/2009, and Nancy Weidel, *Sommers Ranch Headquarters Historic District National Register of Historic Places Nomination*, 2008.
[46] "Stockmen to Protest," *The Pinedale Roundup*, Vol. 2, No. 4, Page 1, Sept. 27, 1905.
[47] Jonita Sommers, *Green River Drift, A History of the Upper Green River Cattle Association*, SkyHouse Publishers, Helena, Montana, 1994, p. 371.
[48] Department of the Interior, Fact Sheet on the BLM's Management of Livestock Grazing, http://www.blm.gov/wo/st/en.html, last updated December 14, 2009, accessed December 15, 2009.
[49] Gary Hayward, U.S.D.A. Forest Service, Bridger Teton National Forest Range Specialist, personal communication, November 30, 2011 and Bryan McKenzie, Bureau of Land Management Rangeland Management Specialist, personal communication, December 7, 2011.
[50] "Money Allotted for Range Extension," *Big Piney Examiner*, Vol. 3, No 39, Page 1, July 23, 1914.
[51] Stein, *Historic Trails in Arizona From Coronado to 1940*, p. 43.
[52] Jonita Sommers, personal correspondence, 8/25/2009.

desire that the association be extended recognition by the U.S. Forest Service and they have a voice in management of affairs that so vitally affect the stock and financial interests of the members.[53]

Many of the original members of the Association came from outside the Green River Valley, either homesteading in the area first and then building up a cattle herd or bringing a herd with them when they settled. One such member, Abner Luman, known as the "Cattle King" of the Green River Valley, brought one thousand head of shorthorns with him from Salt Lake City in 1880. He ran sheep as well as cattle; while the hard winters of 1883 and 1889 took their toll, he survived each hardship. Reaching his eighties, Luman died in 1931, after first leasing his ranch to his son Kay Luman.[54] The Bob and Doris Luman Ranch still operates in the Green River Valley today.

The Association learned to be flexible under changing leadership and varying mandates within both the U.S. Forest Service and the BLM. Since the time of their inception, both of these federal agencies have struggled to carry out the multiple use mandate that, "all land is to be devoted to its most productive use for the permanent good of the whole people, and not for the temporary benefit of individuals or companies."[55] Both the U.S. Forest Service and BLM attended the annual meetings of the Association and gave reports and/or heard comments. Beginning as early as 1920, the U.S. Forest Service and Association worked together to "divide the range" into smaller units for better management.[56] This coordination continues today. The federal agencies and the Association have created a coordination committee that inspects the range together and makes decisions about water, grazing, fencing, trailing, and other related issues.[57]

The passage of the Taylor Grazing Act in 1934 led to significant alterations in the way public lands were used for grazing. The Division of Grazing (later renamed the Grazing Service) within the Department of the Interior administered this law and created a system for regulating grazing on public lands. In order to improve range conditions and stabilize the western livestock industry, 80 million acres were placed into grazing districts.[58] In 1937, the Department of the Interior issued its first grazing permits.[59]

In 1946 the General Land Office and the Grazing Service merged to create the BLM. The following year, the BLM officially assumed control of the land under the Taylor Grazing Act.[60] The BLM also operates under a similar multiple use directive as the U.S. Forest Service. The agency's duties include managing energy development, fire, grazing, recreation, wild horses and burros, and planning on public lands.[61] Originally, the BLM worked to rehabilitate the public range that had been damaged in the years before the Taylor Grazing Act. Because of this, grazing management focused on increasing productivity and reducing soil erosion. The BLM met these objectives through fence and water projects that helped to control grazing. By the 1960s and 1970s, the BLM moved to a more broad approach for range management and began to focus more attention on the management and protection of specific rangeland resources, threatened and endangered species, sensitive plant species, and cultural resources. Grazing permits and leases were modified to match the altering management focuses. In the 1990s, the BLM developed rangeland health standards and guidelines, which it uses to guide decision making in grazing management.[62]

As the agencies strove to meet their goal of multiple uses, they continually adapted to meet new demands, which resulted in changing grazing regulations. For example, grazing fees have steadily increased over time. The U.S. Forest Service worked for many years to set grazing fees and then struggled to change them.[63] In 1978, with the passage of the Rangelands Improvement Act, Congress required the U.S. Forest Service and BLM to use the same grazing fees and to use the same system for determining those fees.[64] Currently, grazing fees follow the stipulations outlined in the 1978 law, which was modified by a presidential Executive Order in 1986. The agencies calculate and adjust the fee annually to reflect the current market conditions. The grazing fee cannot fall below $1.35 per animal unit month (AUM). An animal

[53] "Green River Stockmen Perfect Working Organization," *The Pinedale Roundup*, Vol. 12, No. 25, Page 1, March 16, 1916.
[54] Rosenberg, *Wyoming's Last Frontier: Sublette County, Wyoming,* pgs. 82-83.
[55] Letter from Secretary of Agriculture Wilson to President Theodore Roosevelt, quoted in James G. Lewis, *The Forest Service and the Greatest Good, A Centennial History*, Forest History Society, Durham, North Carolina, 2005, p. 42.
[56] Upper Green River Cattle Association meeting minutes, April 1, 1920.
[57] Charles Price interview.
[58] James Muhn and Hanson R. Stuart, *Opportunity and Challenge, The Story of BLM*, U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management, September 1988, p. 280-283.
[59] Jonita Sommers, personal correspondence, 8/25/2009.
[60] Muhn and Stuart. p. 55-57.
[61] Fact Sheet on the BLM's Management of Livestock Grazing.
[62] Fact Sheet on the BLM's Management of Livestock Grazing.
[63] Lewis, p. 57 – 59, and Muhn and Stuart, p. 81, 205-208.
[64] Muhn and Stuart, p. 208-209.

unit month is defined as "the amount of forage needed to sustain one cow, five sheep, or five goats for a month."[65] If an increase or decrease is necessary, the change from the previous year cannot exceed 25 percent.[66] In addition to grazing policies, wildlife, timber harvesting, mineral exploration, and recreation policies also affect the area ranchers, as is evidenced by the increase in special meetings called by the Association beginning in the 1980s to discuss different policy changes by the U.S. Forest Service and BLM. The reintroduction of wolves to Yellowstone National Park in 1995 had significant consequences on ranchers using Forest land. Wolves and grizzly bears take a toll on livestock and these ranchers must now figure a predator loss for their cattle numbers. Timber harvesting permits affect the amount of traffic on the route of the Drift and have caused deaths due to cattle being struck by trucks. Similarly, oil and gas drilling creates ponds of toxic waste water that cattle have watered from and died. Three oil and gas companies in the Pinedale Anticline have formed a working group with the Association to try to eliminate these types of accidents and to address them when they happen. Other management changes affect dates of use, cattle numbers allowed on public land, operating costs, etc. Decisions made by the federal agencies through the years have and continue to directly affect area ranchers.[67]

The use of public lands was essential to the original development of the ranching industry and continues to be today. However, this is a symbiotic relationship wherein ranchers play an important role. Grazing of public lands is one of the oldest uses of public lands and ranchers have accepted new neighbors on public lands for a century. They share these lands with the oil and gas industry, recreationalists, and others. While grazing is a direct impact on the land, when done responsibly, grazing can be used to manage vegetation and to control invasive species and reduce fuels that lead to out of control wildfires. Grazing also supports healthy watersheds, recreational opportunities, and wildlife habitat. The vast open spaces of the West are a result of the combination of ranching on private and public land.[68]

The ranching tradition in the Upper Green River Valley and the use of the Green River Drift continue despite the trend of a decreasing number of ranches throughout the state. In 1941, 22 million AUMs were authorized on BLM managed lands. In contrast, in 2008, only 12.5 million AUMs were used.[69] As the size of the ranching community dwindles, the work for the remaining ranchers increases. The same amount of fences need to be maintained, the branding, vaccinating, pregnancy testing, and other ranching tasks remain the same, just with fewer hands to get the work done. Ranch work is constant, physically demanding, and low paying, and therefore, difficult to keep younger generations interested.[70] Local rancher Albert Sommers described this difficulty.

> "It's the loss of the culture that threatens the system. You have to have a group of people cause the workload is too much. You have to have that community of ranchers doing this that. That culture of people doing it. Because one person can't handle the workload. You just can't do it. So you have to have a group to sustain."[71]

History of the Upper Green River Cattle Association

The Association uses the Drift to trail its cattle by horse and cowboy with dogs. This trailing follows a specific pattern that has been in place since the beginning of the Drift. Members of the Association own ranches along the southern part of the Drift. These ranches consist generally of ranch headquarters located near major rivers and streams; the headquarters include ranch buildings and irrigated meadows for producing hay and a small amount of grazing and calving pastures. Located further from the headquarters are spring grazing pastures situated mostly on BLM public grazing lands. In the spring, cowboys from each ranch begin moving their cattle north to better summer grazing in the higher elevations of the National Forests. Each ranch has a specific time that they move their cattle up the Drift in the spring, with the ranches located further to the north starting the move first. This process takes about three to four weeks from the middle of June to the middle of July; each ranches' herd is on the Drift for about two weeks. Once they reach the U.S. Forest Service managed lands, the cattle from all of the herds run in a common allotment through the summer and fall. Less snow on the lower (southern) end of the Drift means that these ranchers calve earlier, therefore, these ranchers turn their bulls out with their cows around June 1 and the bulls are trailed with the cows to the U.S. Forest Service managed property. Upper (northern) end ranchers generally haul their bulls to the allotment and release them with the cows around July 1. The pasturage accessed via the Drift is essential to the ranchers' operations because of the feed it provides to growing cattle. As the weather begins to turn cold, the cattle "drift" down to lower elevations on their own. Cowboys spend two to three

[65] Bureau of Land Management. Rangeland Program Glossary. http://www.blm.gov/ut/st/en/prog/grazing/range_program_glossary.html. Web site accessed May 2, 2013.
[66] Fact Sheet on the BLM's Management of Livestock Grazing.
[67] Association meeting minutes, 1916 – 2008 and Charles Price interview, May 29, 2011.
[68] Fact Sheet on the BLM's Management of Livestock Grazing.
[69] Fact Sheet on the BLM's Management of Livestock Grazing.
[70] Beard, Price, Sommers, and Wardell interviews, May 28 and 29, 2011.
[71] Albert Sommers. interview, May 28, 2011

weeks dividing the cattle back into separate herds. The herds are then taken back to the home ranch. Most of the ranchers keep their calves for a year and then sell them the next fall when they are yearlings. This pattern is based on the seasons and has been in place since at least the 1890s. Ranchers rely on the Drift to trail their cattle to crucial pasturage and continue to pass this tradition on to the next generations.[72]

After the Equalizer Winter of 1889-1890, the ranchers formed the Big Piney Roundup Association with the goal of keeping the cattle off of the river and creek bottoms, allowing the ranchers to cultivate hay crops. This initiated the beginning of fencing ranches from each other and irrigating fields. The Drift grew out of the creation of the Big Piney Roundup Association and its goal of improved cattle and range management. The purpose and general route of the Green River Drift Trail has remained the same for the last 115 years.

The first known use of the Drift took place in 1896, although cattle were grazing above the Bend of the Green River in the 1880s and the Drift may have been utilized prior to 1896. The trail is still used today to get cattle belonging to ranches in the area, and particularly, Association members, from the BLM allotments in the area of the Little Colorado Desert to the U.S. Forest Service Allotment. The Upper Green River Cattle Allotment is the largest U.S. Forest Service allotment in the United States, comprising 127,000 acres of the Bridger Teton National Forest.[73]

Use of the Drift began when grazing of public lands in the Green River Valley region was still free and unregulated. Ranchers who belonged to the Big Piney Roundup Association trailed their cattle from the Little Colorado Desert area in what is today southern Sublette County to the good summer grazing lands of the mountains in the northern part of the county. In the beginning, the Churndash Ranch trailed their cattle nearly 150 miles from Fontenelle Creek in what is now Lincoln County to the mountains. In 1906, the first U.S. Forest Service permits and range allotments were established. Ranchers worked with the U.S. Forest Service and the General Land Office/Grazing Service until the BLM formed in 1946. Since that time, the BLM has continually developed range management practices that the Association and other ranchers must follow in order to keep grazing permits on BLM managed lands.[74]

While the Association must follow BLM's requirements, the two organizations also work together to accomplish the goals of both. For example, the Association built the first reservoirs along the Drift in the 1930s, but by the 1960s, the BLM also began to participate in the building of reservoirs. In 1963 the Association built four reservoirs on the Mesa and the BLM built two. Just a few years later, in 1967, Hugh Wall, BLM district manager, directed that eleven new reservoirs be constructed on the Mesa. Reservoirs continue to serve an important role today as a place for watering and resting the cattle and horses. Wildlife also use these reservoirs. The Association and the BLM continue to share range management responsibilities with both organizations building or maintaining fences, reservoirs, water wells, and other structures.[75]

Since 1896, ranchers have taken advantage of access to private property that was granted to them by the various property owners along the trail. While approval to cross others' land was granted, this approval did not exist as a formal agreement until the 1970s and later. The Association obtained the first easement for the Drift in 1970 from Carroll Noble. Since that year, the Association has worked to gain easements for the rest of the Drift from both public and private property owners. The last recorded easement was in 2009.[76]

History of the Green River Drift Trail

The Drift main trail is approximately 60 miles long. It trails north off of the Little Colorado Desert and crosses the cattle bridge on the New Fork River which was built in 1945. Before that, the cattle forded the river. The trail goes to the Middle Mesa Well, which is a water well that was drilled and built in 1968 and is used to water livestock. Three spur lines of the trail meet at the Well. From there the trail goes to the Hennick Draw which brings the cattle off the top of the Mesa. The cattle end up on County Road 23-110 (East Green River Road) at the Hennick Place, the headquarters for the Hennick Homestead. Another spur line meets the Drift here.

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[72] Beard, Price, Sommers, and Wardell interviews, May 28 and 29, 2011.
[73] Sublette County Conservation District and Pinedale Natural Resources Conservation Field Office, 2012 Nomination for the Leopold Conservation Award: The Sommers Ranch, More than Just a Legacy, pgs. 2, 9.
[74] Jonita Sommers, *Green River Drift, A History of the Upper Green River Cattle Association; and* James Muhn and Hanson R. Stuart, *Opportunity and Challenge, The Story of BLM;* and James G. Lewis, *The Forest Service and the Greatest Good, A Centennial History.*
[75] Upper Green River Cattle Association meeting minutes.
[76] Jonita Sommers and Albert Sommers Jr. interviews.

The trail follows the road more or less north to the Drift Fence which is at US Highway 191. The Drift Fence was built in 1921 with WWI wire and the wire is still there today. The Drift Fence is very important in the fall as the staging ground where the upper end ranchers sort their cattle and take them home each day until the cattle are gathered. These cut grounds at the Cora Y represent the point where ranchers tally their losses, gauge their profit based on cattle condition and otherwise assess the success of the year. The lower end ranchers have a cut ground on Highway 351, twenty-two miles south of the Drift Fence.

There is an underpass that goes under US Highway 191. The first underpass was built about 1940 when US Highway 191 was built. The Association sent members to Cheyenne to meet with the Wyoming Highway Department to discuss whether or not this would be an underpass or cattle guard. This underpass was rebuilt in 1992 when that portion of US 191 was rebuilt and again the Association commented and maintained communication on where the underpass would be, what time of year it would be constructed, and how it would affect the trailing of the cattle.[77] The underpass maintains an important highway crossing for the cattle. In 2012, the Wyoming Department of Transportation is in the process of constructing a wildlife overpass in this same area, the Association continues to be involved in the highway development projects and provides comment. The trail enters the narrow Noble Lane, a 50 foot wide fenced driveway, which was completed in 1971. Carroll Noble granted approval for use in 1940, with an easement being acquired in 1970. The Nobles were the largest private land tract donor and the first to grant an easement to the Association for the Drift Trail. The driveway follows Highway 352 and goes by the town of Cora. The driveway widens some at the Wright or Barlow Hill and stays wide until Marsh Creek. This area provides a place where the cattle can eat and provides access to water at Marsh Creek. The trail goes under Highway 352 through an underpass at Marsh Creek. The trail enters the Bloom Driveway, which a crew from the Civilian Conservation Corps built in 1938, going east to the Counting Gate at the Forest boundary.

The driveway continues north and comes next to Highway 352 again at the Circle S Dude Ranch. It follows the highway to the end of the pavement and enters U.S. Forest Service managed property.

There the cattle enter the forest allotment, but there is still a driveway along the river bottom. The trail follows the road to the Kendall Bridge where the road and trail cross the Green River. The trail follows the road until the Red Gate at Wagon Creek. This is where the Fish Creek pasture system and Mosquito Lake pasture system start. Also, if the cattle are starting the season at the northern end of the Gyp Allotment, they enter here.[78]

In addition to the Association members, the Drift is used by other area ranchers to access summer and fall grazing pastures. Many of these ranchers have also used the Drift for generations. They coordinate with the Association to be sure that the cattle from different herds do not mix.[79] The Drift is also used by recreational horse-back riders, snowmobilers, dog-sledders, and more. The Association has always tried to maintain a good relationship with other users. In 1982, when planning to build cabins for the cowboys on the Forest, the Association voted to leave the cabins unlocked and ask the skidoo club to watch them and use them if it needed.[80]

Comparison Context

The Drift is the oldest continually used stock drive in Wyoming. Due to the large amount of public land, and especially U.S. Forest Service managed land in Wyoming, stock drives were a common practice for both cattle and sheep throughout the state at the turn of the twentieth century and into the mid-1900s. Many stock drives ceased being used during the 1930s and 1940s when truck-shipping replaced the cattle drive.[81] More stock drives ended with range improvement activities and increased governmental controls on public grazing in the 1950s. Also, on some forests, such as the Big Horn National Forest, permits were given to ranching operations next to U.S. Forest Service managed land. This eliminated the long-distance drive shared by many operations as ranchers used individual, shorter trails to access U.S. Forest Service managed land.[82]

Few other stock drives in Wyoming have been recorded and evaluated. Some of these stock drives are still in use, however, they began later, are much shorter, have been significantly modified in the way they are utilized (animals are

[77] Upper Green River Cattle Association Meeting Minutes, February 24, 1992 and March 12, 1940.
[78] Jonita Sommers, personal correspondence, 8/25/2009.
[79] Albert Sommers, Jr. and Charles Price interviews.
[80] Association meeting minutes, June 2, 1982.
[81] Cassity, *Ranches, Farms, and Homesteads in Wyoming, 1860-1960*, pg. F404.
[82] Michael Petersen and Rick Laurent, *The Archaeological Resource Inventory Report, Tongue Watershed Grazing Allotment Renewals, Bighorn National Forest, Tongue Ranger District, Sheridan And Bighorn Counties*, 2001. On file, USFS, Sheridan, Wy. Property 48SH923.

trucked a portion of the route), numbers have decreased significantly, and/or they were never used to the extent that the Drift was and continues to be. Local rancher Harry Steele notes, the Drift is "kind of a unique operation I don't think can find in many places any more."[83]

Those that have been recorded in Wyoming are:

Historic Cattle Trail in Sublette County

This trail was not associated with any specific users, the dates for use of this trail were not determined, and the entire length of the trail was also not determined. It was not recognized as a stock driveway by the Federal Government. It was no longer in use at the time of its recording in 1981. It was determined not eligible for the National Register.[84]

Deep Creek Stock Drive, Carbon County

The Deep Creek Stock Drive is located in south-central Wyoming on the Medicine Bow National Forest. It was first used in the 1880s and was used mostly by sheep ranchers to herd their flocks to U.S. Forest Service managed property for summer and fall grazing. The trail is approximately 25 miles long and connects to a longer trail, the Savery-Fireline Stock Trail, which runs south into Colorado. The trail contains contributing features such as a bridge, corrals, U.S. Forest Service signs marking the trail, and markings on aspen trees by herders. The Deep Creek Stock Driveway was instrumental in the functioning of the sheep industry in southern Wyoming into the 1960s. In the mid1960s, the trail was partially closed. However, sheep ranchers trucked their flocks to specific grazing allotments and continued to use parts of the driveway for herding. While the driveway is still in use, it is utilized in a much altered fashion than originally. Many fewer animals trail along the driveway, and only portions of the driveway are still used for herding. It was determined eligible for the National Register for the role it played in economic development in the region and for its contribution to the development of U.S. Forest Service grazing policies.[85]

Savery-Fireline Stock Drive in Carbon County

The Savery-Fireline Stock Drive is located in south-central Wyoming. It was first used in the early 1900s and was used mostly by sheep ranchers to herd their flocks to U.S. Forest Service managed property for summer and fall grazing. The trail is more than 30 miles long and served as the primary artery for a network of trails in the Medicine Bow National Forest. The trail contains contributing features such as a bridge, corrals, U.S. Forest Service signs marking the trail, and markings on aspen trees by herders. While the driveway is still in use, it is utilized in a much altered fashion than originally. Many fewer animals trail along the driveway, and only portions of the driveway are still used for herding. It was determined eligible for the National Register for the role it played in economic development in the region and for its contribution to the development of U.S. Forest Service grazing policies.[86]

Historic Sheep Trail in Carbon County

This trail was associated with one sheep company and was not recognized as a stock driveway by the Federal Government. An overall length for this trail was not recorded. Dates of use for the trail were also not identified. It was determined not eligible for the National Register.[87]

Smith Creek Stock Drive in Sheridan County

This stock drive is part of a prehistoric/historic transportation route used for multiple purposes. Native Americans and trappers used it prior to settlement of the area. It was then used as a logging route and mining road. Definitive documentation has the Smith Creek Stock Drive in use by 1910, when it appears on a U.S. Forest Service 1910 grazing map as the most used stock drive in the northeast portion of the Big Horn National Forest. Both cattle and sheep used the approximately 10 mile long trail. The drive is one of two primary stock drives serving the Big Horn National Forest in the 1910s and later. Numbers of stock using the drive remained steady until the 1950s, when the agriculture industry began to decline and by the 1970s, only cattle used the trail. The trail is still in use today by a reduced number of permitees and

[83] Harry Steele interview, September 14, 2011.

[84] Dudley Gardner, *Historic Evaluation of Stock Trail in Sublette County, Wyoming*, Archaeological Services, Western Wyoming College, 1981.

[85] Fred McEvoy, U.S. Forest Service Archaeologist, IMACS Site Form for Deep Creek Stock Driveway (48CR4438), September, 1990, located at Wyoming Cultural Records Office.

[86] David F. McKee, U.S. Forest Service Archaeologist, IMACS Site Form for Savery-Fireline Stock Drive, 48CR4468, 1991, located at Wyoming Cultural Records Office, Laramie, Wyoming.

[87] Brian Waitkus, Office of the Wyoming State Archaeologist, IMACS Site Form for 48CR5471, May 1993, located at Wyoming Cultural Records Office, Laramie, Wyoming.

animals. Most users of the trail only herd five to ten miles to access their U.S. Forest Service allotments. It was determined eligible for the National Register.

Hazelton Stock Drive in Sheridan County

The Hazelton Drive is the other primary stock drive in use on the Big Horn National Forest in the 1910s. While recorded, the information on the cultural property form was not available. The Wyoming Cultural Records Office has the property as recommended eligible with no review from the State Historic Preservation Office.[88]

Dayton Road in Sheridan County

The Dayton Road is also part of a prehistoric/historic transportation route used for multiple purposes. It was used as a stock drive since the last quarter of the 1800s. The route became a public road in 1910. Overall lengths for the drive or associated users of the drive were not discussed in the recordation. It was determined eligible for the National Register in 1987 under Criteria A and B.[89]

Historical Significance

The Drift is significant for its role in ensuring the success of the ranchers in the Upper Green River Valley and specifically those belonging to the Upper Green River Cattle Association. "A lot of ranchers if they didn't have that (Green River Drift), they wouldn't be in business. Very important to most of them."[90] It provides the only way to move approximately 7,000 head of cattle, many of them cows and calves, to the Upper Green River Allotment. This type of cattle trailing allows for the cows and calves to remain in mother-calf pairs while trucking such a high number would result in "bumming" calves (losing their mothers). Once there, these cattle run in a common allotment on the U.S. Forest Service managed lands. Since they are dependent on the allotments on federal land for pasture during the spring, summer and fall, the family ranches in the Upper Green River Cattle Association rely on the Drift to keep their ranches operating. Due to the complexities of the system and the amount of work needed to maintain it, the ranches have necessarily worked together to plan their activities related to the Drift.

