

COLORADO PARKS & WILDLIFE

2012 Late Cropland Walk-In Atlas



UPDATED

PROPERTY MAPS INSIDE!



INCLUDES ONLY MAPS UPDATED WITH:

- Late cropland properties that close Feb. 28, 2013
- AND
- Extended walk-in lands that close March 31, 2013



online brochure

COLORADO PARKS AND WILDLIFE • 6060 Broadway, Denver, CO 80216
(303) 297-1192 • www.wildlife.state.co.us • www.parks.state.co.us

TABLE OF CONTENTS

License Fees & Information 1

- What's new in 2012
- About the WIA program
- How landowners can enroll land in WIA

Know Before You Go 2

- Property regulations
- Legal hunting hours, sunrise/sunset table
- Habitat Stamp requirements
- Harvest Information Program (HIP)
- Big-game hunting on WIA properties
- Licenses for disabled veterans

Select 2011-2012 Harvest Statistics..... 3

Field Information..... 4-8

- Bag limits for select small-game species..... 4
- Tips for hunting responsibly 4
- No hunting during harvest 4
- Species identification 4
- How to avoid "hitchhiking" seeds 4
- WIA property sign explanations..... 5
- Safe handling of game meat 5
- How to have better pheasant, quail hunts..... 6-8

How to Read the Property Maps 9

MAPS: Walk-In Properties 10-25

MAP: Statewide property overview back

WILDLIFE AREA OFFICES

WWW.WILDLIFE.STATE.CO.US

HEADQUARTERS

6060 Broadway
Denver, 80216
(303) 297-1192

AREA OFFICES

BRUSH

122 E. Edison
Brush, 80723
(970) 842-6300

COLORADO SPRINGS

4255 Sinton Road
Colorado Springs, 80907
(719) 227-5200

DENVER

6060 Broadway
Denver, 80216
(303) 291-7227

DURANGO

151 E. 16th St.
Durango, 81301
(970) 247-0855

FORT COLLINS

317 W. Prospect Road
Fort Collins, 80526
(970) 472-4300

GLENWOOD SPRINGS

0088 Wildlife Way
Glenwood Springs, 81601
(970) 947-2920

GRAND JUNCTION

711 Independent Ave.
Grand Junction, 81505
(970) 255-6100

GUNNISON

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

HOT SULPHUR SPRINGS

346 Grand County Rd. 362
Hot Sulphur Springs,
80451
(970) 725-6200

LAMAR

2500 S. Main St.
Lamar, 81052
(719) 336-6600

MEEKER

73485 Hwy. 64
Meeker, 81641
(970) 878-6090

MONTE VISTA

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

MONTROSE

2300 S. Townsend Ave.
Montrose, 81401
(970) 252-6000

PUEBLO

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

SALIDA

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

STEAMBOAT SPRINGS

925 Weiss Dr.
Steamboat Springs,
80487
(970) 870-2197

» **EXTENDED WALK-IN ACCESS PROPERTY**

HOURS. Colorado Parks and Wildlife is happy to offer additional waterfowl hunting opportunity through the Extended WIA provision.

Access to these properties — depicted in green on WIA maps for Logan, Sedgwick, Kiowa, Lincoln-Crowley-Otero, and Prowers counties — begins on opening day of pheasant season (Nov. 10, 2012) and continues through the end of March 2013. All normal WIA regulations apply. Digging hunting pits is not permitted. These properties are for foot access only. Driving decoys into the field with a vehicle is not allowed. To assist with decoy setting and retrieval, **properties can be accessed from two hours before sunrise to two hours after sunset.**

SMALL THINGS CAN MAKE A BIG DIFFERENCE.

When you purchase a hunting license, 75¢ goes to educate the public on the role sportsmen play in wildlife management.

HUG A HUNTER.com

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COLORADO PARKS AND WILDLIFE (CPW)

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The Colorado Parks and Wildlife Commission sets small-game and waterfowl regulations in May, July and August. Rick D. Cables is CPW director. Commission members are (as of Sept. 2012): John Singletary, chairman • Bill Kane, vice chairman • Mark Smith, secretary • Robert Bray, member • Christopher Castilian, member • Jeanne Horne, member • Gaspar Perricone, member • James Vigil, member • Dean Wingfield, member • Michelle Zimmerman, member • James Pribyl, member • Mike King, ex officio member • John Salazar, ex officio member

CPW receives federal financial assistance from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. In accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975 and Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, the U.S. Department of the Interior and its bureaus prohibit discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability or sex.

NOTE: Laws and regulations in this brochure are paraphrased for easier understanding and are intended only as a guide. Colorado wildlife statutes and regulations are available for viewing at CPW offices and online at www.wildlife.state.co.us/RulesRegs/Pages/Regs.aspx.

2012 WHAT'S NEW

» **MAP APPS FOR THE FIELD.** We now build our WIA maps with embedded coordinates so it's easier to *locate* a field when you're *in* the field. Hunters can download GeoPDF maps from our website, browse the fields and bring up coordinates on their home computer. Hunters can also download apps from the Apple iPhone app store that access latitude and longitude coordinates embedded in the maps. To learn more, go to the Colorado Parks and Wildlife website at wildlife.state.co.us/Hunting/SmallGame/WalkInAccess/Pages/WalkInAccessProgram.aspx.

» **WATCH FOR GRAZING LANDS.** With significant portions of the U.S. in severe drought conditions, the U.S. Department of Agriculture has authorized landowners to use fields enrolled in the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) for emergency hay production and grazing. CRP lands make up a large percentage of land enrolled in the Walk-In Access (WIA) program. It is very likely that you will see fields posted with WIA signs that have been or are currently being grazed or hayed.

» ABOUT THE WALK-IN ACCESS PROGRAM

The Walk-In Access program (WIA) helps hunters find good places to hunt by easing the task of acquiring permission to hunt private land.

To maximize opportunity and convenience, CPW targets a diverse mix of properties, including those that offer pheasant, scaled quail, dove, cottontail rabbit and waterfowl hunting.

The WIA program is free for hunters, and these lands are open for public walk-in hunting. Please remember they are privately owned properties. Respect the landowner, respect the land.

» **TO SEE THE ENTIRE SUITE OF WIA PROPERTIES AVAILABLE,** a hunter must reference both the *2012 Walk-In Atlas* and this *2012 Late Cropland* supplement.

The maps are also available on the CPW website at: wildlife.state.co.us/Hunting/SmallGame/WalkInAccess/Pages/WalkInAccessProgram.aspx.

» **THE REGULAR WALK-IN ATLAS** was published in August and highlights private property that is open to the public for hunting small game, furbearers,

migratory game birds and Eurasian collared-doves. It includes properties that opened Sept. 1.

» **THE LATE CROPLAND SUPPLEMENTAL ATLAS** only contains new maps (for properties that were not available when the *2012 Walk-In Atlas* was published in August) and maps that were in the *2012 Walk-In Atlas* but have since been updated. The maps in this brochure include all huntable properties in that region.



LICENSE FEES

	RESIDENT	NONRESIDENT
» Habitat Stamp (<i>required</i>)	\$10	\$10
» Small Game	\$21	\$56
» Small Game (<i>one-day</i>)	\$11	\$11
» Small Game (<i>additional day</i>)	\$5	\$5
» Youth Small Game (<i>Under 18</i>)	\$1.75	\$1.75
» Small Game & Fishing Combo.....	\$41	n/a
» Colorado Waterfowl Stamp.....	\$5	\$5
» Federal Migratory Bird Hunting Stamp (<i>Duck Stamp</i>)	\$15	\$15
» Military (<i>60 percent or more disability, see page 2</i>)	free	n/a

Prices include 25-cent search-and-rescue fee and 75-cent surcharge for the Wildlife Management Public Education Fund.

SAVE TIME: BUY ONLINE OR BY PHONE

Go to www.wildlife.state.co.us/ShopDOW/AppsAndLicenses/Pages/totallicensing.aspx or call 1-800-244-5613. CPW offices and license agents also sell licenses.



LICENSE INFORMATION

WHAT YOU NEED TO BUY A LICENSE AND HUNT

1. To hunt small game, waterfowl or furbearers on Walk-In Access properties, all hunters must first purchase, sign and have in their possession a valid small-game license.
2. Hunters age 16 and older must have state and federal migratory bird stamps prior to hunting waterfowl.
3. To hunt small game, furbearers or migratory birds, hunters must get a HIP number. (*See requirements, page 2*)
4. To purchase a license, you must have a current and valid photo ID (*Colorado identification must be issued at least 6 months prior to applying as a resident*)
5. Proof of hunter education (*see requirements below*)
6. Habitat Stamp (*See requirements, page 2*)

HUNTER EDUCATION (SAFETY) REQUIREMENTS

Hunters born on or after Jan. 1, 1949, must have completed an approved hunter education course sanctioned by a state or province before purchasing a license. Colorado honors hunter education courses from other states and provinces. You must present an original hunter safety card when buying a license (unless previously verified) or enter the required information when applying by mail or online. You must carry your hunter education card while hunting unless a "V" is printed on the license, which indicates hunter education has been verified at a Wildlife Area Office.

Hunter education courses can be found at www.wildlife.state.co.us/Hunting/HunterEducation/CourseCalendar/Pages/HECalendar.aspx.

ATTENTION LANDOWNERS

ENROLL YOUR PROPERTY

Interested in enrolling land in the small-game Walk-In Access program? Currently, CPW is looking to enroll quality small-game hunting lands across the state. To offer land for the 2012-13 season, please contact your local Wildlife Area Office for details. *See office listings at top of inside cover.*

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

WALK-IN PROPERTY REGULATIONS

- Public access is allowed from one hour before sunrise to one hour after sunset, except when hunting waterfowl. For waterfowl, public access is allowed from two hours before sunrise to two hours after sunset.
- Lands enrolled and posted as Regular, Late Cropland or Extended Season properties are open for the hunting and take of all small game, furbearers, migratory game birds and Eurasian collared-doves, except Gambel's quail, Gunnison's sage-grouse and greater sage-grouse.
- Public access is allowed:
 - From Sept. 1 through the end of February annually for lands enrolled and posted as Regular Season Walk-In Access properties
 - From the opening day of pheasant season (Nov. 10, 2012) through the end of February annually for lands enrolled and posted as Late Season Cropland Walk-In Access properties
 - From the opening day of pheasant season (Nov. 10, 2012) through the end of March annually for lands enrolled and posted as Extended Walk-In Access properties
- Access shall be by foot only. Entry by horseback, motorized vehicle, or other means is prohibited.
- Access is allowed for hunting only; all other activities are prohibited.
- Access is prohibited as posted when the landowner is actively harvesting crops.

HABITAT STAMP REQUIREMENTS

Habitat Stamps are \$10 and only one is required per person per year. Stamps are valid April 1-March 31.

- Anyone 18-64 must purchase a stamp before buying or applying for a preference point or a hunting or fishing license.
- A lifetime stamp is \$300.25.
- Anyone buying a one-day or additional-day license for fishing and/or small game is exempt from purchasing the Habitat Stamp with the first two of these licenses. The habitat fee will be assessed when a third one-day or additional-day license is purchased for fishing or small game.
- Anyone who holds a free Lifetime Fishing License, a Veteran's Lifetime Combination Small-Game Hunting/Fishing License, or are approved for the Big Game Mobility Impaired Hunting Program is exempt from the Habitat Stamp requirement. See www.wildlife.state.co.us/Hunting/DisabledAccessibility/Pages/DisabilityInformation.aspx.

HARVEST INFORMATION PROGRAM (HIP)

1-866-265-6447 (1-866-COLOHIP)

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 website run 24 hours a day, every day, and the process takes about 5 minutes. To sign up for HIP, call 1-866-265-6447 to speak to an operator, or go online to www.colohip.com.

BIG-GAME HUNTING ON WIA PROPERTIES

The WIA program offers access for small-game hunting only. Big-game hunting remains completely at the discretion of the landowner.

Some properties in southeast Colorado are enrolled both in small-game WIA and the Big-Game Access Program (BGAP). These properties are posted with both small-game and big-game access signs. During big-game seasons, big-game hunting will be occurring on these properties.

Small-game hunters are encouraged to wear hunter orange during big-game seasons on these properties.

LICENSES FOR DISABLED VETERANS

Colorado residents who are disabled veterans or Purple Heart recipients can get free lifetime combination small-game hunting and fishing licenses.

Disabled veterans must have served on active duty and have been

LEGAL HUNTING HOURS

Legal times to hunt small game are one-half hour before sunrise to sunset. An exception is made for furbearers, which can be hunted from one-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset.

The sunrise/sunset chart below lists time in Denver. Subtract 1 minute from opening and closing time for each 12.5 miles east of Denver. Add 1 minute to opening and closing time for each 12.5 miles west of Denver. (These changes assume that each degree of longitude equals 50 miles and a change of 1 degree of longitude equals a 4-minute change in sunrise and sunset times.)

