

Area Description

Boeuf WMA is located in Caldwell and Catahoula Parishes, 10 miles southeast of Columbia, LA. Compartment 14 encompasses approximately 862 acres and is centrally located within the WMA in sections 26, 27, 34, and 35 of T13N, R5E. The compartment is bounded by the Bayou Lafourche Canal to the north, the Boeuf River and private property to the east, Sawyer Pond Bayou to the south, and hardwood plantation to the west.

Current Conditions

Compartment 14 has a basal area of 90.6 ft² and a stocking of 120 trees per acre. Volumes were calculated to be 8.23 cords/acre of pulpwood and 1.030 DMBF/acre of saw timber.

Forest Types

The forest types found within compartment 11 include Overcup Oak-Bitter Pecan (374 acres), Willow Oak-Sweetgum (327 acres), Swamp Privet-Water Elm (121 acres), and Baldcypress-Green Ash (40 Acres).

The Overcup Oak-Bitter Pecan forest type is found on some of the lower areas of compartment 14. The overstory within this forest type consists of poorly stocked overcup oak and bitter pecan with substantial upper crown dieback. Understory vegetation is sparse consisting of red vine, poison ivy and trumpet creeper. The midstory is low to moderate with willow oak, swamp privet and deciduous holly accounting for the majority of the species present.

The Willow Oak-Sweetgum forest type is found on the higher elevation and better drained soils of the compartment. The overstory is moderately stocked consisting of stems 8 to 12 inches in diameter. Larger stems, greater than 20 inches, are present distributed evenly throughout the stand. Major overstory species of this type are willow oak, sweetgum and water oak, with minor associated species consisting of Nuttall oak, overcup oak, sugarberry, American elm and green ash. A moderate midstory consists of sweetgum, *Crataegus*, and deciduous holly. Understory vegetation is sparse consisting of red vine, poison ivy and trumpet creeper. Snags and large down woody debris is limited due to the relative young age of this stand.

The Swamp Privet-Water Elm forest type is found in low depressions that generally hold water throughout most of the year. These extremely wet conditions contribute to the lack of understory, midstory, and diversity.

The Baldcypress-Green Ash forest type is dominated predominately by baldcypress (approx. 90%). This type is commonly found adjacent to lakes, drains or frequently flooded areas.

Soil

The primary soil type in Compartment 14 is Alligator clay that frequently floods during the spring and winter months. Perry clay and Perry silty clay loam are found in this compartment as well and are occasionally flooded.

Wildlife

A high vine component on the higher ridges, coupled with a moderate midstory, provide ample foraging opportunities for squirrels and many species of resident and migrant song birds. On the lower elevations within the compartment there is little vertical structure, a lack of understory, and an underdeveloped midstory. This area does however provide waterfowl loafing habitat during the winter months when flooded. Many potential bear dens are available for use throughout the stand. Coarse woody debris, standing snags, and deadwood quantities are low to moderate.

Objectives

- Increase species and structural diversity
- Promote regeneration of desirable species
- Increase long-term wildlife habitat and mast production
- Increase coarse woody debris

Methods

Individual/ Group Selection (474 ac)

- Cut trees marked with two slashes of **blue** paint, one at eye level and one on the stump at ground level
- Group harvest units one to three acres in size randomly located throughout treatment area
- Individual selection thinning between groups
- Treatment boundaries marked with **orange** paint

Concerns

- Road maintenance during logging activities
- Excess rutting in low or wet areas

Treatment

To enhance the wildlife habitat within compartment 14 a timber harvest treatment is proposed on 474 acre. The marked trees should vary in species, diameter, and condition to promote species and structural diversity. This harvest will allow much needed light to reach the forest floor to establish herbaceous browse, escape cover, and nesting habitat for wildlife. Group harvest units will be used to create early successional habitat and to release or stimulate regeneration. The utilization of these two silvicultural treatments within the proposed treatment area will result in a more complex and diverse forest enhancing the wildlife habitat in compartment 14.