> We'll plan the spring movement up. Assign different people a check gate, fences, and stuff like that. And then set the dates when everyone (is) going to start, date they are supposed to start moving cattle. That's the spring meeting. Then in the fall we have a spring meeting. We decide the date we are going to turn them loose.[91]

This has been a way of life for well over one hundred years and has also become a part of the regional culture with people asking in the spring and fall, "When is the 'Drift' starting?" In addition to providing a necessary route for the cattle industry in Sublette County, the trail also represents the relationship between ranchers and federal agencies and the important role federal lands play in the survival of the cattle business in Wyoming.[92]

The Drift and the Tradition of Ranching

The ranching community in the Upper Green River Valley is a small, close-knit group that has grown out of a shared history, shared struggles against the extremes of Mother Nature, and shared isolation. Most of the ranching families of today have ties to the first and second wave of settlers of the 1890s – 1900s. Many of the people living on the ranches today are fourth, fifth, and even sixth generation ranchers in Sublette County. Helen Tanner, a daughter of one of those first ranchers, John C. Budd, said,

> The Green River Valley developed quite a reputation for its quality beef. Each cowboy took pride in that reputation. His life was a hard one for he had to be in the saddle all day, every day, from sun up until sun down, regardless of the weather. Often he had to take his turn with the night herd. Still there was a feeling of independence and adventure about being a cowboy.[93]

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[88] Michael Petersen and Rick Laurent, *The Archaeological Resource Inventory Report, Tongue Watershed Grazing Allotment Renewals, Bighorn National Forest, Tongue Ranger District, Sheridan And Bighorn Counties*

[89] Rick Laurent, IMACS Site Form for the Dayton Road, 48SH710, June-October, 1987, located at Wyoming Cultural Records Office, Laramie, Wyoming.

[90] Bob Beard. Interview with author, May 29, 2011.

[91] Charles Price interview, May 29, 2011.

[92] Jonita Sommers, personal correspondence, 8/25/2009.

[93] H.L. Skinner, *Only the River Runs Easy: A Historical Portrait of the Upper Green River Valley*, Pruett Publishing Company: Boulder, CO, 1985, p. 102.

While this ranching community reflects many of the characteristics of ranching communities all over the west, the extreme climate and isolation of the Upper Green River Valley has molded traditions, such as the Green River Drift, unique to this community and to this place.

The practice of the Drift began by 1896, and when the Association formed in 1916 the tradition was refined to a pattern still mostly followed today. In the first year of use by the Association, 25 to 30 cowboys were hired on to move the 11,377 head belonging to the 20 members of the Association. At this time, the Association represented more ranchers owning more private property as well as cattle than today. The cavvy, or horse herd, consisted of each cowboy's horses (about eight) and was held by a rope corral. A cook drove a team of horses pulling a chuckwagon, which was packed with cooking equipment, food, and coffee. After World War II, cow camps, sites where cowboys and their horses eat and sleep, replaced the chuckwagon along the Drift.[94] A typical day on the Drift consisted of rising at 2:00 or 3:00 am for breakfast, getting horses ready, and moving the herd. A herd generally traveled five to seven miles before stopping for the day around noon. Stopping points were at watering holes. The cattle were "paired up" (allowing the cows to find their calves) and then left to graze and rest for the afternoon.[95]

The daily pattern along the Drift continues in a slightly modified manner. Harry Steele said that the practice of the Drift remains, "pretty much the same thing – you got to move those cattle so far every day without separating the calves from their mothers. That's the main thing. ...If they're not paired up, they don't travel."[96] Martin "Sprout" Wardell described it as, "Get up in the middle of the night and go get them."[97] Cowboys start the day about 3:00 am and either ride or trailer horses to the herd, depending on how far from the ranch they are. They gather the cattle and then herd them for usually 4 or 5 hours. The first hour they trail well and travel a long distance, the second hour they travel about half the distance of the first hour, the third hour is half as much as the second and so on, until about 9:00 am. Just as in the past, the cattle are left for the day at the same watering holes and good places to graze.[98] The tradition is ingrained in the cattle as well as the riders. The cows know where they are going and are ready to reach their summer pasture.

> These are cows. They know what time of year it is. And they have this natural migration instinct into them from years and years and generations and when it gets a certain temperature and it feels like the grass is growing on the mountain I guess they go. They want to go north.[99]

Each herd has a lead cow that is older and knows the way. She heads out and most of the herd follows her. Changes in the routine or location of the route cause confusion for the cattle and make for difficult trailing. The cattle are used to crossing the narrow, rickety cattle bridge over the New Fork River, but when the bridge was undergoing repairs and they had to cross the much wider, concrete highway bridge, it became a nearly impossible task for the riders to get them across.[100]

Each ranch provides three to five riders while trailing along the Drift, totaling over 20 riders to push the different herds to the Forest. There are five rider camps on the Forest and six cowboys that spend the summer on the Forest watching over the cattle, doctoring sick cattle, monitoring predators, repairing fences, spreading salt, and other duties. These cowboys are either children of Association members, or hired hands. In the past, children of ranchers comprised most of this help. Today, all of the help on the Forest are hired cowboys. Ranchers and their families, including the children, herd the cattle to the Forest and help gather them in the fall. During the summer, the ranchers spend much of their time haying and managing other ranch duties similar to patterns of the past.[101]

The ranching culture is gender-inclusive, with women performing much of the same work as men. Bob Beard spoke of working with many women who worked just as well as men, saying, "It depends on your stamina." Both his daughter and granddaughters work on the ranch today.[102] A typical day in the spring for a ranch wife sees her rising early to prepare breakfast for her family and the crew of ranch hands, cleaning up breakfast, riding for several hours "before the flies hit the

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[94] H.L. Skinner, *Only the River Runs Easy*, p.97-98, 102.
[95] Bud Jorgensen phone interview, May 7, 2011.
[96] Harry Steele Interview, September 14, 2011. Steele Ranch, Pinedale, Wyoming.
[97] Martin "Sprout" Wardell Interview, May 28, 2011, Wardell Ranch, Big Piney, Wyoming.
[98] Charles Price interview, May 29, 2011, Price Ranch, Daniel, Wyoming.
[99] Albert Sommers interview, May 28, 2011, Sommers Ranch, Sublette County, Wyoming
[100] Mike Beard interview, May 29, 2011, Beard Ranch, Daniel, Wyoming.
[101] Albert Sommers, Jr. interview.
[102] Bob Beard interview, May 29, 2011.

cattle," making lunch, back to finish moving the cattle, and making and cleaning up dinner.[103] While modern conveniences and technology may have changed the details of how tasks are accomplished, for example, some people get to the cattle each day with a pick-up and horse trailer instead of camping with the cattle, the usual routine has remained the same for generations.

Weather has always been and continues to be a factor in the Drift system. Spring turnout on grazing allotments depends on snow and moisture levels. Good grass means a turn-on date as early as May 10 for yearlings and May 15 for pairs. Dry years or years with a late spring means poor grass and a later turn-on date. These conditions also affect the date that cattle can enter the U.S. Forest Service. The Association works with the U.S. Forest Service and BLM to ensure that the range is used most effectively and that cattle do not get stranded in-between with the BLM closing grazing in the south and the Forest not yet ready to open it in the north. Weather also affects movement along the Drift on a daily basis. Cattle move slower in hot weather, snow, and other adverse conditions. In the fall, the Association must have its cattle out of the Forest allotment by October 15. In normal years, the cattle begin drifting out of the Forest on their own prior to that date and cowboys herd the last of the stragglers just prior to the 15th; of the nearly 7,000 head of cattle, usually only about 100 will need to be rounded up and herded south by the cowboys. The cattle drift down slowly and have approximately 30 miles to spread out before being caught by cowboys at the cut grounds at the Cora Y. The cattle are cut by brand to each ranch's herd. Upper-end ranchers herd their cattle to the ranch headquarters, lower-end ranchers let their cattle drift across the Mesa to the cut grounds south of Highway 351. When the last of the cattle have been separated at the Drift Fence, the lower-end cowboys gather the cattle still on the Mesa and herd them to the cut grounds before separating these cattle into each ranch's herd; this process takes another two or three days. The entire process is normally done over a few weeks. If an early winter storm hits, the cattle come out of the Forest at a higher concentration and bottleneck at the Cora Y. Cowboys spend many hours in just a few long days cutting thousands of cattle into each herd.[104]

Traditions are passed to the next generation through participation in the daily work. Typically, children start helping on the ranch as early as they can be relied on to perform simple chores. Participation in the Drift began between ages seven and ten and were the same for boys and girls. Bud Jorgensen began riding horses at age four, helping with the chuckwagon on the Drift at age seven, and moved up to be a cowboy riding the Drift after that. At the time that he attended grade school in the late 1930s the kids went to school on Saturdays in the spring so that by the time they were needed at home, they were done with school for the year.[105] Martin "Sprout" Wardell remembers "holding herd" on the Drift at age seven.[106] Jonita Sommers was riding full time by the time she turned eight. She started riding to the potato patch at age five and Old Pony would bring her home.[107] Suzy Michnevich was first allowed to ride on the roundup at ten or 11, saying, "If we couldn't handle the job like an adult, then we couldn't go."[108]

Other ranch work in addition to riding also starts at an early age. Albert Sommers began driving a team of horses dumping fresnos (horse-drawn scraper used to scoop and dump dirt in building roads and dams) at six and herded bulls miles up the Green River at nine. At 14, Albert Sommers, Jr. began building and maintaining barbed wire fences for the Association on the Forest.[109] Bob Beard started working for the Association in 1969. He was hired on as a cowboy. While he and his wife eventually purchased their own ranch, they continued to help their neighbors on the Drift. Their own children also worked on the Drift as early as eight. Kids helped for however long they could sit on a horse – the longer they could sit, the longer the ride. Today, Bob counts the cattle as they enter the Forest and his granddaughter assists him. He calls out the brand as the cattle go through and she keeps track through tallying. He has counted up to 1,300 cattle through the gate in one day.[110]

Ranches are handed down through the families either by transfer or purchase. Many families have succession plans and/or form partnerships. The ranches are earned over many years of hard work and do not come easily.[111] In 2011, there are 10 members of the Association with a total of 6,688 head of cattle,[112] six of these ranchers are descendents of the Association founders. These members represent much of the rest of their families comprised of spouses, siblings,

[103] Tharon Greenwood, "Ranch Woman's Work," in *Seeds-Ke-Dee Revisited.*
[104] Charles Price, May 29, 2011.
[105] Bud Jorgensen phone interview, May 7, 2011.
[106] Martin "Sprout" Wardell Interview, May 28, 2011, Wardell Ranch, Big Piney, Wyoming.
[107] Jonita Sommers interview, May 28, 2011, Sommers Ranch, Wyoming.
[108] Suzy Michnevich, "Growing Up Tough." In *Seeds-Ke-Dee Revisited.*
[109] Albert Sommers, Jr. interview, May 28, 2011, Sommers Ranch, Wyoming.
[110] Bob Beard interview, May 29, 2011. Beard Ranch, Daniel, Wyoming and Lisa Beard interview, May 29, 2011, Beard Ranch, Daniel, WY.
[111] Jane Wardell interview, May 28, 2011, Wardell Ranch, Big Piney, Wyoming.
[112] Charles Price, Upper Green River Cattle Association Secretary, May 29, 2011.

children, nieces and nephews, and grandchildren who are also involved in the ranch. Many of the original members homesteaded and then bought additional pieces of land as they became available. Being raised on a ranch, children attain a deep connection to the land. Albert Sommers, Jr. said that there is, "a draw to the land that's hard to fathom, it tugs at your soul."[113] This connection draws the generations back to the family ranch.

The ranching way of life instills a sense of hard work, responsibility, and stewardship of the land. Ranchers care deeply for the public lands that they use. These lands, too, have been handed down through the generations. Cris Paravicini, a Sublette County poet, wrote in, "The Legacy,"

> Dad, I know you'd hoped to pass to me
> the legacy of the West –
> The stewardship of public lands
> of which you know I'd do my best.[114]

This sense of stewardship is evidenced by the condition of the range and consistently meeting and exceeding U.S. Forest Service range management expectations. The good working relationship between the Association and federal agencies is also a testament to the rancher's commitment to doing what is best for the land.[115] The ranchers care for the wildlife as well as the land. Jane Wardell spoke of the good of the Drift and ranching culture and the benefit it has to the wildlife in keeping healthy, open lands for them to graze. Often, deer and antelope graze alongside cattle and use the same watering holes.[116]

The agriculture community in Sublette County is very central to the area's identity and sense of community. Bob Beard stated, "there would be no community without the ranchers."[117] Charles Price, longtime Association secretary and descendant of Alex Price, an Association founding member, spoke of the importance the agricultural community once held, saying it was a big part of who the larger community was. It was a major employer hiring cowboys and others to work on the ranches, on the Drift, and in the grazing allotments.[118] It also marks the time of year for area residents as they inquire about when the Drift will be starting; many go to the Cora Y to watch the cattle being worked in the fall. "Everyone talks about in the fall, well when's the drift coming? It's just part of the history. It's part of what this community is."[119]

Summary
Families continue to work the same land that their great-great grandparents did. They have been participating in the same activities, such as branding, shipping, and trailing on the Drift, with descendents of the same neighbors, for the last 115 years. They have a specific language for what they do and for landmarks on the land on which they value and care for above all else. Places such as the "Tin Whistle" and "the Bend" are specific to the Drift and the people who use it. "Counting cattle," "on the ground," "dropping them," "mothering up," "preg testing," and other terms are specific to the ranching culture. Ranchers who use the Drift are integrally tied to the land on which it crosses and the tradition of the Drift itself. The Drift is not only the way for them to get their cattle to summer grazing and back to the headquarters, but is also a representation of their families' strength and perseverance as they built successful ranching operations in an unforgiving corner of Wyoming.

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[113] Albert Sommers interview, May 28, 2011, Sommers Ranch, Wyoming.
[114] Cris Paravicini, "The Legacy," in *Seeds-Ke-Dee Revisited*, pg. 282-283.
[115] Association meeting minutes, 1916-2008. Sommers, Wardell, Beard, Price interviews, May 28-29, 2011.
[116] Jane Wardell interview, May 28, 2011.
[117] Bob Beard interview, May 29, 2011.
[118] Charles Price interview, May 29, 2011.
[119] Albert Sommers, Jr. and Jonita Sommers interview, May 28, 2011.

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Previous documentation on file (NPS):

___preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67 has been requested)
___previously listed in the National Register
___previously determined eligible by the National Register
___designated a National Historic Landmark
___recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey #_____
___recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #_____
___recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey #_____

Primary location of additional data:

___State Historic Preservation Office
___Other State agency
___Federal agency
___Local government
___University
___Other
Name of repository: _____

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 7041 acres
(Do not include previously listed resource acreage.)

UTM References
(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

	Zone	Easting	Northing
1	12	580406	4801985
2	12	599122	4733147
3	12	596881	4729815
4	12	594058	4729528
5	12	594236	4720717
6	12	589727	4726421
7	12	588039	4713372

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)
The Drift is a linear corridor and therefore consists of the various drives, trails, roads, and driveways that comprise the Drift at a variety of widths. These various elements are generally well defined on the landscape. The boundaries for the Drift are as follows:

The Drift begins where the cattle emerge from the BLM allotments on the Little Colorado Desert and cross the New Fork River at the Olson Bridge and New Fork Cattle Bridge. The other spur lines of the Drift begin at points where cattle that are being gathered can come together and be held by topographic features. These beginning points are as follows:

Bertram Draw to Middle Mesa Well begins at the Bloom Reservoir.
Oil Well Draw to Middle Mesa Well begins at Reservoir One.
Lovatt Draw to Middle Mesa Well begins at The Pit.

Rocky Butte Draw to Hennick Draw begins at the Butane Well.

The Drift ends at the Red Gate where the U.S. Forest Service designated driveway reaches the U.S. Forest Service allotments. The U.S. Forest Service allotment is the destination point of the Drift. While herding may take place within both the BLM and U.S. Forest Service allotments, this activity is not part of the practice of the Drift. Only those trails on which a coordinated effort of herding takes place in an effort to reach summer/fall grazing and the return to the home ranch in the fall/winter are included in the Drift boundary.

The boundary for the Drift when it exists as stock trails or two-track roads extends 200 feet on either side of the linear feature. This accounts for cattle that have spread outside of the trail and is enough distance to encompass as far as they are allowed to wander while being trailed.

The boundary for the Drift when it exists as a county road is the county road right-of-way.

The boundary for the Drift when it crosses private land where an easement is held by the Upper Green River Cattle Association is the boundary delineated by the easement agreement.

The boundary for the Drift when it is in a driveway is the fences on either side of the trail.

The boundary for the Drift when it is located next to one fence is the fence on one side and extends 200 feet in the opposite direction of the fence.

In locations where sites exist, such as the cut grounds at the New Fork River and at Trappers Point, site boundaries consist of topographic features, such as rivers, and man-made structures, such as fences and roads. The boundary for the cut grounds at the New Fork River located in segment 8 is defined by the river on the south and east sides and Highway 351 on the north and west. The boundary for the cut grounds at Trappers Point in segment 10 is defined by Highway 354 on the north and _____ on the east, south and west.

The Rock Creek Cabin is a discontiguous contributing elements to the Green River Drift. The boundary of the cabin is defined by established tree lines that surround the cabin.

Please see attached map.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)
These boundaries reflect the traditional uses of the property as well as the significance of the property according to its traditional users, the area ranchers. The Drift was and continues to be used to trail cattle and the boundary encompasses the property upon which that use is applied. Through the life of the trail there may have been slight variants in the path of the trail. The nominated boundary reflects the current use of the trail.

Setting
The setting for the Drift is rural with wide open spaces containing the New Fork and Green Rivers and sagebrush and grasslands at the southern end and mountain valleys on the northern. While the setting of the Drift is an important part of understanding the property in that it provides a rural, agricultural context, it is not necessary to draw the setting into the boundary. Additionally, the public land the Drift crosses is dedicated to multiple uses, and therefore the history of the Drift is also one of adapting to the different uses of the land it crosses. While the Drift has remained largely the same, changes in the setting can be attributed to the multiple-use mandate applied to public lands. Since 1905 with the U.S. Forest Service and 1946 with the BLM, the landscape has remained rural, but has changed according to priority uses of the decade. The oil industry began drilling in Sublette County in 1917 and constitutes the most visible entity on the landscape today.[120] This development is the most recent example of multiple-use of federal land. Development continues just as the Drift continues to wind its way north and serve as the route for trailing cattle to the National Forest. The development alters the setting, but it is compatible with the traditional use of the land surrounding the Drift and does not affect the integrity of the Drift.

11. Form Prepared By

[120] R.G. Rosenberg, *Wyoming's Last Frontier: Sublette County, Wyoming, A Settlement History*, High Plains Press. Glendo, Wyoming, 1990.

Green River Drift Trail Traditional Cultural Property | Sublette County, WY
Name of Property | County and State

name/title Laura Nowlin, Historic Preservation Specialist with assistance from Jonita Sommers, Rancher
organization State Historic Preservation Office date December 2011
street & number 2301 Central Ave telephone 307-777-7697
city or town Cheyenne state WY zip code 82002
e-mail Laura.nowlin@wyo.gov

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

  A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.

- **Continuation Sheets**

- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items.)

Photographs:

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map.

Name of Property: Green River Drift Trail Traditional Cultural Property
City or Vicinity: Cora vicinity
County: Sublette **State:** Wyoming
Photographer: Richard Collier
Date Photographed: 6/27/2012
Olson Bridge, photographer facing west.
1 of 26

Lower Cut Grounds, photographer facing south.
2 of 26

New Fork Cattle Bridge, photographer facing west.
3 of 26

Soaphole Draw, photographer facing east.
4 of 26

Blue Reservoir, Soaphole Draw, photographer facing south.
5 of 26

Middle Mesa Well, photographer facing south.
6 of 26

Hennick Draw, photographer facing west.
7 of 26

Cut Grounds at Cora Junction, photographer facing south.

8 of 26

Cora Y Corrals, photographer facing west.
9 of 26

Drift Fence at Cora Cut Grounds, photographer facing north-northwest.
10 of 26

Highway Underpass at Cora Cut Grounds, photographer facing north.
11 of 26

Noble Lane, photographer facing north.
12 of 26

Noble Lane Segment, photographer facing west.
13 of 26

Mickey Adams Dugway, photographer facing south-southeast.
14 of 26

Marsh Creek Underpass, photographer facing east.
15 of 26

Marsh Creek and Trail, photographer facing southwest.
16 of 26

Counting Gate, photographer facing north.
17 of 26

Marsh Creek Segment, photographer facing south.
18 of 26

Boulder Creek Bridge, photographer facing south.
19 of 26

Tin Whistle, photographer facing east.
20 of 26

Rock Creek Drift Fence at Forest Boundary, photographer facing north.
21 of 26

Red Dugway, photographer facing north.
22 of 26

Kendall Bridge, photographer facing west.
23 of 26

Gate to South End of Gyp Pasture, photographer facing south.
24 of 26

Tosi Creek Bridge, photographer facing northwest.
25 of 26

Red Gate, photographer facing north.
26 of 26

Green River Drift Trail Traditional Cultural Property
Name of Property

Sublette County, WY
County and State

Property Owner:

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

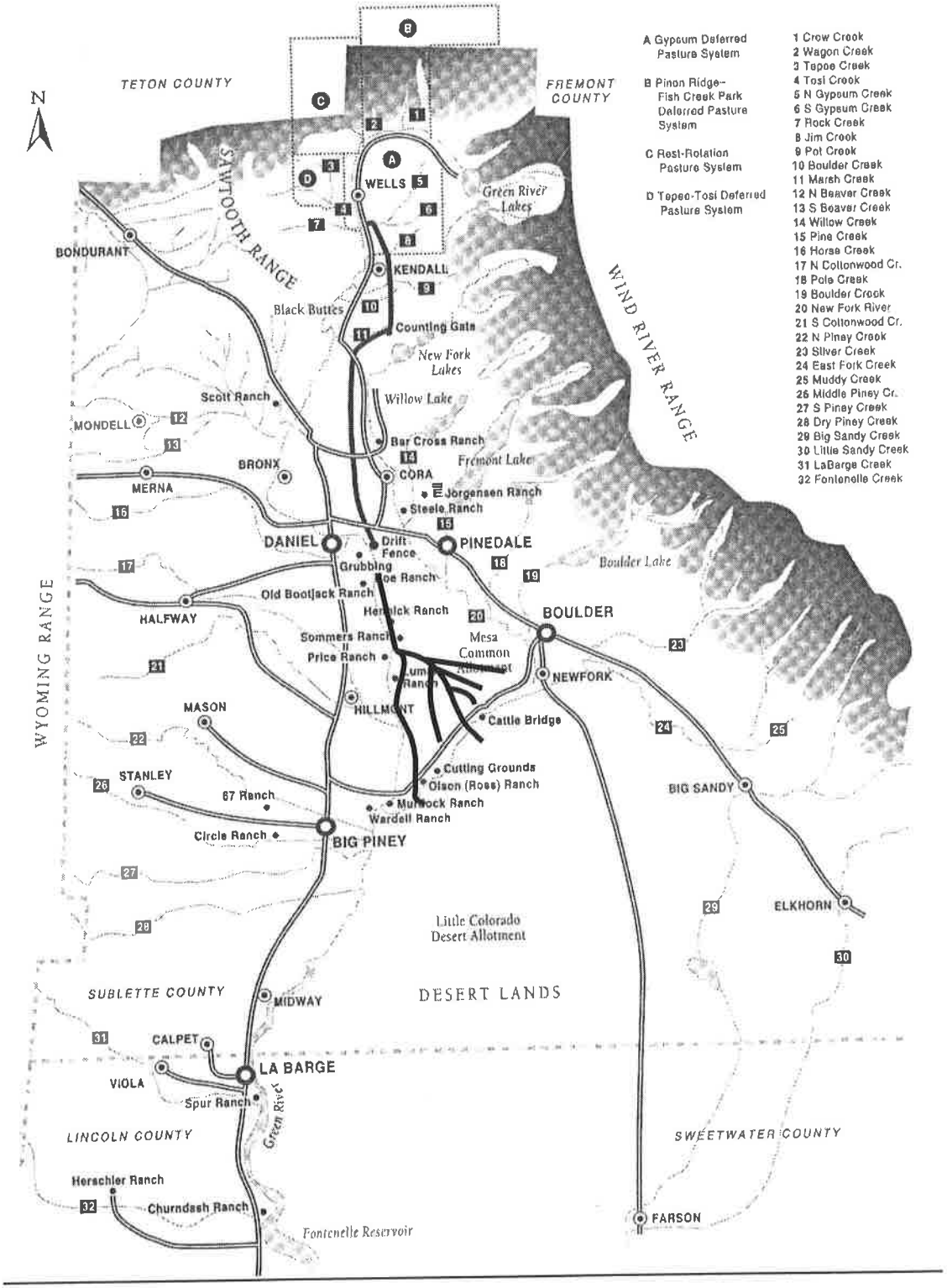
name

street & number telephone

city or town state zip code

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).
Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management. U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

Map of Sublette County showing the Drift and Upper Green River Cattle Association Ranches



Form 657

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOREST SERVICE

APPLICATION FOR GRAZING PERMIT.

No. 4 Feby 15, 1906
(Date.)

I, A. L. Price, of Burns (Place of residence.), being a citizen of the United States, and a resident of the State of ..... do actually own and make application for the privilege of pasturing

one hundred (100) head of cattle

Five (5) head of horses

..... head of sheep

Branded or earmarked: Cattle 7-A P = and horses

within the Wind River Division Yellowstone Forest Reserve from May 1, 1906, to October 31, 1906;

Provided, That the animals shall not intrude upon any areas upon which grazing is prohibited.

It is my desire to graze said animals upon that part of the reserve described as follows:

East 1/2 Twp 36 N. Range 110 West and Twp 37 N. Range 109 West.