2012 SUNRISE/SUNSET TABLE (DENVER)

DAY	SEPT.		OCT.		NOV.		DEC.		JAN. 2013	
	RISE	SET	RISE	SET	RISE	SET	RISE	SET	RISE	SET
(DST)	A.M.	P.M.	A.M.	P.M.	A.M.	P.M.	A.M.	P.M.	A.M.	P.M.
1	6:29	7:30	6:57	6:41	7:29	5:57	7:02	4:36	7:21	4:47
2	6:29	7:29	6:58	6:40	7:30	5:56	7:03	4:36	7:21	4:47
3	6:30	7:27	6:59	6:38	7:31	5:55	7:04	4:36	7:21	4:48
4	6:31	7:25	7:00	6:37	6:33	4:54 ^{DST ends}	7:05	4:35	7:21	4:49
5	6:32	7:24	7:01	6:35	6:34	4:53	7:06	4:35	7:21	4:50
6	6:33	7:22	7:02	6:33	6:35	4:52	7:07	4:35	7:21	4:51
7	6:34	7:21	7:03	6:32	6:36	4:51	7:08	4:35	7:21	4:52
8	6:35	7:19	7:04	6:30	6:37	4:50	7:09	4:35	7:21	4:53
9	6:36	7:17	7:05	6:29	6:38	4:49	7:10	4:35	7:21	4:54
10	6:37	7:16	7:06	6:27	6:39	4:48	7:10	4:36	7:21	4:55
11	6:38	7:14	7:07	6:26	6:41	4:47	7:11	4:36	7:20	4:56
12	6:39	7:12	7:08	6:24	6:42	4:46	7:12	4:36	7:20	4:57
13	6:40	7:11	7:09	6:23	6:43	4:45	7:13	4:36	7:20	4:58
14	6:41	7:09	7:10	6:21	6:44	4:45	7:13	4:36	7:19	4:59
15	6:42	7:08	7:11	6:20	6:45	4:44	7:14	4:37	7:19	5:00
16	6:42	7:06	7:12	6:18	6:46	4:43	7:15	4:37	7:19	5:01
17	6:43	7:04	7:13	6:17	6:47	4:42	7:15	4:37	7:18	5:03
18	6:44	7:03	7:14	6:15	6:48	4:42	7:16	4:38	7:18	5:04
19	6:45	7:01	7:15	6:14	6:50	4:41	7:17	4:38	7:17	5:05
20	6:46	6:59	7:16	6:13	6:51	4:40	7:17	4:39	7:17	5:06
21	6:47	6:58	7:17	6:11	6:52	4:40	7:18	4:39	7:16	5:07
22	6:48	6:56	7:18	6:10	6:53	4:39	7:18	4:40	7:15	5:08
23	6:49	6:54	7:19	6:09	6:54	4:39	7:19	4:40	7:15	5:09
24	6:50	6:53	7:20	6:07	6:55	4:38	7:19	4:41	7:14	5:11
25	6:51	6:51	7:21	6:06	6:56	4:38	7:19	4:41	7:13	5:12
26	6:52	6:50	7:22	6:05	6:57	4:37	7:20	4:42	7:13	5:13
27	6:53	6:48	7:24	6:03	6:58	4:37	7:20	4:43	7:12	5:14
28	6:54	6:46	7:25	6:02	6:59	4:37	7:20	4:43	7:11	5:15
29	6:55	6:45	7:26	6:01	7:00	4:36	7:21	4:44	7:10	5:16
30	6:56	6:43	7:27	6:00	7:01	4:36	7:21	4:45	7:09	5:18
31			7:28	5:59			7:21	4:46	7:08	5:19

DST - Daylight Saving Time

Source: www.usno.navy.mil

TIME ADJUSTMENT FOR OTHER COLORADO CITIES

This table reflects the minutes to add/subtract from the chart above for select towns. These are approximate, use only as a general reference. Consult a state map for more details.

Alamosa	+3	Gr. Junction	+13
Buena Vista	+5	Gunnison	+7
Burlington	-10	La Junta	-6
Craig	+9	Lamar	-9
Durango	+11	Sterling	-6
Fort Morgan	-4	Walden	+5

honorably discharged. Except for Purple Heart recipients, proof is required of a service-related disability rated by the Veterans Administration of at least 60 percent through disability retirement benefits or a pension administered by the Department of Veteran Affairs or respective service department.

SELECT 2011-2012 HARVEST STATISTICS

These harvest statistics are gathered statewide through post-season surveys. The surveys are a random sampling of hunter participants in the HIP program.

» For more small-game harvest surveys, go to www.wildlife.state.co.us/Hunting/SmallGame/Statistics/Pages/Statistics.aspx.

» For the Light Goose harvest report, go to www.wildlife.state.co.us/Hunting/Waterfowl/Statistics/Pages/Statistics.aspx.



Photo © Wayne Lewis, CPW

COTTONTAIL RABBIT

County	Number of hunters	Number of rabbits harvested
Larimer	888	4,469
Weld	1,089	3,299
Baca	90	2,915
Mesa	895	2,354
El Paso	572	2,289

BOBWHITE QUAIL

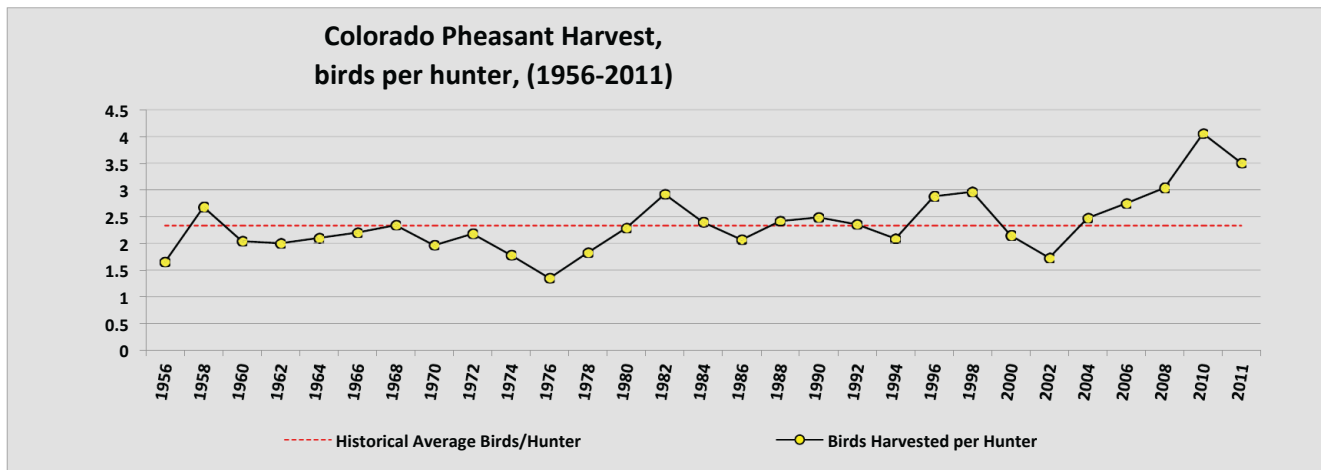
County	Number of hunters	Number of birds harvested
Yuma	384	861
Morgan	364	485
Logan	133	293
Sedgwick	84	213
Baca	257	167

SCALED QUAIL

County	Number of hunters	Number of birds harvested
Lincoln	142	1,313
Prowers	123	967
Cheyenne	82	763
Pueblo	199	593
El Paso	109	399

PHEASANTS

County	Number of hunters	Number of birds harvested
Yuma	6,878	22,372
Phillips	4,630	13,869
Kit Carson	3,116	13,296
Logan	3,344	9,274
Sedgwick	2,480	6,706



FIELD INFORMATION

TIPS FOR BEING A RESPONSIBLE HUNTER

The WIA program depends on private landowners enrolling property for walk-in hunting, and maintaining good relations with those landowners and their neighbors. Here 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 who may need to work on the property. Do not park along highways. Do not park in tall grassy or weedy areas where your vehicle's catalytic converter can cause a fire.
- » **IF YOU SMOKE,** make sure to completely extinguish cigarettes. Do not smoke or extinguish cigarettes in grassy or weedy areas where you could cause a fire.
- » **DON'T LITTER OR CLEAN HARVESTED BIRDS ON WIA PROPERTIES OR ALONG ROADSIDES.** If trash is present, please pick it up.
- » **DON'T SHOOT NEAR OR TOWARD HOUSES,** farm buildings, livestock or equipment.
- » **DON'T HUNT IF CATTLE ARE IN,** or adjacent to, enrolled parcels.



BAG LIMITS

Select 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 in the *2012 Small Game* and *2012 Waterfowl* brochures. These brochures are available at license agents, Wildlife Area Offices and online in both downloadable PDF and interactive, searchable formats at www.wildlife.state.co.us/RulesRegs/HuntFishRegulationsBrochures/Pages/RegulationsBrochures.aspx.

PHEASANT

DAILY BAG LIMIT: 3 cocks

POSSESSION LIMIT: 9 cocks

SEASON 1: Nov. 10-Jan. 31, 2013

AREAS: East of I-25

SEASON 2: Nov. 10-Jan. 6, 2013

AREAS: West of I-25

QUAIL: NORTHERN BOBWHITE, SCALED, GAMBEL'S

DAILY BAG LIMIT: 8 of each species

POSSESSION LIMIT: 24 of each species

» NO HUNTING DURING ACTIVE HARVEST

To promote safe hunting and help landowners efficiently harvest crops, some WIA properties — primarily grass sprinkler corners adjacent to irrigated corn fields — will be closed to WIA hunting when landowners are actively harvesting crops. Specifically, when harvesting machines are working in the associated corn field, sprinkler corners are CLOSED to all WIA hunting.

In most cases, corners will only be closed for a day or two while the landowner completes harvest. All sprinkler corners will be posted with closure signs in addition to regular boundary signs. Adhering to this temporary closure will help hunters and CPW maintain excellent working relations with landowners and will contribute to keeping high-quality sprinkler corners open to public walk-in hunting.

See page 5 for a complete description of all WIA field signs.



SPECIES IDENTIFICATION

A fully feathered wing or head must be attached to all birds, except turkeys, doves and band-tailed pigeons, in transit to hunter's home or commercial processor.

FOR PHEASANTS, a foot with visible spur can be substituted.

NOTE: While in the field or during transport, all

SEASON 1: Nov. 10-Jan. 6, 2013

AREAS: East of I-25 and north of I-70 from I-25 east to Byers and Hwy. 36 from Byers to Kansas.

SEASON 2: Nov. 10-Jan. 6, 2013

AREAS: West of I-25 except those areas west of I-25 in Pueblo, Fremont, Huerfano and Las Animas counties.

SEASON 3: Nov. 10-Jan. 31, 2013

AREAS: East of I-25 and south of I-70 from I-25 to Byers and Hwy. 36 from Byers to Kansas, and parts of the following counties that are west of I-25: Pueblo, Fremont, Huerfano, Las Animas.

COTTONTAIL, SNOWSHOE HARE, WHITE-TAILED & BLACK-TAILED JACKRABBIT

SEASON: Oct. 1-end of Feb. 2013

DAILY BAG LIMIT: 10 cottontails, 10 snowshoe hares, 10 jackrabbits

POSSESSION LIMIT: 20 cottontails, 20 snowshoe hares, 20 jackrabbits

dressed (not fully feathered) doves count against the daily bag and possession limit for mourning and white-winged doves during the Sept. 1-Nov. 9 dove season. Eurasian collared-doves must be fully feathered while in the field or during transport.



Photo © Elizabeth Brown, CPW

BEWARE OF HITCHHIKING SEEDS

Many "noxious" weeds reproduce primarily by seed. These seeds are often transported by wind, and occasionally by birds, rodents and other animals, but they could be carried in the shoelaces or pant cuffs of humans.

Please help control their spread by taking a few minutes, as you leave the field, to clean your shoelaces and pant cuffs of any seed.

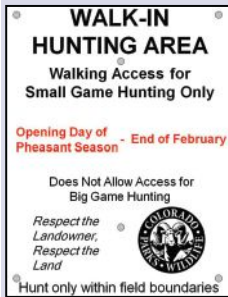
Don't forget to give your hunting dog a quick brush over to remove any hitchhiking seeds before traveling to a new hunting spot.

WIA PROPERTY SIGNS

There are a variety of Walk-In Access program boundary signs. Knowing what to look for in the field will help during your hunt.



In the field you will see signs that have an access date of Sept. 1 through the end of February.



Some signs have an access date of "The opening day of pheasant season through the end of February."

Properties that are posted to open on the opening day of pheasant season cannot be accessed prior to Nov. 10, 2012.



Extended Access properties are posted to close at the end of March, annually.

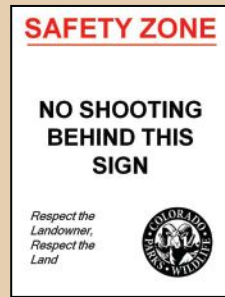
These signs have an access date of "The opening day of pheasant season through the end of March."

These properties cannot be accessed prior to Nov. 10, 2012.

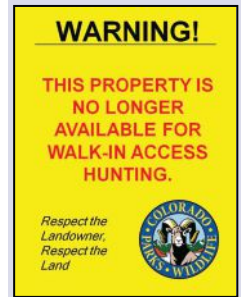


Parking signs designate where hunters should park at some walk-in areas.

The 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.



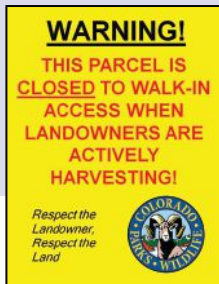
Safety Zone signs are also common on or near WIA properties. These signs are used to delineate safety zones around buildings, homesteads, livestock corrals or neighboring landowners' homes and properties. Please respect safety zone signs wherever you find them posted.



DO NOT HUNT IF FIELDS ARE POSTED WITH THESE YELLOW "WARNING!" SIGNS. Rarely, it becomes necessary to remove a property from the WIA program after this brochure is printed.

When that happens, WIA boundary signs are removed and replaced with yellow warning signs to notify hunters that the property is no longer available for walk-in hunting.

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.



To promote safe hunting and help landowners efficiently harvest crops, some WIA properties — primarily grass sprinkler corners adjacent to irrigated corn fields — will be closed to WIA hunting when landowners are actively harvesting crops. Specifically, when harvesting machines are working in the associated corn field, sprinkler corners are CLOSED to all WIA hunting.