Logging Requirements

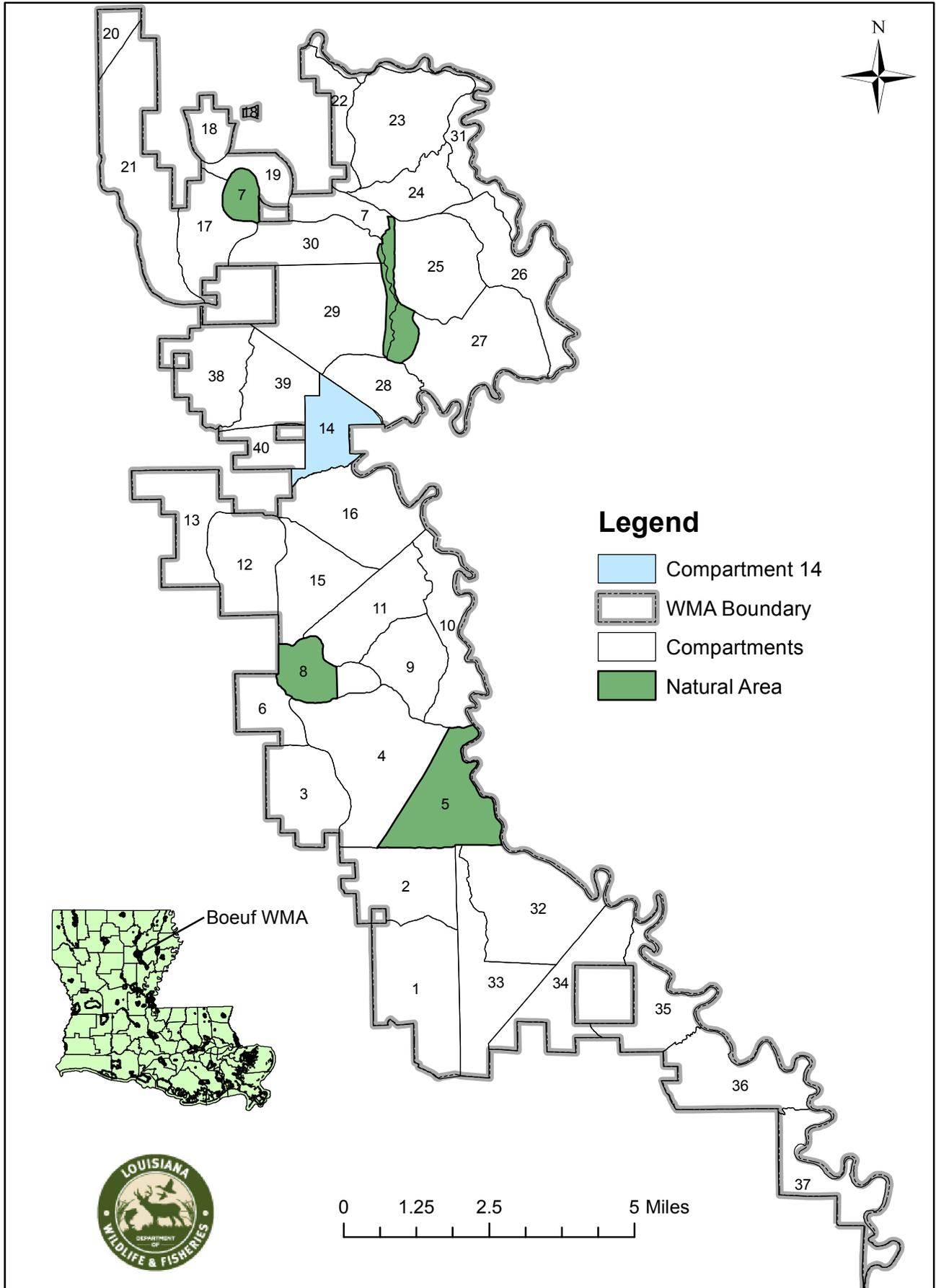
- No harvesting during wet periods
- No harvesting during firearm deer seasons or spring turkey season
- Stems topped at point of felling
- Maximum 40' skid length
- Logging slash should be redistributed throughout treatment area
- Louisiana BMP guidelines should be followed at all times

