COLORADO PARKS & WILDLIFE

2013 Late Cropland Walk-In Atlas

UPDATED WALK-IN PROPERTY MAPS INSIDE!











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» EXTENDED WALK-IN ACCESS PROPERTY

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

How to Read the Property Maps 8

MAPS: Walk-In Properties 9-25

MAP: Statewide property overview back

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. 9, 2013) and continues through the end of March 2014. 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.



CPW OFFICE LOCATIONS

cpw.state.co.us

ONLY the offices below can assist hunters with animal checks and taking samples that are related to hunting activities. See the CPW website for a complete list of our 42 parks locations.

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

MFFKFR

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

ADMINISTRATION

6060 Broadway Denver, 80216 (303) 297-1192

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Colorado Parks and Wildlife acting director: Steve Yamashita

The Colorado Parks and Wildlife Commission sets small game and waterfowl regulations in July and August. The Commission (as of September 2013): John Singletary, chairman • Bill Kane, vice chairman • Mark Smith, secretary • Robert Bray, member • Christopher Castilian, member • Jeanne Horne, member • Gaspar Perricone, member • James Pribyl, member • James Vigil, member • Dean Wingfield, member • Michelle Zimmerman, 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 statutes and regulations are available for viewing at CPW offices and online at www.wildlife.state.co.us/RulesRegs/Regulations/Pages/Regulations.aspx.

WHAT'S NEW

» POSSESSION LIMIT INCREASES... Possession limits for some bird species have gone up from last year. This year, dove possession limits have increased from 30 to 45 of each species of mourning and white-winged doves. The band-tailed pigeon possession limit is now 15, the Wilson's Snipe limit is 24. See the 2013 Small Game brochure for details.

» COORDINATE YOUR COORDINATES ON WIA MAPS.

CPW builds 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 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 CPW website at www.wildlife.state.co.us/Hunting/Small Game/WalkinAccess/Pages/WalkinAccessProgram.aspx.

» ABOUT THE WALK-IN ACCESS PROGRAM

2013 Small Game

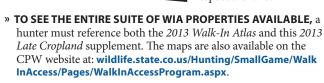
Walk-In Atlas

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.



- **» 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 2013 Walk-In Atlas was published in August) and maps that were in the 2013 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 (required)	\$10	\$10
» Small Game	\$21	\$56
» Colorado Waterfowl Stamp	\$5	\$5
» Federal Migratory Bird		
Hunting Stamp (Duck Stamp	o) \$15	\$15
» Youth Small Game (Under 18	3) \$1.75	\$1.75
» Small Game & Fishing Comb	o \$41	n/a
» Small Game (one-day)	\$11	\$11
» Small Game (additional day).	\$5	\$5
» Military (60 percent or more		
disability, see page 2)	free	n/a
Duises in allede 25 sent secuels and	rossus for and	TE contaurcharas

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

SAVETIME: BUY ONLINE OR BY PHONE

Go to www.bit.ly/cpwlicensesales 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. ID.** 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.)*
- **2. LICENSE.** 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.
- **3. STAMPS.** Hunters age 16 and older must have state and federal migratory bird stamps prior to hunting waterfowl.
- **4.** Habitat Stamp (See requirements, page 2)
- **5.** Proof of hunter education (see requirements below)

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 CPW office (listed on the opposite page).

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? The CPW wants to enroll quality small-game hunting lands across the state. To offer land for the 2014-15 season, please contact a CPW office for details. See office listings on opposite page.

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

WALK-IN PROPERTY REGULATIONS

- 1. Public access is allowed from one hour before sunrise to one hour after sunset, except when hunting waterfowl. For waterfowl, public access is allow from two hours before sunrise to two hours after sunset.
- 2. 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.
- **3.** Public access is allowed:
 - a. From Sept. 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 (Nov. 9, 2013) through the end of February annually for lands enrolled and posted as Late Season Cropland Walk-In Access properties
 - **c.** From the opening day of pheasant season (Nov. 9, 2013) through the end of March annually for lands enrolled and posted as Extended Walk-In Access properties
- **4.** Access shall be by foot only. Entry by horseback, motorized vehicle, or other means is prohibited.
- **5.** Access is allowed for hunting only; all other activities are prohibited.
- **6.** 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

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.)

2013 SUNRISE/SUNSET TABLE (DENVER)

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. 2014 RISE SET A.M. P.M.
1	6:28 7:31	6:56 6:42	7:29 5:58	7:02 4:36	7:21 4:4 <u>6</u>
2	6:29 7:29	6:57 6:40	7:30 5:56	7:03 4:36	7:21 4:47
3	6:30 7:27	6:58 6:39	6:31 4:55 DST ends	7:04 4:36	7:21 4:48
4	6:31 7:26	6:59 6:37	6:32 4:54	7:05 4:35	7:21 4:49
5	6:32 7:24	7:00 6:35	6:33 4:53	7:06 4:35	7:21 4:50
6	6:33 7:23	7:01 6:34	6:35 4:52	7:07 4:35	7:21 4:51
7	6:34 7:21	7:02 6:32	6:36 4:51	7:08 4:35	7:21 4:52
8	6:35 7:19	7:03 6:31	6:37 4:50	7:09 4:35	7:21 4:53
9	6:36 7:18	7:04 6:29	6:38 4:49	7:09 4:35	7:21 4:54
10	6:37 7:16	7:05 6:28	6:39 4:48	7:10 4:36	7:21 4:55
11	6:38 7:15	7:06 6:26	6:40 4:47	7:11 4:36	7:20 4:56
12	6:39 7:13	7:07 6:25	6:41 4:46	7:12 4:36	7:20 4:57
13	6:39 7:11	7:08 6:23	6:43 4:46	7:13 4:36	7:20 4:58
14	6:40 7:10	7:09 6:22	6:44 4:45	7:13 4:36	7:19 4:59
<u>15</u>	6:41 7:08	7:10 6:20	6:45 4:44	7:14 4:37	7:19 5:00
16	6:42 7:06	7:11 6:19	6:46 4:43	7:15 4:37	7:19 5:01
<u>17</u>	6:43 7:05	7:13 6:17	6:47 4:43	7:15 4:37	7:18 5:02
18	6:44 7:03	7:14 6:16	6:48 4:42	7:16 4:38	7:18 5:03
19	6:45 7:01	7:15 6:14	6:49 4:41	7:16 4:38	7:17 5:04
20	6:46 7:00	7:16 6:13	6:50 4:41	7:17 4:38	7:17 5:06
21	6:47 6:58	7:17 6:12	6:52 4:40	7:17 4:39	7:16 5:07
22	6:48 6:56	7:18 6:10	6:53 4:39	7:18 4:39	7:16 5:08
23	6:49 6:55	7:19 6:09	6:54 4:39	7:18 4:40	7:15 5:09
24	6:50 6:53	7:20 6:08	6:55 4:38	7:19 4:41	7:14 5:10
25	6:51 6:52	7:21 6:06	6:56 4:38	7:19 4:41	7:13 <u>5:11</u>
26	6:52 6:50	7:22 6:05	6:57 4:38	7:20 4:42	7:13 5:13
27	6:53 6:48	7:23 6:03	6:58 4:37	7:20 4:43	7:12 <u>5:14</u>
28	6:54 6:47	7:25 6:02	6:59 4:37	7:20 4:43	7:11 <u>5:15</u>
29	6:54 6:45	7:26 6:01	7:00 4:36	7:20 4:44	7:10 5:16
30	6:55 6:43	7:27 6:00	7:01 4:36	7:21 4:45	7:10 5:17
31		7:28 5:59		7:21 4:46	7:09 5:19
DST - [Daylight Saving Tin	ne		Source	: www.usno.navy.mil

TIME ADJUSTMENT FOR OTHER COLORADO CITIES

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

Alamosa +3 +5 Burlington -10 Craig +9 Durango +11 Fort Morgan -4

Gr. Junction +13 Gunnison +7 La Junta -6 Lamar -9 Sterling -6

+5

Walden

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 2012-2013 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.

