

From: [Holmes, Erin](#)
To: [Pettibone, Andrew L](#); [Gilles, Benjamin M](#)
Subject: Re: Grizzly Ridge Bison Ranch Map
Date: Thursday, October 5, 2023 5:55:48 PM
Attachments: [Outlook-fr5kkcee.png](#)
[Outlook-ow313gfw.png](#)
[Outlook-vqzhroic.png](#)

Hi Ben and Andrew,

Stacy asked me to follow up on a few things.

1. The fence crossing are a little confusing on the map. Andrew says there are 17 but it looks like there are less. Some of the hatch marks are thicker than others, so maybe there are two crossings next to each other? Can you help clarify?
2. There is some concern about leaving future crossings off the map and open to be placed anywhere. Is the collaring of elk to determine crossings completely off the table? Have there been discussions recently with the Ranch to request future locations?

Thanks,

Erin

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From: Pettibone, Andrew L <andrew_pettibone@fws.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, September 26, 2023 3:54:48 PM
To: Armitage, Stacy A <stacy_armitage@fws.gov>; Kaczor, Nick <Nick_Kaczor@fws.gov>; Fox, Trevor T <trevor_fox@fws.gov>
Cc: Gilles, Benjamin M <benjamin_gilles@fws.gov>; Holmes, Erin <erin_holmes@fws.gov>
Subject: Re: Grizzly Ridge Bison Ranch Map

Stacy,

To answer your two questions, the most current topo map displays 13 crossings. There are 17 crossings installed as of August 31st, 16 of those on easement. We removed the crossing that was not on easement to make the map clear and straightforward. We also removed three "existing" crossings in the northern most cluster to address an earlier concern of displaying a cluster of crossings in a non-bison area. We left the two modified fence crossings in the display and removed the existing low fence crossings that the ranch incorporated in the original building of their bison fence. The purpose of the inset in one of the original versions was to more easily display the "cluster" of crossings. This was useful in the large printed format used with the ranch. This cluster is the result of a road intersection and neighboring driveway creating a handful of 90's in the fence.

2. Our most recent meeting with the ranch was August 31st. Yes, we discussed locations for

future crossings. The ranch has a stockpile of crossings (about 15-25) they will install as issues/requests from the tribe come up for the crossings. Going back to September 2022, the ranch and tribe had agreed that the ranch would allow the tribe to collar elk during the following winter with the idea that the collar data would help show where additional fence crossings were needed. Fast forward one year, that didn't happen, and now the ranch has decided that rather than installing the crossings, they are choosing to hold onto them until the tribe has a request to install additional crossings in locations of the tribes' choosing.

Andrew Pettibone
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Wetland District Manager
Benton Lake Wetland Management District
Cell: (406) 690-9202

From: Armitage, Stacy A <stacy_armitage@fws.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, September 26, 2023 9:19 AM
To: Kaczor, Nick <Nick_Kaczor@fws.gov>; Fox, Trevor T <trevor_fox@fws.gov>
Cc: Pettibone, Andrew L <andrew_pettibone@fws.gov>; Gilles, Benjamin M <benjamin_gilles@fws.gov>; Holmes, Erin <erin_holmes@fws.gov>
Subject: Re: Grizzly Ridge Bison Ranch Map

Thanks. I like the topo one too.

Couple questions:

1. How many crossing have been installed? Map shows 15.
2. Can we mark on the map where the plan to install future crossing? Did you discuss future crossing w/ them at your last meeting?

Stacy A Armitage
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service | National Wildlife Refuge System
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From: Kaczor, Nick <Nick_Kaczor@fws.gov>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2023 11:07 AM
To: Fox, Trevor T <trevor_fox@fws.gov>; Armitage, Stacy A <stacy_armitage@fws.gov>
Cc: Pettibone, Andrew L <andrew_pettibone@fws.gov>; Gilles, Benjamin M <benjamin_gilles@fws.gov>; Holmes, Erin <erin_holmes@fws.gov>

Subject: Re: Grizzly Ridge Bison Ranch Map

Stacy,

Andrew reworked the maps for us (thank you Andrew!). I like the topo one a little better, but not sure what Matt was wanting. Please let us know if you would like any further changes.

