

COLORADO PARKS & WILDLIFE

2014 Late Cropland Walk-In Atlas



INSIDE: UPDATED WALK-IN PROPERTY MAPS | NOVICE HUNTER PROGRAM



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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.

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. 8, 2014) and continues through the end of March 2015. 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.

<p>BRUSH 122 E. Edison Brush, 80723 (970) 842-6300</p>	<p>GRAND JUNCTION 711 Independent Ave. Grand Junction, 81505 (970) 255-6100</p>	<p>MONTROSE 2300 S. Townsend Ave. Montrose, 81401 (970) 252-6000</p>
<p>COLORADO SPRINGS 4255 Sinton Road Colorado Springs, 80907 (719) 227-5200</p>	<p>GUNNISON 300 W. New York Ave. Gunnison, 81230 (970) 641-7060</p>	<p>PUEBLO 600 Reservoir Road Pueblo, 81005 (719) 561-5300</p>
<p>DENVER 6060 Broadway Denver, 80216 (303) 291-7227</p>	<p>HOT SULPHUR SPRINGS 346 Grand County Rd. 362 Hot Sulphur Springs, 80451 (970) 725-6200</p>	<p>SALIDA 7405 Hwy. 50 Salida, 81201 (719) 530-5520</p>
<p>DURANGO 151 E. 16th St. Durango, 81301 (970) 247-0855</p>	<p>LAMAR 2500 S. Main St. Lamar, 81052 (719) 336-6600</p>	<p>STEAMBOAT SPRINGS 925 Weiss Dr. Steamboat Springs, 80487 (970) 870-2197</p>
<p>FORT COLLINS 317 W. Prospect Road Fort Collins, 80526 (970) 472-4300</p>	<p>MEEKER 73485 Hwy. 64 Meeker, 81641 (970) 878-6090</p>	<p>ADMINISTRATION 1313 Sherman St. #618 Denver, 80203 (303) 297-1192</p>
<p>GLENWOOD SPRINGS 0088 Wildlife Way Glenwood Springs, 81601 (970) 947-2920</p>	<p>MONTE VISTA 0722 S. Road 1 E. Monte Vista, 81144 (719) 587-6900</p>	

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The Colorado Parks and Wildlife Commission sets small game and waterfowl regulations in July and August. The Commission (as of Sept. 2014): Bill Kane, chairman • Christopher Castilian, secretary • Robert Bray, member • Jeanne Horne, member • Gaspar Perricone, member • Dale Pizel, member • James Pribyl, member • James Vigil, member • Dean Wingfield, member • Michelle Zimmerman, member • Alexander Zipp, member • Mike King, ex-officio member • John Salazar, ex-officio member

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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 cpw.state.co.us/aboutus/Pages/Regulations.aspx.

2014 WHAT'S NEW

» **NOVICE HUNTER PROGRAM...** The Colorado Parks and Wildlife's Novice Hunter Program walk-in properties are now published on the Late Cropland Atlas maps in this brochure. Hunters in the program can look for properties marked in blue on the maps, which designate special program lands. The Novice Hunter Program provides new hunters with a solid foundation of knowledge and skills to enjoy hunting in Colorado. See page 2 for details.

» **DOWNLOAD FIELD BOUNDARIES...** Colorado Parks and Wildlife is now providing Walk-In Access property boundaries in digital format to make it easier to find your hunting spot. The file can be downloaded from the WIA webpage — cpw.state.co.us/thingstodo/Pages/WalkInAccessProgram.aspx — in Google Earth KMZ format. The fields depicted are intended for general reference and do not necessarily depict property boundaries.

Field conditions can change often. Hunters should pay attention to the signs posted in the field. They are the deciding factor that determines access as enrolled properties. If a field is posted with a closed sign, there is no hunting allowed in that field, despite what the map depicts.

» 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 2014 *Walk-In Atlas* and this 2014 *Late Cropland* supplement. The maps are also available on the CPW website at: cpw.state.co.us/thingstodo/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 2014 *Walk-In Atlas* was published in August) and maps that were in the 2014 *Walk-In Atlas* but have since been updated. The maps in this brochure include all huntable properties in that region.

» ON THE COVER

Main photo by © Denver Bryan. Inset photos by © Amy Bulger and Ed Gorman, CPW.

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).....	\$15	\$15
» Youth Small Game (Under 18).....	\$1.75	\$1.75
» Small Game & Fishing Combo.....	\$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

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.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 REQUIREMENTS

- » Anyone born on or after Jan. 1, 1949, must have a hunter education card to hunt in Colorado.
- » A hunter education card is needed to apply for or buy a license. It must be carried while hunting (unless previously verified - marked with a "V" on your license).
 - *To get verified, take your hunter education card to a CPW office.*
- » CPW honors hunter education cards from other states and provinces.
- » For more information, go to www.bit.ly/COHunterEd.

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 2015-16 season, please contact a CPW office for details. See office listings on opposite page.

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. 8, 2014) 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. 8, 2014) 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 cpw.state.co.us/aboutus/Pages/Accessibility.aspx.

NEW! HUNTING INVASIVE SPECIES

Eurasian collared-doves, European starlings and house (English) sparrows are considered invasive species in Colorado. Because of this designation, these species may be hunted year-round. No license is required to hunt invasive species. Hunters may harvest any number of each of these species and by any method of take approved for big- or small-game hunting. These species may be taken at night with the use of artificial light and night vision equipment.

Commercial hunting of invasive species is prohibited, as is receiving compensation or attempting to receive compensation by hunting these species.

HARVEST INFORMATION PROGRAM (HIP)

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

If you hunt small game, furbearers, or migratory birds, 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.

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 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.

NOVICE HUNTER PROGRAM

Learn fundamentals, get field time without crowds

The Colorado Parks and Wildlife's Novice Hunter Program (NHP) provides people new to hunting with a solid foundation of knowledge and skills to instill the confidence that aids in future safe and enjoyable hunting experiences in Colorado.

The novice program includes classroom time — the curriculum focuses on the fundamentals of pheasant biology, hunting techniques, firearms safety and hunting ethics, as well as practical exercises in the field.

As part of this program, CPW leases some Walk-In Access properties specifically for novice hunters, to give an opportunity to hunt in good pheasant habitat in a relatively unpressured setting. These lands are not open to the general public — and are available to you just for this



WHERE TO HUNT

Look for the signs!

WIA properties that are open for novice hunters will be posted with special yellow signs that look like this.

In this atlas, these properties are shaded in blue on the maps.

hunting season.

There are some restrictions on how these lands can be hunted. CPW asks you to please abide by program regulations and property-specific rules while you are hunting. Remember to plan ahead and be safe. Good luck and have fun!

NOVICE HUNTER PROPERTY RULES

To hunt these special designated pheasant properties:

- You must be a current-year graduate of the Novice Hunter Program and you must be present and actively hunting during all hunting activities.
- Up to four additional licensed hunters may accompany and hunt with a graduate of the Novice Hunter Program.
- A valid "student" hang tag must be hung from the rearview mirror from students' vehicles while they are hunting NHP WIA properties.
- A valid "mentor" hang tag must be hung from the rearview mirror of vehicles carrying hunters accompanying an NHP student.
- No more than two vehicles are allowed per NHP hunter.
- Lands enrolled and posted as NHP Walk-In Access properties may be accessed from Nov. 8, 2014, through the end of February 2015. Season dates dictate what species can be hunted on NHP properties and take precedence over NHP access dates.
- 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 allowed 1 hour before sunrise to 1 hour after sunset. Lands enrolled and posted as Regular, Late Cropland or Extended Season Walk-In Access Properties are open for the 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.

RECENT HARVEST STATISTICS

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.)

2014 SUNRISE/SUNSET TABLE (DENVER)

DAY	SEPT.		OCT.		NOV.		DEC.		JAN. 2015	
	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	6:28	7:31	6:56	6:42	7:29	5:58	7:02	4:36	7:21	4:46
2	6:29	7:29	6:57	6:41	7:30	5:57	7:03	4:36	7:21	4:47
3	6:30	7:28	6:58	6:39	6:31	4:56	7:04	4:36	7:21	4:48
4	6:31	7:26	6:59	6:37	6:32	4:55	7:05	4:35	7:21	4:49
5	6:32	7:25	7:00	6:36	6:33	4:53	7:06	4:35	7:21	4:50
6	6:33	7:23	7:01	6:34	6:34	4:52	7:07	4:35	7:21	4:51
7	6:34	7:21	7:02	6:33	6:35	4:51	7:07	4:35	7:21	4:52
8	6:35	7:20	7:03	6:31	6:37	4:50	7:08	4:35	7:21	4:53
9	6:36	7:18	7:04	6:30	6:38	4:49	7:09	4:35	7:21	4:53
10	6:36	7:17	7:05	6:28	6:39	4:48	7:10	4:35	7:21	4:55
11	6:37	7:15	7:06	6:27	6:40	4:48	7:11	4:36	7:20	4:56
12	6:38	7:13	7:07	6:25	6:41	4:47	7:12	4:36	7:20	4:57
13	6:39	7:12	7:08	6:23	6:42	4:46	7:12	4:36	7:20	4:58
14	6:40	7:10	7:09	6:22	6:43	4:45	7:13	4:36	7:20	4:59
15	6:41	7:08	7:10	6:21	6:45	4:44	7:14	4:36	7:19	5:00
16	6:42	7:07	7:11	6:19	6:46	4:43	7:14	4:37	7:19	5:01
17	6:43	7:05	7:12	6:18	6:47	4:43	7:15	4:37	7:18	5:02
18	6:44	7:03	7:13	6:16	6:48	4:42	7:16	4:37	7:18	5:03
19	6:45	7:02	7:14	6:15	6:49	4:41	7:16	4:38	7:17	5:04
20	6:46	7:00	7:15	6:13	6:50	4:41	7:17	4:38	7:17	5:05
21	6:47	6:59	7:17	6:12	6:51	4:40	7:17	4:39	7:16	5:06
22	6:48	6:57	7:18	6:11	6:52	4:40	7:18	4:39	7:16	5:08
23	6:49	6:55	7:19	6:09	6:53	4:39	7:18	4:40	7:15	5:09
24	6:50	6:54	7:20	6:08	6:55	4:39	7:19	4:40	7:14	5:10
25	6:50	6:52	7:21	6:07	6:56	4:38	7:19	4:41	7:14	5:11
26	6:51	6:50	7:22	6:05	6:57	4:38	7:20	4:42	7:13	5:12
27	6:52	6:49	7:23	6:04	6:58	4:37	7:20	4:42	7:12	5:14
28	6:53	6:47	7:24	6:03	6:59	4:37	7:20	4:43	7:11	5:15
29	6:54	6:45	7:25	6:02	7:00	4:37	7:20	4:44	7:11	5:16
30	6:55	6:44	7:26	6:00	7:01	4:36	7:21	4:45	7:10	5:17
31			7:27	5:59			7:21	4:45	7:09	5:18

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

HUNTERS PLEASE NOTE: Pheasant and quail hunters were not surveyed at the end of the 2013 season. These harvest statistics are from the 2012 hunting season and are included here to help hunters identify the top hunting counties. The surveys are a random sampling of hunter participants in the HIP program.