SAFE HANDLING OF GAME MEAT

Concern has grown about diseases affecting wild animals that could potentially make humans sick.

Most of the time, properly handled and prepared game meat poses no greater risk than domestic meat of causing disease in humans.

Hunters are encouraged to contact their local public health department or a Wildlife Area Office for information on wildlife diseases that may be present where they plan to hunt.

Public health officials recommend the following precautions when handling and preparing game meat:

1. Do not handle animals that are obviously sick or found dead. Report sick or dead animals you find to a CPW office.

2. Keep game cool, clean and dry.
3. Do not eat, drink or smoke while dressing game.
4. Use disposable gloves when cleaning game.
5. Wash your hands with soap and water or use alcohol wipes after dressing game.
6. Clean all tools and surfaces immediately afterward. Use hot soapy water, then disinfect with a 10 percent chlorine bleach solution.
7. Cook game meat to an internal temperature of at least 165° F to kill disease organisms and parasites. Juices from adequately cooked game meat should be clear.
8. Do not eat any raw portions of wild game.
9. Do not feed raw wild game to domestic pets.



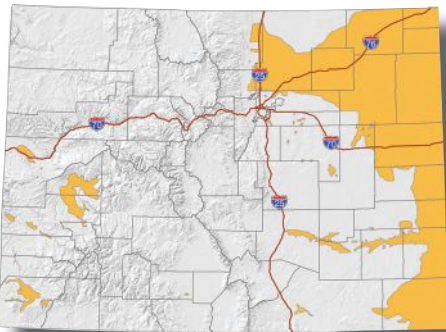
Photo © CPW

HOW TO HAVE BETTER PHEASANT AND QUAIL HUNTS

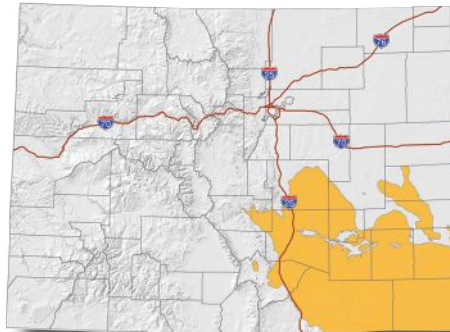
TIPS AND TACTICS FOR A SUCCESSFUL HUNT

First, make sure you are hunting where there are pheasants and quail! The maps below show shaded regions of Colorado where there are populations of pheasants and quail. See the following pages for more advice on hunting each species.

PHEASANT:



SCALED QUAIL:



BOBWHITE 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

FOCUS ON

While pheasants are common in all three types of the following croplands, each has unique characteristics to look for:

» **CRP FIELDS** are the most predictable habitat, as they provide areas 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:

1. 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 hunting pheasants.
2. 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 at night to roost and to loaf during the day.
3. 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.

4. Poor quality CRP can be productive, as some pheasants prefer to night-roost in thin cover.
5. Pay attention to adjacent crop field for food sources and alternative roosting cover, in addition to woody cover, weedy areas and spring nesting cover.

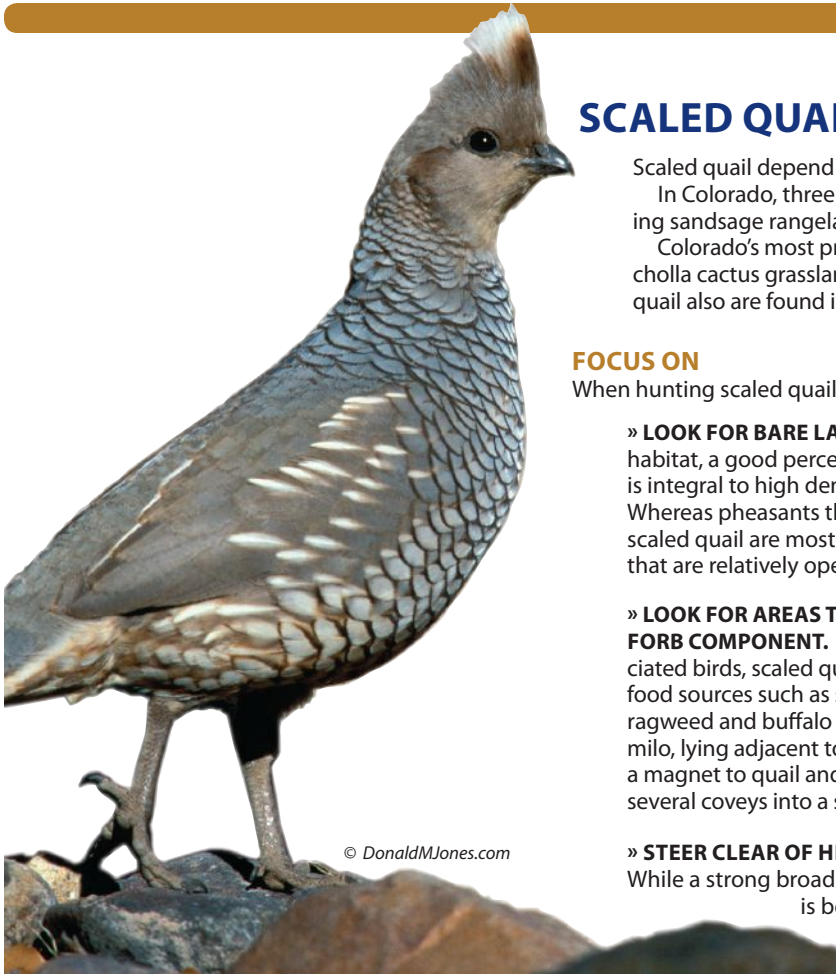
» **NON-IRRIGATED CROPLAND** is often the wild card in Colorado pheasant hunting. When conditions are right, dryland crop fields can support excellent numbers of pheasants. When conditions are poor, populations quickly decline.

For fall pheasant concentrations, wheat stubble and milo stubble (in southeast Colorado) are most important. Some things to look for include:

1. Stubble height — 15- to 30-inch stubble is optimal for pheasants and hunting.
2. Weed growth in the stubble is equally important to stubble height. Look for fields that offer sunflowers or kochia.
3. The height and density of cover in the field. Generally, the more cover, the better potential for the field.

» **IRRIGATED AREAS** can be good or bad. Some ideas for finding pheasants in irrigated agriculture lands include:

1. Don't expect many pheasants where irrigated alfalfa dominates the landscape.
2. 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.



© DonaldMJones.com

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.

FOCUS ON

When hunting scaled quail, some things to pay attention to are:

» **LOOK FOR BARE LAND.** 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.

» **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.

» **STEER CLEAR OF HEAVY GRASS COVER.** 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.

» **FIND STRUCTURE.** 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.

FOCUS ON

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.

In fields, bobwhites are normally found near a significant shrub development.

» **CRP GRASS FIELDS** that provide tall overhead cover with a fairly high percentage of bare ground. 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 plants should catch your attention.

In extreme southeast Colorado, it is not unusual to find bobwhites around 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.

They use standing weeds throughout the day, for foraging, loafing and security cover.

© Lisa Densmore



ZERO IN ON GOOD AREAS AND PREPARE YOUR PARTY FOR PHEASANT HUNTING SUCCESS WITH THESE TIPS:

LAND STRATEGY

SCOUT BEFORE THE SEASON

Preseason scouting, especially in mid-to late October, 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. Remember, finding fields with birds is the goal. Once accomplished, there is little to be gained from disturbing the birds before the season.

WATCH HOW BIRDS ACT

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?

Shrub plots, tree rows and weed

patches are all things that should catch your eye in addition to the basic covers.

FIND FIELDS THAT ARE RIGHT FOR YOU

Focus on fields or cover types where your personal hunting style allows you to be successful. Consider your party size, hunting dogs, or simple preferences.

CRAFT YOUR GAME PLAN

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 as prone to run instead of flying to avoid danger, so finding situations that make running difficult for them is necessary.

MOVE QUICKLY AND QUIETLY

Prepare to execute your hunt 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. These suggestions come from our observation of hunters in the field.

TIMING MATTERS

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 until dusk, but normally, pheasants and quail use different fields to meet their daily requirements.

DON'T GET PUSHY

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 (they will) and devise ways to cover 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.

TRY DIFFERENT TACTICS

Birds become conditioned to hunter activity when every party uses similar tactics, so try some off-the-wall tactics.

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.

USE A BLOCKER

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.

WATCH THE WEATHER

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 places they don't normally visit.

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 is significant (more than 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.

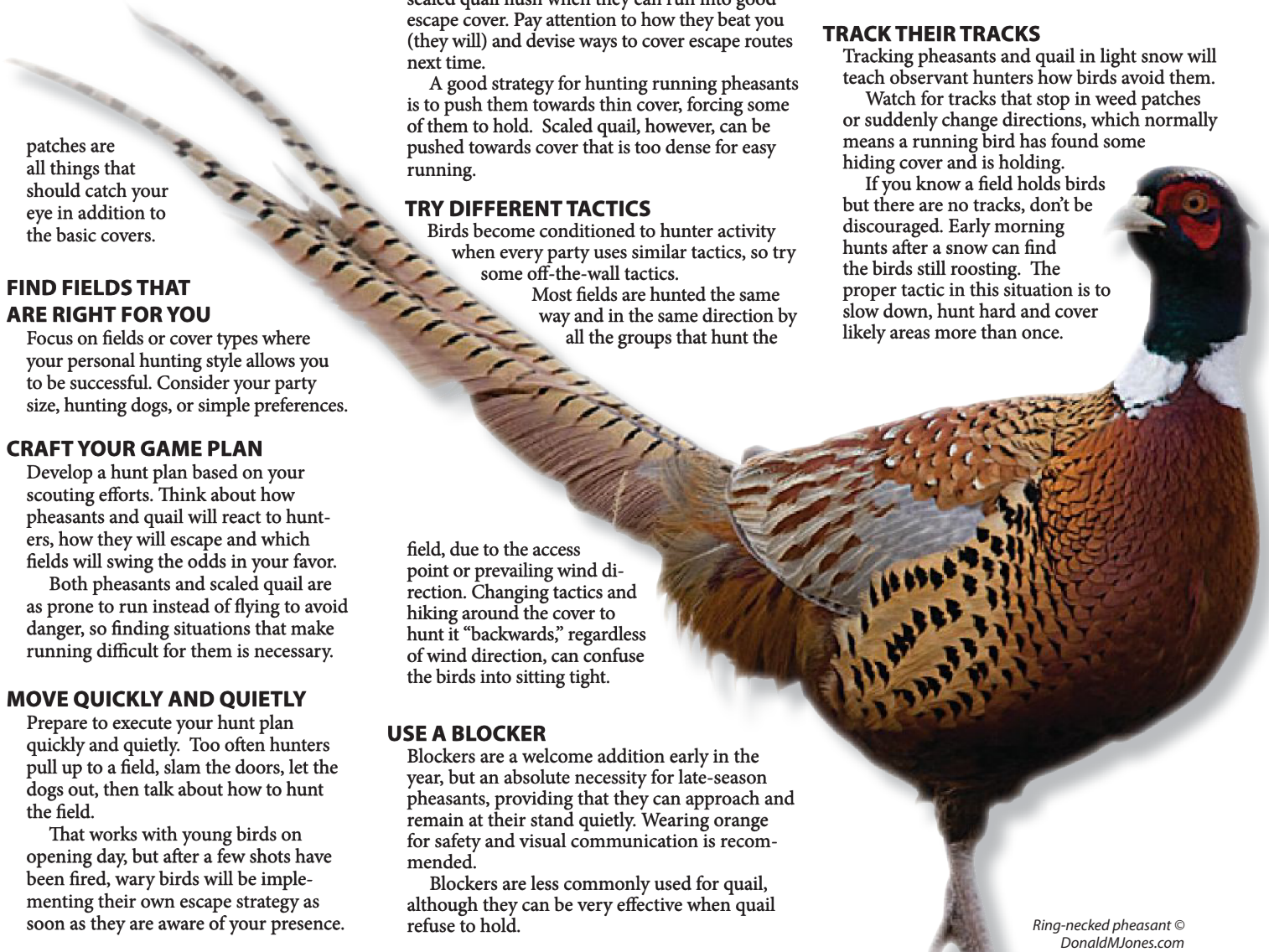
Don't expect this behavior to last long though, as birds tend to revert to their normal behavior and habitat shortly after conditions moderate. Depending on the severity of the storm, a well-timed hunt in snow can be the best of the season.

TRACK THEIR TRACKS

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.



Ring-necked pheasant © DonaldMJones.com

Reading the Maps

In this Walk-In Atlas, lands enrolled in the Walk-In Access Program are colored in **YELLOW**. Properties colored in **GREEN** remain open through March 31, 2013. Lands designated as WIA properties in this atlas are open to hunters holding a valid small-game license. All lands not GREEN or YELLOW 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

W

A property enrolled in the Walk-In Program having wheat - usually harvested wheat stubble - as its cover type.

G

A property enrolled in the Walk-In Program having some type of grass as its cover type. Typically, this property is also enrolled in the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP).

C

A property enrolled in the Walk-In Program having corn - usually harvested corn - as its cover type.

O

A Walk-In property having "other" types of cover, e.g. creek bottom, tree rows, food plot, CRP cover crop, etc. as its cover type.

