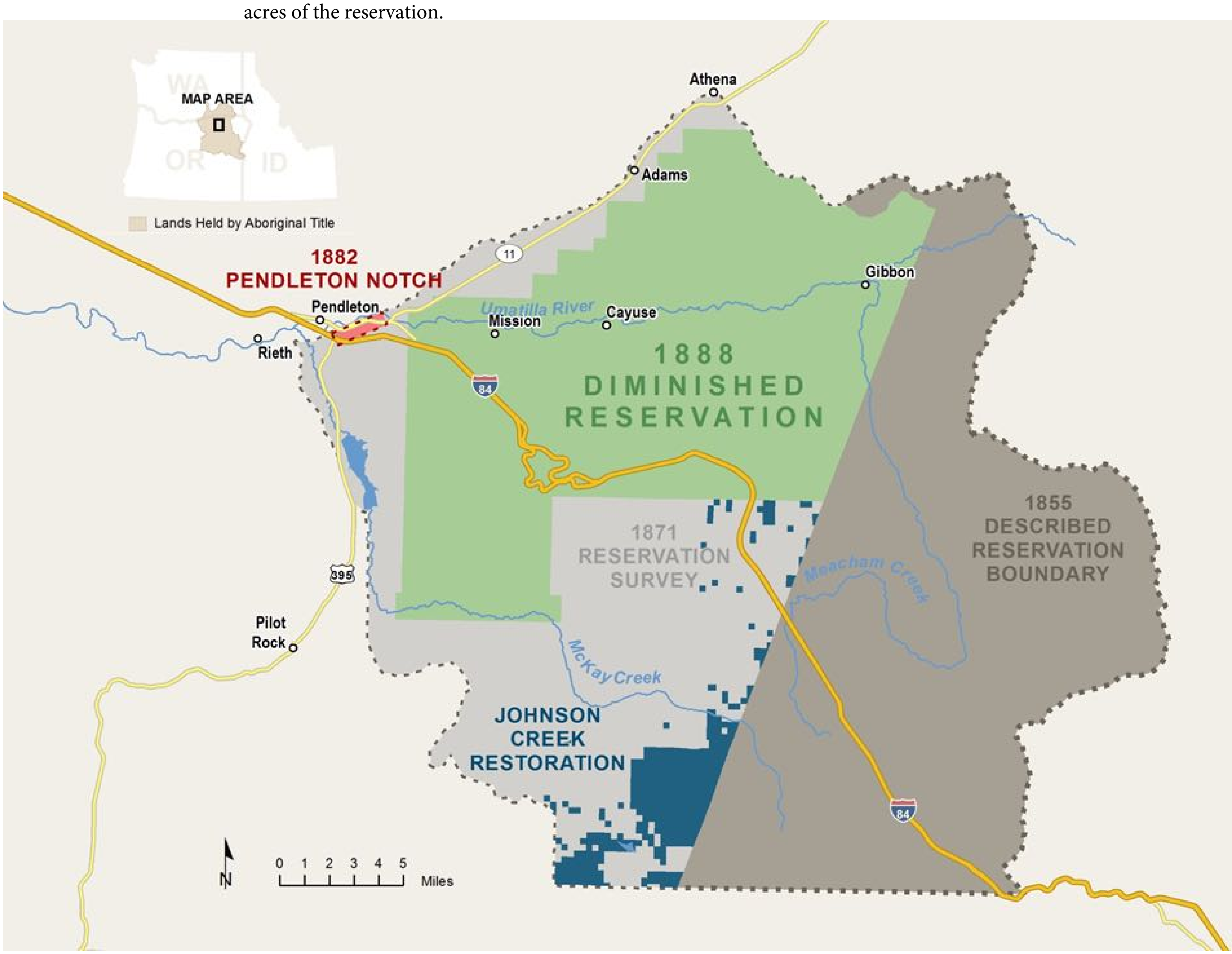
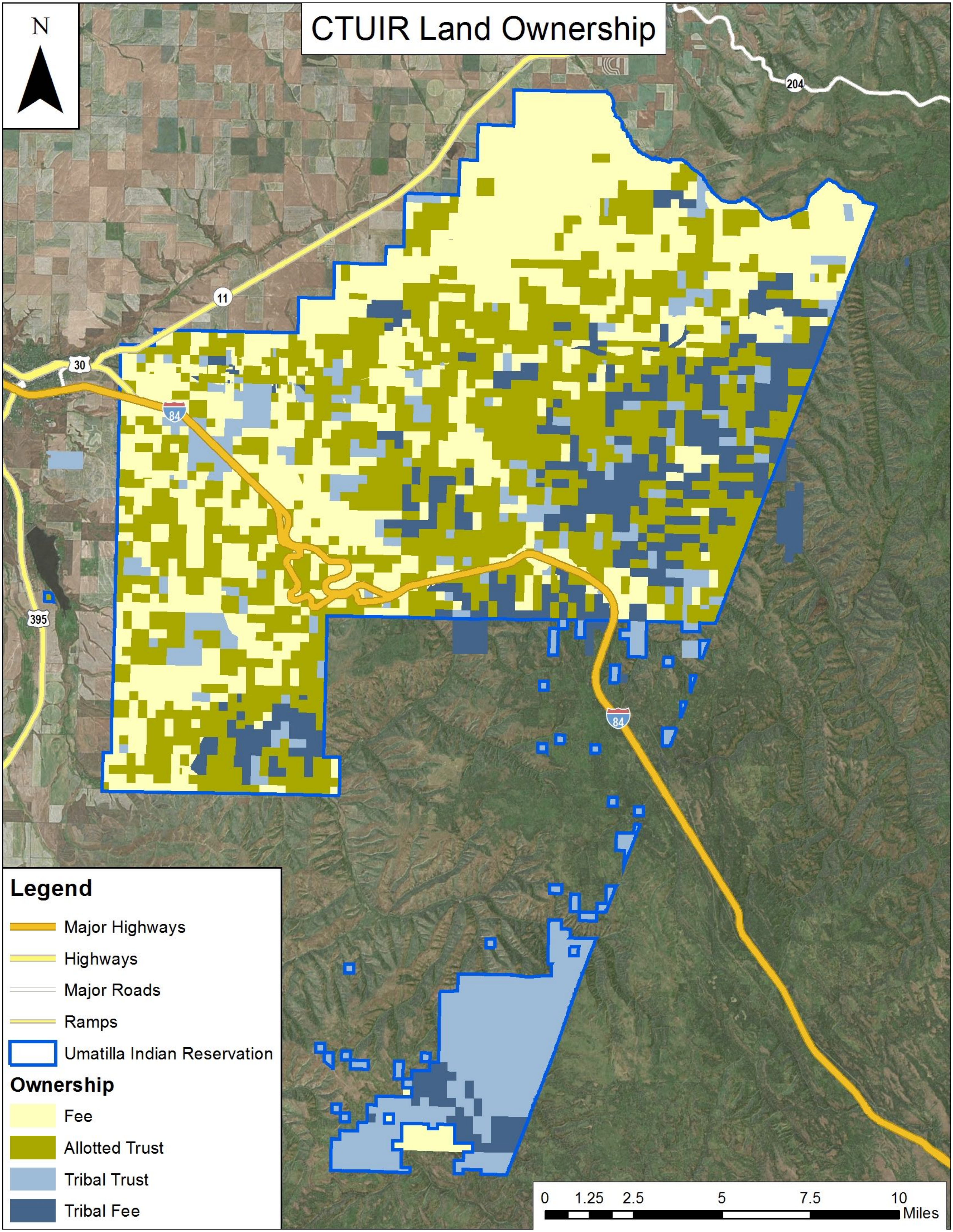
