

RECREATION GUIDE

Southern Panhandle Region



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Introduction

This Wildlife Management Area (WMA) Access Guide provides maps, directions, and opportunities available on the Panhandle Wildlife Management Areas (WMAs) and fishing and boating access sites south of Interstate 90.

The Department's Panhandle Region manages seven Wildlife Management Areas, of which three are represented in this guide.

- Coeur d'Alene River WMA (CDARWMA): This WMA consists of 7,538 acres of wetlands and low lying terrestrial habitats throughout the lower CDA and St Joe River Basins. It is primarily managed for waterfowl production and hunting.
- St Maries WMA (SMWMA): A 2,344 acre mix of forest and meadow habitats, the St Maries WMA is primarily managed for big game.
- Snow Peak WMA (SPWMA): A very remote, roadless backcountry WMA located in the upper St Joe River drainage, the 32,292 acres are cooperatively managed with the US Forest Service for elk habitat and back country hunting opportunity.

All of the Panhandle WMAs have the common management themes of:

- Wetland management for waterfowl and waterbird production;
- Upland habitat management for big game, with some emphasis on upland bird species;
- Riparian management for water quality and all species;
- Provide for compatible wildlife based recreation and education activities.

The WMAs provide important wildlife based recreation and are used heavily by waterfowl and big game hunters, as well as non-consumptive users such as birdwatchers, hikers, and naturalists. The abundance of water resources also attracts water based activities, such as kayaking and fishing.

How To Use This Guide

This guide begins with an overview of the Wildlife Management Area and Access parcels in the southern portion of the Panhandle Region and continues to give you more detailed maps as you narrow down the areas you wish to access. The following steps will help you in this process:

1. Review the map on page 7 showing all of the WMA and Access properties in R1 south of 1-90 within the Panhandle Region.
2. Parcels are grouped by location and color starting from Coeur d'Alene Lake West in the Northwest to Snow Peak WMA in the Southeast.
3. Use the table of contents to find the page number where more information can be obtained for the colored parcels (Example: Round Lake, yellow, is found on page 26).
4. Review the topo map for the colored area you chose and find a parcel you want to access (Example: Swan Lake).
5. The page number for each parcel can be found in the narrative at the top of the topo map. Turn to that page. Parcel maps show aerial photography with property boundaries. The circled numbers on the edges and corners of parcel boundaries represent lat/long coordinates in NAD83, which can be found in the narrative next to the map.
6. Use the name from the topo map identifying the parcel you want to access (Example: Loffs Bay) and find that name in the table on the following page.
7. Take note of the boat launch sites and primary hunting opportunities available at each parcel (e.g., white-tailed deer hunting, waterfowl hunting, bluegill fishing, etc.), and other restrictions.

ACTIVITY MATRIX

Name	Page #	Boat Ramp	Rest Rooms	Fishing	Waterfowl	Upland Game	Big Game
Mica Bay	9			kokanee, chinook salmon, bass, pike	mallard	ruffed grouse	white-tailed deer
Sandaker	10					ruffed grouse, wild turkey	white-tailed deer, elk, black bear
Loffs Bay	11			kokanee, chinook salmon, bass, pike			
Harrison Slough ▲	13			kokanee, chinook salmon, bass, pike	mallard, widgeon, Canada geese		
Thompson Lake	14			bass, pike, perch	Closed to waterfowl hunting	ruffed grouse, wild turkey	white-tailed deer, elk
Springston ▲	14				mallard, wood duck	ruffed grouse	white-tailed deer
Swan Lake	16			bass, pike, perch	mallard, teal		white-tailed deer
Cave Lake	18			bass, pike, perch	mallard, wood duck, teal		
Medicine Lake ▲	18			bass, pike, perch	wood duck		
Killarney West ▲	17			bass, pike, perch	mallard, wood duck, teal	ruffed grouse	white-tailed deer, moose
Robinson Creek	17				mallard		
Killarney East ▲	20			bass, pike, perch	mallard, wood duck, teal	ruffed grouse	white-tailed deer, moose
Lane Marsh	21				mallard, teal		
Black Rock Slough	21				mallard, wood duck	ruffed grouse	white-tailed deer, moose
Bull Run Lake	22			bass, pike, perch	mallard, wood duck		

ACTIVITY MATRIX

Name	Page #	Boat Ramp	Rest Rooms	Fishing	Waterfowl	Upland Game	Big Game
Rose Creek	22				wood duck, teal		moose
Rose Lake	23			bass, bluegill, channel catfish, crappie	mallard		
Porter Lake	23			bass, bluegill, channel catfish, crappie	mallard		
Oehrling Slough	24				mallard, wood duck, teal		
Cataldo Wetland	25				wood duck		
Round Lake North	27			bass, pike	mallard, Canada geese		
Round Lake South	28			bass, pike	mallard, wood duck, Canada geese		
St Maries River Access	30			trout, whitefish			
St Maries River West	31			trout, whitefish, bass			
St Maries Upland	32					ruffed grouse	white-tailed deer, elk
St Maries River East	33			trout, whitefish, bass		ruffed grouse	white-tailed deer
St Maries Core	33			trout, whitefish, bass		ruffed and dusky grouse	white-tailed deer, elk, black bear
Shadowy St Joe ▲	35				mallard, teal		
Snow Peak WMA	37			trout, whitefish		ruffed and spruce grouse	white-tailed and mule deer, elk, black bear, mountain lion

▲ = This Idaho Fish and Game Property Contains Non-IDFG Facilities

WMA Properties

In addition to this atlas, online information and maps of the Wildlife Management Areas are available on the Fish and Game website at fishandgame.idaho.gov and at Fish and Game regional offices. More information about Fish and Game properties is available from the following offices.

Panhandle Region208-769-1414
2885 W. Kathleen Ave., Coeur d'Alene, ID 83815

Clearwater Region208-799-5010
3316 - 16th Street, Lewiston, ID 83501

Southwest Region208-465-8465
3101 S. Powerline Rd., Nampa, ID 83686

McCall Subregion..... 208-634-8137
555 Deinhard Ln., McCall, ID 83638

Magic Valley Region208-324-4359
324 S. 417 E.; Suite #1, Jerome, ID 83338

Southeast Region208-232-4703
1345 Barton Rd., Pocatello, ID 83204

Upper Snake Region208-525-7290
4279 Commerce Circle, Idaho Falls, ID 83401

Salmon Region 208-756-2271
99 Hwy. 93 N., P.O. Box 1336, Salmon, ID 83467

Idaho Department of Fish and Game Offices are open 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday except state holidays. Offices in the Panhandle and Clearwater regions are in the Pacific Time zone; all others are in the Mountain Time zone.

Idaho Relay Service (TDD)1-800-377-3529

Internet: fishandgame.idaho.gov

To Receive Nonresident License Applications,

Call Toll Free:1-800-635-7820

If you buy a nonresident license this year, you will automatically receive an application form for the following year. Applications will be mailed in November.

To Buy a License, Tag or Permit:

- In person, go to any Idaho Fish and Game office or license vendor throughout the state.
- By credit card, within the United States call 1-800-554-8685. Outside the U.S., use the Internet or mail.
- On the Internet, go online to id.outdoorcentral.us/. A service fee is added for this transaction.
- Commercial licenses, duplicate tags, documents that require proof of disability, lifetime licenses, and bear baiting permits may be purchased only at Fish and Game offices.

Please note: This booklet is based on information accurate at the time of printing, but access sites listed may have changed. For the most up to date info, visit our website:

<http://fishandgame.idaho.gov/wma>

or use the following QR code:



Idaho Fish and Game adheres to all applicable state and federal laws and regulations related to discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, gender, disability or veteran's status. If you feel you have been discriminated against in any program, activity, or facility of Idaho Fish and Game, or if you desire further information, please write to: Idaho Department of Fish and Game, P.O. Box 25, Boise, ID 83707 OR U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Division of Federal Assistance, Mailstop: MBSP-4020, 4401 N. Fairfax Drive, Arlington, VA 22203, Telephone: (703) 358-2156. This publication will be made available in alternative formats upon request. Please contact the Department of Fish and Game for assistance.

Mica to Loffs

OVERVIEW:

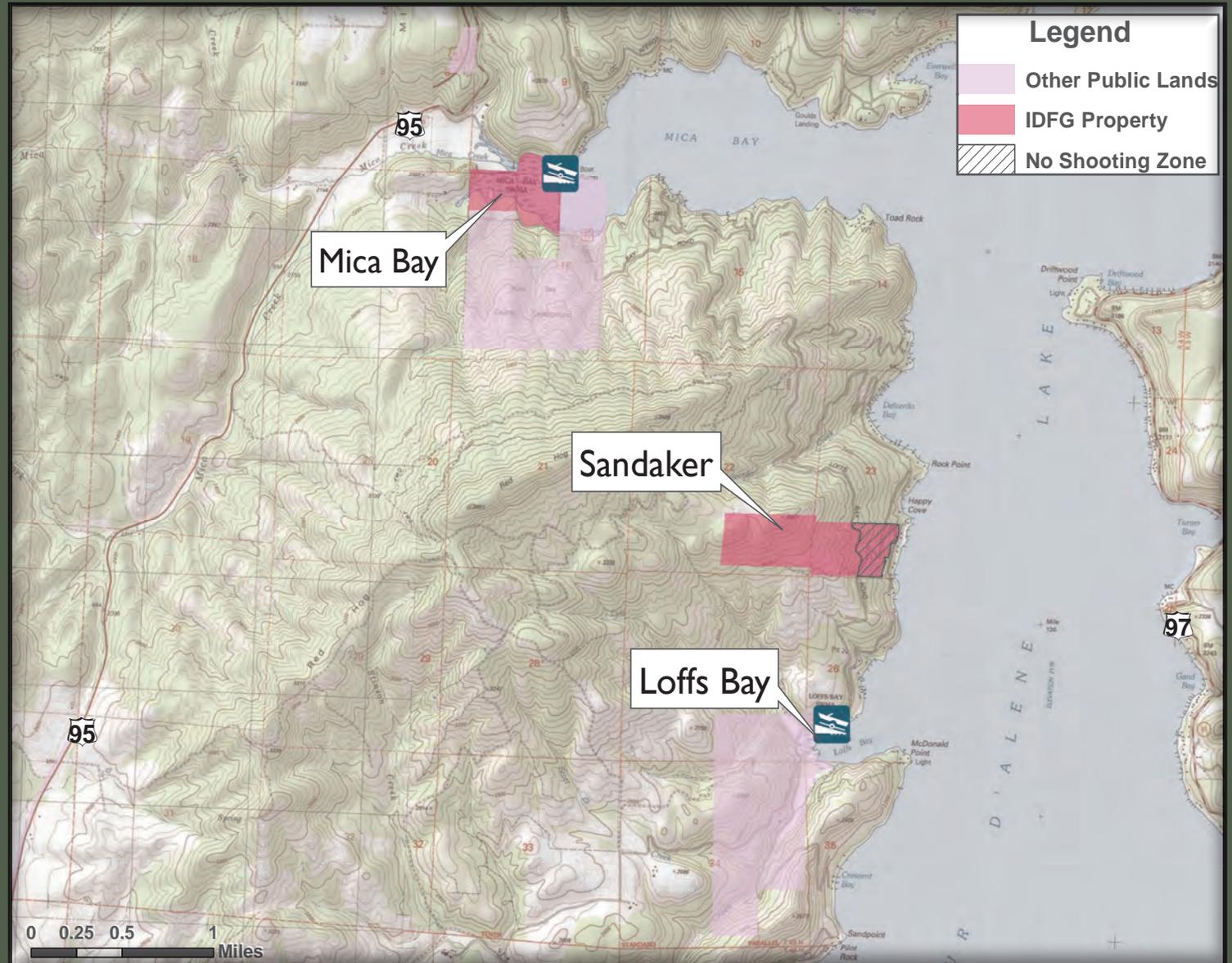
Mica Bay:
See page 9

Sandaker:
See page 10

Restriction:

A no shooting zone (hashed area) exists for the portion of the property east of Loffs Bay Road.

