

Brochure
Late
2007

COLORADO DIVISION OF WILDLIFE

2007 Late Cropland Walk-In Atlas



Access continues through February 29, 2008

**WALK-IN
HUNTING AREA**
Walk-In Access Permit
Required, 16 & Older
Walking Access Only
Opening Day Of
Pheasant Season - Feb. 28
Permit Does Not Allow Access For
Big Game Hunting
Respect the
Landowner,
Respect the
Land
Hunt only within field boundaries



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BDOW026872

2007 WALK-IN ACCESS PROGRAM

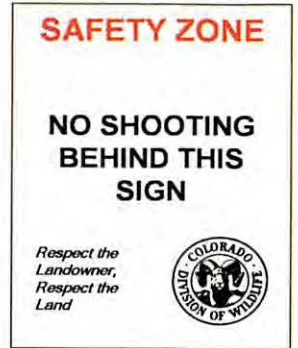
The Division of Wildlife is excited to present the Late Cropland version of the Walk-In Access (WIA) Atlas. With the expansion to early season hunting for doves and other small game species, and the fact that Colorado's agricultural landscape is very diverse, it was necessary to allow landowners the option of signing up for September 1 or for the traditional WIA opening date - the opening day of pheasant season. This atlas includes all WIA properties, including those that provided access on September 1, and the late cropland properties that open on November 10. Access to all properties continues through the end of February, 2008. **Big game hunting permission is not included in the Walk-In Access Program.** **To hunt small game or waterfowl on enrolled properties, all hunters, regardless of age, must have in their possession a Walk-In Access Permit. Permits are available to hunters under age 18 at no charge.** Similar to a hunting license, Walk-In Access permits expire at the end of the calendar year. Hunters must obtain a 2008 WIA permit to hunt on WIA properties on or after January 1, 2008. Proceeds from the sale of these permits go directly towards landowner payments, atlas printing, and other operating costs of the program. A Colorado Wildlife Habitat Stamp is required of people ages 19-64 who buy hunting or fishing licenses.

A variety of different types of habitat have been enrolled to offer the most opportunity for small game hunting. Some properties listed in this atlas may have been enrolled strictly for mourning doves in September, although most properties were leased for their late season potential as well.

All fields enrolled in the program will be clearly marked at corners and along access points. Every attempt has been made to ensure that this atlas is as accurate as possible, however, a few errors may have gone undetected, or landowners may have withdrawn a field after the atlas was published. **Do not hunt on fields depicted in the atlas unless you also see Walk-In Access signs posted on the boundaries.** Walk-In Atlases from previous years will not be accurate for hunting in 2007.

Look for these signs at WIA properties.

Walk-In Access Program Boundary signs come in two varieties. In the field you will see signs that have an access date of September 1 through the end of February, and signs that have an access date of "The opening day of pheasant season" through the end of February. All properties open to Walk-In Access are published in this brochure. Properties that are posted to open on the opening day of pheasant season cannot be accessed prior to November 10, 2007. Access to all properties ends on the last day of February, 2008. Two other signs are used on or near Walk-In Access Properties. **Parking signs** are used to designate where hunters should park at some Walk-In areas. A large majority of WIA properties do not have established parking areas, instead hunters should park along the road, taking care to stay out of the traveled portion of the road but also not park in tall weeds and grass where a fire hazard exists. **Safety Zone signs** are also common on or near WIA properties. These signs are used to delineate safety zones around buildings, homesteads, livestock corrals or neighboring landowners homes and properties. Please respect safety zone signs wherever you find them posted.



Rarely, it becomes necessary to remove a property from the Walk-In Access Program after this brochure is printed. When that happens, Walk-In Access boundary signs are removed and replaced with yellow Warning signs to notify hunters that the property is no longer available for Walk-In hunting. Do not hunt if fields are posted with yellow WARNING SIGNS! And remember, if you find a WIA property depicted in the brochure but boundary signs are not present at the field corners, please do not hunt that field!

WALK-IN ACCESS REGULATIONS

In order to hunt small game, waterfowl or furbearers on the Walk-In Access Property, all hunters must first purchase, sign and have in their possession a small game license, a Walk-In Access Permit and comply with Habitat stamp regulations. In addition, hunters age 16 and older must possess state and federal migratory bird stamps prior to hunting waterfowl.

1. Public Access is permitted from 1 hour before sunrise to 1 hour after sunset. **For waterfowl hunting, access is allowed from 2 hours before sunrise to 2 hours after sunset.**
2. Statewide, take is restricted to small game, furbearers, and waterfowl. Hunters may not hunt or harvest Gambel's quail, Gunnison sage grouse, or Greater sage grouse from WIA properties.
3. Access is permitted:
 - a. September 1 through the end of February annually for lands enrolled and posted as Regular Season Walk-In Access properties;
 - b. From the opening day of pheasant season through the end of February annually for lands enrolled and posted as Late Season Cropland Walk-In Access properties, and;
 - c. From September 1 through the end of the mountain Sharp-tailed grouse season annually, for all lands enrolled and posted as Grouse Walk-In Access Properties.
4. Access shall be by foot only. Entry by horseback, motorized vehicle, or other means is prohibited.
5. Access is permitted for hunting only; all other activities are prohibited. Individuals may accompany hunters without obtaining or possessing a Walk-In Access permit provided they do not hunt.
6. Walk-In Access permits are not transferable to any other person, nor do they confer hunting privileges to any person other than the purchaser of the permit.

The Walk-In Access Program depends on private landowners that enroll property for Walk-In hunting, and maintaining good relations with those landowners and their neighbors. There are some additional guidelines, that if followed, will improve the opportunities for all hunters and contribute to future WIA enrollments.

- Where designated parking areas are established, use them. Do not block gates or roads for the landowner or his agents that may need to work on the property. Do not park along highways.
- Do not park in tall grassy or weedy areas where your catalytic converter can cause a fire. Do not smoke or extinguish cigarettes in these areas either, and make sure to completely extinguish cigarettes if you do smoke.
- Don't litter or clean harvested birds on the WIA property or along roadsides. If someone else left a mess, please pick it up.
- Don't shoot near or towards houses, farm buildings, livestock or equipment.
- Don't hunt if cattle are in or adjacent to enrolled parcels
- Don't track down landowners who have enrolled land in WIA to get access to other fields,

COLORADO DIVISION OF WILDLIFE

Department of Natural Resources

6060 Broadway, Denver 80216

(303) 297-1192

www.wildlife.state.co.us

Created September 2007

Editor: Ed Gorman

Maps designed and prepared by Dawn Brownne.

Cover Photo: Ed Gorman

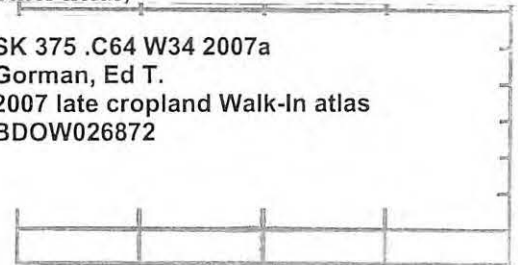
Text: Ed Gorman

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Acting Director, Colorado Division of Wildlife: Mark B. Konishi

Wildlife Commissioners (as of September 2007): Tom Burke, Chair; Claire O'Neil, member; Brad Coors, member; Jeffrey Crawford, member; Tim Glenn, member; John Sherman, ex-officio member; John Stulp, ex-officio member.

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Gorman, Ed T.
2007 late cropland Walk-In atlas
BDOW026872



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Fort Collins, CO 80526 USA
(970) 472-4353

SMALL GAME HUNTING INFORMATION

SMALL GAME REGULATIONS

Some small game and waterfowl regulations are included within this atlas for your convenience. A more complete synopsis of small game and waterfowl regulations is contained within the 2007 Small Game and Waterfowl brochures, available at license agents, Division of Wildlife Offices, or on line at www.wildlife.state.co.us.

HUNTING HOURS

One half hour before sunrise to sunset, except furbearers, which can be hunted from one-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset. See sunrise/sunset chart below.

GUIDE TO LEGAL HUNTING HOURS

The table below is valid for Denver, CO through 2008. Subtract one minute from the opening and closing time for each 12 1/2 miles east of Denver. Add one minute to opening and closing time for each 12 1/2 miles west of Denver. The above changes are based on the assumption that each degree of longitude equals 50 miles and that a change of 1 degree of longitude equals 4 minutes change in sunrise and sunset times.

2007 Sunrise/Sunset Table

DAY	SEPT. Rise Set A.M. P.M. (DST)		OCT. Rise Set A.M. P.M. (DST)		NOV. Rise Set A.M. P.M.		DEC. Rise Set A.M. P.M.		JAN. Rise Set A.M. P.M.	
1	6:27	7:31	6:55	6:42	7:28	5:58	7:01	4:35	7:20	4:45
2	6:28	7:30	6:56	6:41	7:29	5:56	7:02	4:35	7:21	4:45
3	6:29	7:28	6:57	6:39	7:30	5:55	7:03	4:35	7:21	4:46
4	6:30	7:27	6:58	6:38	7:31	5:54	7:04	4:34	7:21	4:47
5	6:31	7:25	6:59	6:36	7:32	5:53	7:05	4:34	7:21	4:48
6	6:32	7:23	7:00	6:34	7:33	5:52	7:06	4:34	7:21	4:49
7	6:33	7:22	7:01	6:33	7:34	5:51	7:07	4:34	7:21	4:50
8	6:34	7:20	7:02	6:31	7:35	5:50	7:08	4:34	7:20	4:51
9	6:34	7:18	7:03	6:30	7:36	5:49	7:09	4:34	7:20	4:52
10	6:35	7:17	7:04	6:28	7:37	5:48	7:09	4:34	7:20	4:53
11	6:36	7:15	7:05	6:27	7:38	5:47	7:10	4:34	7:20	4:54
12	6:37	7:14	7:06	6:25	7:39	5:46	7:11	4:35	7:20	4:55
13	6:38	7:12	7:07	6:23	7:40	5:45	7:12	4:35	7:19	4:56
14	6:39	7:10	7:08	6:22	7:41	5:44	7:12	4:35	7:19	4:57
15	6:40	7:09	7:09	6:20	7:42	5:44	7:13	4:35	7:19	4:58
16	6:41	7:07	7:10	6:19	7:43	5:43	7:14	4:36	7:18	4:59
17	6:42	7:05	7:11	6:18	7:44	5:42	7:14	4:36	7:18	5:00
18	6:43	7:04	7:12	6:16	7:45	5:41	7:15	4:36	7:17	5:01
19	6:44	7:02	7:14	6:15	7:46	5:40	7:16	4:37	7:17	5:02
20	6:45	7:00	7:15	6:13	7:47	5:39	7:16	4:37	7:16	5:04
21	6:46	6:59	7:16	6:12	7:48	5:38	7:17	4:37	7:16	5:05
22	6:47	6:57	7:17	6:10	7:49	5:37	7:17	4:38	7:14	5:08
23	6:48	6:55	7:18	6:09	7:50	5:36	7:18	4:38	7:15	5:07
24	6:49	6:54	7:19	6:08	7:51	5:35	7:18	4:39	7:14	5:08
25	6:49	6:52	7:20	6:06	7:52	5:34	7:19	4:40	7:13	5:09
26	6:50	6:50	7:21	6:05	7:53	5:33	7:19	4:40	7:12	5:11
27	6:51	6:49	7:22	6:04	7:54	5:32	7:19	4:41	7:12	5:12
28	6:52	6:47	7:23	6:03	7:55	5:31	7:20	4:42	7:11	5:13
29	6:53	6:46	7:24	6:01	7:56	5:30	7:20	4:42	7:10	5:14
30	6:54	6:44	7:25	6:00	7:57	5:29	7:20	4:43	7:09	5:15
31			7:27	5:59			7:20	4:44	7:08	5:17

2007 LICENSE COSTS

	Resident	Non Resident
Small Game.....	\$21.00	\$ 56.00
Small Game (one-day).....	\$11.00	\$ 11.00
Combo Small Game and Fishing..	\$41.00	
Youth Small Game.....	\$ 1.00	\$ 1.00
Walk-In Access Permit.....	\$20.00	\$20.00
Youth Walk-In Access Permit.....	free	free
Federal Duck Stamp.....	\$15.00	\$15.00
Colorado Duck Stamp.....	\$ 5.00	\$ 5.00
Habitat Stamp.....	\$ 5.00	\$ 5.00

Annual Maximum of \$10; Lifetime Stamp \$200.00; Hunters 18 and under and over 65 do not need a Habitat Stamp License costs include a 25-cent search and rescue fee and a 75-cent surcharge for the Wildlife Management Public Education Fund.

HARVEST INFORMATION PROGRAM

If you hunt small game, furbearers, or migratory birds in Colorado, including by falconry, you must sign up with HIP before your license is valid. Hunters must write their HIP number in the space provided on the license. Hunters will be asked basic questions about their hunting, including how many birds they harvested the previous season and what species they plan to hunt this year. Both the phone line and web site run 24 hours a day, every day, and the process takes about 5 minutes. If you signed up with HIP for the 2007-08 hunting season and you intend to hunt during the January-March 2008 period, you must purchase a 2008 Small Game hunting license and transfer your 2007-08 HIP number to that license. If you don't have a 2007-08 HIP number, you must obtain one before hunting. To sign up for HIP, hunters need to call 1-866-265-6447 (1-866-COLOHIP) or go on line at www.colohip.com. For help getting your HIP number, call 1-800-368-4683, Monday through Saturday, 6 a.m. to 4 p.m. MST.

SMALL GAME HARVEST SURVEYS

The Division of Wildlife conducts several small game harvest surveys each year which are designed to estimate harvest, hunter numbers and recreation days. Harvest surveys are critical to monitor changing wildlife populations and are extremely valuable to hunters wanting to learn more about hunting small game in Colorado. Harvest survey reports are available on the Division's web site. Hunters are randomly selected to participate in specific small game surveys. All small game surveys conducted by telephone, however, some also employ notification by e-mail. If contacted, your participation is not required in any way, but responding to the survey, even if you did not hunt or harvest those specific species is encouraged to help the Division better manage our small game resources.

SMALL GAME WALK-IN ATLAS

HUNTERS PLEASE NOTE:

Regulation prohibits the take of Gambel's quail and sage grouse from all WIA properties.

Gambel's quail occur only in western Colorado, primarily in the Grand and Uncompaghre valleys, and may inhabit some WIA properties in this area. Gambel's quail have a distinctive plume feather on the head, males have a black face, copper feathers on top of the head, while females have mostly gray plumage with a tannish gray face and beige plumage underneath.



Sage grouse also occur in western Colorado and may inhabit some properties. Sage grouse are a large, grayish bird with a slow wing beat in flight. Sage grouse have distinctly pointed tail feathers and black breast feathers, both of which are visible when flushed. Sage Grouse tend to be silent when flushed.



Sage Grouse

Plains sharp-tailed grouse are known to occur in Weld, western Logan and northern Morgan counties. Plains sharp-tailed grouse are not a legal game bird in Colorado but have been transplanted into some areas to re-establish populations. When hunting in these counties, please take special care to clearly identify the target before shooting. Sharp-tailed grouse are much lighter in color than cock pheasants and have a short, distinctly pointed tail, which shows white when in flight. Sharp-tailed grouse often emit a low pitched series of clucks when flushed.

Sharp-tailed Grouse



LANDOWNERS!

Interested in enrolling land in the Small Game Walk-In Access Program? The Colorado Division of Wildlife is interested in enrolling quality small game hunting lands. Eligible types of cover and areas of interest include:

Northeast Colorado - tall grass CRP, pivot corners, standing cover crop, tall crop stubble, abandoned farmsteads, tree rows and windbreaks, wooded creek bottoms, seasonal wetlands and goose hunting fields.

Southeast Colorado - tall grass CRP, pivot corners, standing cover crop, tall crop stubble, abandoned farmsteads, tree rows and windbreaks, wooded creek bottoms, seasonal wetlands, goose hunting fields, sand sage rangelands and cholla grasslands.

Northwest Colorado - waterfowl hunting fields including harvested corn stubble, alfalfa fields, and wheat, river bottom lands, and other small game habitat including lands for grouse hunting.

Southwest Colorado - waterfowl hunting fields including harvested corn stubble, alfalfa fields, and wheat, river bottom lands, and other small game.

To obtain more information, please contact your local CDOW office, or complete and return the following form.

Please contact me with more information on enrolling my land in the Small Game Walk-In Access Program.

Name: _____
Address: _____
City, State, Zip: _____
Day Phone: _____
Evening Phone: _____
Property is located in _____ County
Type of Land: _____

Send to:
CDOW
Attn: WIA
8118 CR 370
Sterling, CO 80751

2007 WALK-IN ATLAS

Some small game season dates are included within this atlas for your convenience, however, all season dates are not listed. A complete synopsis of hunting season dates can be found within the 2007 SMALL GAME AND 2007 WATERFOWL Brochures. These brochures are available at license agents, Division of Wildlife Offices and on the internet at www.wildlife.state.co.us

NORTHERN BOBWHITE, GAMBEL'S AND SCALED QUAIL

1. Dates: Nov. 10-Jan. 6, 2008

Areas: A. Units east of I-25 and north of I-70 from I-25 east to Byers and Hwy. 36 from Byers to Kansas.
B. All units west of I-25.

2. Dates: Nov. 10-Jan. 21, 2008

Areas: Units east of I-25 and south of I-70 from I-25 to Byers and Hwy. 36 from Byers to Kansas.

