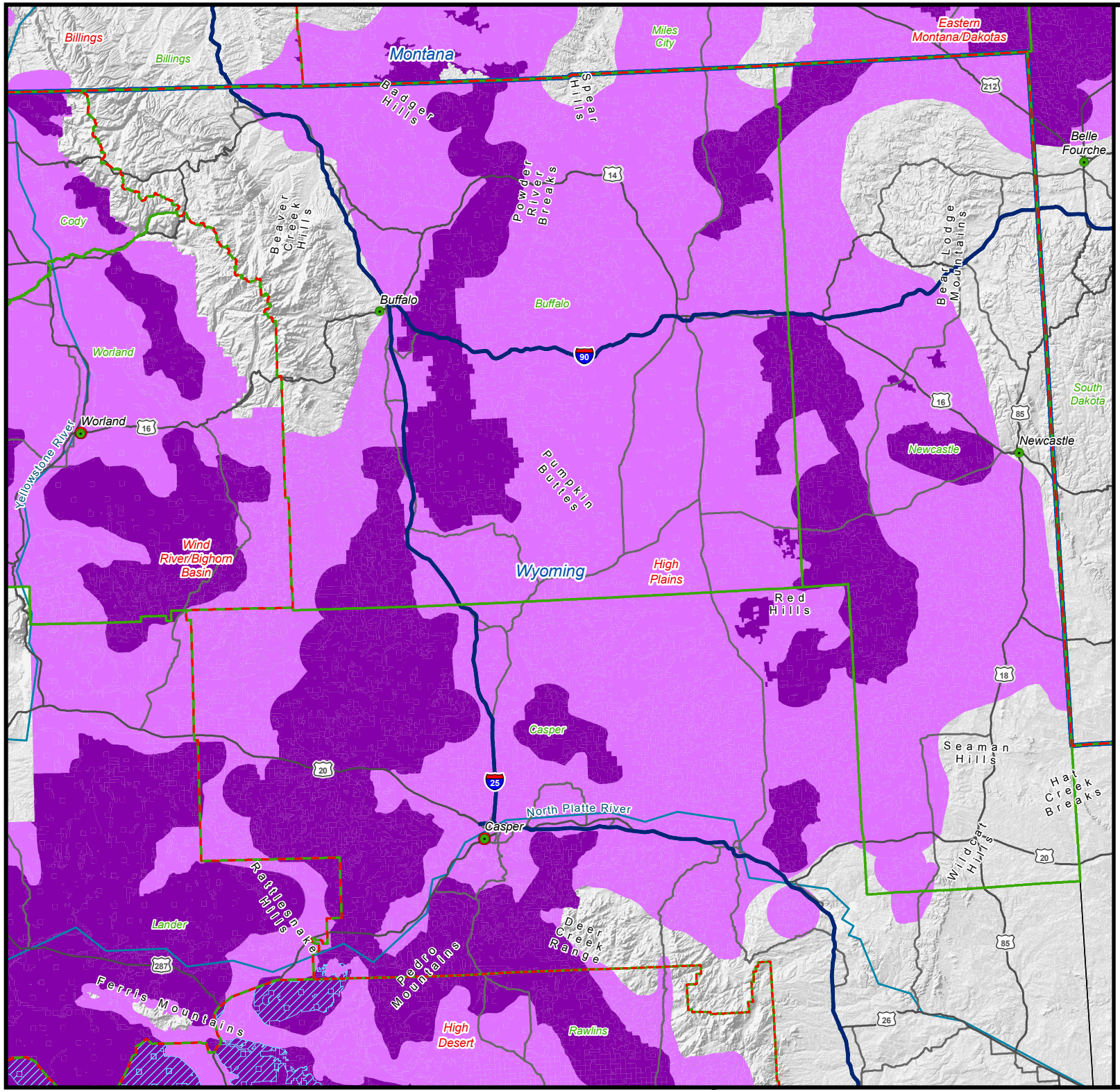
High Plains Greater Sage-Grouse Habitat - June 2015 -



Legend

- BLM/FS Sagebrush Focal Areas
- Priority Habitat Management Areas
- General Habitat Management Areas
- BLM State Office Boundaries
- BLM District Office Boundaries
- BLM Field Office Boundaries
- Administrative State Office
- Administrative District Office
- Administrative Field Office
- Field Stations, Monuments, and Other Administrative Types

Description:

BLM/FS Sagebrush Focal Areas (SFA): In October 2014, Memorandum FWS/AES/058711 was provided to the BLM and the US Forest Service by the USFWS identifying "highly important landscapes" or "strongholds" for GRSG. These areas fall largely within PHMA polygons, and meet the criteria of having high quality sage-grouse habitat, high breeding densities, high ecological resilience, and low susceptibility to climate change. Subsequently, through the land use plan revisions/amendments, the BLM established these polygons as SFA. When determining priorities for fire preparedness, suppression and fuels management, SFA should be considered the highest sagebrush value to protect, conserve, and restore.

Priority Habitat Management Areas (PHMA) and General Habitat Management Areas (GHMA):
Greater Sage-Grouse habitat classes utilized within recently released GRSG land use plan revisions and amendments. PHMA and GHMA loosely correspond to, and reflect a refinement of, Preliminary Priority Habitat (PPH) and Preliminary General Habitat (PGH), and will replace PPH and PGH when the Records of Decision are signed in late summer 2015 (Note that the GRSG habitat for the Bi-State population in CA/NV is not described by PHMA or GHMA. All Bi-State habitat is now Priority Habitat). PHMA is a higher value priority to protect, conserve and restore than GHMA, and GHMA is prioritized higher than other sagebrush vegetation.

Data Sources:
BLM Administrative Boundaries and Office Locations: Downloaded from GeoSpatial Gateway, 05/20/2015.
BLM Proposed Plan Habitat Category Data: Submitted by each individual BLM EIS between February 2015 and March 2015.
BLM/FS Sagebrush Focal Areas: Data provided by FWS, accompanying Memorandum FWS/AES/058711 (10/27/2014), and modified by the BLM in 2015 to remove areas within the Lander EIS and revised to be a subset of PHMA. Current as of 07/07/2015.

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