G

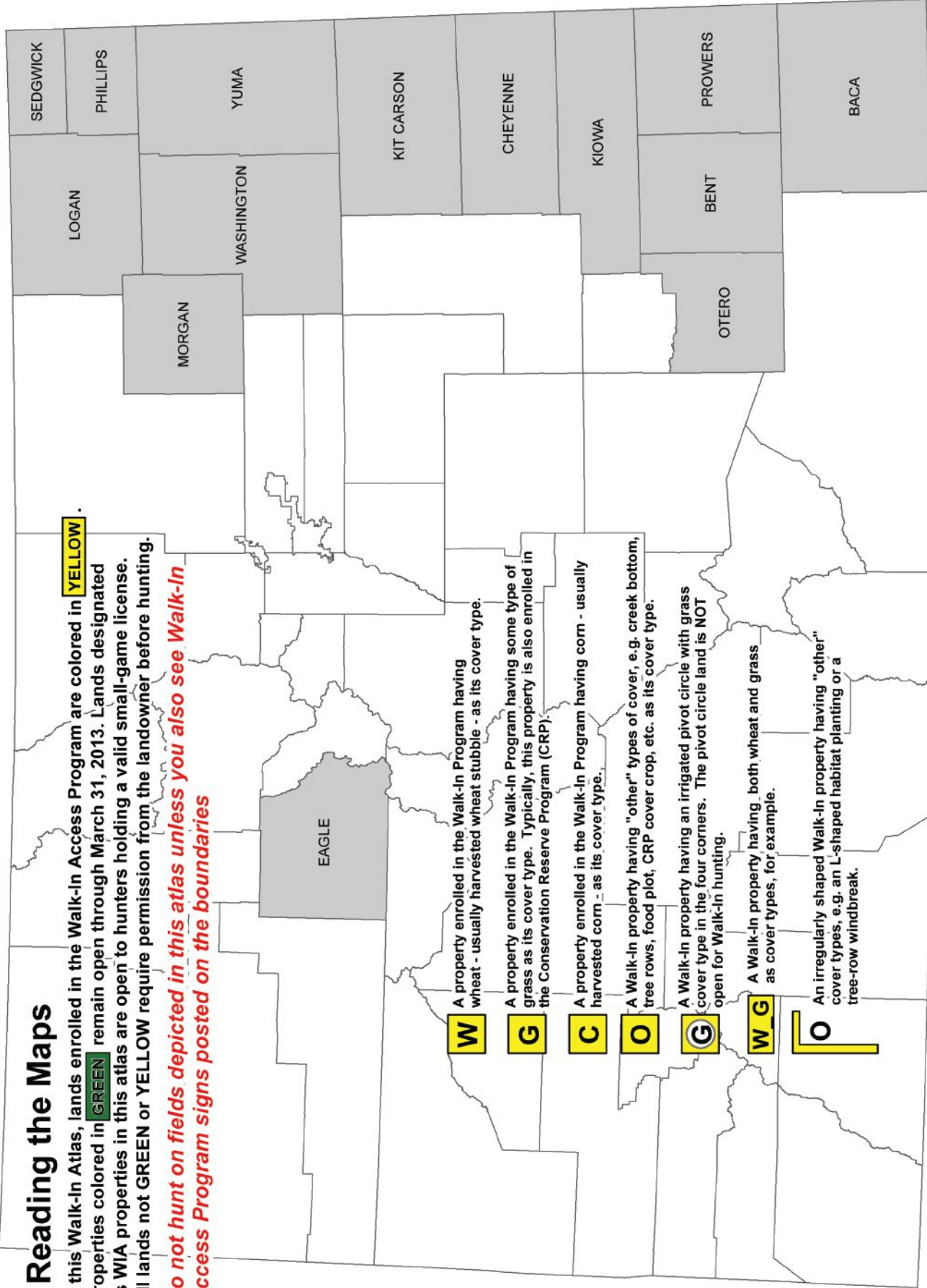
A Walk-In property having an irrigated pivot circle with grass cover type in the four corners. The pivot circle land is NOT open for Walk-In hunting.

W G

A Walk-In property having both wheat and grass as cover types, for example.

O

An irregularly shaped Walk-In property having "other" cover types, e.g. an L-shaped habitat planting or a tree-row windbreak.



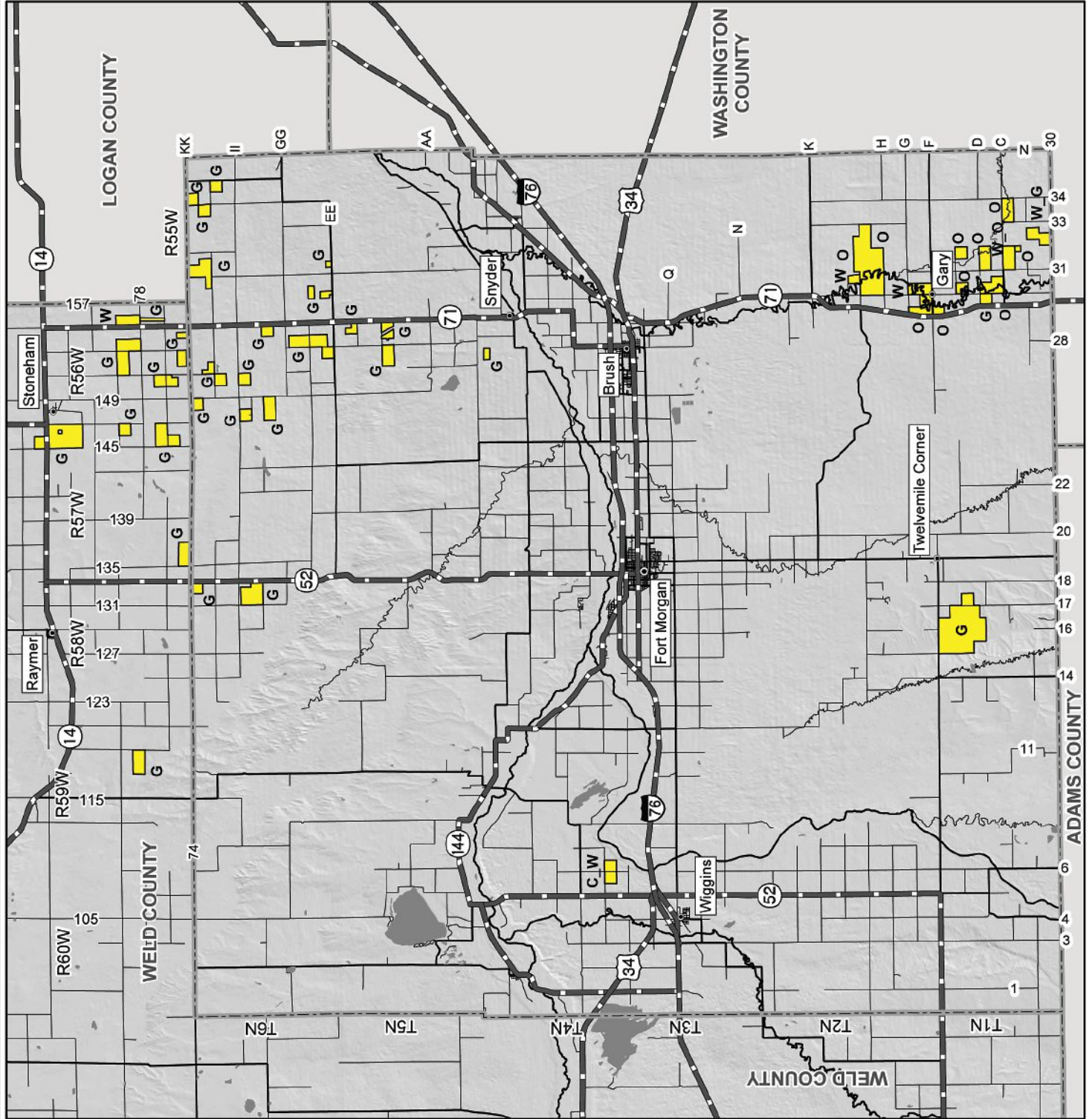
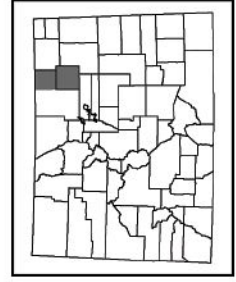
- Counties in the Late Cropland Supplemental Atlas
- Paved Highway
- Secondary Roads (may be paved or gravel)
- Local Roads (gravel county roads)
- 123 County road number

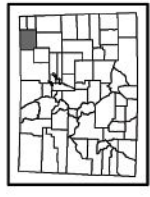
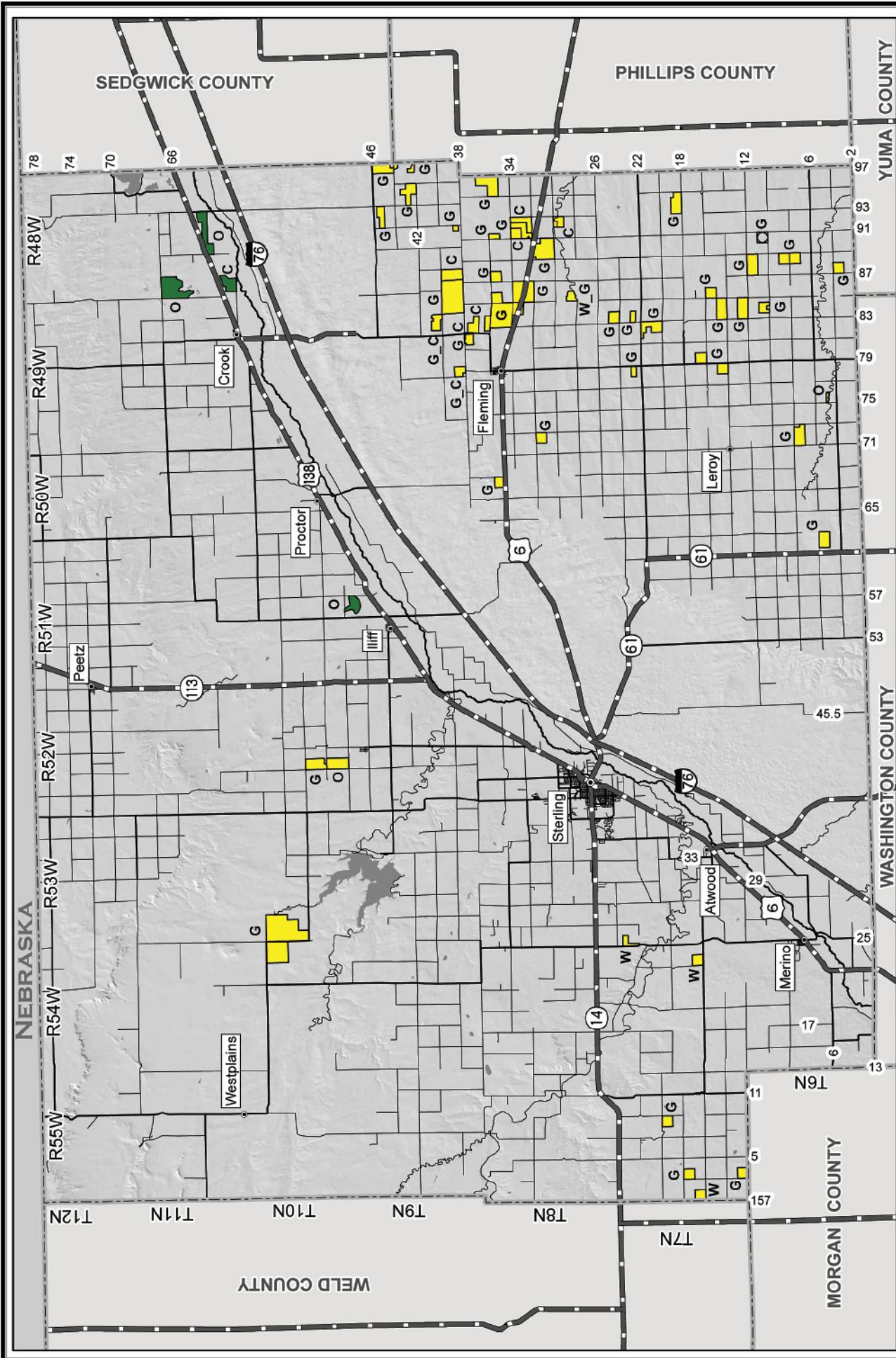
Morgan & Weld Counties

Walk In Property Cover Types

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

We thank Parker Ranches for donating additional acres to the Walk-In Program.



