Alternative 3a

This multiple-use alternative would modify the current Management Plan direction by adopting additional special area designations, such as Research Natural Areas, Special Interest Areas, and placing added emphasis on native plants and animals, and recreation opportunities. This alternative includes collaborative group input.

FINAL DRAFT *Environmental Impact Statement*

Buffalo Gap National Grassland

Fall River Ranger District

Alternative 3 on reverse 1999

PLEASE NOTE: Management areas are defined as parts of the grasslands or forests that are managed for a particular emphasis. Each management area has a prescription that consists of a theme, desired conditions, and standards and guidelines that apply to it. The management area prescriptions are grouped into eight major categories, based on a continuum from least evidence of disturbance (Category 1) to most (Category 8).

The management areas on this map are further explained in Chapter 3 of the Revised Land and Resource Management Plan. The differences between alternatives may be better understood if the reader compares alternative maps while reviewing the accompanying Environmental Impact Statement.

The management area boundaries on this map were computer generated. These lines and their locations are only approximate at this scale.

N W E S

5 0 5 10 15 Miles

1:253,440
1/4 inch = 1 mile

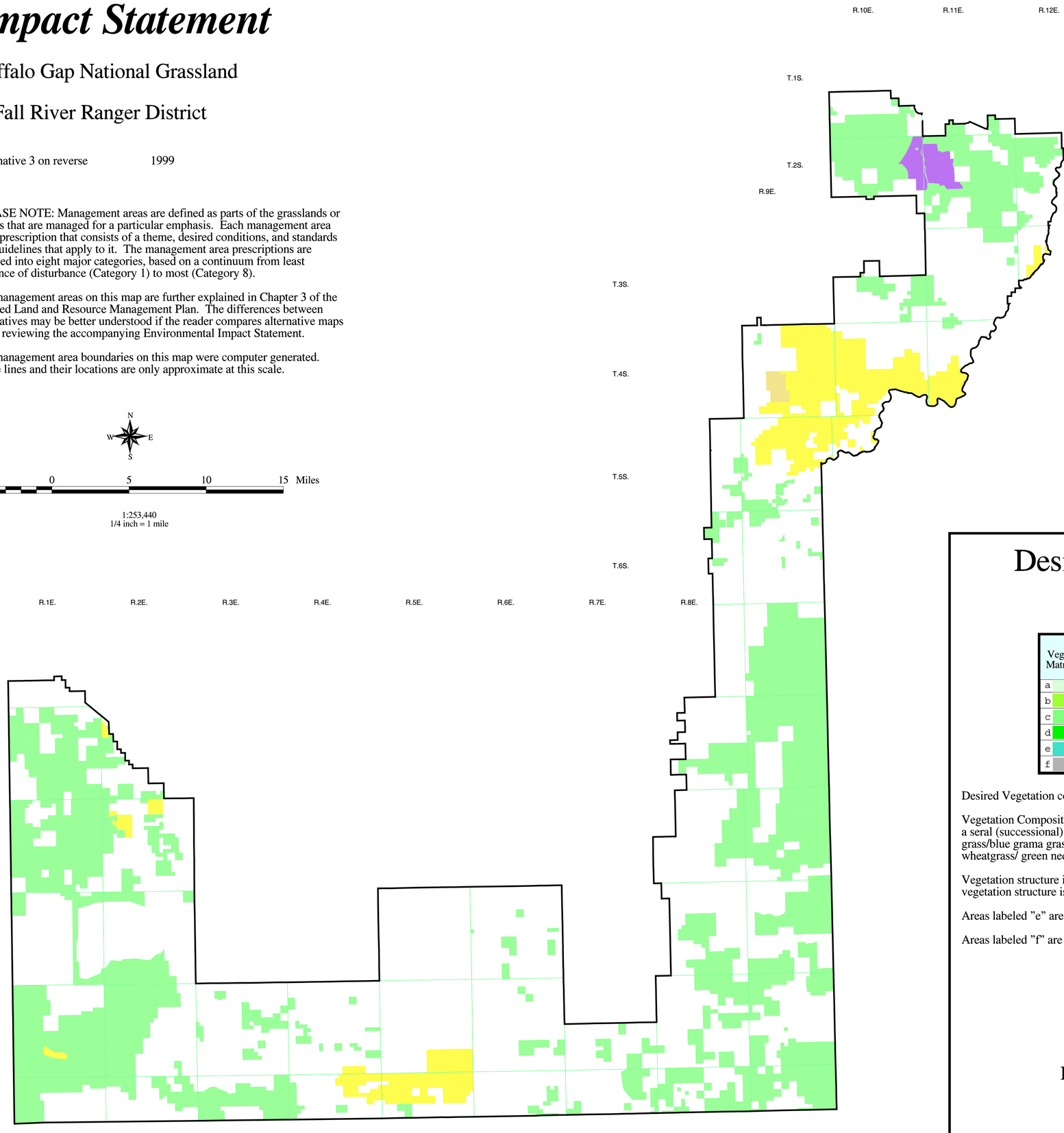
Legend

- Administrative Boundaries
- Township & Range Lines

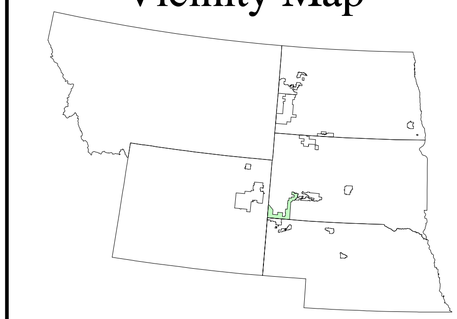
Management Areas

