



FUTURE FISHERIES IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM GRANT APPLICATION

All sections must be addressed, or the application will be considered invalid



I. APPLICANT INFORMATION

A. Applicant Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: _____ E-mail: _____

B. Contact Person (if different than applicant): _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: _____ E-mail: _____

C. Landowner and/or Lessee Name (if different than applicant): _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: _____ E-mail: _____

II. PROJECT INFORMATION

A. Project Name: _____

River, stream, or lake: _____

Location: Township: _____ Range: _____ Section: _____

Latitude: _____ Longitude: _____ *Within project (decimal degrees)*

County: _____

B. Purpose of Project: *(high level, focus on why the project is important)*

- C. Brief Project Description (attach additional information to end of application). Please include the anticipated construction schedule:

- D. What was the cause of habitat degradation and how will the project correct the cause?

- C. Will the project be monitored to determine if goals were met? If so, what are the short-term and long-term plans to assess benefits and lessons learned? Were pre-project data collected? Will monitoring information be shared with FWP?

IV. PROJECT BENEFITS (attach additional information to end of application):

- A. What species of fish will benefit from this project?

- B. How will the project protect or enhance wild fish habitat?

- C. What is the expected improvement to fish populations, both short term and long term? How might the project translate to angler success?

BUDGET TEMPLATE SHEET FOR FUTURE FISHERIES PROGRAM APPLICATIONS

Both tables MUST be completed appropriately or the application will be invalid. Please see the example budget sheet for clarification.

PROJECT COSTS					GRANT REQUEST AND FUNDING			
Work Items (Itemize by Category)	Number of Units	Unit Description*	Cost/Unit	Total Cost	FUTURE FISHERIES REQUEST	Matching Contributions (Cash or In- Kind)***	Other Contributions (Funds not used as match)	Total Funding
<i>*Units = feet, hours, cubic yards, etc. Do not use lump sum unless necessary.</i>								
Personnel								
Survey	1	Contractor Surve	\$3,305.00	\$ 3,305.00			3,305.00	\$ 3,305.00
Design	30	Hours	\$36.00	\$ 1,080.00		1,080.00		\$ 1,080.00
Engineering	0		\$0.00	\$ -				\$ -
Permitting	30	Hours	\$36.00	\$ 1,080.00		1,080.00		\$ 1,080.00
Oversight	80	hours	\$36.00	\$ 2,880.00		2,880.00		\$ 2,880.00
Maintenance**				\$ -				\$ -
		Sub-Total		\$ 8,345.00	\$ -	\$ 5,040.00	\$ 3,305.00	\$ 8,345.00
Travel								
Mileage	2400	Miles	\$0.70	\$ 1,680.00		1,680.00		\$ 1,680.00
Per diem	0		\$0.00	\$ -				\$ -
		Sub-Total		\$ 1,680.00		\$ 1,680.00	\$ -	\$ 1,680.00
Construction Materials								
BDA Posts	1600	Per Post	\$8.00	\$ 12,800.00	12,800.00			\$ 12,800.00
Willow Cuttings	15000	Cuttings	\$1.00	\$ 15,000.00		15,000.00		\$ 15,000.00
Browse Protection Fence	4000	linear feet	\$2.00	\$ 8,000.00	8,000.00			\$ 8,000.00
Woody Debris for BDAs	1	total debris value	\$15,000.00	\$ 15,000.00		15,000.00		\$ 15,000.00
T-Posts for Browse Protection	330	per post	\$9.00	\$ 2,970.00	2,970.00			\$ 2,970.00
				\$ -				\$ -
				\$ -				\$ -
				\$ -				\$ -
		Sub-Total		\$ 53,770.00	\$ 23,770.00	\$ 30,000.00	\$ -	\$ 53,770.00
Equipment, Labor, and Mobilization								
Volunteer Labor	950	hours	\$36.14	\$ 34,333.00		34,333.00		\$ 34,333.00
Staff Labor	320	hours	\$36.00	\$ 11,520.00		11,520.00		\$ 11,520.00
Brush Bank Installation	1	Contractor Servie	\$30,000.00	\$ 30,000.00	10,000.00	20,000.00		\$ 30,000.00
Survey/Design Support	1	Contractor Servie	\$20,874.00	\$ 20,874.00		20,874.00		\$ 20,874.00
				\$ -				\$ -