PHEASANTS

County	Number of hunters	Number of birds harvested
Yuma	3,142	7,932
Phillips	1,948	6,382
Sedgwick	1,925	4,828
Logan	1,616	6,310
Kit Carson	1,356	5,923

SCALED QUAIL

County	Number of hunters	Number of birds harvested
Pueblo	222	1,032
Prowers	134	346
Unknown	93	91
Otero	91	1,080
Baca	86	130

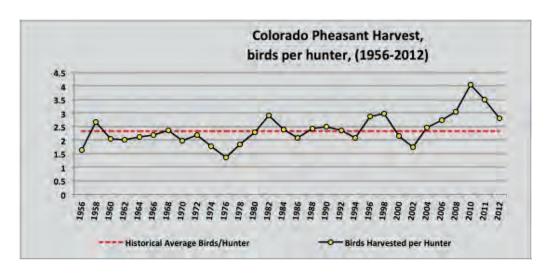
COTTONTAIL RABBIT

County	Number of hunters	Number of rabbits harvested
Mesa	730	4,091
Pueblo	569	2,628
Weld	504	6,434
El Paso	405	1,941
Delta	196	2,079



BOBWHITE QUAIL

County	Number of hunters	Number of birds harvested
Logan	323	2,850
Sedgwick	200	1,566
Yuma	180	140
Washington	97	86
Otero	43	432



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 2013 Small Game and 2013 Waterfowl brochures. These brochures are available at license agents, CPW 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. 9-Jan. 31, 2014

AREA: East of I-25

SEASON 2: Nov. 9-Jan. 5, 2014

AREA: West of I-25

QUAIL: NORTHERN BOBWHITE, SCALED, GAMBEL'S

DAILY BAG LIMIT: 8 of each species **POSSESSION LIMIT:** 24 of each species

SEASON 1: Nov. 9-Jan. 5, 2014

AREA: 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. 9-Jan. 5, 2014

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

SEASON 3: Nov. 9-Jan. 31, 2014

AREA: 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. 2014 **DAILY BAG LIMIT:** 10 of each species **POSSESSION LIMIT:** 20 of each species

» NO HUNTING DURING ACTIVE HARVEST

To promote safe hunting and help landowners ef-

WARNING!
THIS PARCEL IS
CLOSED TO WALK-IN
ACCESS WHEN
LANDOWNERS ARE
ACTIVELY
HARVESTING!

Respect the
Landowner.
Respect the
Land

ficiently 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

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. 9, 2013.



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. 9, 2013.



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.

WARNING!

THIS PARCEL IS CLOSED TO WALK-IN ACCESS WHEN LANDOWNERS ARE ACTIVELY **HARVESTING!**



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 CPW 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.



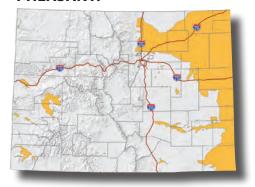
Photo © CPW

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:

- 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.
- 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:
- 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.



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

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 may 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 indiangrass, 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.

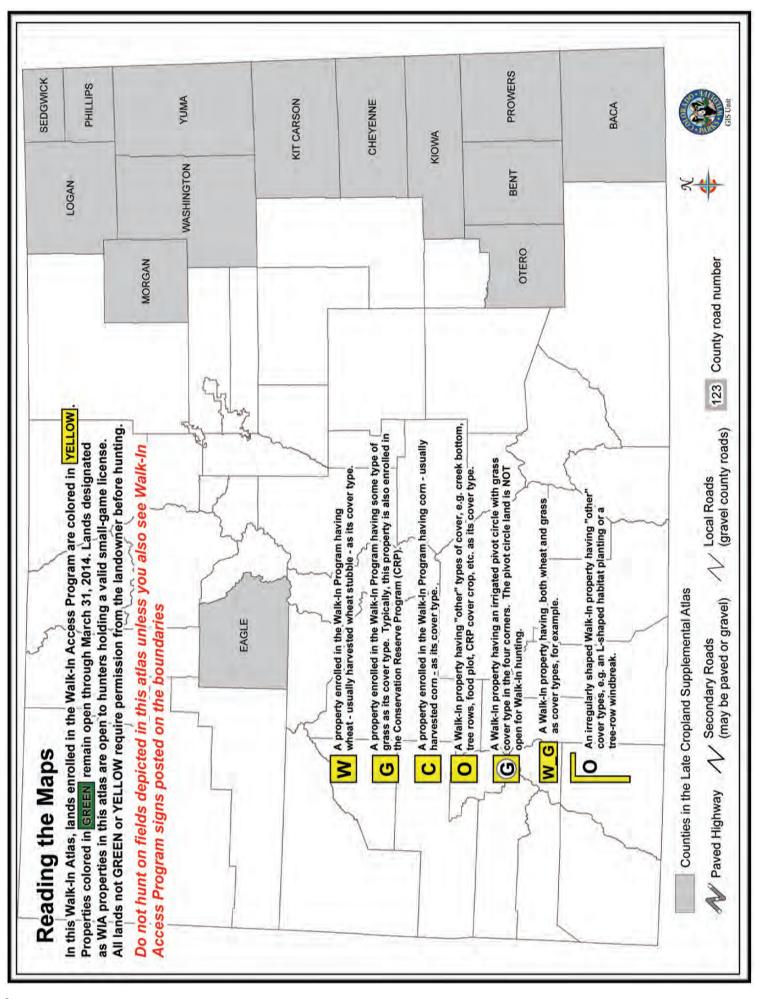
In the northeast, because quail habitat is much more restricted, bobwhites are rarely found in large CRP fields. Instead, look for them in CRP sprinkler corners adjacent to irrigated corn fields, in CRP plantings along creek bottoms or field edges and grass fields along the sandsage-cropland transition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

