USAG Alaska 2024 Natural Resource Management Report to the Bureau of Land Management

U.S. Army Garrison Alaska

January 2024

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Contacts

Peter Baker
Conservation Branch Chief
USAG Alaska
Fort Wainwright, AK 99703
peter.a.baker8.civ@army.mil
(907) 361-6623

Dan Rees
Natural Resource Manager
USAG Alaska
Fort Wainwright, AK 99703
daniel.c.rees.civ@army.mil
(907) 361-9318

Justin Smith
Natural Resource Specialist
USAG Alaska
Fort Wainwright, AK 99703
justin.a.smith230.civ@army.mil
(907) 361-4539

Prepared by:

United States Army Garrison Alaska
Directorate of Public Works Environmental Division, Natural Resources Program
3023 Engineer Place, BLDG 3023
Fort Wainwright, Alaska 99703

Introduction

United States Army Garrison Alaska acknowledges the Athabascan people as the original stewards of these lands and expresses appreciation to live, work, recreate, and train on the Dena homeland.

Effective communication and coordination between the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and the Army has been identified as a need in the "Memorandum of Understanding between the U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management Alaska, and the U.S. Army Garrison Alaska concerning the management of lands in Alaska withdrawn by Public Law 106-65 for military use". This report contains brief project descriptions of United States Army Garrison Alaska (USAG Alaska) actions in support of natural resources management and serves as the annual report for calendar year 2024 to the BLM as stipulated by 106-65 memorandum: providing a report on vegetation and habitat actions. To continue improving communicating among federal and state agencies, stakeholders, and tribes, this document contains USAG Alaska managed lands that are not included in the 106-35 memorandum.

The Natural Resources Program is guided by the USAG Alaska Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan (INRMP), a requirement of the Sikes Act (USC §670), which establishes policies, programs, prescriptions, projects, and procedures that the Army uses to manage natural resources on training lands in Alaska. The INRMP contains goals and specific objectives necessary to (1) sustain "no net loss" in the capability of military lands to support mission requirements, (2) support stewardship of natural resources, (3) ensure compliance with applicable environmental laws, and (4) maximize public access within the constraints of the military mission while protecting public safety and conserving the environment. The INRMP reflects mutual agreement of the Army, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADFG) concerning the conservation of the natural resources under their respective legal authorities. The INRMP consolidates other related Army natural resource planning documents in one place, including the Ecosystem Management Plan, Integrated Wildland Fire Management Plan, Endangered Species Management Plan, Forestry Management Plan, Watershed Management Plan, and Outdoor Recreation Management Plan. The INRMP also incorporates the applicable BLM Resource Management Plans for Yukon and Donnelly Training Areas. The INRMP for USAG Alaska was last updated in 2020 and is reviewed and updated annually.

The Army's Integrated Training Area Management (ITAM) programs are housed within the United States Army Alaska (USARAK/11th Airborne Division) Sustainable Range Program and are guided by the ITAM Work Plan, which is updated annually. The ITAM program is also integrated into the INRMP. ITAM provides sustainable range management directly to the Army mission of the 11th Airborne Division, while coordinating with the USAG Alaska environmental staff. The goals of the ITAM program are to support the installation's training mission by providing maneuver land and decision support capability based on the integration of training requirements, land conditions, maneuver ranges, and land management requirements.

For questions concerning environmental goals and polices, please contact:

Dan Rees
Natural Resources Program Manager
USAG Alaska
Directorate of Public Works Environmental Division
(907) 361-9318
daniel.c.rees.civ@army.mil

Acronyms

ADFG Alaska Department of Fish and Game
AKSD Alaska Known Sites Database
APHIS Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service
BLM Bureau of Land Management
CEMML Center for Environmental Management of Military Lands
CRREL Cold Regions Research and Engineering Laboratory
CSU Colorado State University
DPW ENV Directorate of Public Works Environmental Division (USAG Alaska)
DTA Donnelly Training Area
ESTCP Environmental Security Technology Certification Program
FIA Forest Inventory and Analysis
FWI Fire Weather Index
GRTA Gerstle River Training Area
GTT Geospatial Task Tracker
LiDAR Laser imaging, Detection, and Ranging
LRAM Land Rehabilitation and Maintenance
ORV Off-Road Vehicle
RFMSS Range Facility Management Support System
RTLA Range and Training Land Assessment
SDSFIE Spatial Data Standard for Facilities, Infrastructure, and Environment
SDSWCD Salcha-Delta Soil & Water Conservation District
SERDP Strategic Environmental Research and Development Program
UAF University of Alaska Fairbanks
USAG Alaska United States Army Garrison Alaska
USDA United State Department of Agriculture
USFWS United States Fish and Wildlife Service
TFTA Tanana Flats Training Area
WASH Ladd and Allen Army Airfield Wildlife Aircraft Strike Hazard
WWMP Wetland and Waterbody Management Program
YTA Yukon Training Area