BUDGET TEMPLATE SHEET FOR FUTURE FISHERIES PROGRAM APPLICATIONS

			\$ -				\$ -
			\$ -				\$ -
			\$ -				\$ -
			\$ -				\$ -
			\$ -				\$ -
			\$ -				\$ -
		Sub-Total	\$ 96,727.00	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 86,727.00	\$ -	\$ 96,727.00
		OVERALL TOTALS	\$ 160,522.00	\$ 33,770.00	\$ 123,447.00	\$ 3,305.00	\$ 160,522.00

OTHER REQUIREMENTS:

**For projects that include a maintenance request, it cannot exceed 10% of the total project cost.

***Match can include in-kind materials or labor. Justification for in-kind labor (e.g. hourly rates used) can be noted below. Do not use government salaries as match.

Additional budget detail: Volunteer hours calculated via the average national value of volunteer labor as of 2026 (\$36.14 per hour).

APPLICATION MATCHING CONTRIBUTIONS

Total should equal match listed above; do not include requested funds

CONTRIBUTOR	IN-KIND	CASH	TOTAL	Secured? (Y/N)
DEQ Non-Point Source Pollution Program	\$ -	\$ 59,114.00	\$ 59,114.00	Y
BWP Volunteer and Materials Match	\$ 64,333.00	\$ -	\$ 64,333.00	Y
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
TOTALS	\$ 64,333.00	\$ 59,114.00	\$ 123,447.00	