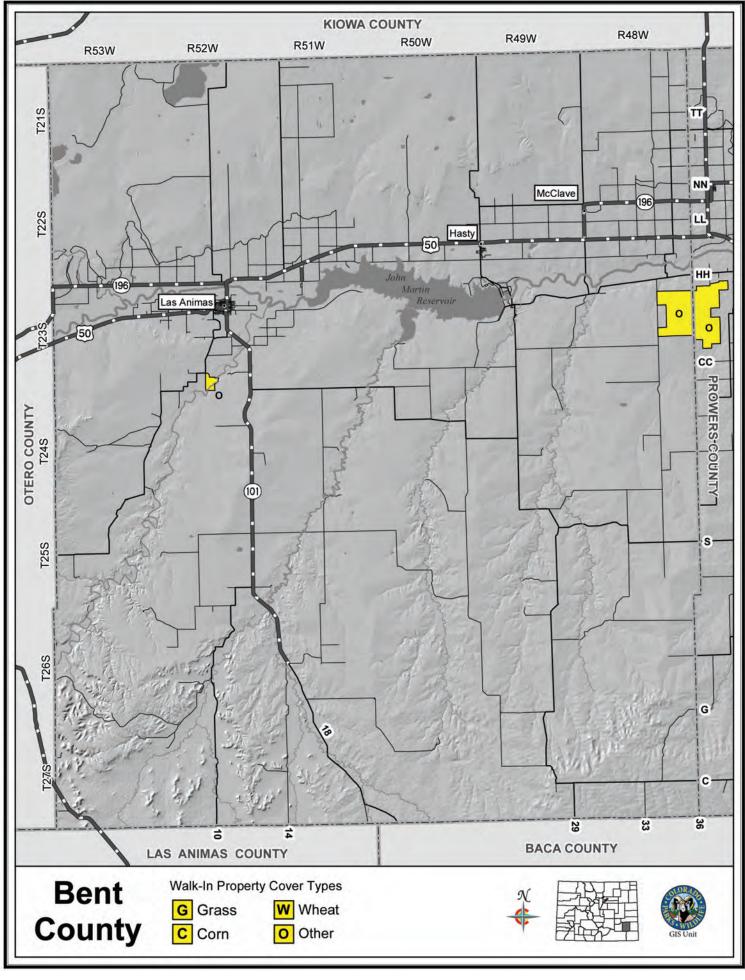
» WEEDY FENCEROWS, ABANDONED FARM-STEADS, OLD LIVESTOCK CORRALS and other areas that provide standing weed cover adjacent to occupied habitat are often heavily used by bobwhites.

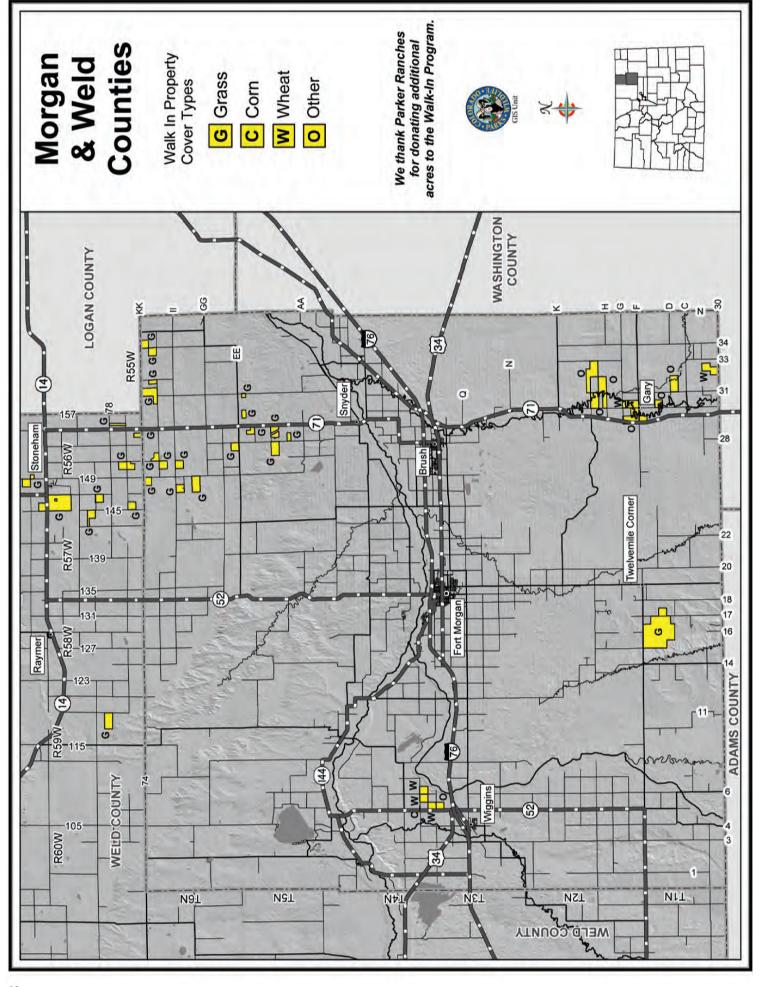
They use standing weeds throughout the day, for foraging, loafing and security cover.

