OGMCOAL DNR <ogmcoal@utah.gov>

Prime Farmland status Coal Hollow Mine Alt K1 federal lease

Priscilla Burton <priscillaburton@utah.gov> Thu, Sep 24, 2020 at 4:38 PM
To: "Thapa, Bir - NRCS, Salt Lake City, UT" <bir.thapa@usda.gov>, OGMCOAL DNR <ogmcoal@utah.gov>

Mr. Bir Thapa
NRCS Utah State Soil Scientist

Hello Bir,

I am writing to consult with you regarding the survey of prime farmland in T 39 S, R 5 W Sections 18 and 19 and T 39 S, R 6 W, Sections 13 and 24 . This land will be disturbed by surface mining within the Alternative K1 boundary shown on Map 2.3 from the Final Environmental Impact statement for the Alton federal coal lease (attached). Map 2-3 shows the Alt. K1 boundary in red. The currently permitted Coal Hollow Mine areas are outlined in green on Map 2-3. Consultation between the Utah Division of Oil, Gas, & Mining and the Natural Resources Conservation Service is required by Utah Coal Mining Rule R645-302-313.

313. Application Contents--Reconnaissance Inspection. All permit applications, whether or not prime farmland is present, will include the results of a reconnaissance inspection of the proposed permit area to indicate whether prime farmland exists. The Division in consultation with the NRCS will determine the nature and extent of the required reconnaissance inspection.

313.100. If the reconnaissance inspection establishes that no land within the proposed permit area is prime farmland historically used for cropland, the applicant will submit a statement that no prime farmland is present. The statement will identify the basis upon which such a conclusion was reached.

Alton Coal Resources has provided the attached 2020-Disturbance Web Soil Survey Map of the Alt K1 federal lease. This map places Sections 18 & 19 in T39S, R5W and smaller areas of Sections 13 and 24 in T39S, R6W in Soil Map Unit 55: Naplene-Teromote-Arboles-Oxyaquic Ustifluvents complex, 2 to 8 percent slopes. (On this 2020-Disturbance WSS map, the Alt K1 federal lease boundary is drawn in blue-green.) The prime farmland status of soil in Map Unit 55 in question, because Naplene-Termote-Arboles Oxyaquic Ustifluvent complex, 2 to 8 percent slopes is also known as NRCS Prime Farmland Map Unit 1111 (Map 8, attached). The NRCS conducted a Prime Farmland assessment of the Coal Hollow North Lease in December 2012 and determined that soil map unit 1111 is considered Prime Farmland, if irrigated (Coal Hollow Mining and Reclamation Plan, Chapter 2, p. 2-1).

During a site visit on September 1, 2020, we observed the range land in Sections 18 and 19. Land South of the County Road in Section 18 appeared to have been previously seeded, as evidenced by alfalfa plants and crested wheat, but it was not irrigated. The 1968 Hydrographic Survey confirms the historical lack of irrigation (attached).

Please respond to this email with a final prime farmland determination for the Alt K1 federal coal lease area or provide advice as to what further reconnaissance should be done before the prime farmland status of Sections 18 & 19 (T39S, R 5 W) and Sections 13 & 24 (T39S, R6W) can be made.