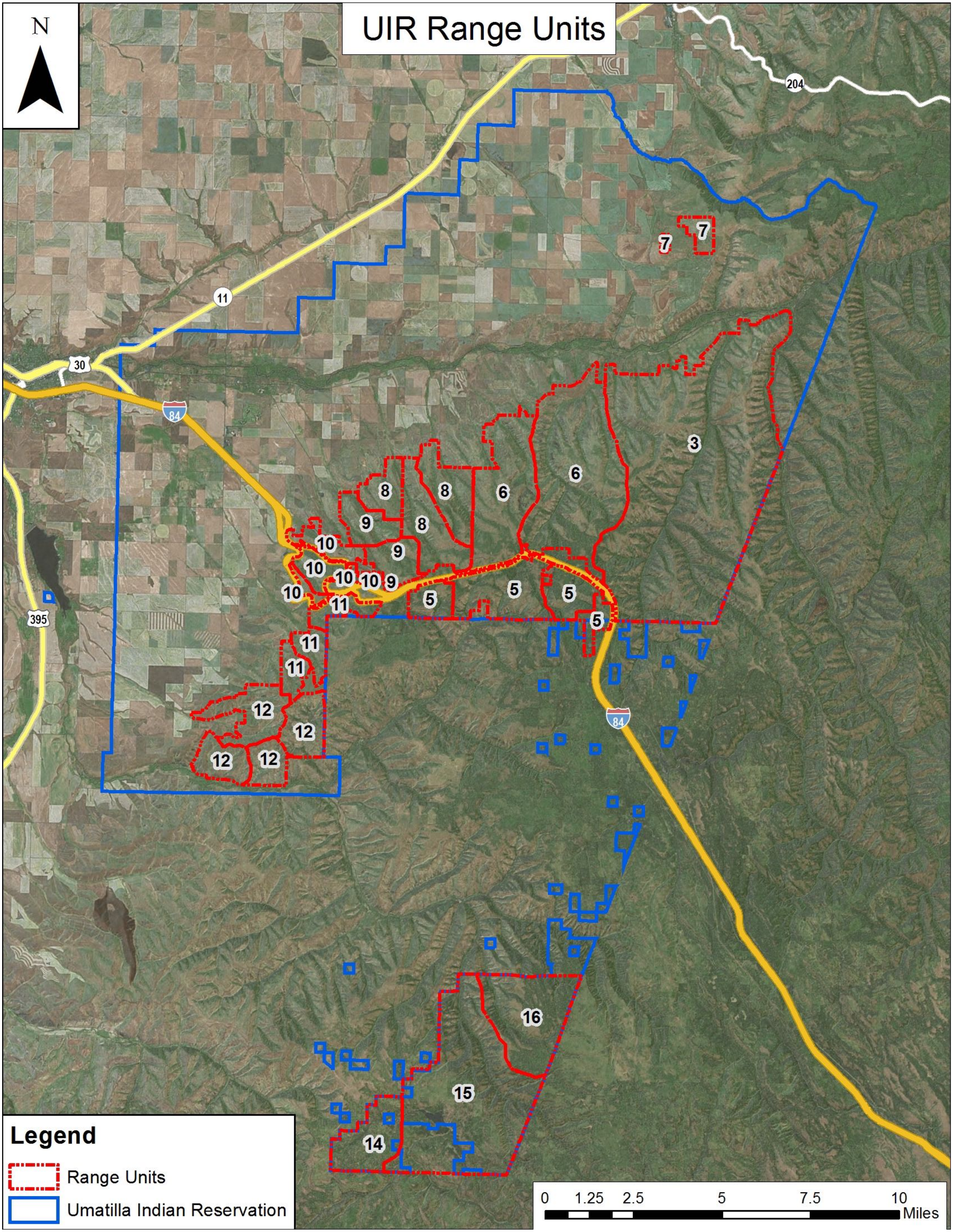
TIMELINE OF LAND TRANSACTIONS OF UMATILLA INDIAN RESERVATION