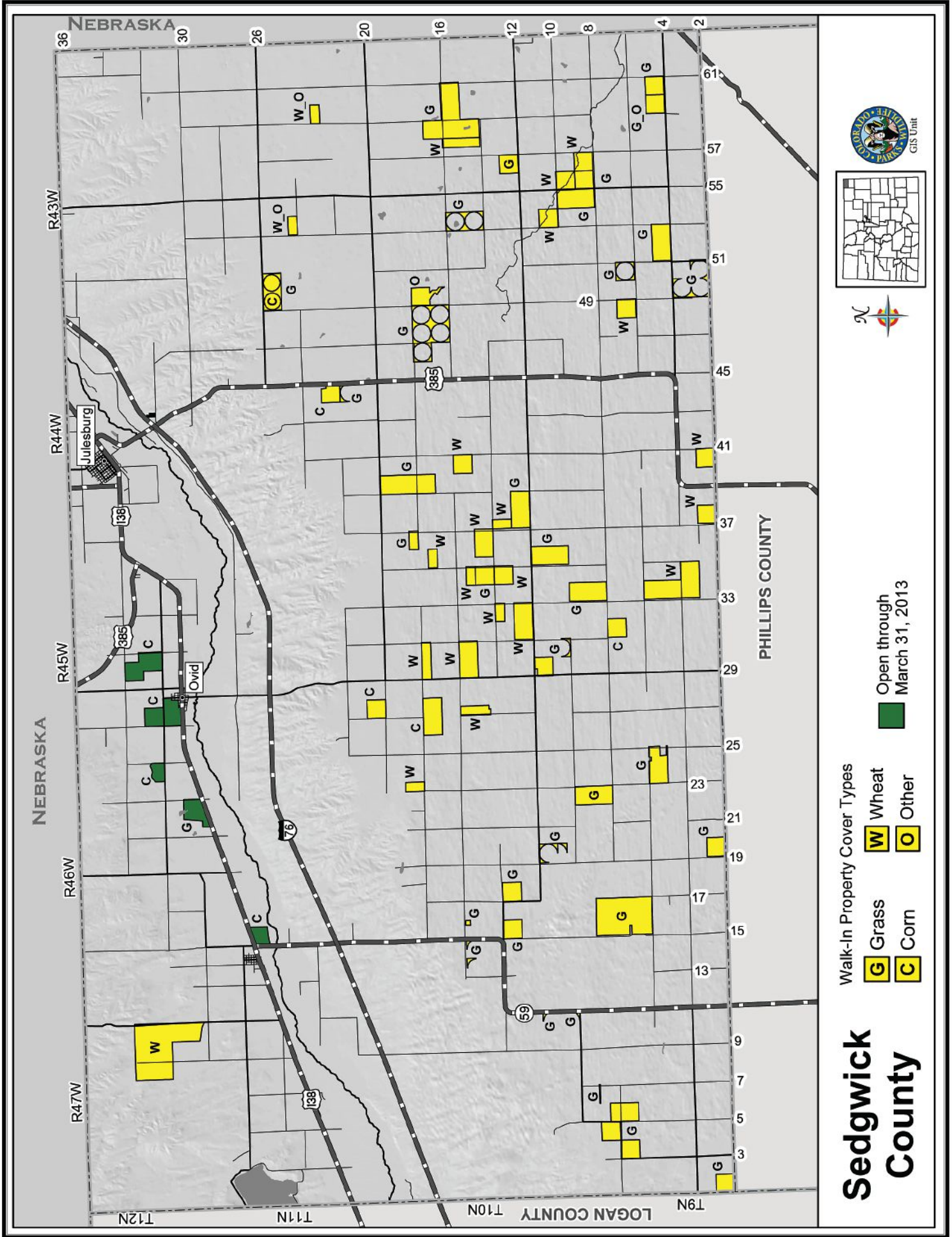


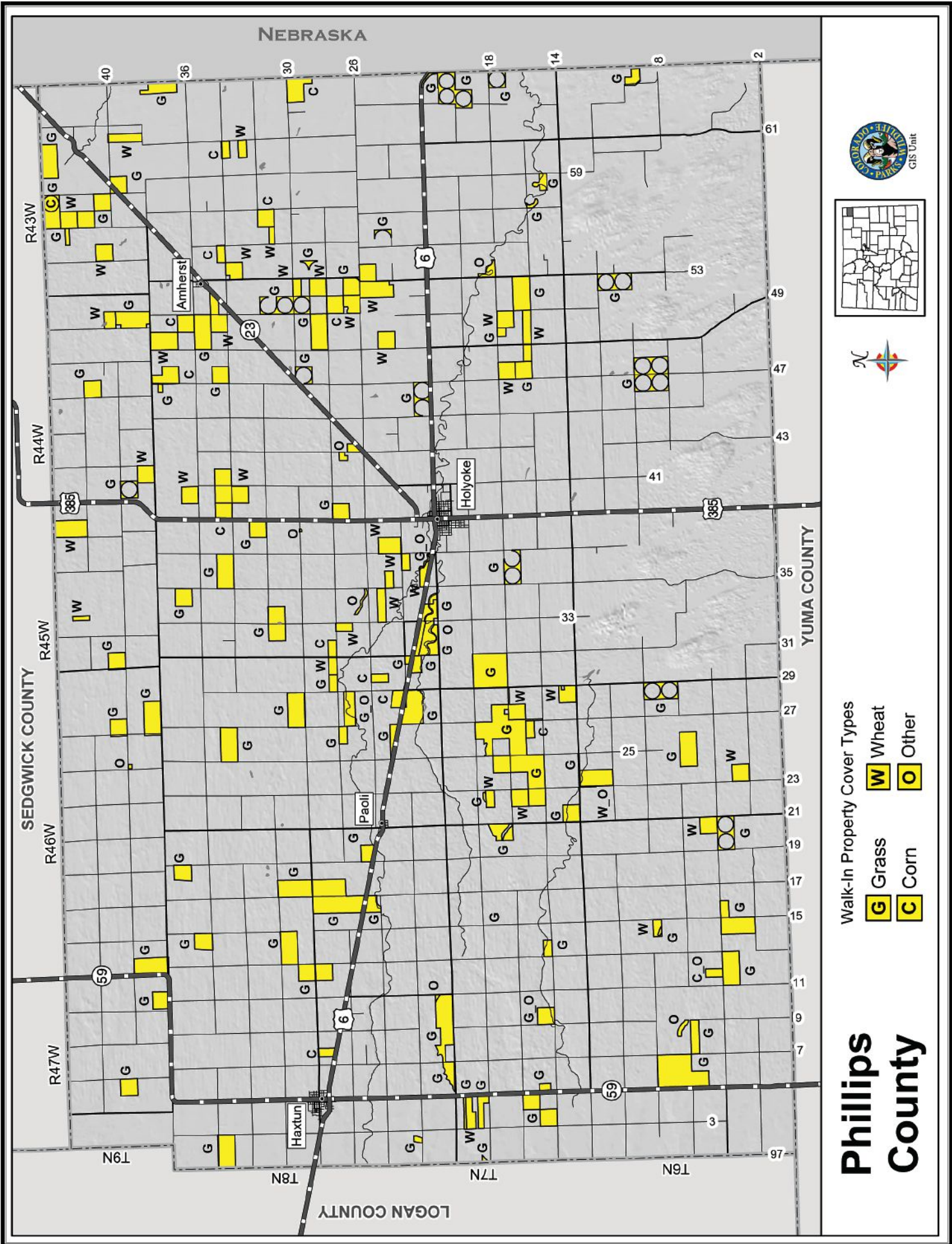
Open through
March 31, 2013

Walk-In Property Cover Types

G Grass	W Wheat
C Corn	O Other

Logan County

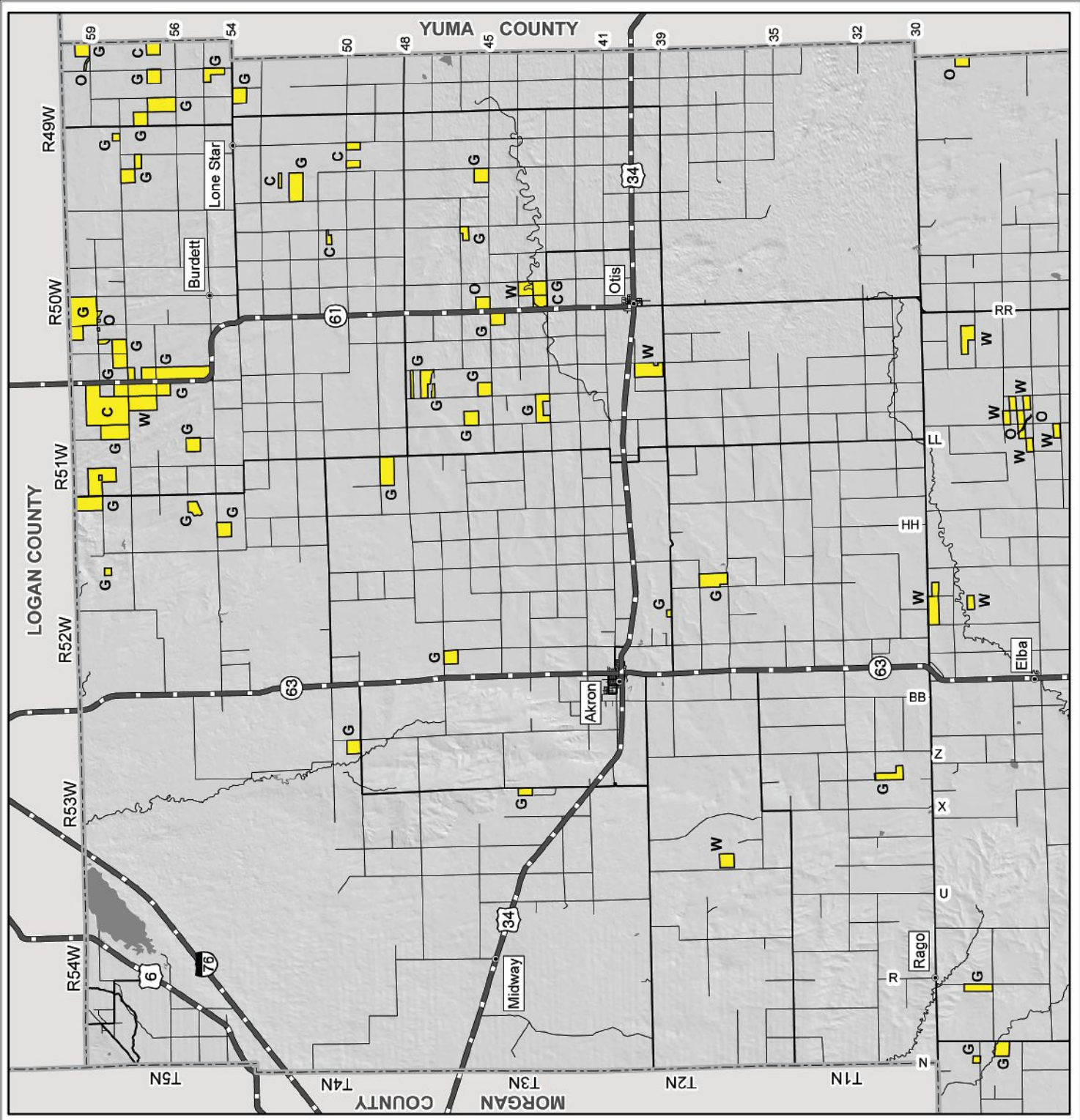
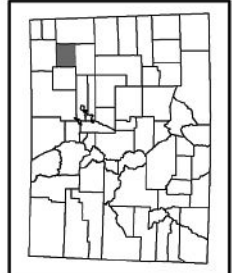