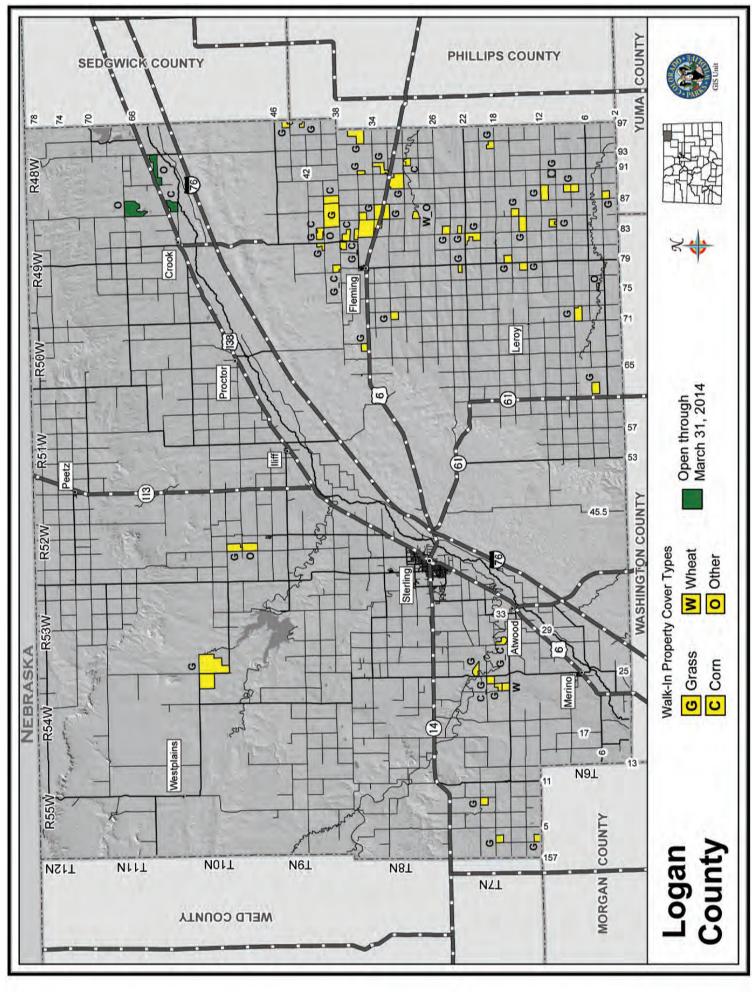
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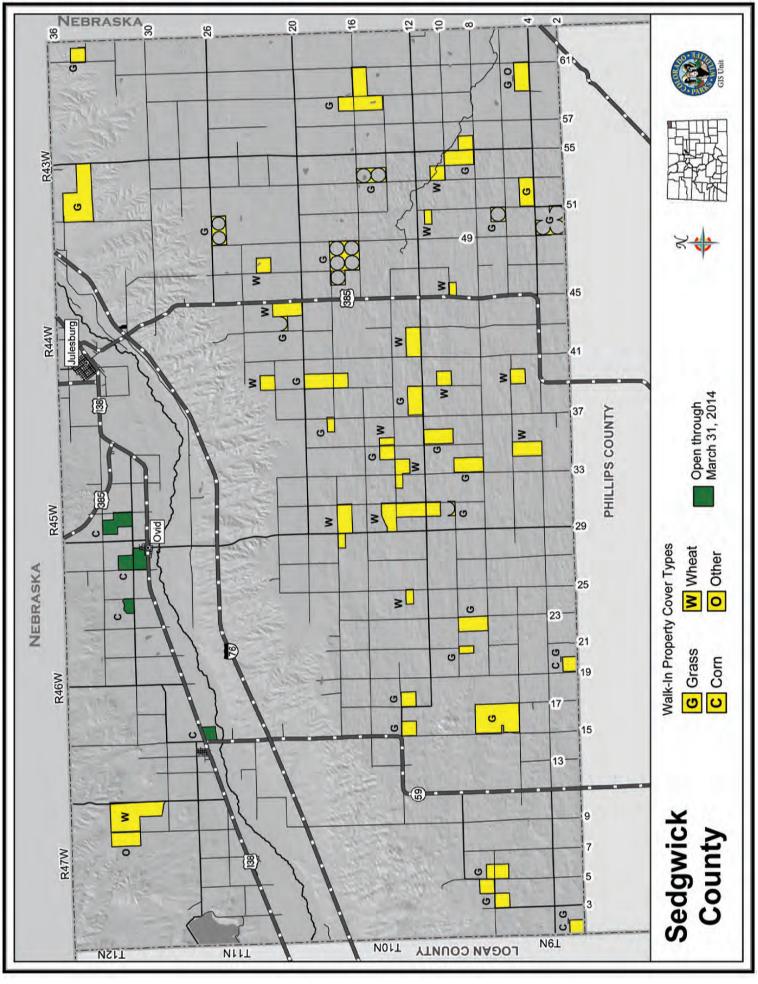