This application is made for my own exclusive use and benefit, and not directly or indirectly for the use of any other person. If it is granted, I do hereby agree to pay the amount due for grazing fees promptly upon receipt of notice that it has been granted, and to comply fully with all forest reserve rules and regulations now or hereafter adopted.

I also hereby bind myself and employees engaged in caring for the animals while on the reserve to extinguish all camp fires started by myself or any of my employees before leaving the vicinity thereof, and to aid in extinguishing all forest fires within the territory occupied by me or my employees.

I also agree to forfeit the permit for a violation of any of its terms or of the terms hereof, or whenever an injury is being done the reserve by reason of the presence of the animals therein.

A. L. Price
(Signature of applicant.)

Burns. Wyo
(P. O. address.)

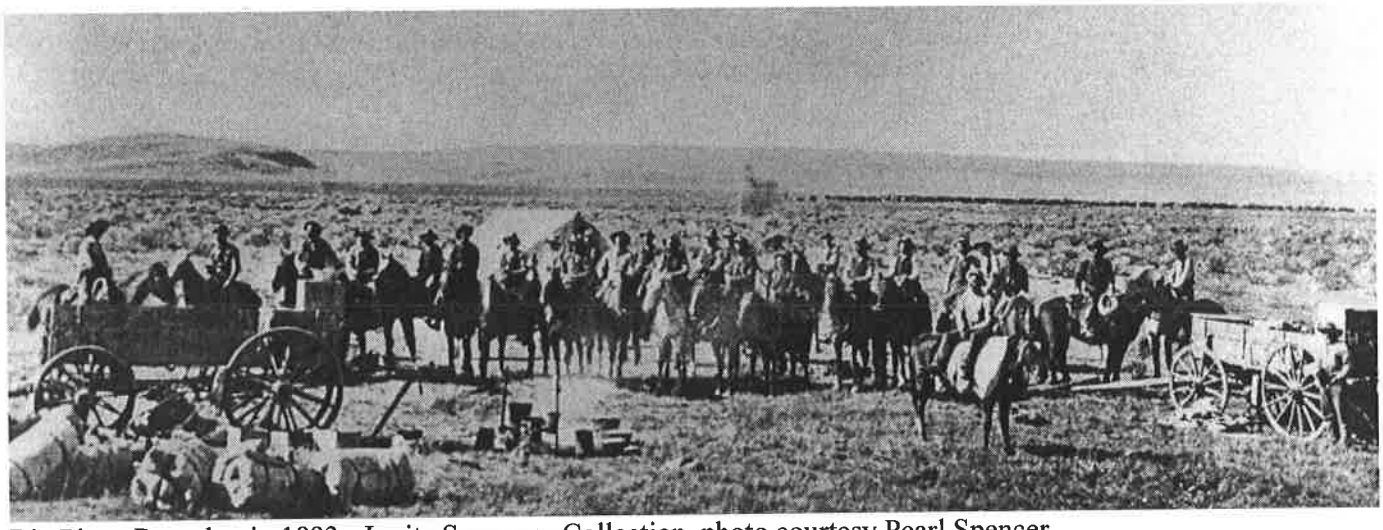
Approved for 100 cattle, 5 horses, — sheep.

March 3, 1906.
(Date.)

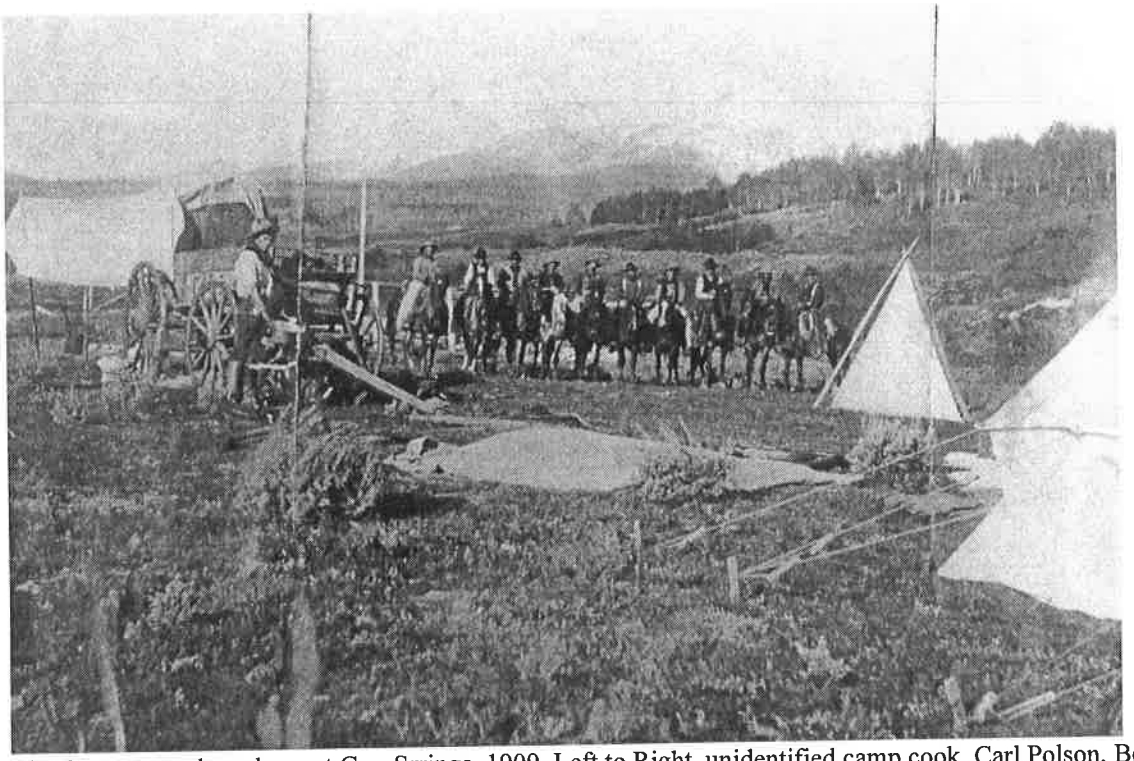
Geph Jones
(Signature of Forest Officer.)

A.L. Price Grazing Permit, 1906. Jonita Sommers Collection

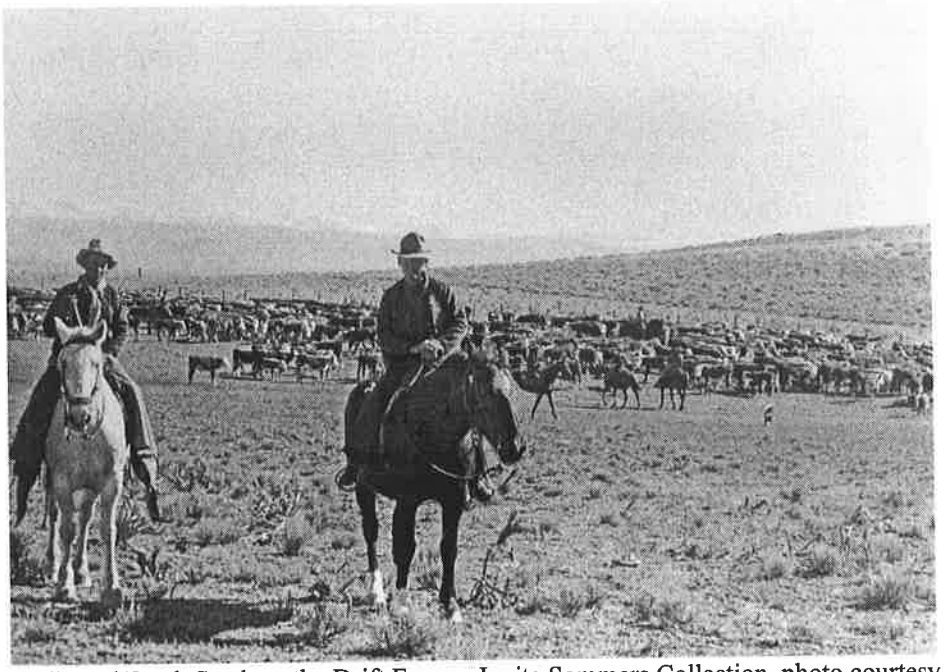
Historic Photographs



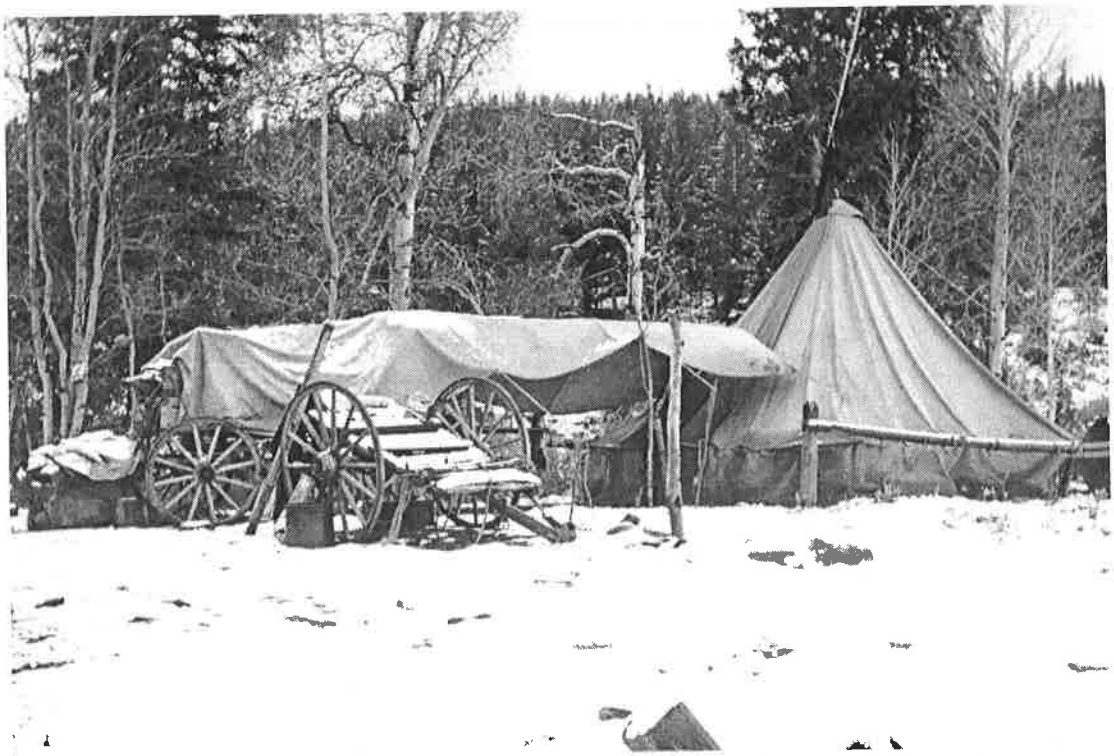
Big Piney Roundup in 1893. Jonita Sommers Collection, photo courtesy Pearl Spencer.



Chuck wagon and cowboys at Gyp Springs, 1909, Left to Right, unidentified camp cook, Carl Polson, Bert Clark, unidentified man, Ralph duMaurier, Haddenham, unidentified man, Walt Spicer, Pearl Sommers, and Glen Jones Jonita Sommers Collection, photo by Bert Clark, courtesy of Boyd Carr.



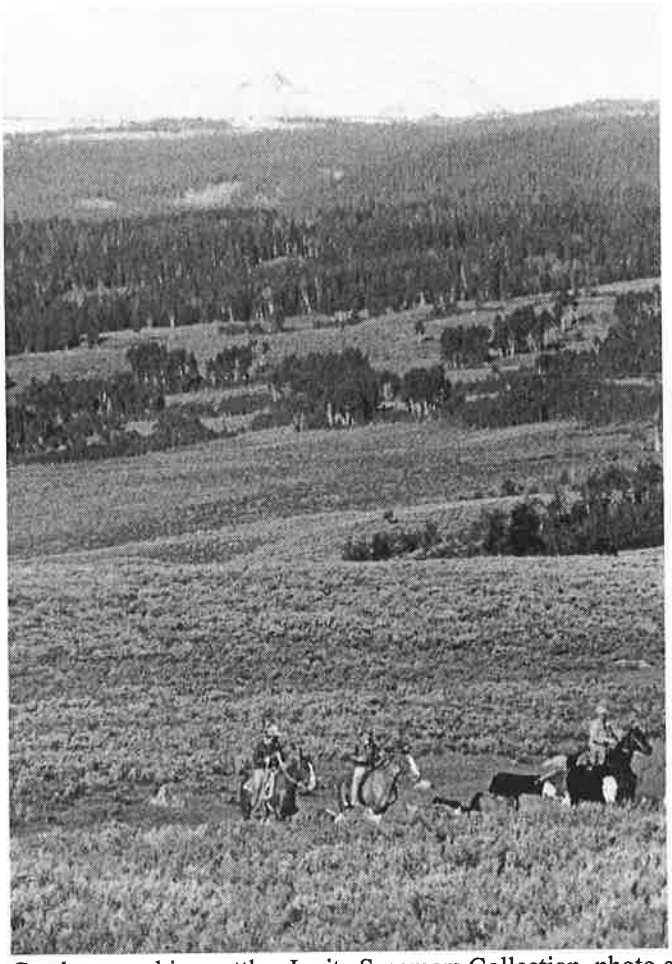
Eddie and Frank Steele at the Drift Fence. Jonita Sommers Collection, photo courtesy of Roy Steele.



Cow camp at Rock Creek, 1940s. Photo from Jonita Sommers Collection, photo courtesy of Verla Sommers.

Chuck wagon at Arnold Olson's ranch, 1940s. Jonita Sommers Collection, photo courtesy Max Orgill.

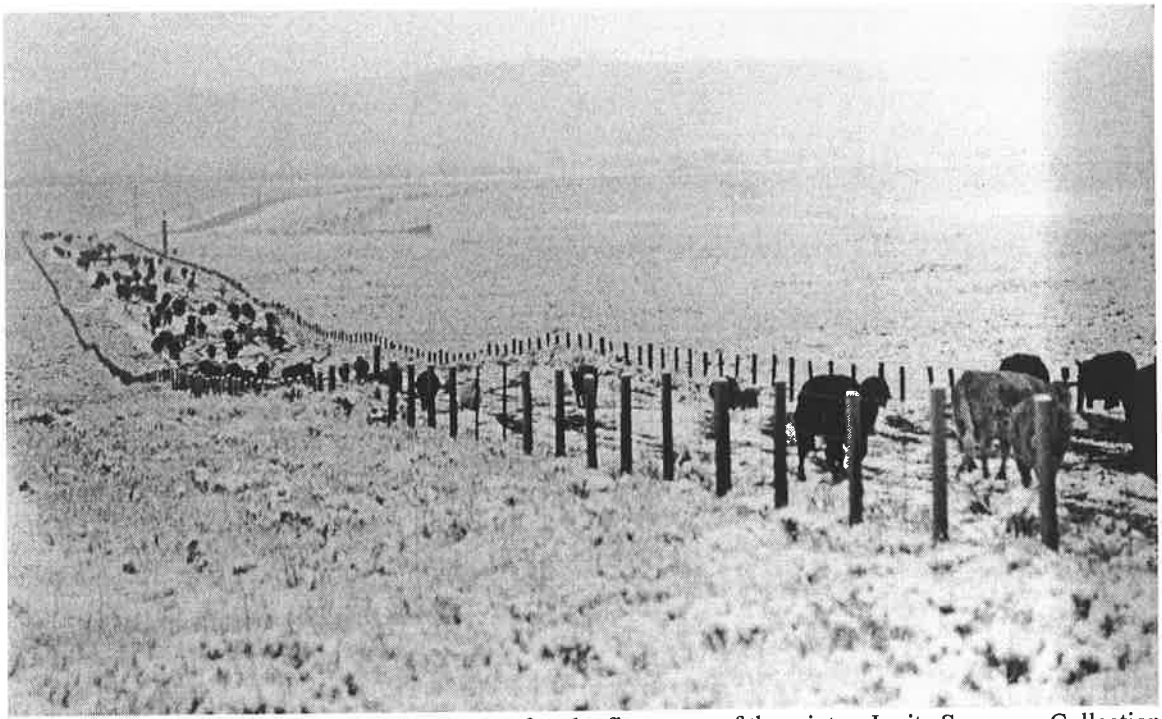
The cattle bridge crossing the New Fork River. Jonita Sommers Collection, photo courtesy of Sprout Wardell.



Cowboys pushing cattle. Jonita Sommers Collection, photo courtesy of Jonita Sommers.

Julie Swain and Jonita Sommers at the Drift Fence, 1957. Jonita Sommers Collection, photo courtesy Carl Jorgensen.

Ruby and John E. Wardell at the counting gate, June 1980. Jonita Sommers Collection, photo courtesy of Jonita Sommers.



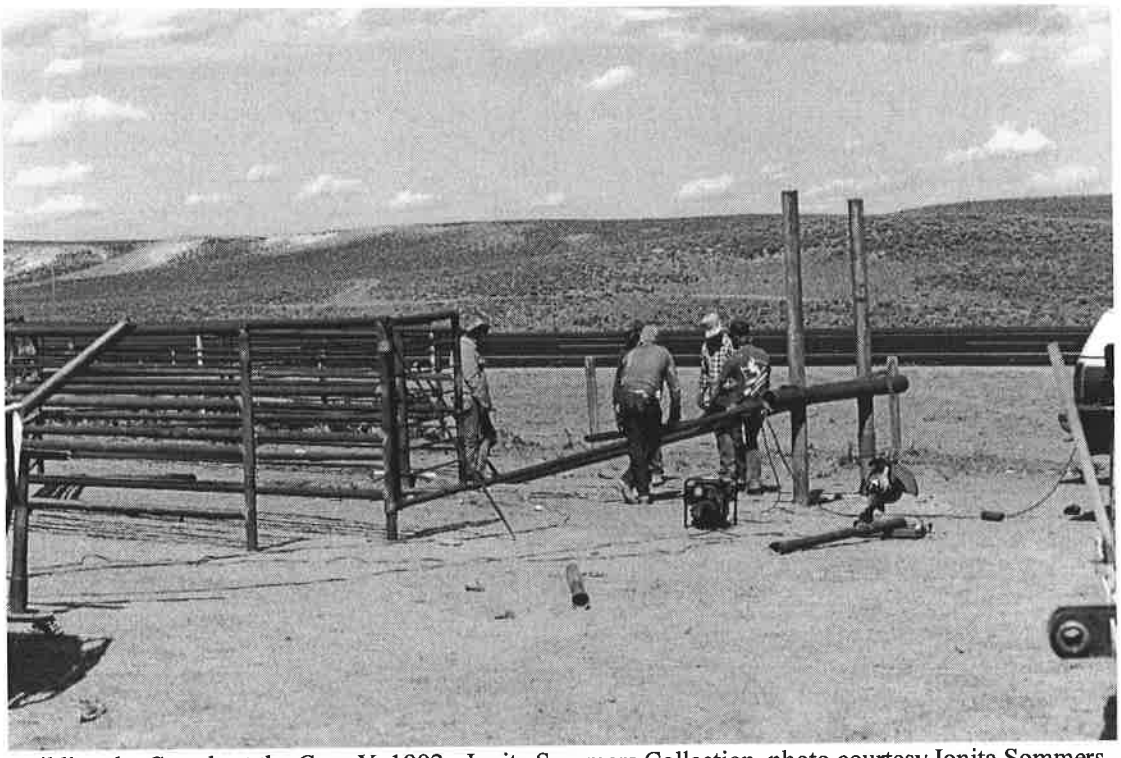
Cattle trailing down the Cora Stock Driveway after the first snow of the winter Jonita Sommers Collection, photo courtesy of Jonita Sommers.

Albert Sommers, Jr. and Charles Price cutting out pairs at the Drift Fence. Jonita Sommers Collection, photo courtesy of Jonita Sommers.

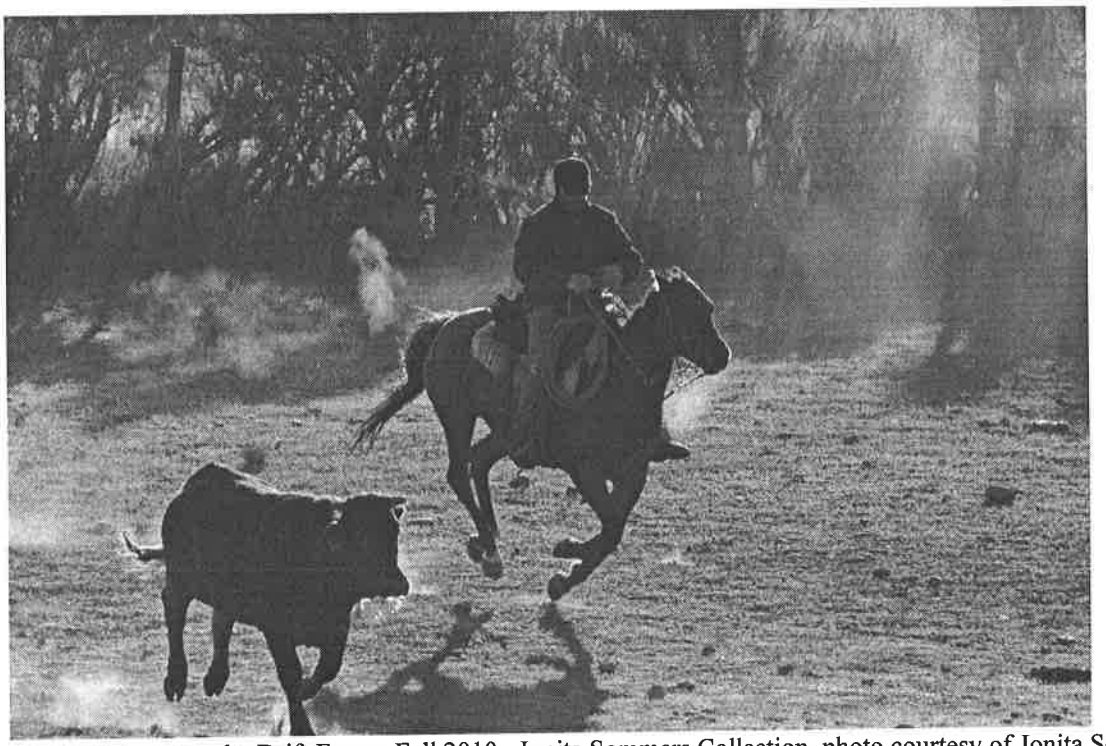
A group of cattle using the drift are going to the mountains while using water holes near Black Butte. May McAlister Sommers, on horseback in the white dress at the bottom left-hand corner of the picture, is helping move her family's cattle. Circa 1910. Jonita Sommers Collection, photo courtesy Verla Sommers.

Nick and Nathan Steele, Jonita Sommers, Chris Shipley, Frosty Steele, Bob Beard and Albert Sommers doctoring a yearling on top of the Mesa. June, 1996. Jonita Sommers Collection, photo courtesy of Jonita Sommers.

Cattle Bridge across New Fork River. June, 1995. Jonita Sommers Collection, photo courtesy of Jonita Sommers.

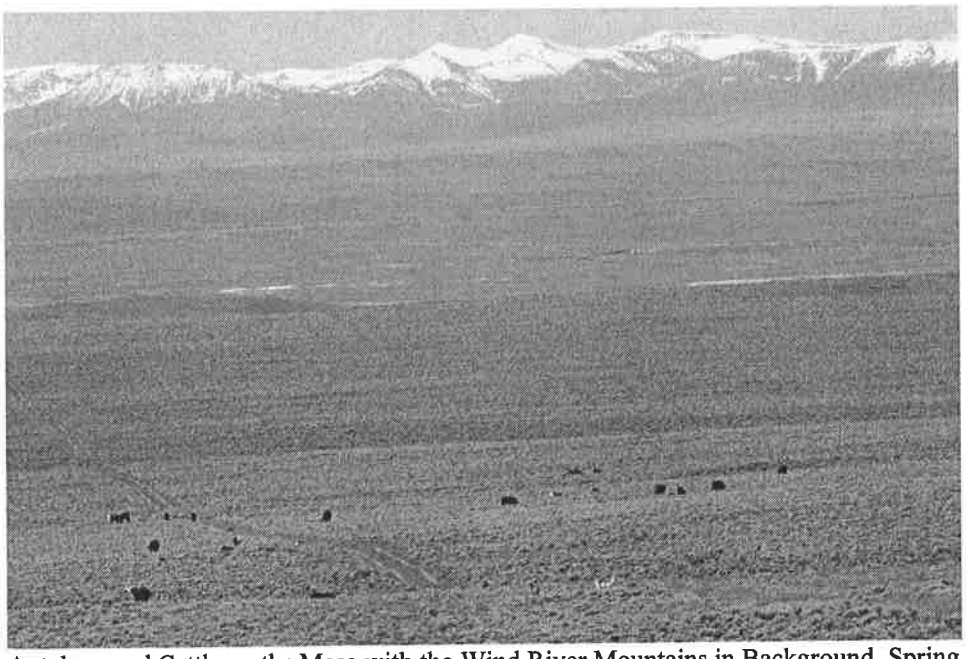


Building the Corrals at the Cora Y. 1992. Jonita Sommers Collection, photo courtesy Jonita Sommers.