» For more small-game harvest statistics, go to cpw.state.co.us/thingstodo/Pages/SmallGameStatistics.aspx.

» For the Light Goose harvest report, go to cpw.state.co.us/thingstodo/Pages/WaterfowlStatistics.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

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

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

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 *2014 Small Game* and *2014 Waterfowl* brochures. These brochures are available at license agents, CPW offices and online in both downloadable PDF and interactive, searchable formats at cpw.state.co.us/aboutus/Pages/RegulationsBrochures.aspx.

PHEASANT

SEASON 1: Nov. 8-Jan. 31, 2015

AREA: East of I-25

SEASON 2: Nov. 8-Jan. 4, 2015

AREA: West of I-25

DAILY BAG LIMIT: 3 cocks

POSSESSION LIMIT: 9 cocks

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.

» 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 work-



QUAIL: NORTHERN BOBWHITE, SCALED, GAMBEL'S

SEASON 1: Nov. 8-Jan. 4, 2015

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. 8-Jan. 4, 2015

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

SEASON 3: Nov. 8-Jan. 31, 2015

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.

DAILY BAG LIMIT: 8 of each species

POSSESSION LIMIT: 24 of each species

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

SEASON: Oct. 1-end of Feb. 2015

DAILY BAG LIMIT: 10 of each species

POSSESSION LIMIT: 20 of each species

ing 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.

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.



Photo © Elizabeth Brown, CPW

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. 8, 2014.



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. 8, 2014.



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 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.



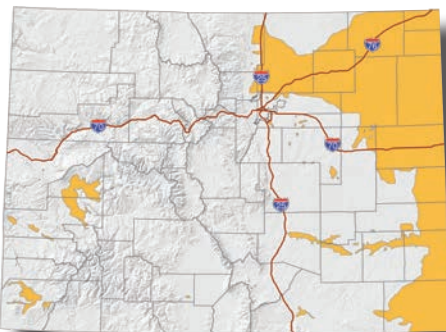
Photo © CPW

HOW TO HAVE BETTER PHEASANT AND QUAIL HUNTS

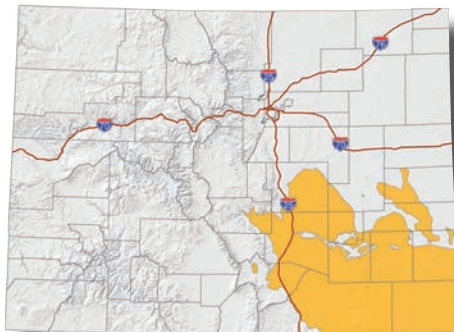
TIPS AND TACTICS FOR A SUCCESSFUL HUNT

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.

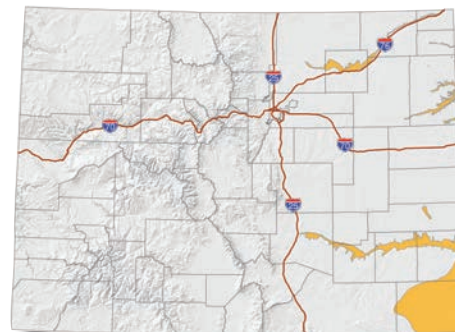
PHEASANT:



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.

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

LAND

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.

STRATEGY

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.

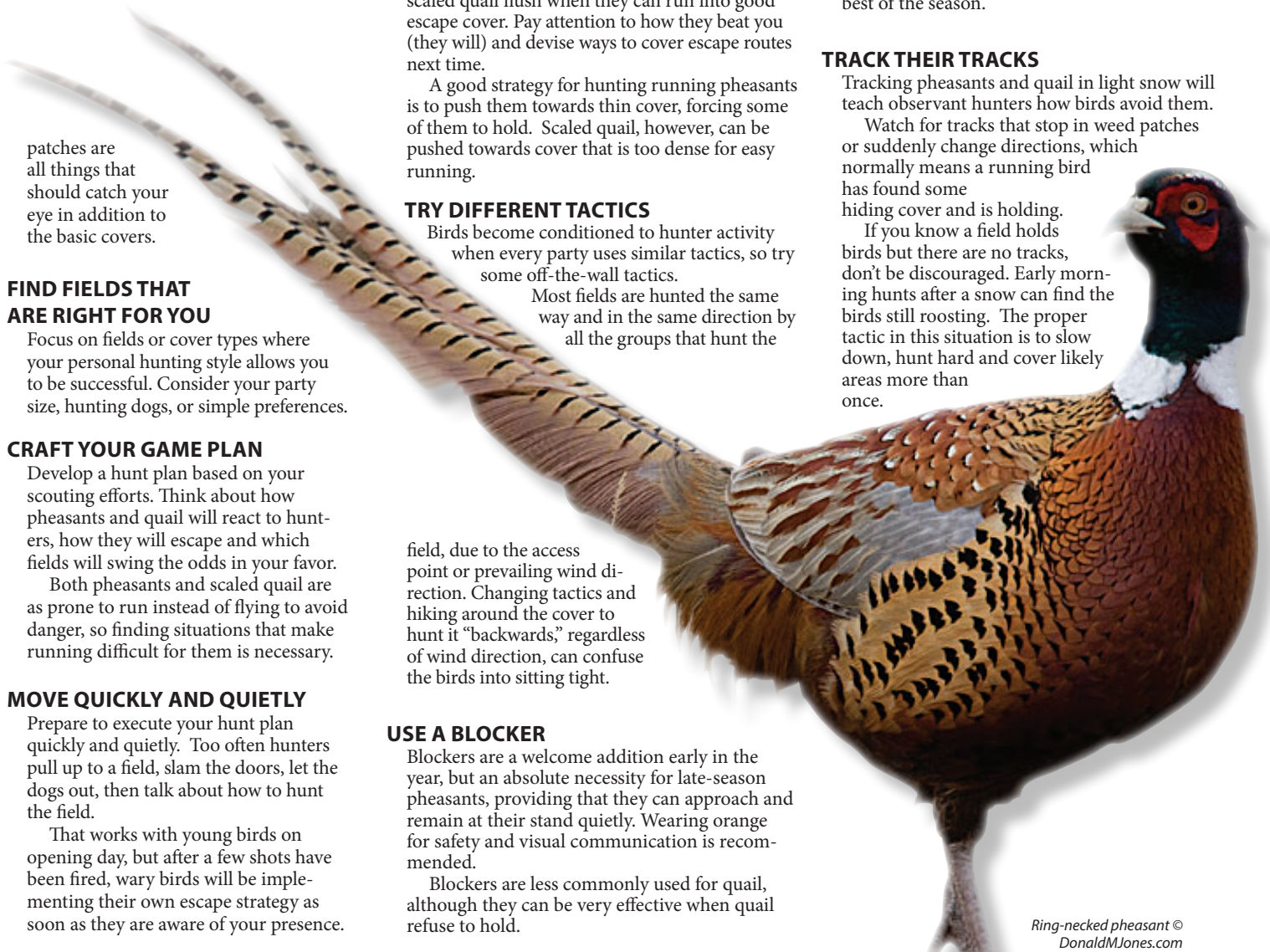
Don't expect this behavior to last long though, as birds tend to revert to their normal behavior and habitat shortly after conditions moderate. Depending on the severity of the storm, a well-timed hunt in snow can be the best of the season.

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



© 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 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 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.

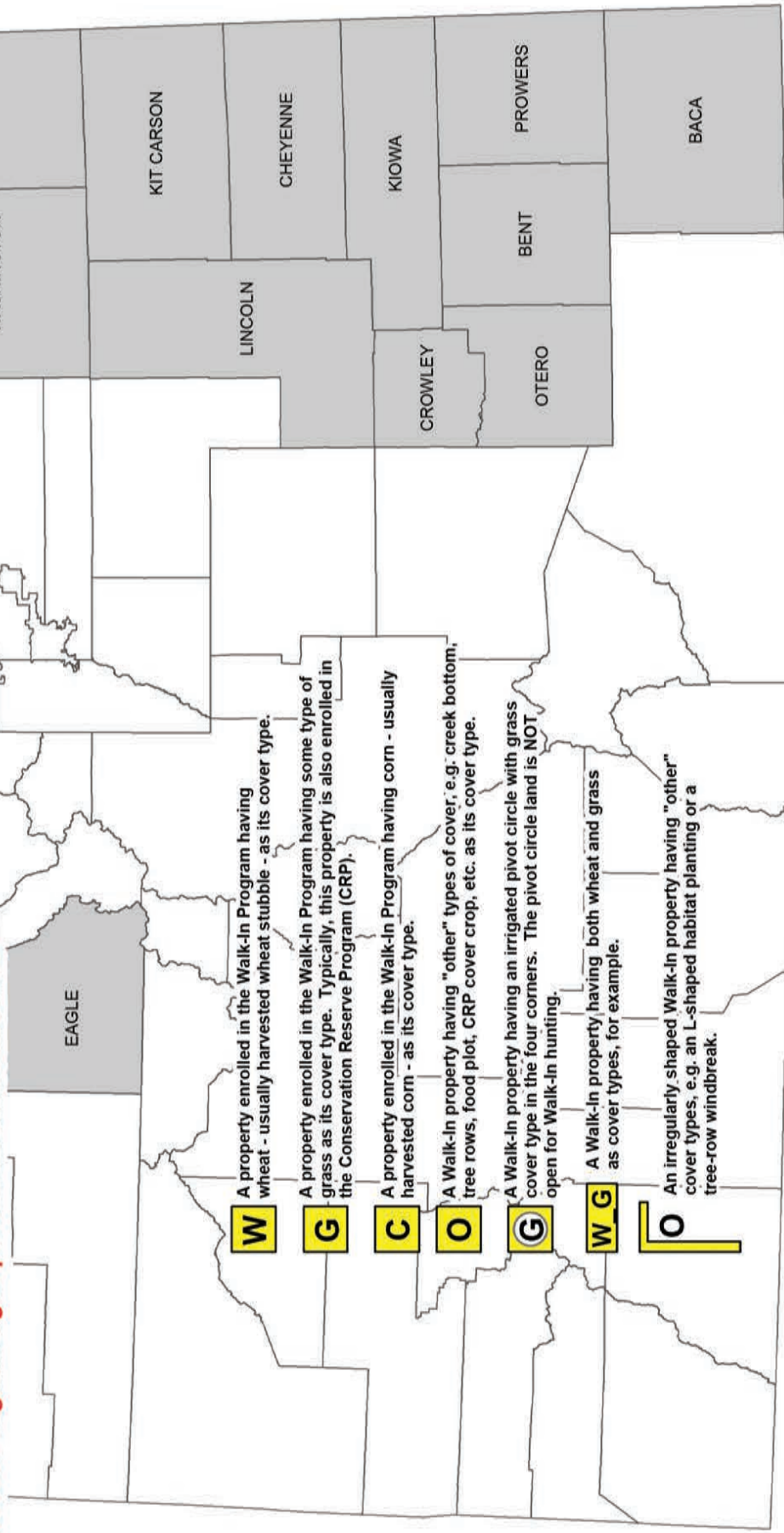


© Lisa Densmore

Reading the Maps

Properties colored in **BLUE** are special novice hunter walk-in properties open through the last day in February and are only accessible to graduates of the Novice Hunter Program and their mentors. 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, 2015. Lands designated as WIA properties in this atlas are open to hunters holding a valid small-game license. All lands not GREEN, YELLOW or BLUE 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