Best Regards,

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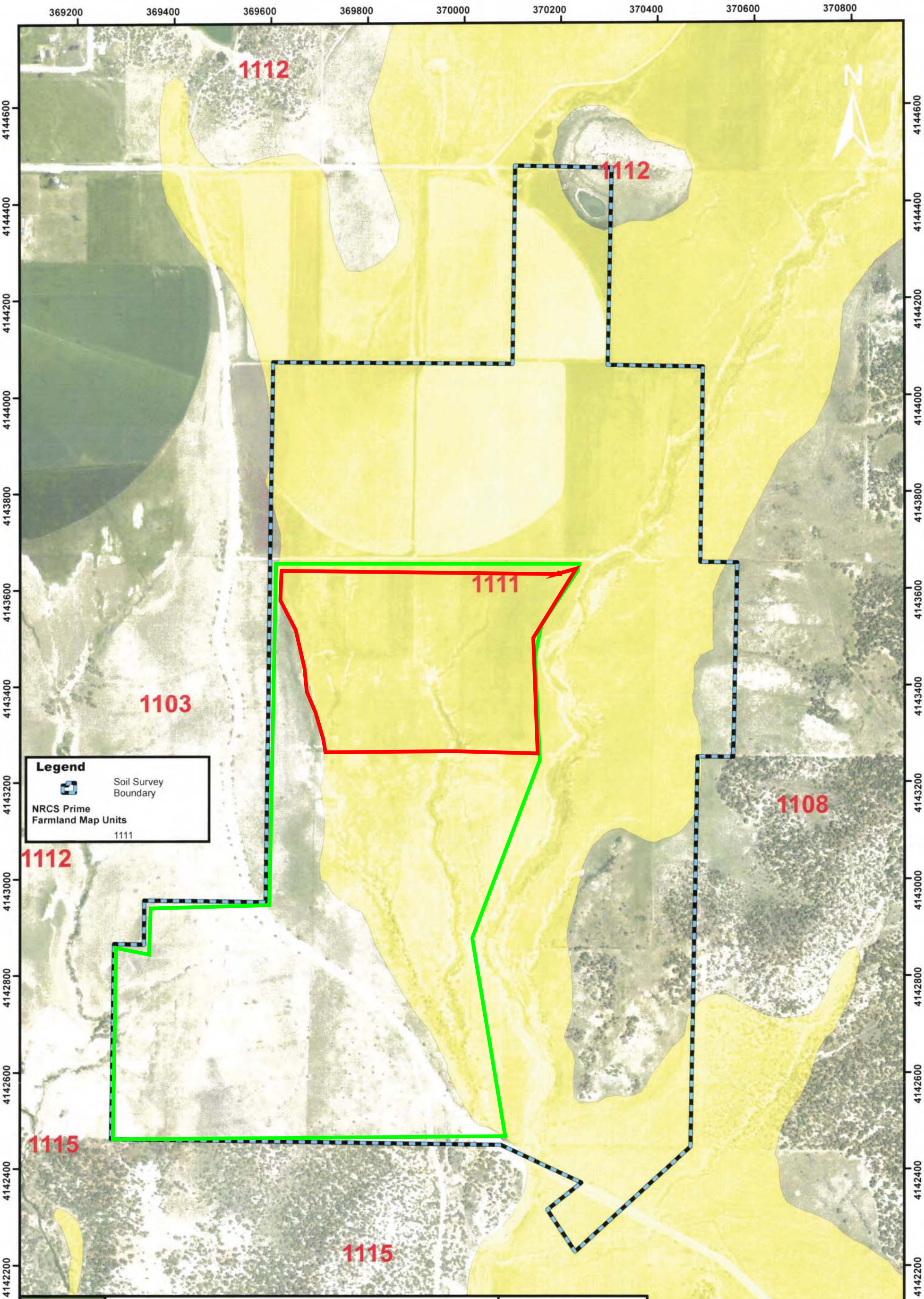
4 attachments