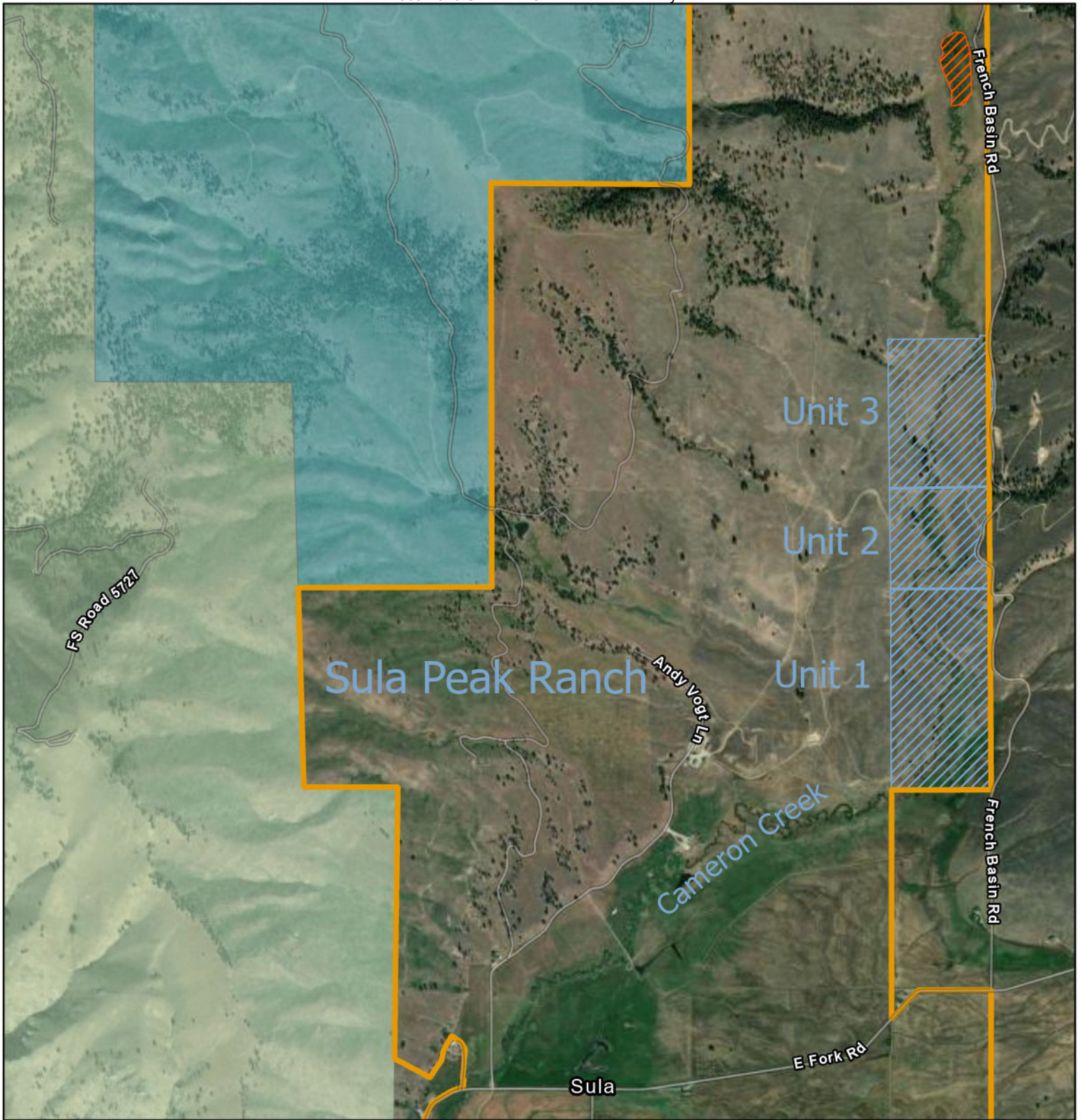
OTHER CONTRIBUTIONS

Total should equal other contributions listed above; these are funds not specically matched to the Future Fisheries application

CONTRIBUTOR	IN-KIND	CASH	TOTAL	Secured? (Y/N)
DEQ Non-Point Source Pollution Program	\$ -	\$ 3,305.00	\$ 3,305.00	Y
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	

BUDGET TEMPLATE SHEET FOR FUTURE FISHERIES PROGRAM APPLICATIONS

	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-
TOTALS	\$	-	\$	3,305.00	\$	3,305.00