Daily bag limit: 8 of each species

Possession Limit: 24 of each species

PHEASANT

1. Dates: Nov. 10-Jan. 21, 2008

Areas: Units east of I-25

2. Dates: Nov. 10-Jan. 6, 2008

Areas: Units west of I-25

Daily bag limit: 3 cocks

Possession limit: 9 cocks

COTTONTAILS, SNOWSHOE HARE, WHITE-TAILED & BLACK-TAILED JACKRABBITS

Dates: Oct. 1 to the end of February, 2008

Areas: Statewide

Daily bag limit: 10 of each species

Possession limit: 20 of each species

PACIFIC FLYWAY GOOSE AND DUCK

Dates: Second season: Oct. 31-Jan. 27, 2008

Daily bag limit: 3 dark geese.

Ducks and mergansers: 7 in the aggregate. Of these, no more than 2 can be female mallards, 1 pintail, 2 canvasbacks, 2 redheads and 3 scaup.

Possession limit: 2 daily bag limits

SPECIES IDENTIFICATION REQUIRED

A fully feathered wing or head must be attached to all birds in transit to hunter's home or commercial processor. For pheasants, a foot with a visible spur can be substituted.

CDOW OFFICES

Division of Wildlife Headquarters
6060 Broadway
Denver, CO 80216
(303) 297-1192

Northeast Region Service Center
6060 Broadway
Denver, CO 80216
(303) 291-7227

Northwest Region Service Center
711 Independent Ave.
Grand Junction, CO 81505
(970) 255-6100

Southeast Region Service Center
4255 Sinton Road
Colorado Springs, CO 80907
(719) 227-5200

Southwest Region Service Center
151 East 16th St.
Durango, CO 81301
(970) 247-0855

Brush Service Center
122 East Edison, Box 128
Brush, CO 80723
(970) 842-6300

Fort Collins Service Center
317 W. Prospect Ave.
Fort Collins, CO 80526
(970) 472-4300

Glenwood Springs Service Center
50633 Hwys. 6 and 24
Glenwood Springs, CO 81601
(970) 947-2920

Gunnison Service Center
300 W. New York Ave.
Gunnison, CO 81230
(970) 641-7060

Hot Sulphur Springs Serv. Center
346 Grand County Road 362
Hot Sulphur Springs, CO 80451
(970) 725-6200

Lamar Service Center
2500 S. Main
Lamar, CO 81052
(719) 336-6600

Meeker Service Center
73485 Hwy 64
Meeker, CO 81641
(970) 878-6090

Monte Vista Service Center
0722 S. Road 1E
Monte Vista, CO 81144
(719) 587-6900

Montrose Service Center
2300 S. Townsend
Montrose, CO 81401
(970) 252-6000

Pueblo Service Center
600 Reservoir Road
Pueblo, CO 81005
(719) 561-5300

Salida Service Center
7405 Hwy. 50
Salida, CO 81201
(719) 530-5520

Steamboat Springs Serv. Center
925 Weiss Drive
Steamboat Springs, CO 80477
(970) 870-2197

For recordings on season dates and other information:

Deer, Elk, Pronghorn, Bear	(303) 291-7529
Fishing	(303) 291-7533
Small Game, Upland Game	(303) 291-7546
Turkey	(303) 291-7547
Waterfowl	(303) 291-7548
Hunter Education	(303) 291-7530
Mobility Impaired Licenses	(303) 291-7528
For a list of recordings	(303) 297-1192

REGIONAL PROFILES

Properties enrolled in NORTHWEST and SOUTHWEST Colorado provide opportunity in Mesa, Garfield, Eagle, Dolores and La Plata counties. Properties in these counties offer some small game hunting but were primarily enrolled for waterfowl hunting, with a focus on Canada geese that winter along the Colorado River and in the Grand Valley. A hunter can find both land and water (river) hunting opportunities on the enrolled properties. Fields have been enrolled to provide hunters with areas to set decoys for field hunting, while some stretches of river have been enrolled for the hunter that prefers a water spread. Waterfowl properties in the NW & SW are governed by Pacific Flyway seasons and bag and possession limits. By regulation, Gambel's quail and sage grouse cannot be hunted on WIA properties, although they may occur on or near enrolled properties.

Walk-In Access in NORTHEAST Colorado offers properties in Weld, Morgan, Logan, Washington, Yuma, Phillips and Sedgwick counties. In total, approximately 103,000 acres have been enrolled for Walk-In Access hunting. Much of the cover enrolled in the Northeast is primarily for pheasant, although some lands were enrolled for doves and other small game hunting opportunities are common. Waterfowl hunting opportunity on Walk-In Properties in the northeast is highly variable. Occasionally, late summer thunderstorms fill seasonal playas and lagoons within the area, creating some very good early season teal hunting that can extend through the early duck seasons until freeze up. Very few NE Region WIA properties provide opportunity to hunt geese.

Wide-ranging opportunity characterizes Walk-In Access in the SOUTHEAST Region, with properties in Pueblo, Las Animas, Crowley, Lincoln, Kit Carson, Cheyenne, Kiowa, Prowers, Baca, and Bent Counties. Approximately 110,000 acres are available for Walk-In hunting. Kit Carson County is very similar the NE Region in that most of the properties enrolled are for pheasant with opportunity for dove and other small game. Other counties in the SE offer hunters opportunity to hunt multiple species on enrolled properties, for instance, scaled quail and dove, or bobwhite quail and pheasant. Good potential also exists for waterfowl hunting in the SE, primarily pass shooting snow geese later in the season, but with some early season duck action over water, an opportunity that is dependent on late summer thunderstorms that fill seasonal playas. The SE region also offers some excellent opportunity to hunt close to the front range, with large properties near Colorado Springs and Pueblo.

2007 PHEASANT OUTLOOK

Colorado upland bird hunters will experience an interesting year in 2007. For the first time in since 1983, our pheasant and quail populations experienced the impacts of severe winter weather on a region-wide scale. While there have been other major winter events over the last couple of decades, the SE Colorado blizzard of 1997 comes to mind, we have not seen snowfall or snow cover that enveloped the core pheasant and quail areas of eastern Colorado in many years. By December 24, most of eastern Colorado was buried in 18-24" deep snow, and a week later, SE Colorado was getting pounded again, with an additional 3 feet of snow falling near Lamar and Springfield. And differing from many Colorado storms, this snow cover lasted throughout the months of January and February, further challenging upland bird survival. But survive they do! A few days after the storms cleared up, large flocks of pheasants and small coveys of quail were easily observed in feedlots, windbreaks and plum thickets, standing corn fields, and wheat fields that had blown free of snow. For the most part un-approachable to hunters, but alive and surviving nonetheless.

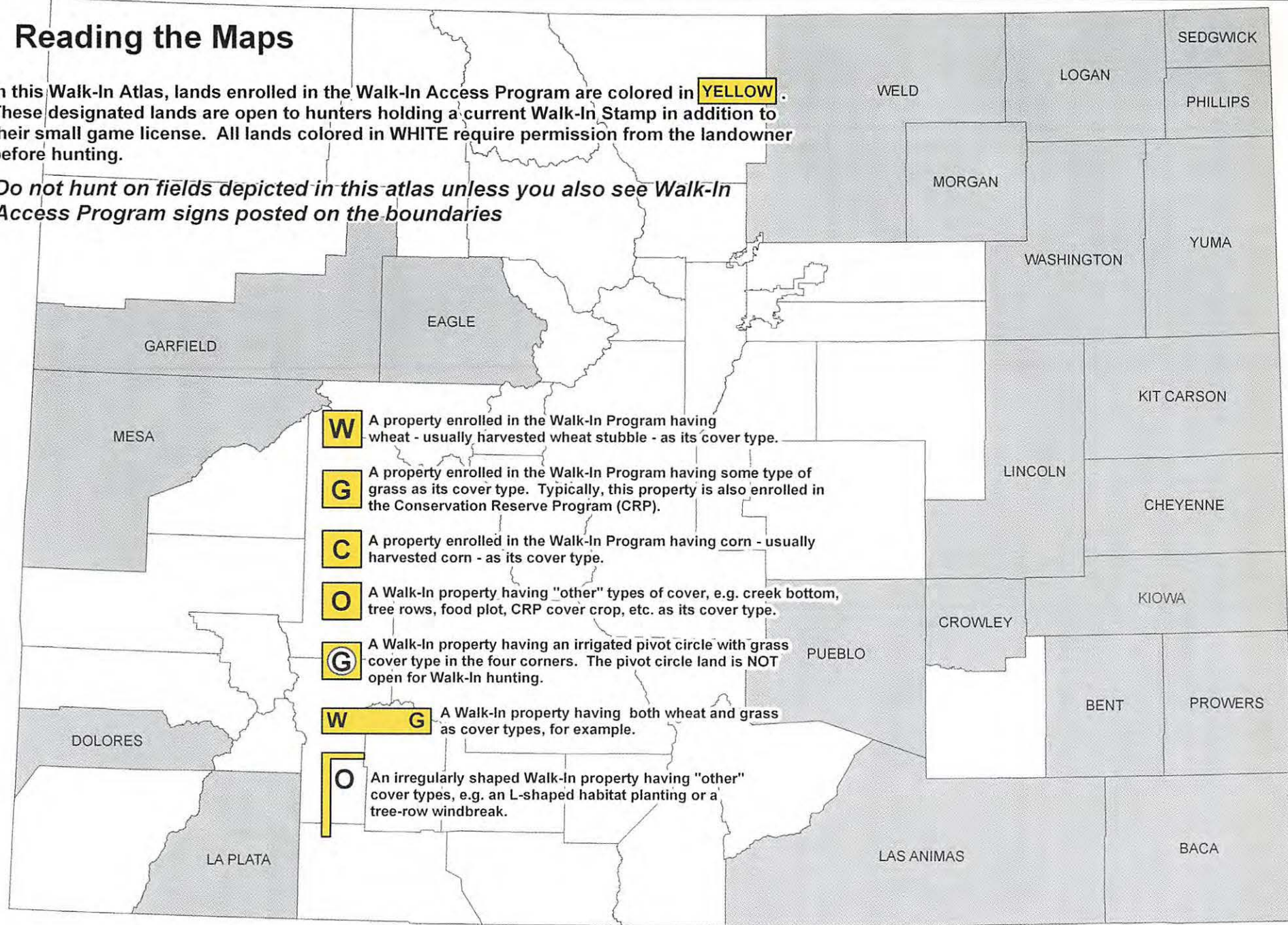
How bad was the storm on pheasants? While our bird populations went into the nesting season lower in number than 2004-2006, the reality is that the storms were a critical link in rebuilding habitat across much of eastern Colorado – an absolute necessity to start recovering from 6 years of drought. By late May, the benefits were apparent. Wheat, a primary crop and crucial link in the life cycle of pheasants, was tall and lush, shielding nesting hens from predators. Brood habitat development was well advanced and improving on a daily basis. CRP fields that went into the winter of 2006 in severe drought stress responded to the winter moisture quickly, regaining their vigor and swamping pheasants with an abundance of nesting habitat. Just as quickly, June was a fairly dry month, spurring an early wheat harvest. When wheat harvest first began, it seemed that no one was seeing pheasant broods, but by mid July, landowners were talking of surprisingly good numbers of chicks and hens, a positive observation no doubt influenced by the fact that the last few years have been really tough for pheasant recruitment.

While quantitative surveys of brood survival and abundance are not conducted in Colorado due to our lack of good counting conditions (other states rely on high humidity to push birds onto roads for production surveys) almost everyone queried in the last few weeks has been ultimately positive about the prospects of a good season. And it's important to understand, that regardless of population levels, there are always places in eastern Colorado that will have good pheasant numbers.

Reading the Maps

In this Walk-In Atlas, lands enrolled in the Walk-In Access Program are colored in **YELLOW**. These designated lands are open to hunters holding a current Walk-In Stamp in addition to their small game license. All lands colored in **WHITE** require permission from the landowner before hunting.

Do not hunt on fields depicted in this atlas unless you also see Walk-In Access Program signs posted on the boundaries



Counties with Regular Walk-In Access



Paved Highway



Secondary Roads
(may be paved or gravel)

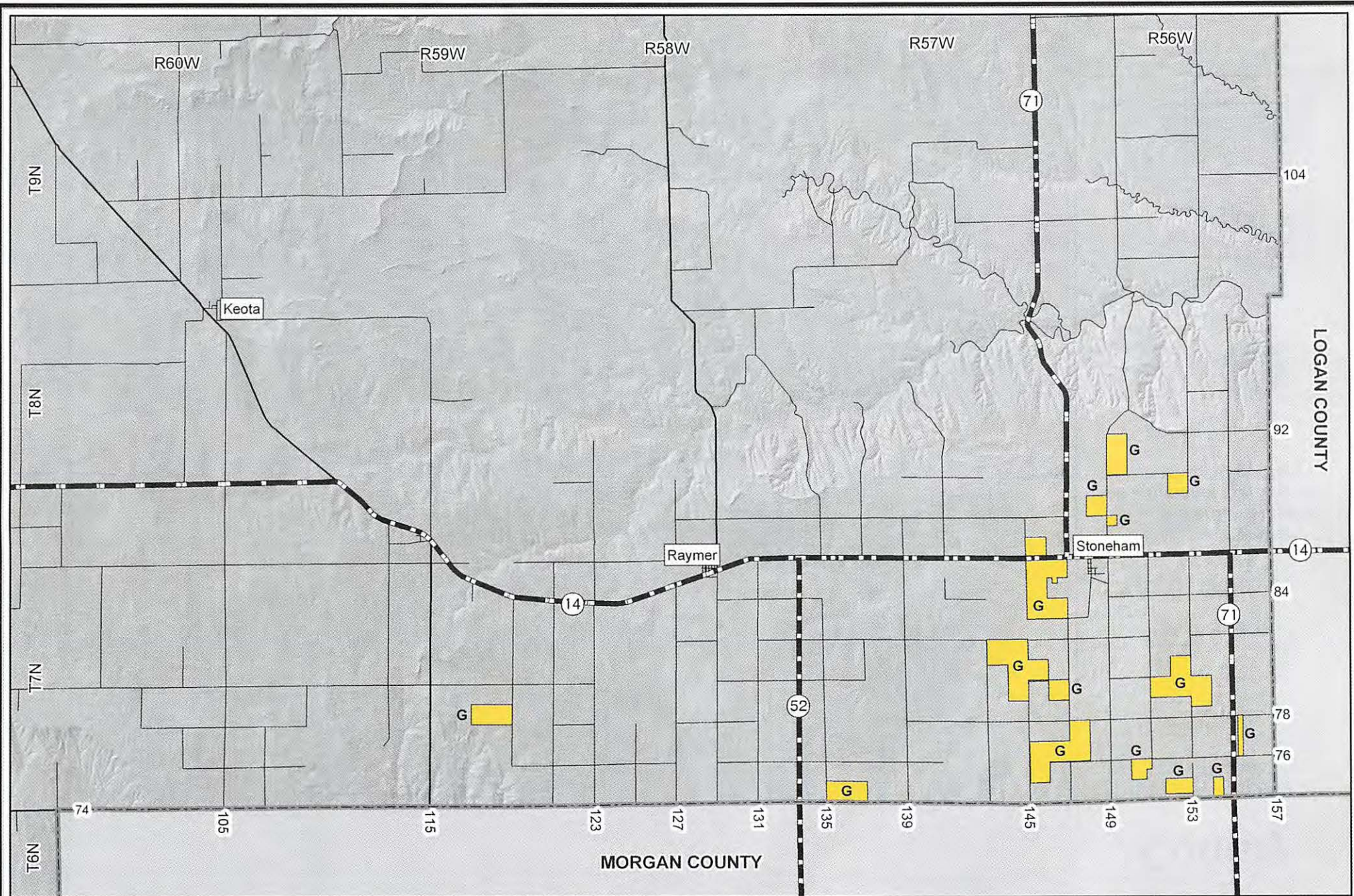


Local Roads
(gravel county roads)