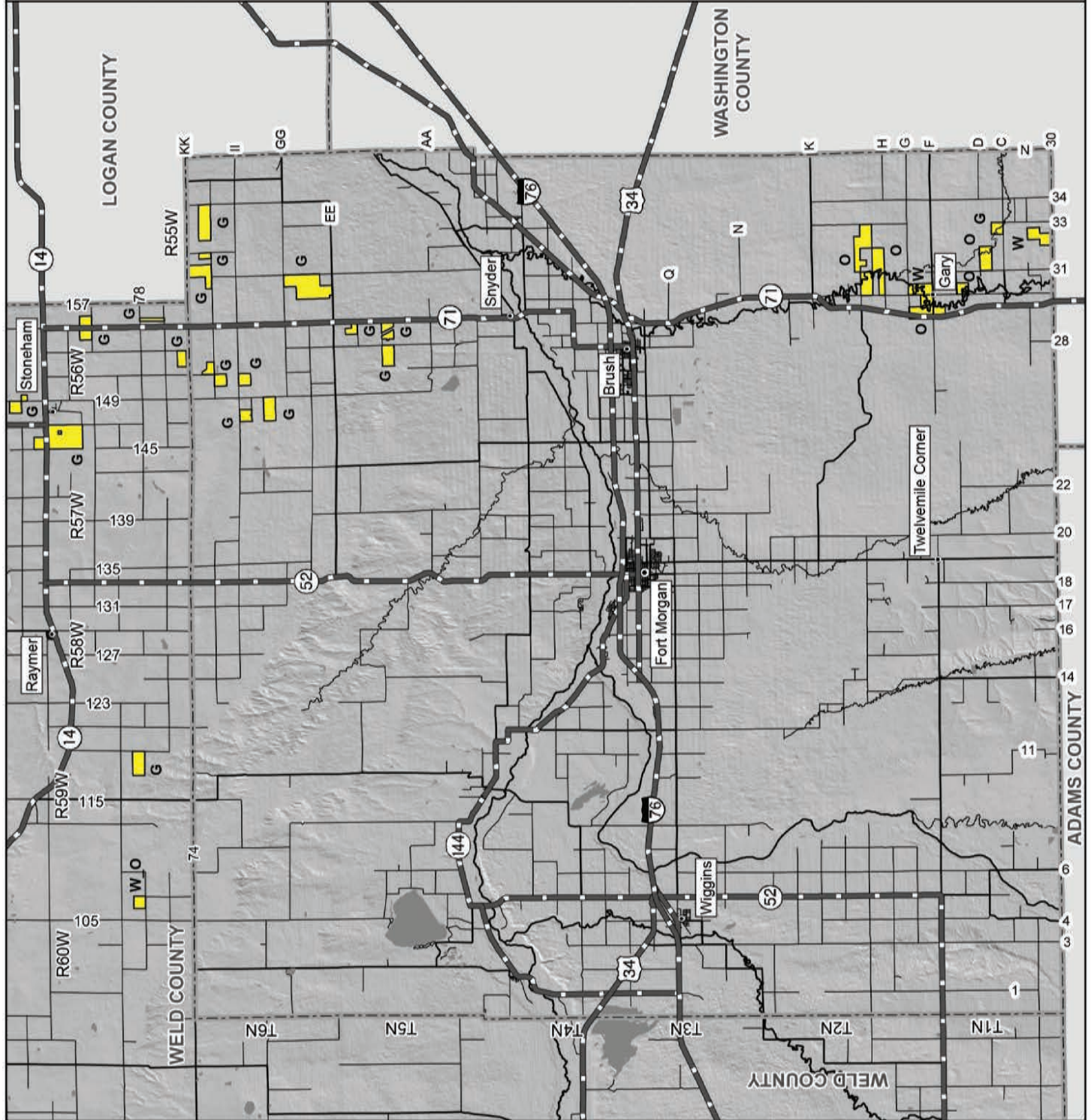
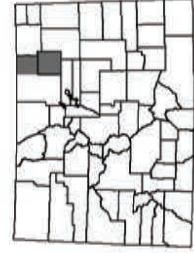
- Counties in the Late Cropland Supplemental Walk-In Atlas
- Paved Highway
- Secondary Roads (may be paved or gravel)
- Local Roads (gravel county roads)
- 123 County road number