Upper Cameron Creek Restoration Project Overview

Sula Peak Ranch Boundary Reference Reach Project Area Pasture Fence

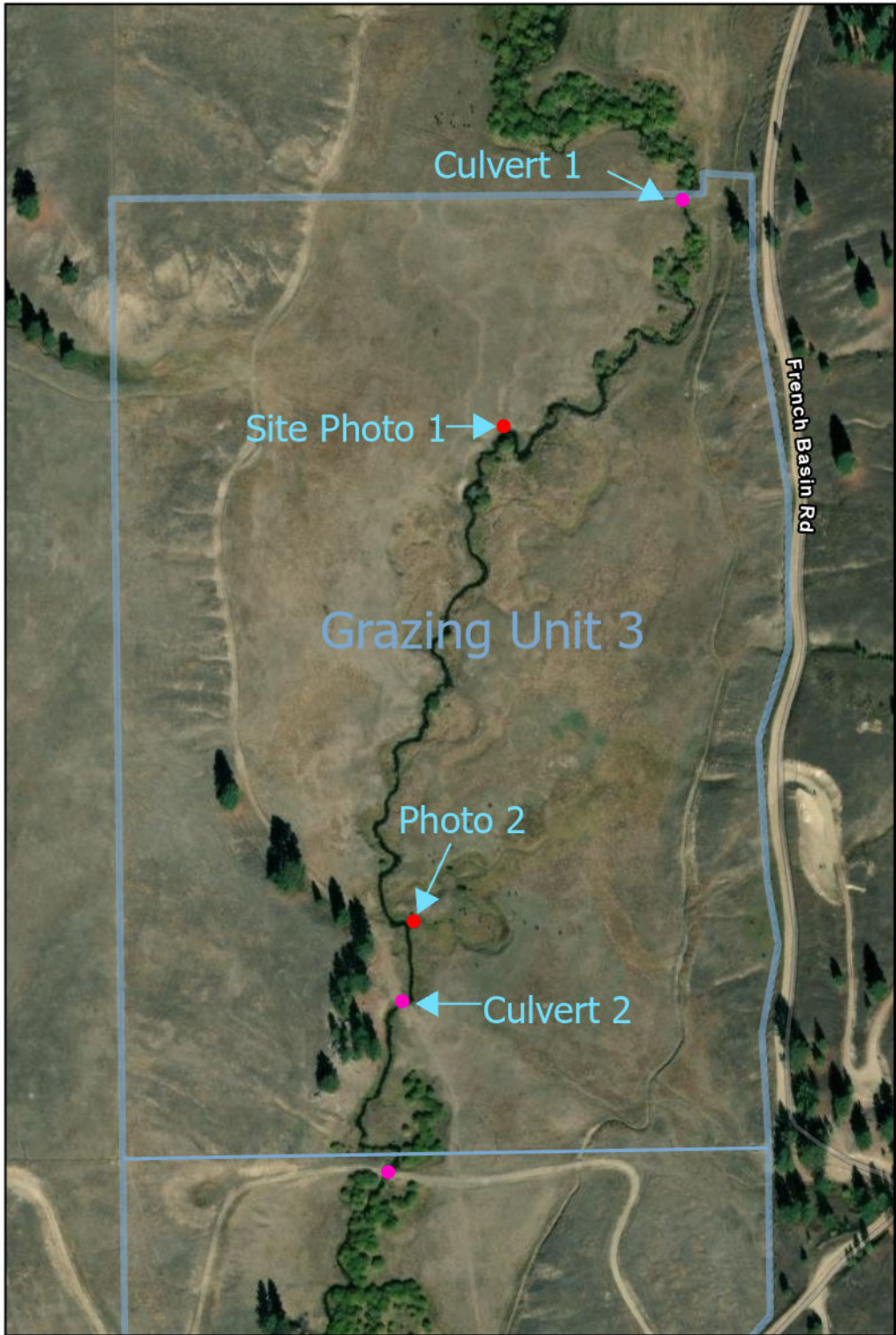
   