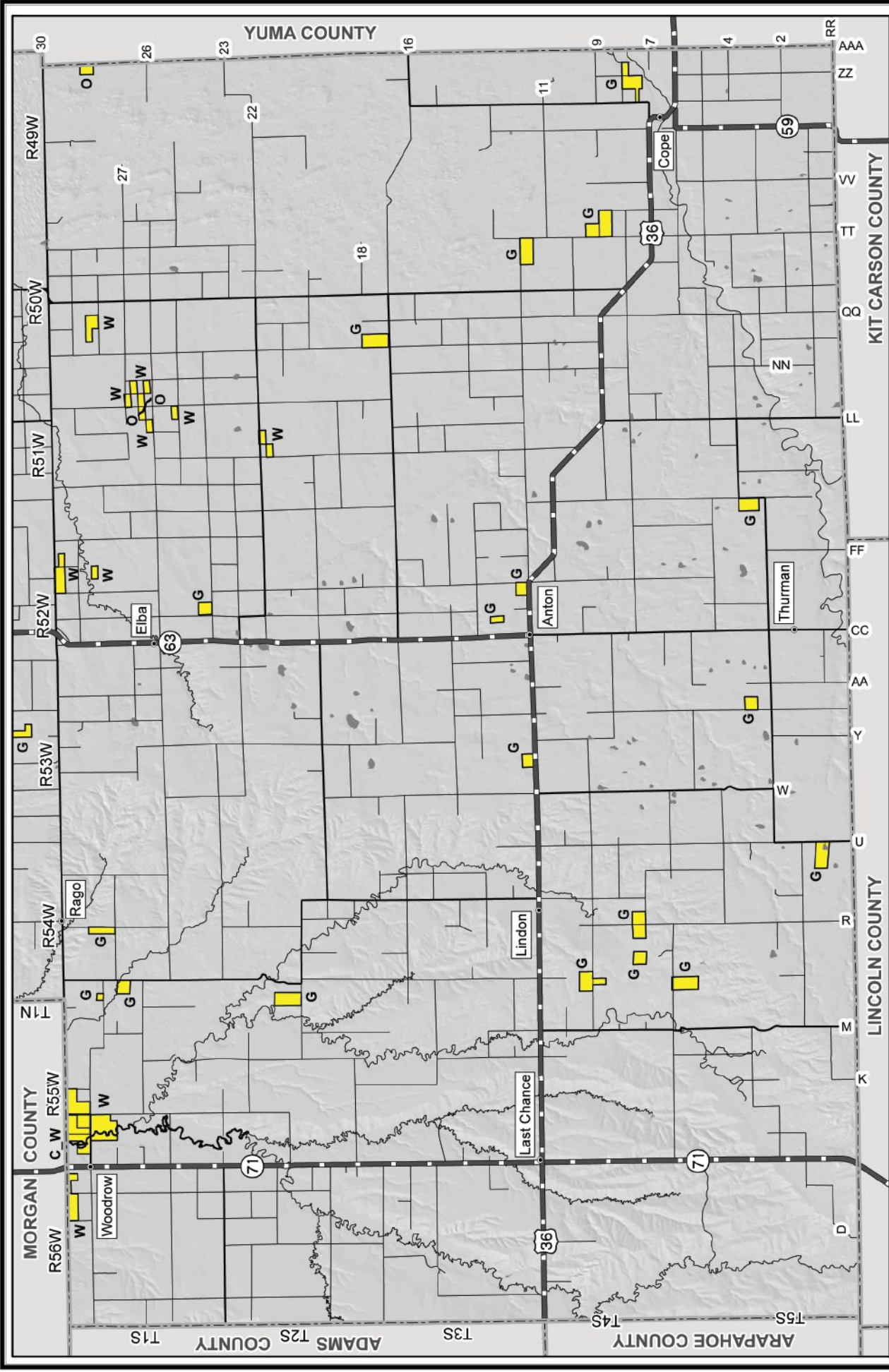


Washington County North Half

Walk-In Property
Cover Types

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



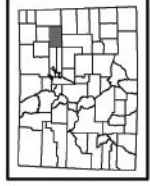


Washington County South Half

Walk-In Property Cover Types

G Grass	W Wheat
C Corn	O Other

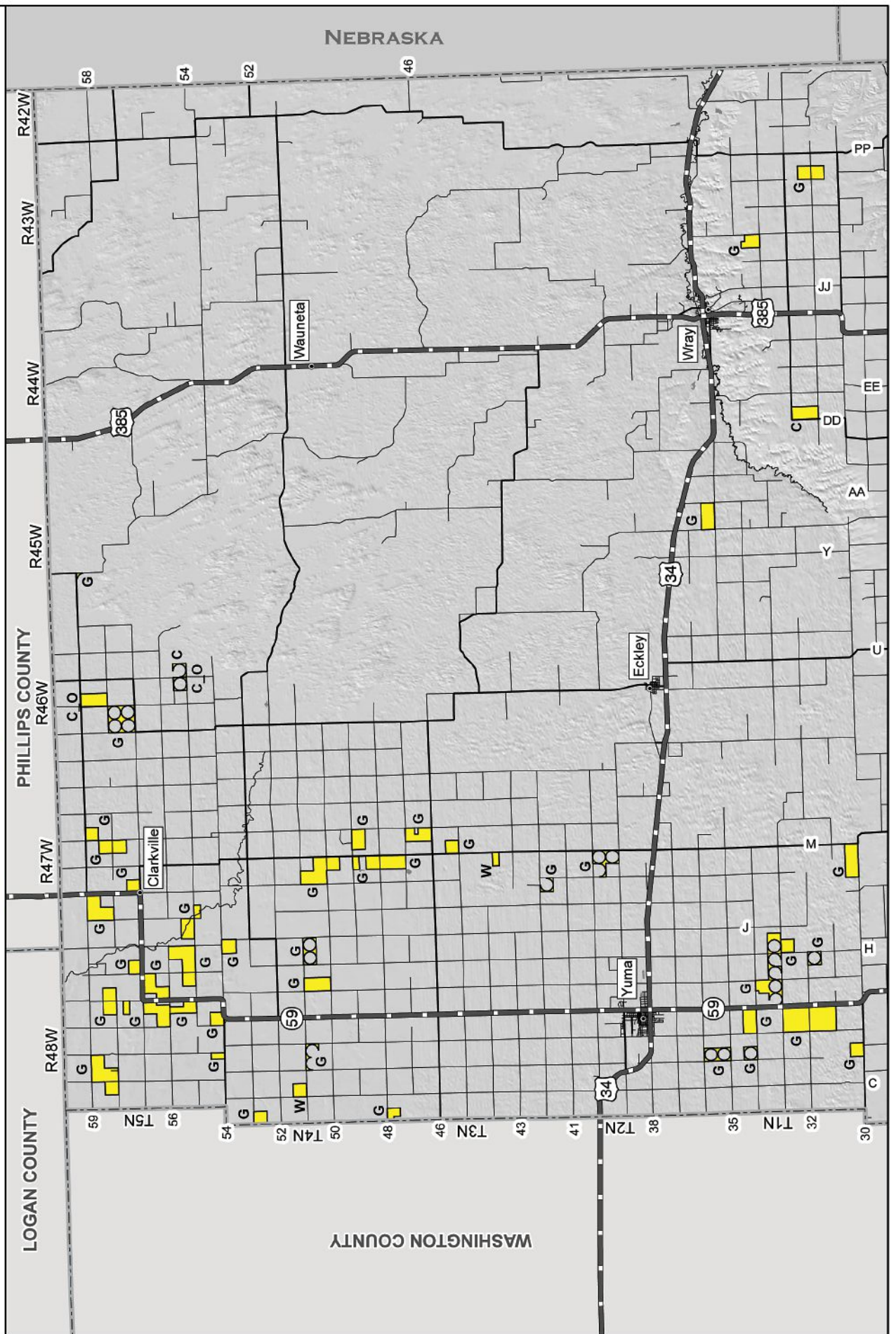
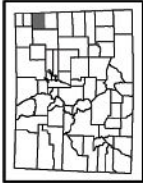
We thank Parker Ranches for donating additional acres to the Walk-In Program.