County road number

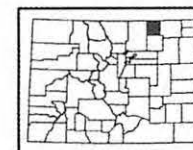


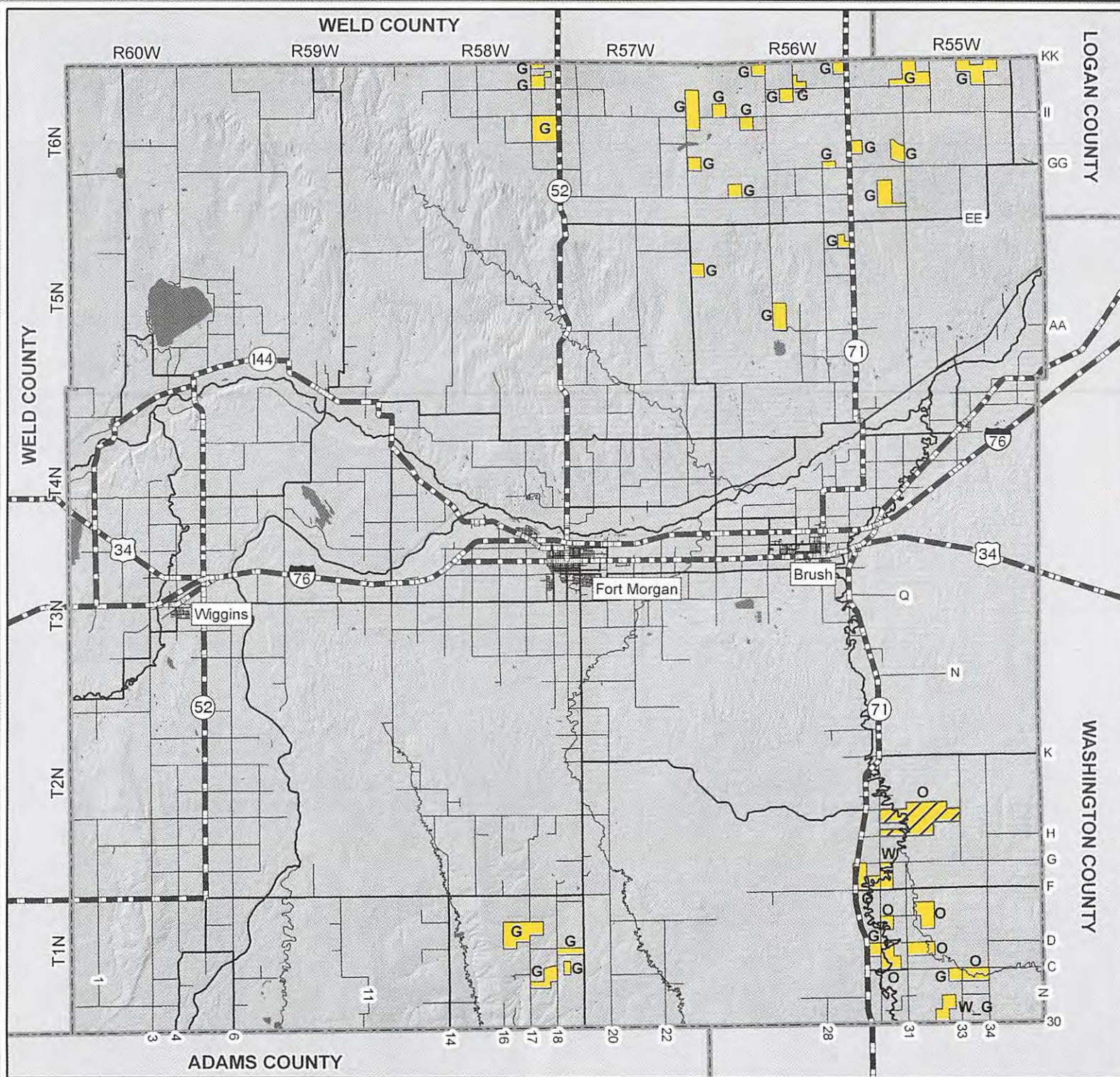


Weld County Northeast Corner

Walk-In Property Cover Types

- | | |
|----------------|----------------|
| G Grass | W Wheat |
| C Corn | O Other |




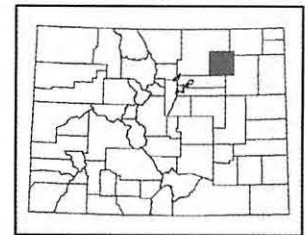


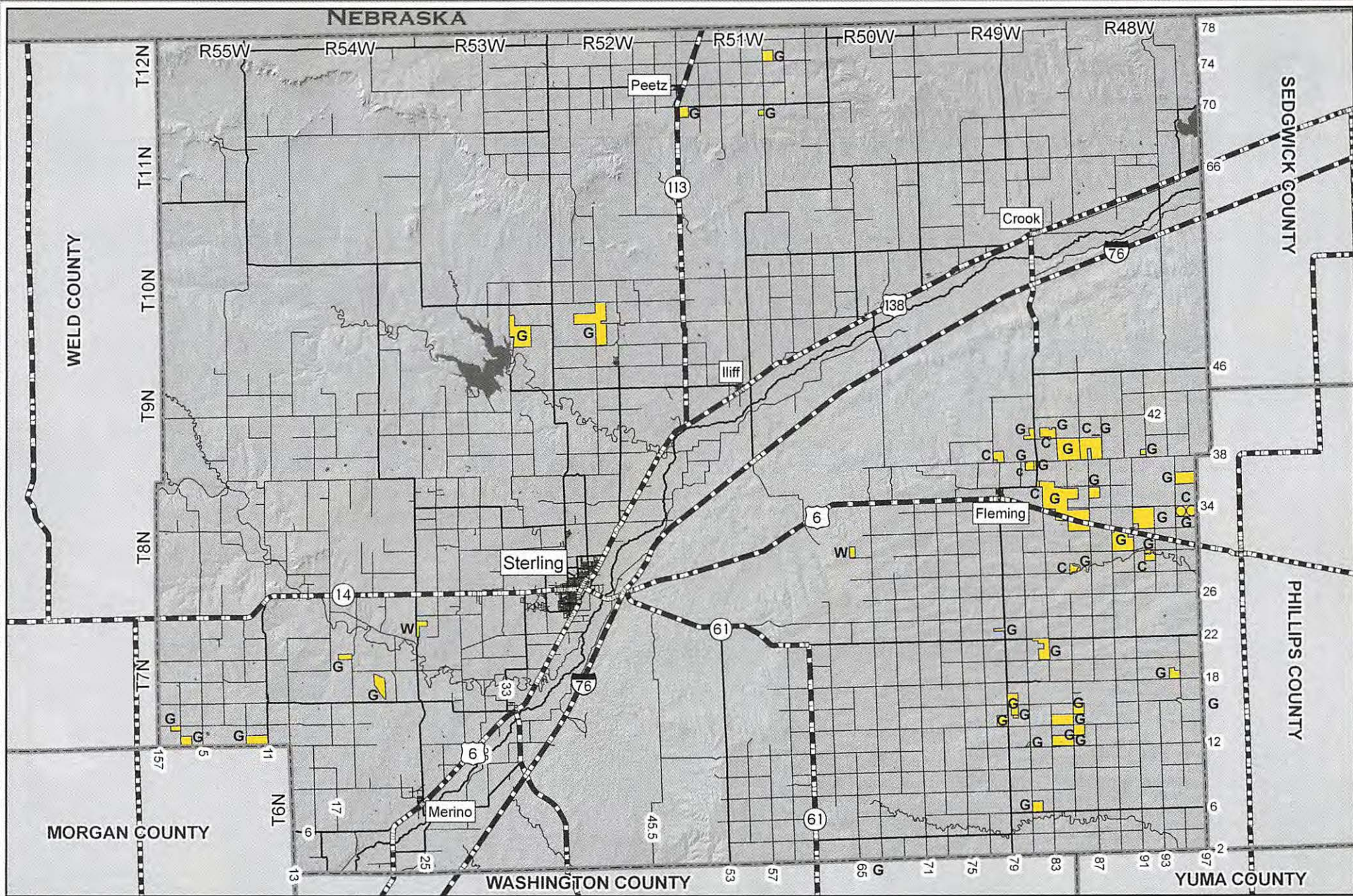
Morgan County

Walk In Property
Cover Types

- G** Grass
- C** Corn
- W** Wheat
- O** Other

 We thank Robert Parker for donating an additional 2,393 acres to the Walk-In Program.

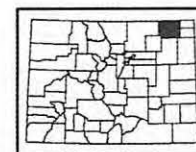


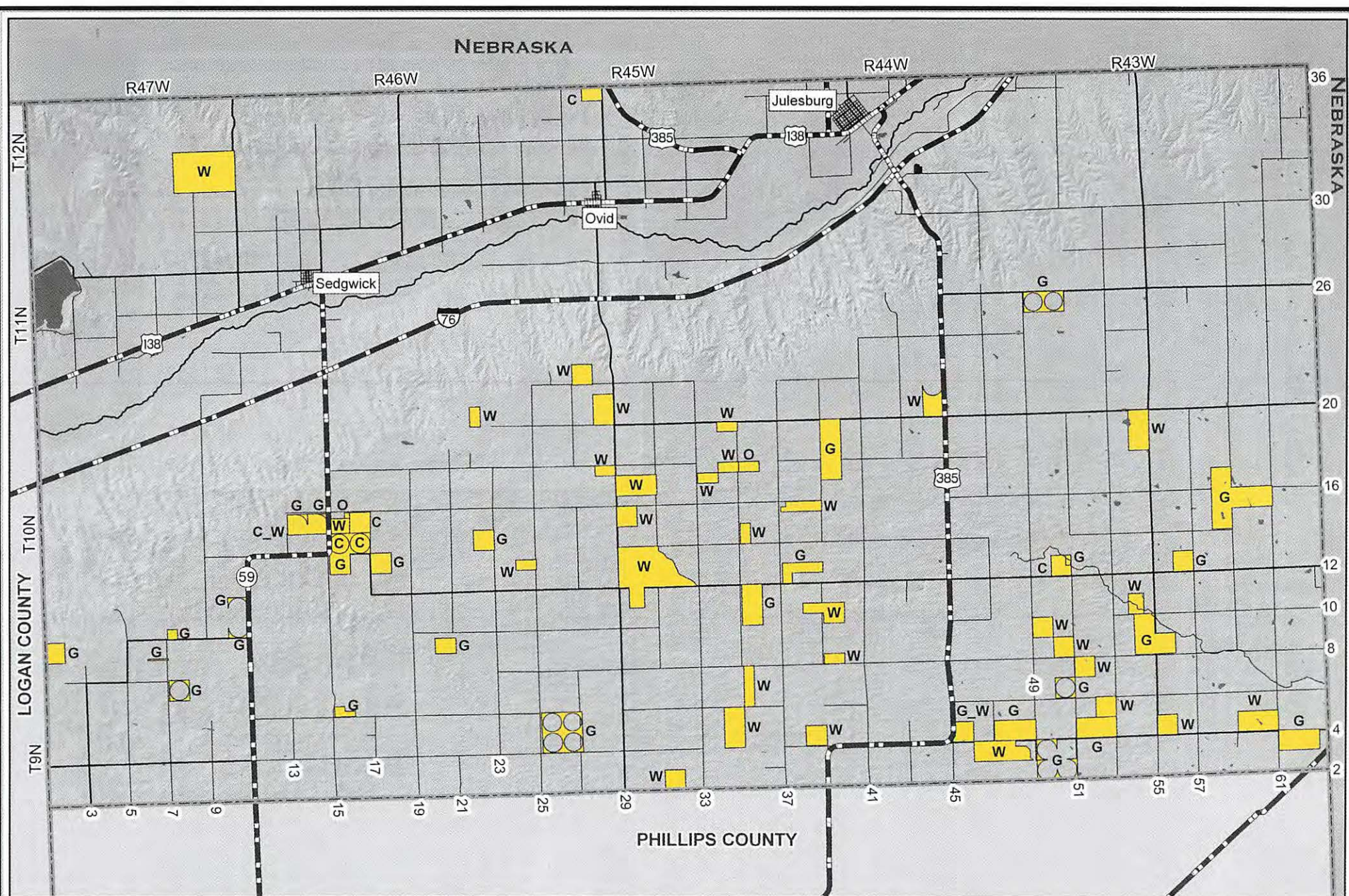


Logan County

Walk-In Property Cover Types

- | | |
|----------------|----------------|
| G Grass | W Wheat |
| C Corn | O Other |





Sedgwick County

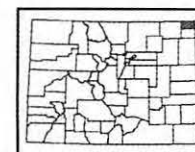
Walk-In Property Cover Types

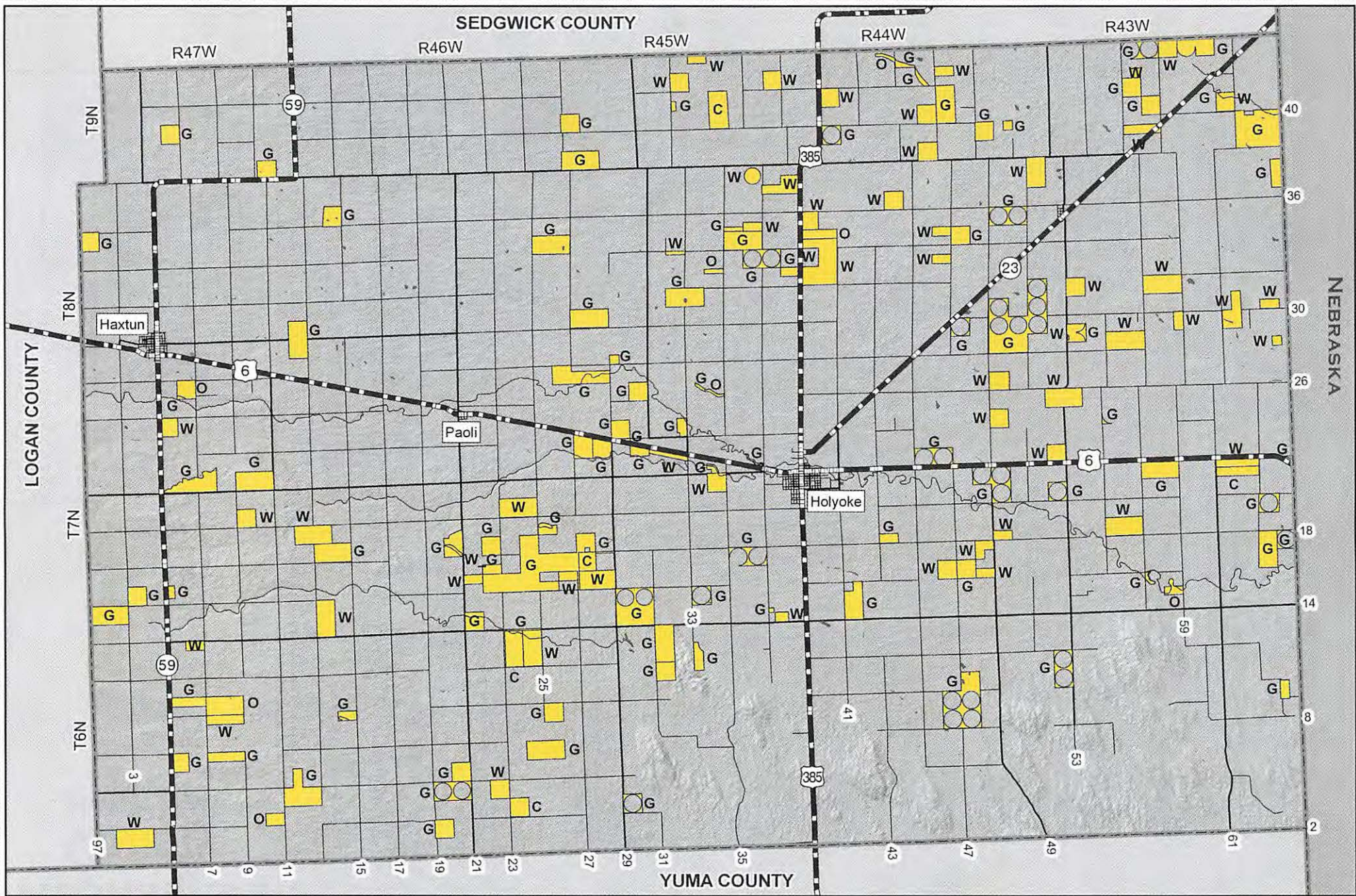
- | | |
|----------------|----------------|
| G Grass | W Wheat |
| C Corn | O Other |



Thanks to the Phillips County Pheasants Forever Chapter for acquiring access to an additional 2,783 acres.

And to High Plains Land Conservancy for acquiring access to 1,500 acres.





Phillips County

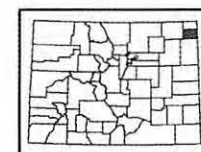
Walk-In Property Cover Types

- | | |
|----------------|----------------|
| G Grass | W Wheat |
| C Corn | O Other |



Thanks to the Phillips County Pheasants Forever Chapter for acquiring access to an additional 13,155 acres.

And to High Plains Land Conservancy for acquiring access to 1,500 acres.



