Buckman Direct Diversion Project

A joint regional project of the City of Santa Fe and Santa Fe County to build a reliable and sustainable water supply.

MEMORANDUM

Date: December 17, 2012

To: Buckman Direct Diversion Board

From: Rick Carpenter, BDD Project Manager RC
Alan Hamilton, New Mexico Wildlife Federation
Todd Caplan, GeoSystems, Inc.

Subject: **Update on Required Habitat Restoration Efforts for the BDD Project Near the Rio Grande**

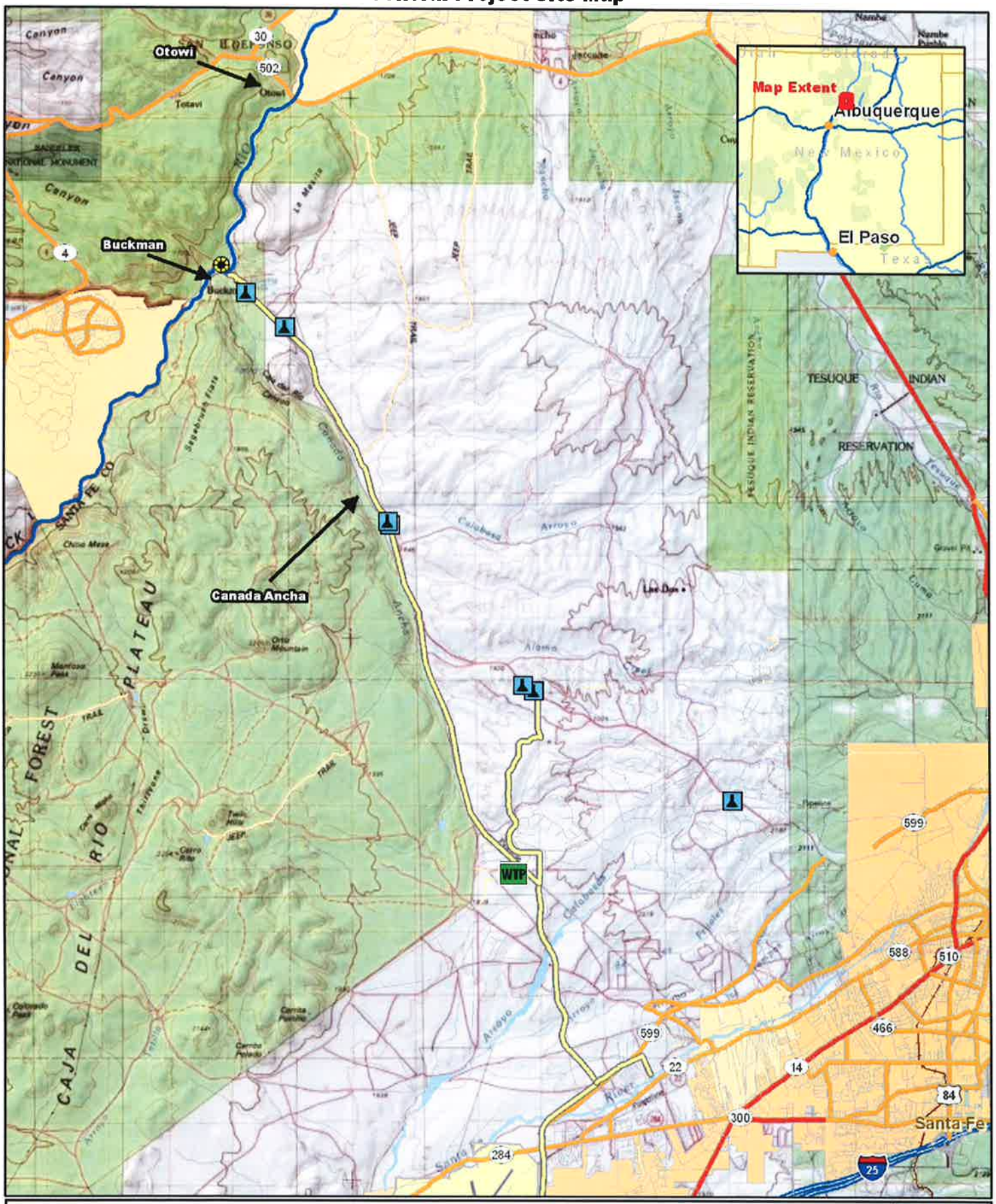
BACKGROUND

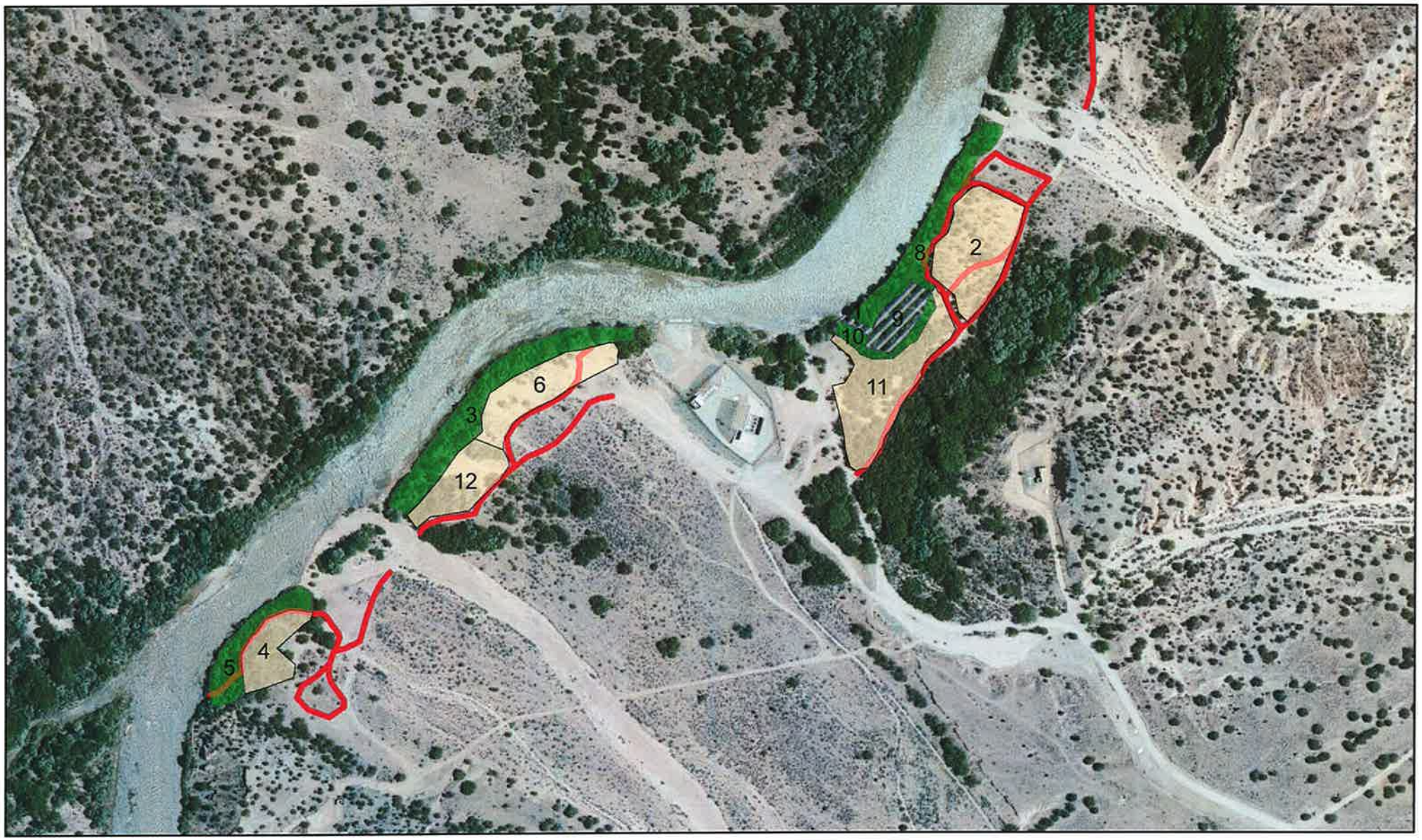
The BDD Project is required to perform certain environmental mitigation measures pursuant to the Project's NEPA Environmental Impact Statement. Generally, the BDD is required to remove certain non-native vegetation, revegetate the areas with native riparian and upland species, and maintain the newly restored habitat until it becomes naturally self-sustaining. The BDD Project is required to restore approximately 7 acres of aquatic-wetland habitat, 6.6 acres of riparian habitat, and 25 acres of upland habitat. In addition to BDD project efforts, the New Mexico Wildlife Federation is also in the early stages of habitat restoration on an adjacent piece of riparian lands. The two projects are very similar in nature and scope; therefore, project planners and ecologists expect that collaboration can result in mutual benefits and synergistic effects, in addition to possible savings on costs to both projects.

The next stage of restoration efforts will consist of implementing forestry treatments to approximately a total of 18 acres of non-native forest dominated by saltcedar, Russian olive and Siberian elm. Forestry treatments will be implemented in a manner that minimizes soil disturbance, minimizes damage to existing native plants within the project area, and minimizes the need for follow-up herbicide applications to non-native tree root-sprouts.