Map 8 NRCS Prime farmlands.pdf
350K

Map 2-3 Final EIS p 771.pdf
1149K

1968 Hydrographic Survey_Combined.pdf
1035K

2020_Disturbance_WSS_Soil_Map_11x17.pdf
2685K



Coal Hollow Project

Soils Map 8 - Prime Farmland NRCS Determination

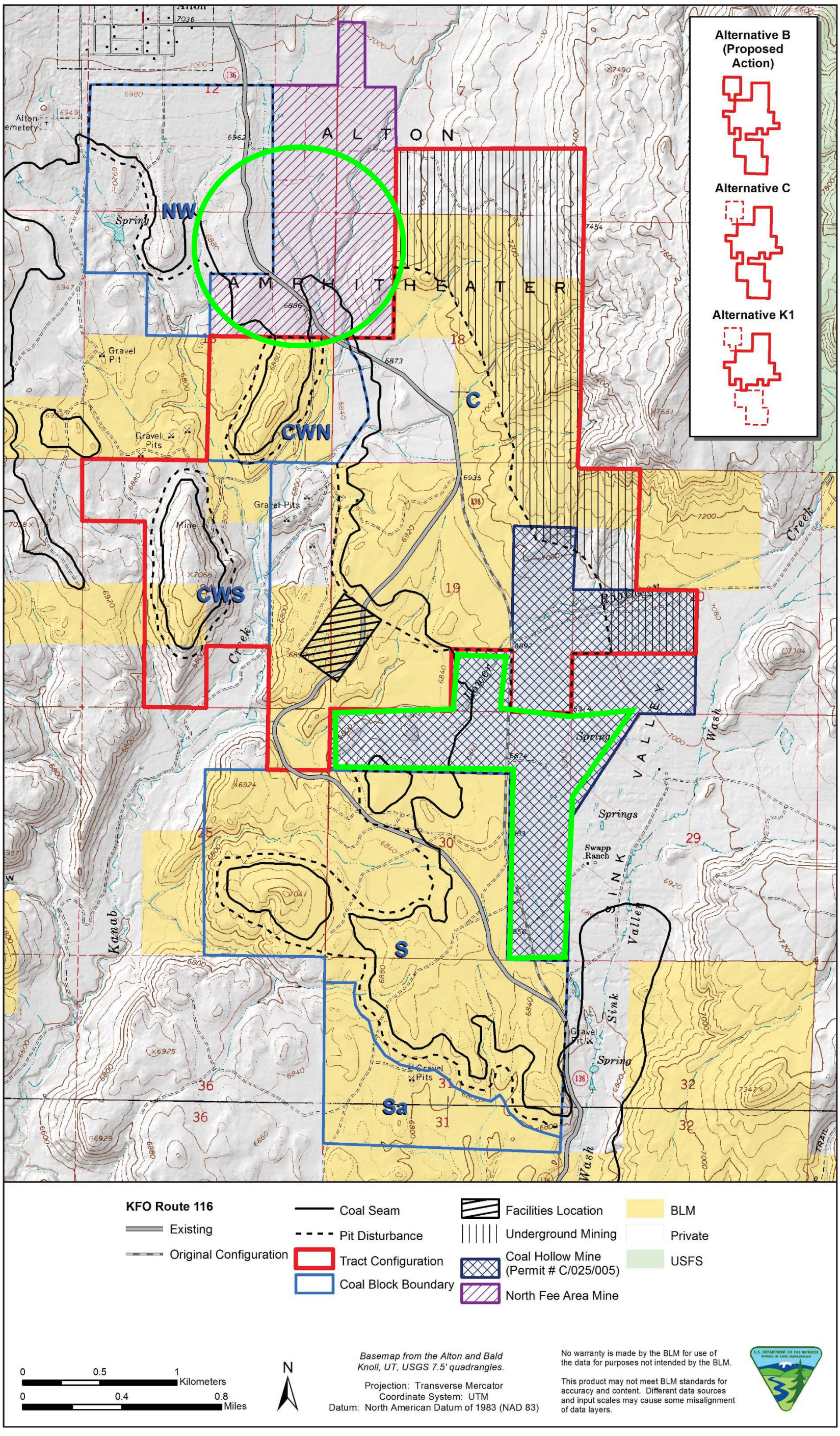
Alton Coal - North Private Lease

July 7, 2014 Rev: Sept 24, 2015 UTM NAD83

Prepared by:
Long Resource Consultants
Morgan, UT
Mt. Nebo Scientific
Springville, UT