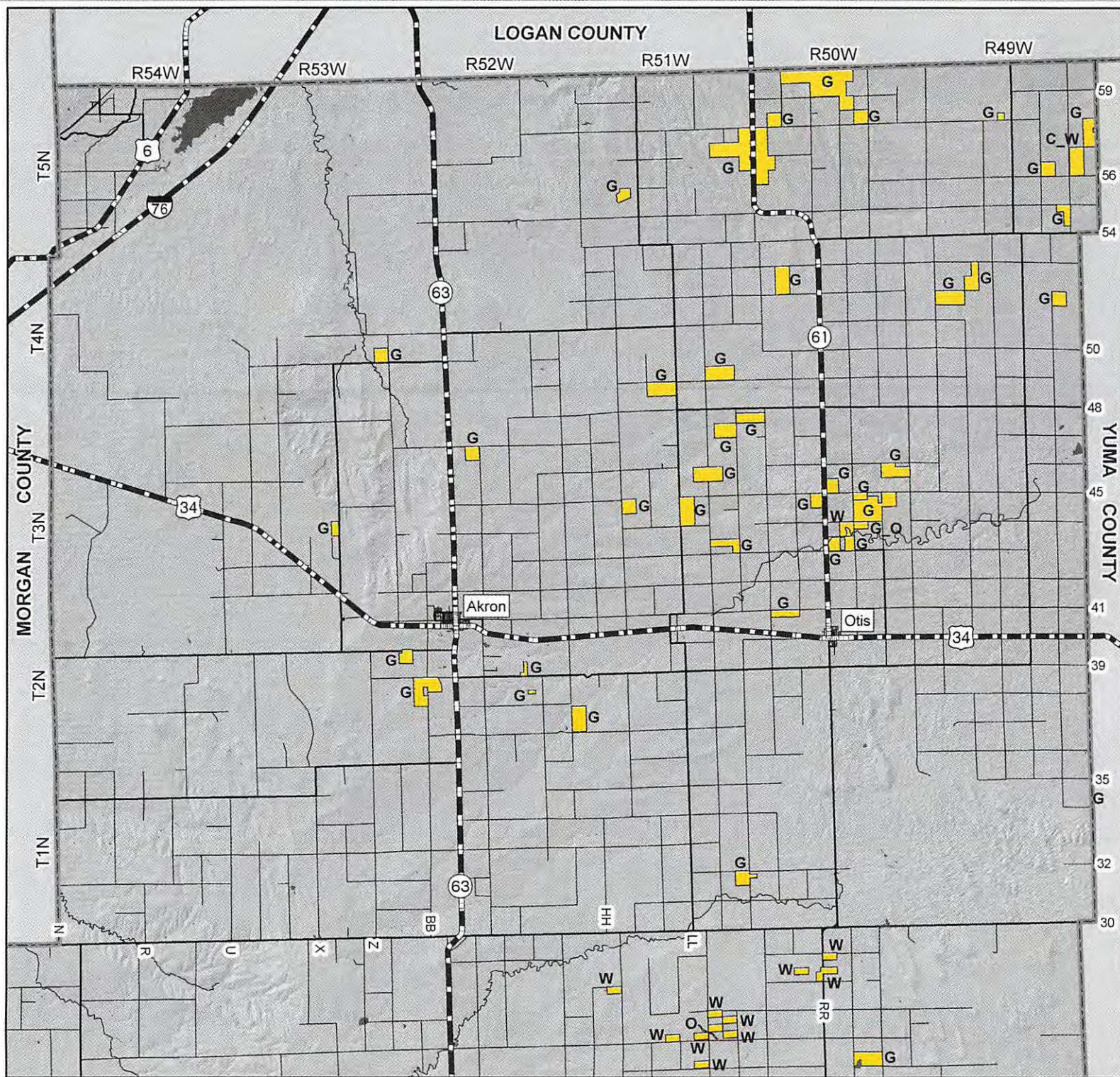
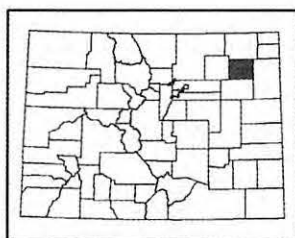
Washington County North Half

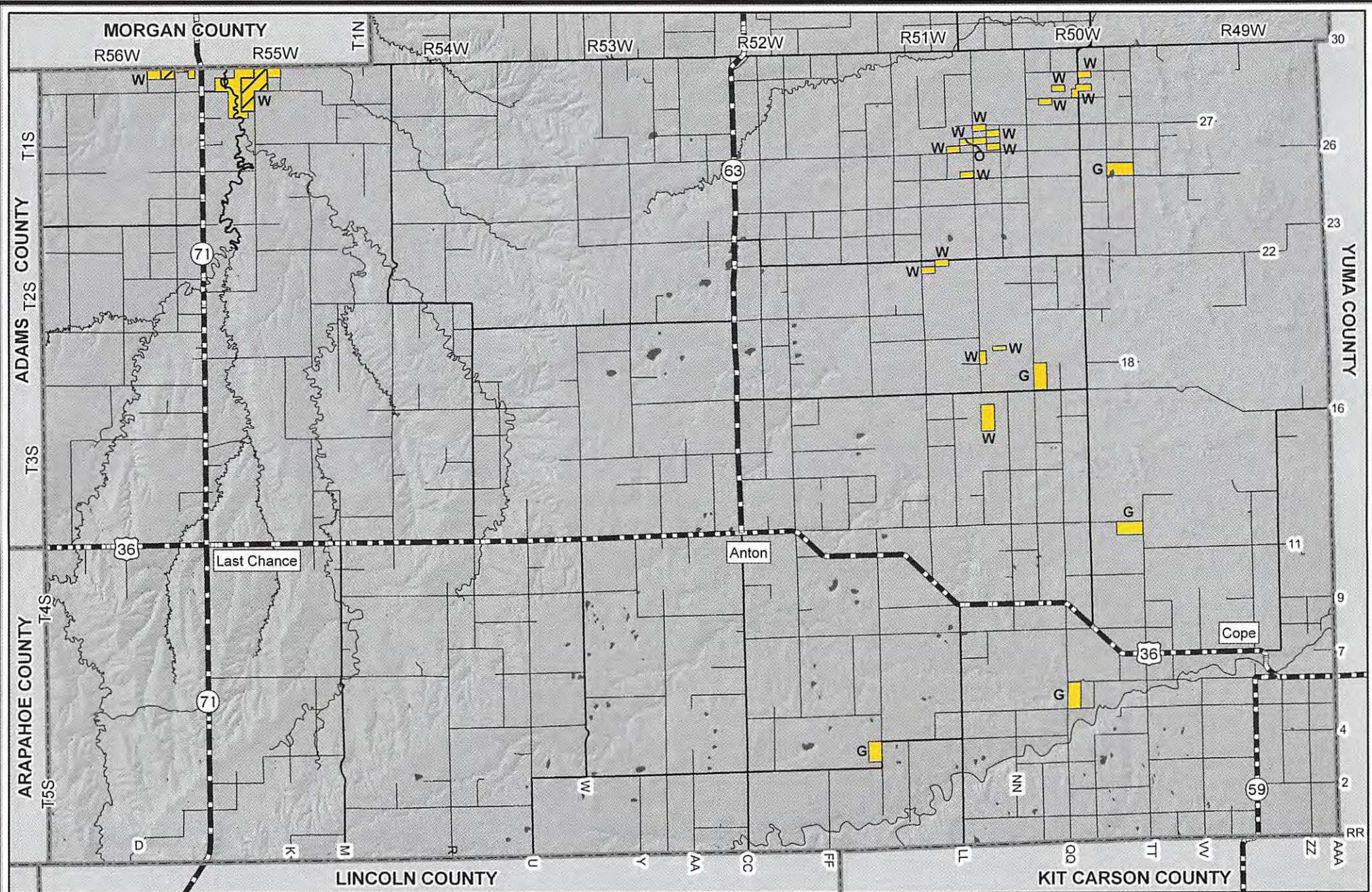
Walk-In Property
Cover Types

- G** Grass
- C** Corn
- W** Wheat
- O** Other



WildlifeGIS



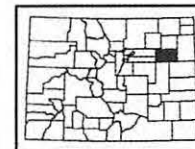


Washington County South Half

Walk-In Property Cover Types

G Grass	W Wheat
C Corn	O Other

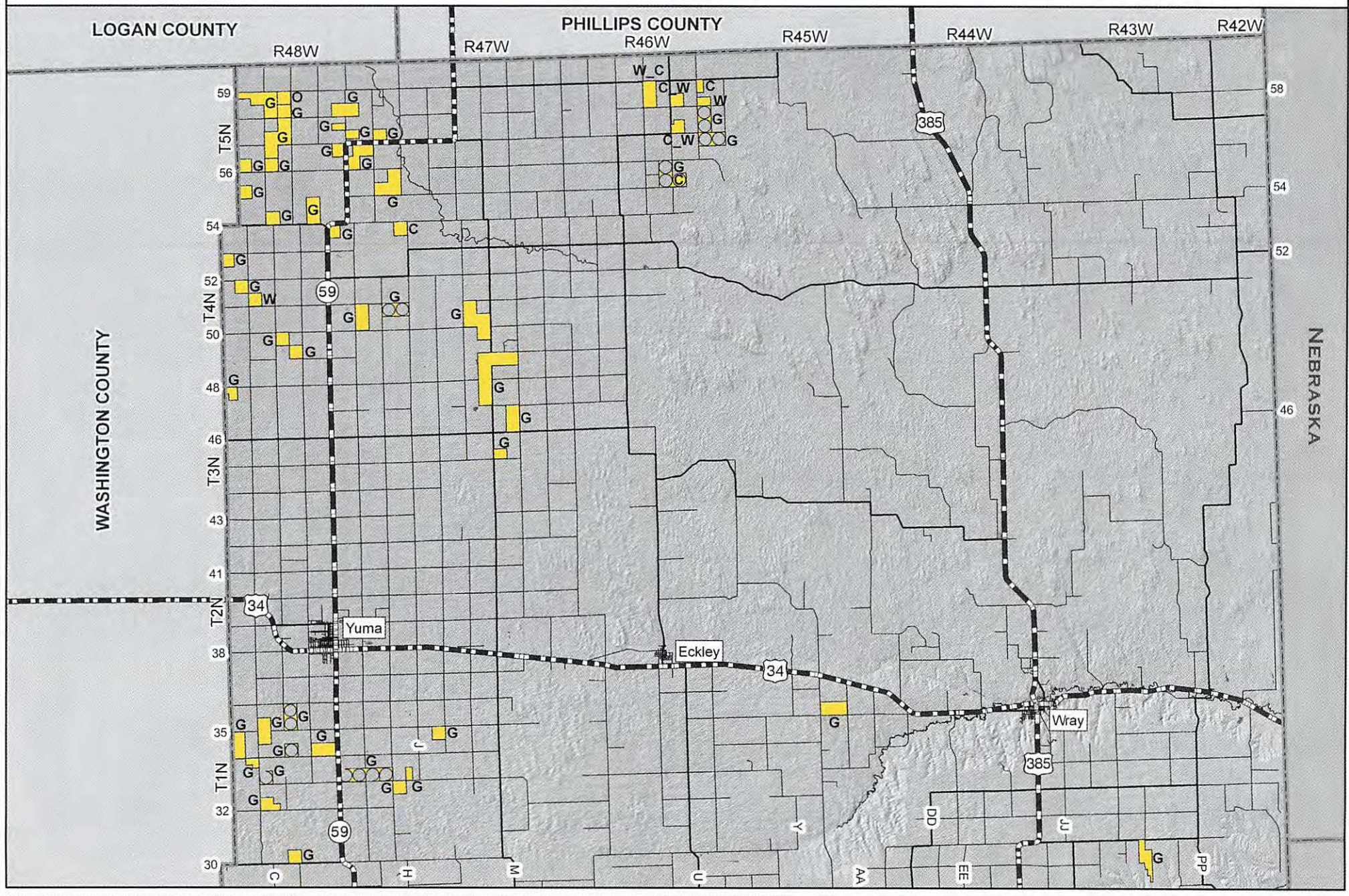
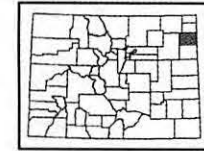
We thank Robert Parker for donating an additional 2,393 acres to the Walk-In Program.

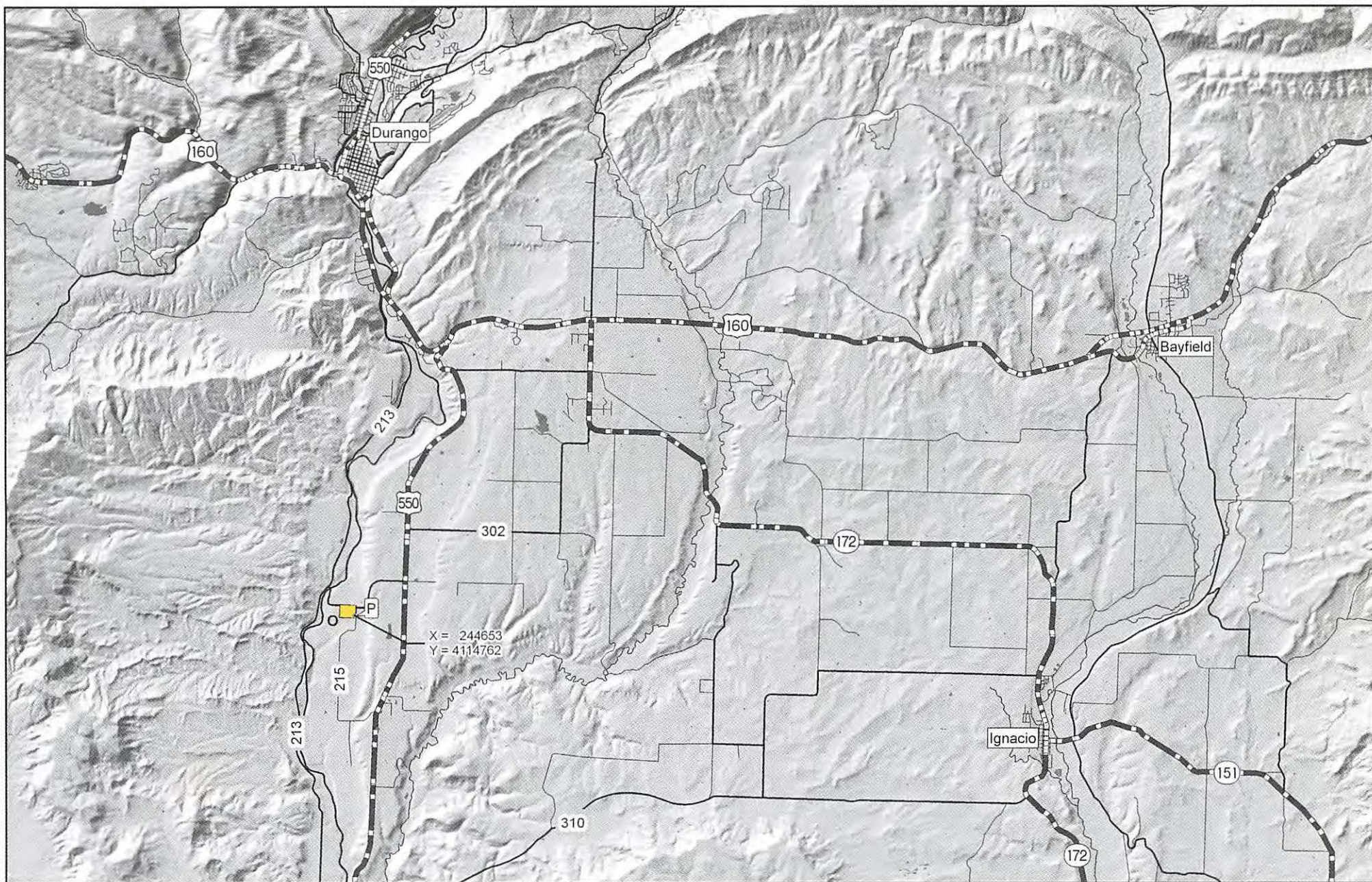


Yuma County North Half

Walk-In Property Cover Types

- | | |
|----------------|----------------|
| G Grass | W Wheat |
| C Corn | O Other |