Project Coordinates: 45.8671487, -113.9527311

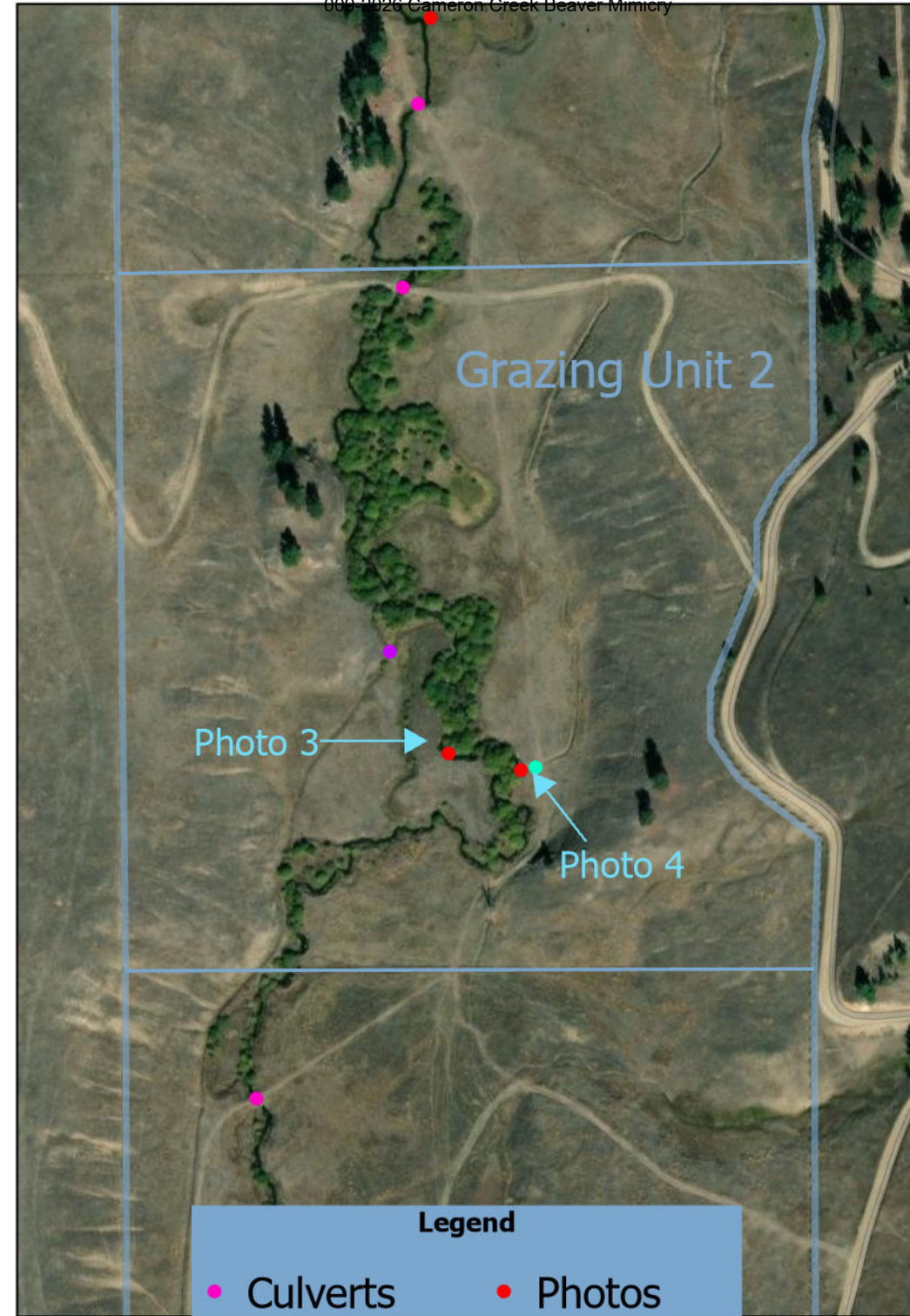
Stream Restoration Possible: 2.5 miles

Wetland/Floodplain Potential: Up to 20 Acres