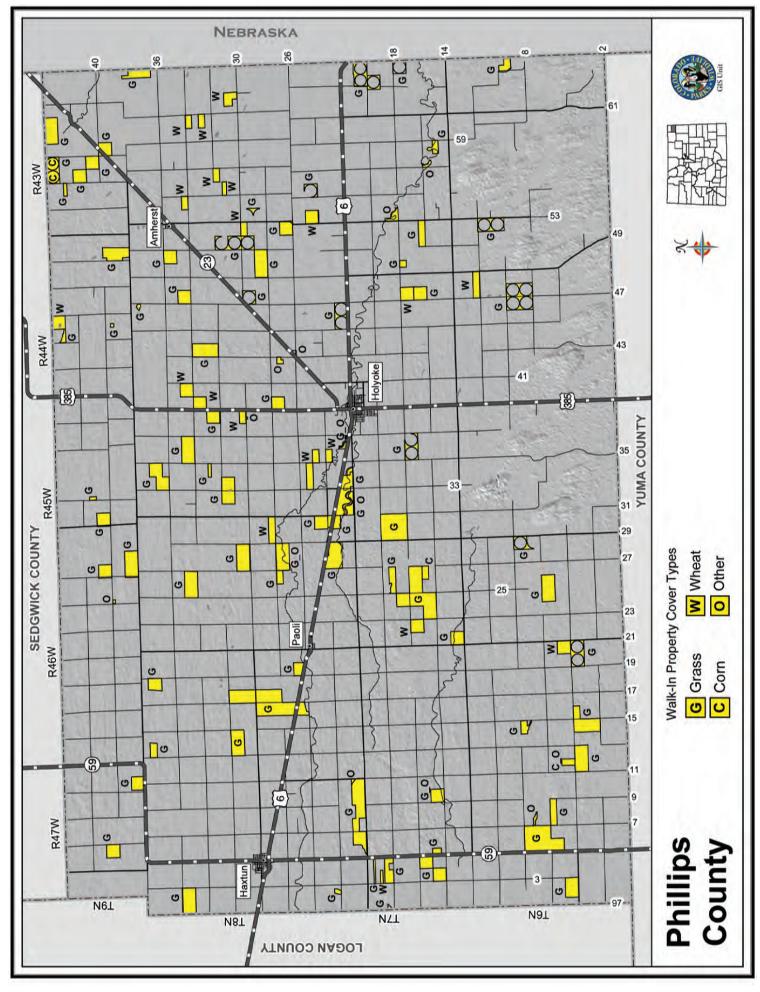


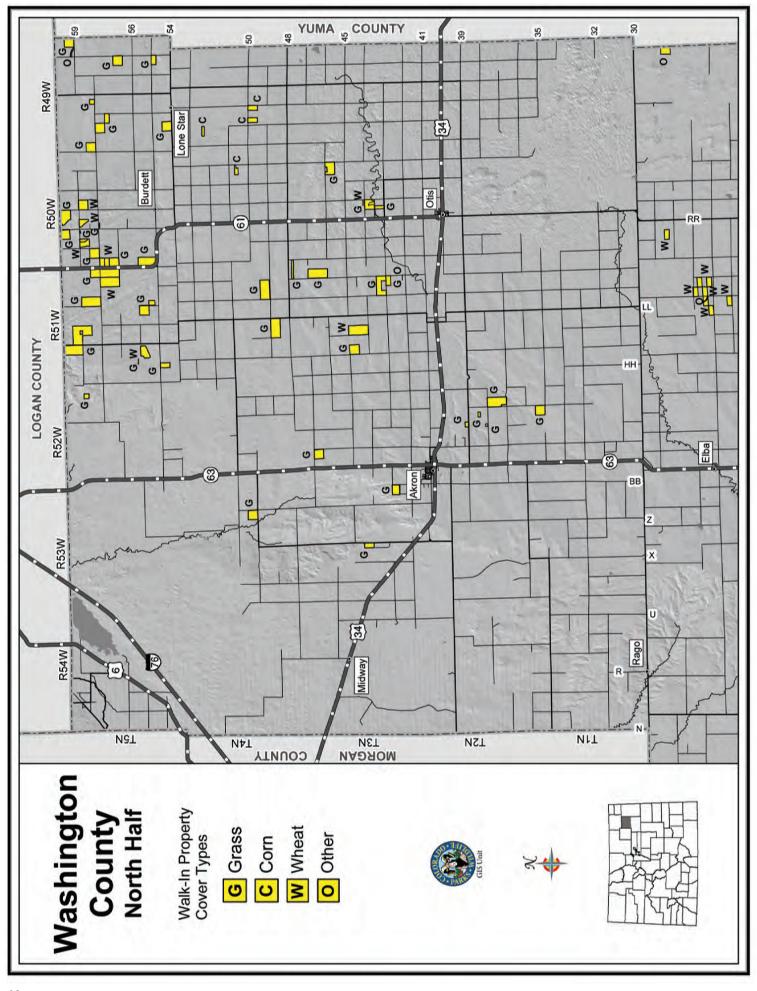


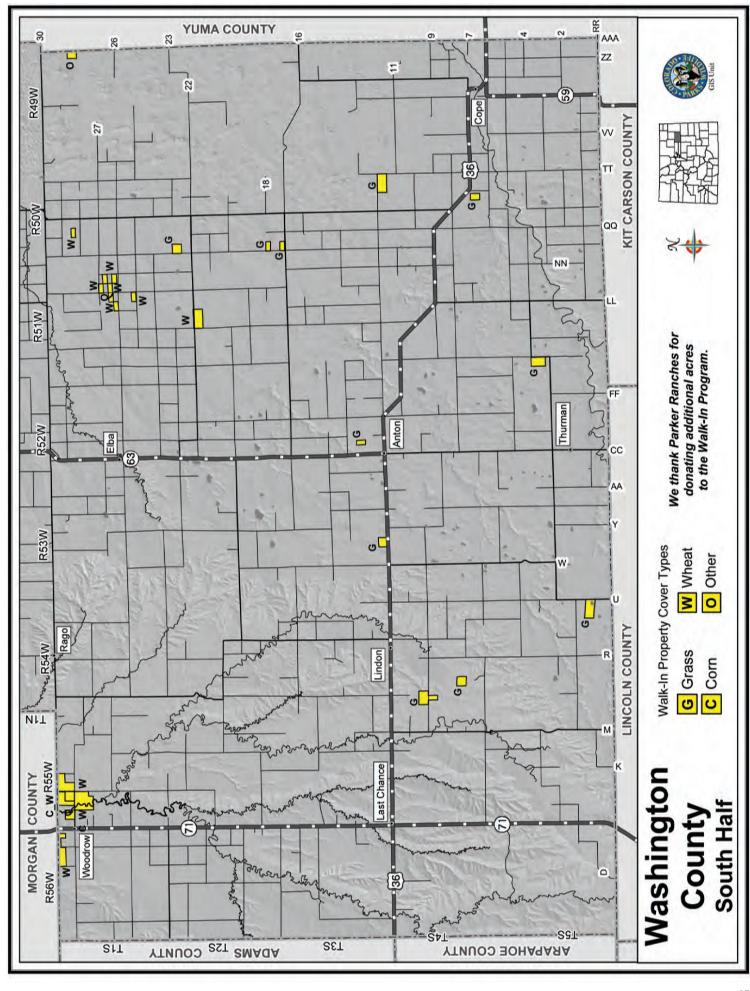


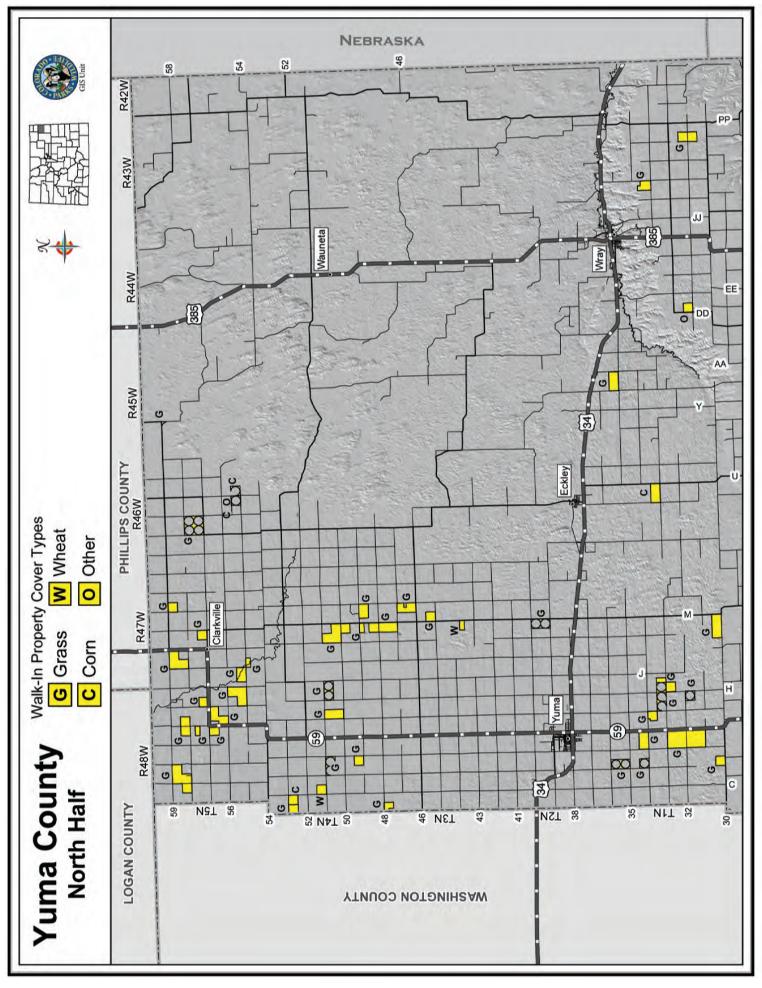