La Plata County

Walk-In Property Cover Types



Grass

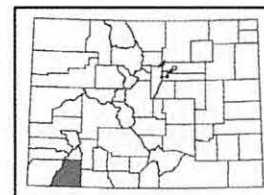


Other

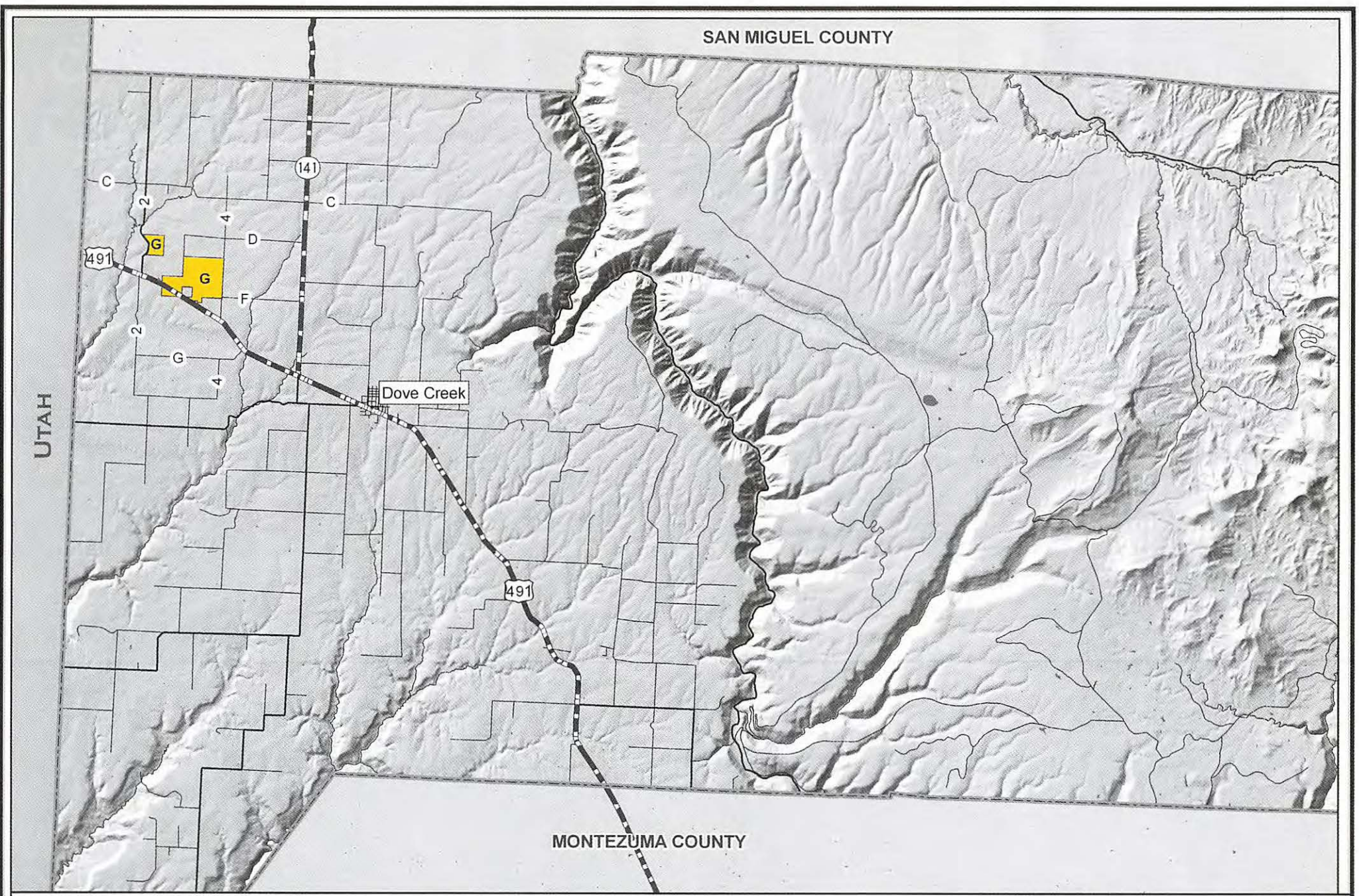


Wheat

Coordinates provided in Zone 13, UTM, NAD83



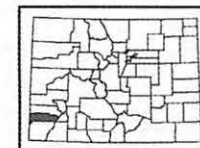
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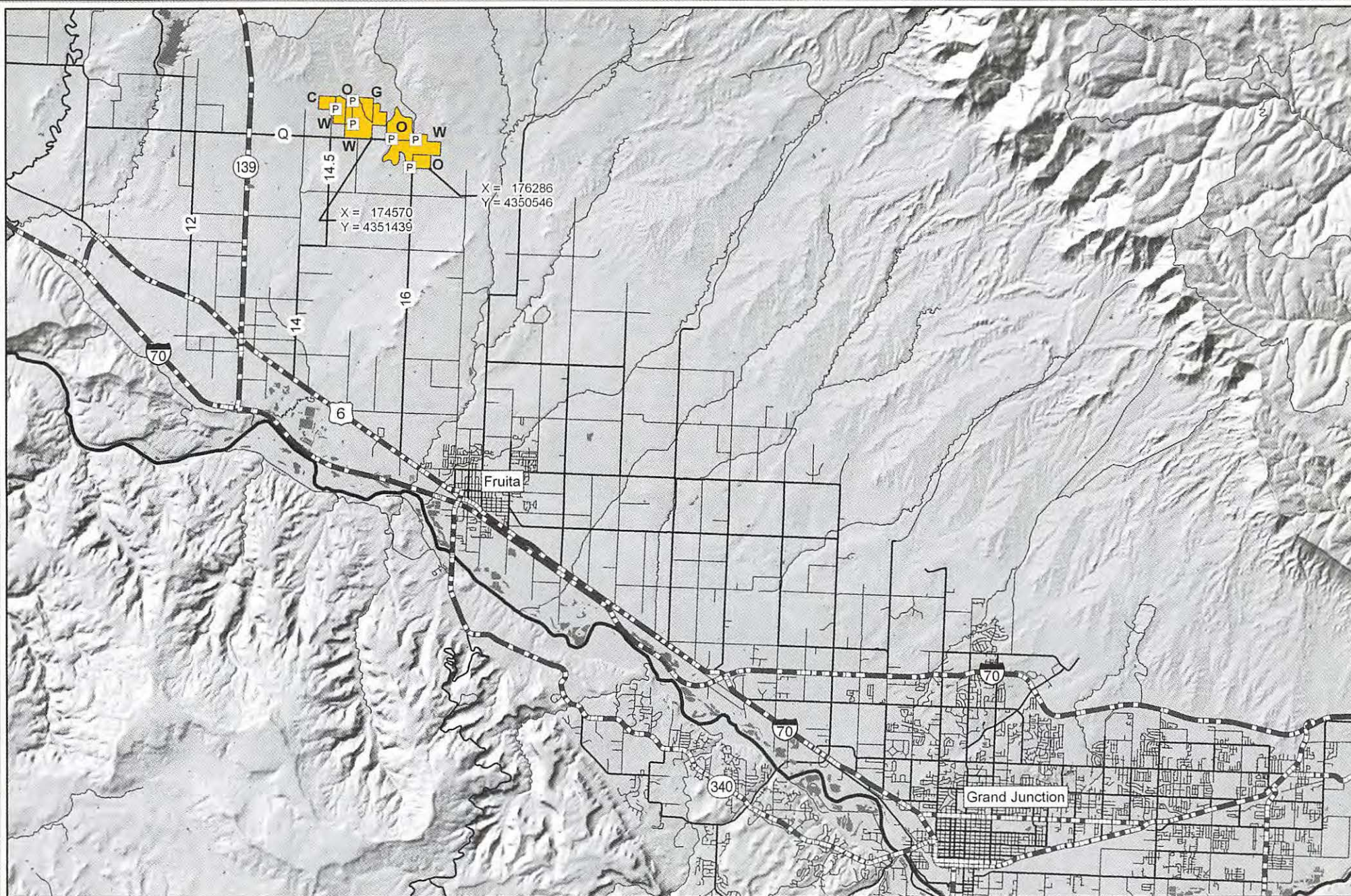
Dolores County

Walk-In Property Cover Types

- | | |
|----------------|----------------|
| G Grass | W Wheat |
| C Corn | O Other |