Loffs Bay:
See page 11



Mica Bay

Boat access to wetlands and Lake Coeur d'Alene is available using the Mica Bay boat launch. Check out the wildlife birding trail and viewing platform on the south end of the property.



DIRECTIONS:

From Coeur d'Alene, travel south on Hwy 95 for 8 miles. Turn left onto Putnam Road and travel 0.5 mile. Turn right onto Tall Pines Road and travel 0.9 mile.

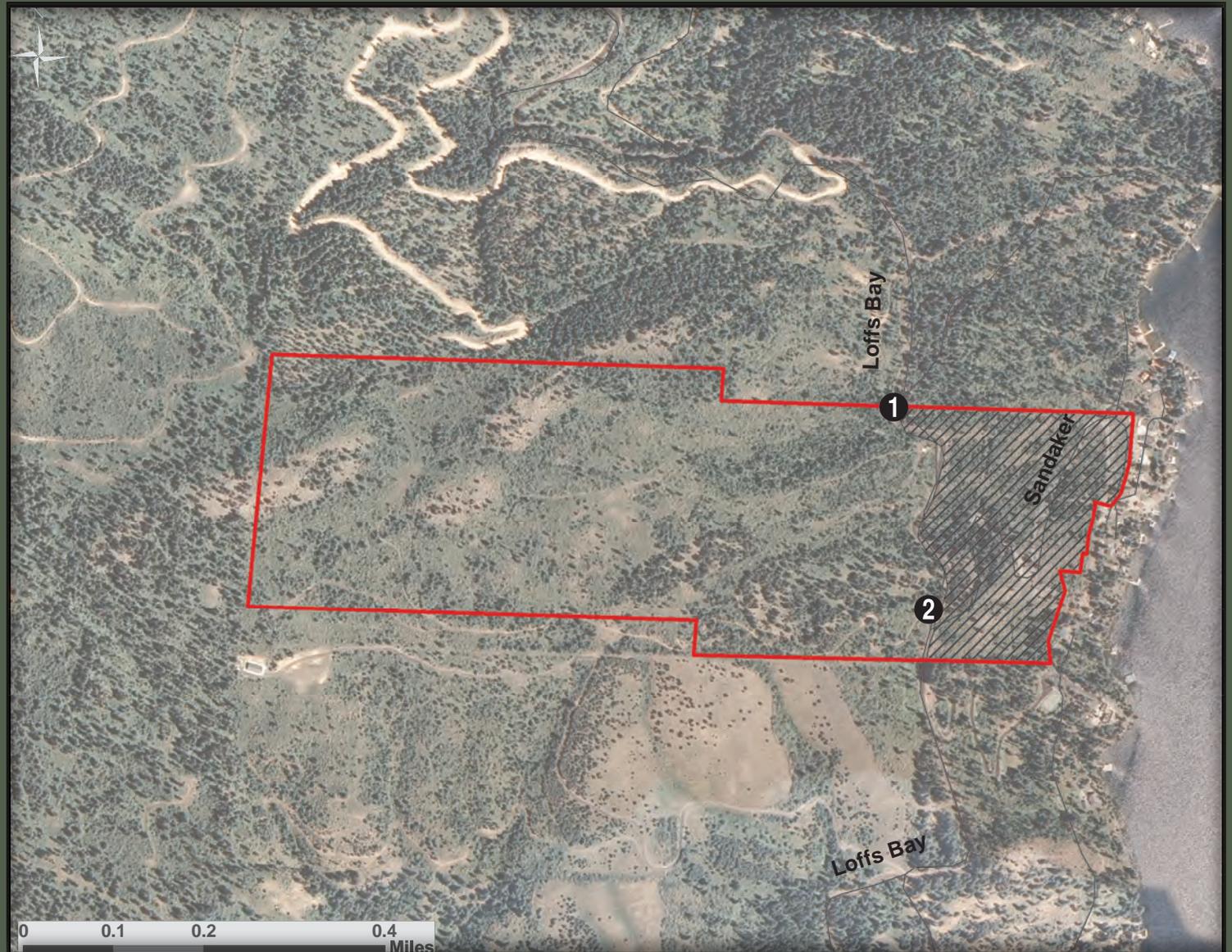
1. 47.59934,
-116.86569

Sandaker

DIRECTIONS:

From Coeur d'Alene, travel south on Hwy 95 for 8 miles. Turn left onto Putnam Road and travel 0.5 mile. Turn right onto Tall Pines Road and travel 0.9 mile. Turn right onto Loffs Bay Road and travel approximately 4.6 miles to parking area.

Two small parking areas provide access to this property, which is predominantly conifer forest and mountain shrub habitat. Nice hike, a bit steep with great views of Lake Coeur d'Alene



Loffs Bay

This boat launch provides good access to the west side of Lake Coeur d'Alene. It is positioned in the central part of the lake.

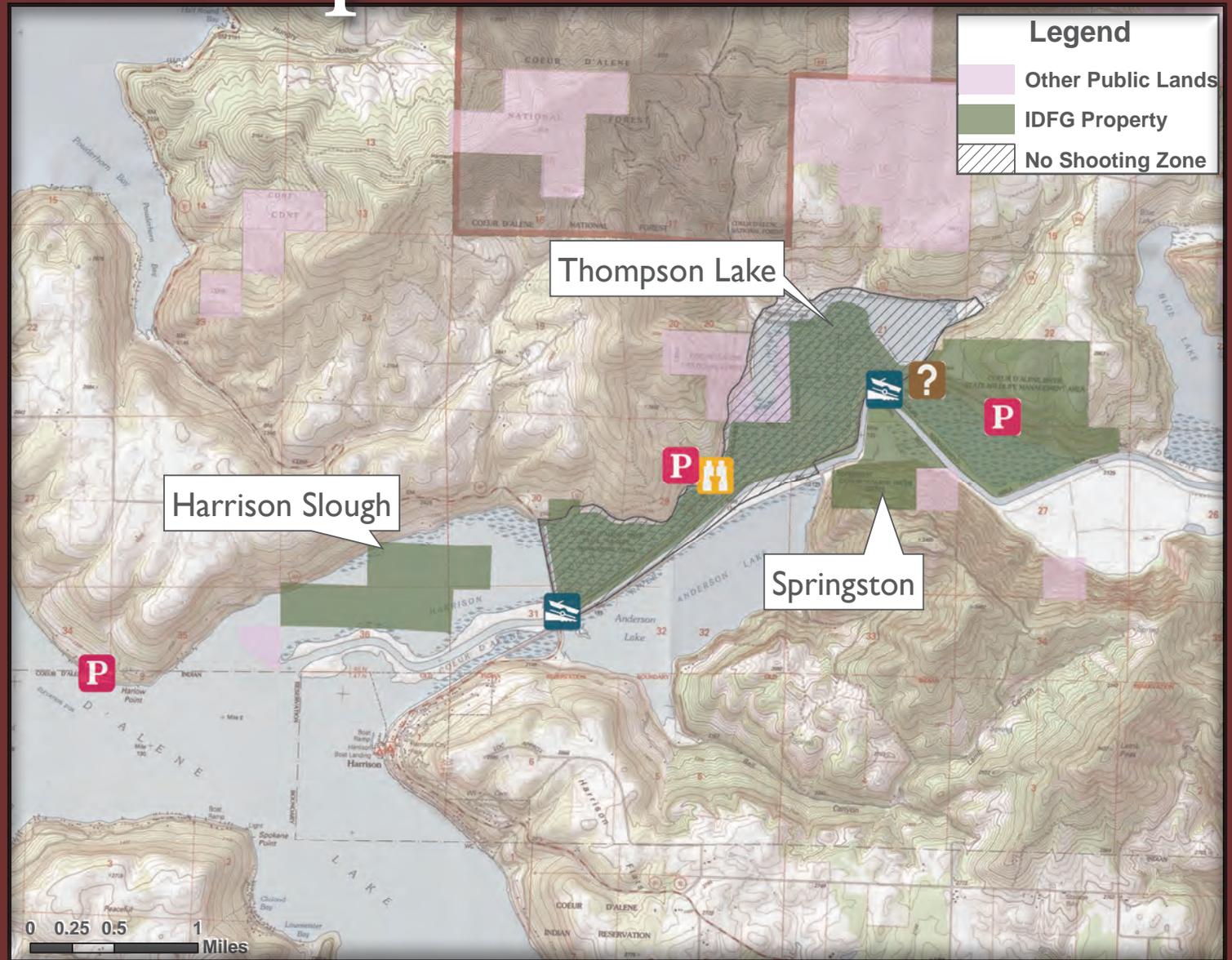


DIRECTIONS:

From Coeur d'Alene, travel south on Hwy 95 for 8 miles. Turn left onto Putnam Road and travel 0.5 mile. Turn right onto Tall Pines Road and travel 0.9 mile. Turn right onto Loffs Bay Road and travel approximately 5.7 miles. Turn left on Loffs Bay Boat Ramp Road and travel 0.1 to boat launch.

Harrison Slough to Thompson Lake

Note: A waterfowl hunting closure (hashed area) exists for all of Thompson Lake.



Harrison Slough

Most of this property is submerged shallow water habitat that is accessible only by boat. It is a good area to observe many types of shorebirds and waterfowl.



DIRECTIONS:

Harrison Slough:
From Harrison, travel north on Hwy 97 for 1.8 miles. Go left on Harlow Point Road and travel 2.8 miles to boat ramp.

This site is accessible by boat launched at Harlow Point or Harrison City docks.

1. 47.46678,
-116.80091

Thompson Lake to Springston

DIRECTIONS:

Thompson Lake:
From Harrison, travel north on Hwy 97 for 1.3 miles. Just after crossing the Coeur d'Alene River, go right on Blue Lake Road.

Note: A waterfowl hunting closure (hashed area) exists for all of Thompson Lake.