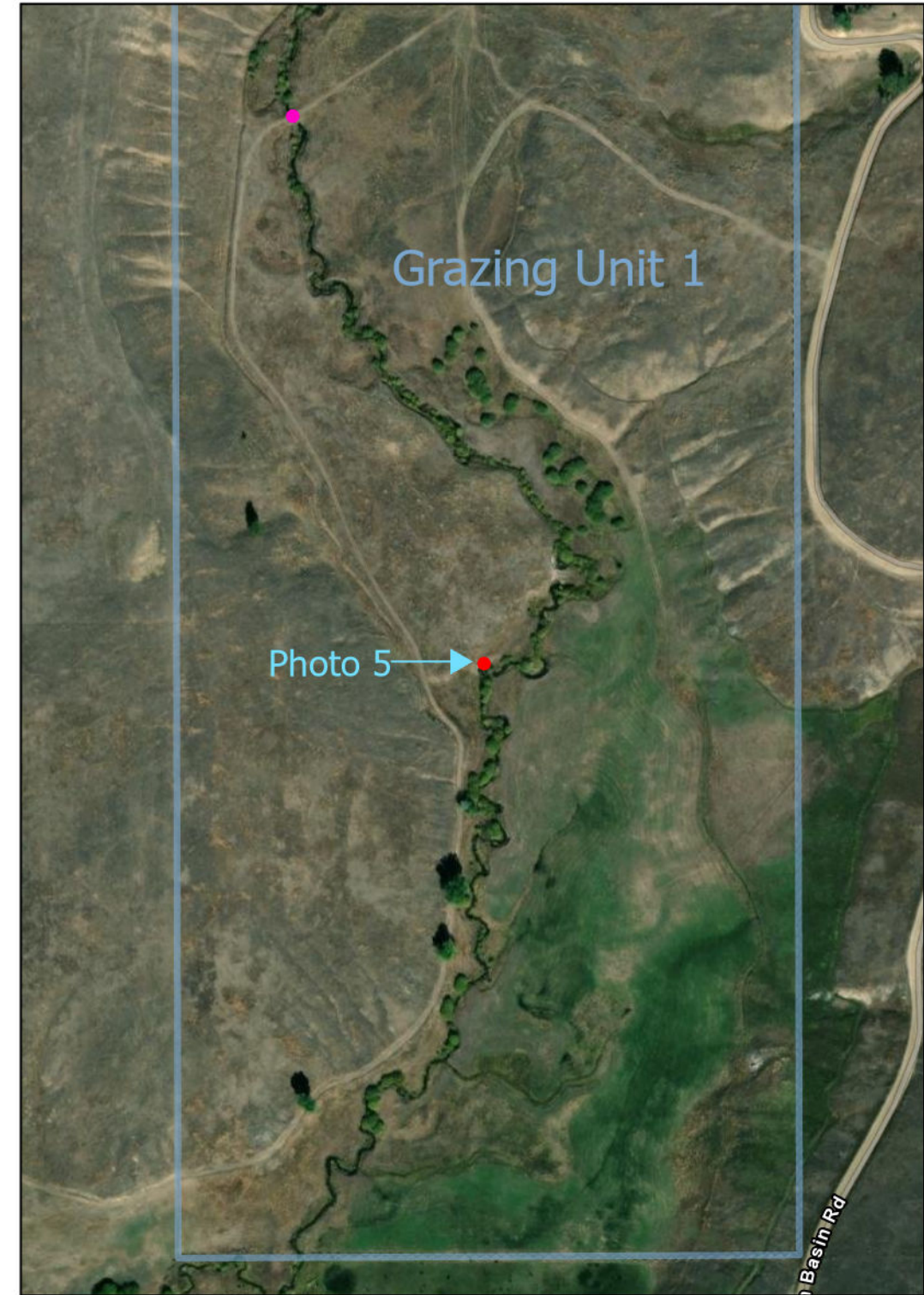




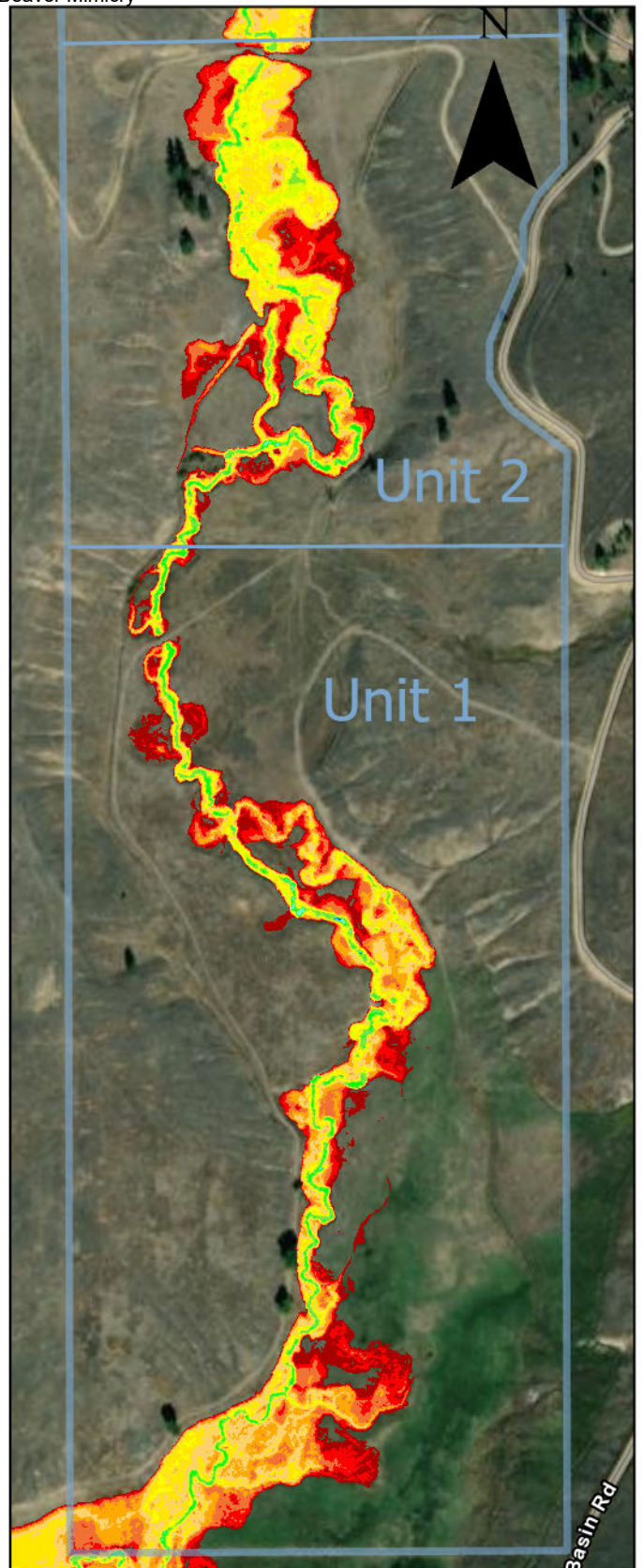
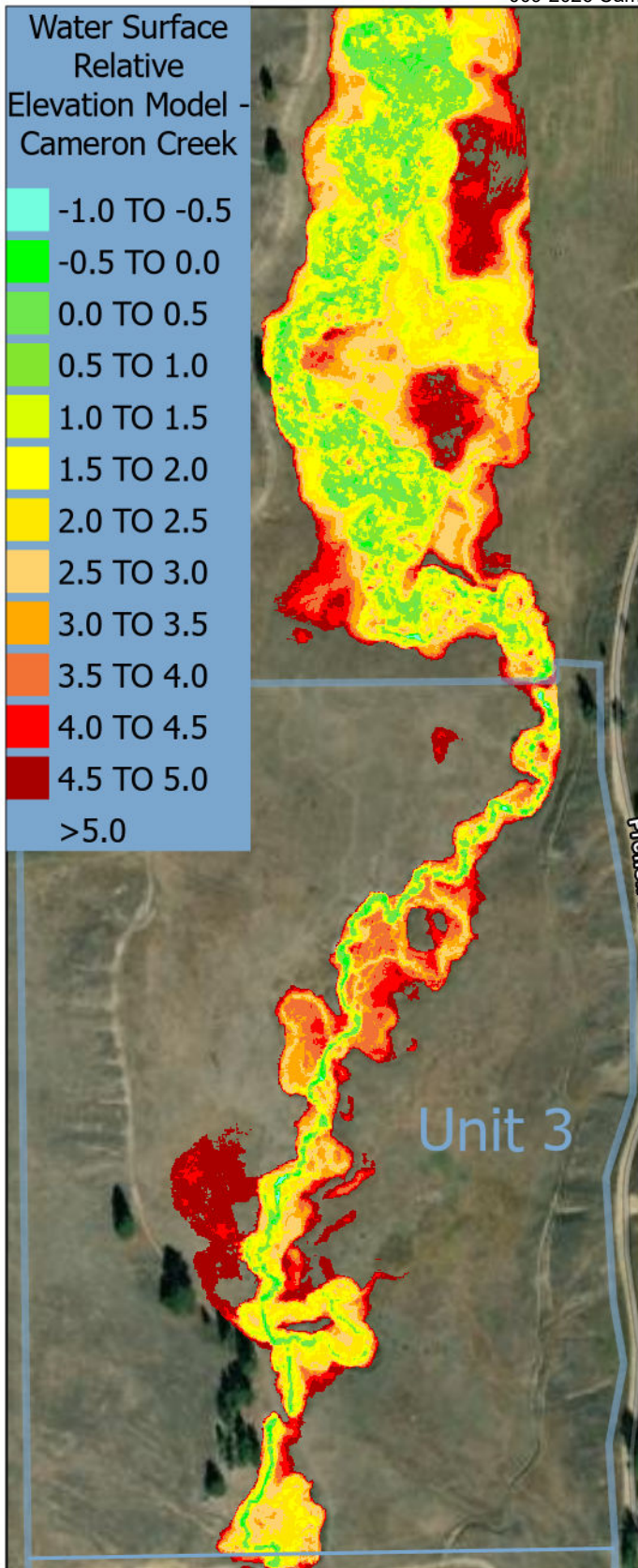
2027 - Phase I
 1. 60+ BDA structures in Unit 3
 2. 5000+ willows planted in Unit 3
 3. Headcut repair in Unit 2.
 4. Brush bank treatments on up to 100 feet of bank in Unit 1.