WildlifeGIS

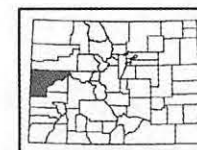


Mesa County

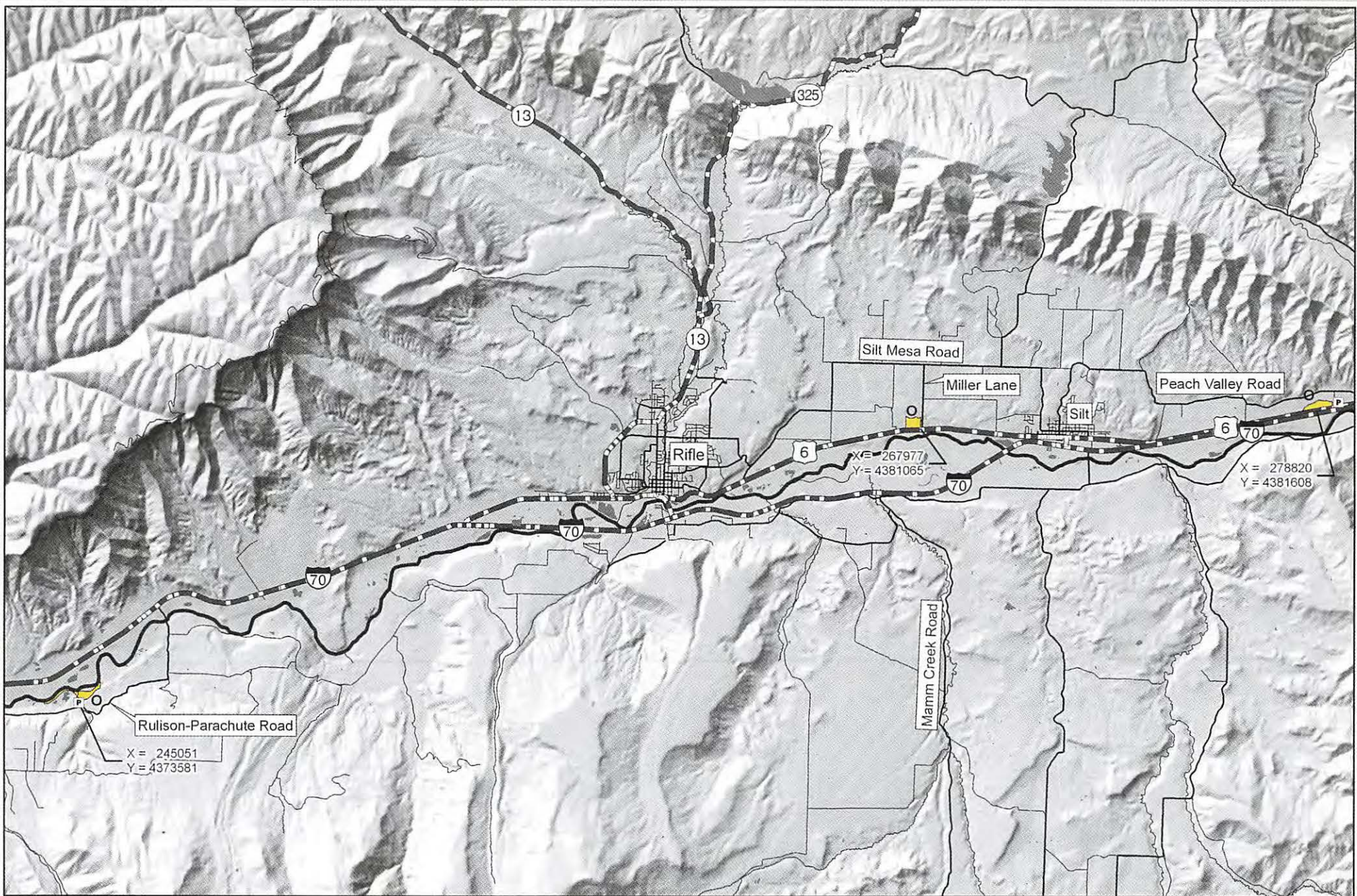
Walk-In Property Cover Types

G Grass
 O Other
 W Wheat

Coordinates provided in Zone 13, UTM, NAD83



WildlifeGIS

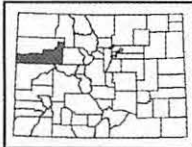


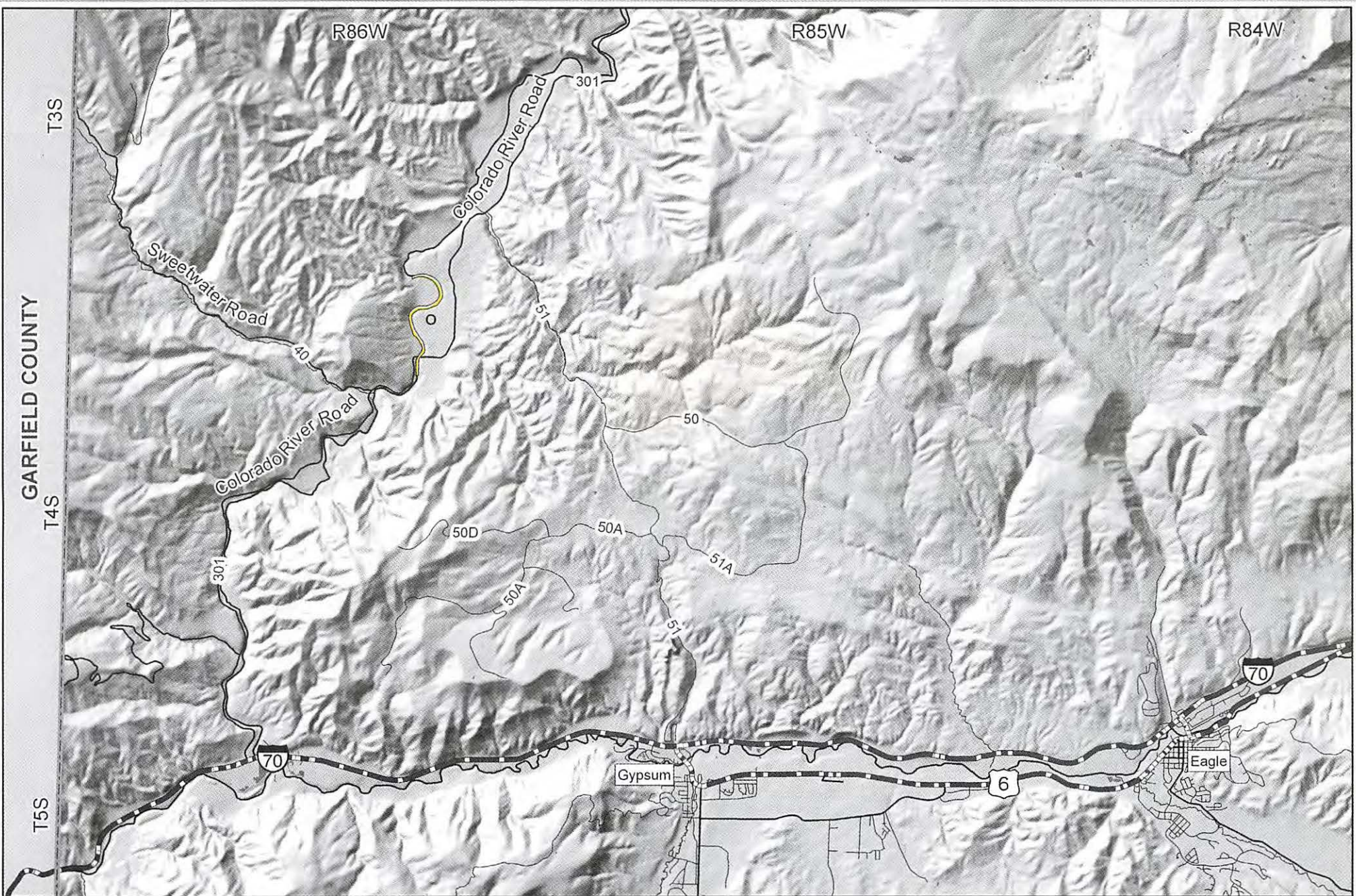
Garfield County

Walk-In Property Cover Types

- G** Grass
- O** Other
- W** Wheat

Coordinates provided in Zone 13, UTM, NAD83

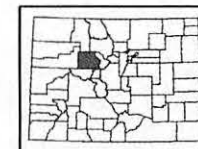




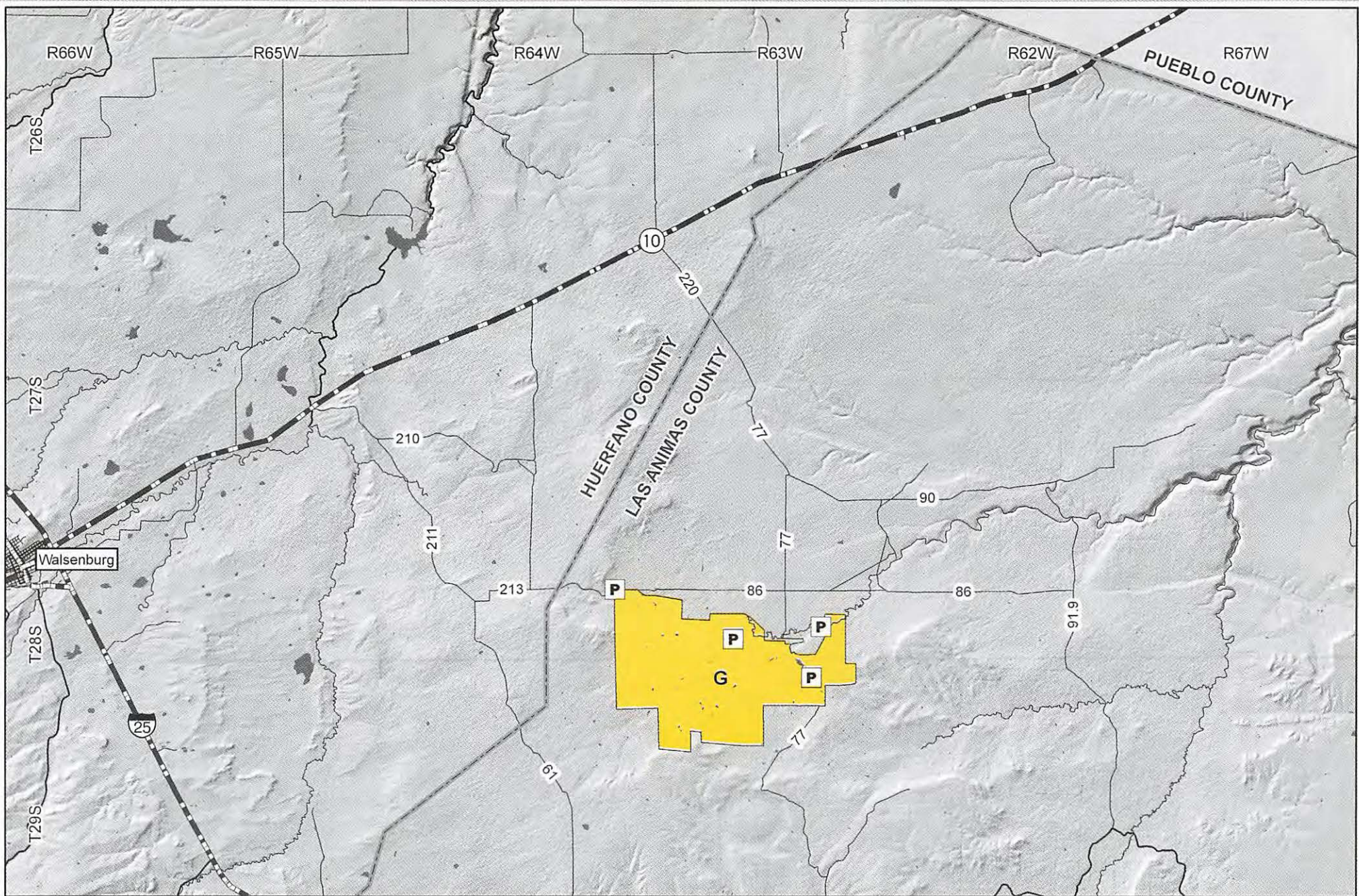
Eagle County

Walk-In Property Cover Types

G Grass	W Wheat
C Corn	O Other



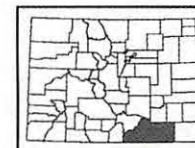
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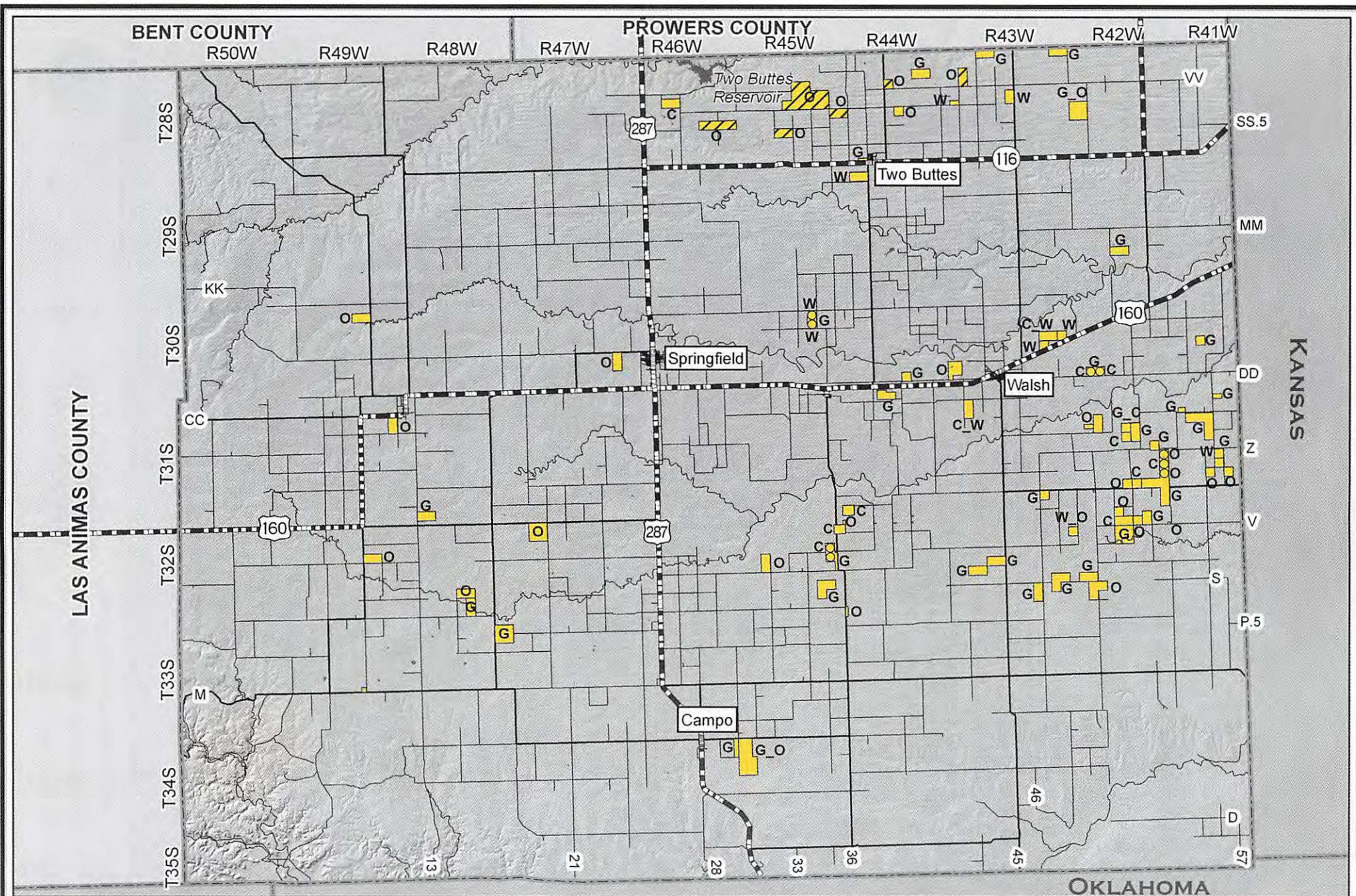
Las Animas County

Walk-In Property Cover Types

- | | |
|----------------|----------------|
| G Grass | W Wheat |
| C Corn | O Other |



WildlifeGIS




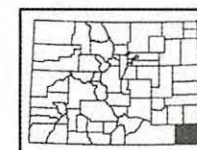
Baca County

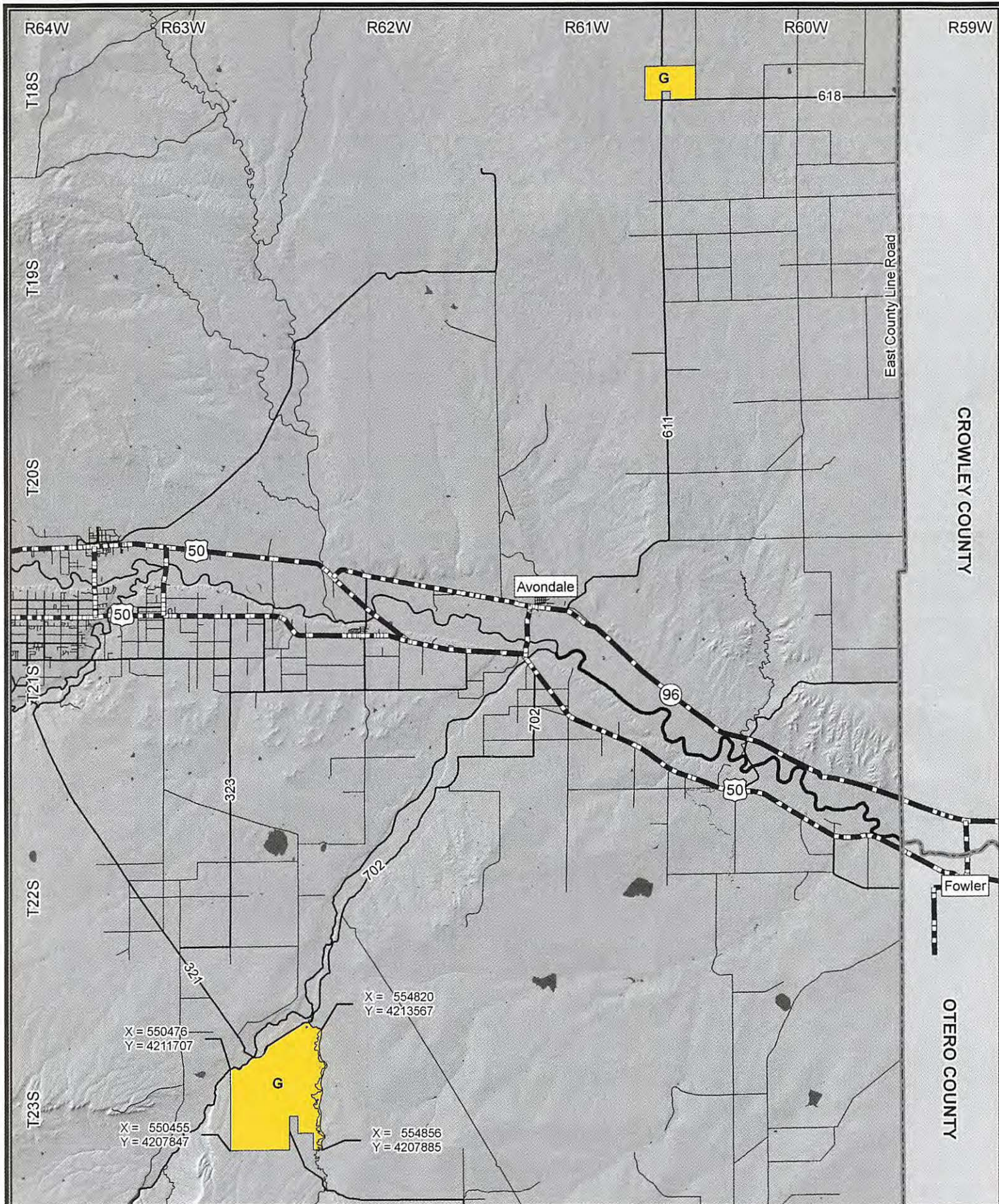
Walk-In Property Cover Types

- | | |
|----------------|----------------|
| G Grass | W Wheat |
| C Corn | O Other |

Open to hunting - No Walk-In Stamp Required

 Grazing Exchange



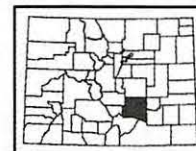


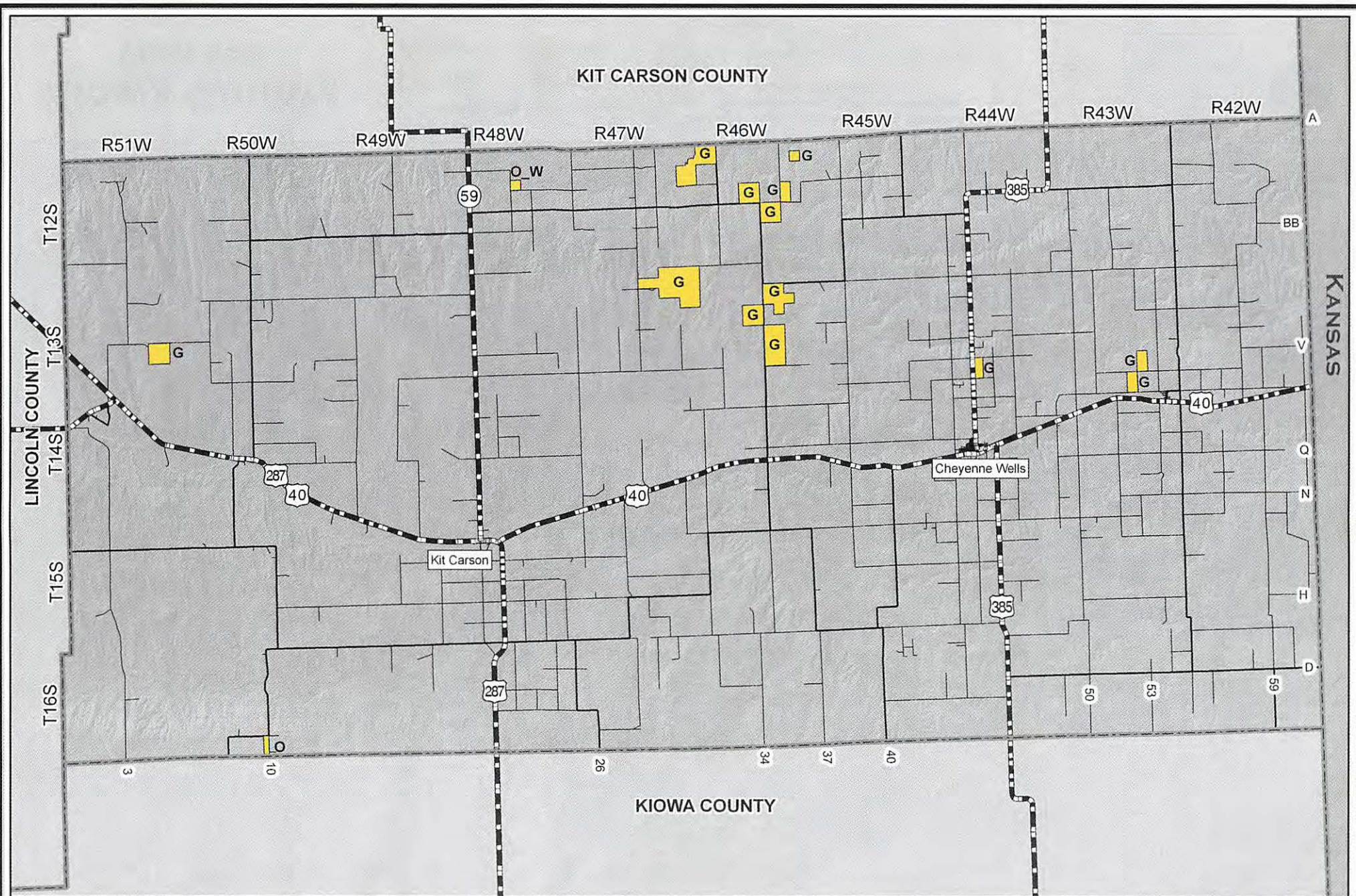
Pueblo County

Walk-In Property Cover Types

- | | |
|----------------|----------------|
| G Grass | W Wheat |
| C Corn | O Other |

Coordinates provided in
NAD83, UTM, Zone 13

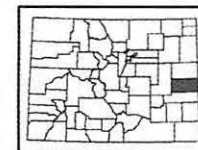


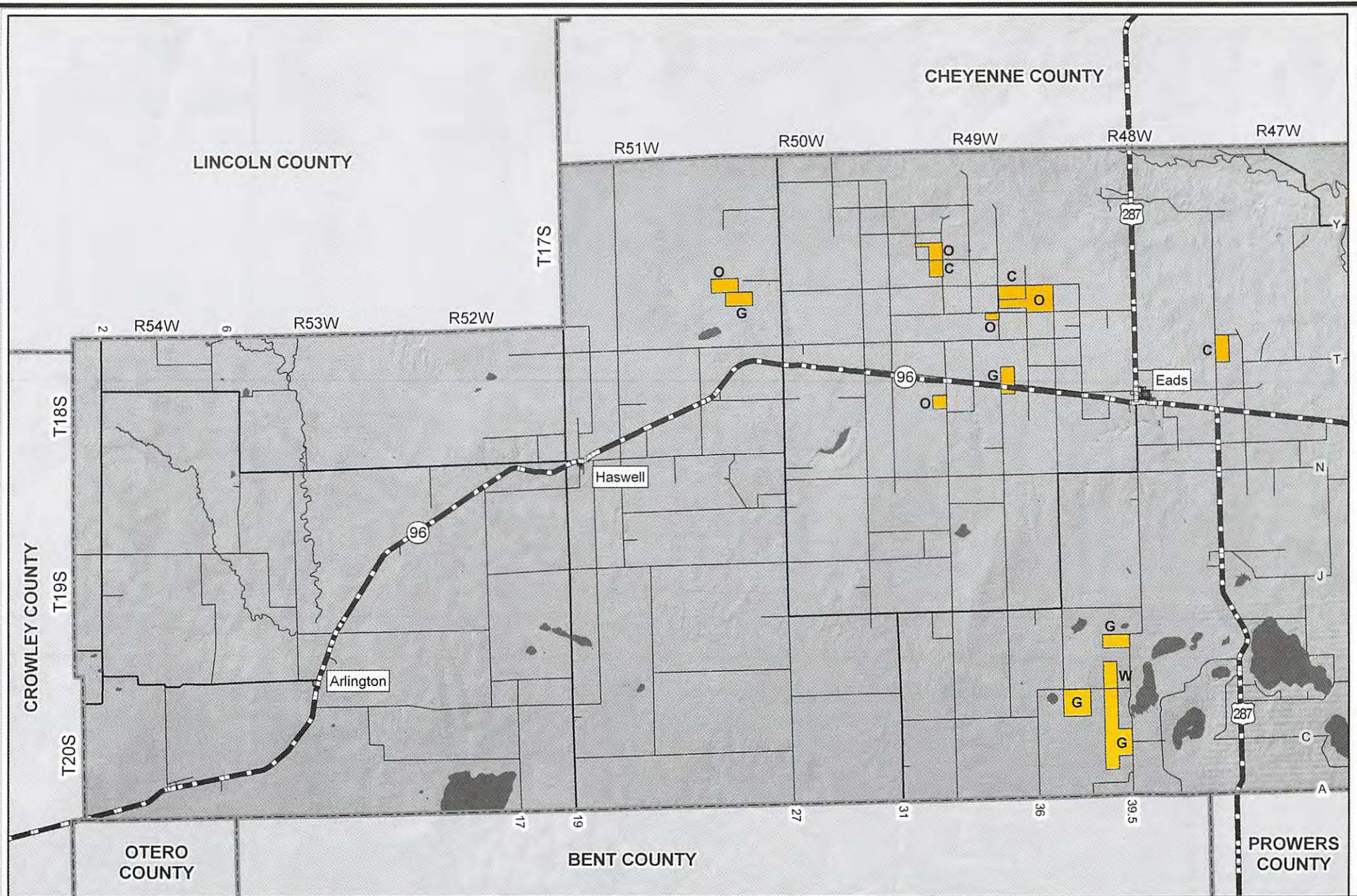


Cheyenne County

Walk-In Property Cover Types

G Grass	W Wheat
C Corn	O Other





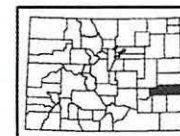
Kiowa County West Half

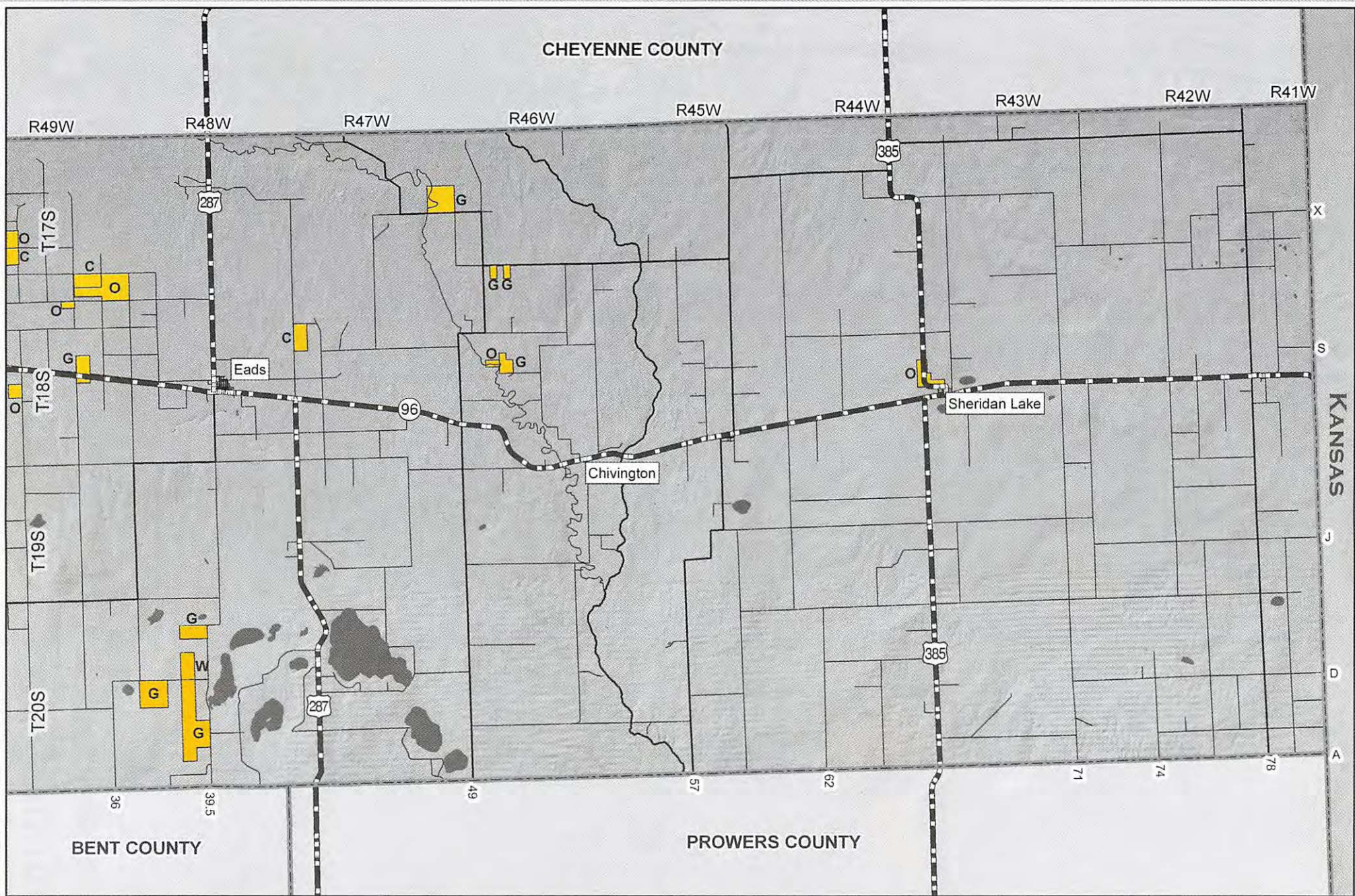
Walk-In Property Cover Types

- | | |
|----------------|----------------|
| G Grass | W Wheat |
| C Corn | O Other |