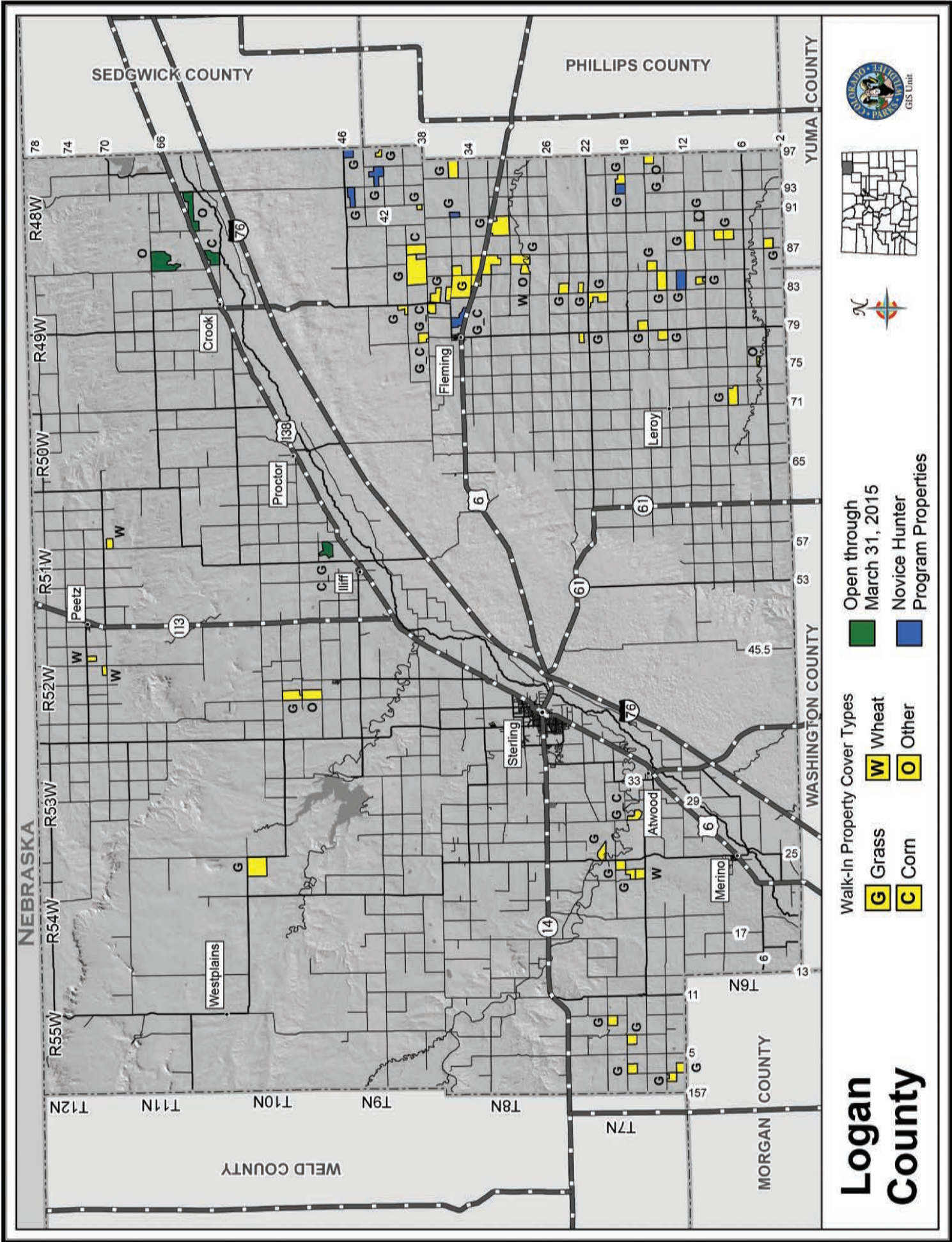
Morgan & Weld Counties

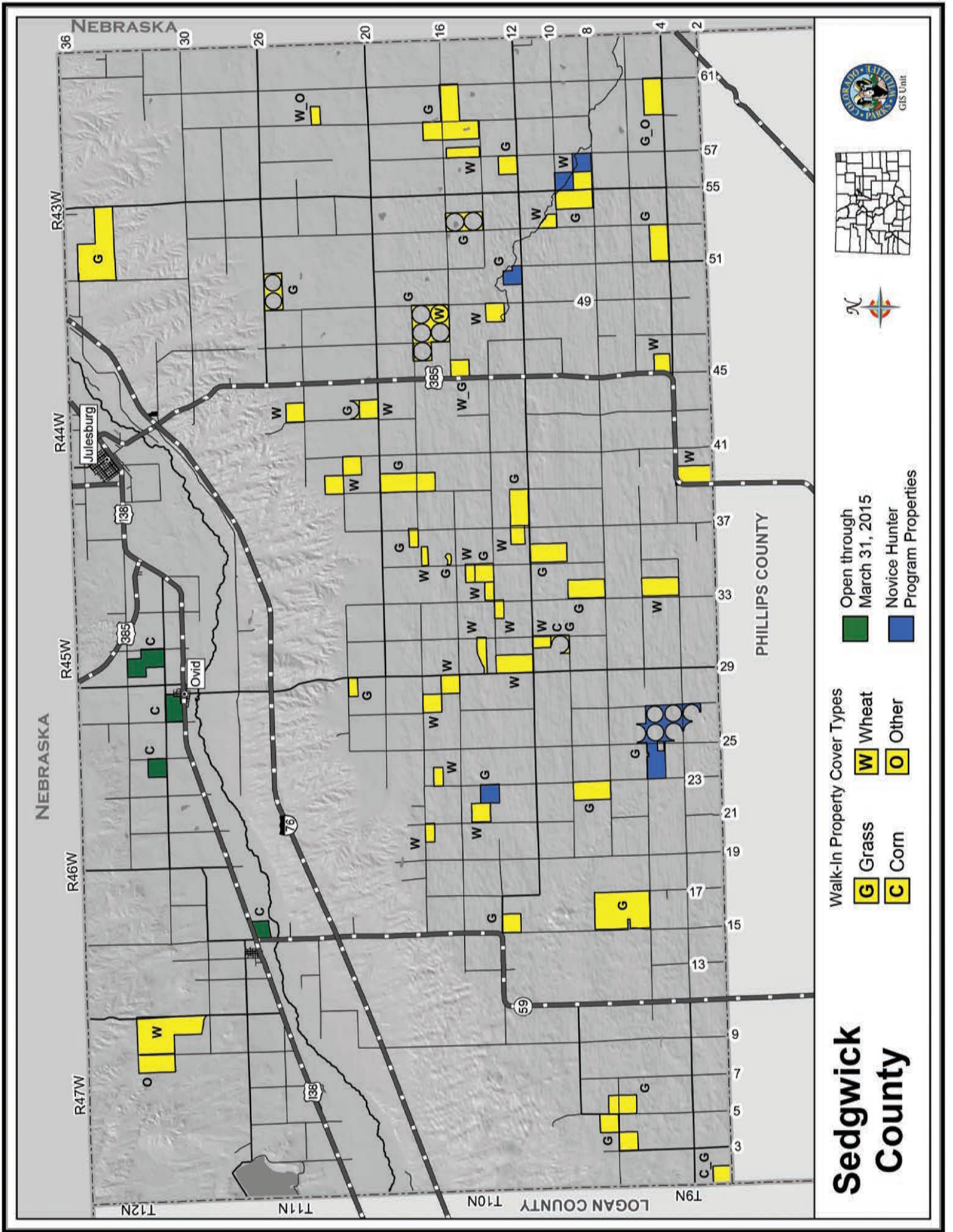
Walk-In Property Cover Types

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

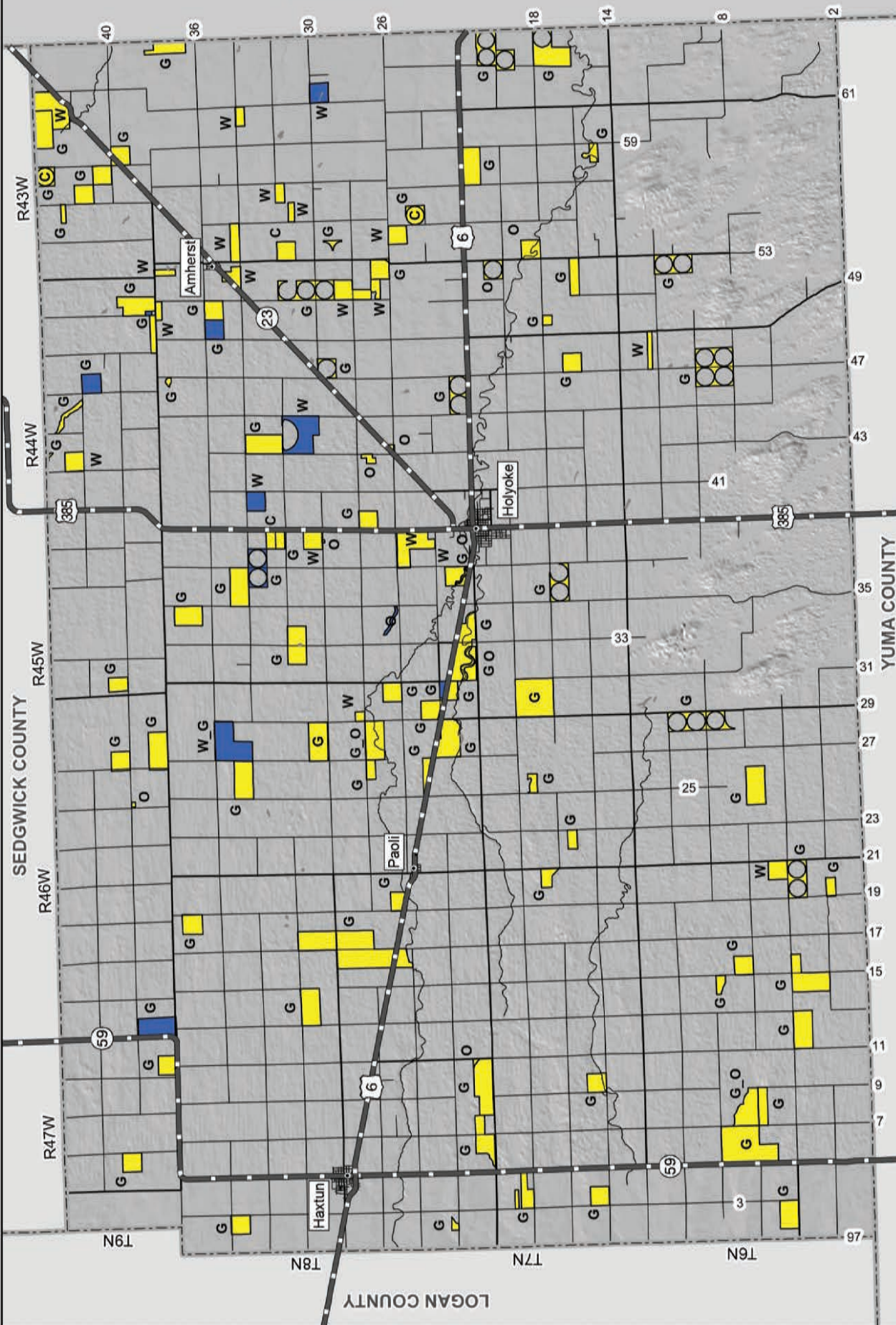
We thank Parker Ranches for donating additional acres to the Walk-In Program.







NEBRASKA



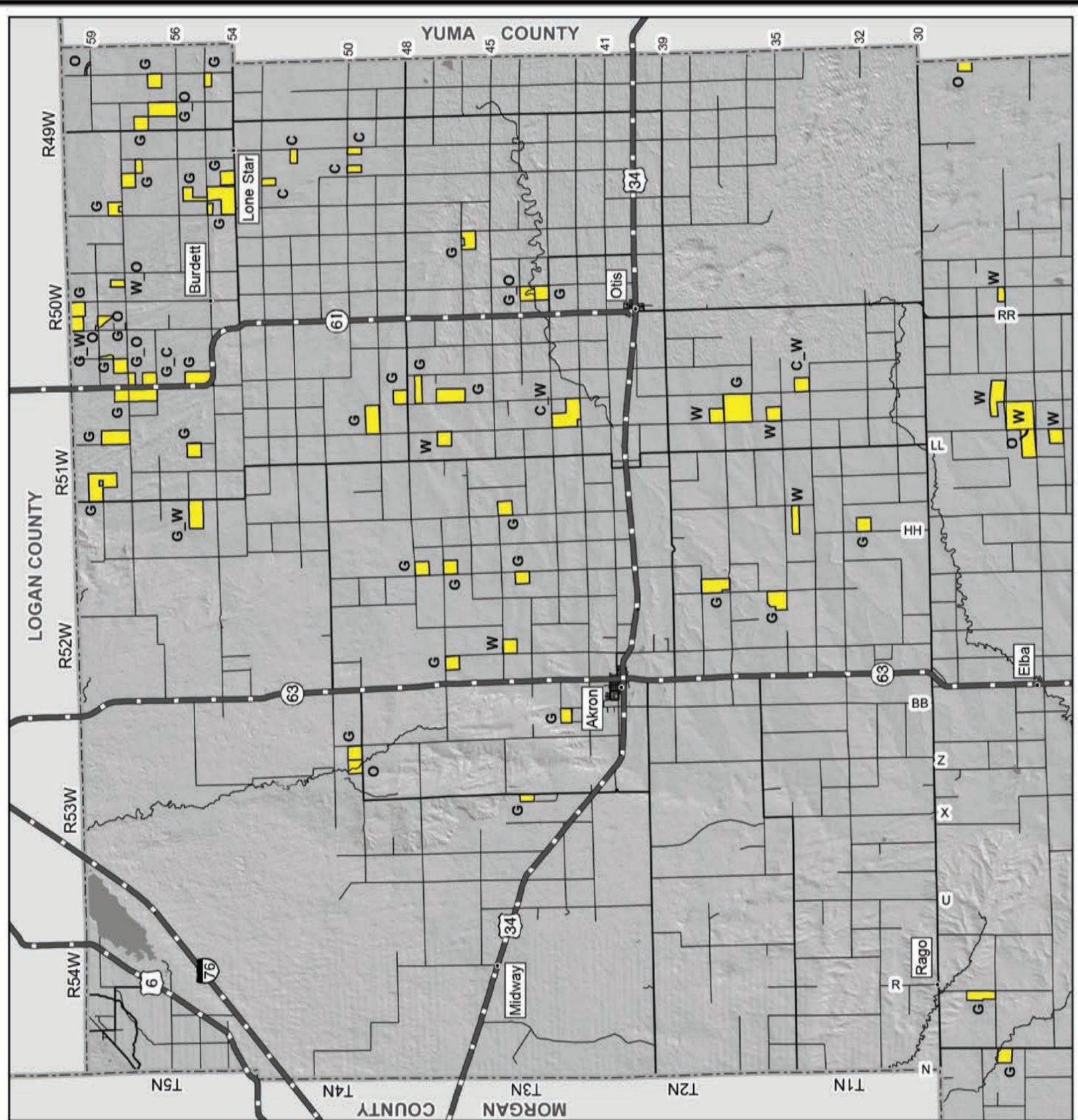
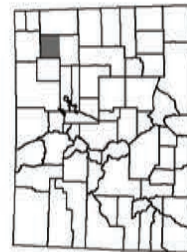
- Walk-In Property Cover Types
- G Grass
 - W Wheat
 - C Corn
 - O Other
- Novice Hunter Program Properties
-