Additional Entry Requirements

- Re-entry as necessary to monitor stand development

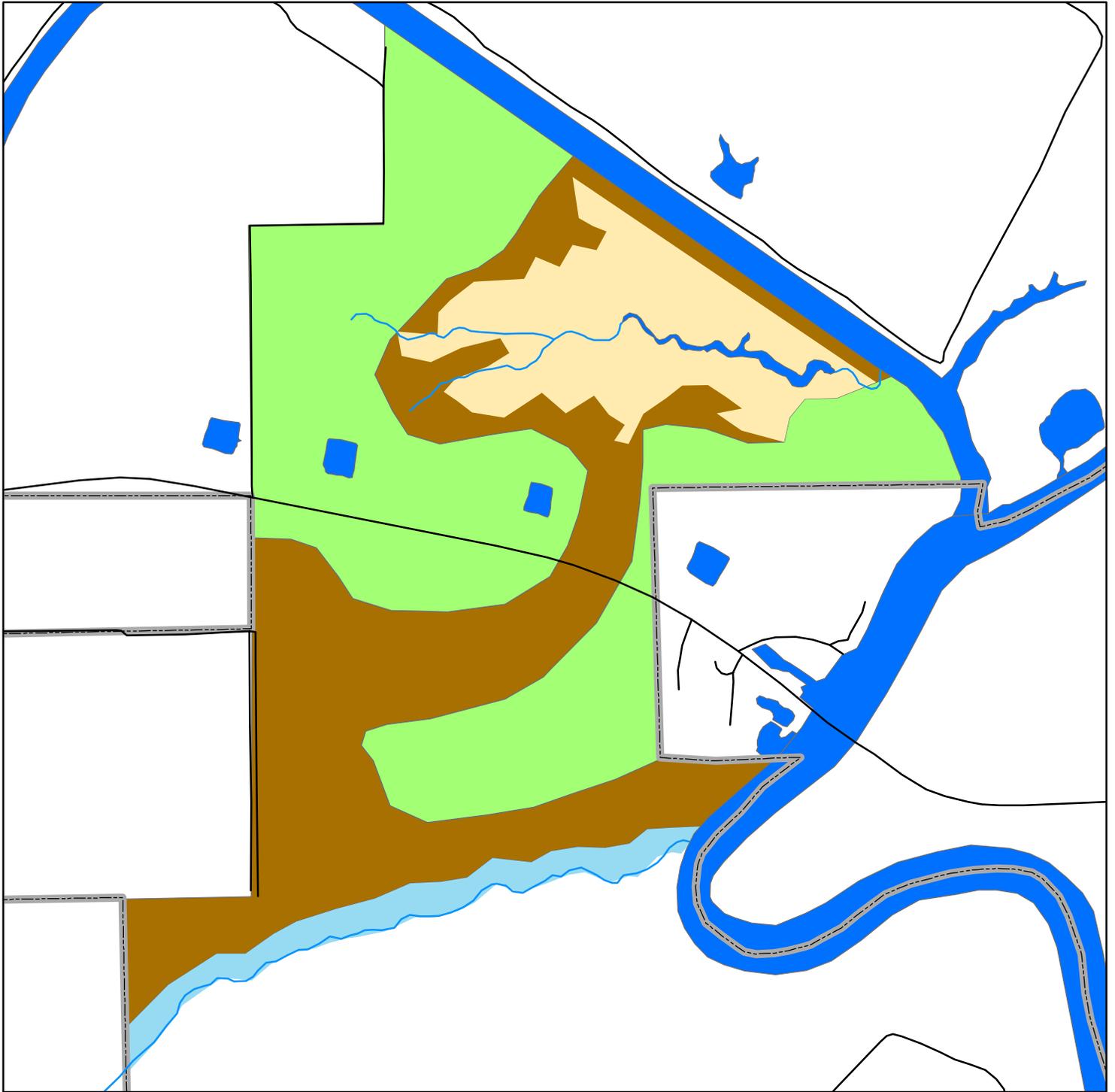
Boeuf WMA

Map 1



Forest Type Boeuf WMA

Map 2



Legend

- | | |
|--|---|
|  WMA Boundary |  Bald Cypress/ Green Ash (40 Acres) |
|  Roads |  Willow Oak/ Water Oak/ Sweetgum (387 Acres) |
|  Rivers & Lakes |  Overcup/ Bitter Pecan (435 Acres) |
|  Bayou |  Swamp Privet/ Water Elm (121 Acres) |