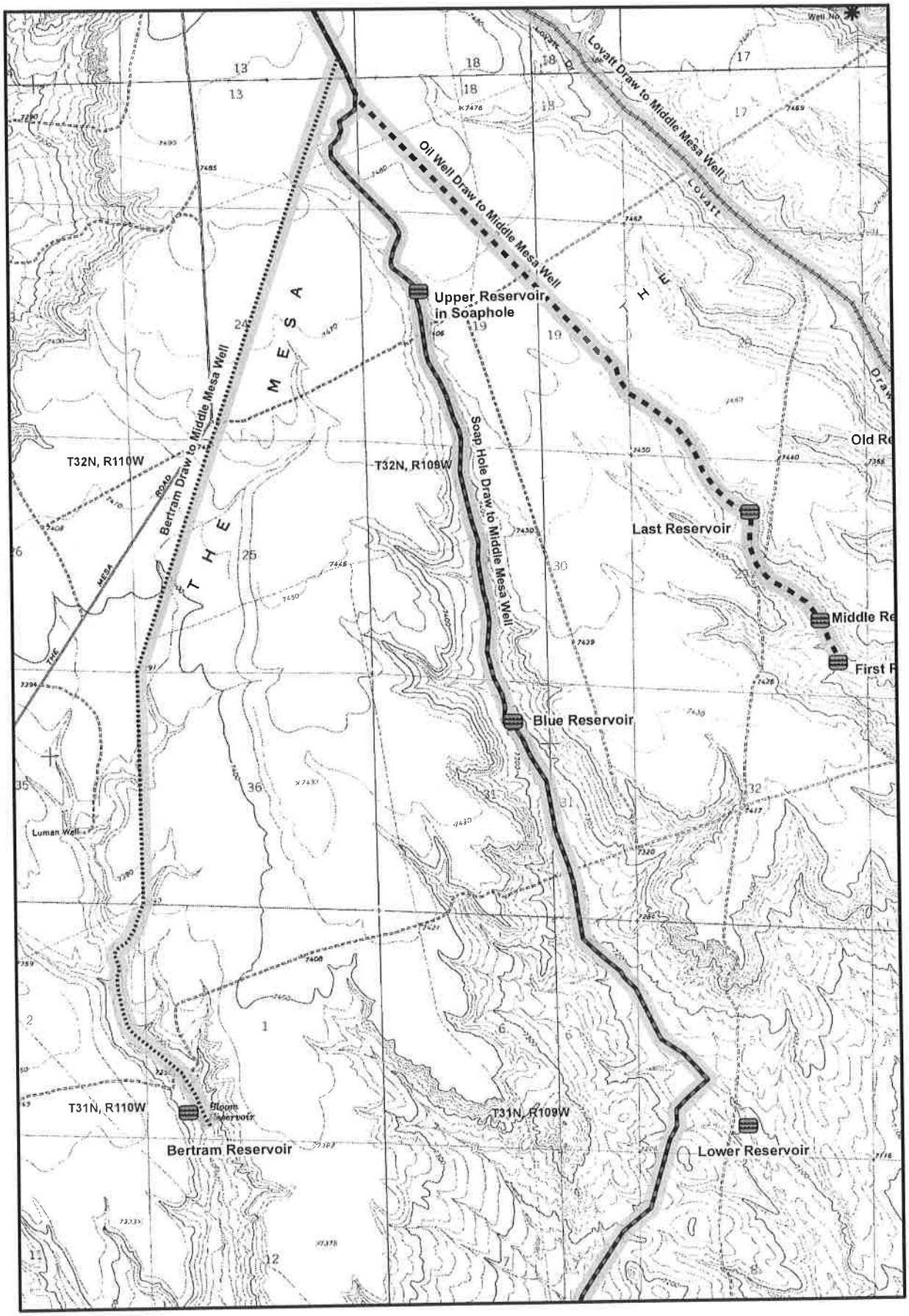


Albert Sommers at the Drift Fence, Fall 2010. Jonita Sommers Collection, photo courtesy of Jonita Sommers.

Loading Cattle at the Tin Whistle, Fall 2011. Jonita Sommers Collection, photo courtesy of Jonita Sommers.



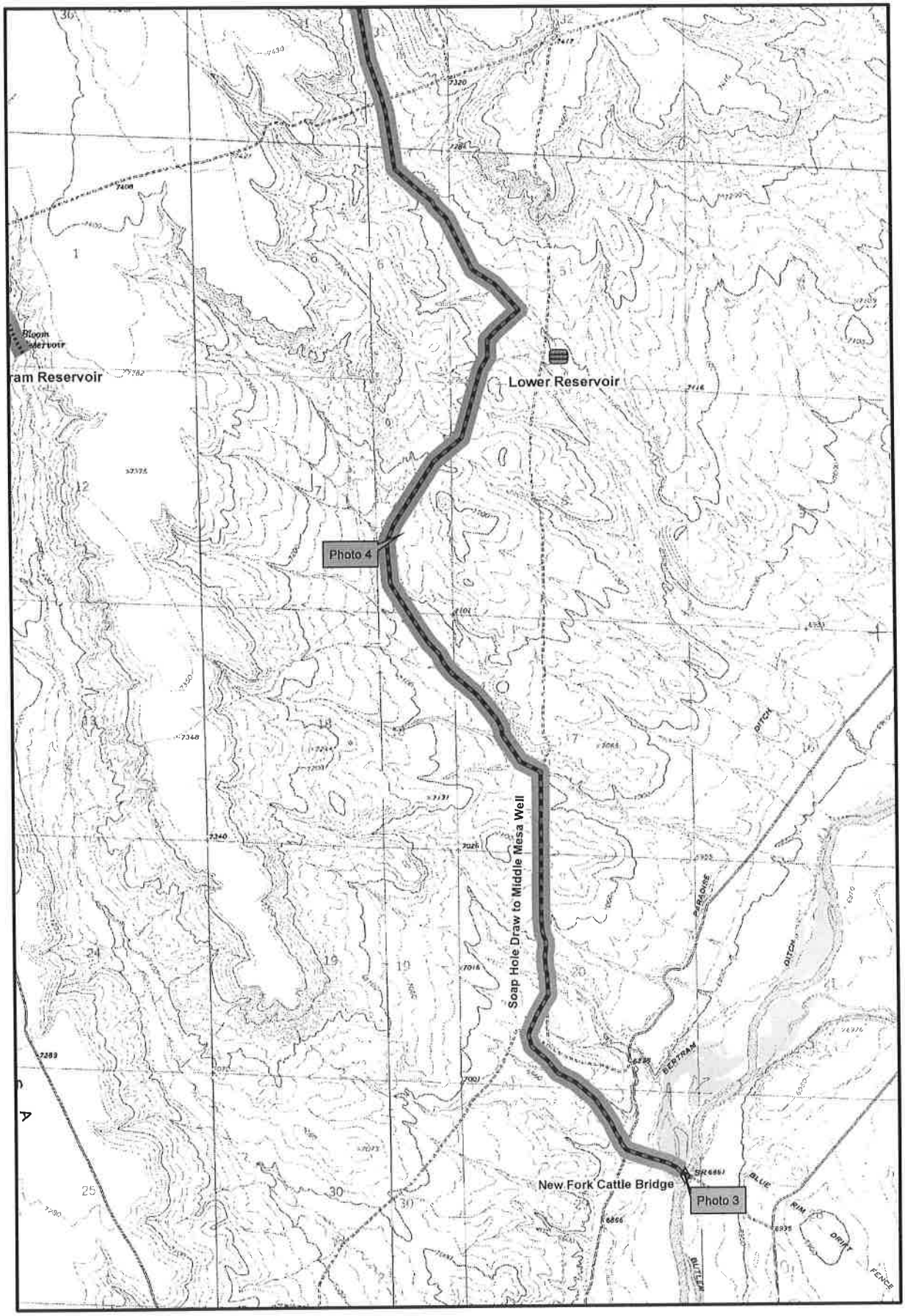
Antelope and Cattle on the Mesa with the Wind River Mountains in Background, Spring 2011. Jonita Sommers Collection, photo courtesy of Jonita Sommers.



Sketch Map of the Green River Drift - Bertram Draw to Middle Mesa Well (Segment 1)

N

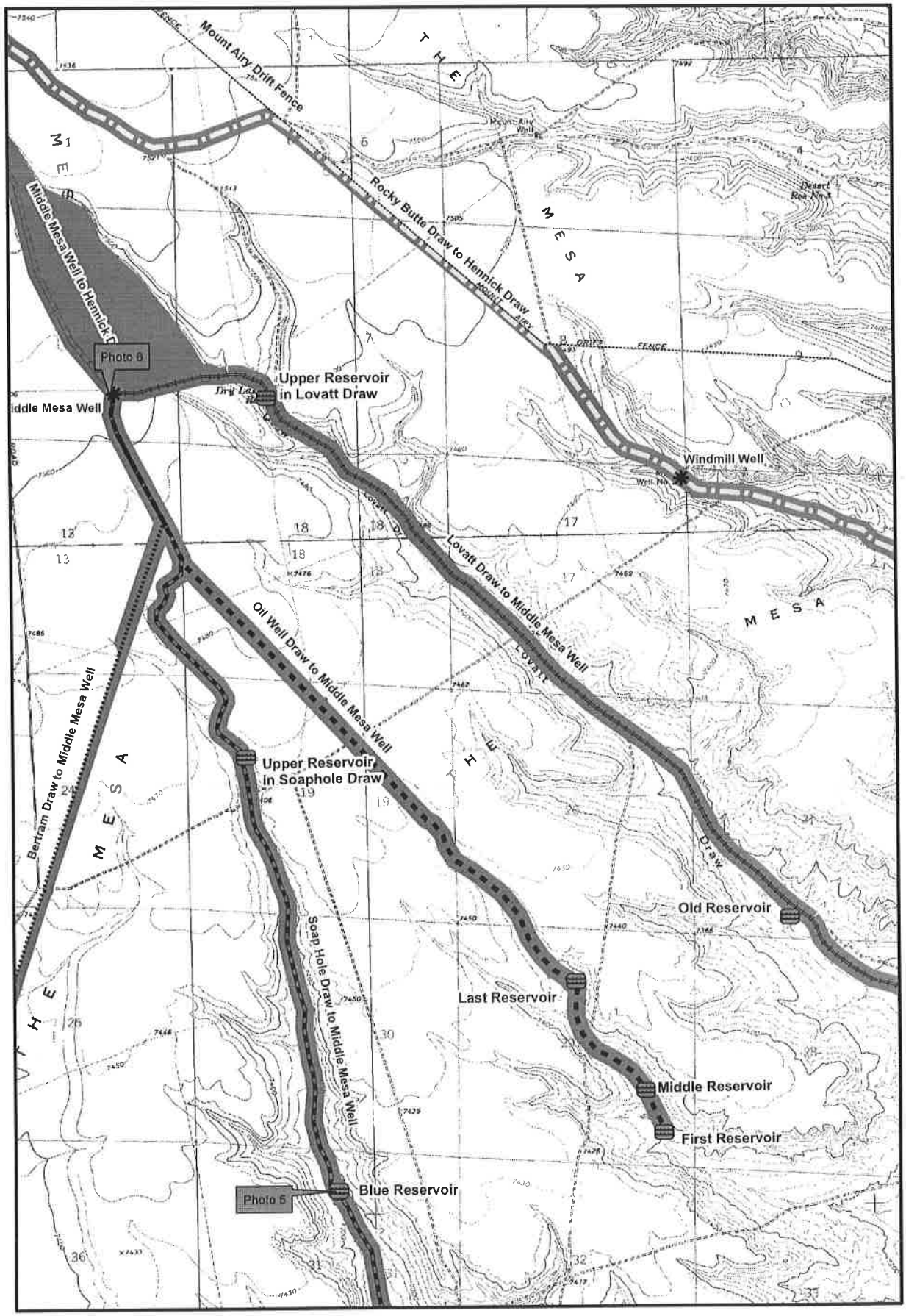
0 0.5 1 Miles



Sketch Map of the Green River Drift - Soap Hole Draw to Middle Mesa Well (Segment 2)

N

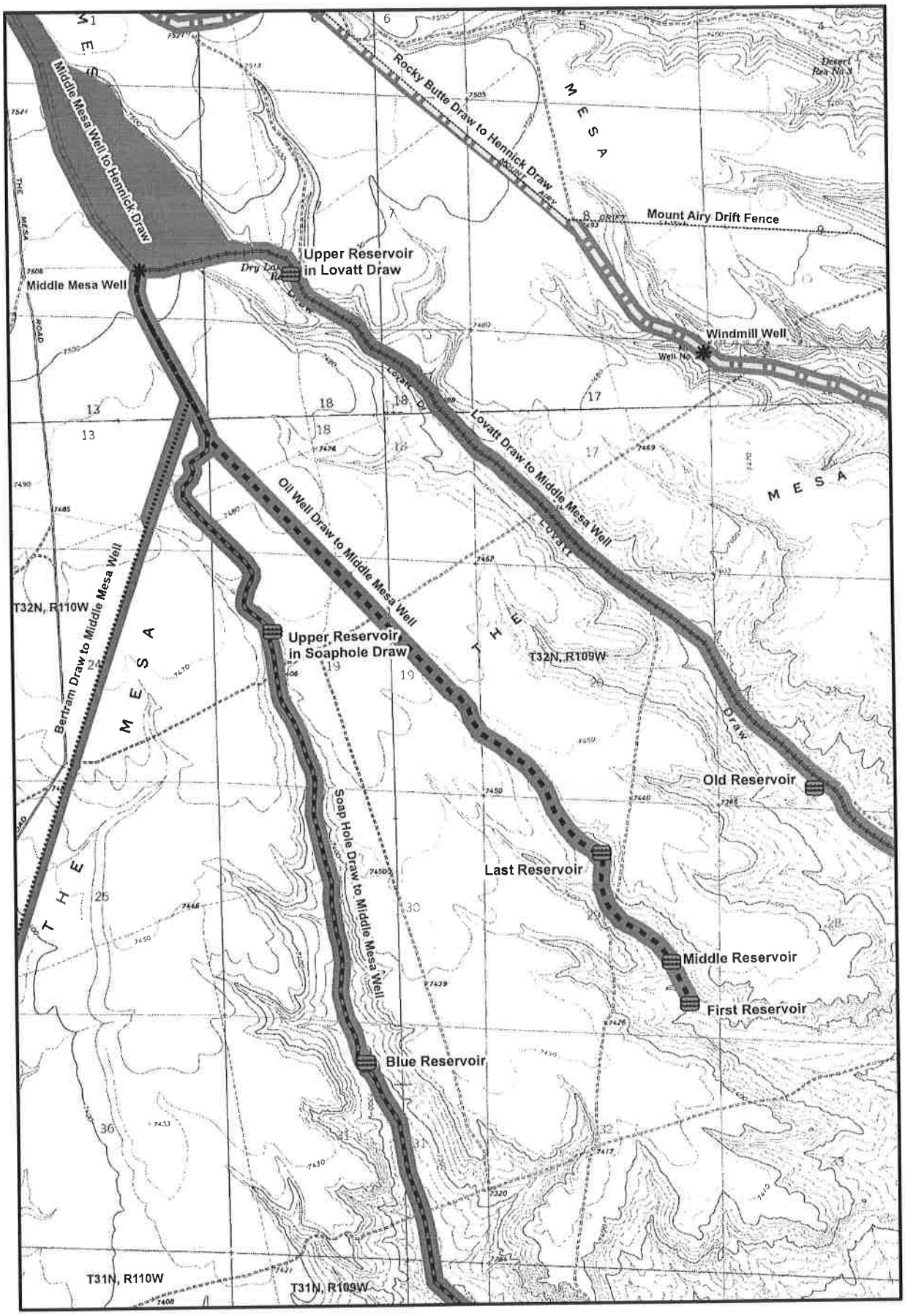
0 0.5 1 Miles



Sketch Map of the Green River Drift - Soap Hole Draw to Middle Mesa Well (Segment 2)

N

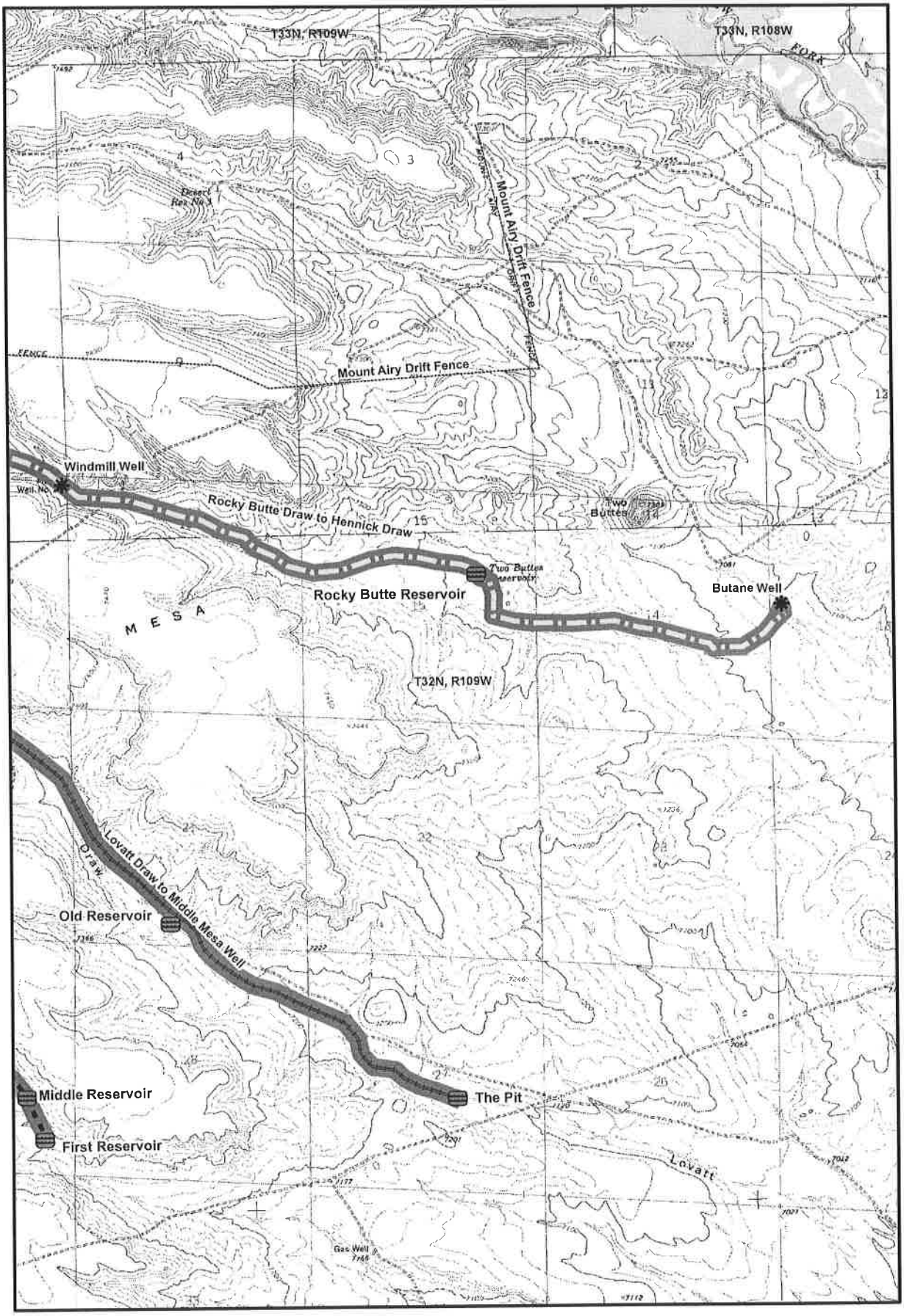
0 0.5 1 Miles



Sketch Map of the Green River Drift - Oil Well Draw to Middle Mesa Well (Segment 3)

N

0 0.5 1 Miles

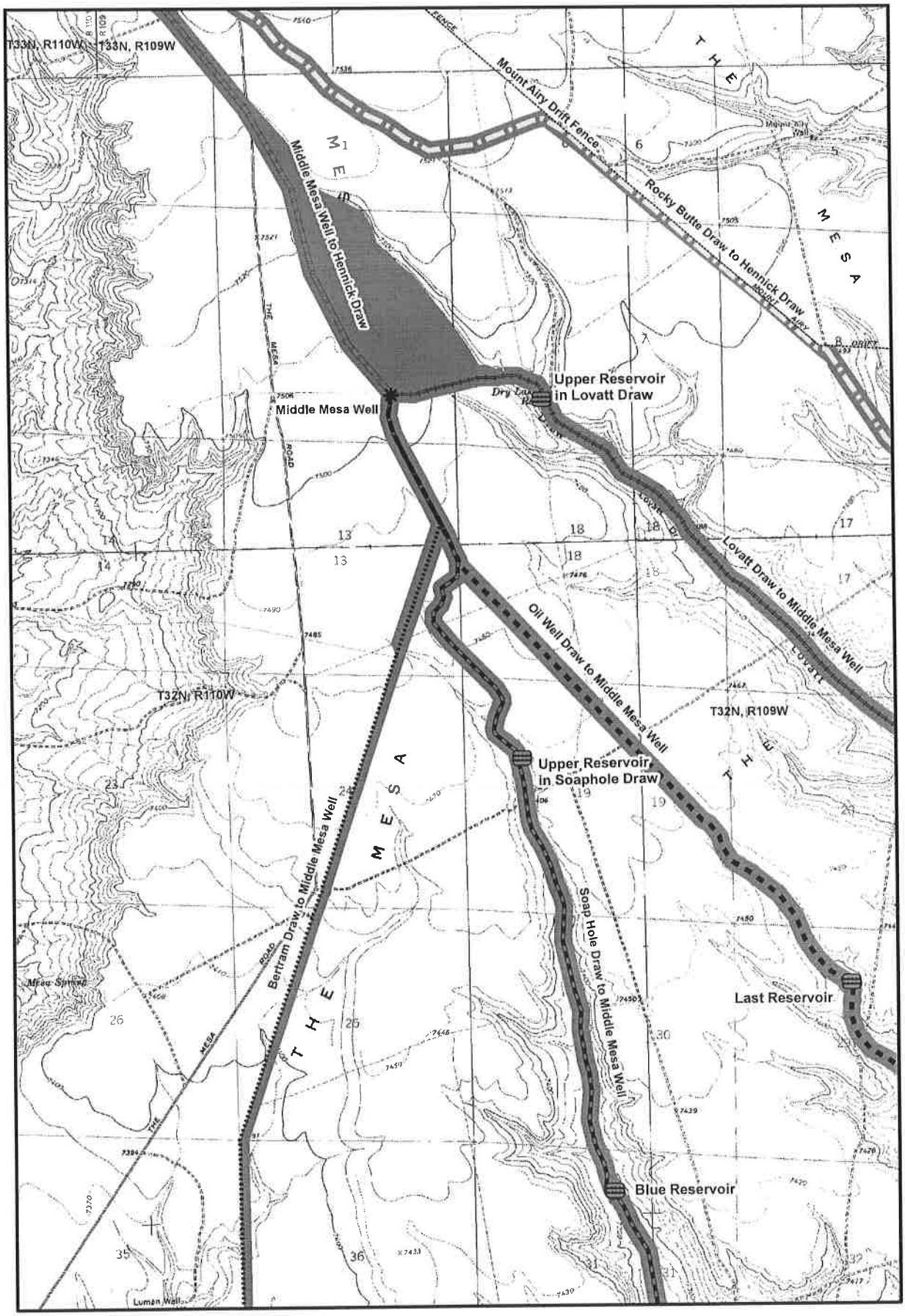


Sketch Map of the Green River Drift - Lovatt Draw to Middle Mesa Well (Segment 4)