Base Map: NAIP 2011

Div. of Oil, Gas & Mining
FEB 0 2016
INCORPORATED

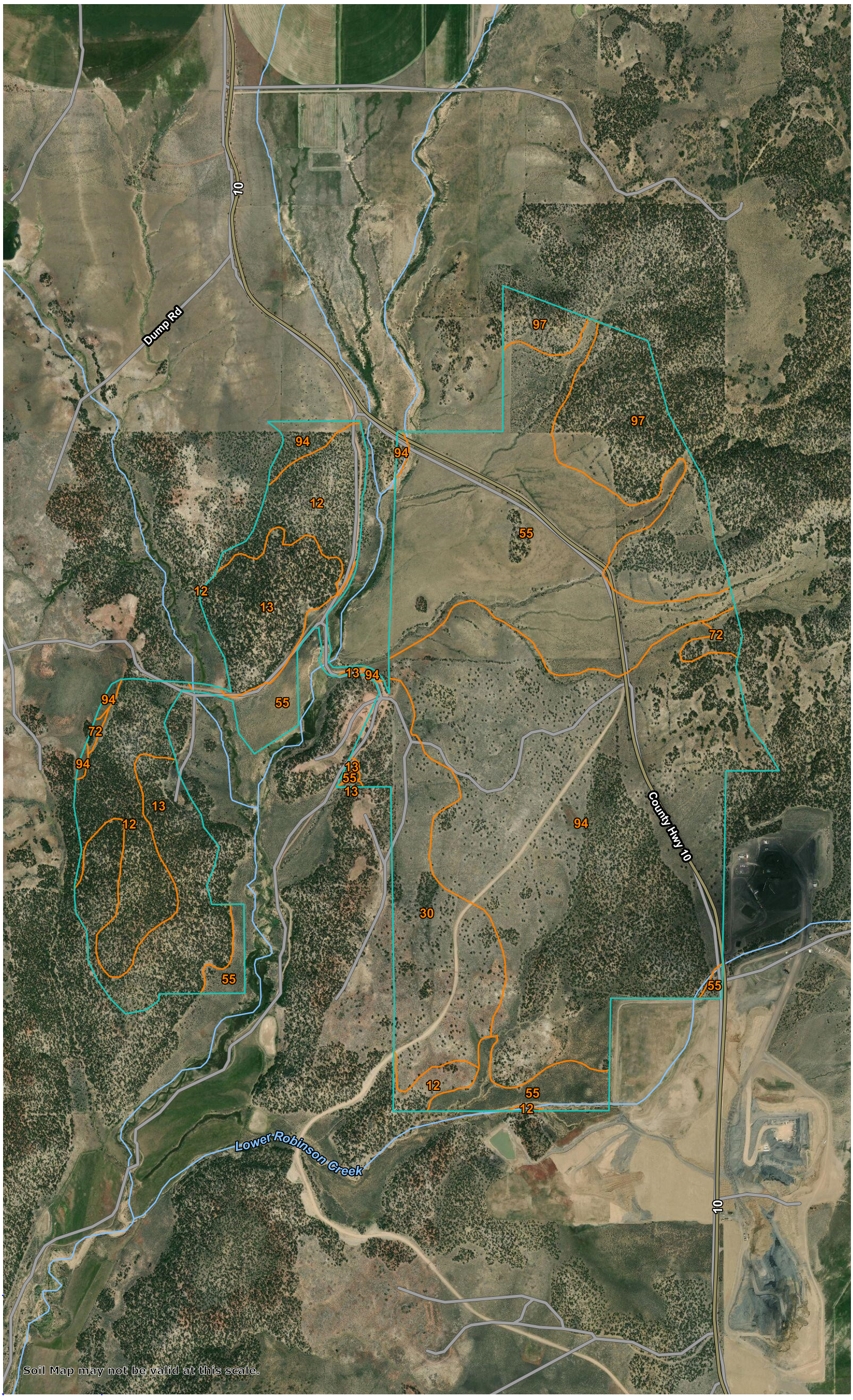


Map 2.3. Alton Coal Tract configuration and landownership under Alternative K1 (reduced tract acreage [BLM's preferred alternative]).

