

Survey Summary for Siskiyou Mountains salamander (*Plethodon stormi*) August 12, 2008

On April 22, 2008, a live Siskiyou Mountains salamander (*Plethodon stormi*) was discovered at Galls Foot Unit 52A in T370S-R040W-S27 1/4sec SW 1/16sec NW 1/64sec SW (Figure 1.) within the Galls Foot Project Area. This was the second of three survey visits to Galls Foot Unit 52A in the spring of 2008. During the first survey visit at Galls Foot Unit 52A on April 17, 2008, one ensatina (*Ensatina eschscholtzii*) was located and no *Plethodon stormi* (PLST) were found. Results of the third and final visit to Galls Foot Unit 52A on April 30, 2008 revealed three *Ensatina eschscholtzii* (ENES) and no PLST. No ENES were found during the second visit to Galls Foot Unit 52A. The second of two survey locations within the Galls Foot Project Area, Timberfoot Unit 14A, located in T370S-030W-S14 was surveyed twice with no salamanders found on April 23, 2008 and one ENES found on April 29, 2008. These two locations were being surveyed following unconfirmed reports by a contracted mollusk surveyor claiming to have seen a PLST at these locales in 2005. The two surveyors for both Galls Foot Unit 52A and Timberfoot Unit 14A were Donna Fouts and Tiffany Manger, both biological technicians from the Medford District office of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). They followed protocol developed by David R. Clayton, et al. (1999).

Galls Foot Unit 52A is located at 3411' elevation with a 60% conifer and 5% hardwood canopy cover. The plant community is predominantly Douglas-Fir (*Pseudotsuga menziesii*) with Pacific madrone (*Arbutus menziesii*) present. The salamander specimen was found under a 25 pound rock on top of moist soil on a 60 % north slope (Fig. 2.). The soil temperature averaged 6.64° C when the PLST was found. The average air temperature was 8.5° C over the 55 minutes surveyed time. The relative humidity was 100 % at the time the PLST was discovered.

The live PLST (Fig. 3.) was brought into the Medford District BLM office where it remained overnight for species confirmation by Steve Godwin, wildlife biologist, BLM, Medford, Oregon. The length of the live PLST specimen was 4.0 centimeters snout to vent length (SVL). A three millimeter genetic sample of the end of the salamander's tail was clipped off and sent to Douglas DeGross (PLST researcher) and now reside at Oregon State University in Corvallis, Oregon awaiting genetic analyses. On April 23, 2008, the salamander was returned to the location from which it was found.

Galls Foot Unit 52A

PLST LOCATIONS

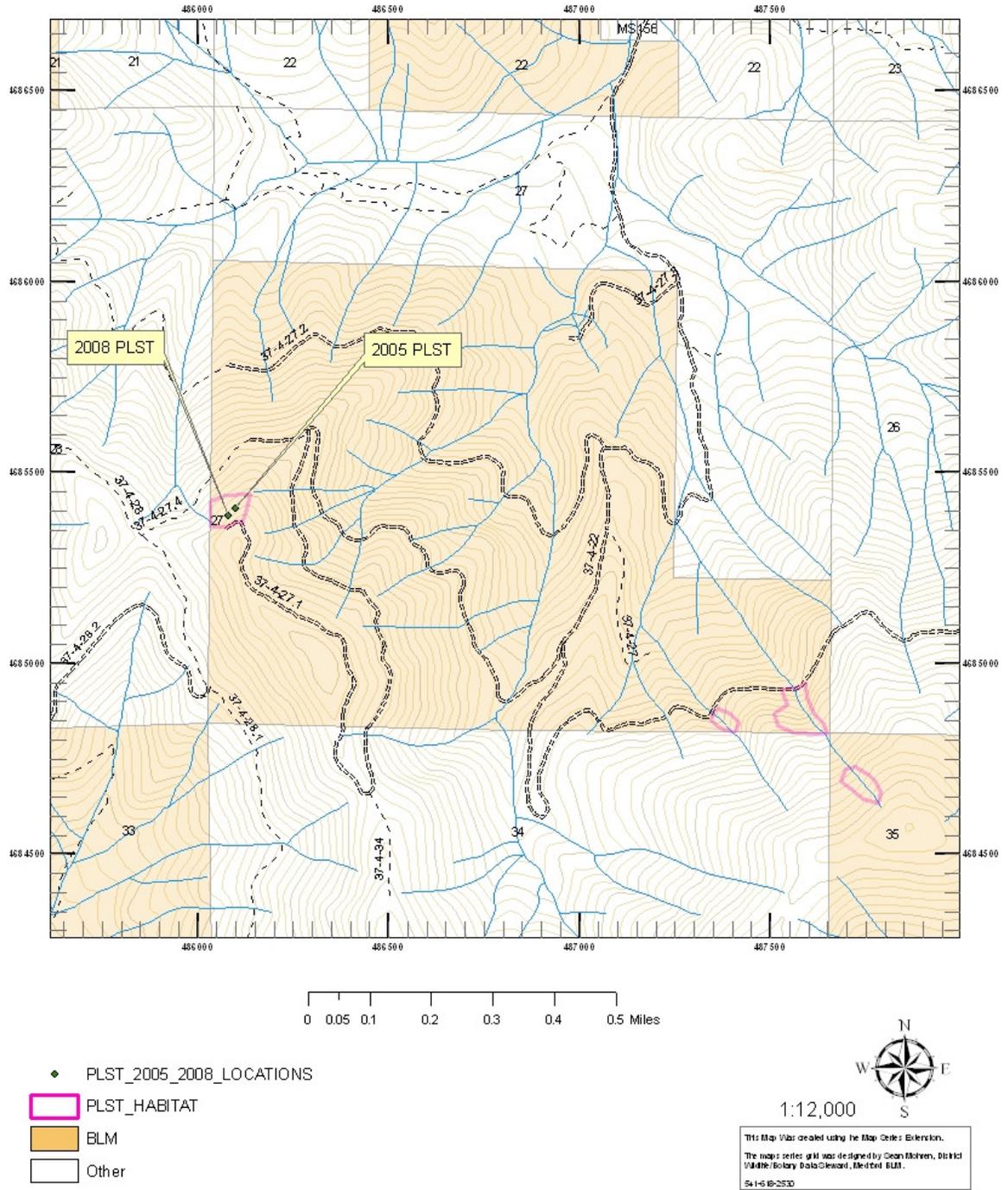


Figure 1. Location of the Galls Foot 52A of the Galls Foot Project T370S-R040W-S27