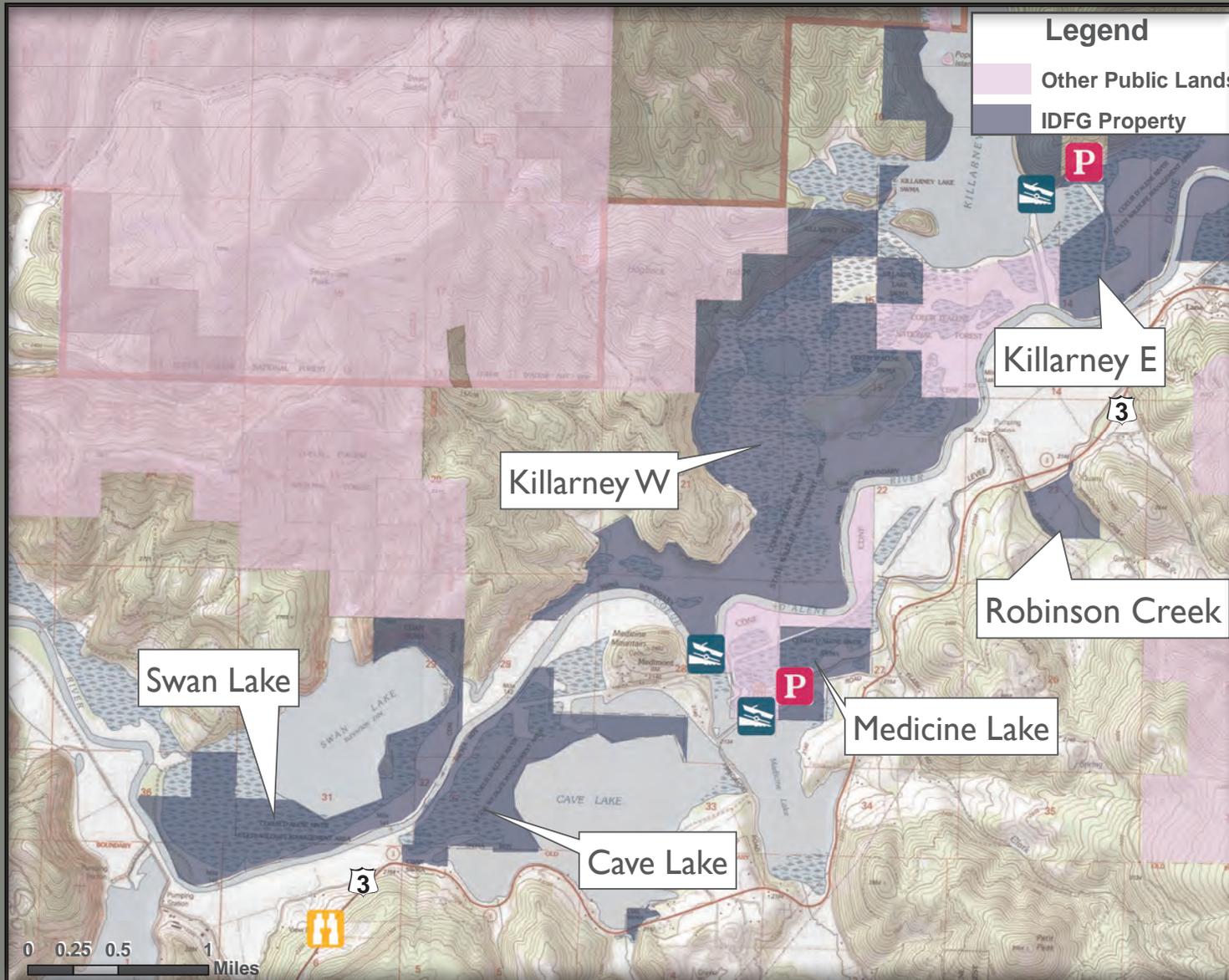
Springston: From Thompson Lake, continue on Blue Lake Road for 1.7 miles. Turn right on Anderson Lake Road and cross over Coeur d'Alene River. Trail parking area is on the left side of the road.

1. 47.47865,
-116.73126

Two boat launch sites provide access to the lower Coeur d'Alene River and several lower chain lakes. Observe waterfowl and other marsh inhabitants at the Thompson Lake viewing platform. Tour the area on bike using the Trail of the Coeur d'Alenes access at Springston.



Swan Lake to Killarney



OVERVIEW:

Swan Lake to Killarney

Swan Lake:
See page 16

Killarney West:
See Page 17

Robinson Creek:
See Page 17

Cave Lake:
See Page 18

Medicine Lake:
See Page 18

Killarney East:
See Page 20

Swan Lake

DIRECTIONS:

Swan Lake:
Accessible by
boat only. Use the
USFS Medimont
boat launch to
the east of Swan
Lake on the Coeur
d'Alene River.

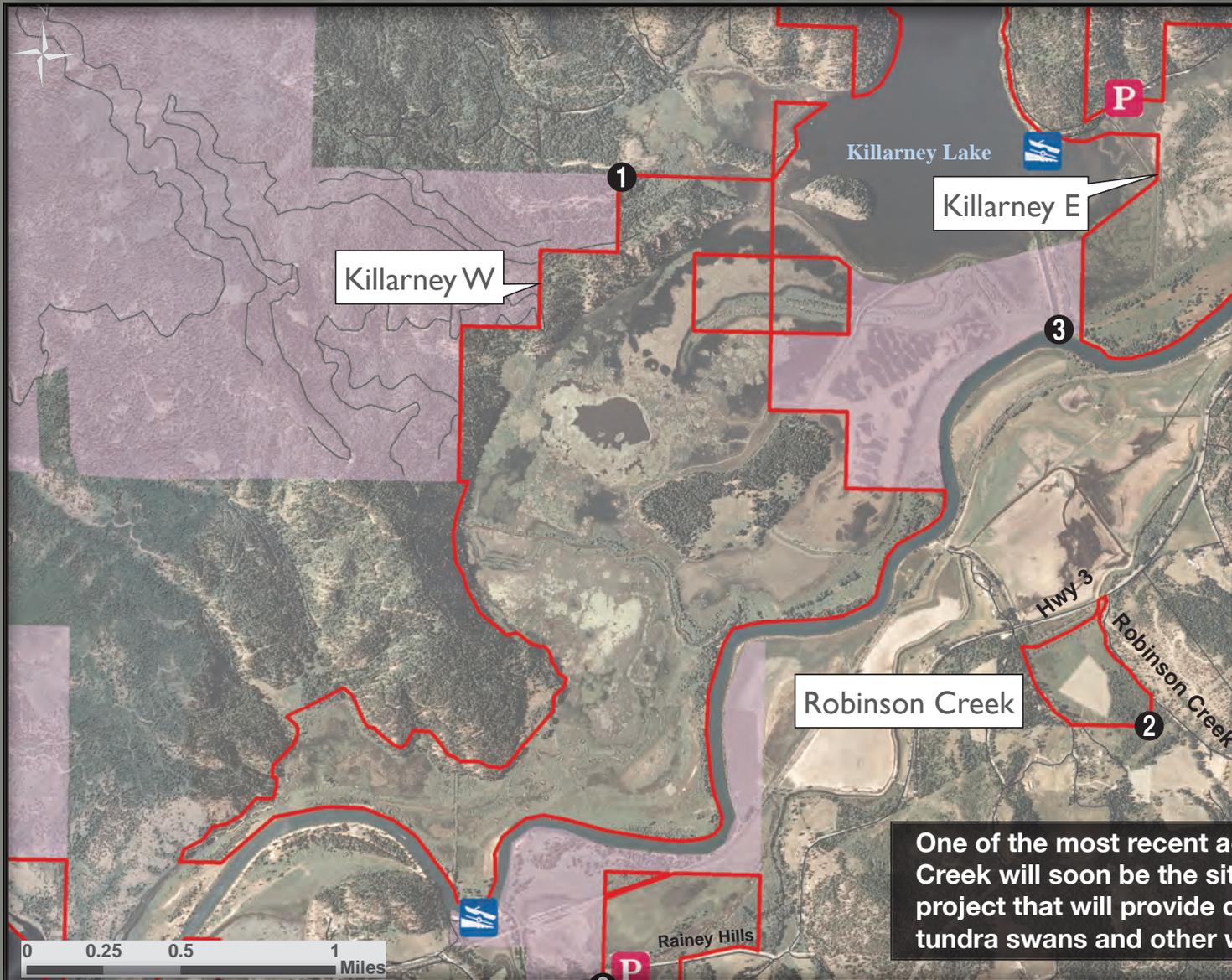
47.45984,
-116.64822
(Access point to
Swan Lake from
CDA River)

This area is accessible only by shallow running watercraft. Swan Lake can be viewed from a turnout on Highway 3. Scenic vistas of the lakes, marshes, and Coeur d'Alene River floodplain can be seen there.



Killarney West/Robinson Creek

Killarney Lake is the largest lake in the lower Coeur d' Alene River basin area. The area includes a mix of wetlands, including unique peat land habitat. Hidden Island is a large forested area surrounded by wetlands. It was one of the earliest properties donated to the Department in 1964.



DIRECTIONS:

Robinson Creek:
From I-90, travel south on Hwy 3 for 8.6 miles. Turn left on Robinson Creek Road.

2. 47.4880,
-116.54862

Killarney W:
Accessible by boat only. Use the USFS Medimont boat launch or the BLM Killarney Lake boat launch.

3. 47.50644,
-116.55576
(Access point to Killarney Lake from CDA River)

One of the most recent acquisitions, Robinson Creek will soon be the site of a wetland restoration project that will provide clean foraging habitat for tundra swans and other waterfowl.

Cave Lake/Medicine Lake

DIRECTIONS:

Cave Lake: From I-90, travel south on Hwy 3 for 11.1 miles. Take a right on Rainey Hill Road and a right on Medimont Road to access via Trail of Coeur d'Alene bike path.

1. 47.47398,
-116.61243

To access via Hwy 3, travel south on Hwy 3 from I-90 for 13 miles.

2. 47.45670,
-116.60115

Medicine Lake: From I-90, travel south on Hwy 3 for 11.1 miles. Take a right on Rainey Hill Road and travel 0.4 mile.

3. 47.47488,
-116.58581

Good access to the area's lakes, marshes, and the Coeur d' Alene River near Medimont, Idaho. Both lakes have good warm water fisheries and waterfowl hunting opportunities.



East Killarney to Rose



OVERVIEW

Killarney East:
See Page 20

Lane Marsh:
See Page 21

Black Rock Slough:
See Page 21

Rose Creek:
See Page 22

Bull Run Lake:
See Page 22

Rose Lake:
See Page 23

Porter Lake:
See Page 23

Oehrling Slough:
See Page 24

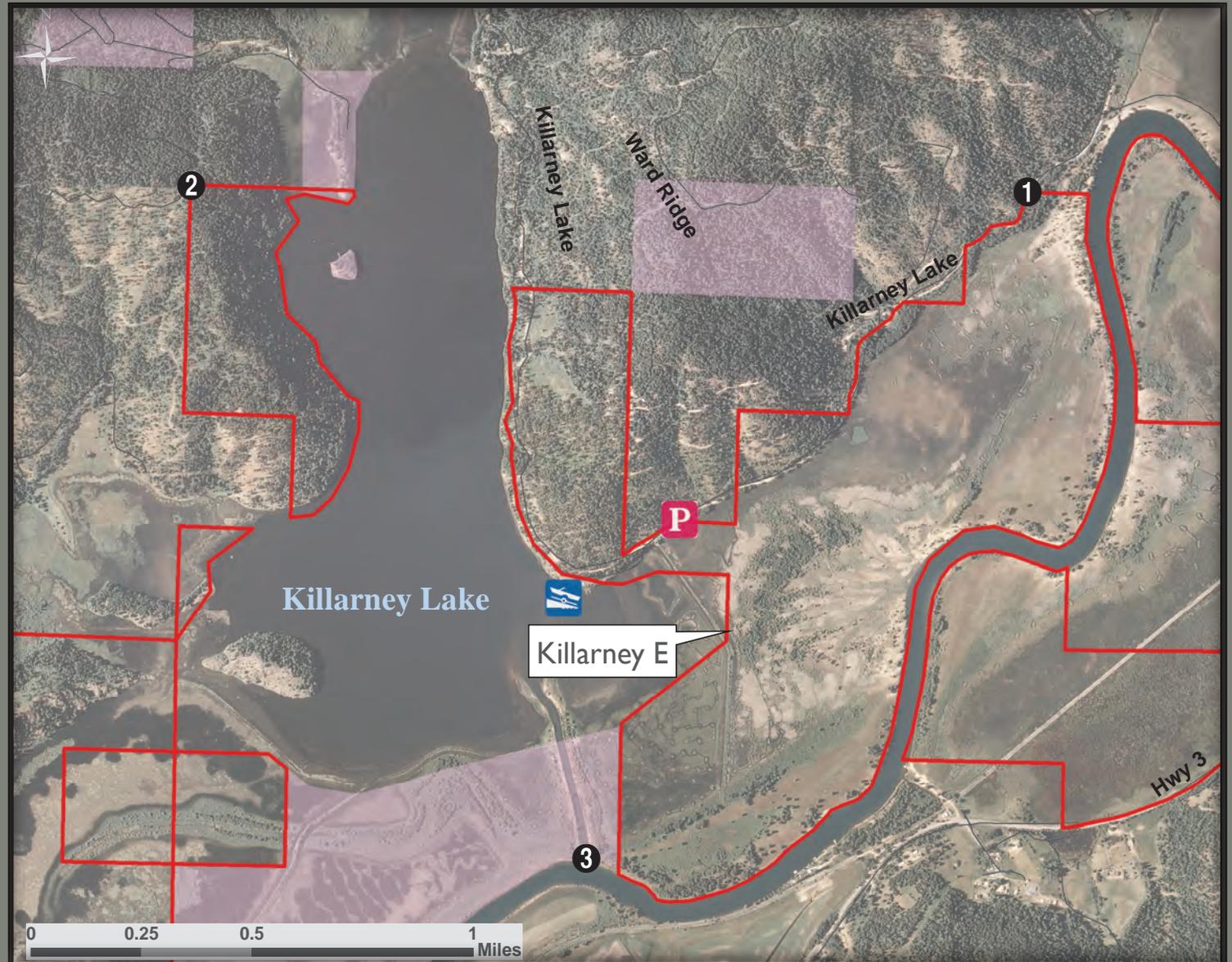
Cataldo Wetland:
See Page 25

Killarney East

DIRECTIONS:

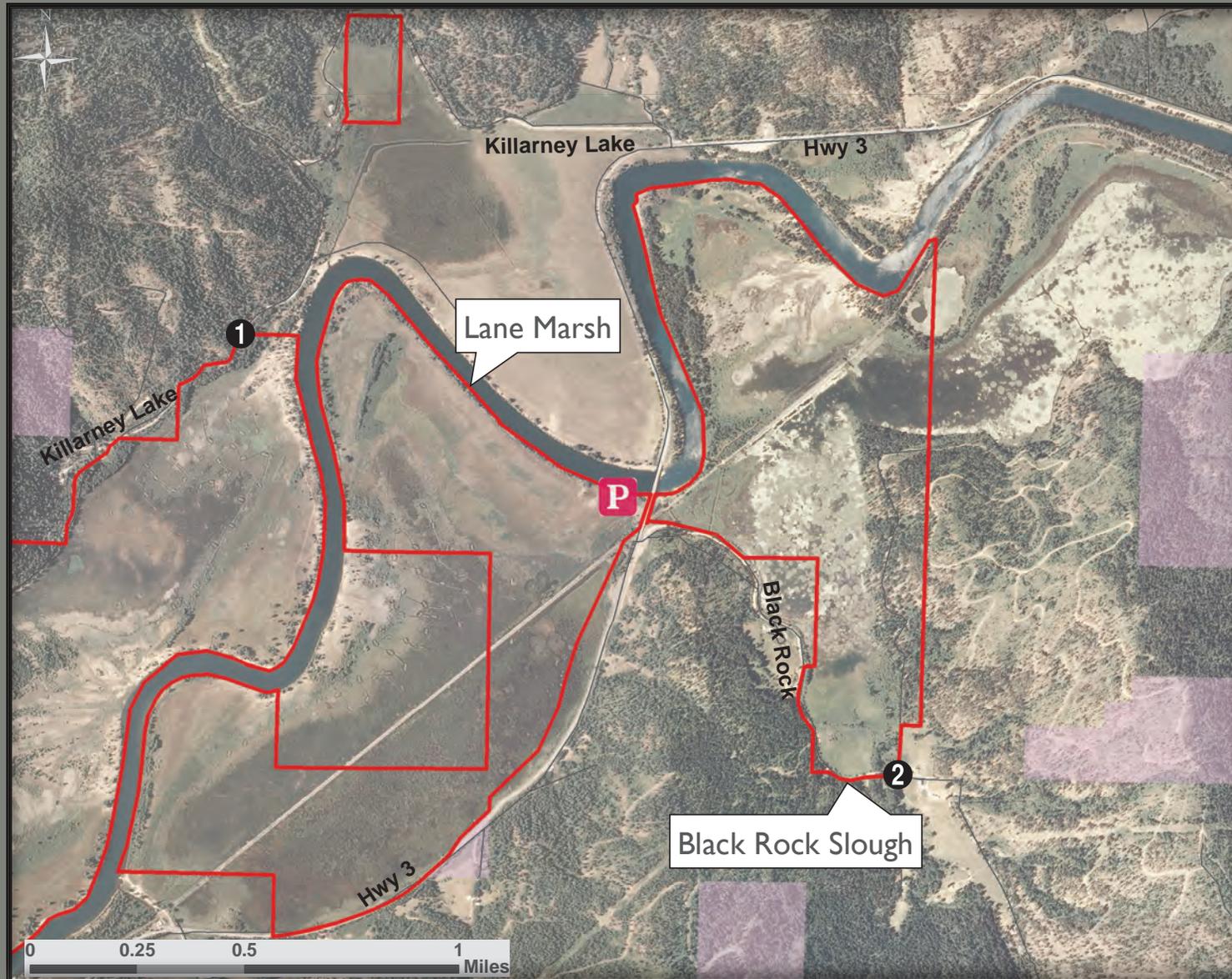
Killarney E: From I-90, travel south on Hwy 3 for 4.9 miles. Turn right on Killarney Lake Road. Travel 3.5 miles to access Strobel Marsh and Killarney Lake BLM boat launch.

1. 47.52821,
-116.53549



Lane Marsh/Black Rock Slough

These wetlands are accessible by the Blackrock parking lot and bike trail.



DIRECTIONS:

Lane Marsh: From I-90, travel south on Hwy 3 for 5.9 miles. After crossing the Coeur d'Alene River, turn right into the Trail of the Coeur d'Alene bike path parking lot.

Black Rock Slough: From I-90, travel south on Hwy 3 for 5.9 miles. Turn left on Black Rock Road.

1. 47.52821,
-116.53549

2. 47.51406,
-116.50202

Rose Creek/Bull Run Lake

DIRECTIONS:

Rose Creek: From I-90, travel south on Hwy 3 for 3.6 mile. Turn right on Rose Creek Road.

1. 47.55040,
-116.49556

Bull Run Lake: From I-90, travel south on Hwy 3 for 3.1 miles. Turn left on Bull Run Road and cross over the Coeur d'Alene River. Proceed 0.3 mile and turn right on Sportsman's Access Road just past the Trail of the Coeur d'Alene bike path.

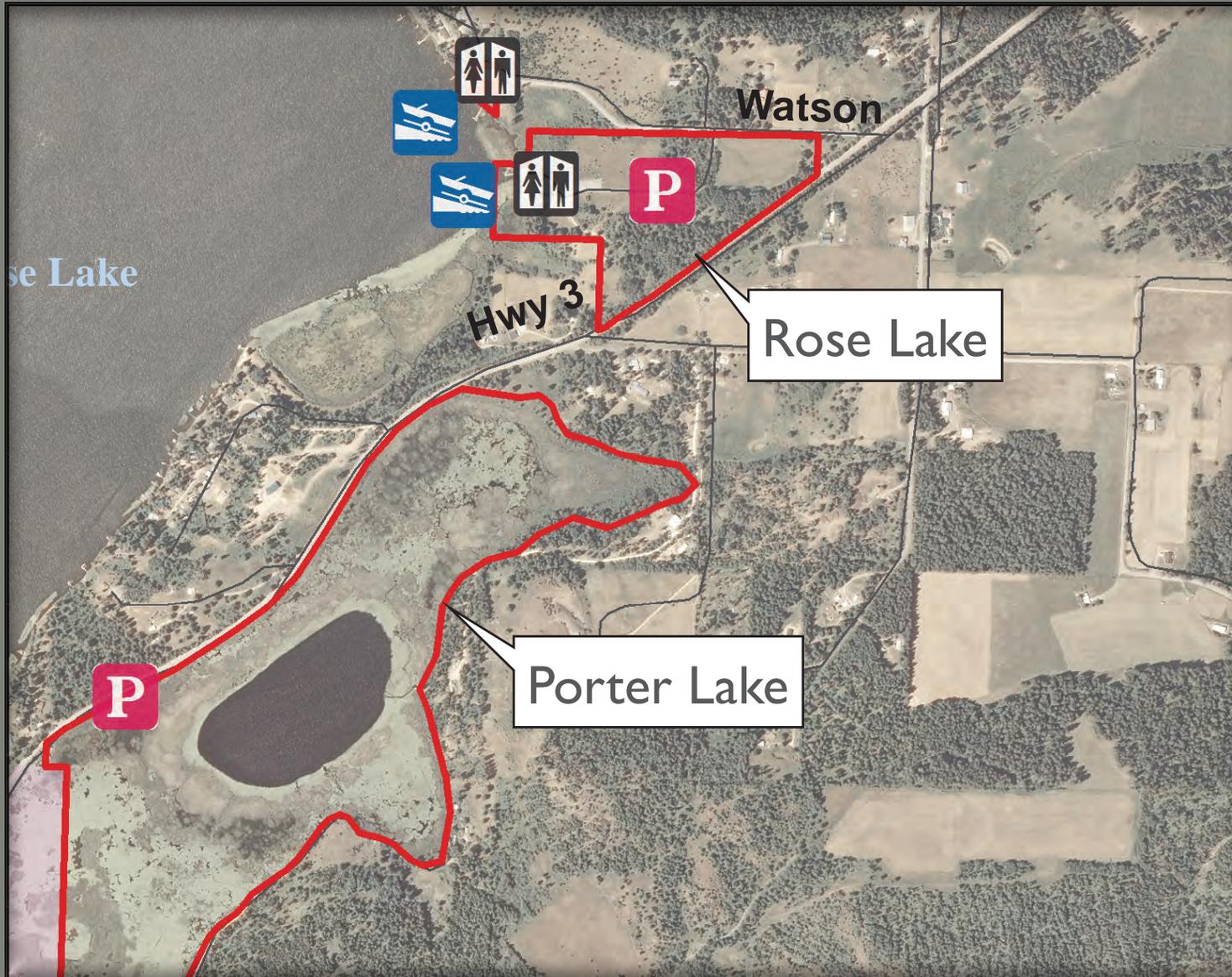
2. 47.53323,
-116.47972

Rose Creek is a small perennial stream that flows along the west side of Rose Lake. It is dominated by willows and shallow wetland habitat. Bull Run Lake and its surrounding wetland habitat are accessible by vehicle or small watercraft from an unimproved ramp.



Rose & Porter Lakes

Rose Lake has a variety of wetland habitat and deep water areas. Peat land is also present here. Porter Lake is a small shallow water lake surrounded by wetlands.



DIRECTIONS:

Rose Lake: From I-90, travel south on Hwy 3 for 1.6 miles. Turn right on Watson Road and travel < 0.5 mile to access both Rose Lake and Watson Road boat launches.