-Nick

Nick Kaczor

Acting Refuge Supervisor
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From: Pettibone, Andrew L <andrew_pettibone@fws.gov>

Sent: Tuesday, September 12, 2023 10:07 AM

To: Fox, Trevor T <trevor_fox@fws.gov>; Armitage, Stacy A <stacy_armitage@fws.gov>; Gilles, Benjamin M <benjamin_gilles@fws.gov>; Kaczor, Nick <Nick_Kaczor@fws.gov>

Subject: Re: Grizzly Ridge Bison Ranch Map

Morning all,

1. The sentinel imagery was goofing up. I changed the aerial imagery background and included one with a topo background.
2. Fence crossings have been enlarged and color changed.
3. Red cross hatching displays where the bison pastures are located. Only those portions of the ranch are managed for bison and have bison fencing.
4. The white arrow is an inset displaying a cluster of fence crossings. The map was designed for a printed use and this inset is helpful when there are so many crossings so close together.
5. We're zoomed in too far to see the Canadian boundary. The previous version had some text that was not dynamic to the map and has been deleted.

Andrew Pettibone

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Wetland District Manager
Benton Lake Wetland Management District
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From: Fox, Trevor T <trevor_fox@fws.gov>

Sent: Tuesday, September 12, 2023 8:24 AM

To: Pettibone, Andrew L <andrew_pettibone@fws.gov>; Armitage, Stacy A <stacy_armitage@fws.gov>; Gilles, Benjamin M <benjamin_gilles@fws.gov>; Kaczor, Nick <Nick_Kaczor@fws.gov>

Subject: Re: Grizzly Ridge Bison Ranch Map

Good morning, Andrew:

Thanks for turning this around quickly. Could you (and/or Linda) make a few adjustments to the map to make it a little easier to read and get the point across?

- The aerial photos are great, but the different shades of the coverage are a little distracting. Could you do a version with this aerial phot background and one with a different background layer (e.g., topo or hybrid map layer... whatever looks best)?
- The icons for the map crossings are a little difficult to pick out, could you adjust the size and potential color to better highlight?
- It is not clear what the red cross-hatching mean in the legend. I assume that is for bison pasture, but it isn't clear.
- It's not clear what the white arrow is from easement to the parcel with the dotted boundary is. Also, not sure what the dotted boundary line means.
- Mark the Canada boundary

Thanks for all the great work on this issue!

Trevor



**NATIONAL
WILDLIFE
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Trevor Fox

Deputy Assistant Regional Director

National Wildlife Refuge System

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Pronouns: he/him

From: Pettibone, Andrew L <andrew_pettibone@fws.gov>

Sent: Monday, September 11, 2023 11:31 AM

To: Armitage, Stacy A <stacy_armitage@fws.gov>; Fox, Trevor T <trevor_fox@fws.gov>; Gilles, Benjamin M <benjamin_gilles@fws.gov>

Subject: Grizzly Ridge Bison Ranch Map

Morning all,

Attached is a zoomed in version of the Grizzly Ridge Bison Ranch (GRBR) map that we received from Realty a couple weeks ago. Linda Moeder in realty shared the project file with me and I am now able to make tweaks to the map as needed. I've zoomed in as much as possible and still display the N/S reaches of the eased portion of the ranch. I'm not a cartographer and this map is very busy and difficult to display everything we are trying to communicate with this product. One must read the legend to begin to decipher this darn thing. If we or Matt need much beyond what's attached, I suggest we go back to Linda Moeder and ask for her assistance.

Also attached is a photo of the ranch's fence crossings that they use in Canada. This Canadian portion of the GRBR is under easement by TNC and TNC has approved the following fence crossing. Photo is attached as "TNC Canada Crossing GRBR". The crossing is 18" bottom and 48" top.

Hope this helps.

Thank you,

Andrew Pettibone
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