In addition to the forestry work, the project involves excavating a small backwater channel and floodplain depression that will eventually be planted with native willows and cottonwoods. The entire project area will be revegetated with native plants through combinations of pole planting and seeding. Revegetation will be implemented in phases over the next 15 months.

General Project Site Map





BDD Habitat Mitigation Area

- Full Treatment
- Masticate All (no herbicide, no down-wood)
- Pile down-wood
- Skid-Roads

Polygon	Acreage	Forestry
1	0.04	Masticate All (no herbicide, no down-wood)
2	1.04	Pile down-wood
3	1.04	Full Treatment
4	0.45	Pile down-wood
5	0.45	Full Treatment
6	0.76	Pile down-wood
8	0.71	Full Treatment
9	0.32	Masticate All (no herbicide, no down-wood)
10	0.20	Full Treatment
11	1.13	Pile down-wood
12	0.59	Pile down-wood

0 250 500 1,000 Feet

N W E S

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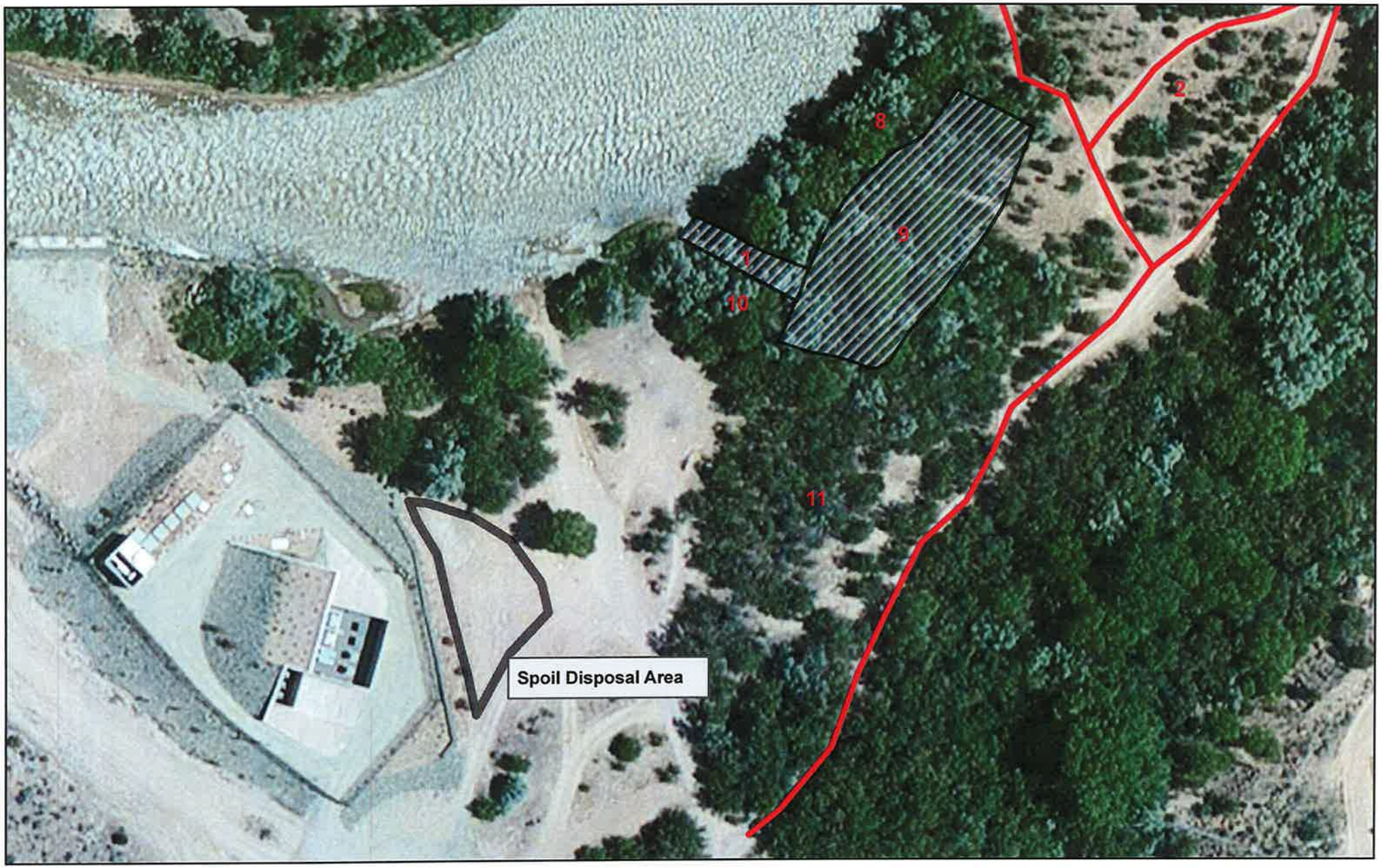

BDD Mitigation - Earth Work

- Excavation Area
- Spoil Disposal Area
- Skid-Roads

Backwater Channel (Polygon 1) Dimensions = 80 ft. L x 18 ft. W x 1.5 ft. D
*target bottom elevation 5,462 ft.