Special Thanks to Kiowa County Landowners
for donating additional acres to the
Walk-In Access Program

Much of the land accepted in Kiowa County
is for goose hunting





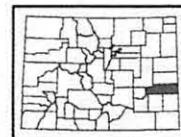
Kiowa County East Half

Walk-In Property Cover Types

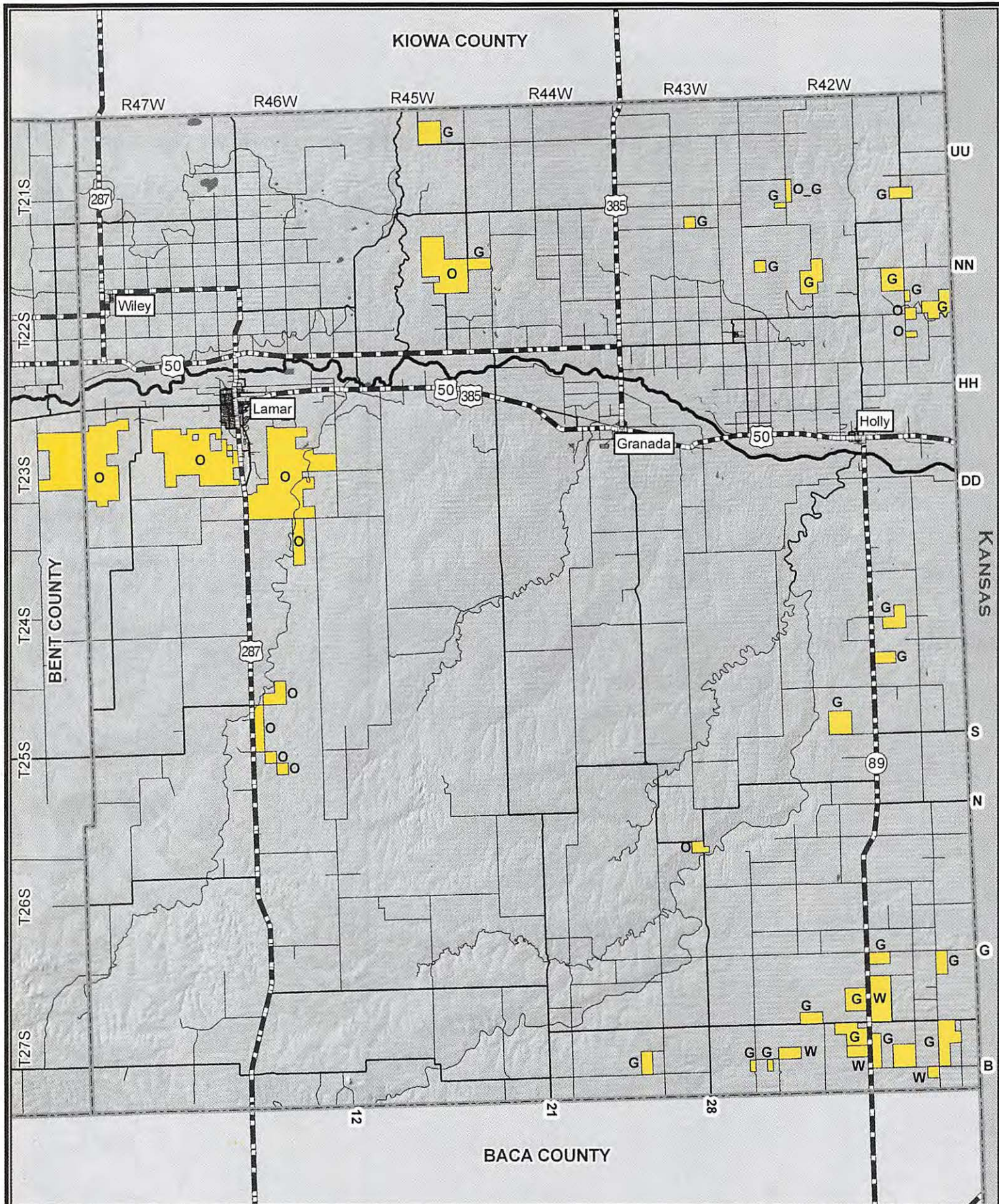
- | | |
|----------------|----------------|
| G Grass | W Wheat |
| C Corn | O Other |

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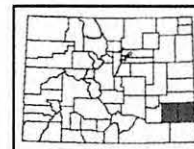
WildlifeGIS

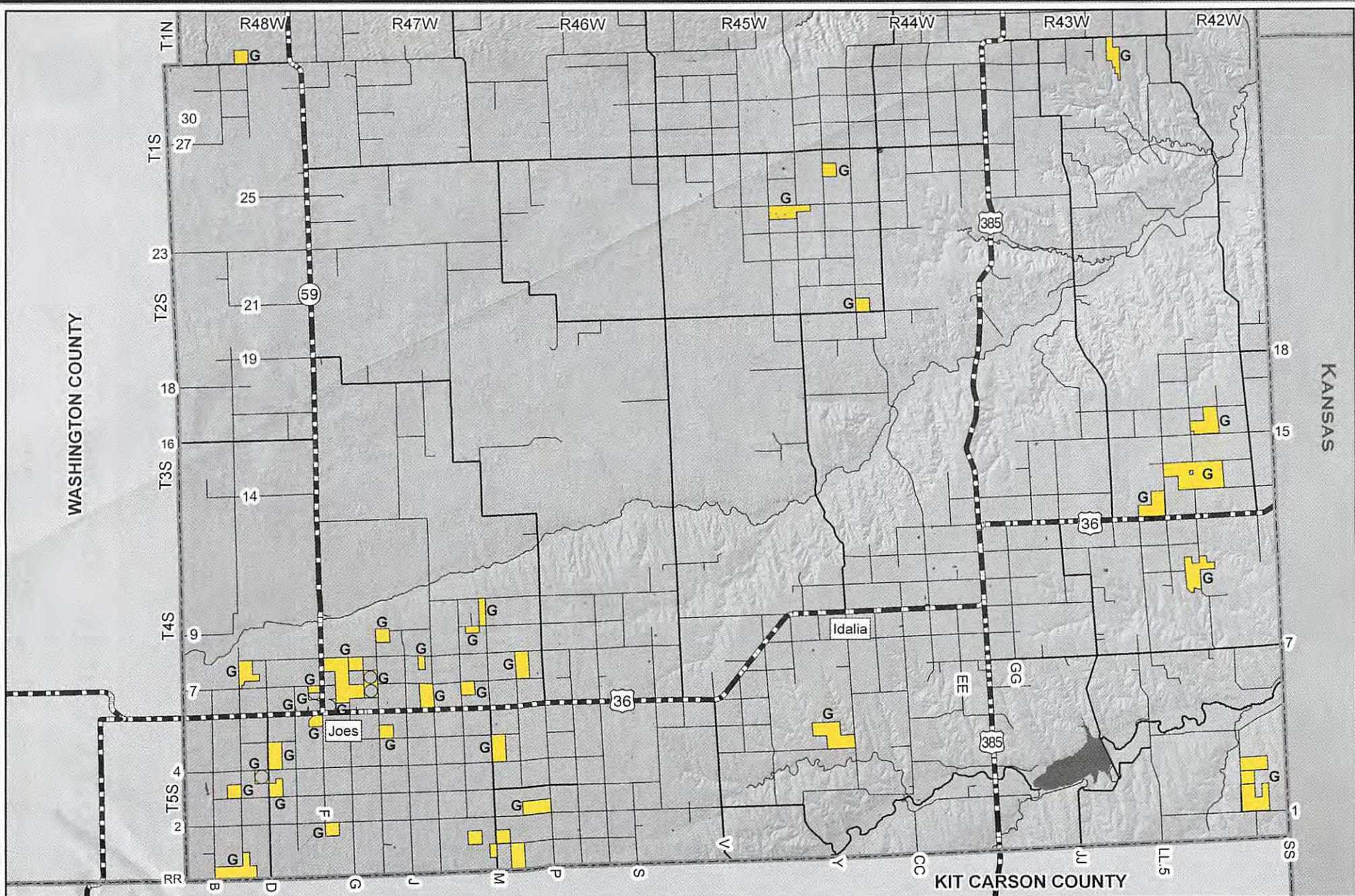


Prowers & Bent Counties

Walk-In Property Cover Types

- | | |
|----------------|----------------|
| G Grass | W Wheat |
| C Corn | O Other |

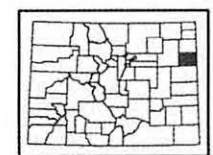


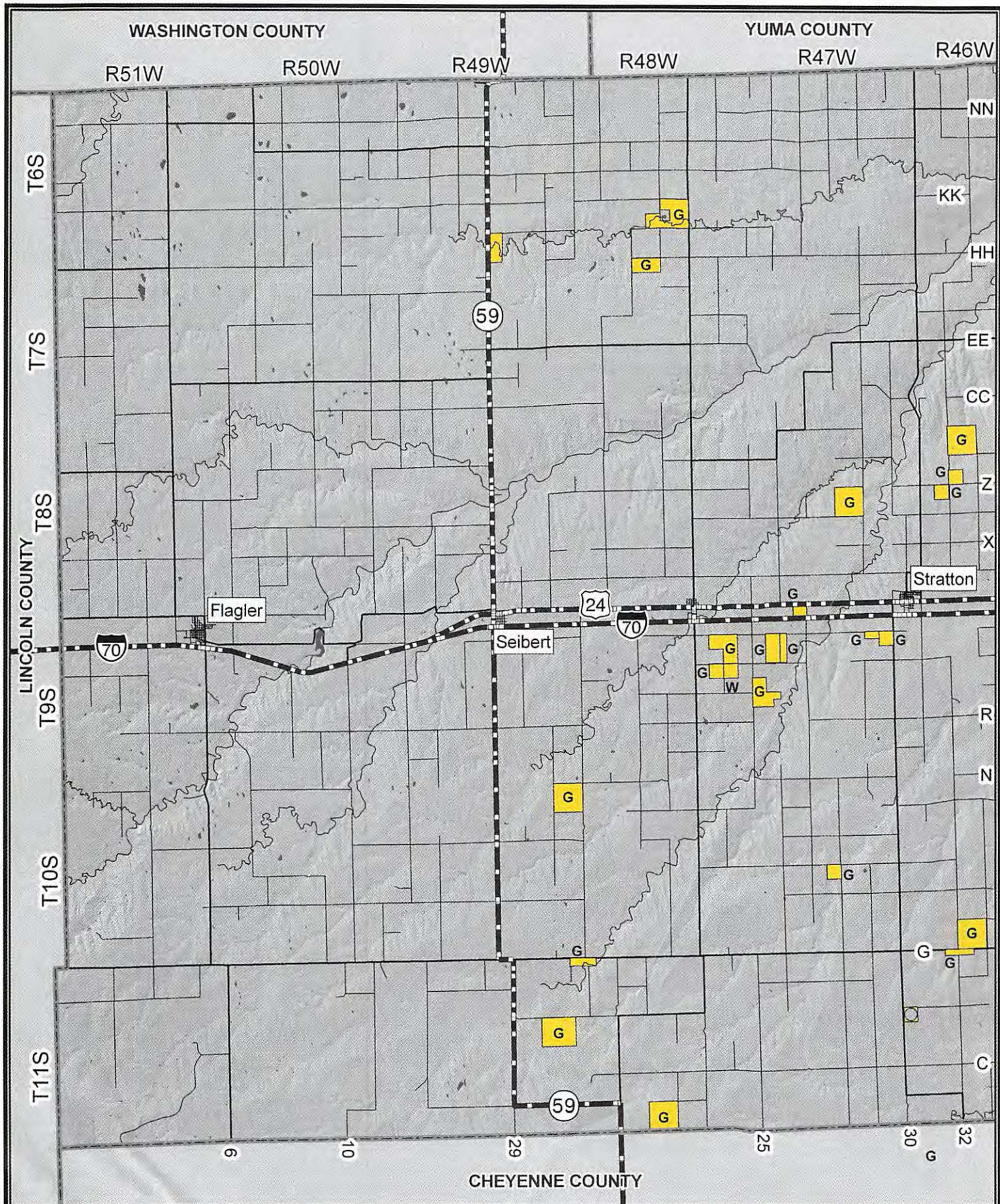


Yuma County South Half

Walk-In Property Cover Types

- | | |
|----------------|----------------|
| G Grass | W Wheat |
| C Corn | O Other |

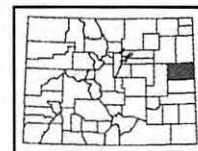


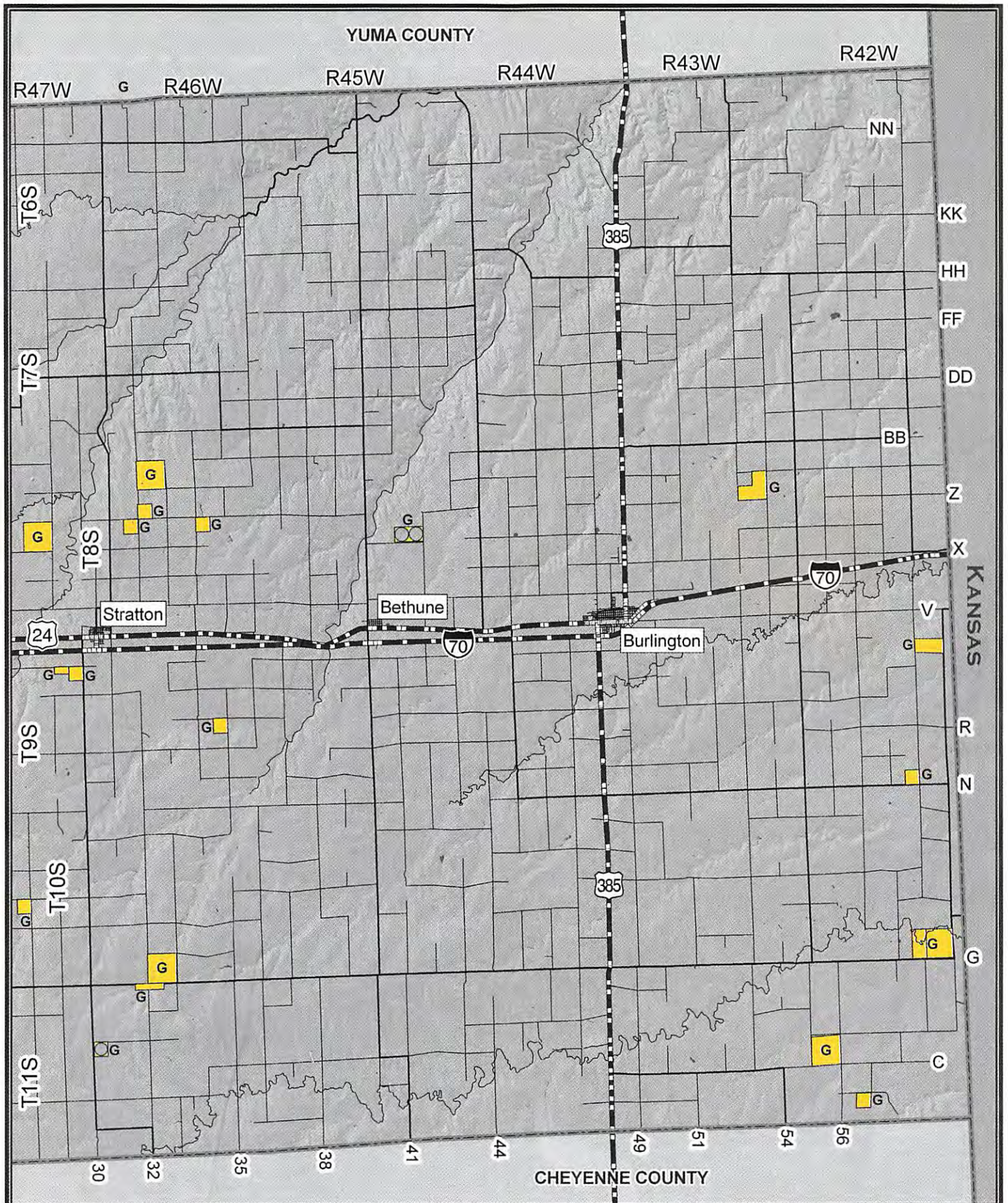


Kit Carson County - West Half

Walk-In Property Cover Types

G Grass **C** Corn **W** Wheat **O** Other

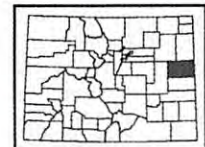




Kit Carson County - East Half

Walk-In Property Cover Types

G Grass **C** Corn **W** Wheat **O** Other



WildlifeGIS

Finding More Pheasants & Quail

PHEASANTS

Throughout their range, pheasants are associated with cropland habitats. Three types of cropland are very important to pheasants; CRP, non-irrigated cropland and irrigated cropland. While pheasants are common in all three types, each has unique characteristics to look for when hunting pheasants.