June 9, 1855	Treaty with United States. 6.4 million acres ceded by tribes, reservation of approximately 512,000 acres reserved.
February 14, 1859	Oregon Territory becomes a State of the Union.
March 8, 1859	Treaty Ratified by Congress
July 1, 1870	Congressional resolution to ask Tribal members if they will consent to abolition or allotment of reservation
Summer of 1871	Tribal leaders unanimously reject offer.
1871	Reservation Boundary surveyed – contains approximately 245,000 acres
August 5, 1882	Congressional act removes 640 acres from reservation for use by Town of Pendleton
March 3, 1885	Umatilla Allotment Act (Slater Act) authorizes allotment and diminishment of reservation to 120,000 acres. Land is allotted to individual Indian families. Tribes retain virtually no land of their own.
June 29, 1888	Congressional act allows expansion of diminished reservation to 158,000 acres. Lands not allotted to tribal members are offered for sale to the public.
July 1, 1902	Congressional act authorizing private sale of unallotted lands that had not sold during prior efforts.
May 28, 1928	Congressional act allows Secretary of Interior to remove from sale 14,000 acres of unsold reservation land in the Johnson Creek area.
August 18, 1939	Congressional act authorizes Secretary of Interior to restore to the Umatilla Indian Reservation the 14,000 acres of unsold Johnson Creek lands.
March 20, 1940	Secretary of Interior restores the Johnson Creek lands to the reservation, bringing total acreage to 172,000.
1880s – 1980s	In hundreds of individual transactions over the course of a century, tens of thousands of acres of the Umatilla Indian Reservation are converted from trust ownership by Indians to fee ownership by non-Indians. During same time, most allotted lands that remain in trust status pass into the hands of non-member Indians, due to intermarriage and inheritance. As a result, the tribal government owns only 5% of the reservation and tribal members own only about 20% of the reservation. An additional 30% of the reservation is owned by Indians enrolled in other tribes. 45% is owned by non-Indians.
March 12, 1997	Board of Trustees establishes Land Acquisition Program. Since its establishment, the program has reacquired 20,499 acres of the reservation.