Soil Map—Kane County Area, Utah
(Alton_Disturbance)

112° 29' 2" W 112° 26' 59" W

37° 26' 0" N 37° 26' 0" N



37° 23' 20" N 37° 23' 20" N

112° 29' 2" W 112° 26' 59" W

Map Scale: 1:13,800 if printed on B portrait (11" x 17") sheet.

N

Meters: 0 200 400 800 1200

Feet: 0 500 1000 2000 3000

Map projection: Web Mercator Corner coordinates: WGS84

MAP LEGEND

Area of Interest (AOI)

Area of Interest (AOI)

Soils

Soil Map Unit Polygons

Soil Map Unit Lines

Soil Map Unit Points

Special Point Features

Blowout

Borrow Pit

Clay Spot

Closed Depression

Gravel Pit

Gravelly Spot

Landfill

Lava Flow

Marsh or swamp

Mine or Quarry

Miscellaneous Water

Perennial Water

Rock Outcrop

Saline Spot

Sandy Spot

Severely Eroded Spot

Sinkhole

Slide or Slip

Sodic Spot

Spoil Area

Stony Spot

Very Stony Spot

Wet Spot

Other

Special Line Features

Water Features

Streams and Canals

Transportation

Rails

Interstate Highways

US Routes

Major Roads

Local Roads

Background

Aerial Photography

MAP INFORMATION

The soil surveys that comprise your AOI were mapped at 1:63,400.

Warning: Soil Map may not be valid at this scale.

Enlargement of maps beyond the scale of mapping can cause misunderstanding of the detail of mapping and accuracy of soil line placement. The maps do not show the small areas of contrasting soils that could have been shown at a more detailed scale.

Please rely on the bar scale on each map sheet for map measurements.

Source of Map: Natural Resources Conservation Service
Web Soil Survey URL:
Coordinate System: Web Mercator (EPSG:3857)

Maps from the Web Soil Survey are based on the Web Mercator projection, which preserves direction and shape but distorts distance and area. A projection that preserves area, such as the Albers equal-area conic projection, should be used if more accurate calculations of distance or area are required.

This product is generated from the USDA-NRCS certified data as of the version date(s) listed below.

Soil Survey Area: Kane County Area, Utah
Survey Area Data: Version 4, Sep 16, 2019