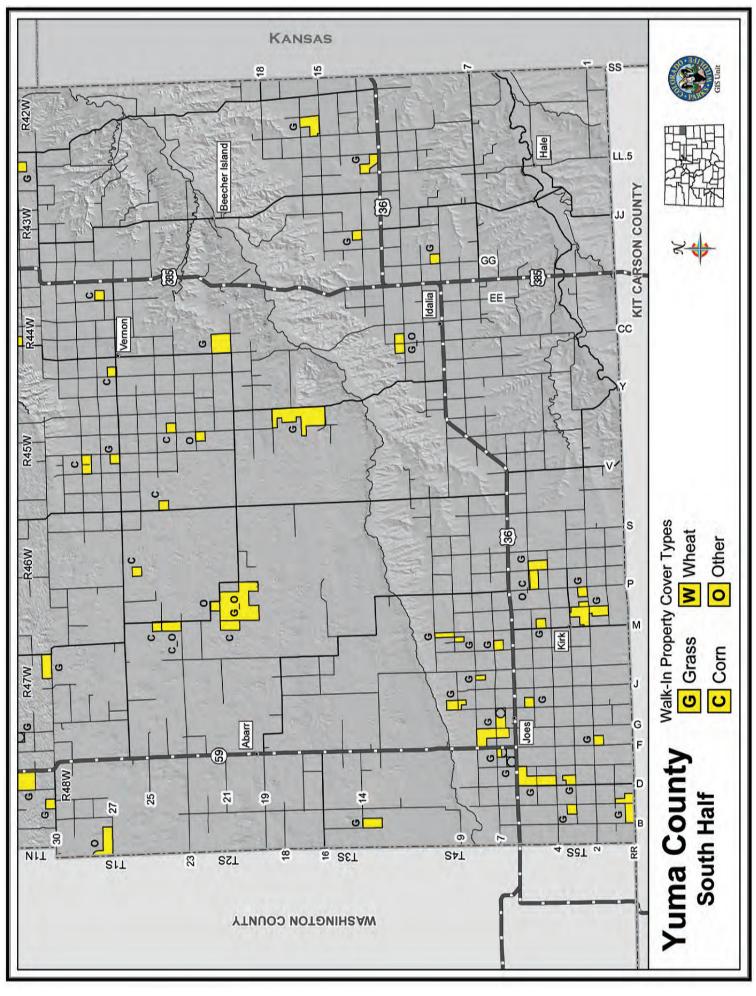


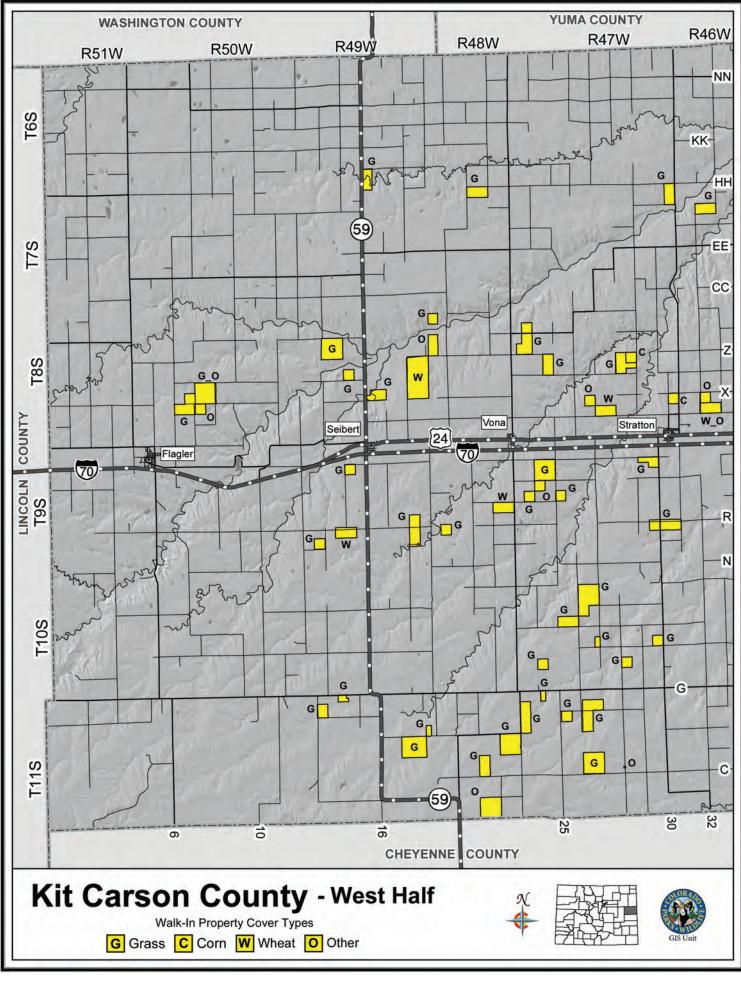


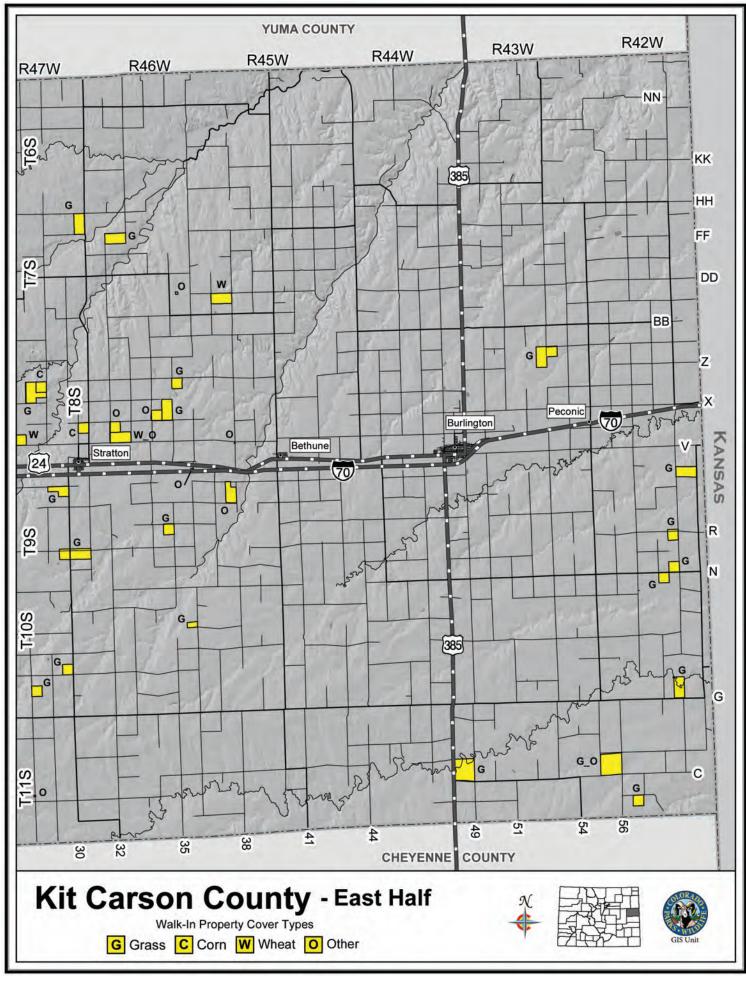


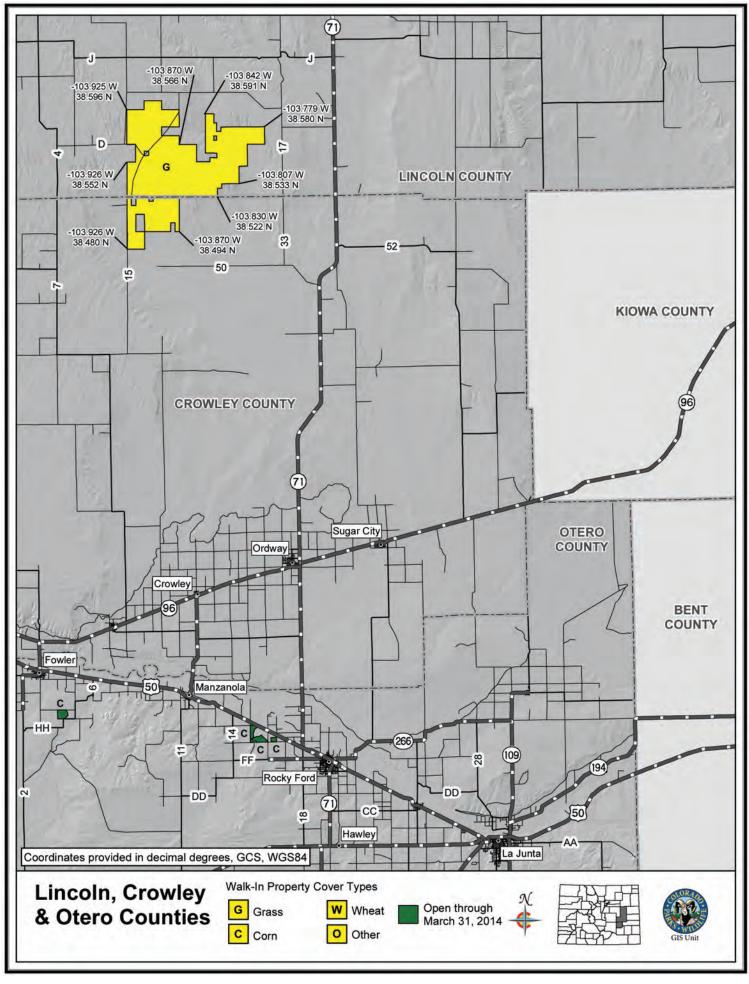