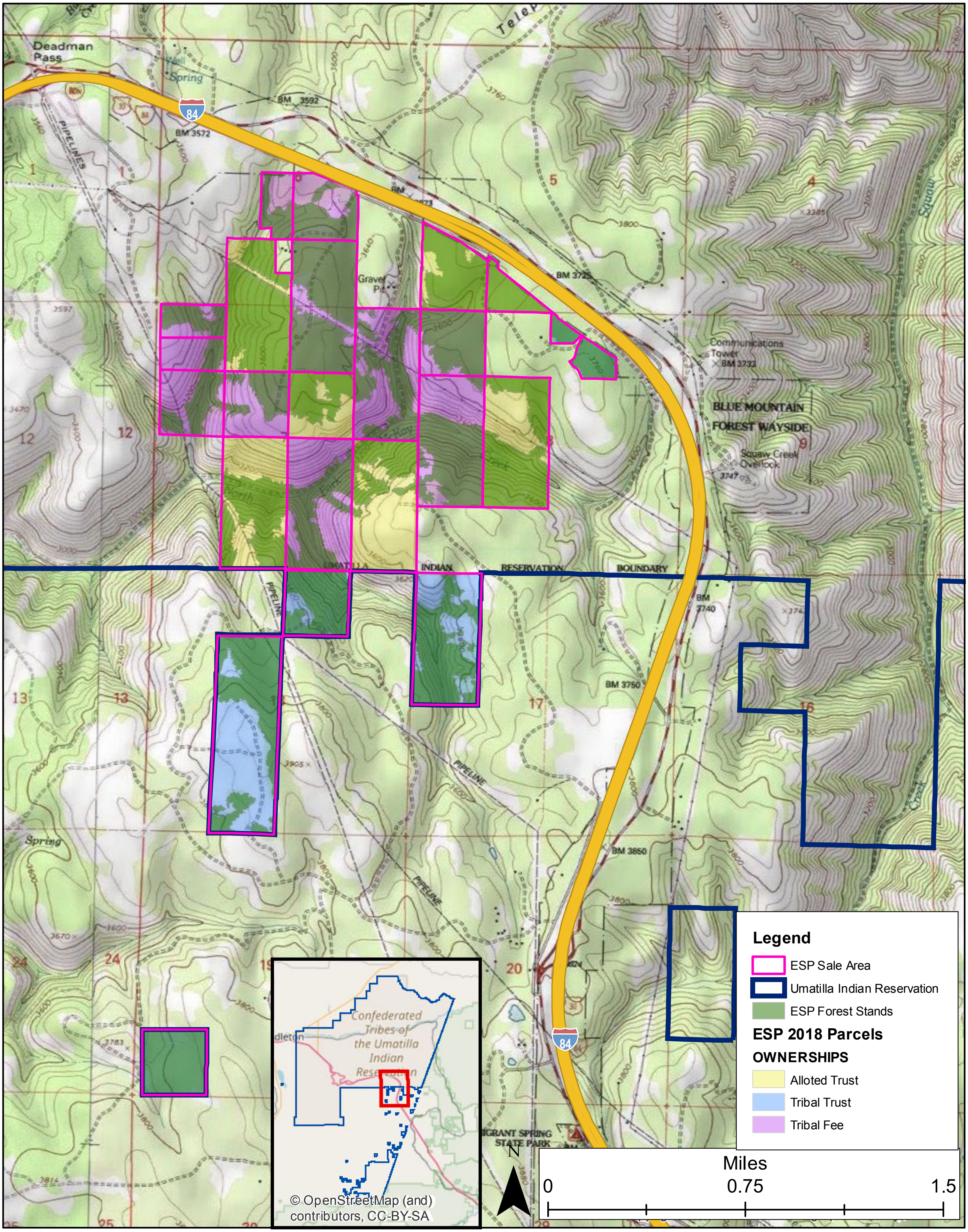


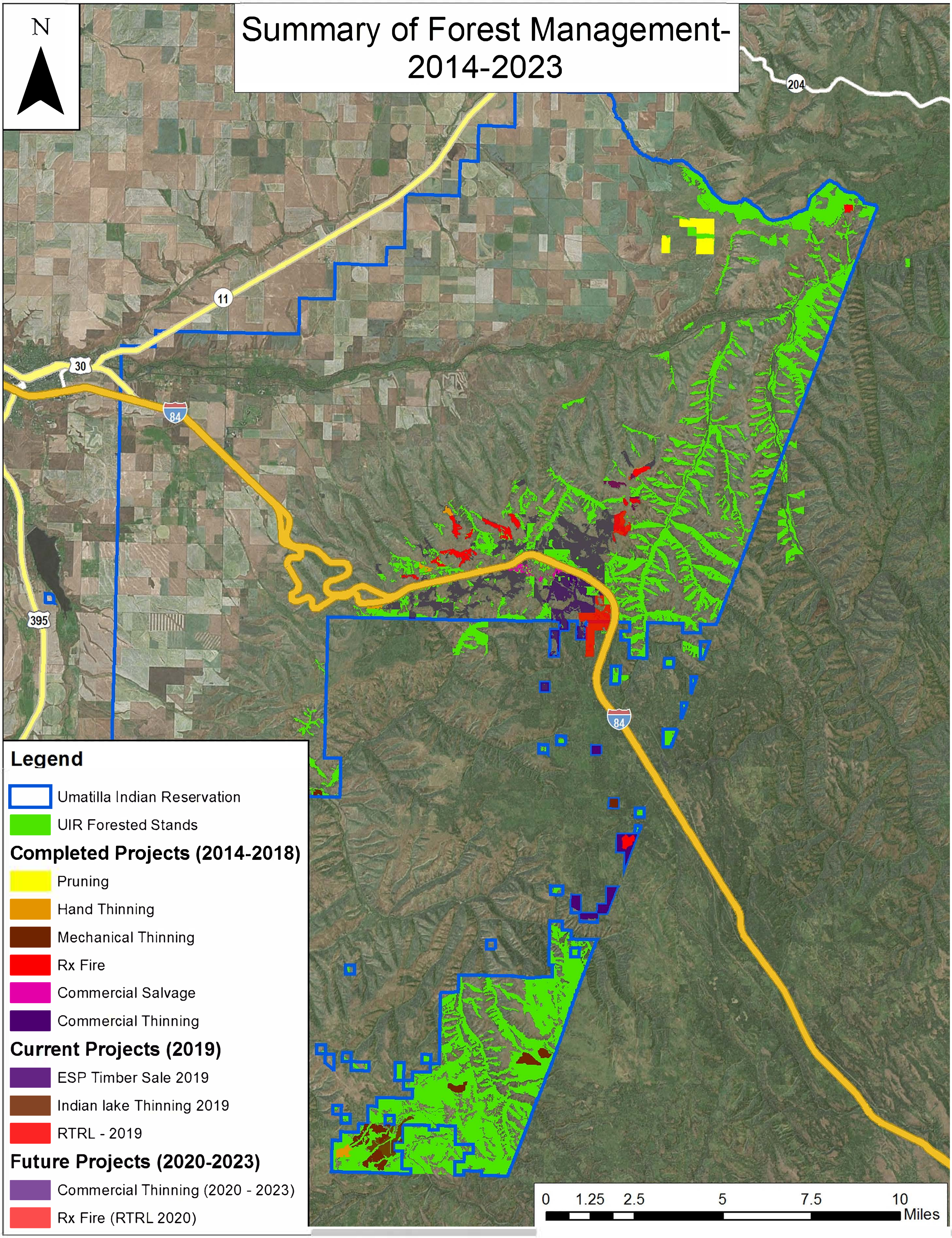

N
CTUIR Land Ownership
204
11
30
84
395
84
Legend
Major Highways
Highways
Major Roads
Ramps
Umatilla Indian Reservation
Ownership
Fee
Allotted Trust
Tribal Trust
Tribal Fee
0 1.25 2.5 5 7.5 10
Miles



UIR Range Units
N
11
30
84
395
204
3
6
6
7
7
8
8
8
9
9
9
10
10
10
10
10
11
11
11
12
12
12
12
5
5
5
5
16
15
14
Legend
Range Units
Umatilla Indian Reservation
0 1.25 2.5 5 7.5 10
Miles

ESP TImber Sale Area





N
Summary of Forest Management-
2014-2023
204
11
30
84
395
84
Legend
Umatilla Indian Reservation
UIR Forested Stands
Completed Projects (2014-2018)
Pruning
Hand Thinning
Mechanical Thinning
Rx Fire
Commercial Salvage
Commercial Thinning
Current Projects (2019)
ESP Timber Sale 2019
Indian lake Thinning 2019
RTRL - 2019
Future Projects (2020-2023)
Commercial Thinning (2020 - 2023)
Rx Fire (RTRL 2020)
0 1.25 2.5 5 7.5 10
Miles