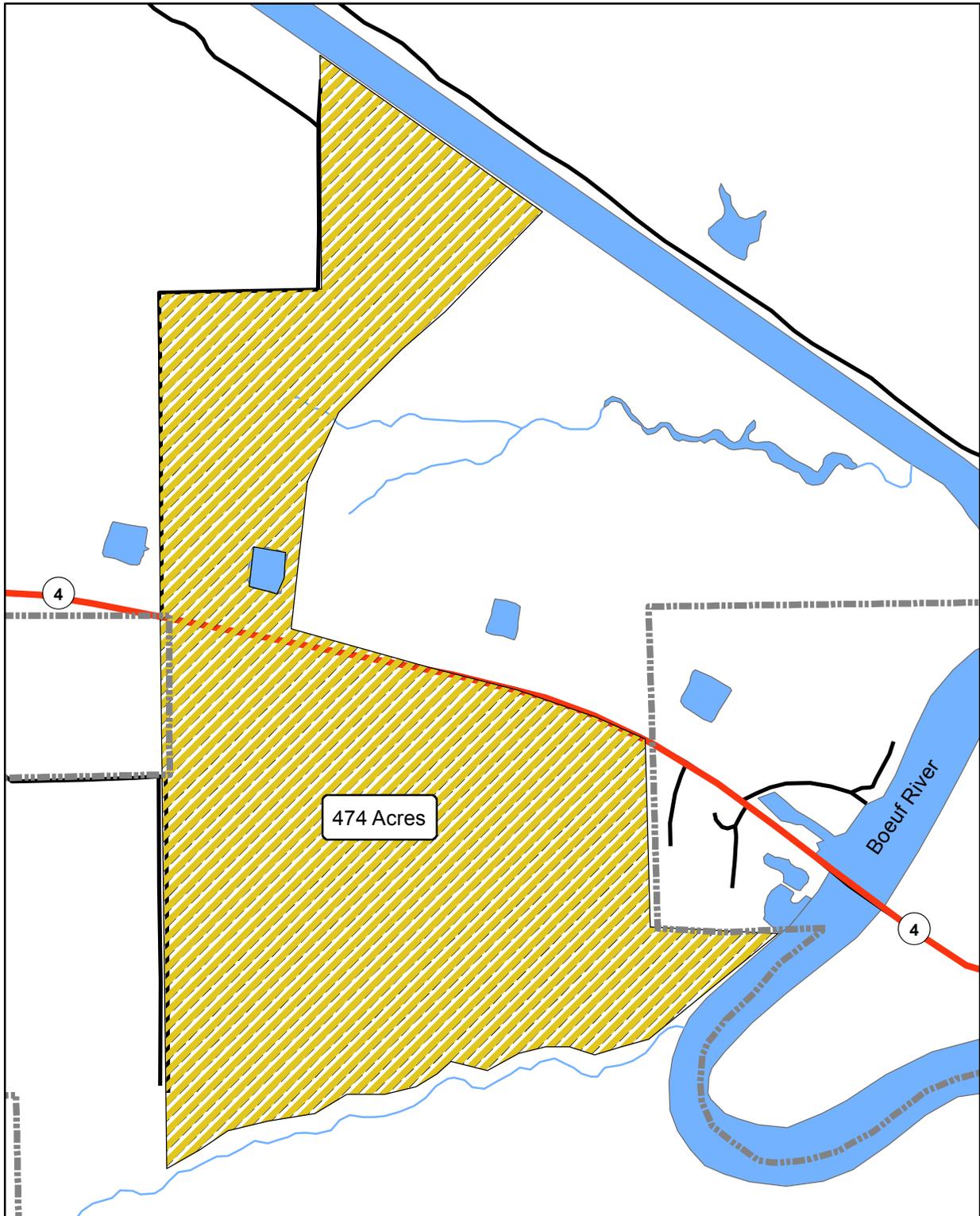
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Proposed Treatments

