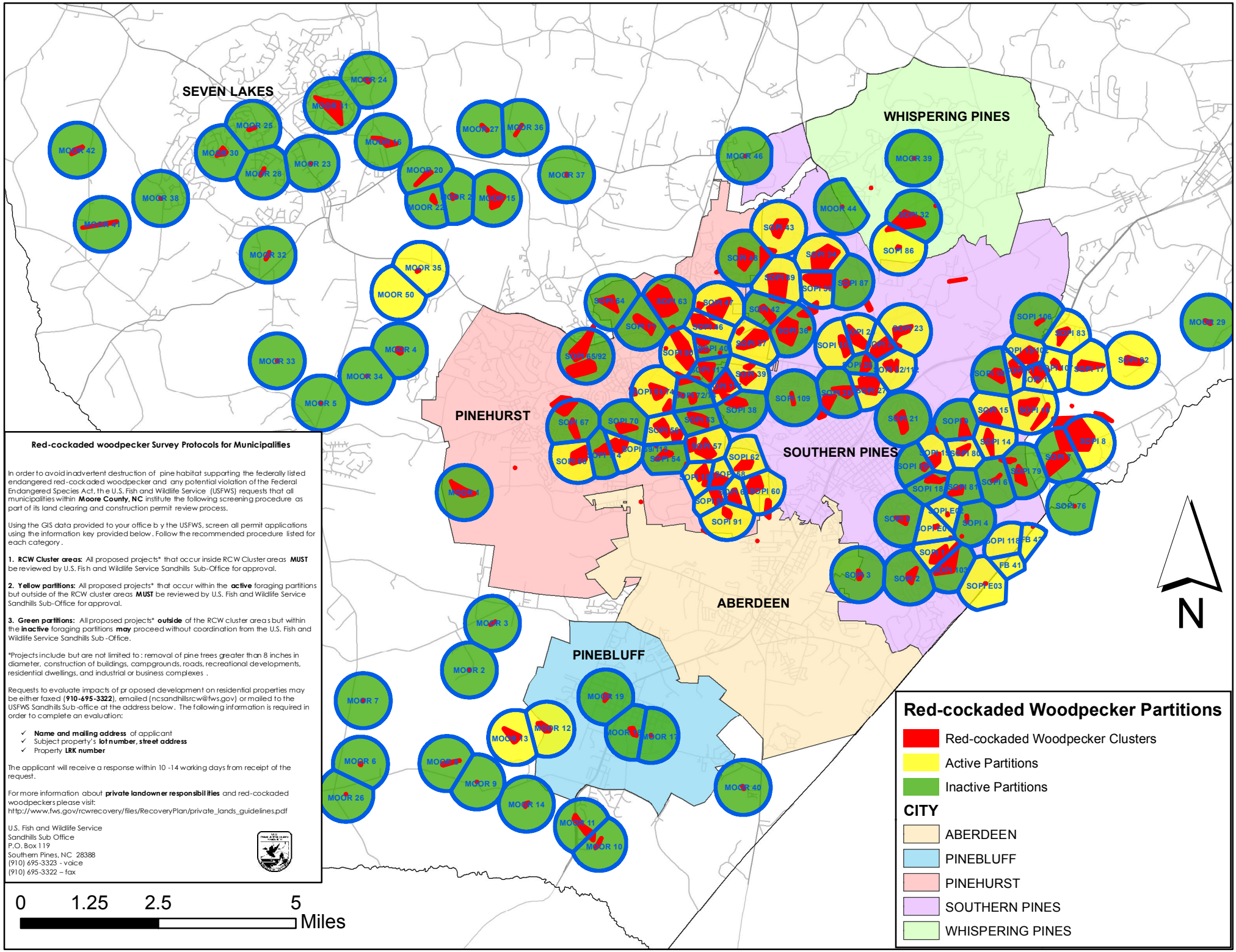

Red-cockaded woodpecker Survey Protocols for Municipalities

In order to avoid inadvertent destruction of pine habitat supporting the federally listed endangered red-cockaded woodpecker and any potential violation of the Federal Endangered Species Act, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) requests that all municipalities within **Moore County, NC** institute the following screening procedure as part of its land clearing and construction permit review process.

Using the GIS data provided to your office by the USFWS, screen all permit applications using the information key provided below. Follow the recommended procedure listed for each category.

1. **RCW Cluster areas:** All proposed projects* that occur inside RCW Cluster areas **MUST** be reviewed by U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Sandhills Sub-Office for approval.

2. **Yellow partitions:** All proposed projects* that occur within the **active** foraging partitions but outside of the RCW cluster areas **MUST** be reviewed by U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Sandhills Sub-Office for approval.

3. **Green partitions:** All proposed projects* **outside** of the RCW cluster areas but within the **inactive** foraging partitions **may** proceed without coordination from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Sandhills Sub-Office.

*Projects include but are not limited to: removal of pine trees greater than 8 inches in diameter, construction of buildings, campgrounds, roads, recreational developments, residential dwellings, and industrial or business complexes.

Requests to evaluate impacts of proposed development on residential properties may be either faxed (**910-695-3322**), emailed (ncsandhillsrcw@fws.gov) or mailed to the USFWS Sandhills Sub-office at the address below. The following information is required in order to complete an evaluation:

- ✓ **Name and mailing address** of applicant
- ✓ Subject property's **lot number, street address**
- ✓ Property **LRK number**

The applicant will receive a response within 10-14 working days from receipt of the request.

For more information about **private landowner responsibilities** and red-cockaded woodpeckers please visit:
http://www.fws.gov/rcwrecovery/files/RecoveryPlan/private_lands_guidelines.pdf

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Southern Pines, NC 28388
(910) 695-3323 - voice
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