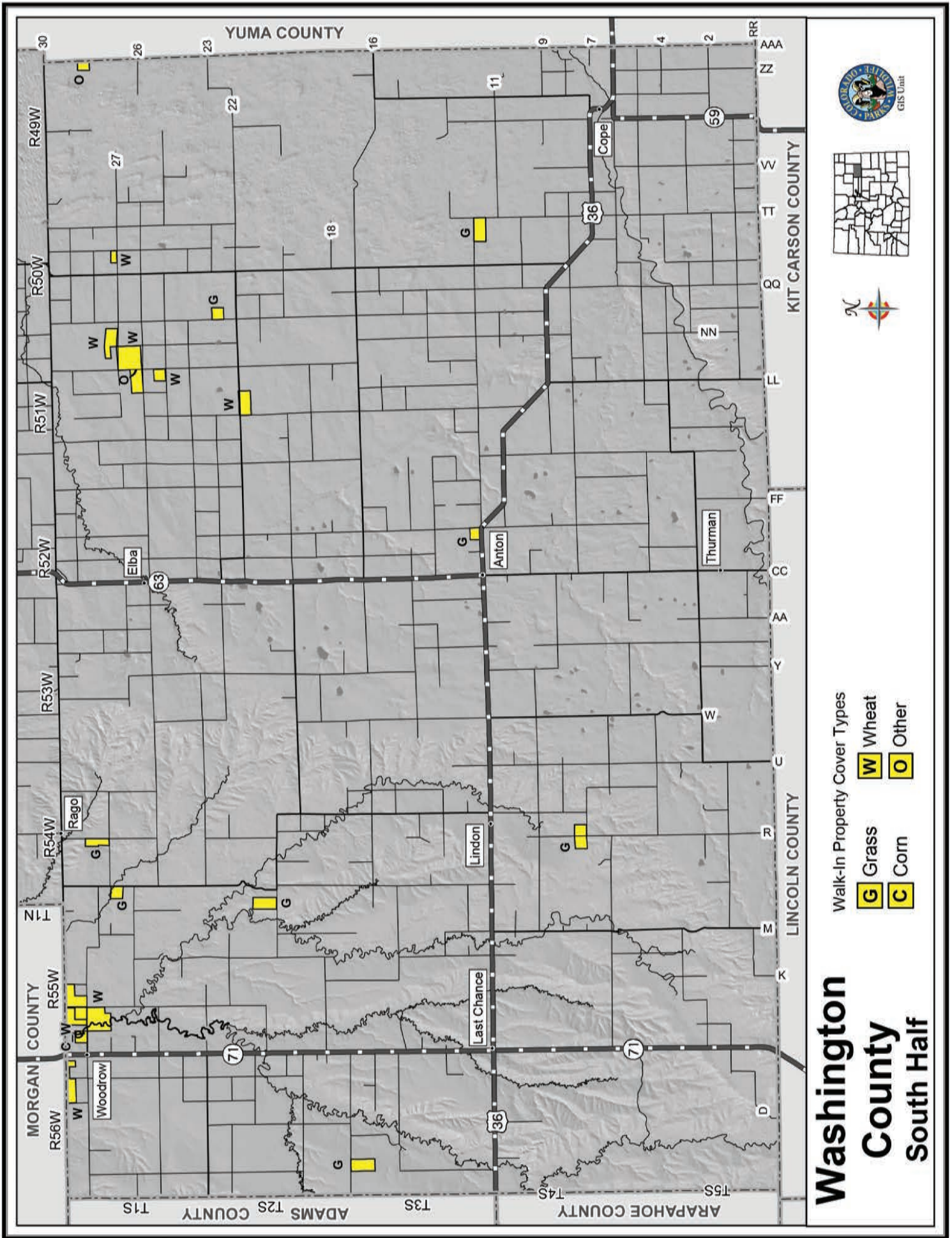
Phillips County

Washington County North Half

Walk-In Property
Cover Types

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



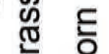


Yuma County North Half

Walk-In Property Cover Types



Grass



Corn

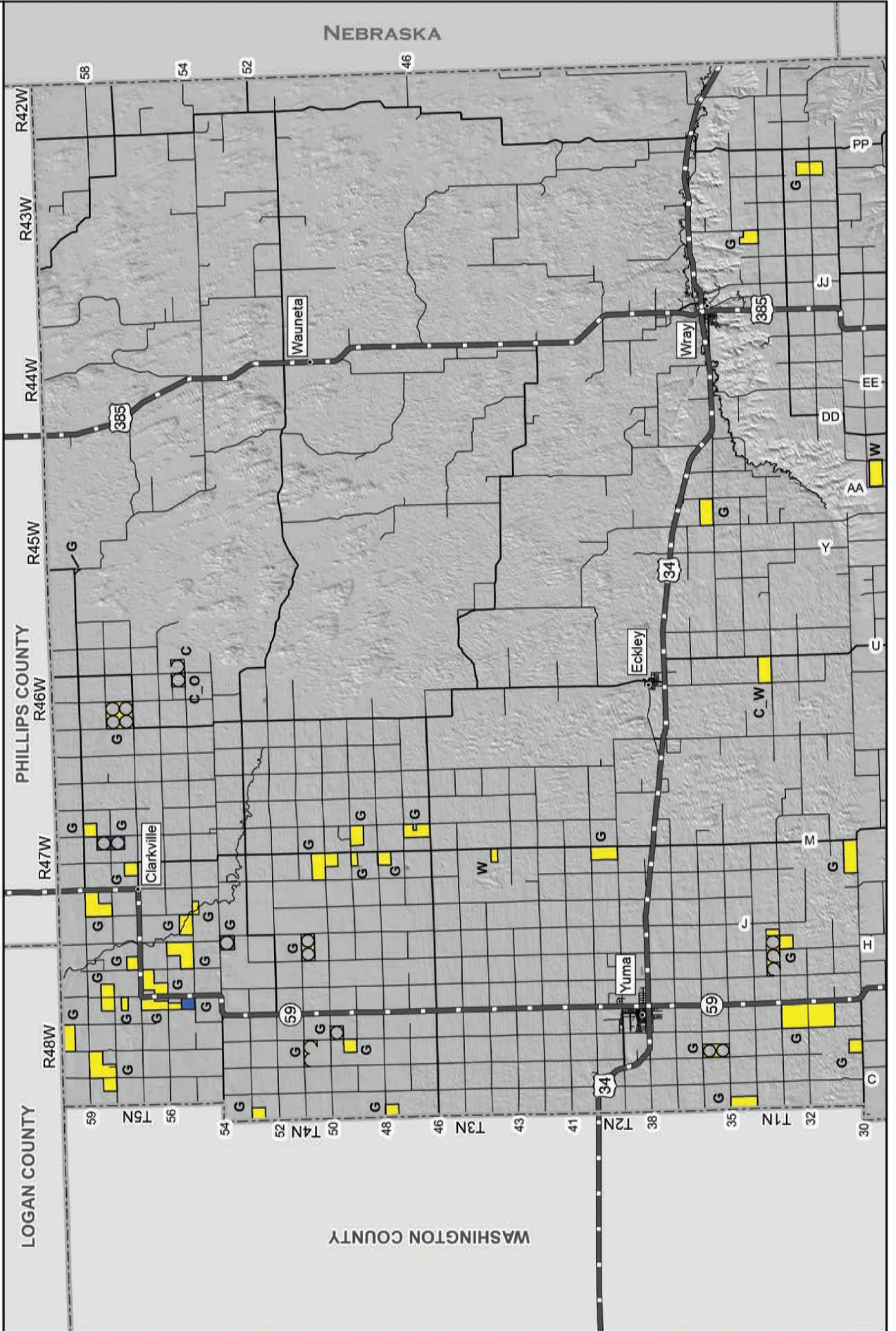


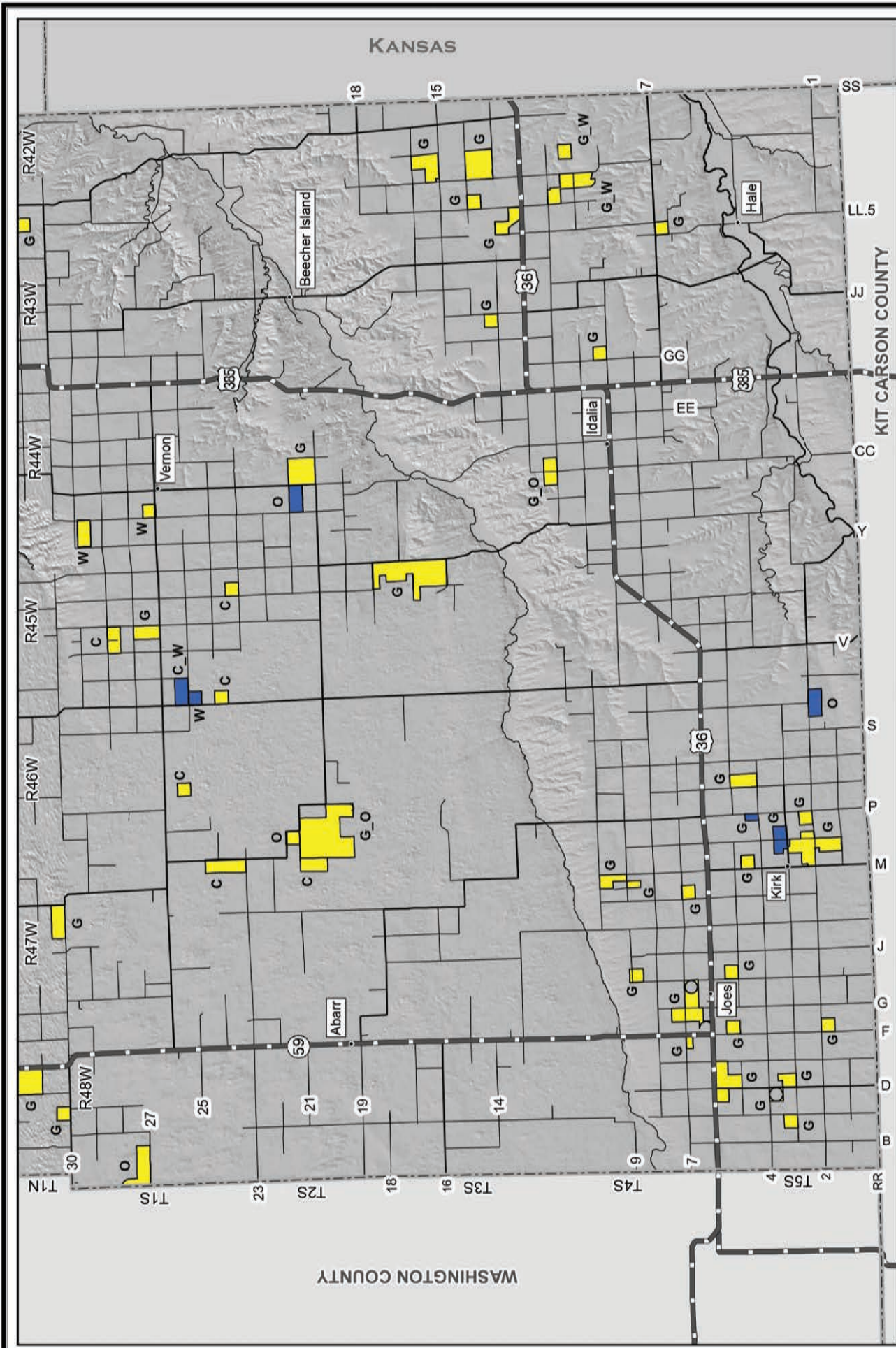
Wheat



Other

Novice Hunter
Program Properties



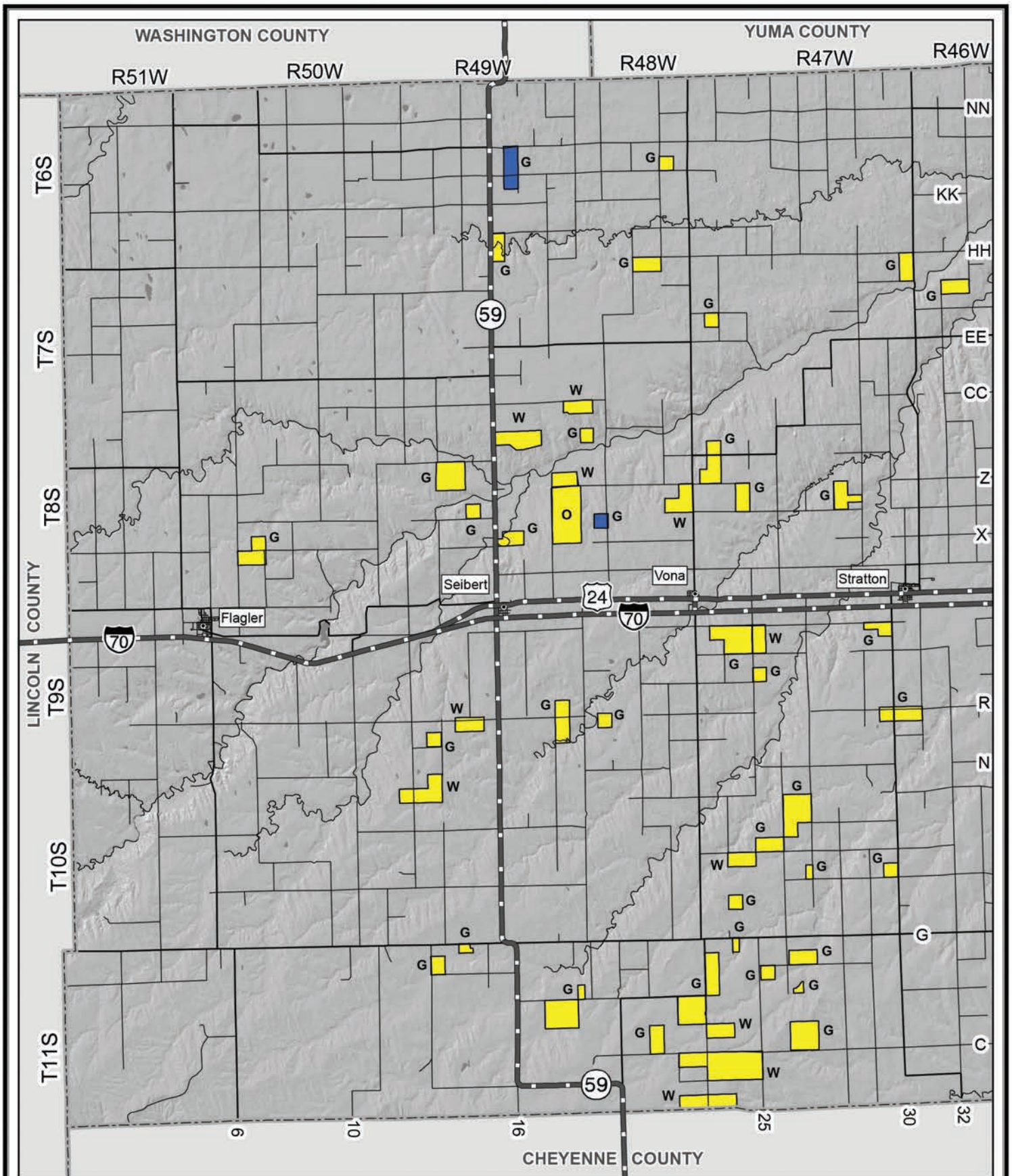