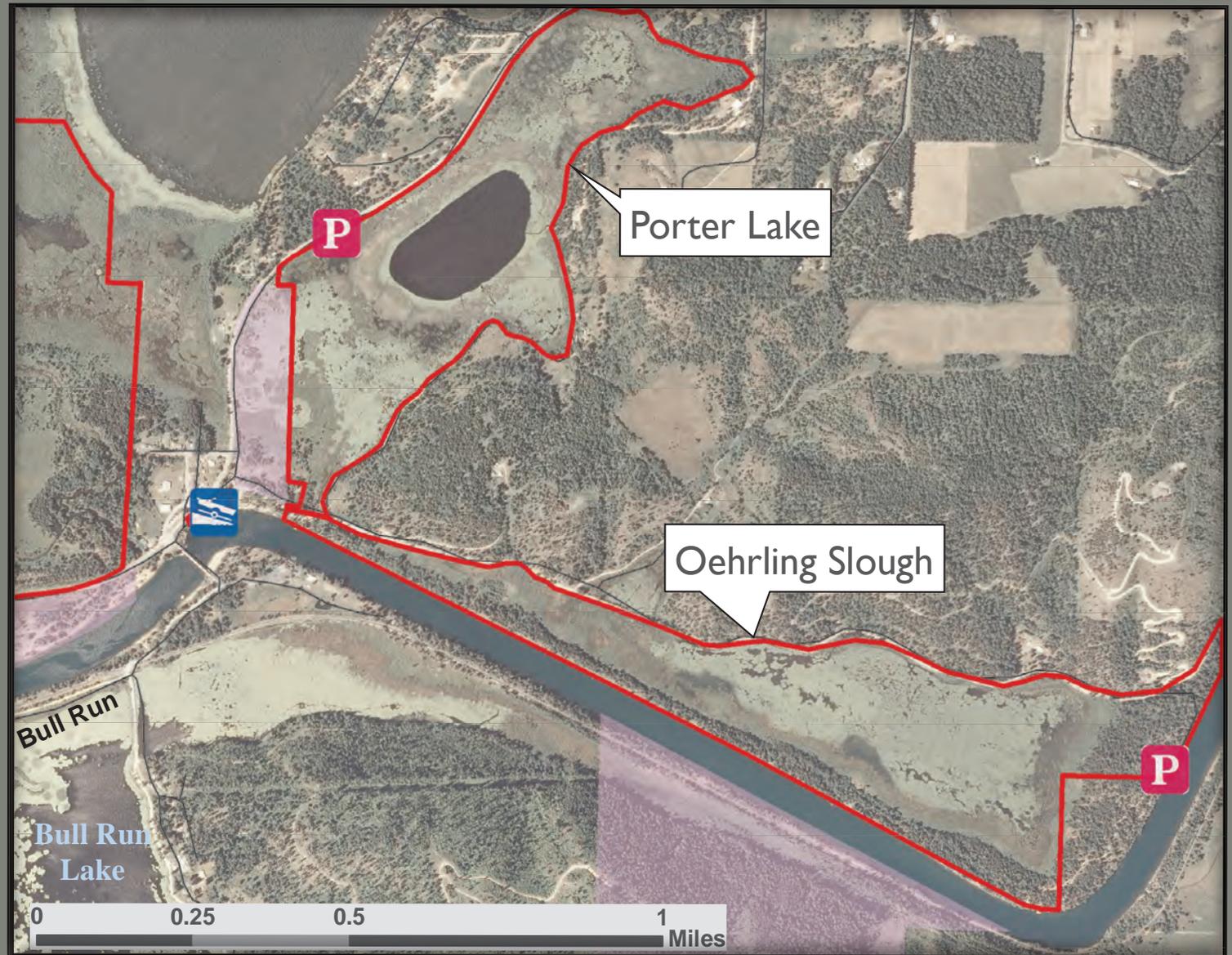
Porter Lake: From I-90, travel south on Hwy 3 for 2.6 miles. Two pull-outs along Hwy 3 provide access to the lake.

Oehrling Slough

DIRECTIONS:

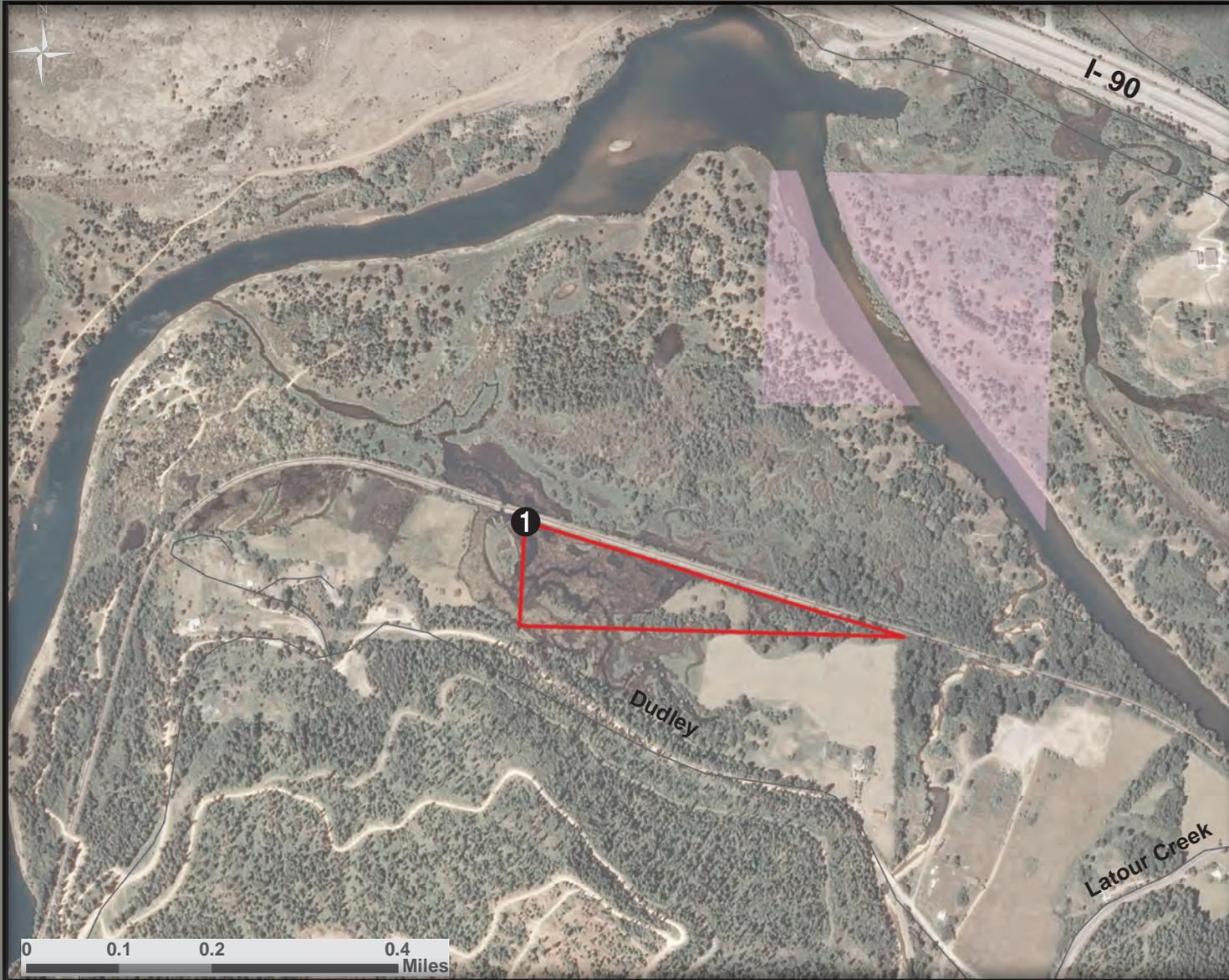
Oehrling Slough:
From I-90, travel south on Hwy 3 for 3.1 miles. Turn left on River Road and travel 1.6 miles. Turn right to access parking area.

Oehrling Slough is a large, shallow wetland. The property includes a riparian forest community consisting of cottonwood, alder, and western red cedar along the banks of the Coeur d' Alene River.



Cataldo Wetland

The Cataldo wetland is a small parcel with shallow water wetland and riparian forest habitat.



DIRECTIONS:

Cataldo Wetland:
Access is from
the Trail of the
Coeur d'Alene
bike path only via
the Cataldo or Bull
Run Trailheads.

1. 47.54536,
-116.37384

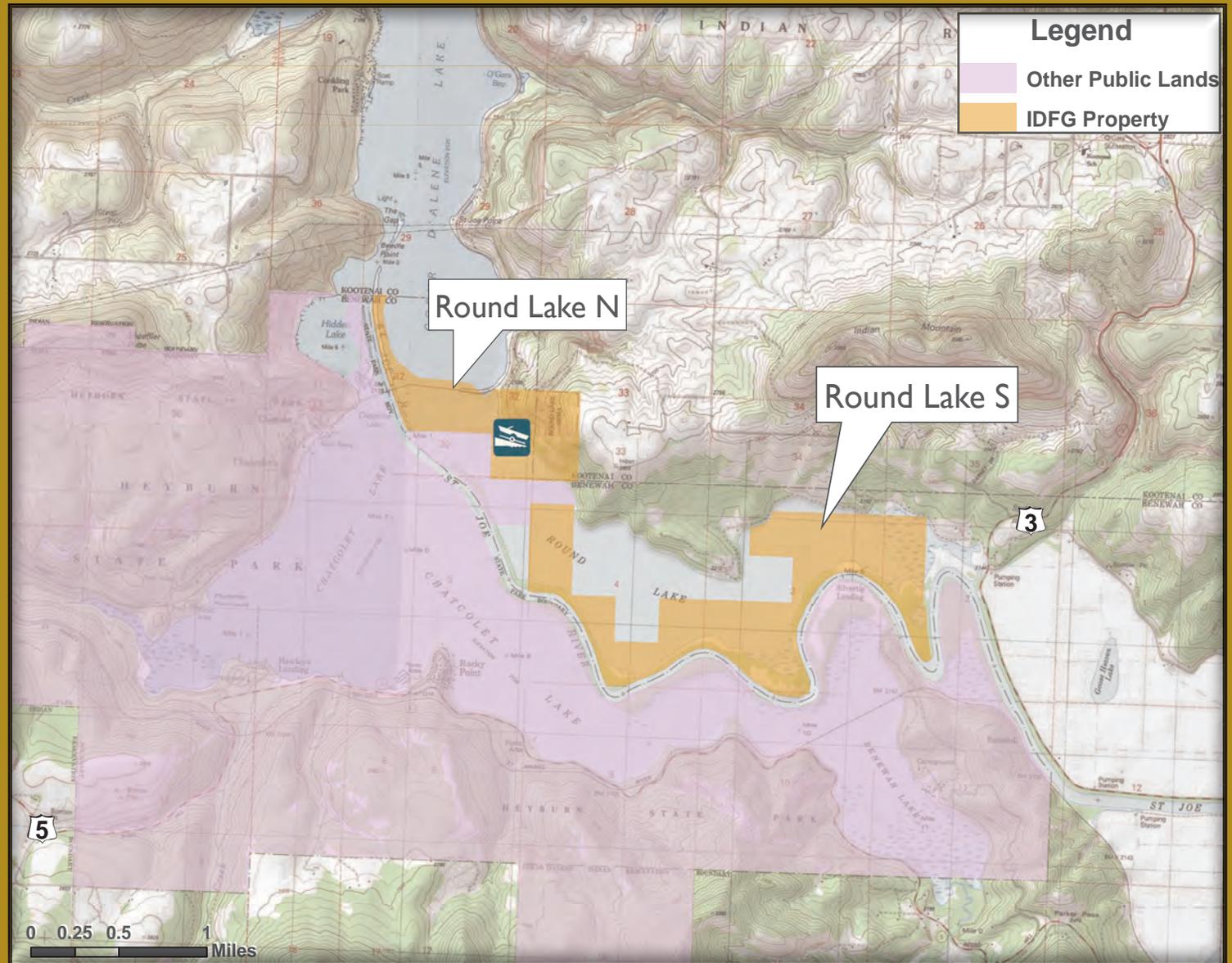
Round Lake

OVERVIEW

Round Lake

Round Lake North:
See page 27

Round Lake
South:
See Page 28



Round Lake North

Round Lake, Hidden Lake, and the mouth of the St Joe River at the southern end of Lake Coeur d'Alene can be accessed here; shallow running watercraft recommended. Lake Chatcolet and Heyburn State Park lie to the southwest.