N

Miles

0 0.5 1

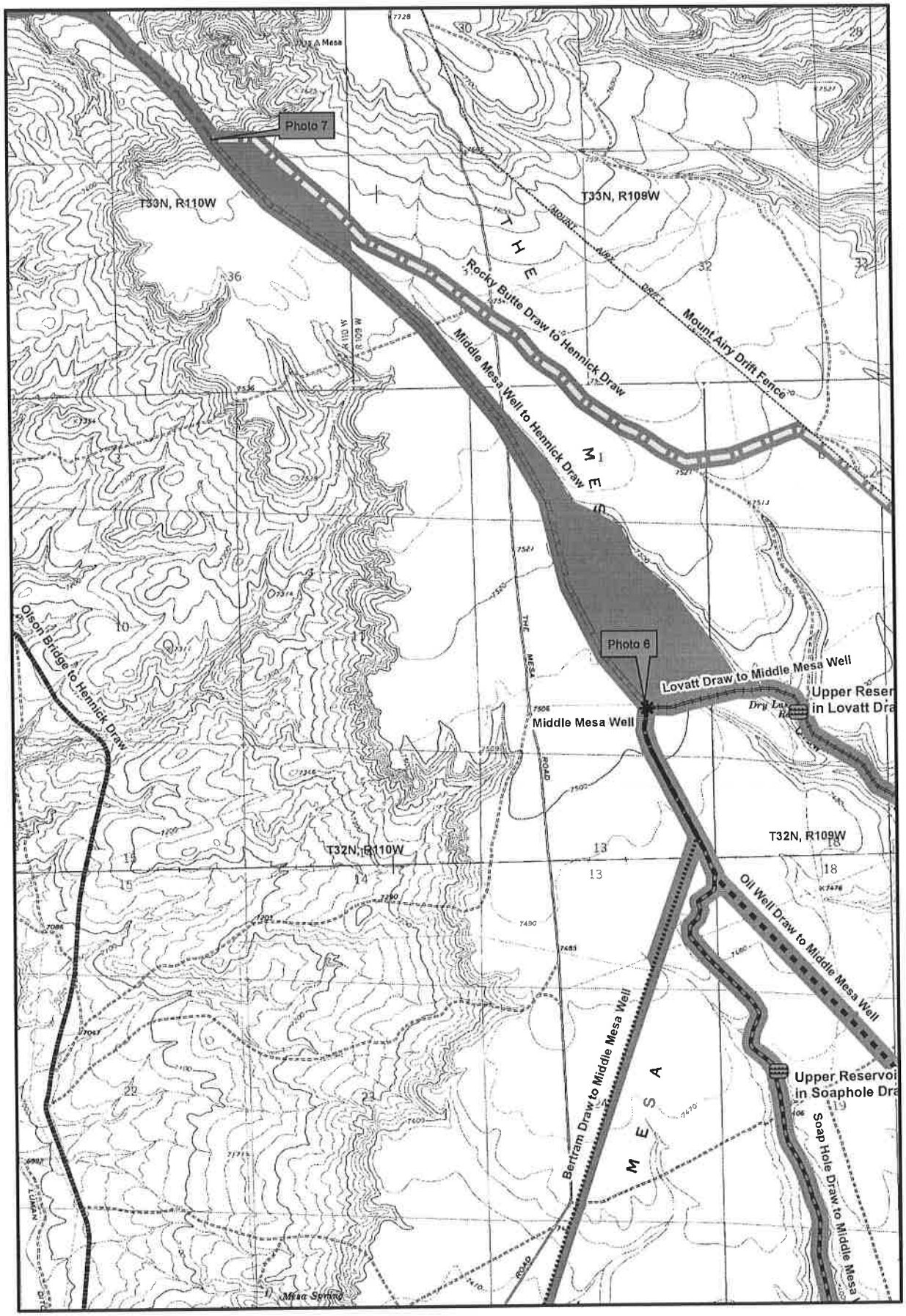


Sketch Map of the Green River Drift - Lovatt Draw to Middle Mesa Well (Segment 4)

N

Miles

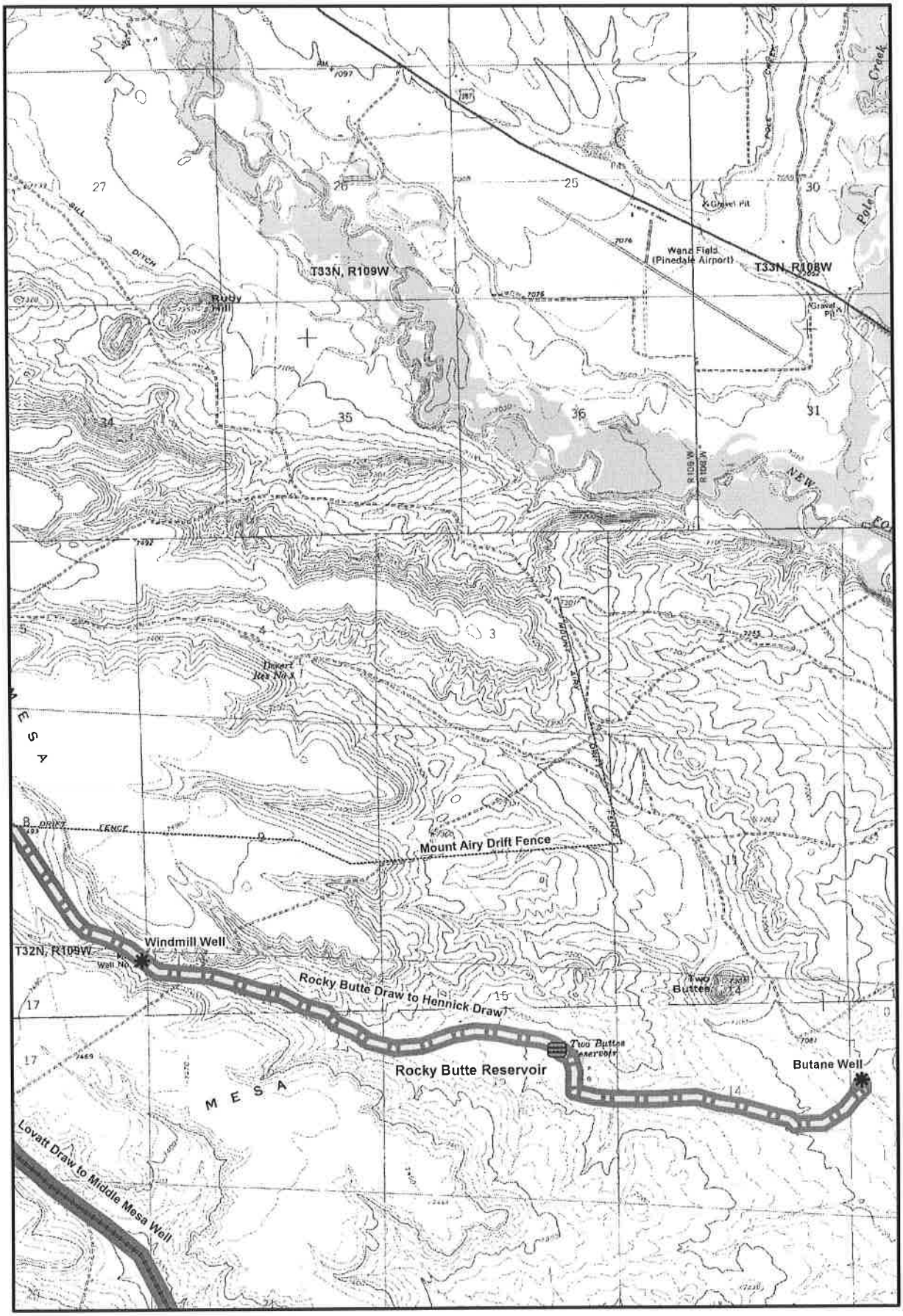
0 0.5 1



Sketch Map of the Green River Drift - Middle Mesa Well to Hennick Draw (Segment 5)

N

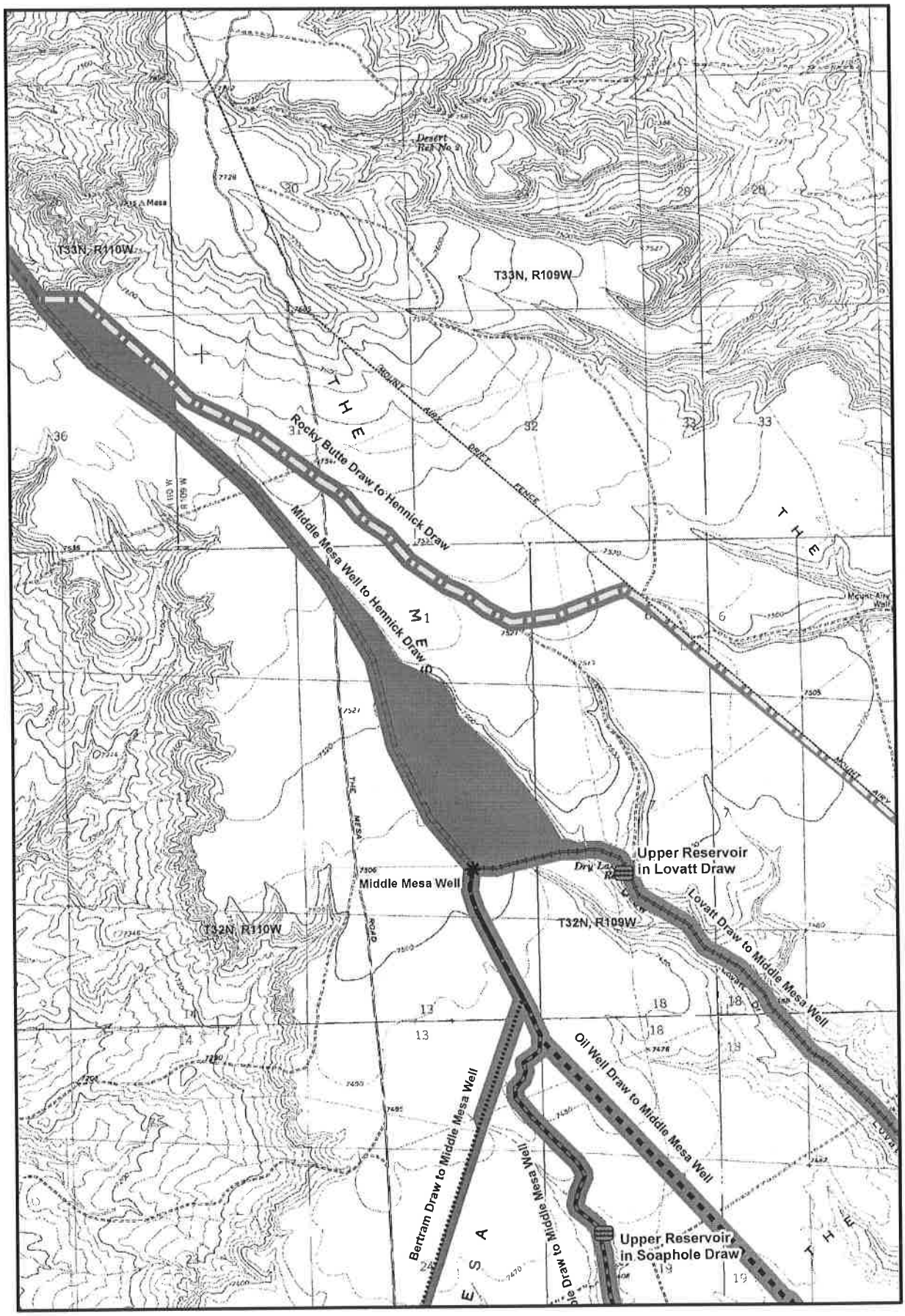
0 0.5 1 Miles



Sketch Map of the Green River Drift - Rocky Butte Draw to Hennick Draw (Segment 6)

N

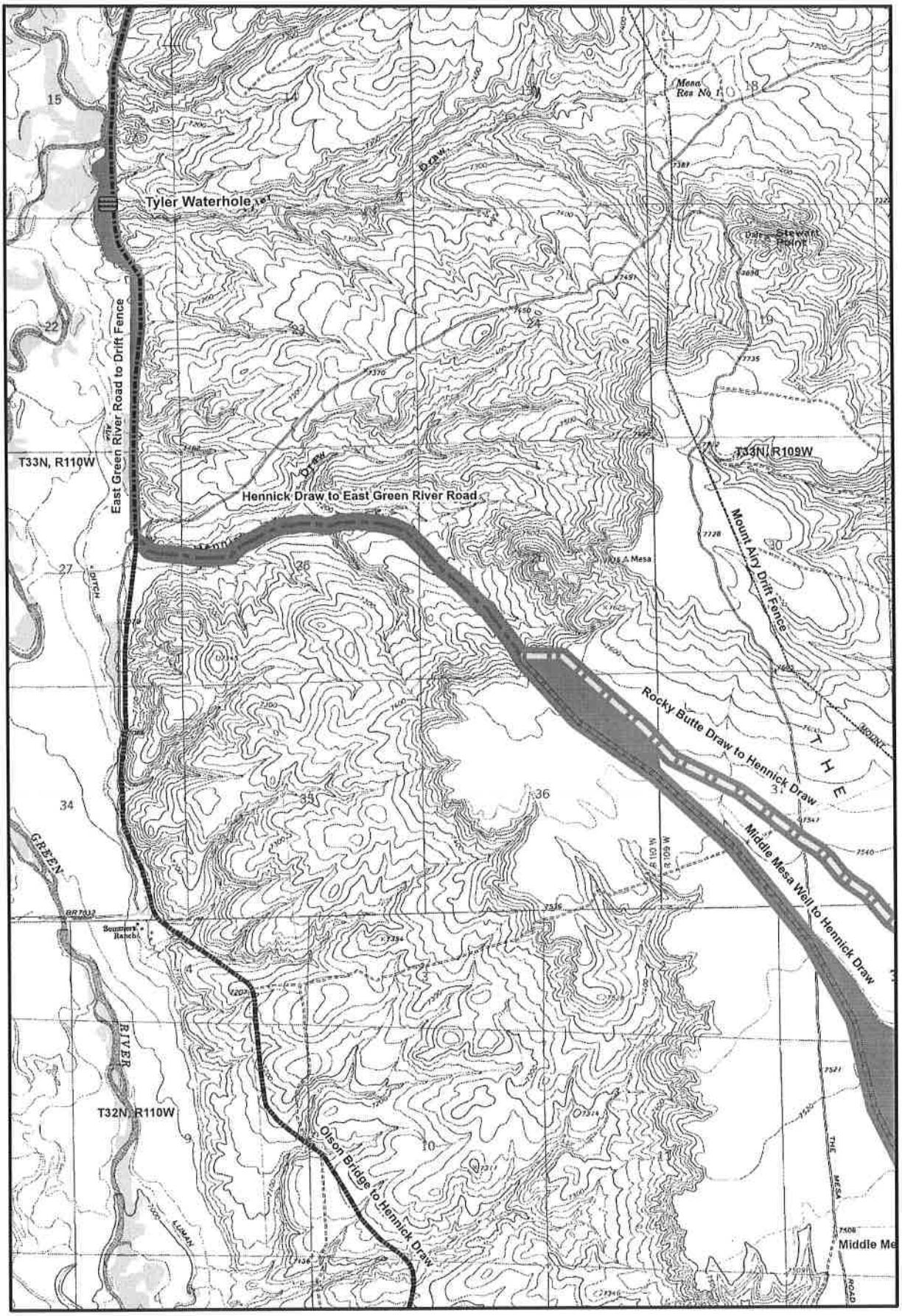
Miles
0 0.5 1



Sketch Map of the Green River Drift - Rocky Butte Draw to Hennick Draw (Segment 6)

N

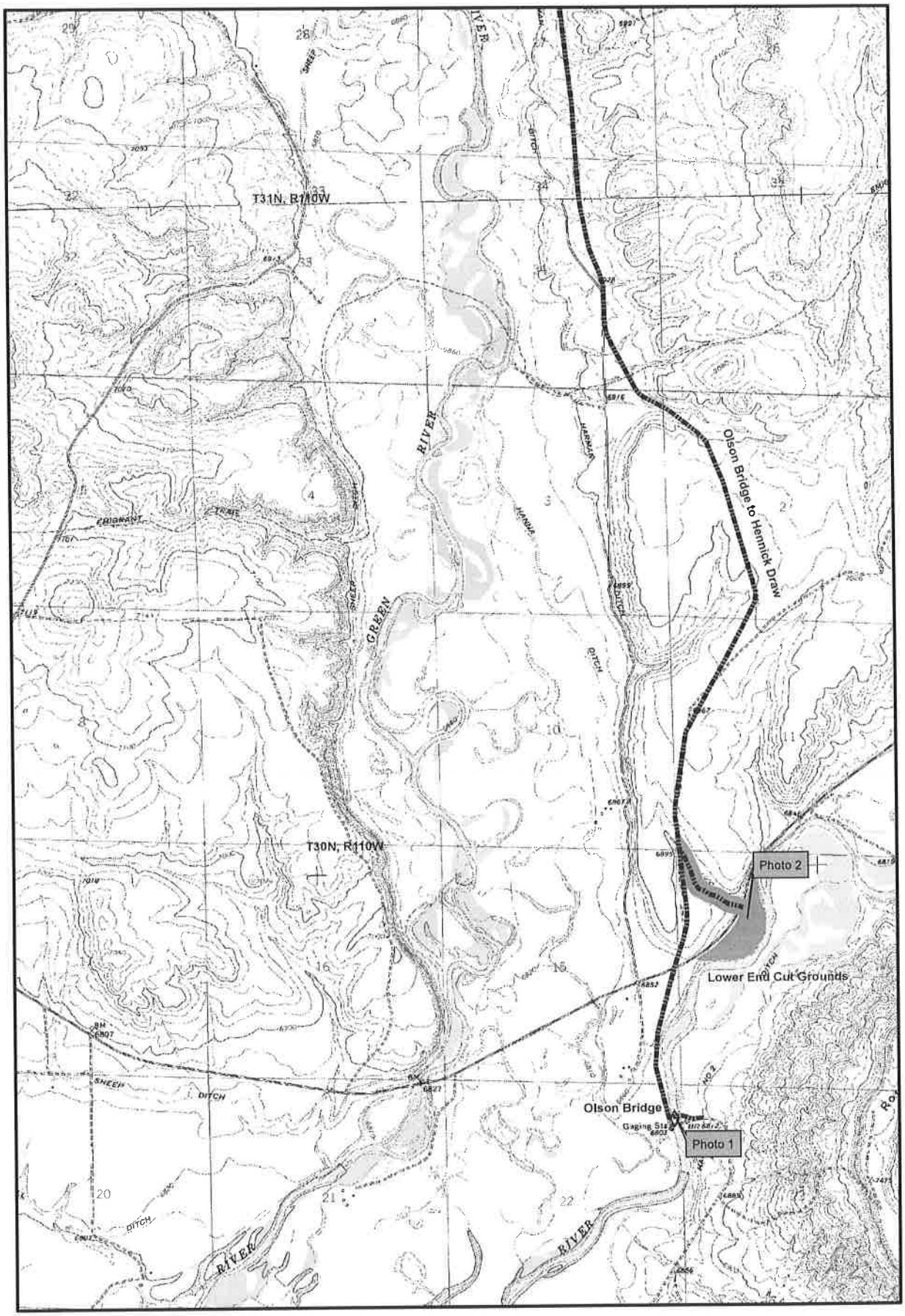
0 0.5 1 Miles



Sketch Map of the Green River Drift - Hennick Draw to East Green River Road (Segment 7)

N

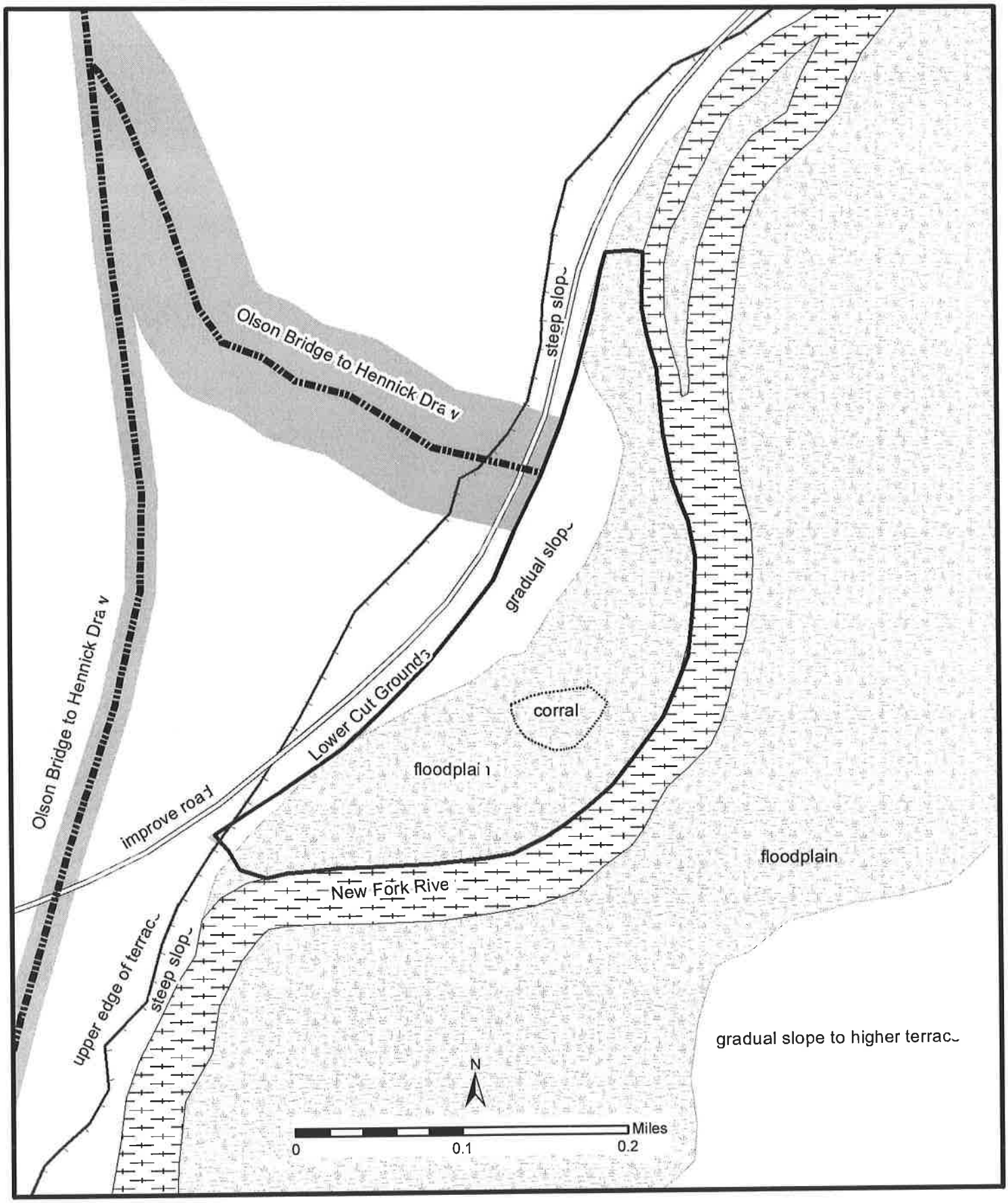
0 0.5 1 Miles



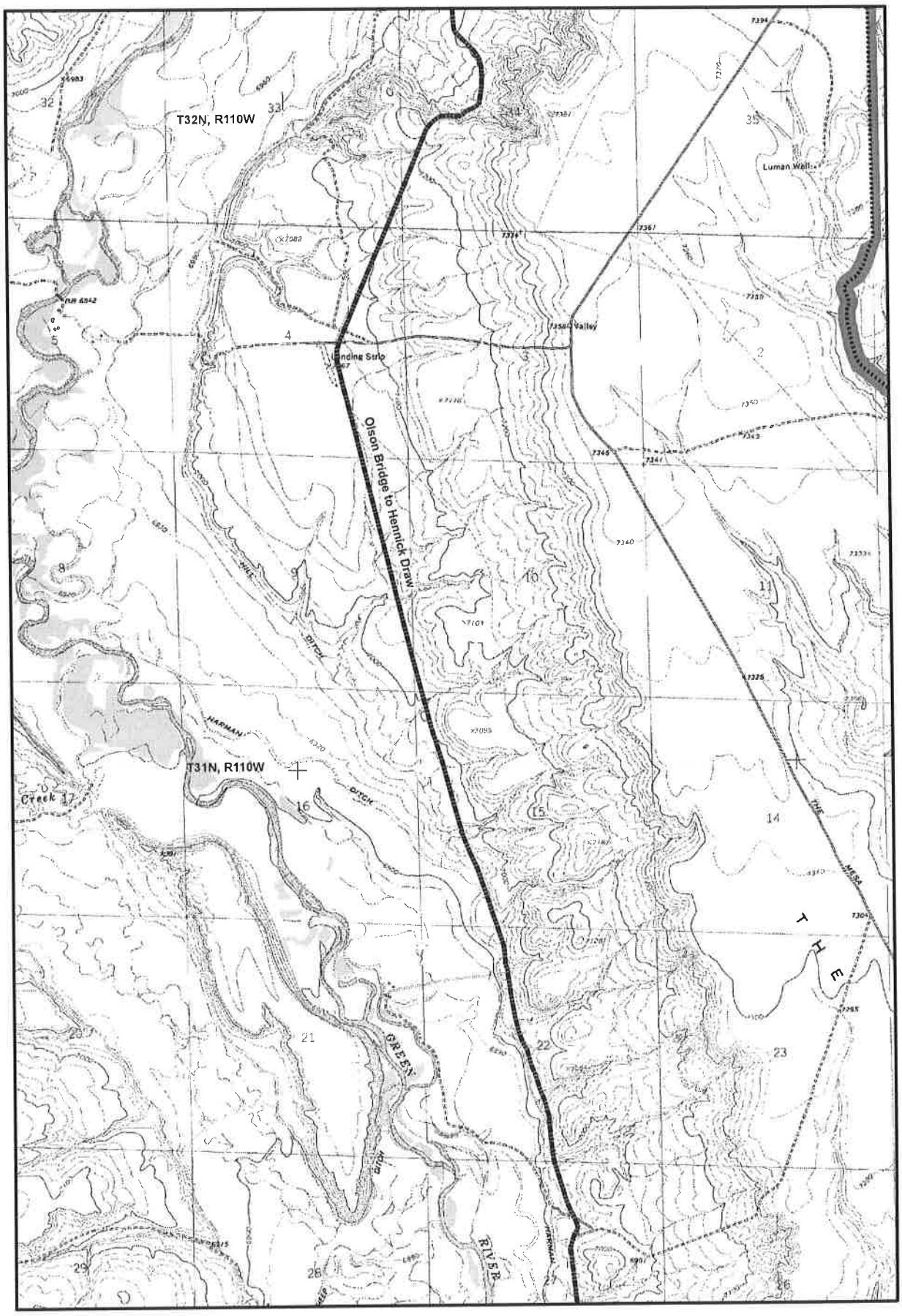
Sketch Map of the Green River Drift - Olson Bridge to Hennick Draw (Segment 8)