Boeuf WMA

Map 3



Legend

-  WMA Boundary
-  Water
-  Proposed Treatment
-  Highway
-  Roads

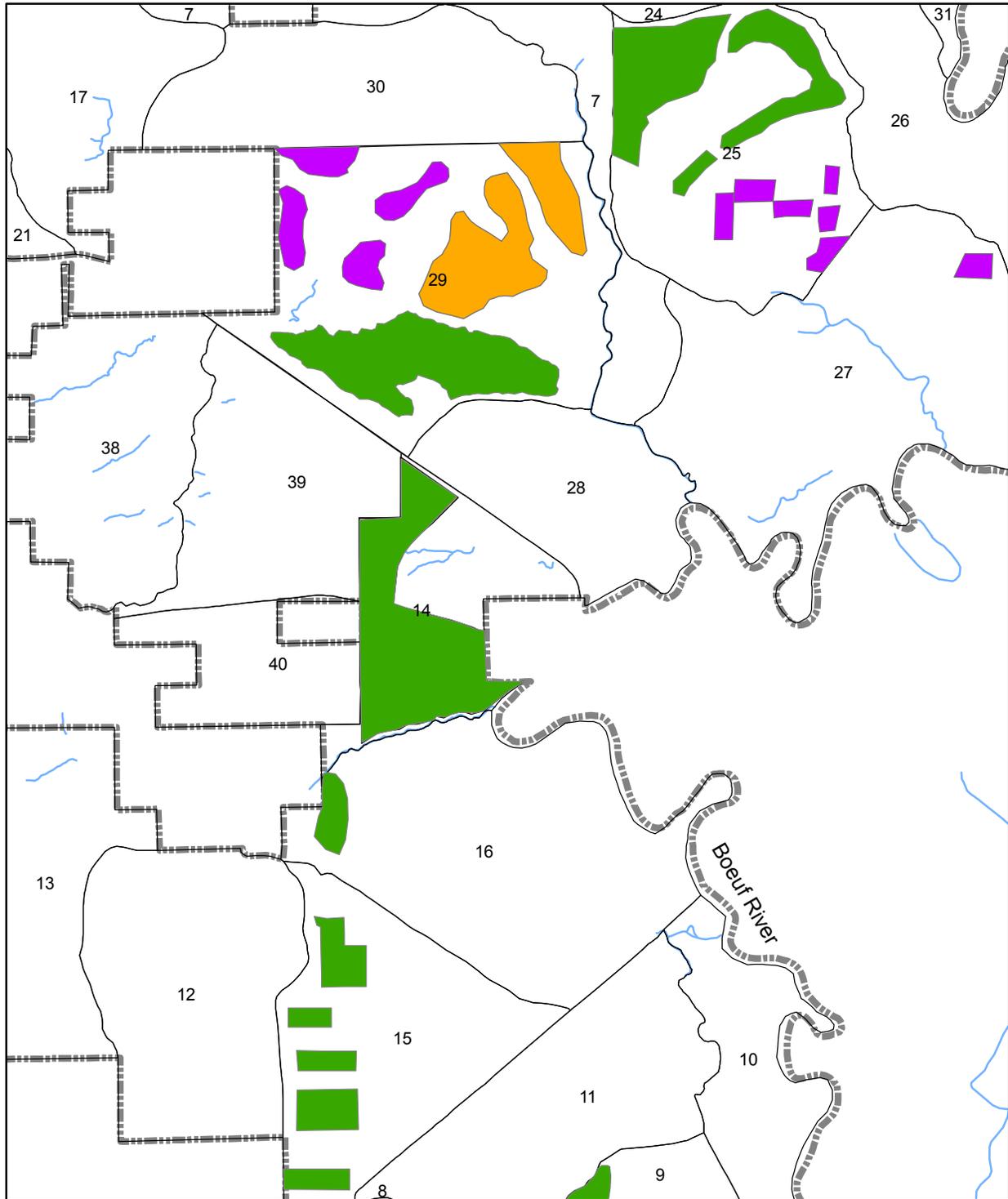
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Adjacent Treatments

Boeuf WMA

Map 4



Sale #	Treatment	Acres	Date	Compartment
42-1-192	Individual Selection	180	1994	15, 16
42-6-106	Individual Selection	377	2008	25
42-6-106	Clearcuts	113	2010	25
42-7-108	Clearcuts	160	2011	29
42-7-108	Shelterwood	329	2010	29
42-7-108	Individual Selection	373	2012	29
42-9-115	Individual Selection	474		14

Legend

- WMA Boundary
- Compartments
- Proposed Treatment
- Individual Selection
- Clearcuts
- Shelterwood