DIRECTIONS:

Round Lake North: From St Maries, travel north on Hwy 3 for 11 miles. Turn left on Hwy 97 and travel 0.5 mile. Turn left on O'Gara Road. Travel 3.2 miles and turn left on Benewah Road. Travel 3.5 miles to boat launch.

1. 47.37138,
-116.73001

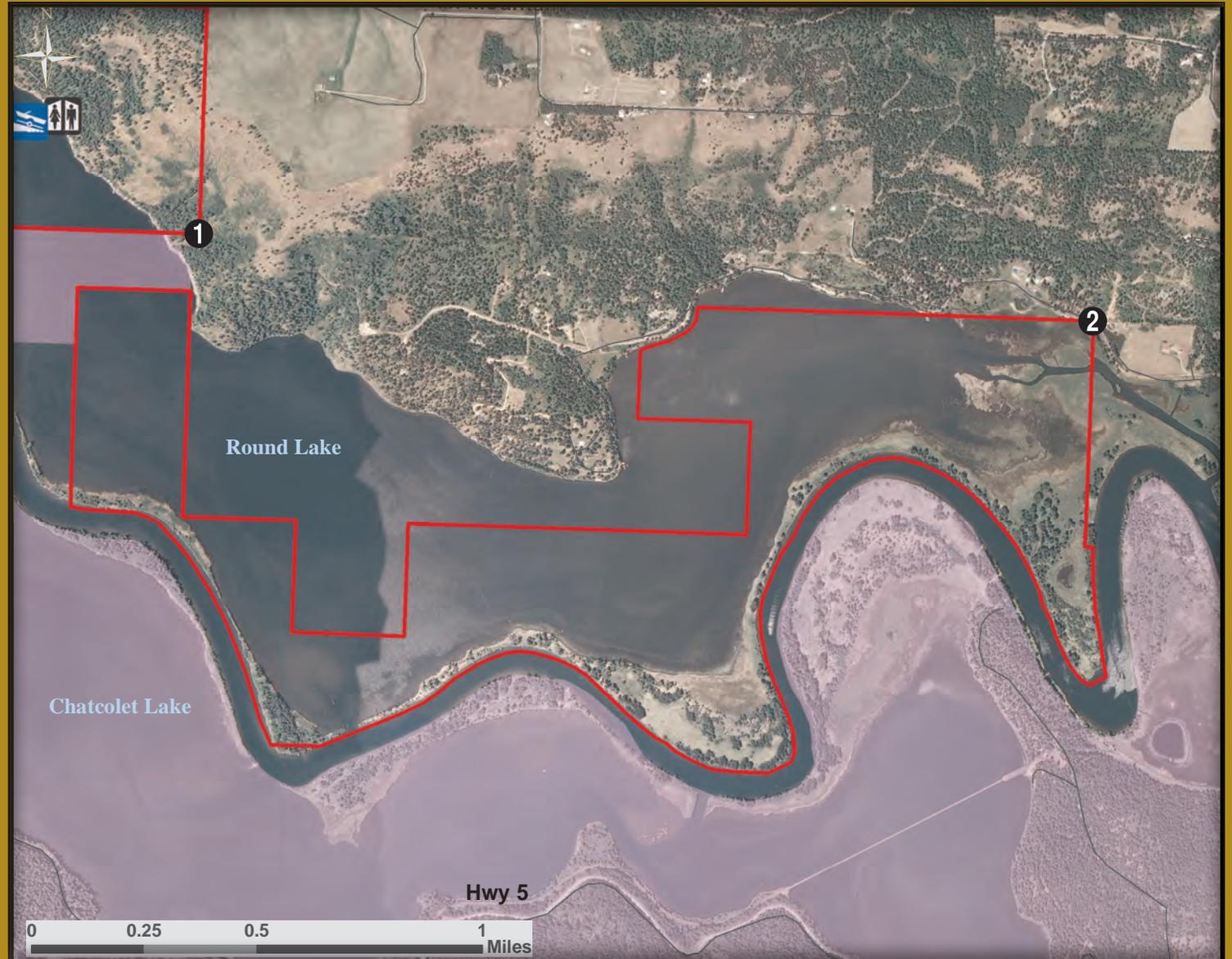
Round Lake South

DIRECTIONS:

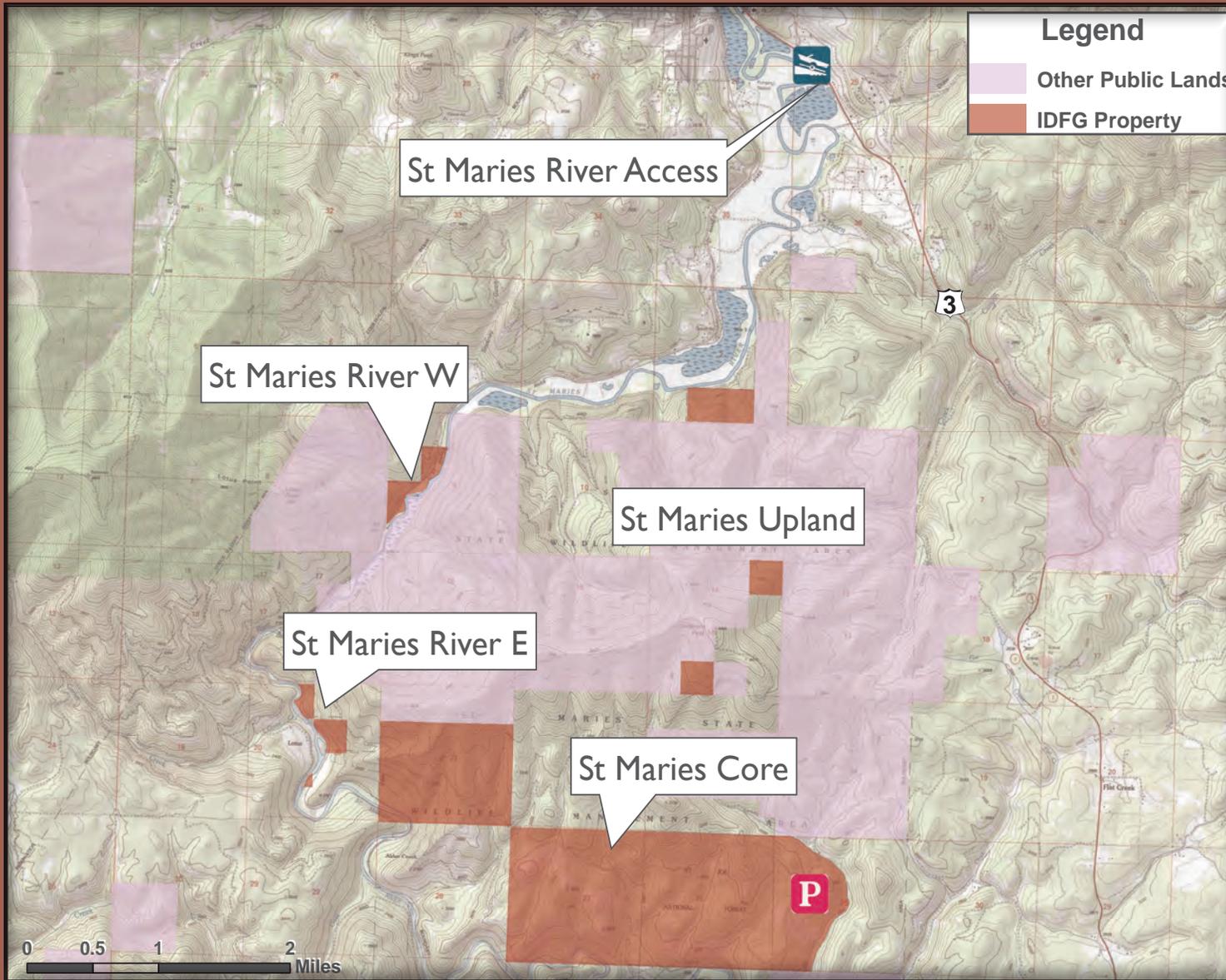
Round Lake S:
Access from
Round Lake N
boat launch.

1. 47.37138,
-116.73001
2. 47.36956,
-116.68765

This area's unique feature is the lower St Joe River floodplain consisting of an important riparian forest of large cottonwood trees and various shrub species.



St Maries



OVERVIEW:

St Maries:

St Maries River
Access:
See Page 30

St Maries West:
See Page 31

St Maries Upland:
See Page 32

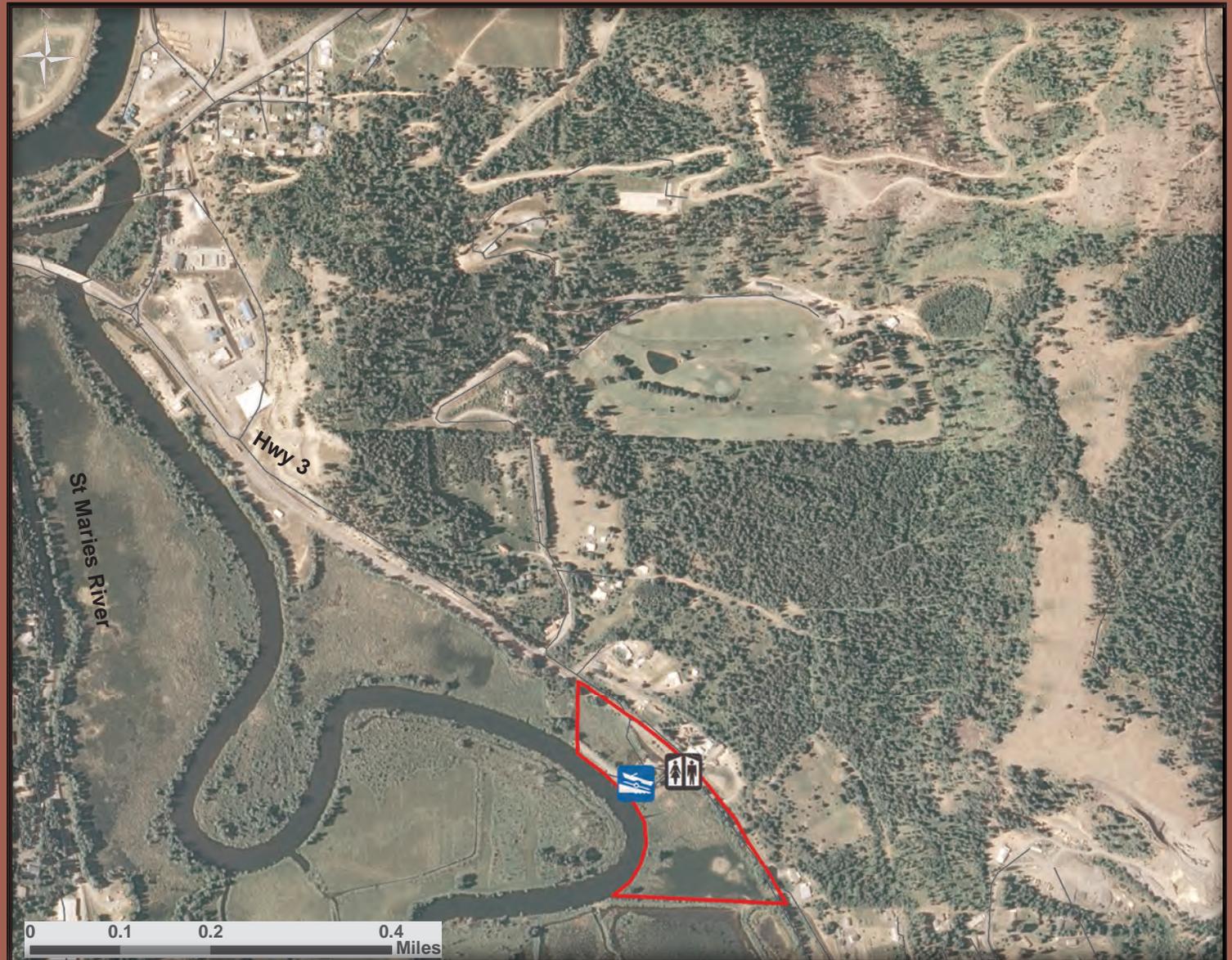
St Maries Core:
See Page 33

St Maries River Access

DIRECTIONS:

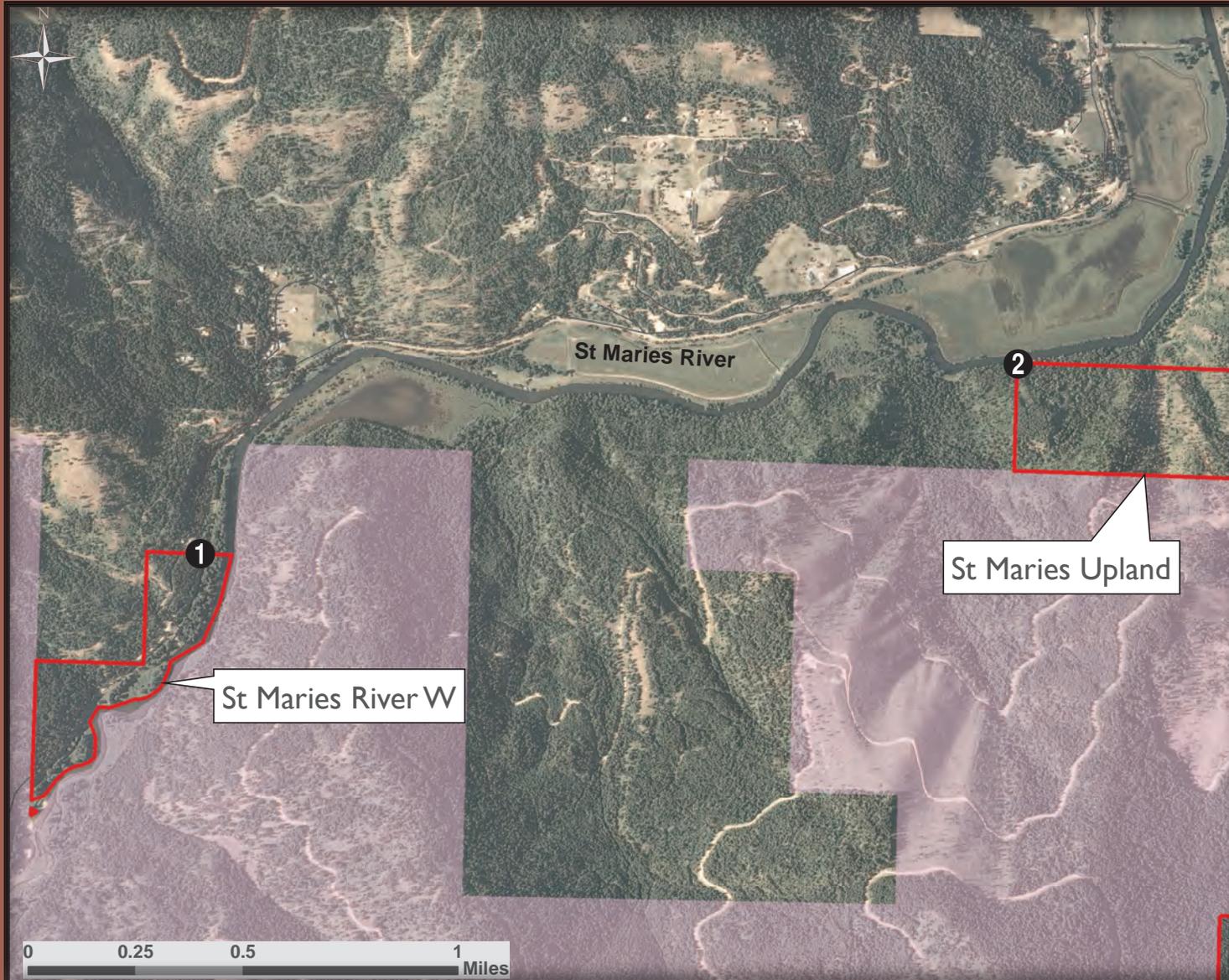
St Maries River Access: From St Maries, travel south on Hwy 3 for 1 mile.

This site includes a boat launch and a new family fishing pond, with wetland habitat on the south end.



St Maries West

These small parcels provide access to St Maries River and consist of conifer and riparian forest habitat.



DIRECTIONS:

St Maries River W:
From St Maries,
travel south on S
1st Street which
turns into St
Maries River Road
for 5.5 miles.

1. 47.26506,
-116.59988

2. 47.27235,
-116.55978

St Maries Upland

DIRECTIONS:

St Maries Upland:
From St Maries,
travel south on
Hwy 3 for 6.9
miles and turn
right. Travel 1.9
miles from Hwy
3 and take the
right fork towards
Lindstom Peak.

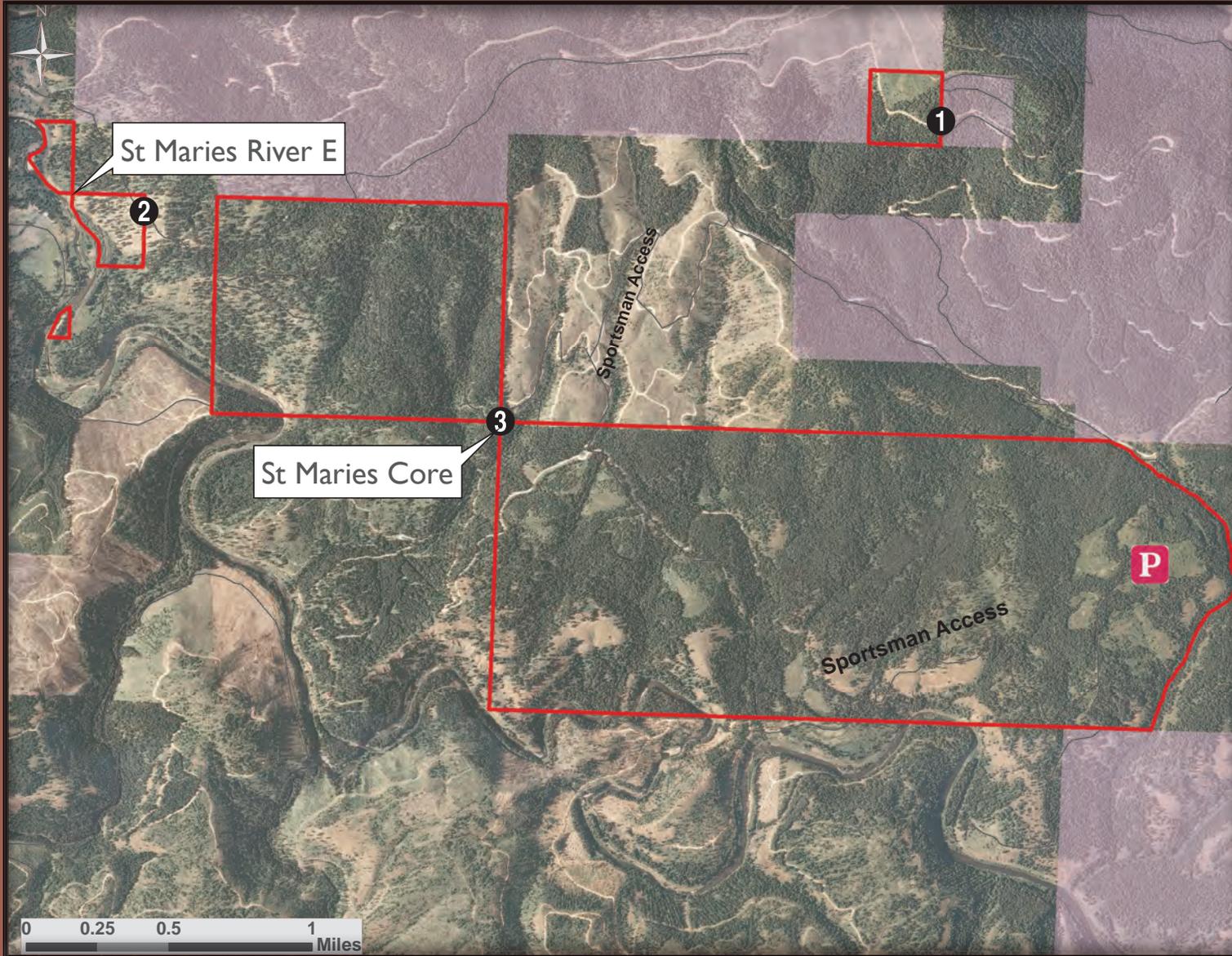
1. 47.24057,
-116.55416

Small parcels dominated by mixed conifer forest habitat.



St Maries Core

The area is predominantly mixed conifer forest habitat with steeper slopes along the St Maries River canyon in a more open Ponderosa pine and grassland habitat. This area is important big game winter range for elk, white-tailed deer, and mule deer. The road system provides public access to St Maries River.