1. CRP fields can be the most predictable habitat available, as they provide habitat for nesting, brooding and wintering pheasants. Cover quality in CRP fields can be extremely variable, depending on the age of the field, the grass mix planted, and impacts of recent droughts and/or management prescriptions. There are 5 keys to pheasant abundance in CRP.

- New CRP fields that are planted to a sorghum cover crop or young stands of CRP still dominated by annual weeds, are normally the most productive fields for pheasants and for hunting. Pheasants concentrate in these fields due to the sheer abundance of winter cover.



- As grass begins to take over a field, pheasant abundance generally declines, but can be very good if weeds and alfalfa are present in the field. Expect pheasants to leave these fields to feed in adjacent fields, but to return to night roost and loaf during the day.

- Mature grass stands can be great for pheasants, but birds usually rely on adjacent lands to provide brood habitat and food sources. The key is to find mature fields with switchgrass and yellow indian grass (look for orange and red colored grasses), next to crop stubble, which provides a good food source to compliment the excellent cover in the grass.



- Poor quality CRP, either due to short grasses or cool season grasses, can be productive for hunting, as some pheasants prefer to night-roost in thin cover. If the only CRP in the area happens to be of low cover quality, it might still be worth a hunt, especially early in the morning or late in the day.

- The habitat surrounding CRP fields can dictate pheasant abundance, because pheasants rely on a variety of habitat types to meet their daily requirements. Pay attention to adjacent crop field for food sources and alternative roosting cover, in addition to woody cover, weedy areas, and spring nesting cover. If the surrounding habitats are incapable of supporting pheasants, even the best tall grass CRP will not support great numbers of pheasants.

2. Non-irrigated cropland is often the wild card in Colorado pheasant hunting. When conditions are right, dryland crop fields can support excellent numbers of pheasants, and when conditions are poor, populations quickly decline. For fall pheasant concentrations, wheat stubble and milo stubble (in SE Colorado) are most important. Some things to look for include:

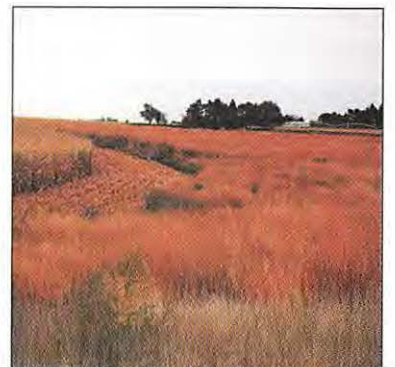
- Stubble height is a good indicator of pheasant abundance. Fifteen to 30-inch stubble is optimal for pheasants and hunting.
- Weed growth in the stubble is equally important to stubble height. Look for fields that offer sunflowers or kochia.
- The height and density of cover in the field. Generally, the more cover, the better pheasant potential for the field. Rarely will a field be too tall or dense for pheasants in Colorado.

3. When considering the impacts of the recent drought on pheasant populations, one would intuitively think that intensively irrigated areas would be the mainstays of pheasant populations in Colorado. This is often true with sprinkler irrigation, however, the reverse is true in intensively irrigated areas along the Front Range or in river valleys like the South Platte or Arkansas. Some ideas for finding pheasants in irrigated agriculture lands follow:

- Don't expect many pheasants where irrigated alfalfa dominates the landscape. Irrigated alfalfa is a death trap for nesting hens because it greens up early, inducing nesting, and is often cut prior to hatching, resulting in low nest success and high mortality

- Transition areas where center-pivot corn irrigation mixes with dryland wheat production often produce our highest pheasant populations.

Pheasants nest in the wheat fields, raise chicks in standing corn, and once the corn is harvested, the birds go back into nearby wheat stubble or CRP to roost, returning daily to forage in corn fields. If pivot corners are enhanced with tall CRP grass or food plots, pheasant densities can be amazing.



SCALED QUAIL

Scaled quail depend on natural habitats significantly more than pheasants. In Colorado, three types of habitat provide significant habitat for scaled quail, including sandsage rangeland, cholla grasslands, and greasewood or yucca grasslands. Colorado's most productive scaled quail habitat is sandsage rangeland, followed by cholla cactus grasslands, and finally greasewood and yucca pastures. On occasion, scaled quail also are found in cropland and CRP. When hunting scaled quail, some things to pay attention to are:

- Regardless of habitat, a good percentage of bare ground is integral to high densities of scaled quail. Whereas pheasants thrive in dense cover, scaled quail are most numerous in areas that are relatively open at ground level.
- In all habitat types, look for areas that have a good forb component. Being rangeland associated birds, scaled quail depend on winter food sources such as sunflowers, western ragweed, and buffalo bur. Crop fields like milo, lying adjacent to quail habitat, are a magnet to quail and may concentrate several coveys into a small area.
- While a strong broadleaf forb component is beneficial to scaled quail, a heavy grass component is generally not good for quail. Frequently, grasses choke out forb species that quail depend on for food, and grasses tend to be too thick at ground level. In most cases, CRP is too dense for scaled quail, although they may use disturbed, weedy areas or thin stands of bunchgrass CRP.
- In any scaled quail area, hunters must recognize that scaled quail are frequently linked to some structural component. Examples include thick stands of cholla cactus, weedy or brushy ravines, shrub thickets, post and junk piles, abandoned farm machinery, wildlife water guzzlers and old farmsteads. In scaled quail range, any natural or artificial structural component deserves an exploratory hunt.

BOBWHITE QUAIL

Bobwhite quail often use an intermediate habitat between pheasant habitat and scaled quail habitat. In many situations, bobwhites can be found in the same field as pheasants and scaled quail. Bobwhite quail range in Colorado is also significantly smaller than either pheasants or scaled quail, and is primarily limited to riparian areas in northeastern and east-central Colorado, while in southeast Colorado riparian areas, sandsage rangeland, and occasionally CRP lands support bobwhite populations. Isolated populations of bobwhites do occur in sandsage communities in the northeast counties of Phillips and Yuma, although their numbers are highly variable from year to year. Rangewide in Colorado, habitats to focus on for finding bobwhite quail include:

- Shrubland habitat, including sandsage rangeland, drainages lined with skunkbush sumac, native plums or chokecherries, willow and snowberry riparian zones, and

warm season grass CRP fields that have a good shrub component intermixed with the grasses or developed as a shrub thicket. If bobwhites are present in a particular field, they are normally found near a significant shrub development.

- CRP grass fields that provide tall overhead cover with a fairly high percentage of bare ground, for easy movement and forb production, are favored by bobwhites. In most cases this means grass fields composed of little bluestem, big bluestem and sand bluestem, switchgrass, yellow indiagrass, with a good amount of annual forbs. Sunflowers, western and giant ragweed, and kochia are plants that should catch your attention. In extreme southeast Colorado, it is not unusual to find bobwhites associ-

ated with large CRP fields that are adjacent to other habitats like sandsage. In the northeast, because quail habitat is much more restricted, bobwhites are rarely found in large CRP fields. Instead, look for them in CRP sprinkler corners adjacent to irrigated corn fields, in CRP plantings along creek bottoms or field edges, and grass fields along the sandsage-cropland transition zone.

- Weedy fencerows, abandoned farmsteads, old livestock corrals, and other areas that provide standing weed cover adjacent to occupied habitat are often heavily used by bobwhites. Bobwhites use standing weeds throughout the day, for foraging, loafing and security cover.

TIPS AND TACTICS

First, make sure you are hunting where there are pheasants and quail! Here are some ideas to help you zero in on good areas and prepare your party for success:

- Preseason scouting, especially in mid to late October after dispersal of young birds is complete, can shorten the task of finding game birds considerably. Drive along gravel roads with a good plat map (or this Atlas) to mark sightings. Early morning and evening are best because pheasants and quail are most active then.
- When you find birds, look at the nearby fields. Why are they here, where are the birds roosting, where are they feeding, how do they move between fields, should all be questions that you should be thinking about. Shrub plots, tree rows, weed patches are all things that should catch your eye in addition to the basic covers.



- Focus on fields or cover types that your personal hunting style allows you to be successful in, considering your party size, hunting dogs, or simple preferences for hunting.

- Develop a hunt plan based on your scouting efforts. Think about how pheasants and quail will react to hunters, how they will escape, and which fields will swing the odds in your favor. Both pheasants and scaled quail are prone to run instead of flying to avoid danger, so finding situations that make running difficult for them is necessary.

- Prepare to execute that plan quickly and quietly. Too often hunters pull up to a field, slam the doors, let the dogs out, then talk about how to hunt the field. That works with young birds on opening day, but after a few shots have been fired, wary birds will be implementing their own escape strategy as soon as they are aware of your presence.

Once you have found an area that holds pheasants or quail, the hunting strategy you use will probably be the largest factor in your success. The following suggestions come from our direct observation of hunters in the field.

- There is no question a good bird dog will locate more birds, and generally make hunting more fun. A good pointer or flushing dog will also give you more confidence when hunting large fields of CRP, sandsage rangeland or weedy wheat stubble. Even an inexperienced dog, as long as it will hunt within shotgun range, is an extremely valuable asset. If you have a dog, use it to your advantage.

- Dogless hunters can be very successful, but strategy becomes much more important, as well as having confidence in the fields you are hunting. Use weather condition to your advantage, change direction frequently, and when you feel that a rooster is close and waiting for you to walk past, stop walking. Often enough to make it worthwhile, when you stop walking and stand quietly for a minute or so, a nearby rooster will panic and flush, usually right after you start walking again.

- Hunt fields at the right time of day. In the morning and evening birds will be moving from roosting sites towards food. Put yourself and your hunting party between the birds and their food source, and hunt towards the roosting areas, or vice versa when birds are leaving feeding areas in the afternoon. Some fields offer birds everything they need, and can be hunted from daylight till dusk, but normally, pheasants and quail use different fields to meet their daily requirements.

- Avoid pushing birds to other good quality fields if possible. Rarely will a wise rooster or covey of scaled quail flush

when they can run into good escape cover. Pay attention to how they beat you (and they will) and devise ways to cover those escape routes next time. A good strategy for hunting running pheasants is to push them towards thin cover, forcing some of them to hold. Scaled quail, however, can be pushed towards cover that is too dense for easy running.

- Birds become conditioned to hunter activity when every party uses similar tactics, so try some off-the-wall tactics. Generally, most fields are hunted the same way and in the same direction by all the groups that hunt the field, due to the access point or prevailing wind direction. Changing tactics and hiking around the cover to hunt it 'backwards,' regardless of wind direction, can confuse the birds into sitting tight.

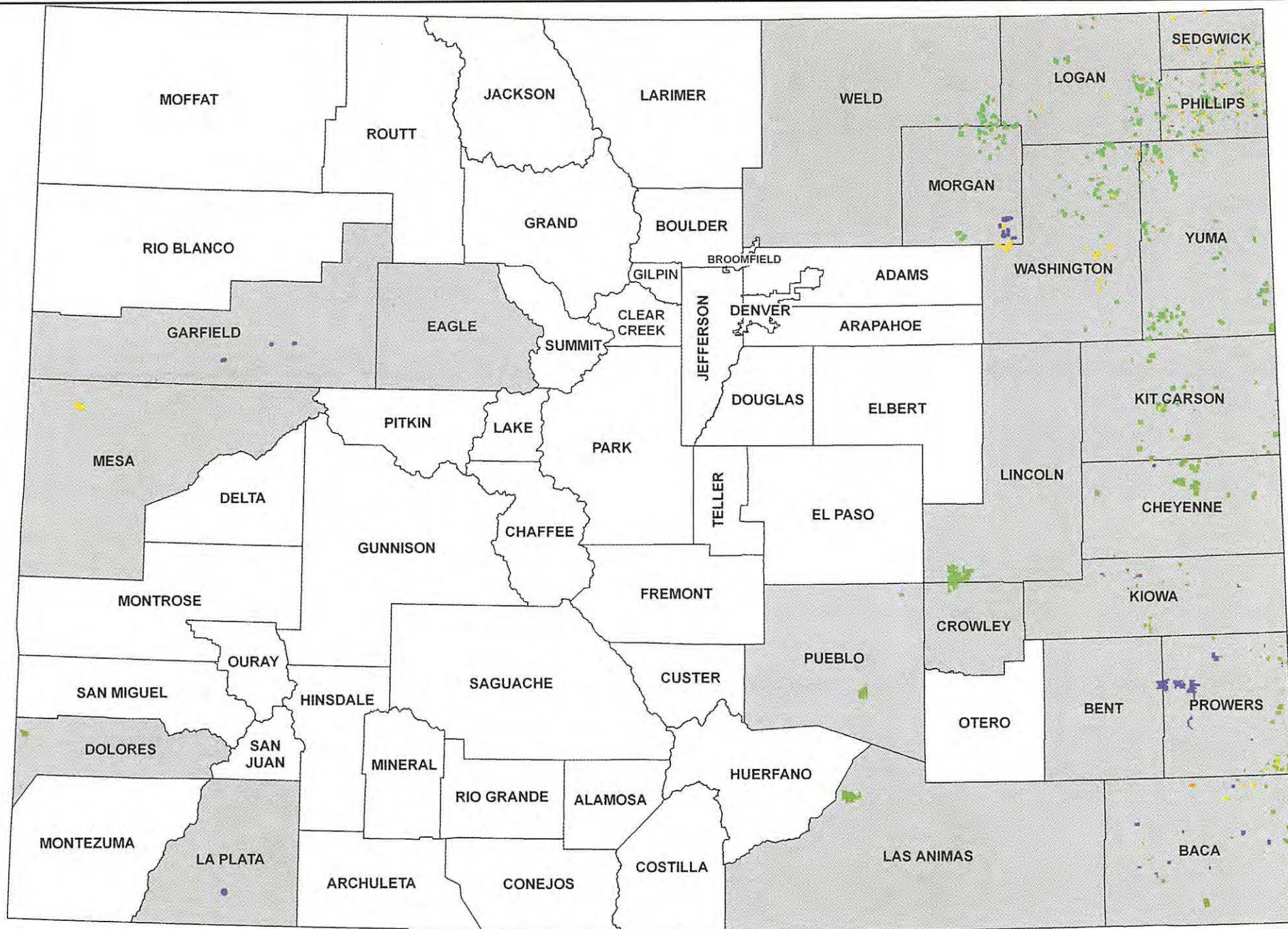
- Blockers are a welcome addition early in the year, but an absolute necessity for late season pheasants, providing that they can approach and remain at their stand quietly. Wearing orange for safety and visual communication is recommended. Blockers are less commonly used for quail, although they can be very effective when quail refuse to hold.

- Use weather to your advantage. Mild weather allows upland game birds to use any moderate quality field in the area, while serious winter weather restricts them to a few good areas. If the weather is mild, expect to find birds in some unlikely places. As weather deteriorates, more and more concentrate in the best cover available. Don't forget wind, which will influence

location as well. Snow can be a boon for hunters, if snowfall is deep enough to discourage wary roosters and quail from running. If snowfall was significant (over 4 inches) behavior changes immediately. Upland birds pile into plum thickets, tree groves around farmsteads, brushy creek bottoms, abandoned farmsteads and thick CRP, especially if a food source is nearby. Don't expect this behavior to last long though, as game birds tend to revert to their normal behavior and habitat shortly after conditions moderate. Depending on the severity of the storm, it might last a day, or as short as a few hours, but a well-timed hunt in snow can be the best of the season.

- Tracking pheasants and quail in light snow will teach observant hunters how birds avoid them. Watch for tracks that stop in weed patches or suddenly change directions, which normally means a running bird has found some hiding cover and is holding. If you know a field holds birds but there are no tracks, don't be discouraged. Early morning hunts after a snow can find the birds still roosting. The proper tactic in this situation is to slow down, hunt hard, and cover likely areas more than once.





**Counties with Acreage in the Colorado
Walk-In Access Program - 2007**

Cover Type

Corn
 CRP - Grass
 Wheat
 Other