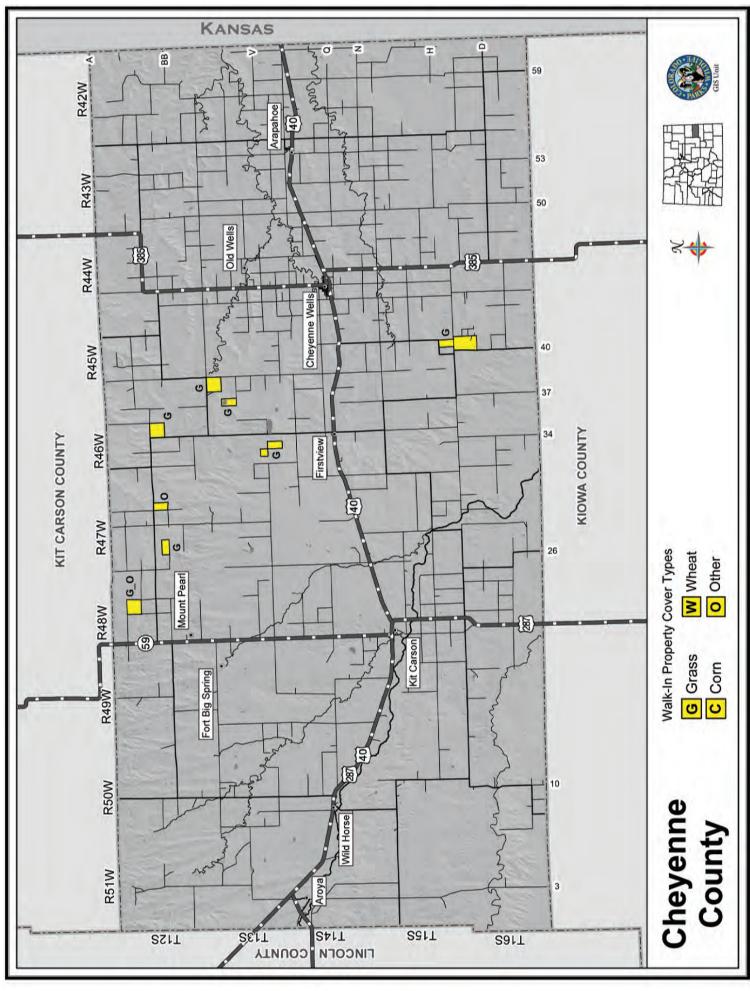


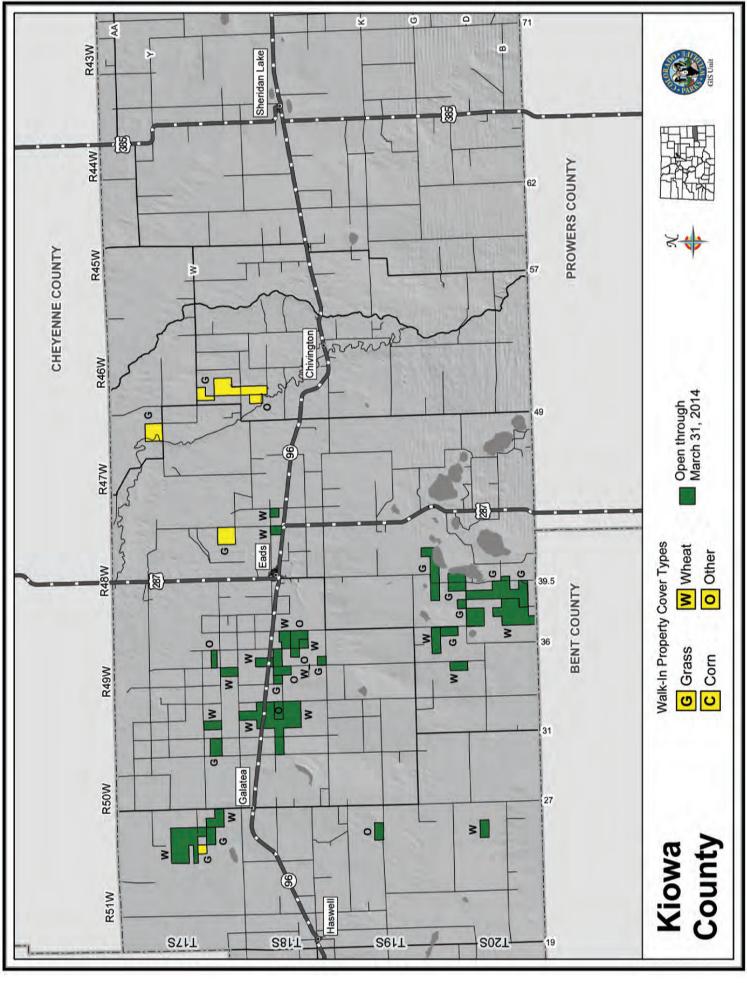


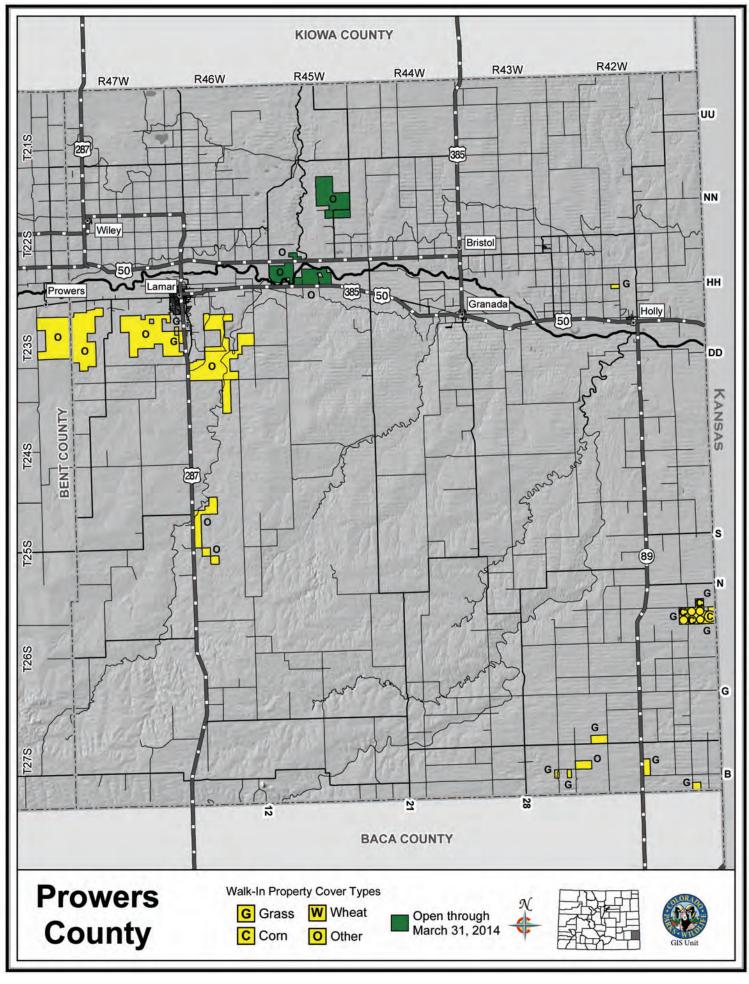


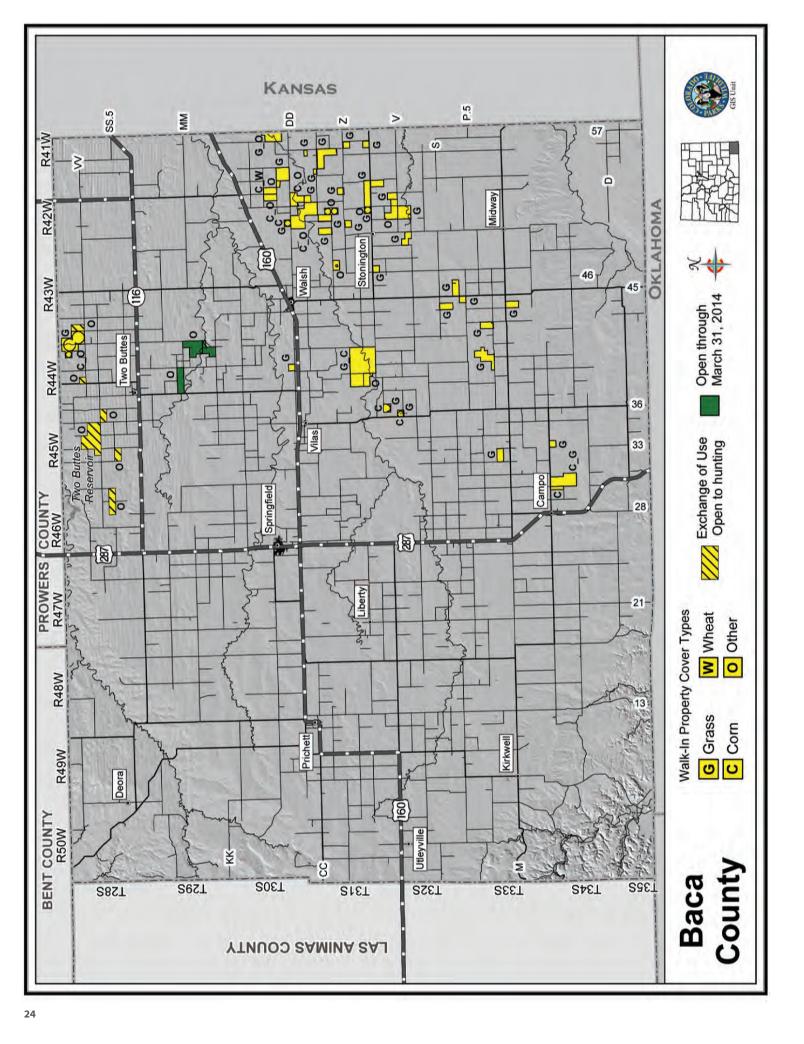