Timberfoot Unit 14A

PLST LOCATIONS

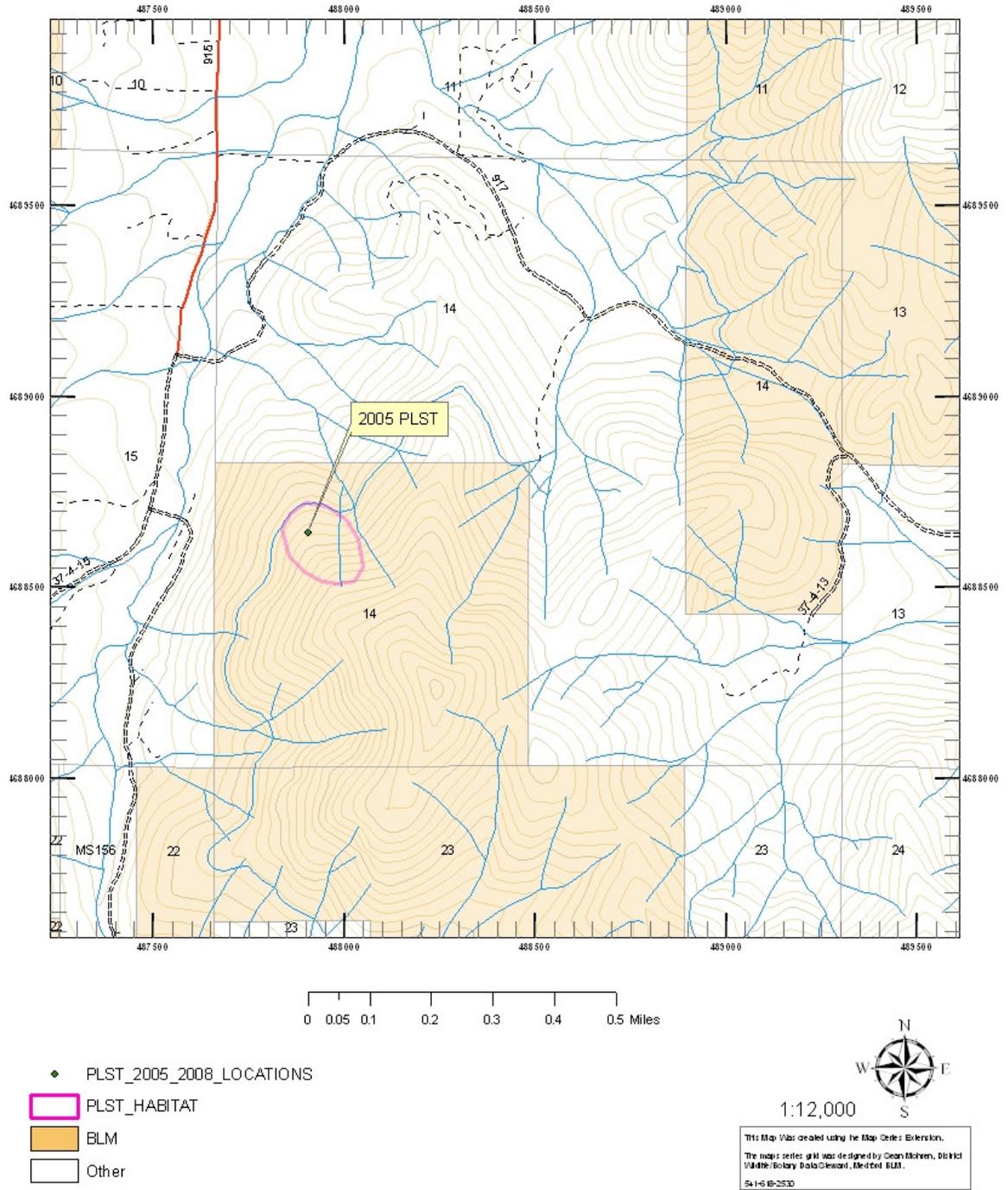


Figure 2. Location of the Timberfoot 14A of the Galls Foot Project T370S-R040W-S14.



Fig. 3. Photo of Galls Foot 52A of Galls Foot salamander project. North facing slope with flagging next to the rock that covered the *Plethodon stormi* found April 22, 2008 at Footh Creek, Jackson County, Oregon. (Photo by Donna Fouts)



Fig. 4. Siskiyou Mountains salamander (*Plethodon stormi*) captured April 22, 2008 at Galls Foot 52A, Galls Creek, Jackson County, Oregon. (Photo by Steven Godwin)

REFERENCES

Clayton, David R., Lisa M. Ollivier, Hartwell H. Welsh, Jr.. Protocol for the Siskiyou Mountains Salamander (*Plethodon stormi*). Survey Protocols of Amphibians Under the Survey & Manage Provision of the Northwest Forest Plan Version 3.0. 1920/2600 (FS)/1736-PFP(BLM)(931)P. Chapter IV. October 1999