N

Miles
0 0.5 1



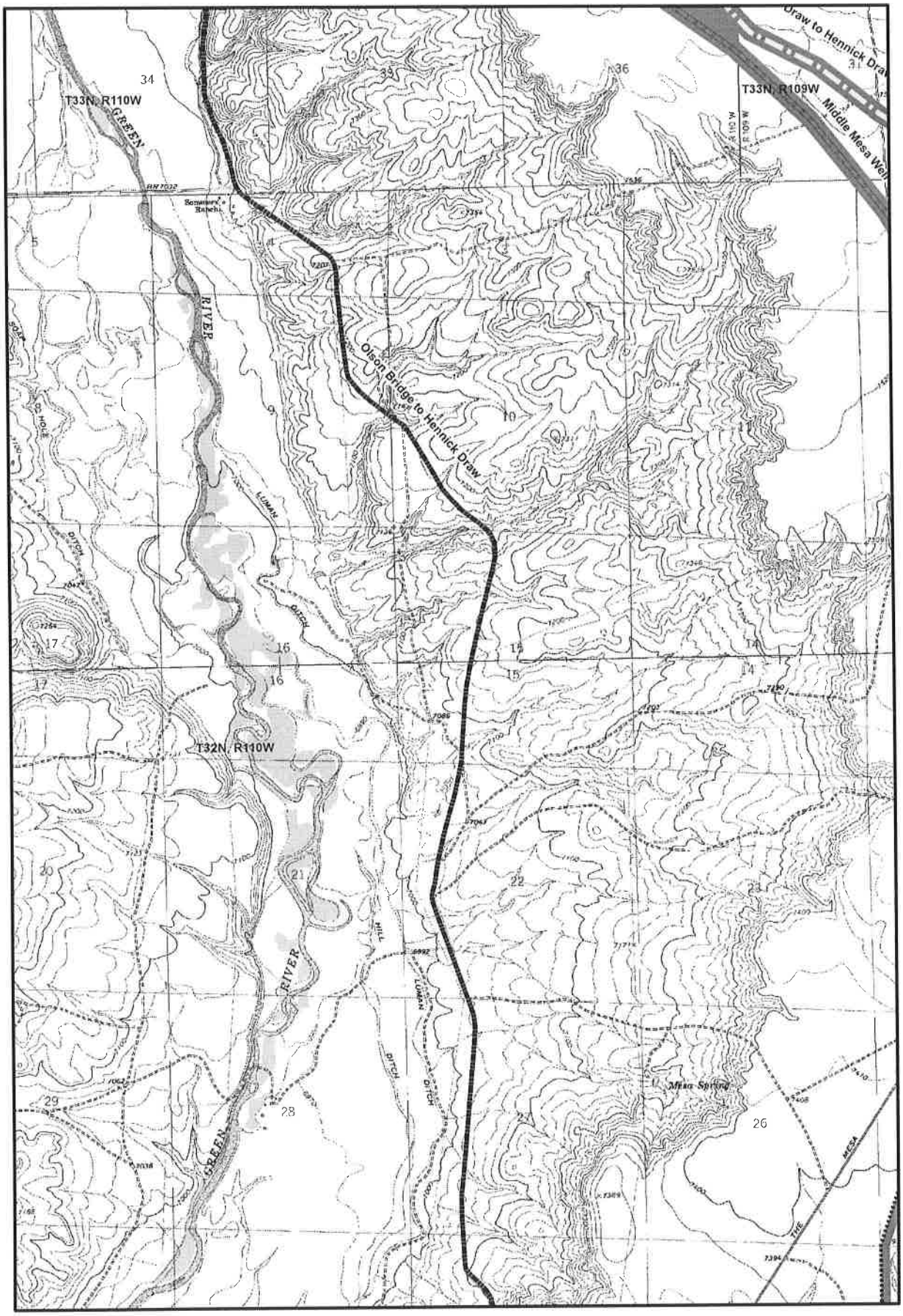
Sketch Map of the Lower Cut Grounds on the Soap Hole Draw to Middle Mesa Well Segment of the Green River Drift



Sketch Map of the Green River Drift - Olson Bridge to Hennick Draw (Segment 8)

N

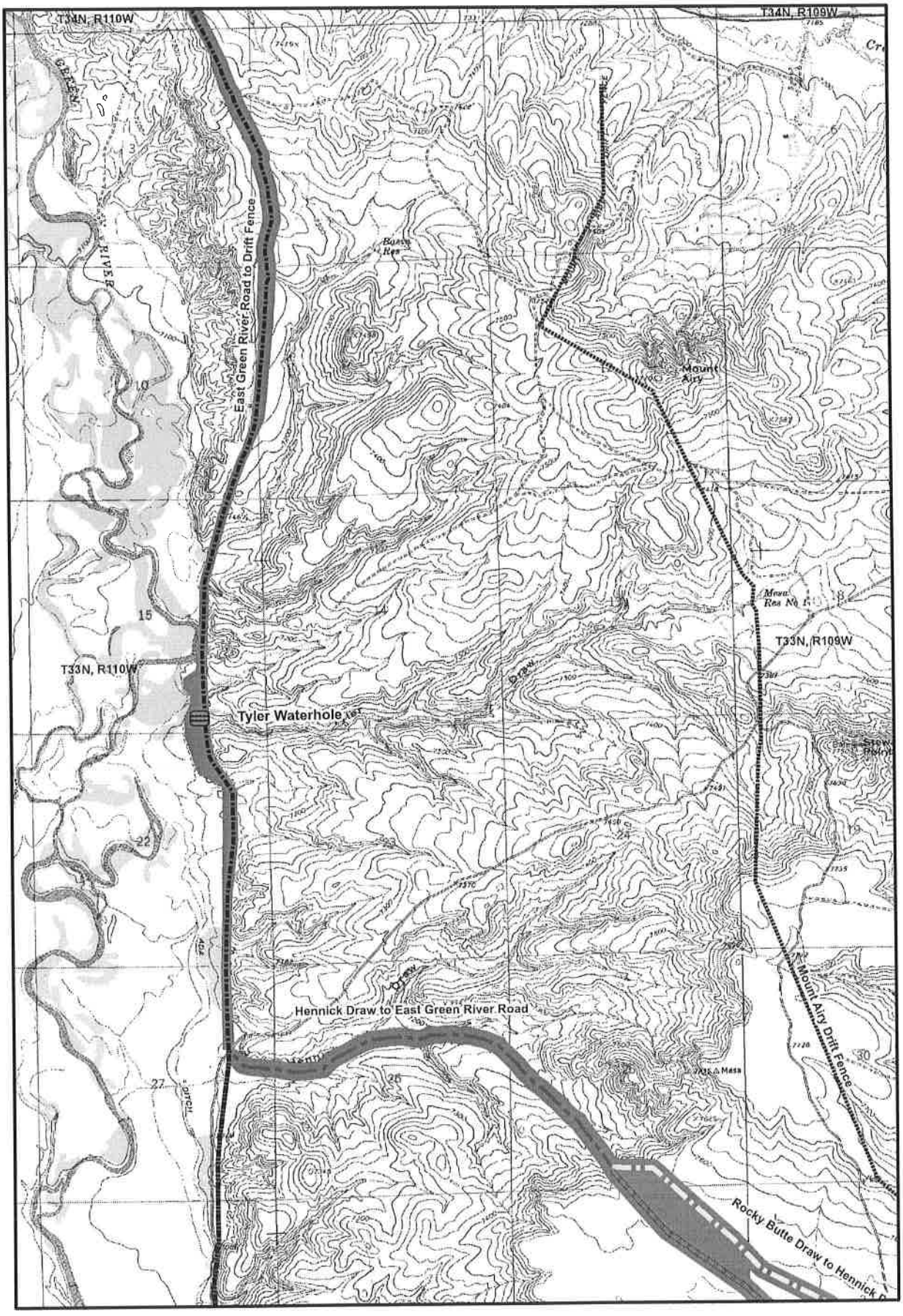
0 0.5 1 Miles



Sketch Map of the Green River Drift - Olson Bridge to Hennick Draw (Segment 8)

N

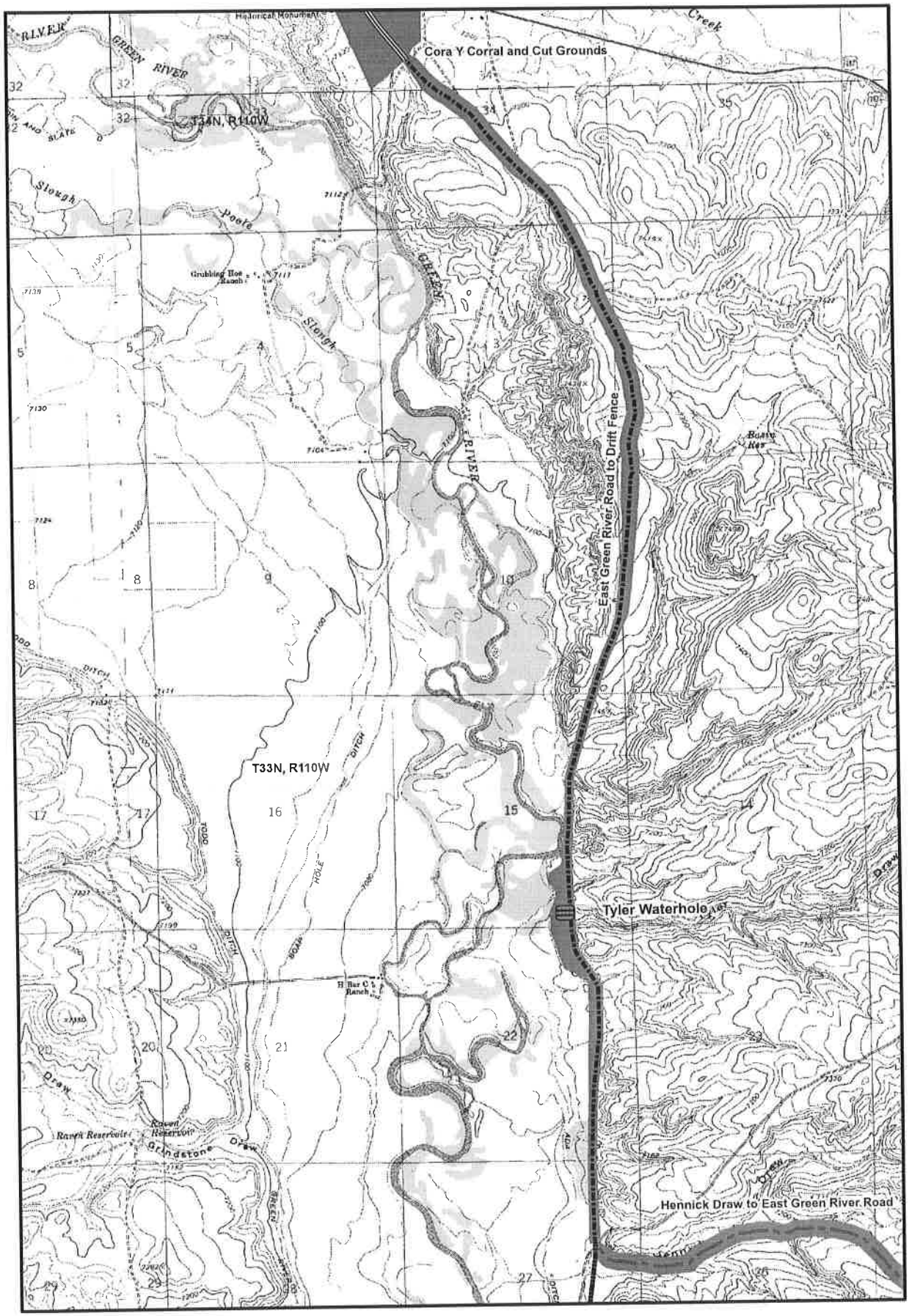
0 0.5 1 Miles



Sketch Map of the Green River Drift - Olson Bridge to Hennick Draw (Segment 8)

N

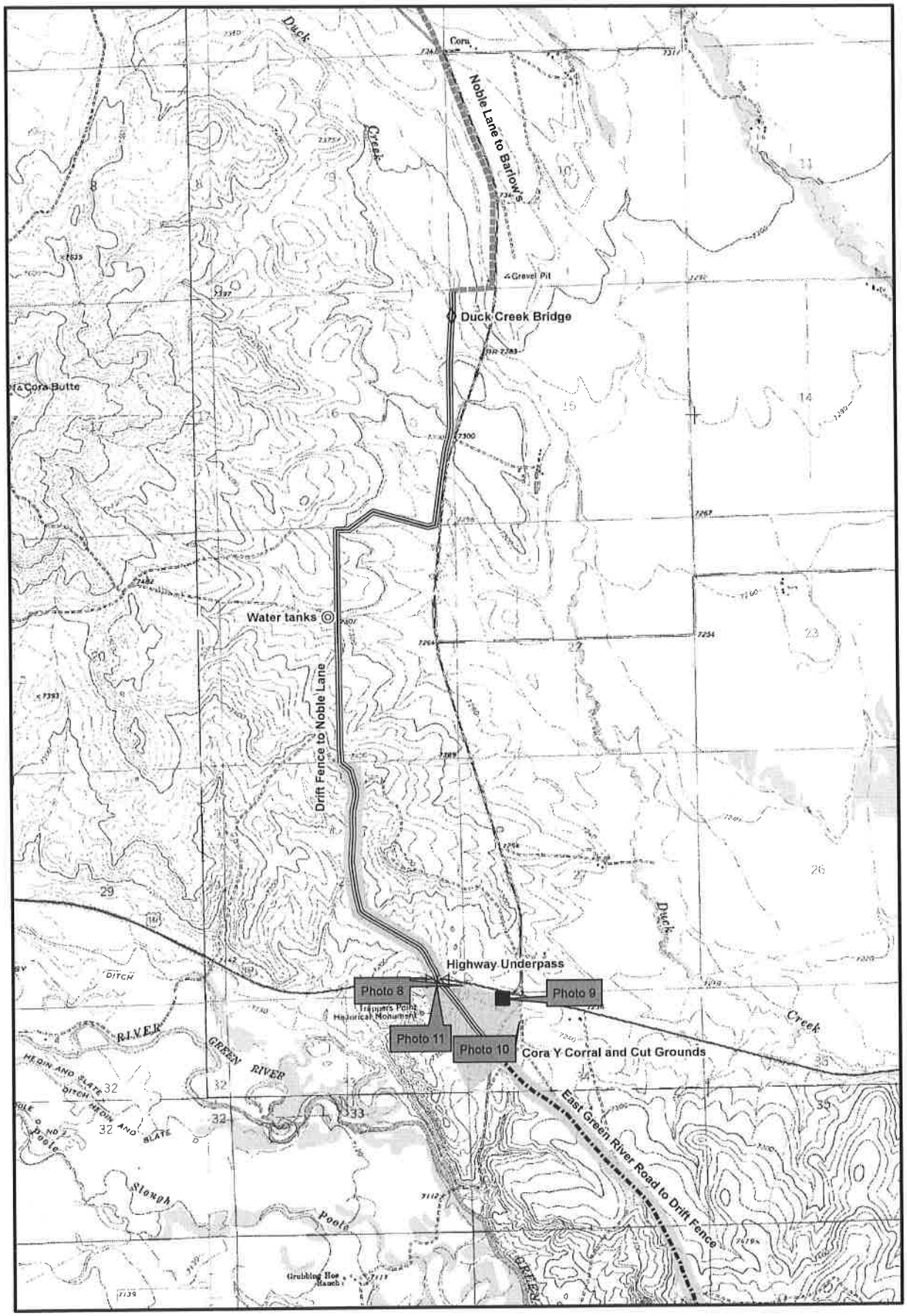
0 0.5 1 Miles



Sketch Map of the Green River Drift - East Green River Road to Drift Fence (Segment 9)

N

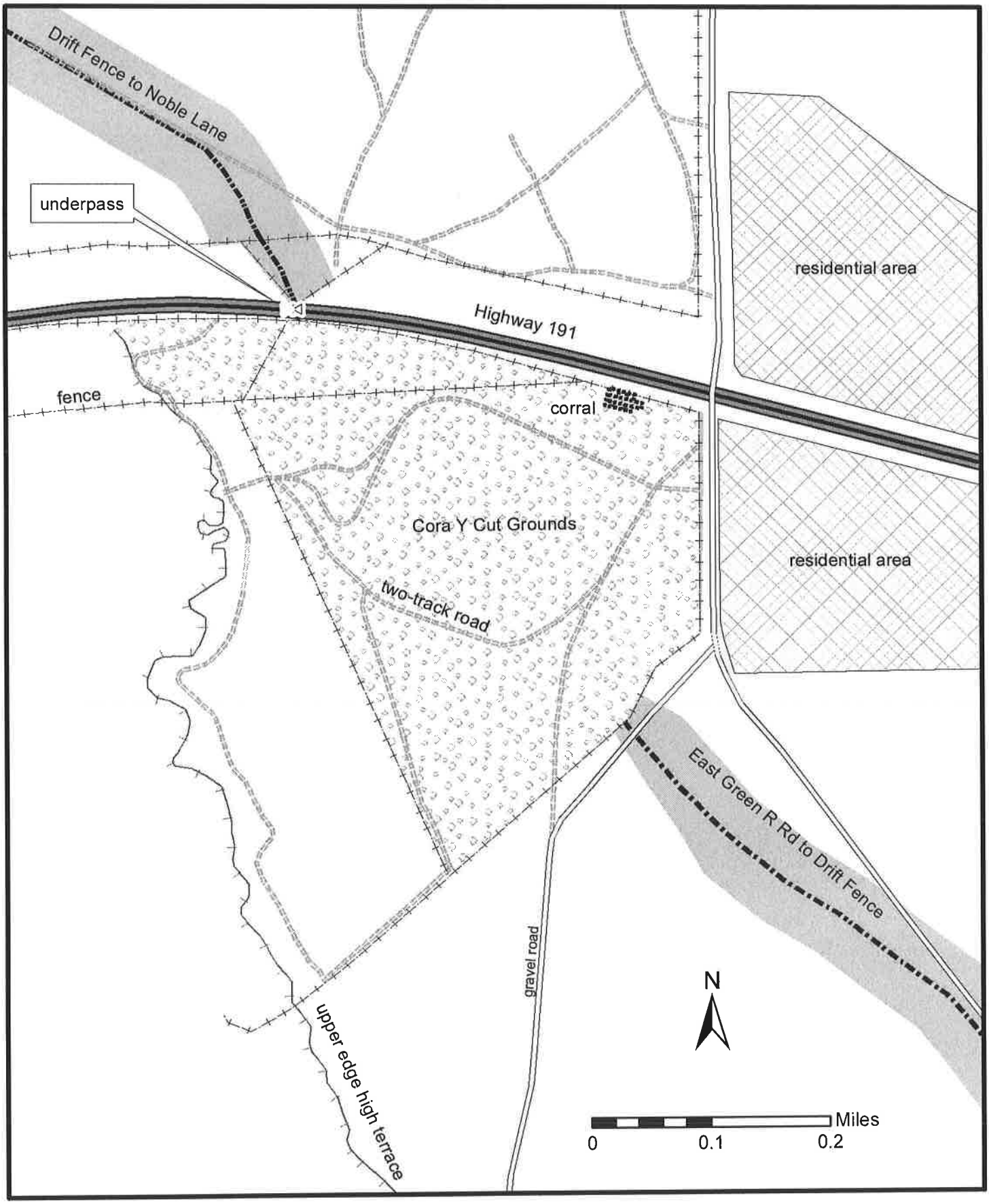
0 0.5 1 Miles



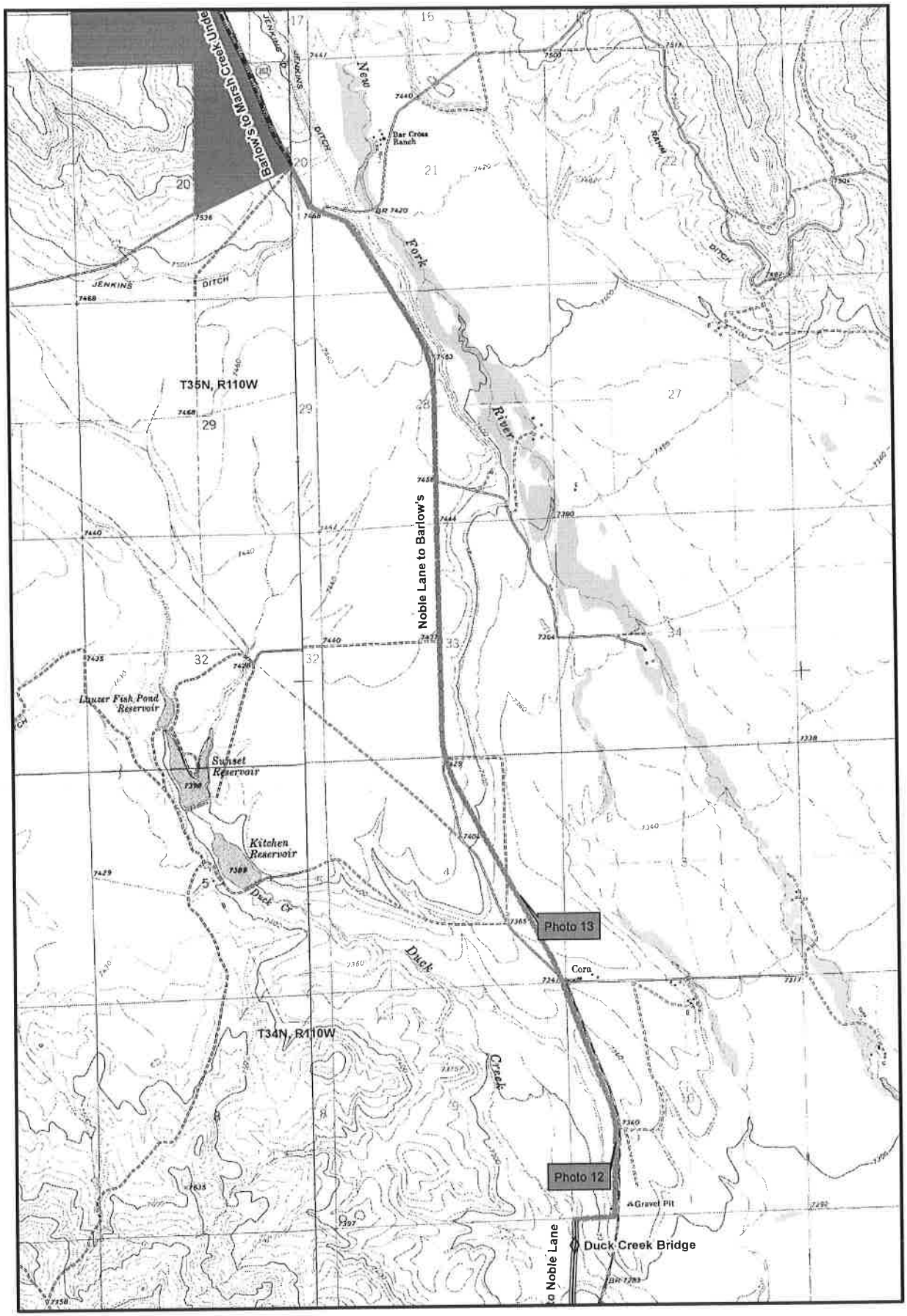
Sketch Map of the Green River Drift - Drift Fence to Noble Lane (Segment 10)