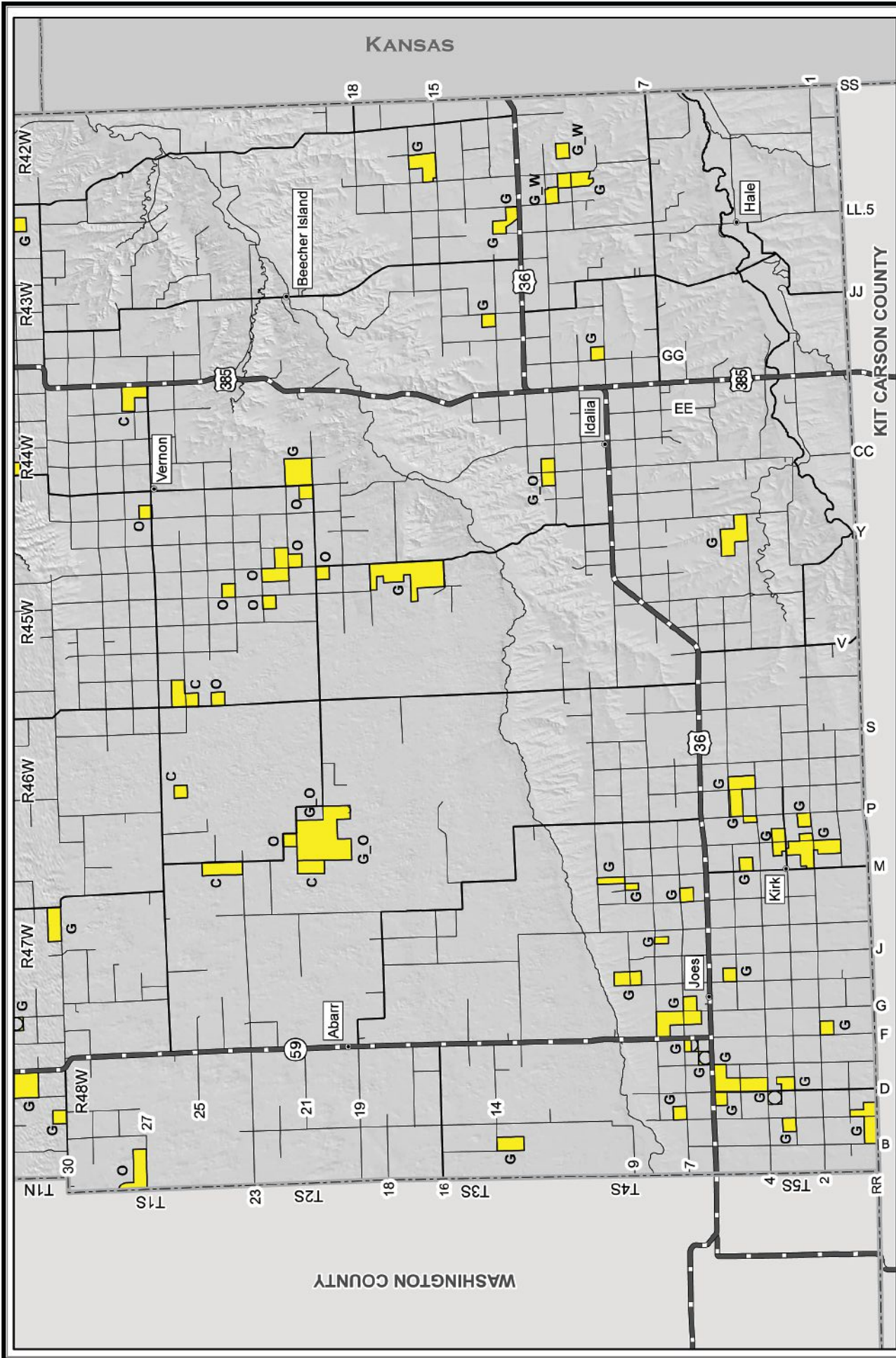


Yuma County North Half

Walk-In Property Cover Types

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

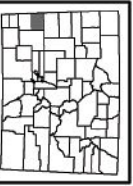


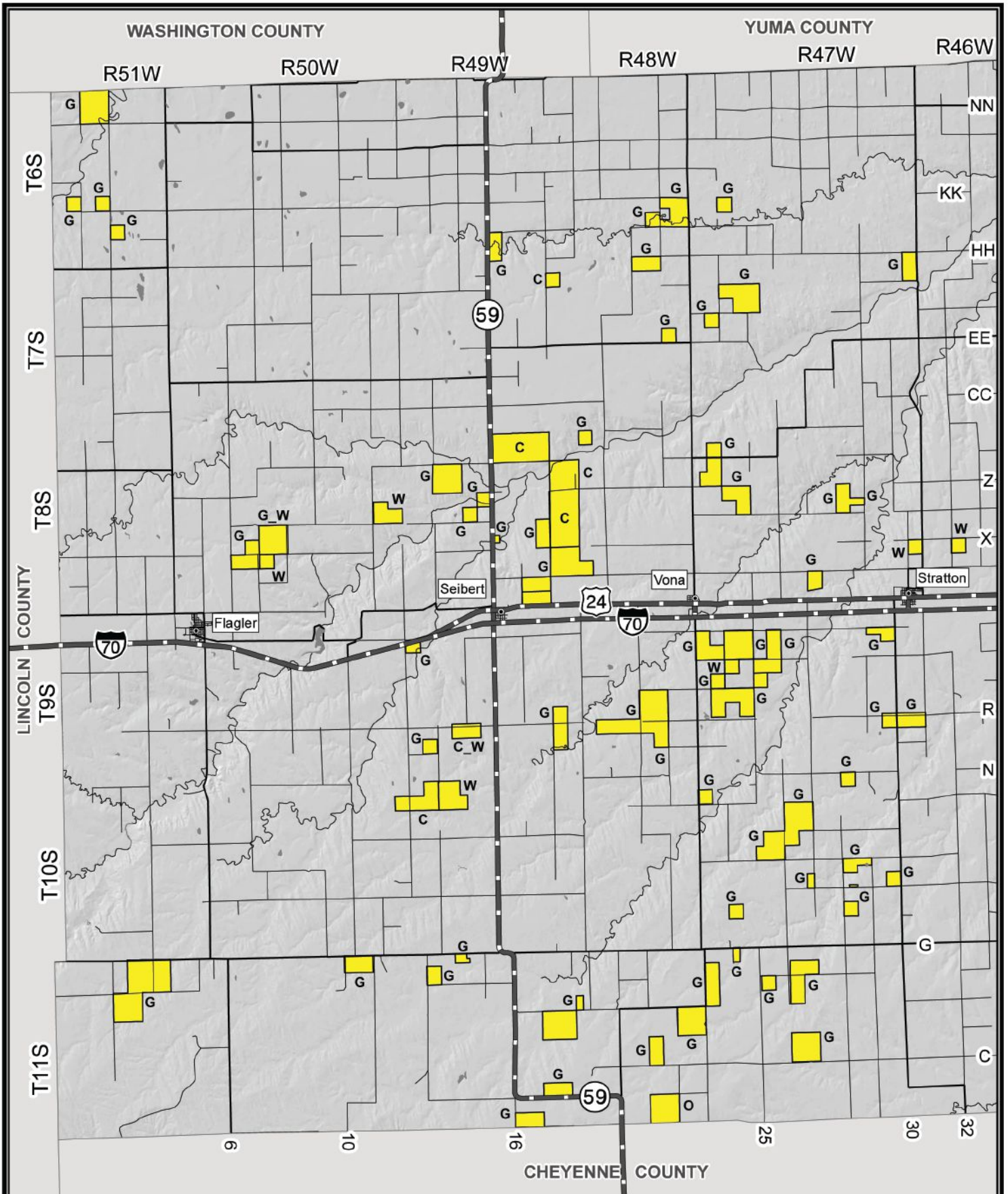


Walk-In Property Cover Types

G Grass	W Wheat
C Corn	O Other

Yuma County South Half

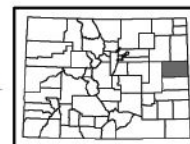


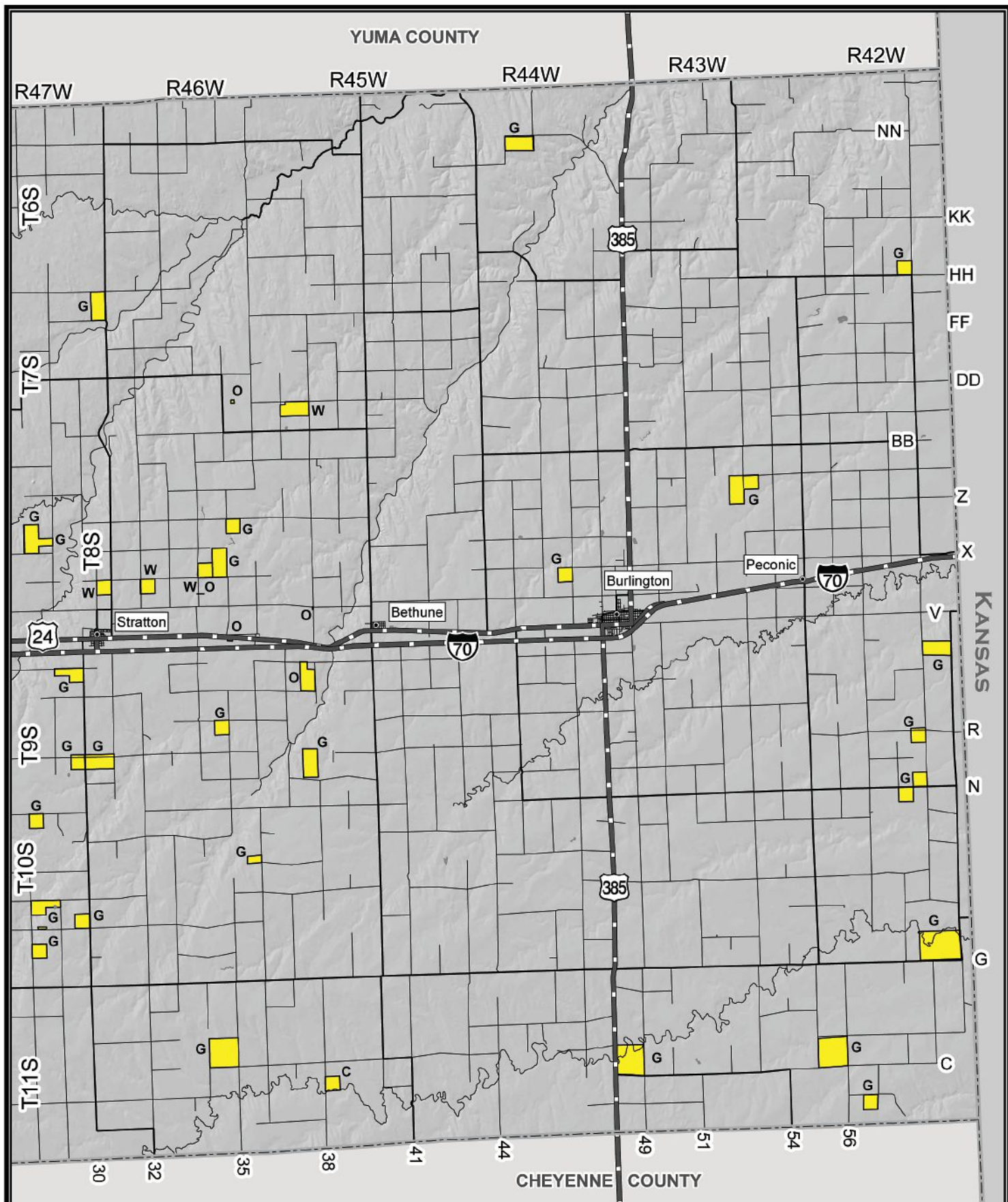


Kit Carson County - West Half

Walk-In Property Cover Types

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

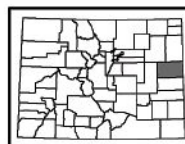


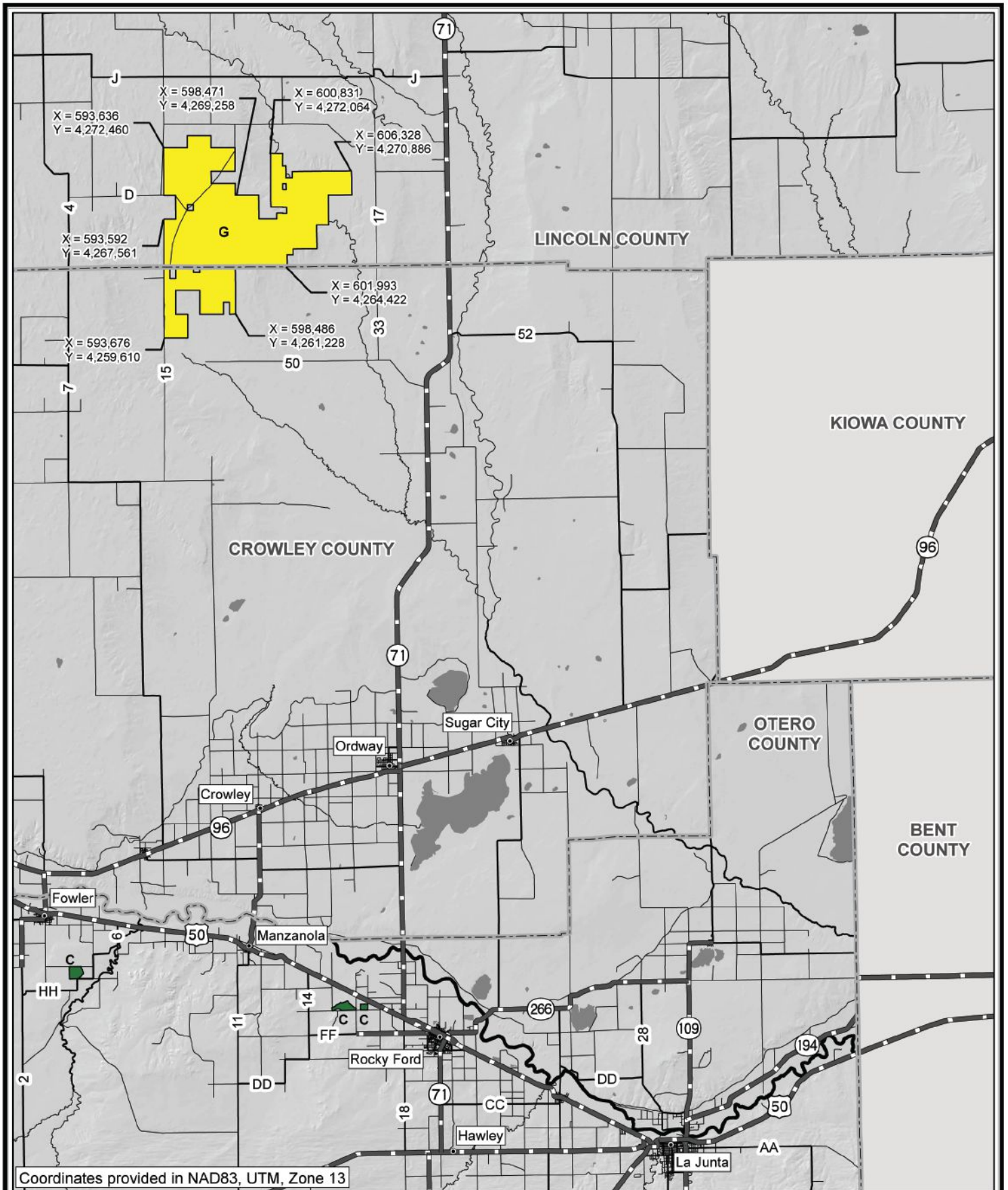


Kit Carson County - East Half

Walk-In Property Cover Types

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

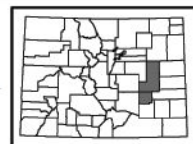


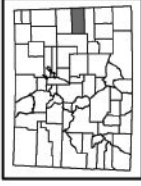
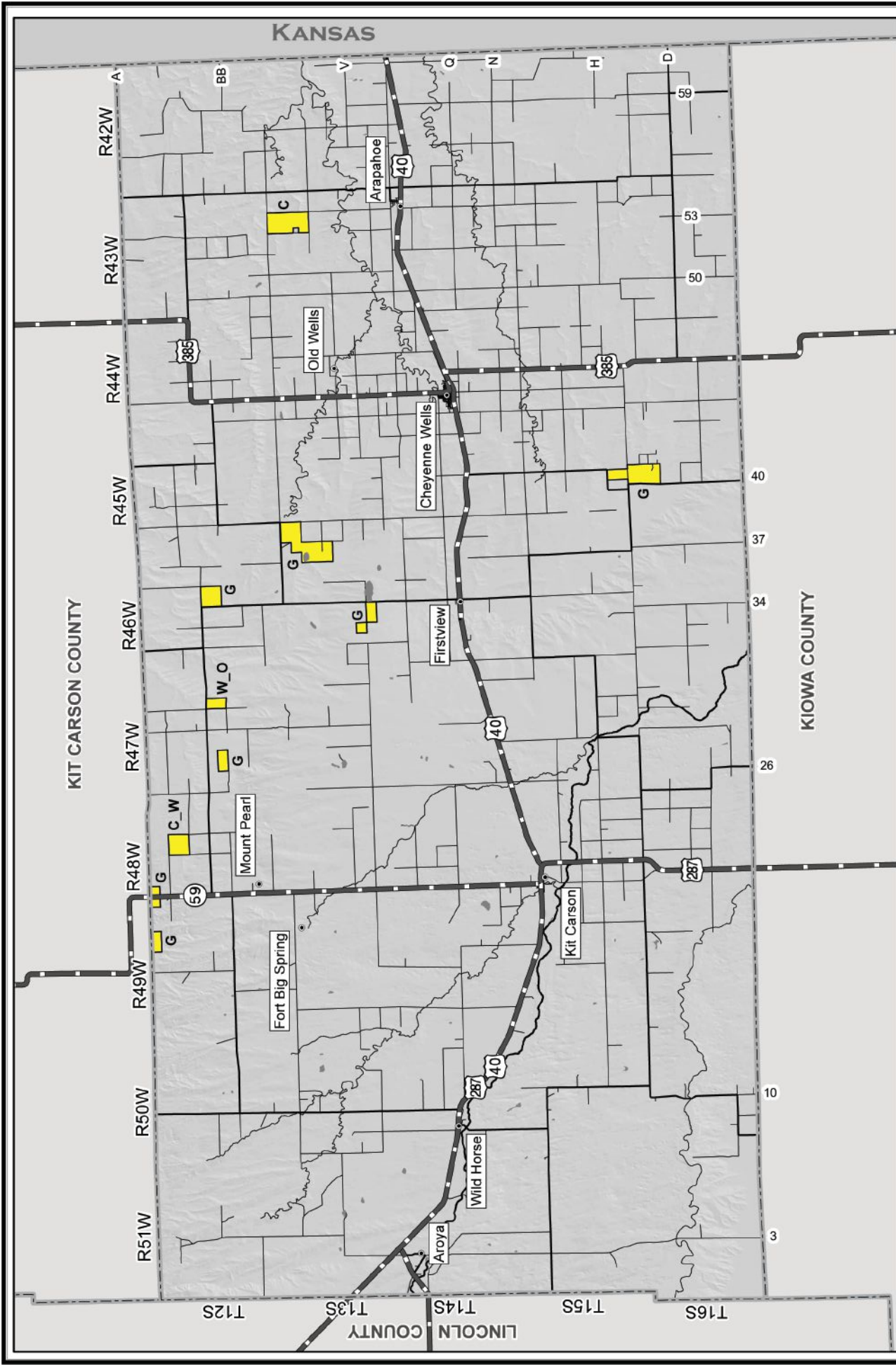