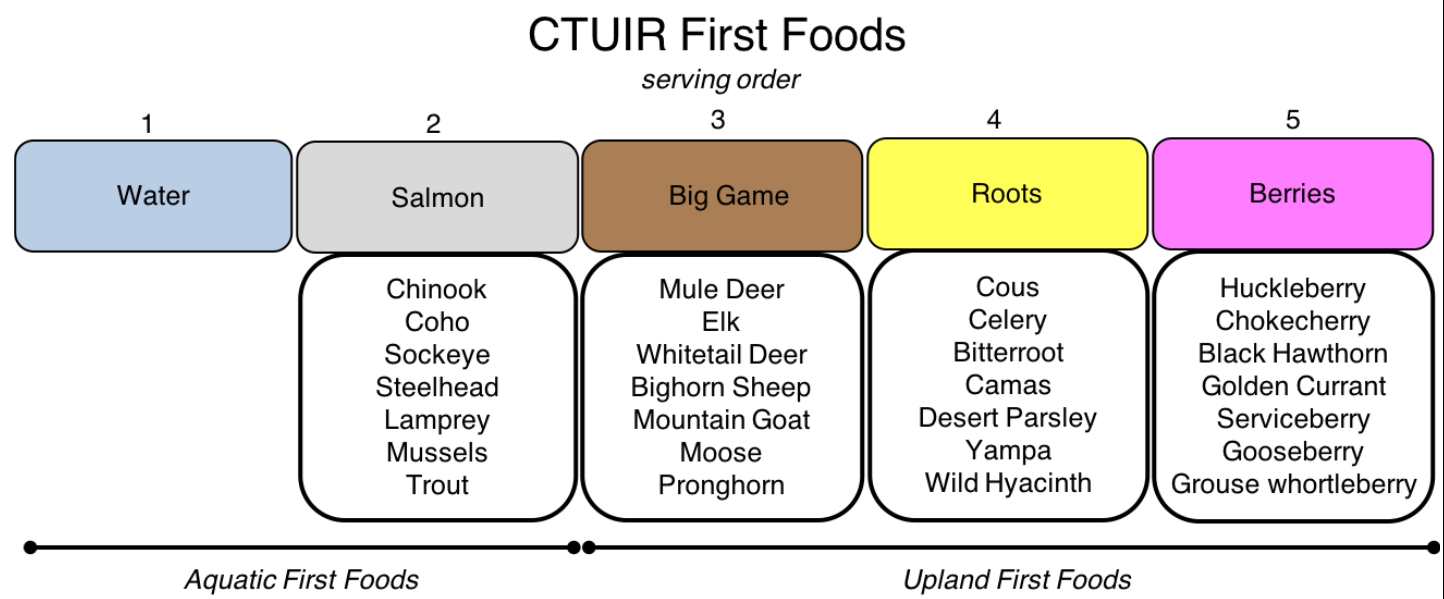


Figure 1. The First Foods serving order with a partial list of ecologically-related species for each serving group. The First Food groups of Big Game, Roots and Berries are associated with upland ecosystems and are the focus of this document. The First Food groups of Water and Salmon are discussed in detail in Jones et al. (2008).

Table 4. Two hypothetical examples of projects, one in a shrub-steppe ecosystem (above) and the other in moist conifer forest (below), that link management activity, the relevant site-specific First Foods affected, and the touchstones to be addressed. The blue boxes with the "X" indicates touchstones addressed in the example management actions. The white indicates touchstones that are not addressed by project design, and the yellow boxes indicate touchstones that may be negatively impacted by management activities, which in turn may negatively impact First Foods, and therefore require specific consideration, scheduling requirements and/or mitigation action.