N

0 0.5 1 Miles



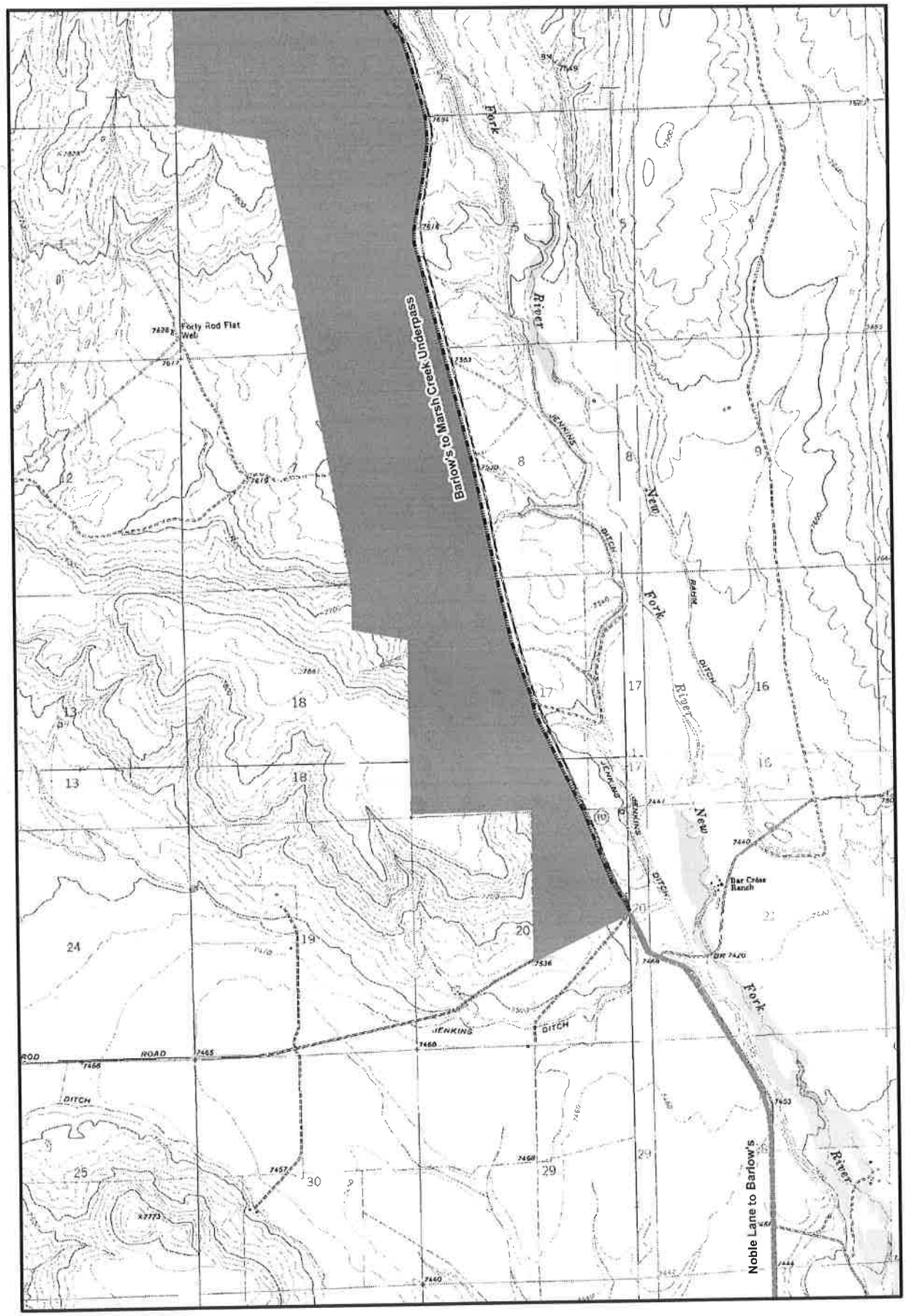
Sketch Map of Cora Y Corral and Cut Grounds on the East Green River Road to Drift Fence and Drift Fence to Noble Lane segments of the Green River Drift



Sketch Map of the Green River Drift - Noble Lane to Barlow's (Segment 11)

N

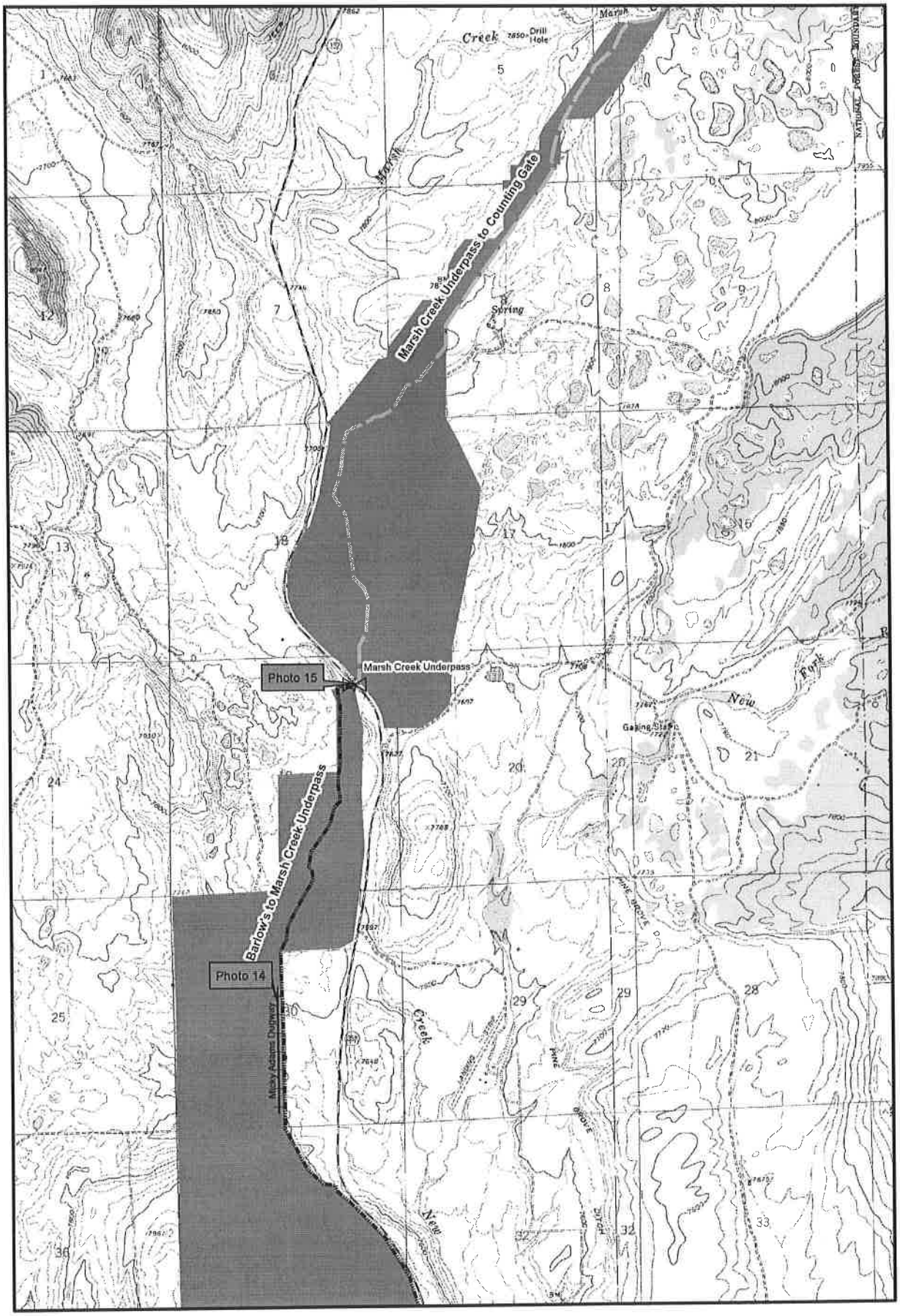
Miles
0 0.5 1



Sketch Map of the Green River Drift - Barlow's to Marsh Creek Underpass (Segment 12)

N

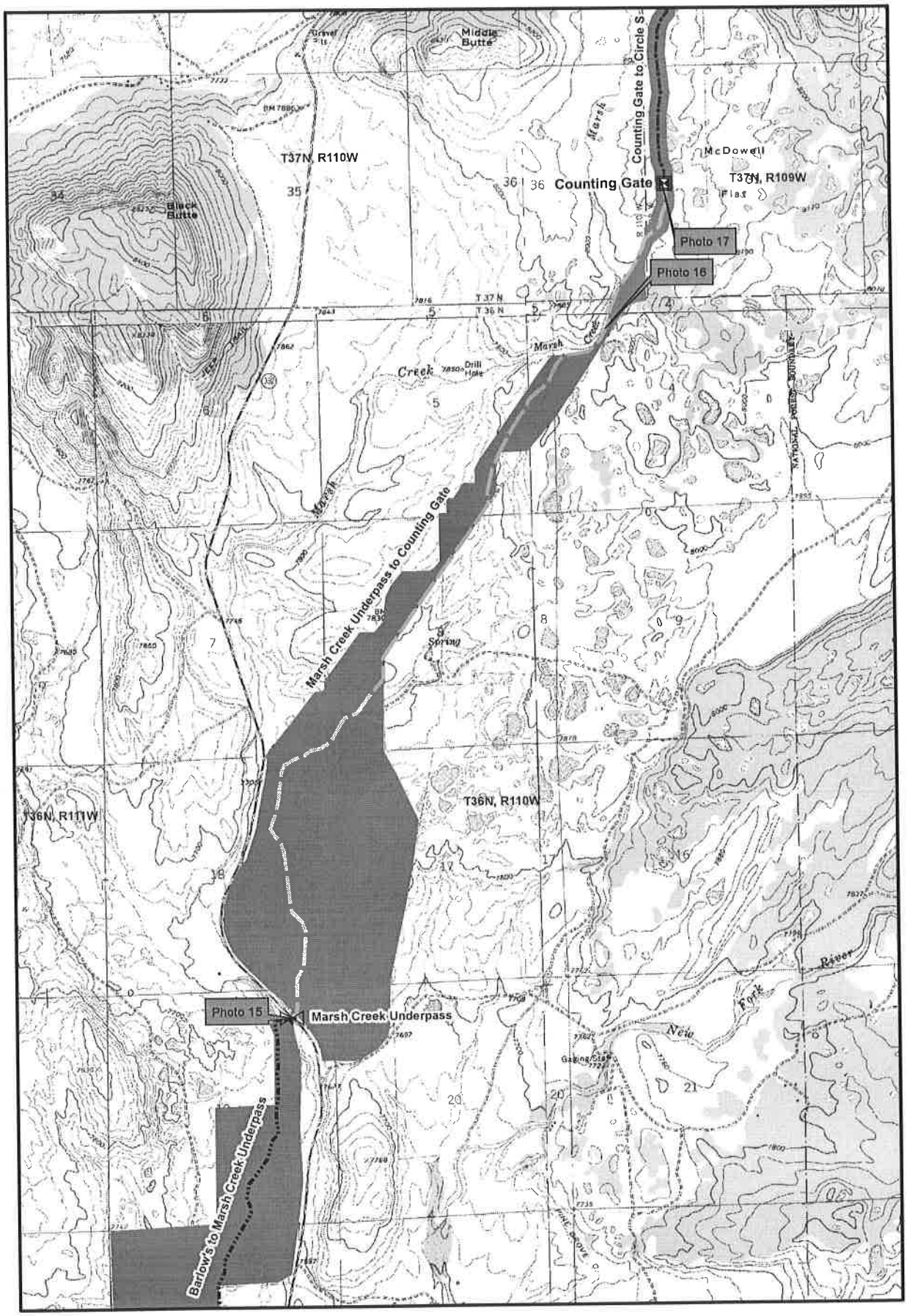
0 0.5 1 Miles



Sketch Map of the Green River Drift - Barlow's to Marsh Creek Underpass (Segment 12)

N

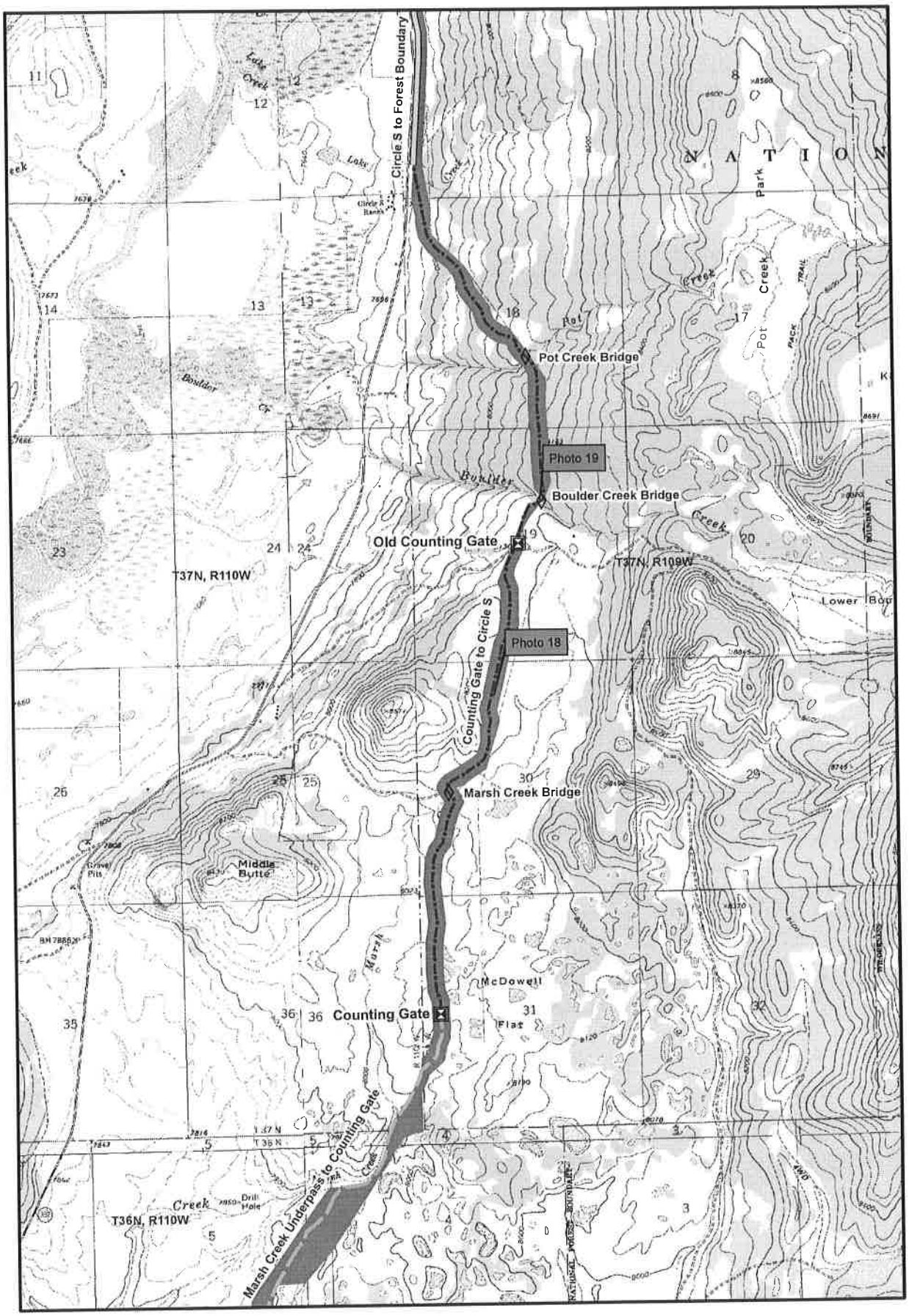
0 0.5 1 Miles



Sketch Map of the Green River Drift - Marsh Creek Underpass to Counting Gate (Segment 13)

N

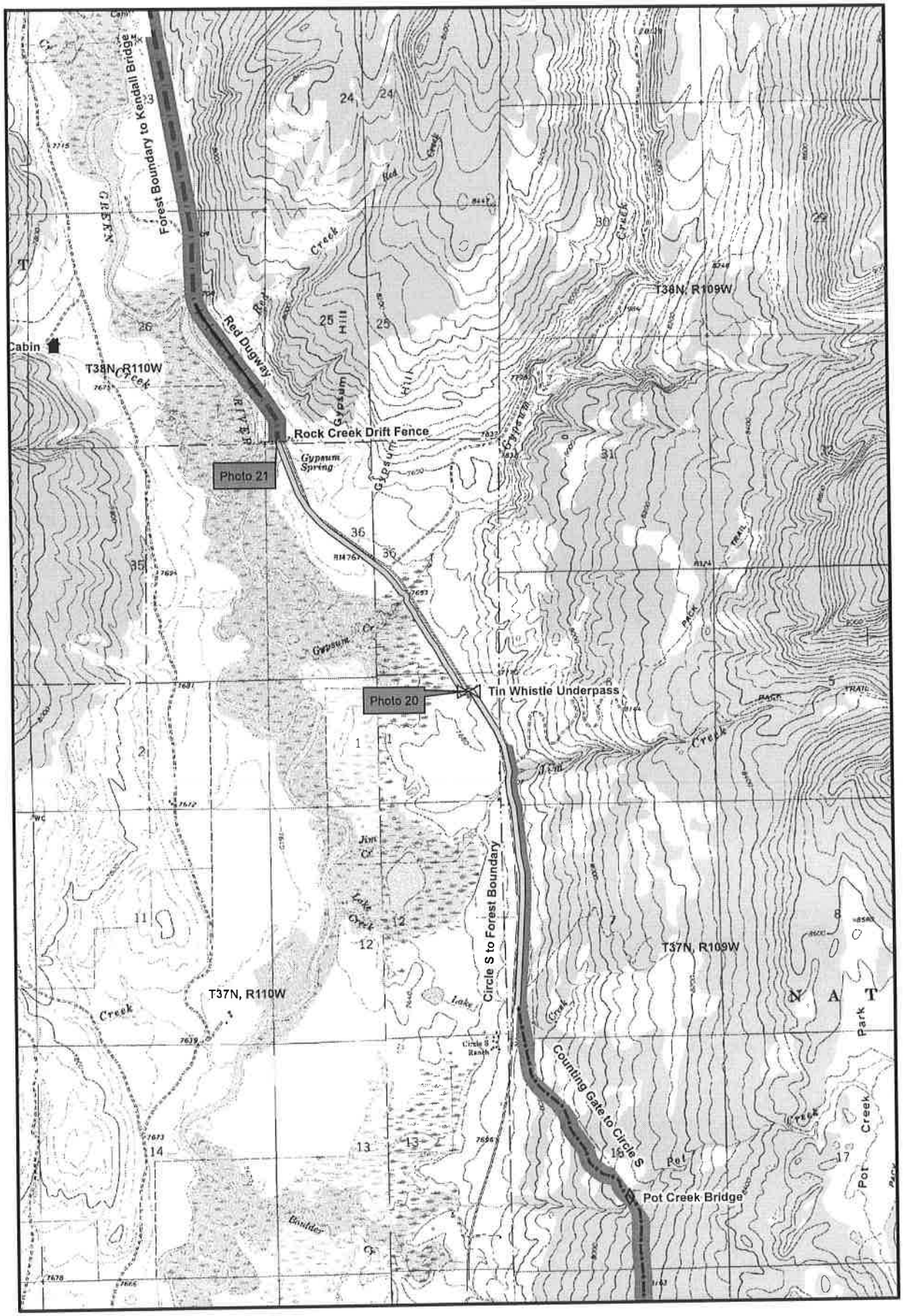
0 0.5 1 Miles



Sketch Map of the Green River Drift - Counting Gate to Circle S (Segment 14)

N

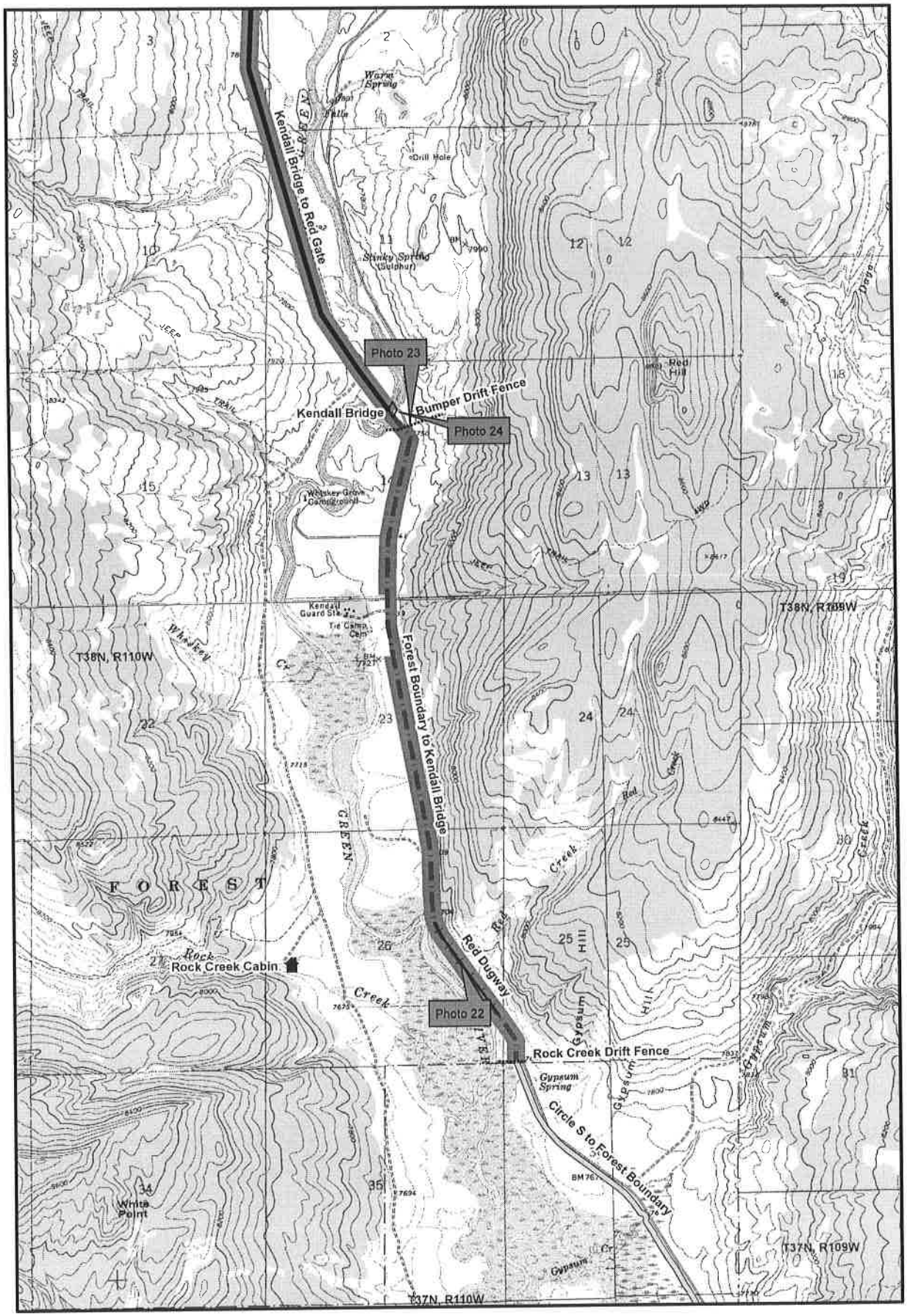
0 0.5 1 Miles



Sketch Map of the Green River Drift - Circle S to Forest Boundary (Segment 15)