2028 - Phase II
 1. 60+ BDAs in Unit 1.
 2. 5000+ willows planted in Units 1 and 3.
 3. Beaver mitigation devices installed.
 4. Brush bank treatments on up to 100 feet of bank in Unit 3.



2029 - Phase III
 1. up to 80 BDAs in Units 1, 2, and 3.
 2. 5000+ Willows planted across all units.



Relative Elevation Model to estimate inundation under various changes to water surface elevation. If water surface elevation is initially elevated one foot, water inundation would be within the areas in green. Over time, water surface elevation could be raised 2.5-3 feet, regularly inundating the regions in yellow/light orange. Current wetland/beaver habitat is visible in Unit 4, and an approximate reference condition.

Cameron Creek 2026 Site Photos

Photo numbers below match locations in the “CameronCreek_2026_Phases_Map” Attachment.



Photo 1, Unit 3: 8-foot tall eroded bank.



Photo 2, Unit 3: Side channel area that could be connected to the main channel using BDAs.



Photo 3, Unit 2: Example of eroding banks that occur in most of the project area.



Site Photo 4, Unit 2: Headcutting at ditch outlet into Cameron Creek.



Photo 5, Unit 1: 10-foot tall, eroded bank.

Montana Department of Environmental Quality
Watershed Protection Bureau
PO Box 200901
Helena, MT 59620

Dear 319 Panelists:

I would like to offer my support of the Bitterroot Water Partnership's latest restoration project application on our property, "2026 Bitterroot Headwaters Restoration." BWP has completed successful stream restoration projects on Cameron Creek both up- and downstream of this proposed project for 2027-2029. Each project has improved the stream and habitat on the property substantially, and we have coordinated with BWP on projects around the East Fork Bitterroot as well. We look forward to pursuing further restoration together on Cameron Creek at Sula Peak Ranch.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Paul Nelson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end.

Paul Nelson, Ranch Manager, Sula Peak Ranch LLC



FWP.MT.GOV

THE OUTSIDE IS IN US ALL.

Jason Lindstrom
Fisheries Biologist
1801 North First Street
Hamilton, MT 59840

March 6, 2026

RE: Statement of impact for Bitterroot Water Partnership's Cameron Creek project.

This letter is being provided as a statement of impact for the project proposed by the Bitterroot Water Partnership on Cameron Creek in the Bitterroot Headwaters area. As the fisheries biologist for Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks in the Bitterroot drainage, I am very familiar with the project location. Cameron Creek is a direct tributary to the East Fork Bitterroot River, which is listed as an impaired waterbody on Montana's 303(d) list. While Cameron Creek is not listed as impaired, it suffers from similar issues as the East Fork including elevated water temperatures, sedimentation, and reduced woody stream-side vegetation. The stream supports native westslope cutthroat trout, a species of concern, although poor habitat quality in the lower portion of the drainage limits occupancy in this area.

Historic land use practices have led to severe habitat degradation along much of lower Cameron Creek. Woody riparian vegetation removal and channelization have caused significant down cutting in many areas as well as accelerated bank erosion. Pool habitat necessary to support a quality fishery is limited, as is spawning and rearing habitat for native salmonids. In addition to channel instability, the lack of woody vegetation along much of lower Cameron Creek has led to elevated summer water temperatures further limiting habitat quality.

The low-tech process-based restoration techniques in addition to soft bank treatments discussed in the Bitterroot Water Partnership's application are appropriate to address project objectives. Properly implemented, the beaver dam analog structures and bank treatments, in conjunction with riparian plantings and grazing management, will accelerate the natural recovery of the area. It will help to aggrade the stream bed and reconnect this section of Cameron Creek to a functional floodplain. The project will also help to increase habitat complexity and pool habitat, providing a direct benefit to the fishery.

This proposed project complements FWP's management direction for the drainage as described in the current Statewide Fisheries Management Plan 2023-2026, which is to conserve and enhance migratory and resident native trout populations.

Sincerely,

Jason Lindstrom

Jason Lindstrom – Fisheries Biologist
Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks
Ph# (406) 529-8058
Email: Jason.Lindstrom@mt.gov