				CTUIR Upland Vision Touchstones and Attributes			
Shrub-Steppe	**Project Description**	**First Food Group**	**Principal First Food Species**	**Soil Stability** Physical Chemical Biological	**Hydrologic Function** Capture Storage Release Quality	**Landscape Pattern** Patch size & extent Spatial arrangement Connectivity Heterogeneity	**Biotic Integrity** Composition Structure Species interactions First Foods
	Shrub-steppe restoration including invasive plant control, seeding with native perennial grasses, rest from livestock grazing, protection of existing suppressed shrubs	Big Game	Mule Deer Elk	X	X	X	X
		Roots	Cous Bitterroot Wild Hyacinth	X	X		X
		Berries	Serviceberry				X
	Invasive plant control and seeding with native perennial grasses will primarily improve biotic integrity, with subsequent positive impacts on soil stability and hydrologic function. This benefits Big Game by improving winter range (increased forage quality and increase in spatial extent of improved winter range) and Roots by reducing/eliminating potential non-native competitors. Resting the site from livestock grazing will directly improve soil stability, hydrologic function and biotic integrity by increasing vegetative cover, reducing soil compaction, increasing organic matter input into the soil, and promoting establishment of biological soil crust. This benefits both Big Game and Roots, and may also reduce browse pressure on serviceberry.						

				CTUIR Upland Vision Touchstones and Attributes			
Moist Conifer Forest	**Project Description**	**First Food Group**	**Principal First Food Species**	**Soil Stability** Physical Chemical Biological	**Hydrologic Function** Capture Storage Release Quality	**Landscape Pattern** Patch size & extent Spatial arrangement Connectivity Heterogeneity	**Biotic Integrity** Composition Structure Species interactions First Foods
	Fuels reduction treatment (mechanical and prescribed fire) including reduction of surface fuels, a decrease in crown density, and retaining large fire-resistant species. Implemented in a way that increases stand heterogeneity.	Big Game	Mule Deer Elk			X	X
		Berries	Huckleberry			X	X
	Fuels reduction treatments implemented in order to reduce high fuel loads as a result of decades of fire suppression will support ecosystem health and function. This management action supports Big Game by altering stand structure and composition (Biotic Integrity) which should improve summer range by increasing understory forage quantity and quality. Potential negative impacts which must be mediated include damage to soil stability and hydrological function during treatment which can ultimately affect biotic integrity and the availability of forage resources. Additionally it is important to ensure security cover for Big Game, and consider how stand management supports overall landscape pattern attributes that promote Big Game abundance and health. Management action also supports huckleberry by reintroducing fire to the stand and increasing light in the understory. It is important to recognize in the short term, huckleberry production may decline as a result of stand treatment, and this may inform the timing, extent and spatial configuration of fuels reduction across the landscape to ensure huckleberry availability. Minimizing damage to soil structure and stability during fuels treatments should promote huckleberry recovery.						

Source: CTUIR DNR Upland Vision April 2019

Comprehensive Rangeland Resource Inventory
for the
Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation
December 2009

Executive Summary

The American Indian Agricultural Management Act mandates the development of an integrated Range Resource Management Plan. This comprehensive rangeland resource inventory provides necessary data and recommendations CTUIR needs to complete development of the Range Resource Management Plan and to comply with NEPA requirements. The objectives for this rangeland inventory included a) determining the rangeland condition and resource health on 11 range units, b) calculating forage production for proper stocking rate determination, and c) documenting needed rangeland improvements and management change.

Synergy Resource Solutions, Inc. collected rangeland resource inventory data on 66,356 acres on 11 range units on the UIR in May and July, 2009. Data collected included species composition by weight, vegetation production, site photos, weed inventory, and culturally significant plant inventory. Data were collected on lower elevation range units from May 19–31 and on higher elevation range units from July 22-28, 2009. Observers sampled 164 plots and estimated 342 plots for a total of 506 plots (more than the required 155 sampled plots, 300 estimated plots, and 455 total plots).

The inventory provided data necessary for effective management of grazing management and invasive species. The data also provide information on ecological trends, watershed function, wildlife habitat, and culturally significant plants. The stocking rate data calculated from the inventory provided information necessary to set sustainable stocking rates for leased range units.

The following table reports calculated stocking rates, the average similarity index, and acres in each classification of similarity index for each range unit.

Calculated Stocking Rate and Similarity Index Data

RU	Calculated Stocking Rate	Weighted Average Similarity Index	SI<25%		SI 25-50%		SI 50-75%		SI>75%	
	AUMs	%	acres	%	acres	%	acres	%	acres	%
RU3	1660	43%	1744	13%	8692	66%	1392	11%	1329	10%
RU5	1027	21%	1638	64%	566	22%	271	11%	71	3%
RU6	1744	28%	4309	50%	2811	33%	1074	13%	360	4%
RU8	980	27%	2104	50%	1579	37%	559	13%	0	0%
RU9	479	24%	1158	52%	797	36%	268	12%	0	0%
RU10	344	29%	1331	67%	161	8%	503	25%	0	0%
RU11	335	54%	210	12%	197	11%	1348	77%	0	0%
RU12	557	39%	985	25%	1922	49%	980	25%	0	0%
RU14	166	19%	166	81%	38	19%	0	0%	0	0%
RU15	984	31%	803	33%	920	38%	711	29%	0	0%
RU16	376	49%	425	42%	85	8%	0	0%	504	50%
Total	8651	35%	14984	36%	17590	42%	7070	17%	2368	6%

The following table compares calculated stocking rates to permitted stocking rate for each range unit.