N

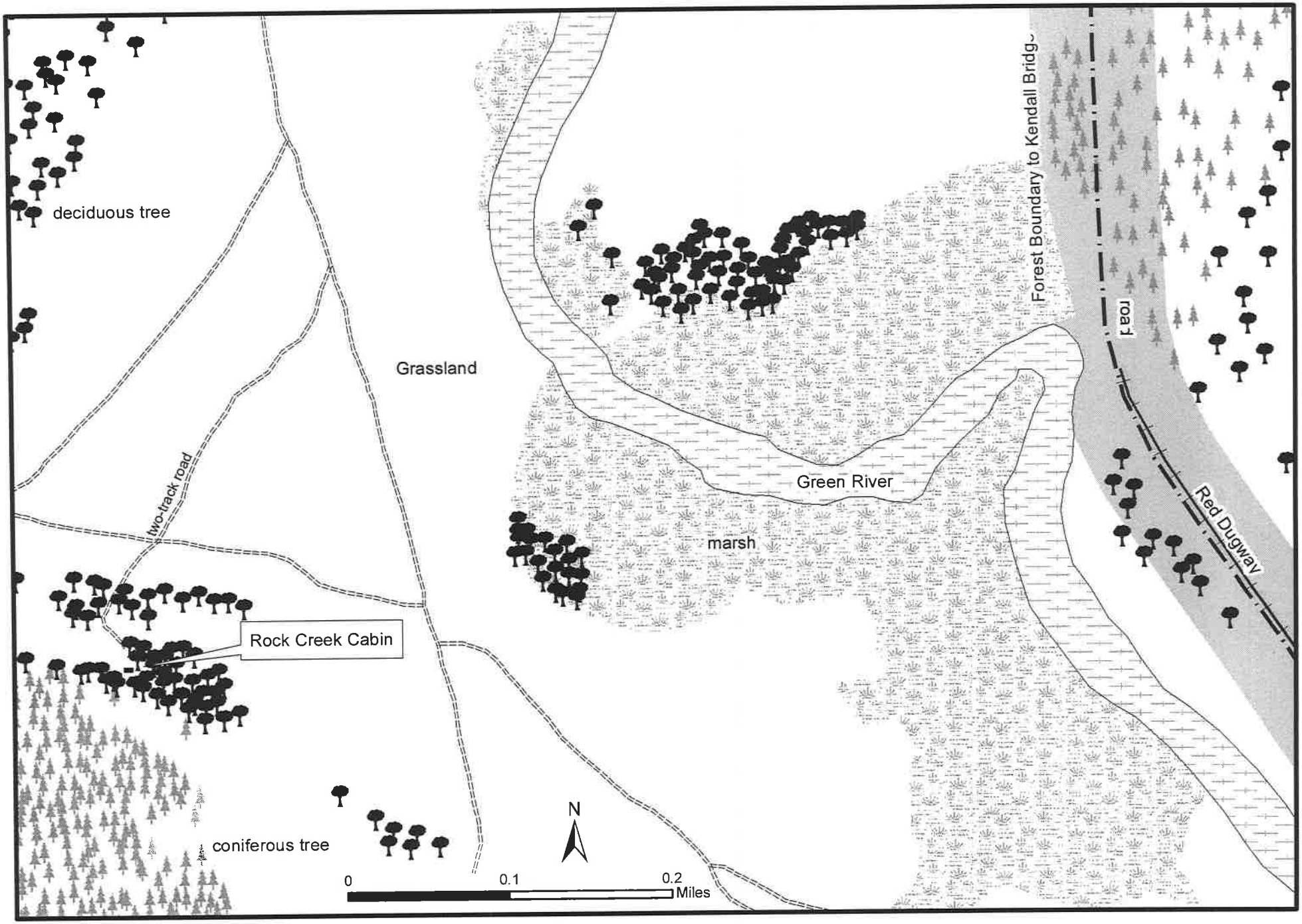
0 0.5 1 Miles



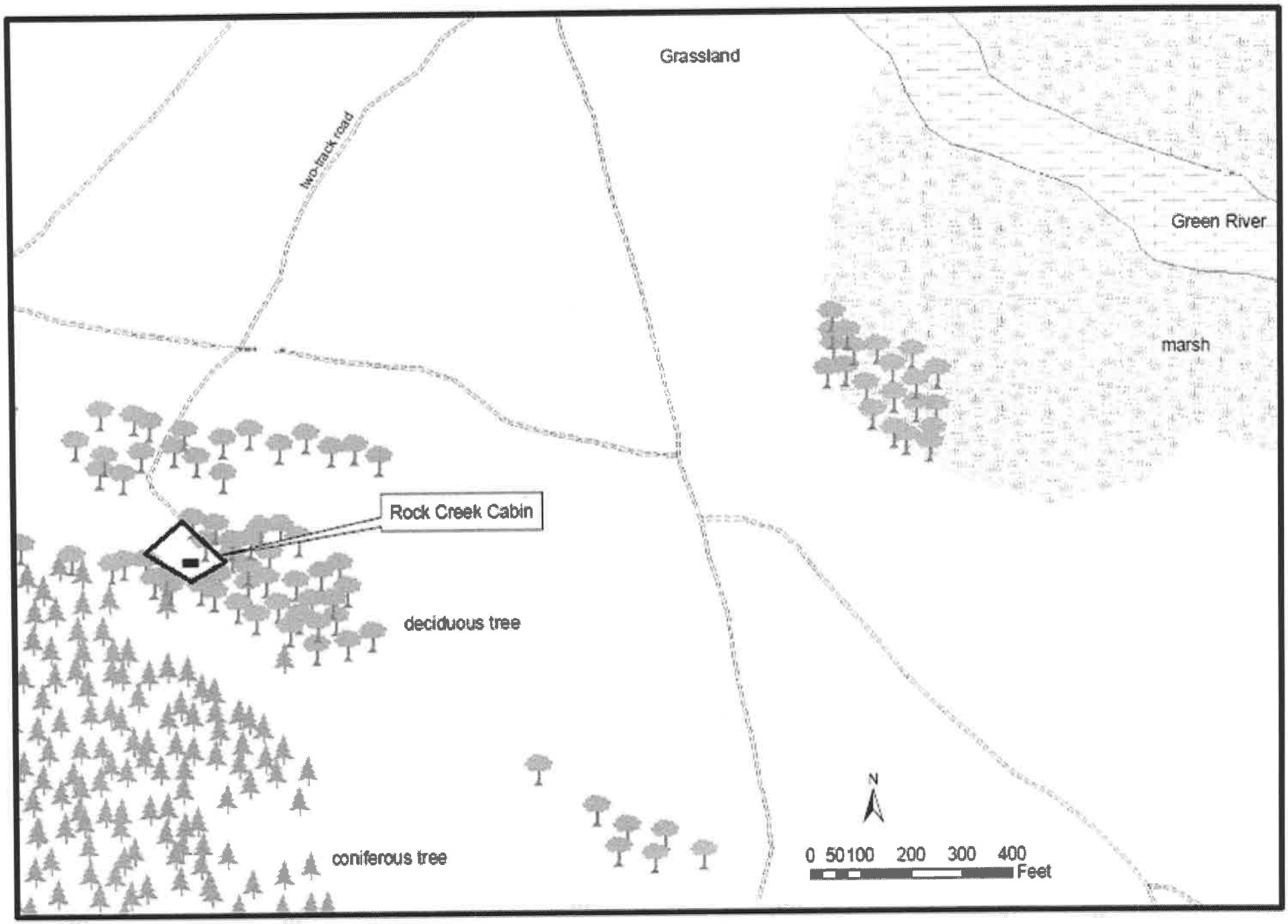
Sketch Map of the Green River Drift - Forest Boundary to Kendall Bridge (Segment 16)

N

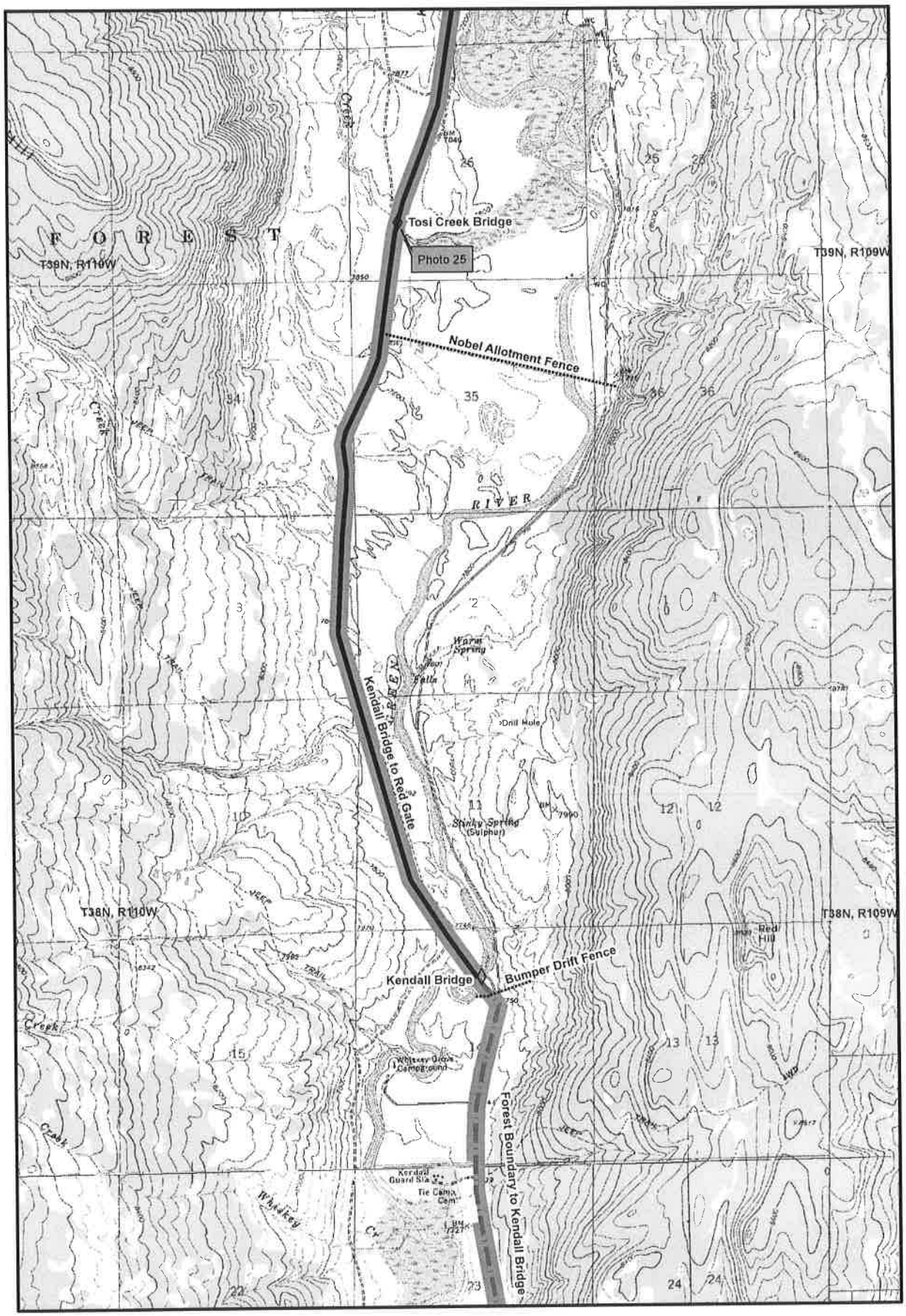
0 0.5 1 Miles



Sketch map showing the Rock Creek Cabin and a portion of the Forest Boundary to Kendall Bridge Segment of the Green River Drift



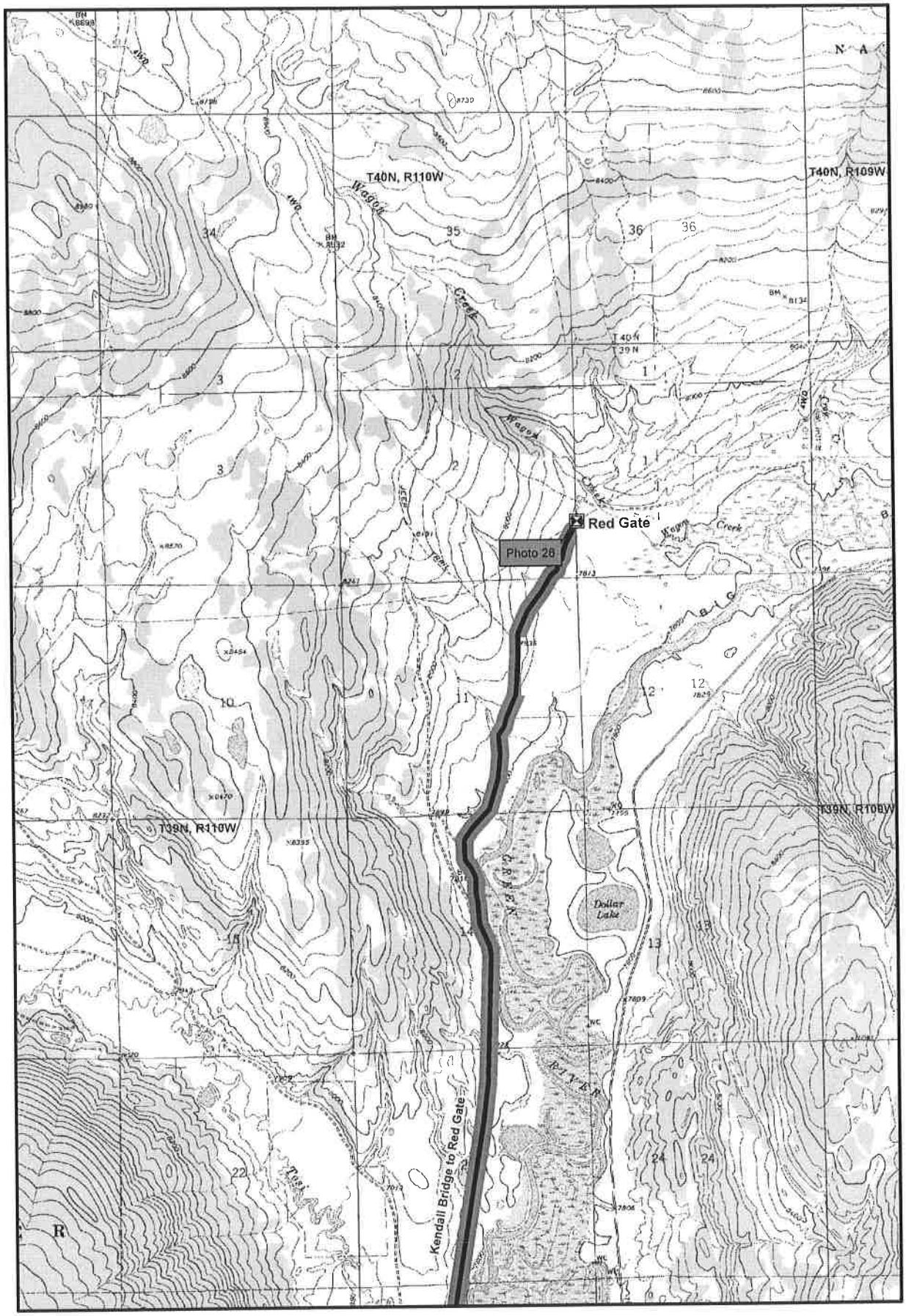
Sketch map of Rock Creek Cabin near the Green River



Sketch Map of the Green River Drift - Kendall Bridge to Red Gate (Segment 17)

N

0 0.5 1 Miles

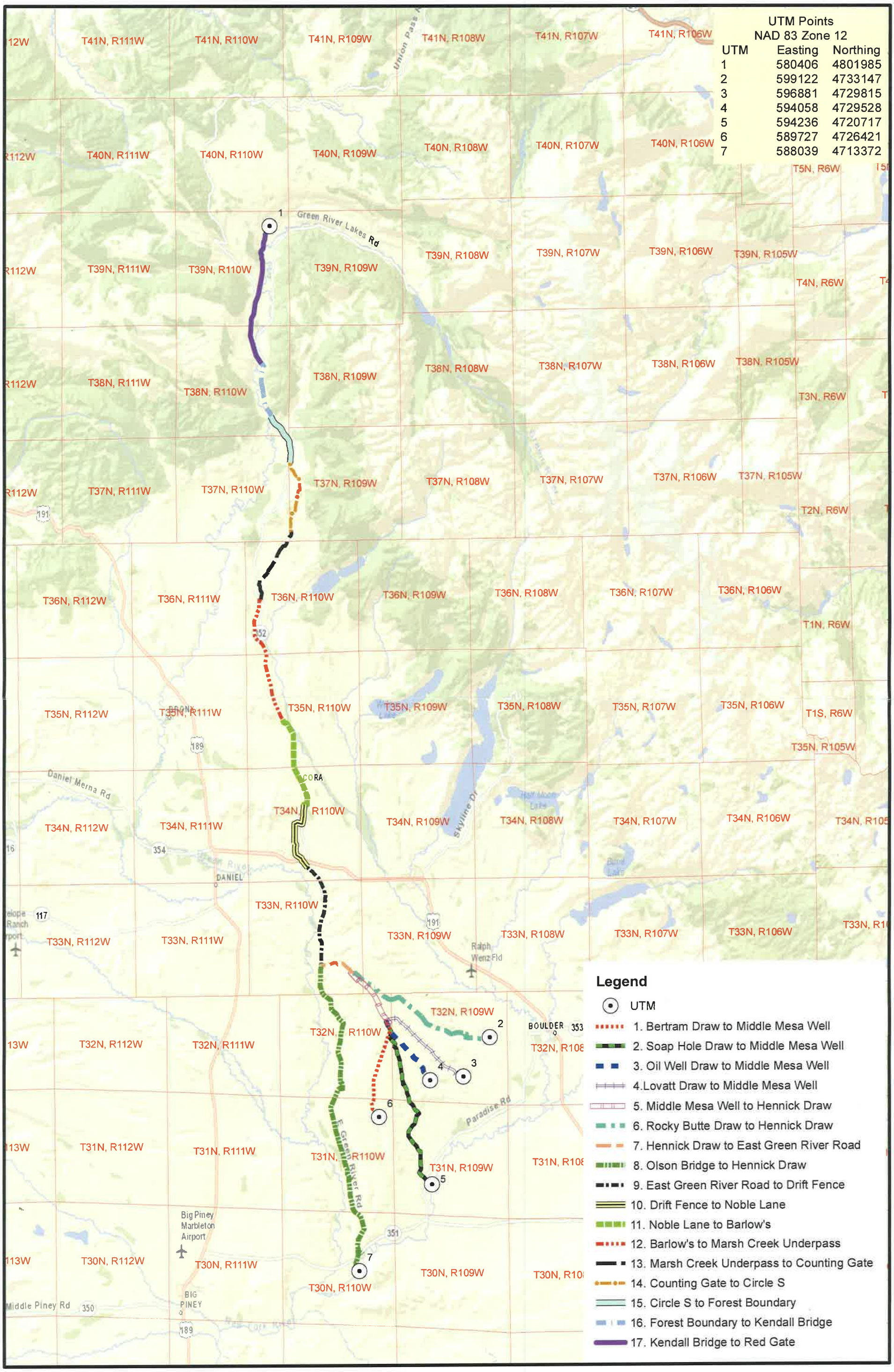


Sketch Map of the Green River Drift - Kendall Bridge to Red Gate (Segment 17)

N

Miles

0 0.5 1



Legend for Green River Drift

6.27.2012
The Drift Olson Bridge
Located in Pinedale, Wyoming Vicinity
Sublette County
View to west
Photographer: Richard Collier
1 of 26

6-27-2012
The Drift, Lower Cut Grounds
Located South of Pinedale, Wyoming
Sublette County
View to South
Photographer: Richard Collier

2 of 26

6·27·2012
The Drift, New Fork Cattle Bridge
Located in Pinedale, Wyoming Vicinity
Sublette County
View to west
Photographer: Richard Collier

3 of 26

6-27-2012
The Drift, Soaphole Draw
Located in Pinedale, Wyoming vicinity
Sublette County
View to East
Photographer: Richard Collier

4 of 26

6-27-2012
The Drift, Blue Reservoir Soaphole Draw
Located in Pinedale, Wyoming Vicinity
Sublette County
View to South
Photographer: Richard Collier

5 OF 26

6-27-2012

The Drift, Middle Mesa Well #1

Located in Pinedale, Wyoming vicinity

Sublette County

View to South

Photographer: Richard Collier

6 of 26

6-27-2012
The Drift, Hennick Draw
Located in Pinedale, Wyoming Vicinity
Sublette County
View to West
Photographer: Richard Collier

7 of 26

6-27-2012
The Drift, Cut Grounds, Cora Jct.
Located in Pinedale, Wyoming Vicinity
Sublette County
View to South
Photographer: Richard Collier

8 of 26

6-27-2012

The Drift, Cora Y Corrals

Located in Pinedale, Wyoming Vicinity

Sublette County

View to west

Photographer: Richard Collier

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6·27·2012
The Drift, Drift Fence at Cut Ground
Located in Pinedale, Wyoming Vicinity
Sublette County
View to Northnorthwest
Photographer: Richard Collier

10 of 26

6·27·2012

The Drift, Highway Underpass at Cora Cut Grounds.

Located in Pinedale, Wyoming Vicinity

Sublette County

View to North

Photographer: Richard Collier

11 OF 26

6-27-2012
The Drift, Noble Lane
Located North of Pinedale, Wyoming just West of
State Route 352
Sublette County
View to North
Photographer: Richard Collier

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6.27.2012
The Drift, Noble Lane Segment
Located in Pinedale, Wyoming Vicinity
Sublette County
View to West
Photographer: Richard Collier
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6-27-2012
The Drift, Mickey Adams Dugway
Located in Pinedale, Wyoming vicinity
Sublette County
View to Southsoutheast
Photographer: Richard Collier

14 of 26

6-27-2012
The Drift, Marsh Creek Underpass
Located in Pinedale, Wyoming Vicinity
Sublette County
View to East
Photographer: Richard Collier

15 of 26

6-27-2012
The Drift, Marsh Creek + Trail
Located in Pinedale Vicinity
Sublette County
View to Southwest
Photographer: Richard Collier

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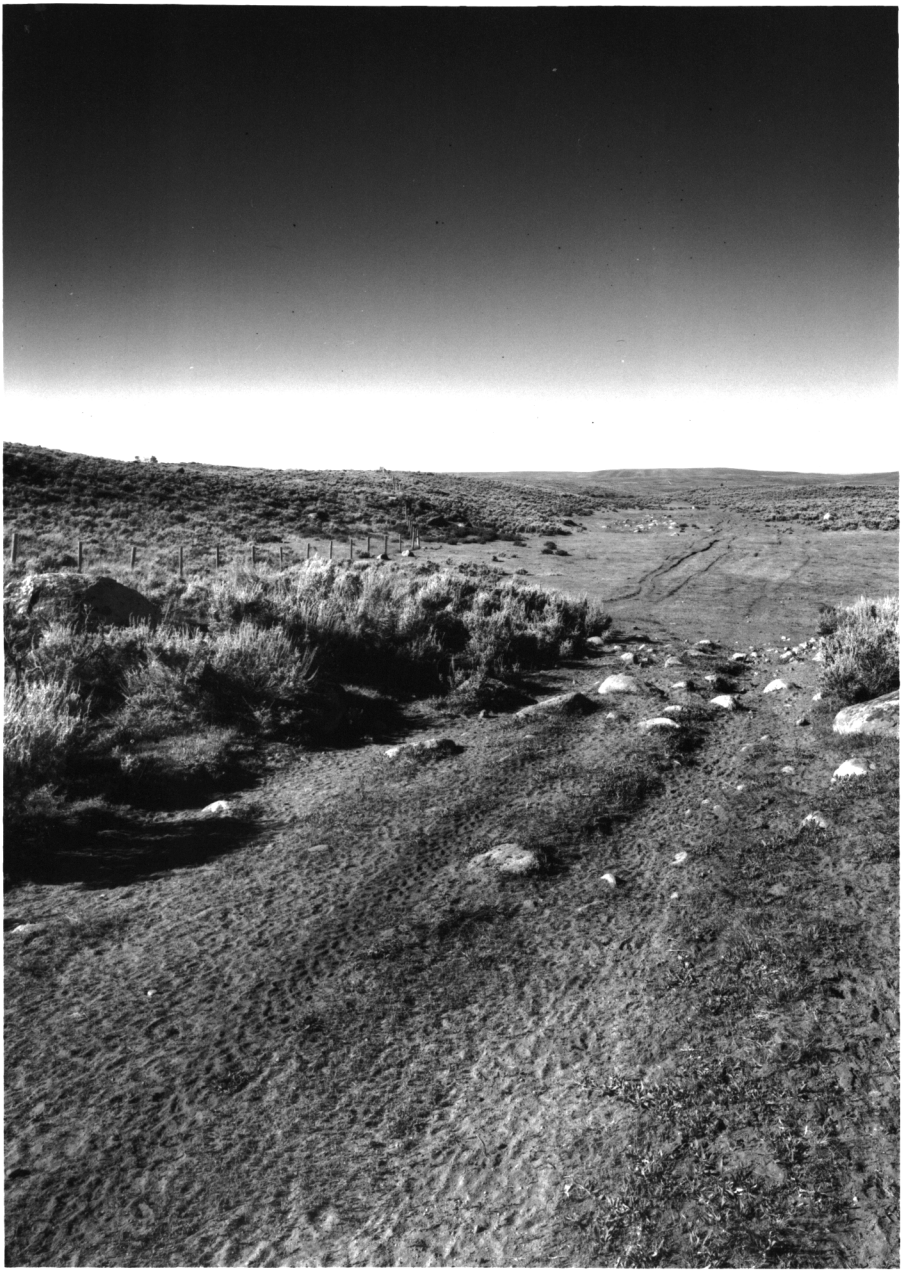
~~25~~

6-27-2012
The Drift, Counting Gate
Located in Pinedale, Wyoming Vicinity
Sublette County
View to North
Photographer: Richard Collier

17 of 26



6-27-2012
The Drift, Marsh Creek Segment
Located in Pinedale, Wyoming Vicinity
Sublette County
View to South
Photographer: Richard Collier

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6-27-2012
The Drift, Boulder Creek Bridge
Located in Pinedale, Wyoming Vicinity
Sublette County
View to South
Photographer: Richard Collier

19 of 26

6-27-2012
The Drift, Tin Whistle
Located in Pinedale, Wyoming Vicinity
Sublette County
View to East
Photographer: Richard Collier

20 of 26

6-27-2012
The Drift, Driveway ending at Rock Creek Fence, Entrance of
Upper Green River Cattle trail
Located in Pinedale, Wyoming Vicinity
Sublette County
View to North
Photographer: Richard Collier
21 of 26

6-27-2012
The Drift, Red Dugway
Located in Pinedale, Wyoming Vicinity
Sublette County
View to North
Photographer: Richard Collier

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6-27-2012
The Drift, Kendall Bridge
Located in Pinedale, Wyoming Vicinity
Sublette County
View to West
Photographer: Richard Collier

23 of 26

6-27-2012
The Drift, Gate Into South End of Gyp Pasture
from Driveway
Located in Pinedale, Wyoming Vicinity
Sublette County
View to South
Photographer: Richard Collier

24 of 26

6-27-2012
The Drift, Tosi Creek Bridge
Located in Pinedale, Wyoming vicinity
Sublette County
View to Northwest
Photographer: Richard Collier

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6-27-2012
The Drift, Red Gate
Located in Pinedale, Wyoming Vicinity
Sublette County
View to North
Photographer: Richard Collier

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