DIRECTIONS:

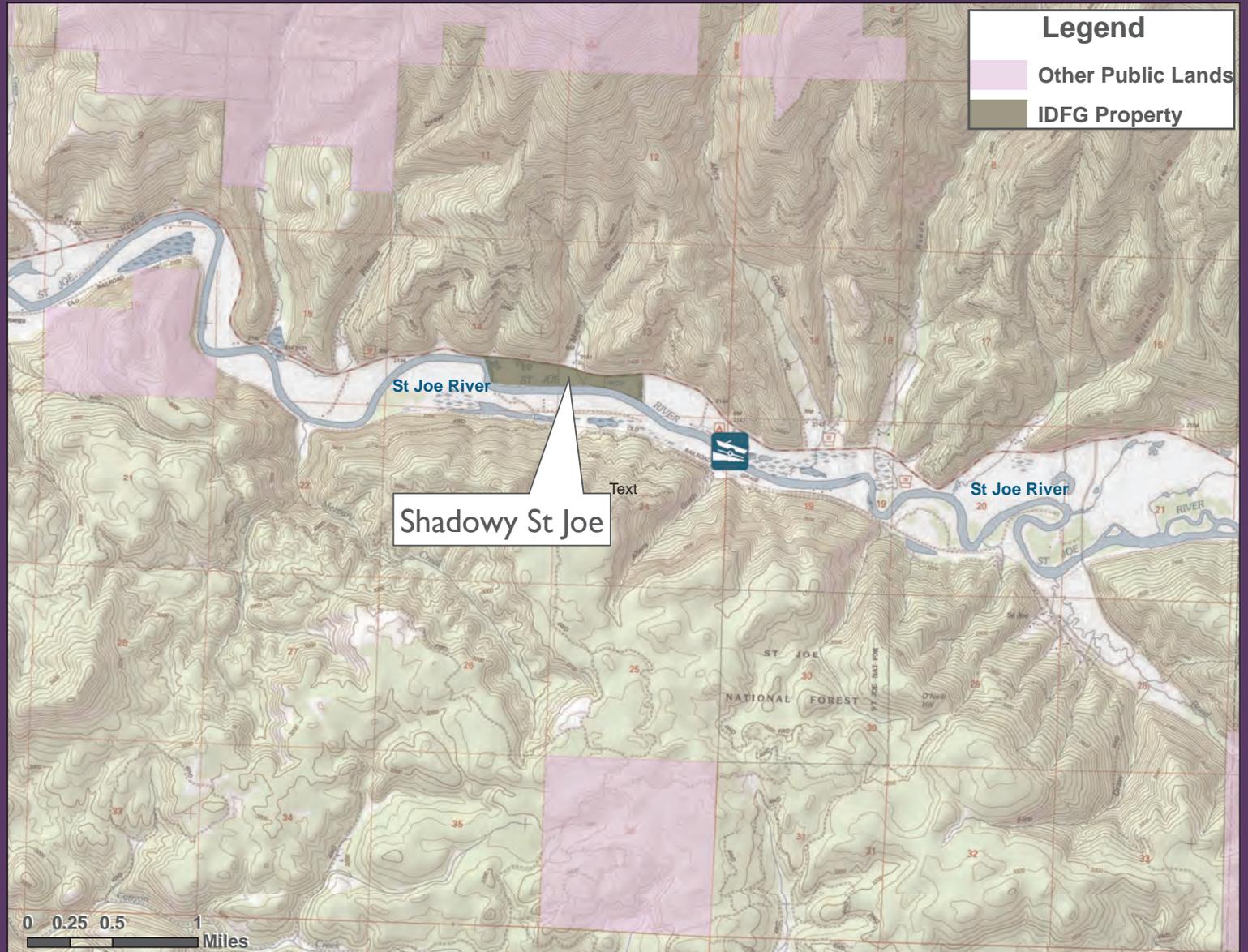
St Maries Core:
From St Maries, travel south on Hwy 3 for 6.9 miles and turn right. Travel 1.9 miles from Hwy 3 and take the left fork. Travel another 0.6 mile and take the left fork to access the east section of St Maries Core.

1. 47.24057, -116.55416
2. 47.23465, -116.61314
3. 47.22509, -116.58587

Shadowy St Joe

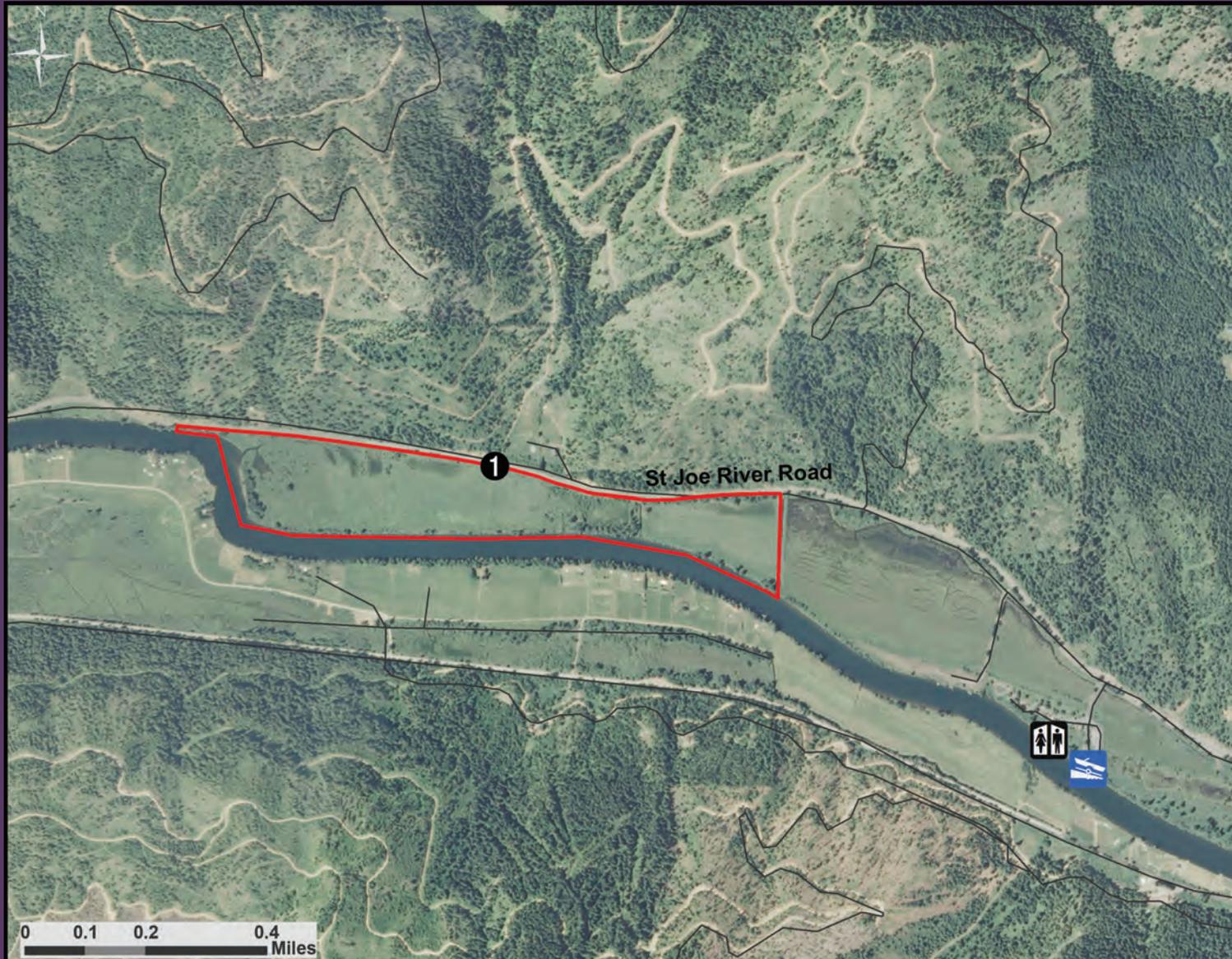
DIRECTIONS:

Shadowy St Joe:
See Page 35



Shadowy St Joe

This property is the site of a recently completed wetland restoration project to return wetland functions to this previously farmed hay field. Shallow wetland excavations, along with wetland and shrub plantings have been completed on the property.



DIRECTIONS:

Shadowy St Joe:
From St Maries,
travel north on
Hwy 3 for 0.5 mile
and turn right on
St Joe River Road.
Travel 9.5 miles to
pull-out and gate.

Snow Peak WMA

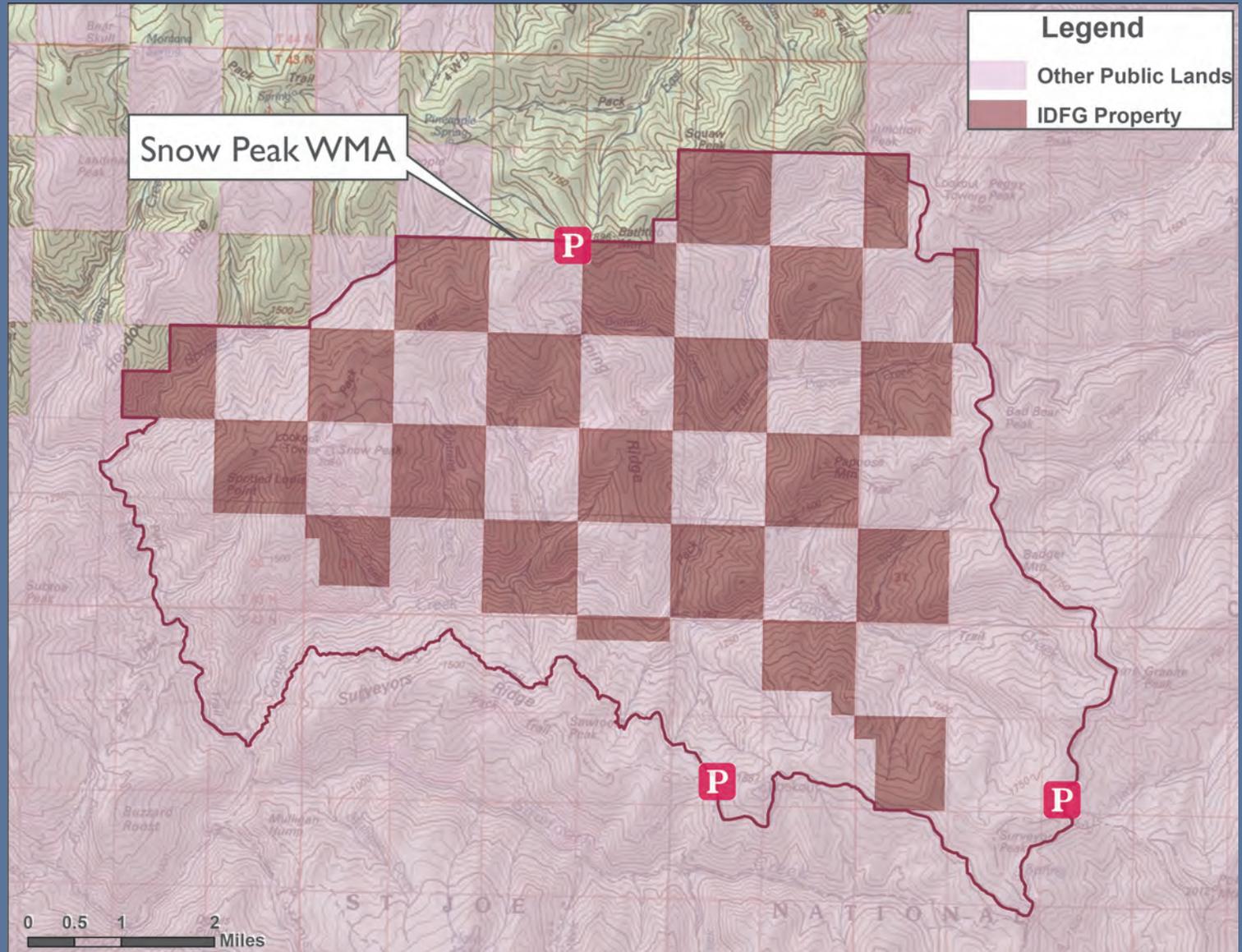
OVERVIEW:

Snow Peak

See Page 37

DIRECTIONS:

Snow Peak WMA:
From St Maries, travel north on Hwy 3 for 0.5 mile and turn right on St Joe River Road. Go east on FS Road 50 (St Joe River Road.) approximately 70 miles. Take right on FS Road 509 (Bluff Creek Road) and travel southwest for 9 miles. Take a left on FS Road 1404 and travel 2.5 miles to Pineapple Saddle. Take a left on FS Road 201 and travel southeast for 3 miles to the Snow Peak Trailhead (Trail 55) at Bathtub Meadows.



Snow Peak WMA

DIRECTIONS:

To access Snow Peak WMA from the east:

From the upper St Joe FS Road 218, turn right at Beaver Creek Campground on FS Road 303 and travel west 8 miles to the junction of FS Road 201. Turn left on FS Road 201 and travel south approximately 12 miles to Surveyors Lookout and Sawtooth Saddle Trailhead.