Calculated and Permitted Stocking Rate (AUMs)

RU	Calculated Stocking Rate (AUMs)	Permitted Stocking Rate (AUMs)	Ratio Calculated/ Permitted Stocking Rate
RU3	1660	1056	157%
RU5	1027	622	165%
RU6	1744	1106	158%
RU8	980	847	116%
RU9	479	512	94%
RU10	344	143	240%
RU11	335	215	156%
RU12	557	765	73%
RU14	166	150	111%
RU15	984	525	188%
RU16	376	405	93%
Total	8651	6346	136%

Most of the plots sampled had low similarity index but were in stable condition. It is unlikely that changes in grazing management alone are going to create rapid changes in ecological condition. Changes are likely to require decades to be noticeable. This should not be used as a reason to not make any changes. But it is important to match expectations and objectives with realistic timelines.

Seven range units have 3-pasture rotations (or soon will have). Three-pasture systems will adequately provide critical growing season deferment for the months cattle are grazed on CTUIR. These systems will be most beneficial to range resources if pastures receive critical growing season use 1 out of 3 years. Bluebunch wheatgrass can maintain vigor with 1 out of 3 spring use. Range unit 6 has a 2-pasture rotation that is adequate for maintaining plant vigor. Range units 14, 15, and 16 each have a single pasture. The current strategy of deferring use on this single pasture until after seed ripe is sound. Consideration should be given to using range units 14 and 15 as a two pasture rotation to provide additional management flexibility. This would provide opportunity for hot-season deferment on riparian areas in range unit 14.

Although similarity index is generally low across UIR, this does not appear to be due to recent grazing. There is no “silver bullet” that will markedly increase grazing capacity or rapidly improve ecological condition. This is because management is currently working and because most ecological sites are in stable states, (frequently due to invasive annual grasses). Change in grazing management alone is not likely to create significant improvement in the short or medium term.

Distance to water is generally not an issue on UIR. However, topography is an issue that impacts availability of water. Cattle on UIR can be only ¼ to ½ mile from water but have to travel more than a mile around a canyon or cross a canyon to get to water. Because of this certain areas are lightly used. Cattle may be unwilling to travel to some areas in hot part of season. Continue development of water sources that provide troughs outside of the riparian areas.

Observations from the 2009 growing season indicate that stocking rates are appropriate for each of the range units. There was nothing to indicate that stocking rates should be changed on any of the range units. There are opportunities to increase stocking rates on Range Unit 10 if sufficient water developments are installed.

Feral horses create management challenges on URI. They are removing substantial forage allocated to wildlife and livestock. More importantly, due to their season-long unmanaged use, they are nullifying positive impacts of proper livestock management.

In order to effectively implement any other grazing management improvements, feral horse numbers must be controlled. Until feral horse numbers are controlled, changes in livestock management will have little positive impact.

Appropriate populations levels for feral horses are political decisions. There is no biological answer to appropriate stocking rate for horses. They are a domesticated large herbivore with few natural population controls. They are well adapted to thrive yearlong on the rangelands of UIR. They will concentrate on an area until it is utilized well beyond a sustainable level.

Invasive species are the biggest impact on resource conditions on UIR. However, they are more difficult to change than feral horse numbers. Many areas are dominated by invasive annual grasses. Most of these areas have crossed a threshold where it will be very difficult to return them to native communities. Changes in grazing management alone will not create these changes.

Natural ecosystems have been further altered by the introduction of exotic plant species, such as Medusahead (*Taeniatherum caput-medusae*), cheatgrass (*Bromus tectorum)*, St. Johnswort (*Hypericum perforatum*), teasel (*Dipsacus fullonum*), and houndstongue (*Hieracium cynoglossoides*). These plant species became established and spread on private and Indian trust lands. Consequently, plant diversity, site stability, and the economic and social values of rangeland and forests have been reduced.

CTUIR has an invasive weed program in place for noxious weeds and invasive broad-leafed weeds that can be treated with herbicides. This program should continue.