Novice Hunter Program Properties

Walk-In Property Cover Types
 Grass
 Wheat
 Corn
 Other

Yuma County

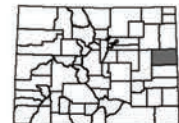
South Half

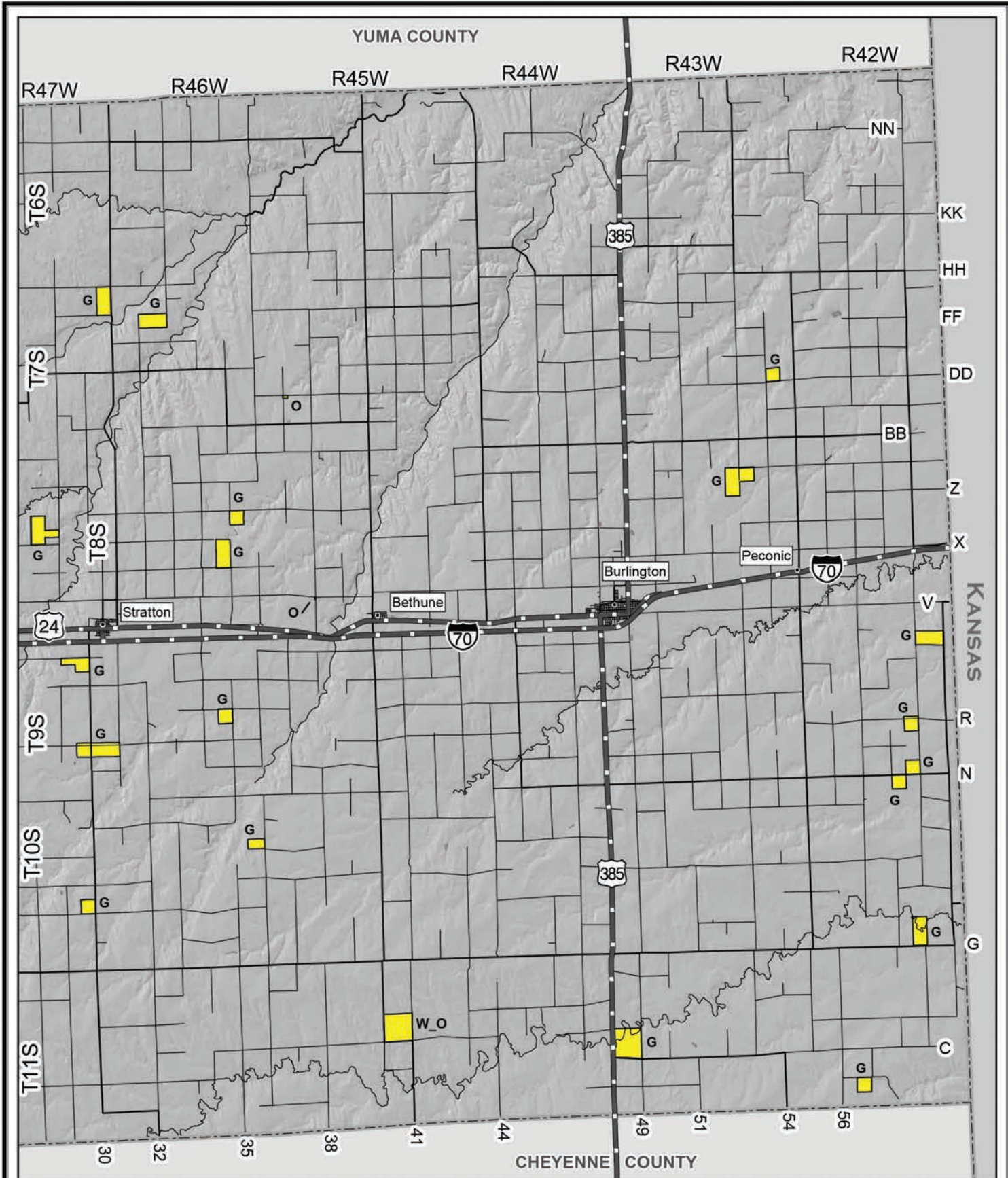


Kit Carson County - West Half

Walk-In Property Cover Types

G Grass
 C Corn
 W Wheat
 O Other
 Novice Hunter Program Properties



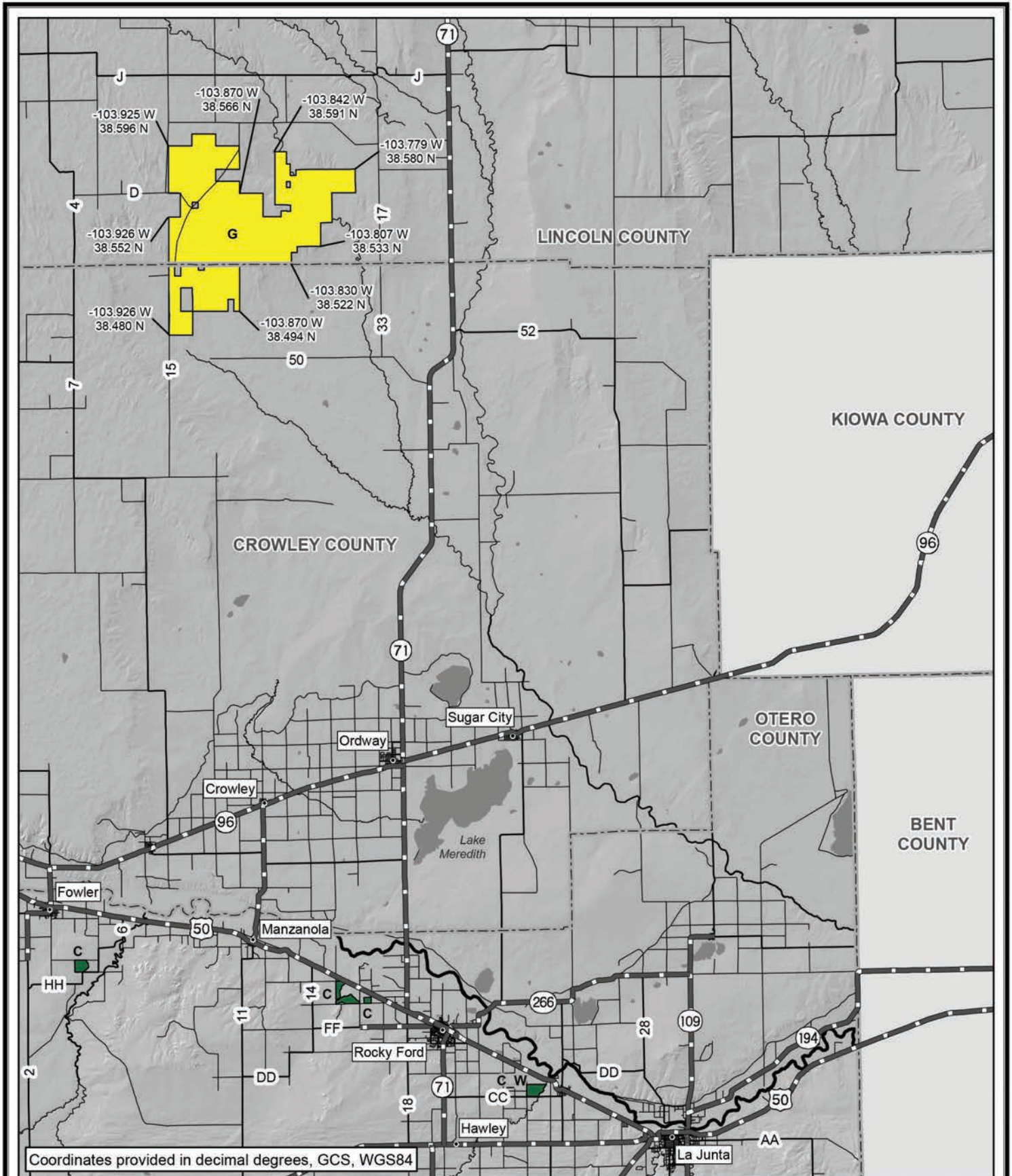


Kit Carson County - East Half

Walk-In Property Cover Types

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