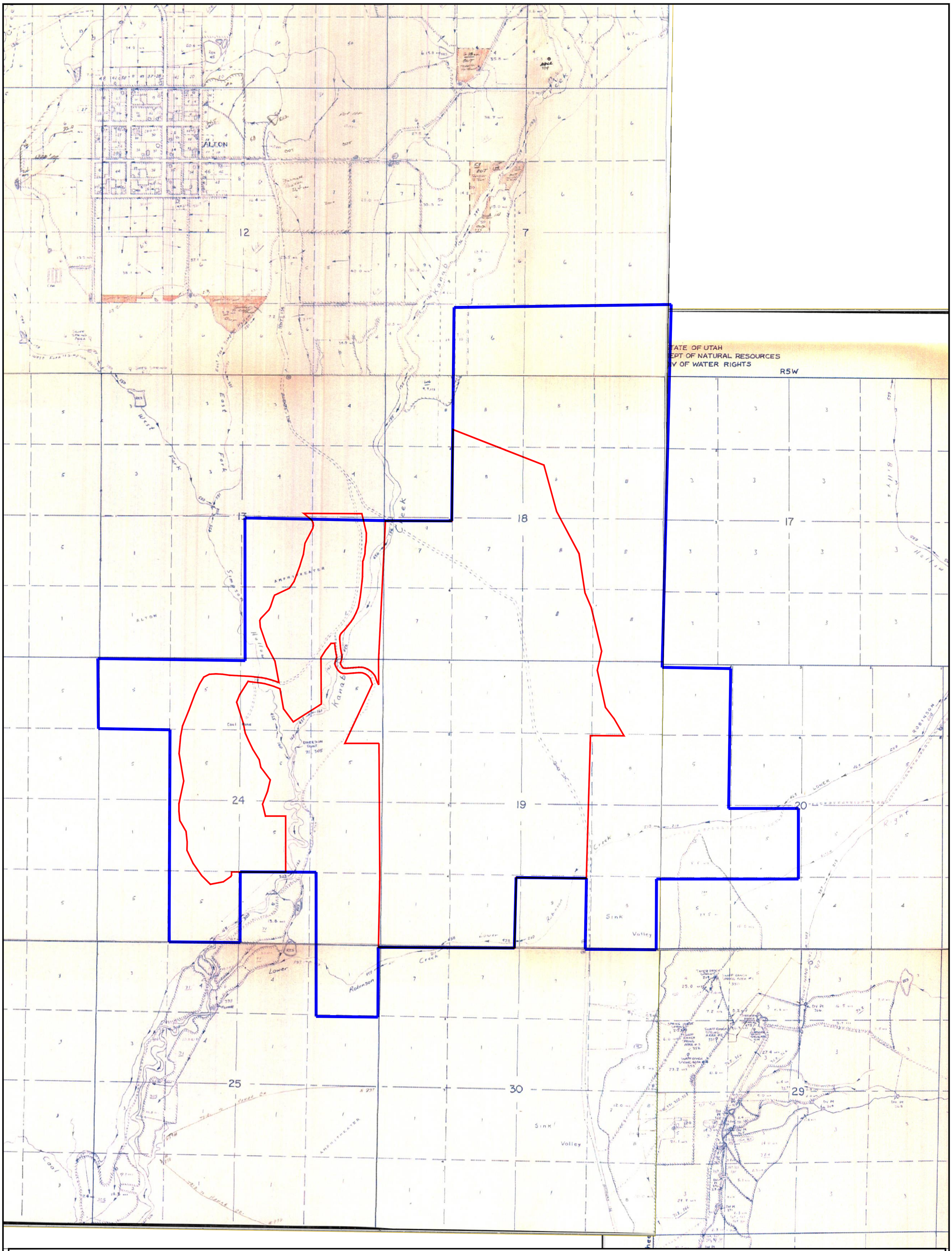
Soil map units are labeled (as space allows) for map scales 1:50,000 or larger.

Date(s) aerial images were photographed: Mar 15, 2013—Jun 28, 2017

The orthophoto or other base map on which the soil lines were compiled and digitized probably differs from the background imagery displayed on these maps. As a result, some minor shifting of map unit boundaries may be evident.

Map Unit Legend

Map Unit Symbol	Map Unit Name	Acres in AOI	Percent of AOI
12	Catdraw family-Orderville-Quezcan family complex, 15 to 35 percent slopes	93.0	9.6%
13	Catdraw-Quezcan-Vessilla complex, 35 to 60 percent slopes	105.8	11.0%
30	Flugle-Teromote-Skutumpah complex, 2 to 15 percent slopes	90.4	9.4%
55	Naplene-Teromote-Arboles-Oxyaquic Ustifluvents complex, 2 to 8 percent slopes	221.0	22.9%
72	Quezcan, deep-Sideshow-Orderville complex, 15 to 35 percent slopes	6.5	0.7%
94	Sili-Sideshow-Gypsic Haplustepts complex, 2 to 15 percent slopes	355.5	36.9%
97	Teromote-Caval-Zopilote family complex, 4 to 35 percent slopes	91.5	9.5%
Totals for Area of Interest		**963.8**	**100.0%**



LEGEND:

- LBA PERMIT AREA
- Alt. K1 APE

DRAWN BY:	CHECKED BY:
K. NICHOLES	AC
DRAWING: XX	DATE: 06/01/20
	SCALE: 1" = 1000'
JOB NUMBER:	SHEET

REVISIONS

DATE:	BY:
XX/XX/XX	XX

HYDROGRAPHIC SURVEY 1968

COAL HOLLOW PROJECT
ALTON, UTAH

DRAWING: XX

Alton Coal Development
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