- 2.1 - Special Interest Areas
- 2.2 - Research Natural Areas
- 4.32 - Dispersed Recreation: High Use
- 6.1 - Rangeland with Broad Resource Emphasis

Management Areas	Acres
2.1 - Special Interest Areas	51618
2.2 - Research Natural Areas	1559
4.32- Dispersed Recreation: High Use	5246
6.1 - Rangeland with Broad Resource Emphasis	264298



Vicinity Map



Desired Vegetation Condition by Geographic Area

Desired Vegetation Condition

Vegetation Matrix Key	Acres	Vegetation Composition mid to late seral	Residual Vegetation Structure (High / Moderate / Low)
a	188696	80%	
b	51473	85%	
c	3014	90%	
d	72399	95%	
e	6994	variable	variable
f	0	variable	

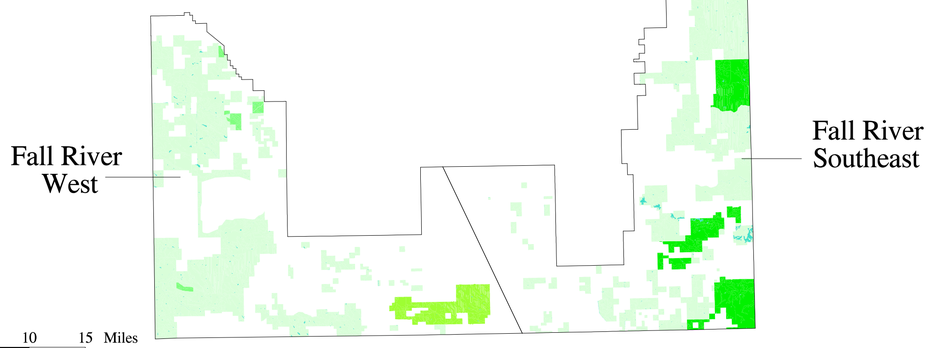
Desired Vegetation condition is described in terms of composition and structure.

Vegetation Composition is the mix of plant species found on a site. Composition is used to describe a seral (successional) stage in relation to the site's potential to grow vegetation. For example, a buffalo grass/blue grama grass composition is an early seral stage compared to the site's potential to grow western wheatgrass/ green needlegrass (mid to late seral stage).

Vegetation structure is the height and density of the herbaceous (grass, sedge and forb) community. Residual vegetation structure is the height and density of standing herbaceous vegetation following the grazing season.

Areas labeled "e" are lands not suitable for domestic livestock production.

Areas labeled "f" are ferret reintroduction areas.



5 0 5 10 15 Miles

1/8 inch = 1 mile
1:506,880