Floodplain Depression (Polygon 9) Dimensions = 197 ft. L x 84 ft. W x 3 ft. D
*target bottom elevation 5,463 ft.

Side Slopes No Steeper than 3:1

0 50 100 200 Feet

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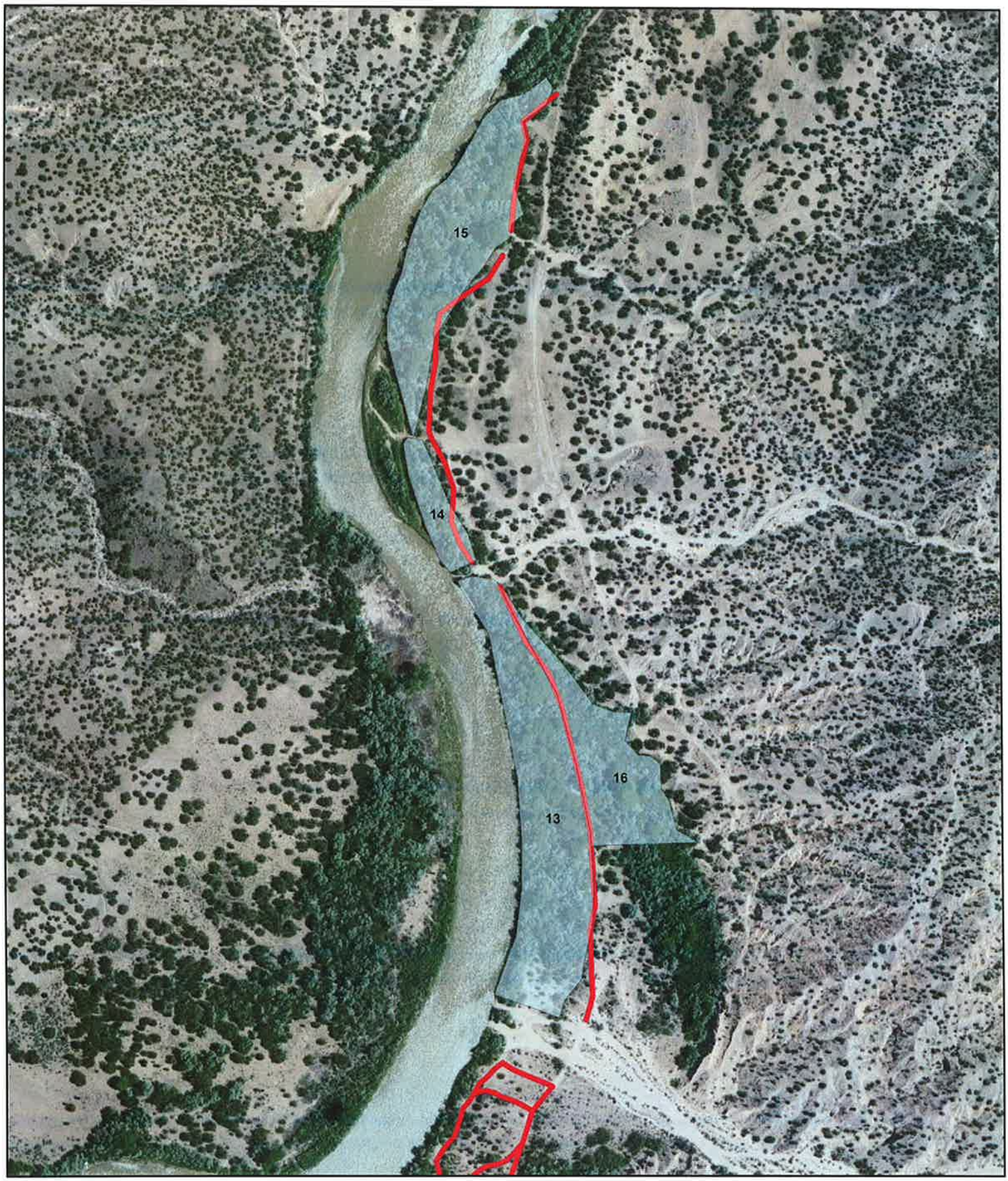

NMWF Treatment Area

NMWF Forestry Treatments

Skid-Roads

Polygon	Acres
13	4.36
14	0.67
15	3.3
16	2.01

0 250 500 1,000 Feet

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