Lincoln, Crowley & Otero Counties

Walk-In Property Cover Types

- G Grass
- W Wheat
- C Corn
- O Other
- Open through March 31, 2013

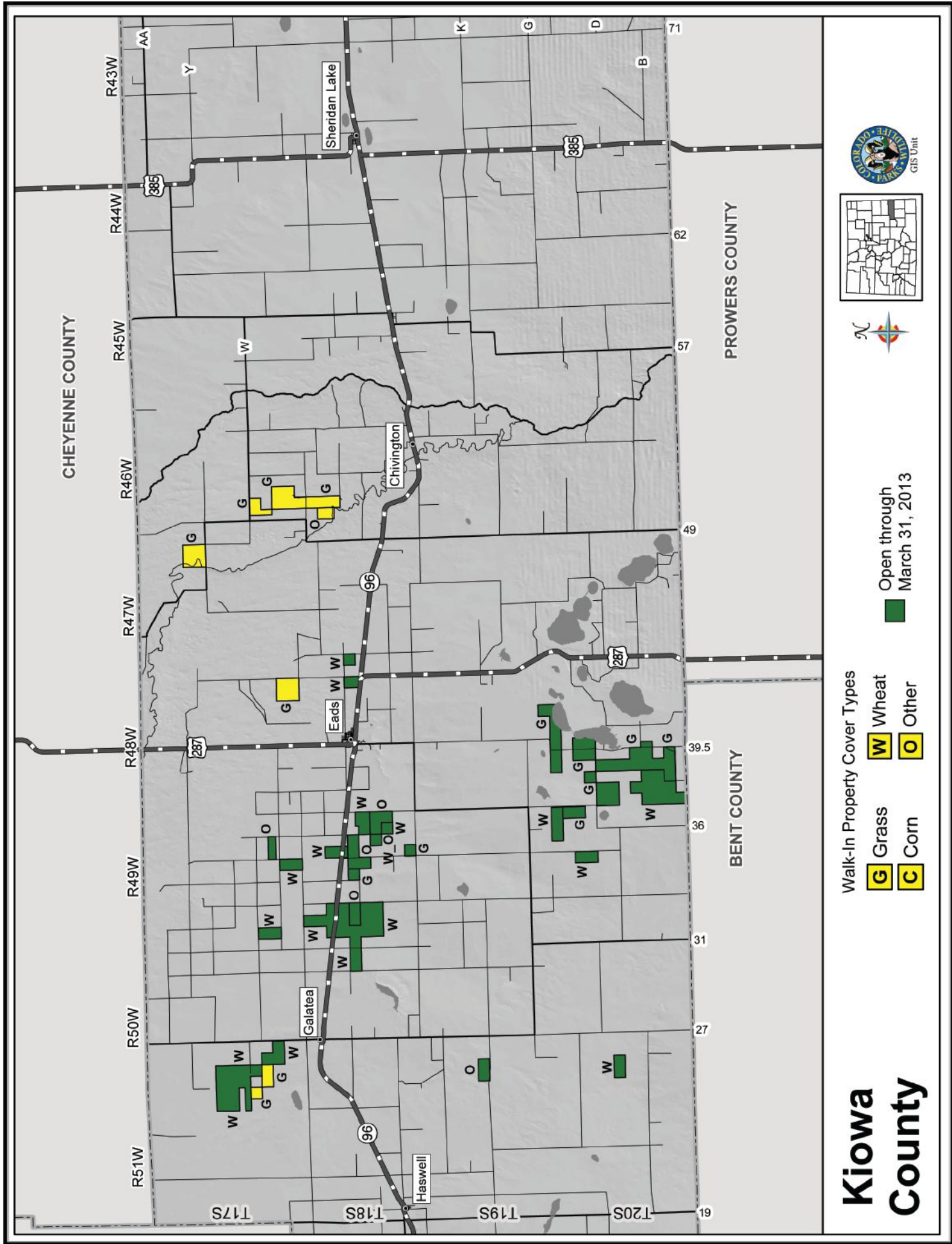




Walk-In Property Cover Types

G Grass	W Wheat
C Corn	O Other

Cheyenne County

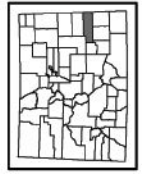


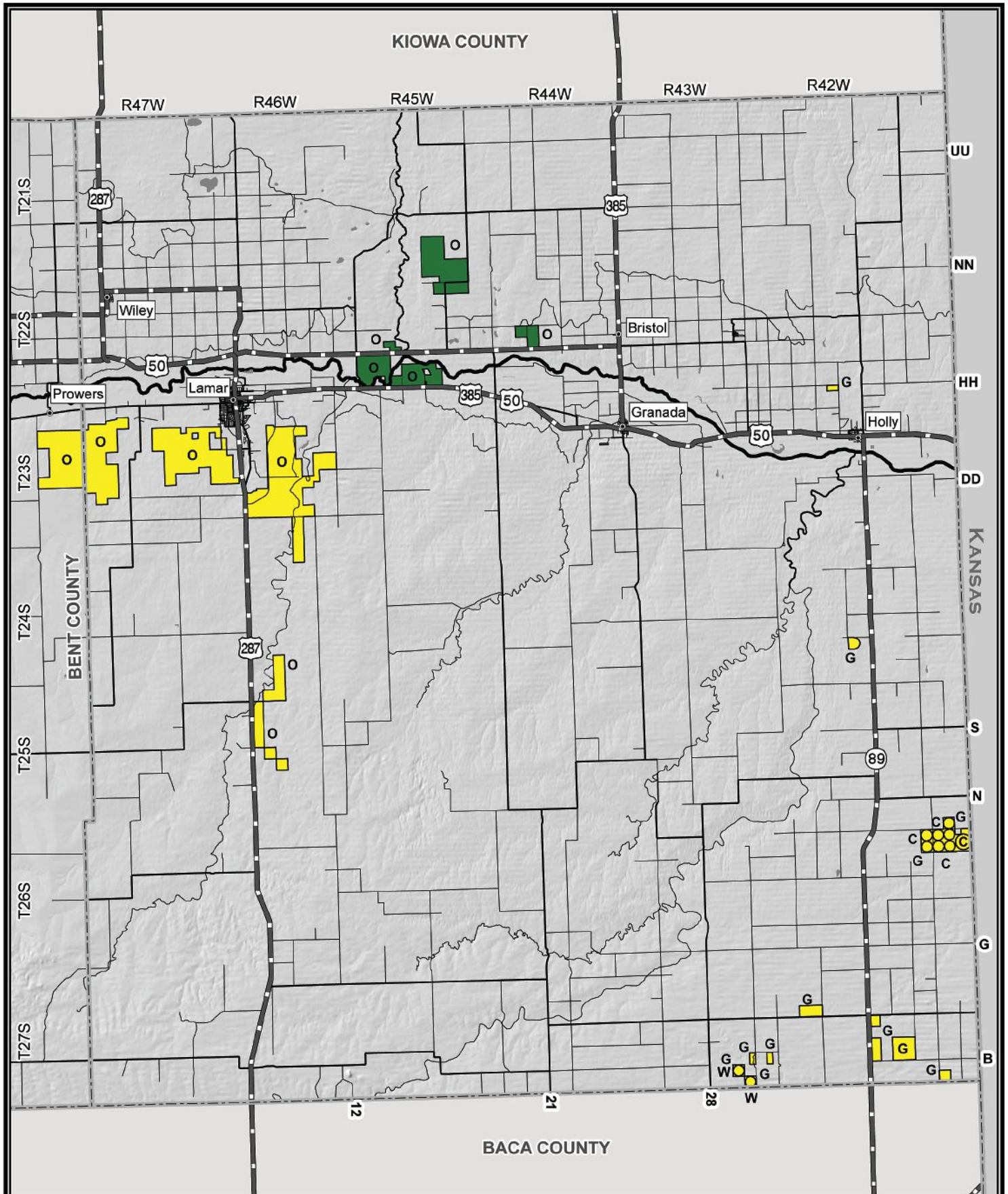
Kiowa County

Walk-In Property Cover Types

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

Open through
March 31, 2013

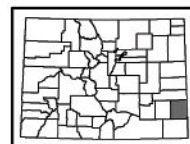


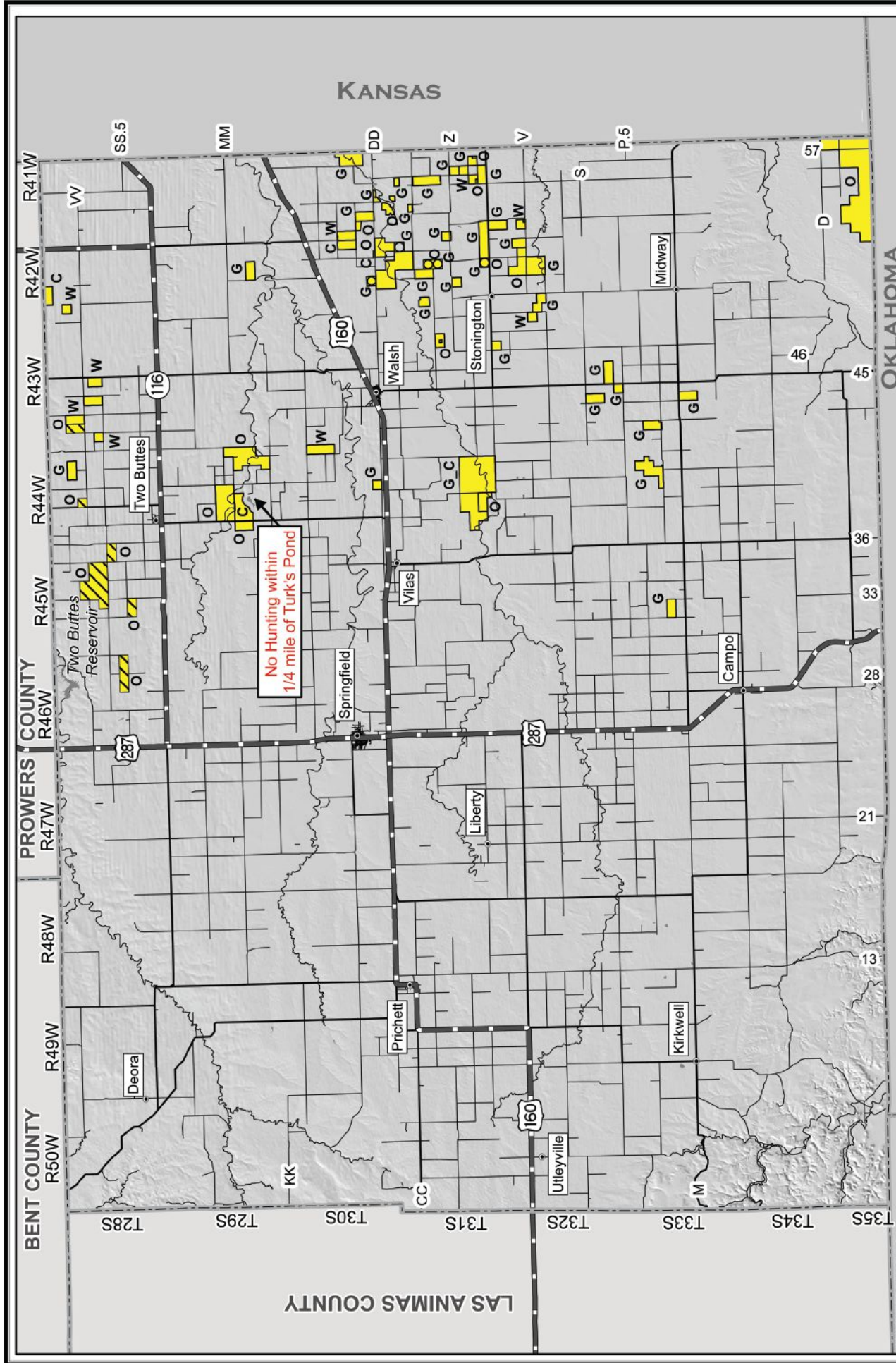


Prowers County

Walk-In Property Cover Types

- G Grass
- W Wheat
- C Corn
- O Other
- Open through March 31, 2013

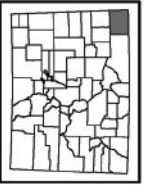




Baca County

- Walk-In Property Cover Types
- G Grass
 - W Wheat
 - C Corn
 - O Other

- Exchange of Use
- Open to hunting

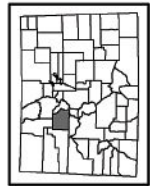
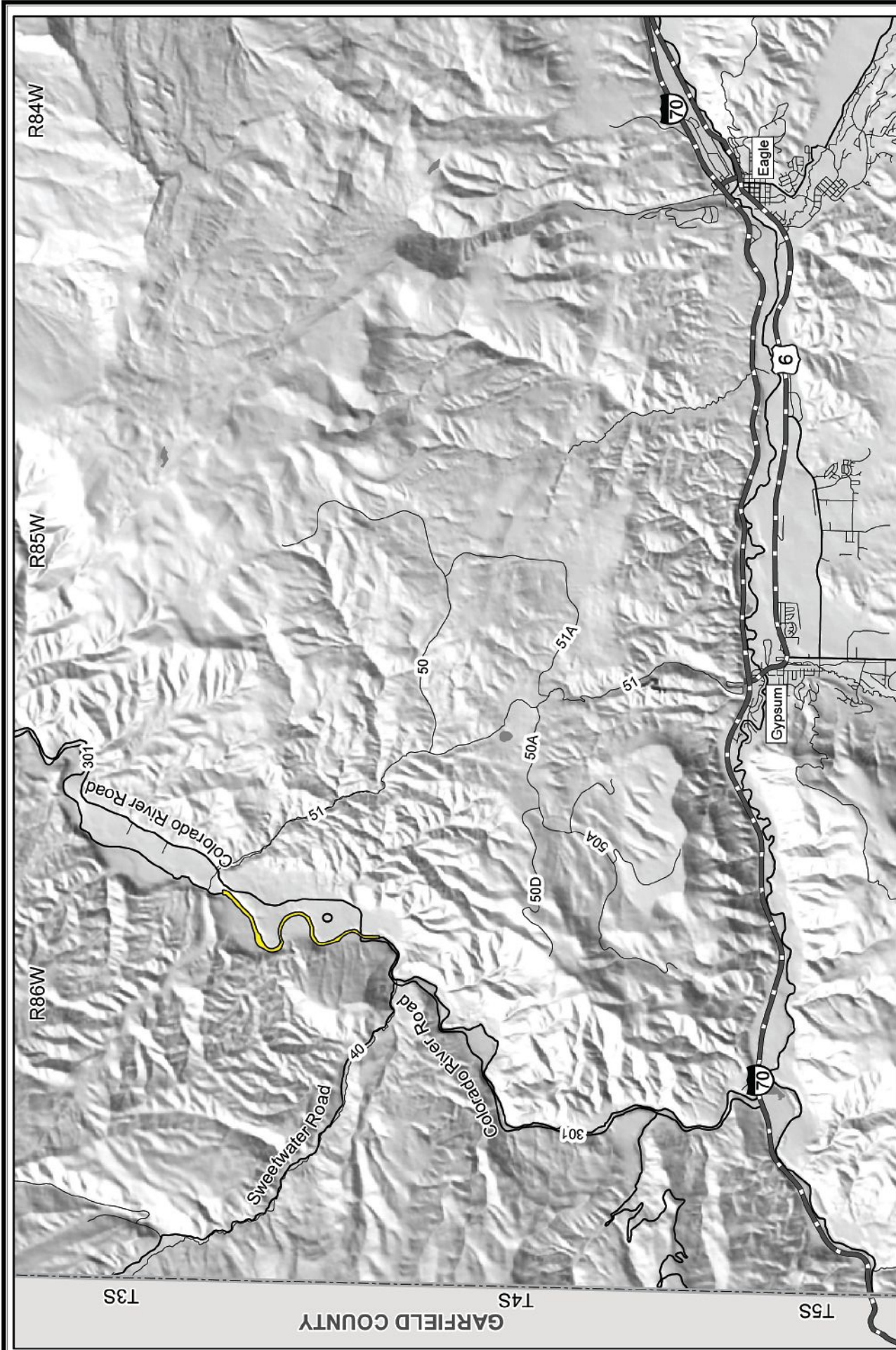


OKLAHOMA

KANSAS

LAS ANIMAS COUNTY

No Hunting within
1/4 mile of Turk's Pond



Walk-In Property Cover Types

G Grass	W Wheat
C Corn	O Other

Eagle County