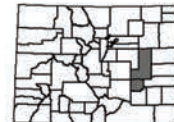


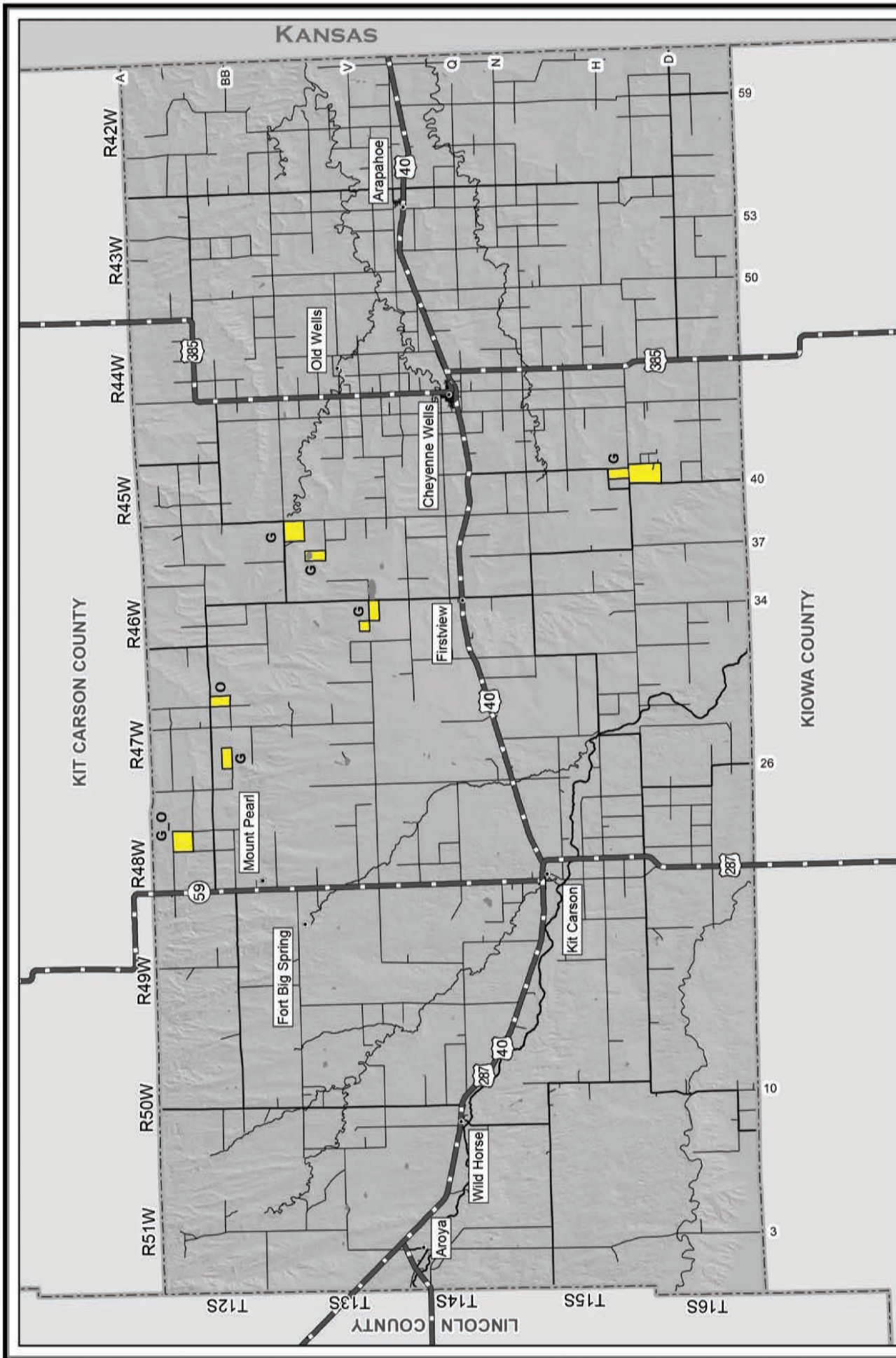


Lincoln, Crowley & Otero Counties

Walk-In Property Cover Types

- G Grass
- W Wheat
- C Corn
- O Other
- Open through March 31, 2015

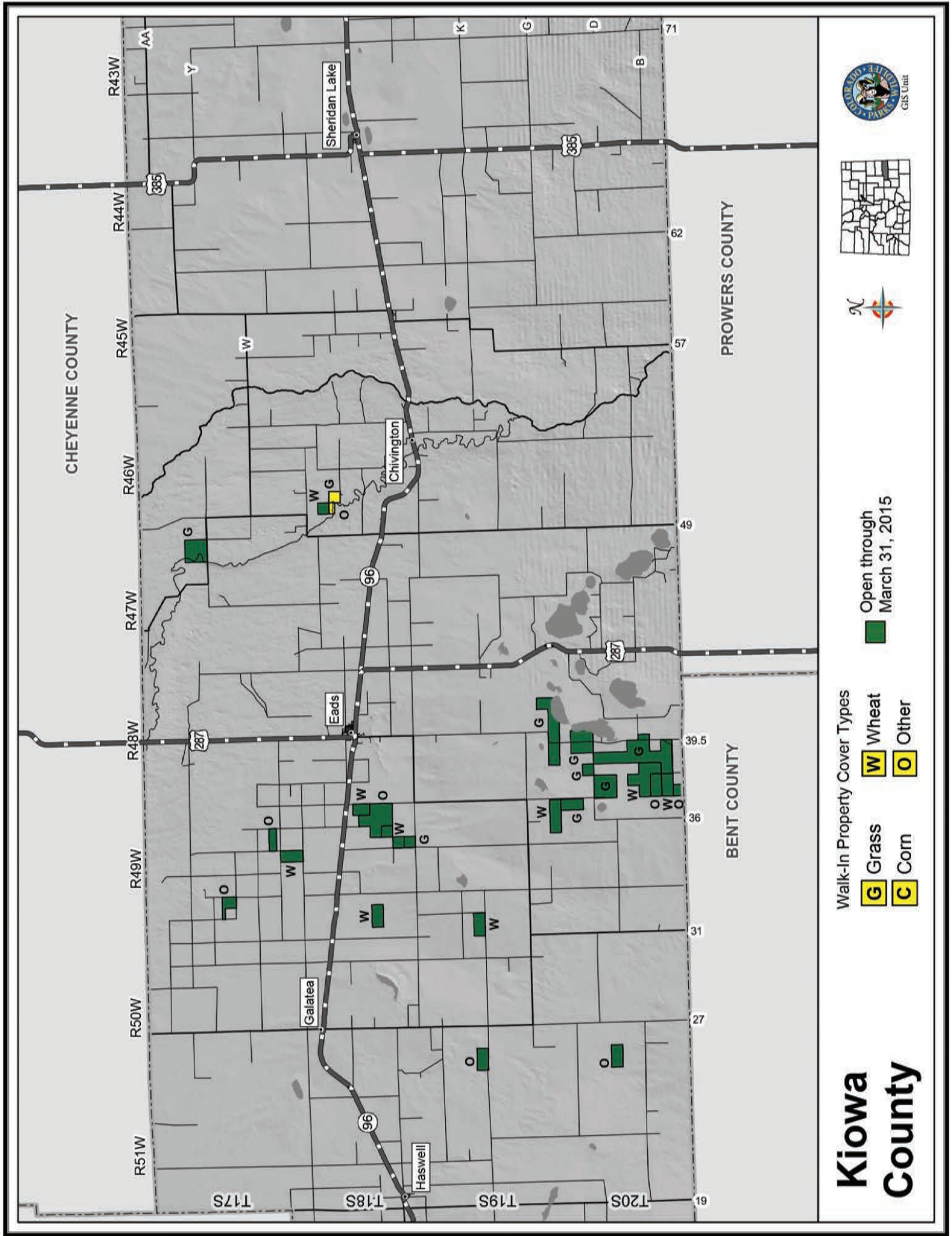




Walk-In Property Cover Types

G Grass	W Wheat
C Corn	O Other

Cheyenne County



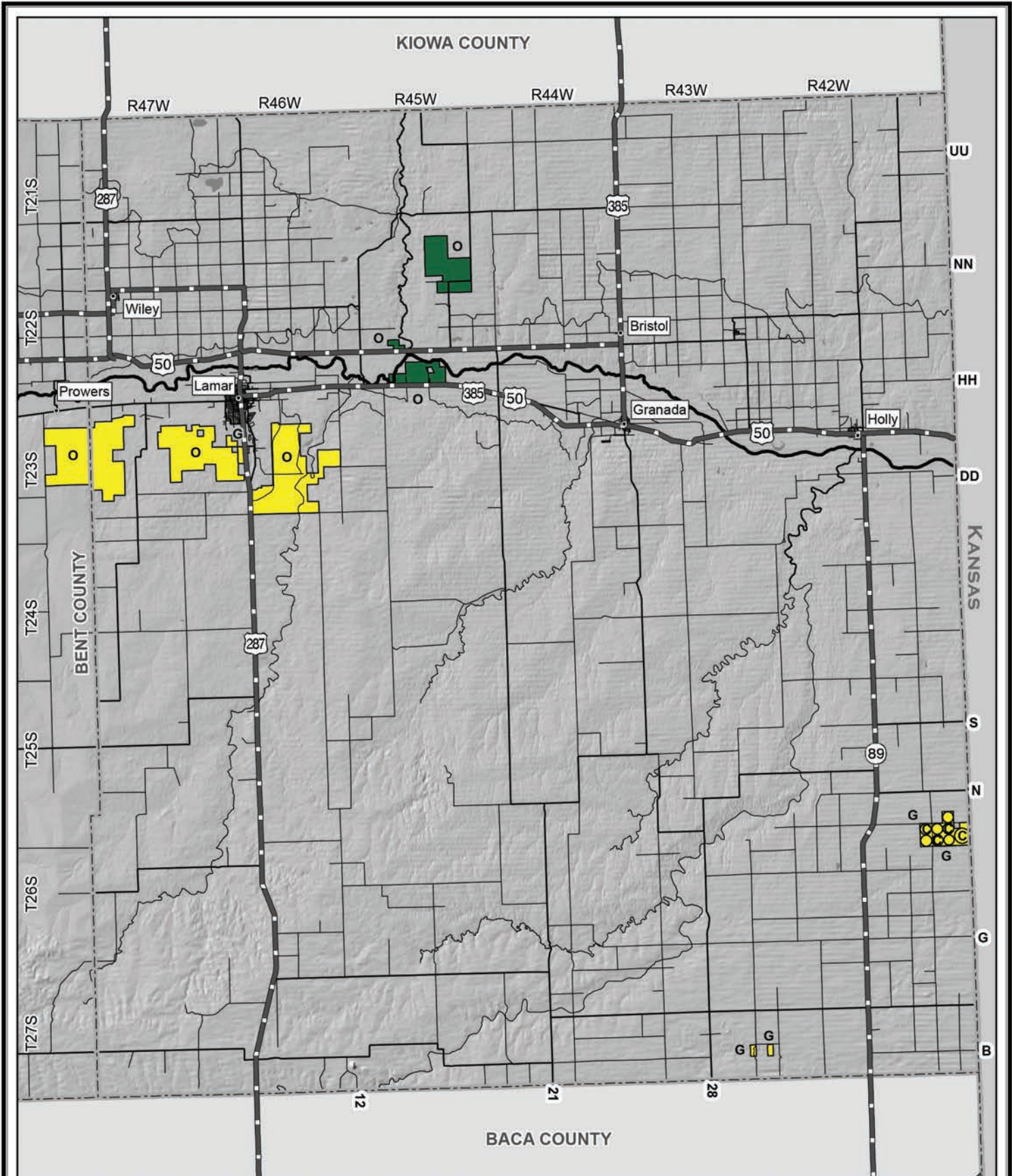
Kiowa County

Walk-In Property Cover Types

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