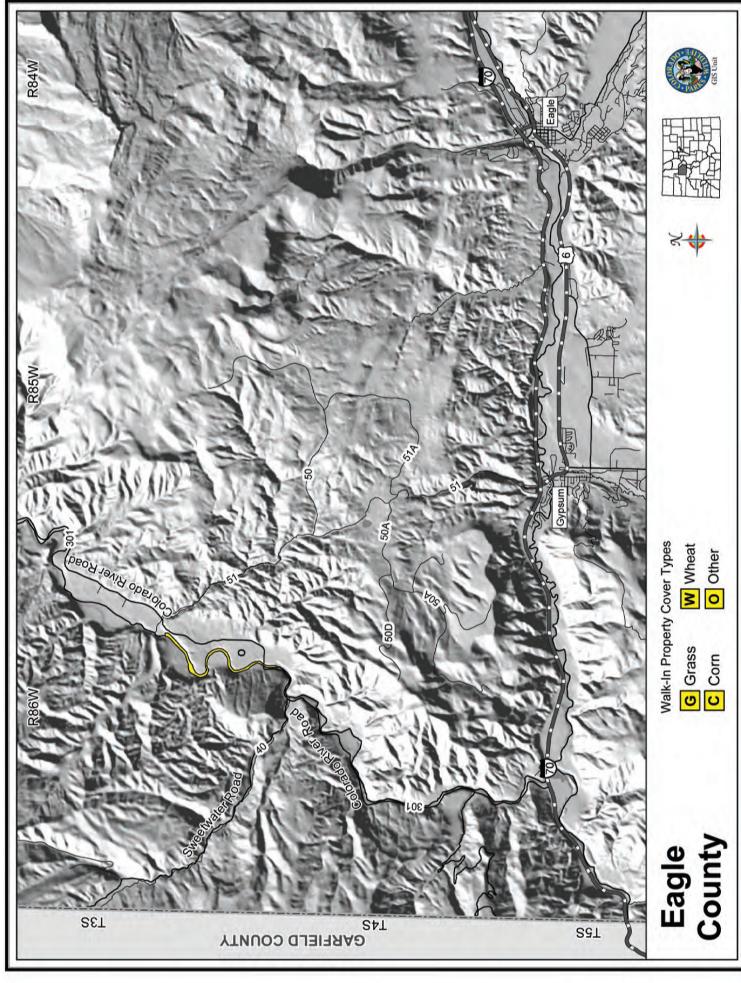












2013 Late Cropland Atlas



Colorado Parks and Wildlife 6060 Broadway, Denver CO 80216 (303) 297-1192 cpw.state.co.us