Open through
March 31, 2015





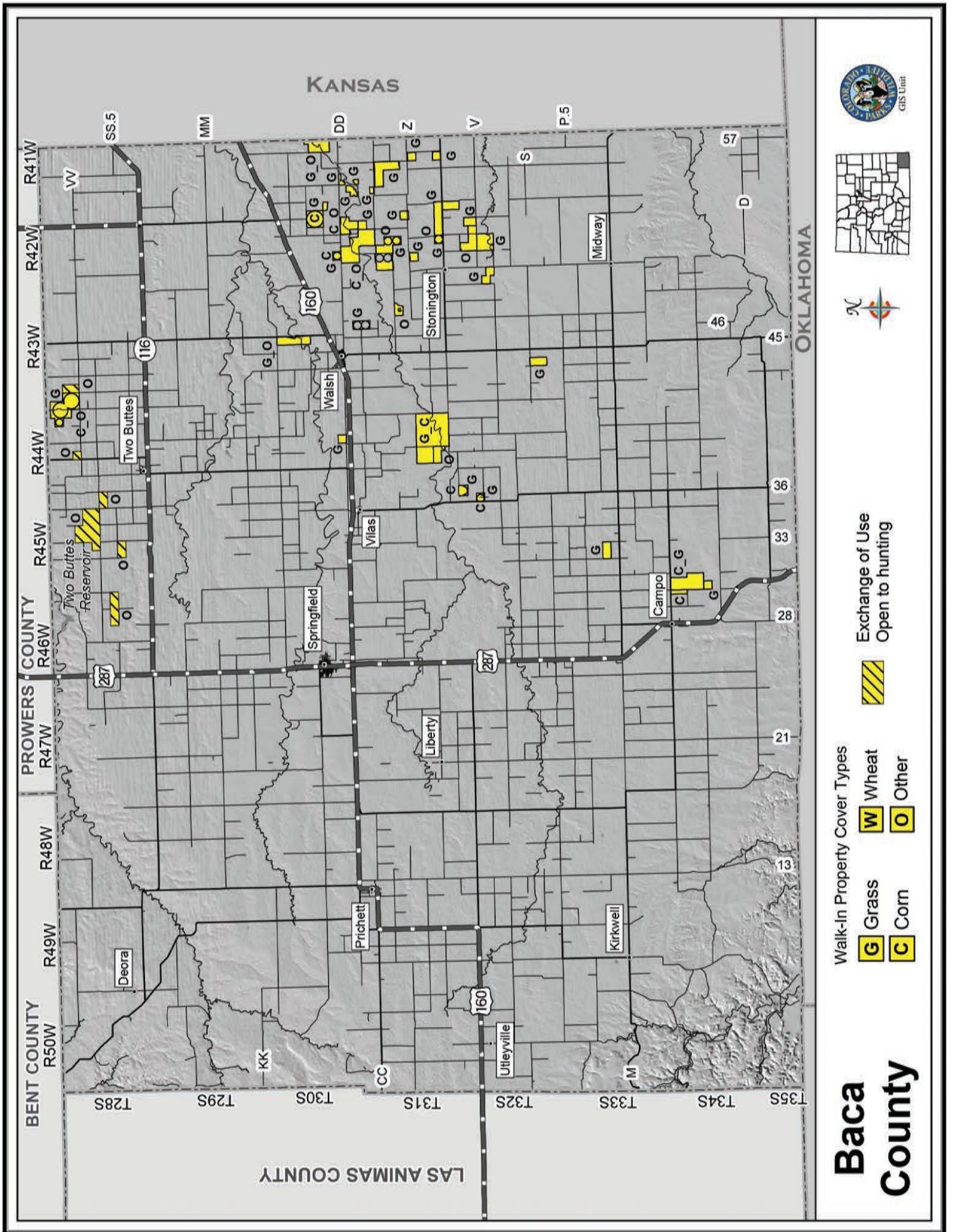
Prowers County

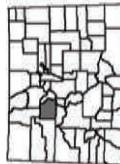
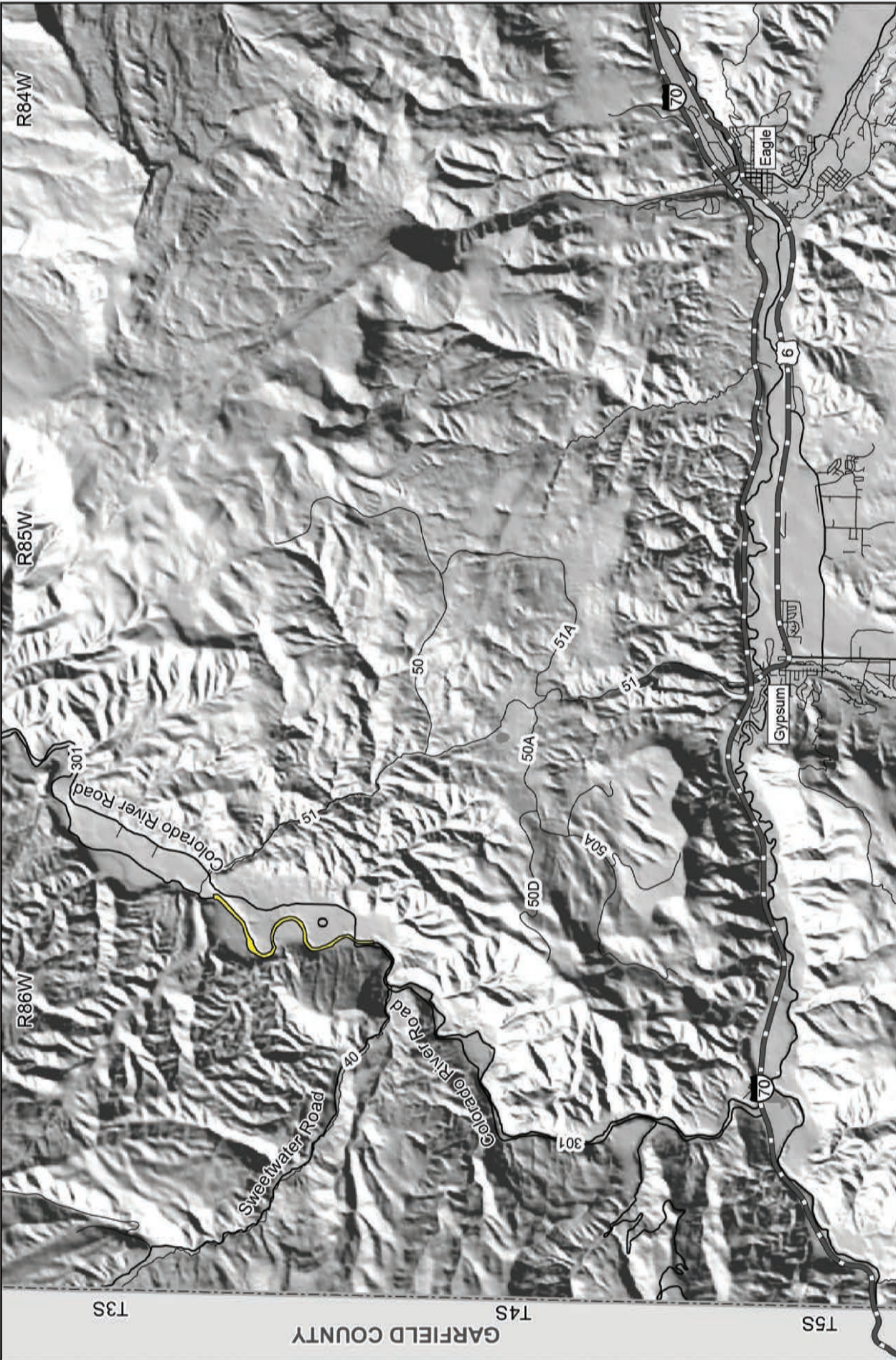
Walk-In Property Cover Types

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

Open through March 31, 2015







Walk-In Property Cover Types

G Grass	W Wheat
C Corn	O Other

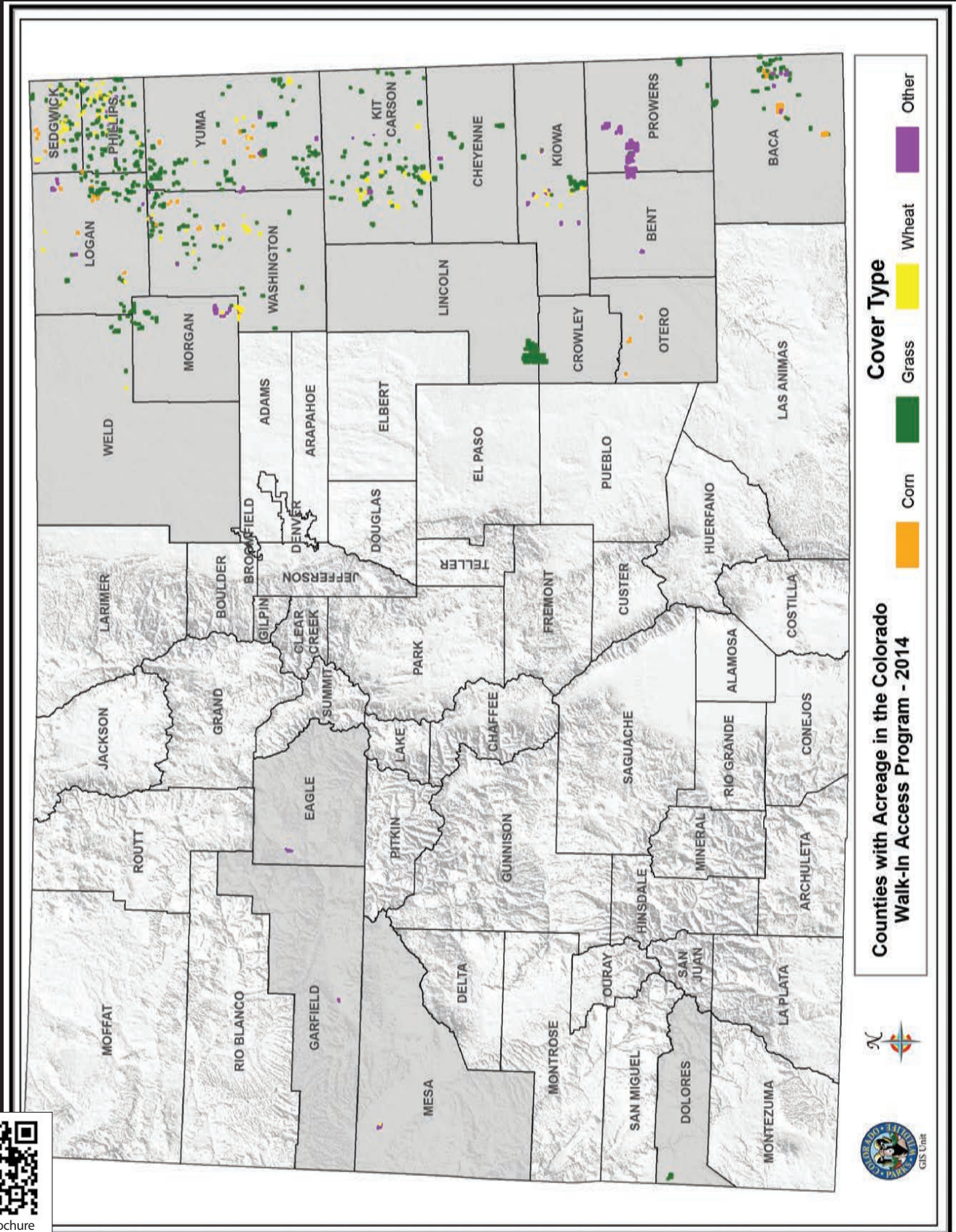
Eagle County



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