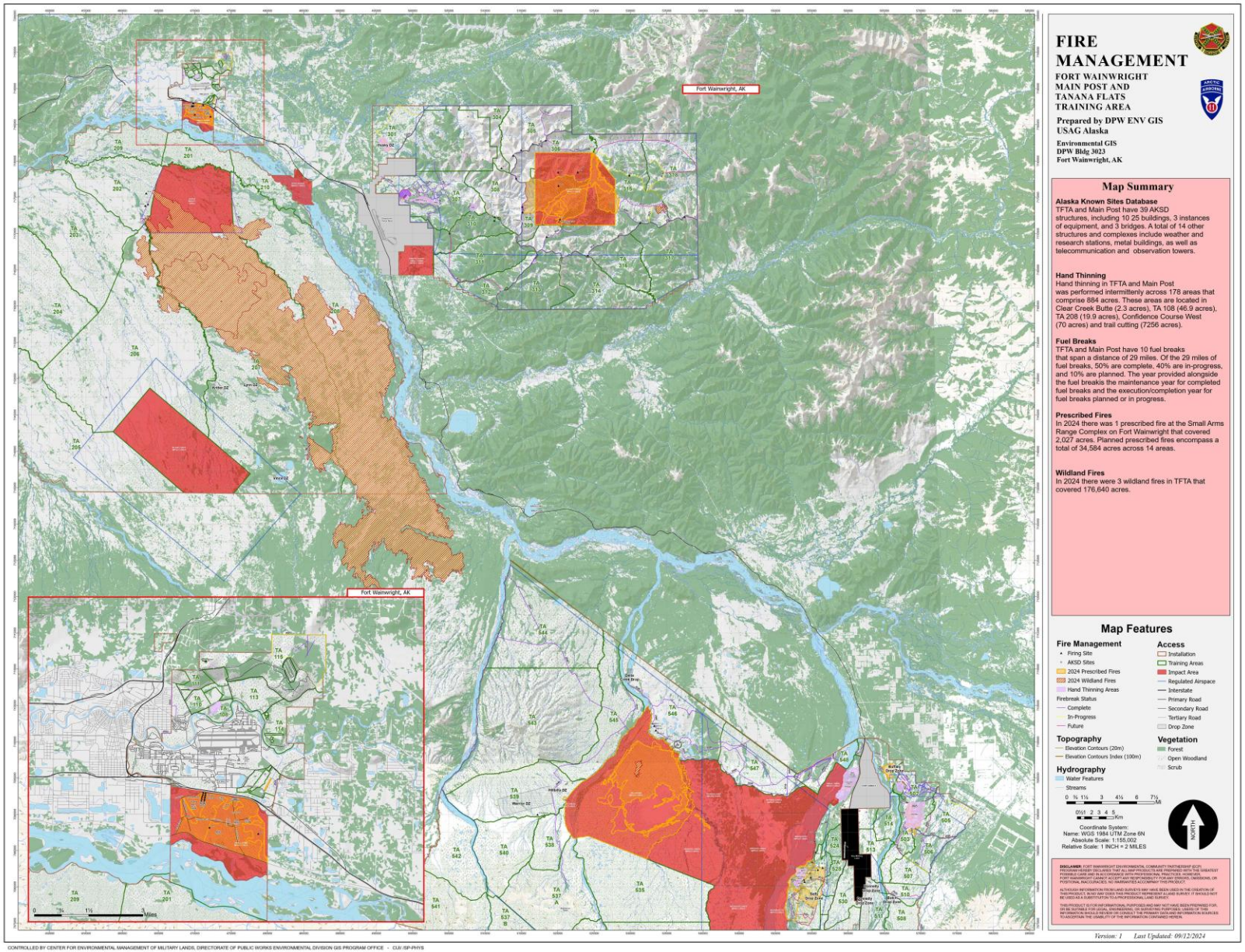
Environmental GIS

The USAG Alaska Geographic Information System (GIS) is a foundational capability of natural resource management. GIS is a computer-based tool capable of assembling, storing, manipulating, and displaying geographically referenced information, (i.e., data identified according to their locations). The system can be used to analyze and model (manipulate, overlay, measure, compute, and retrieve) the digital spatial data and display the new map products and tabular resources information showing the results of the spatial analysis. GIS technology integrates common database operations such as query and statistical analysis with the unique visualization and geographic analysis benefits offered by maps. These abilities distinguish GIS from other information systems.

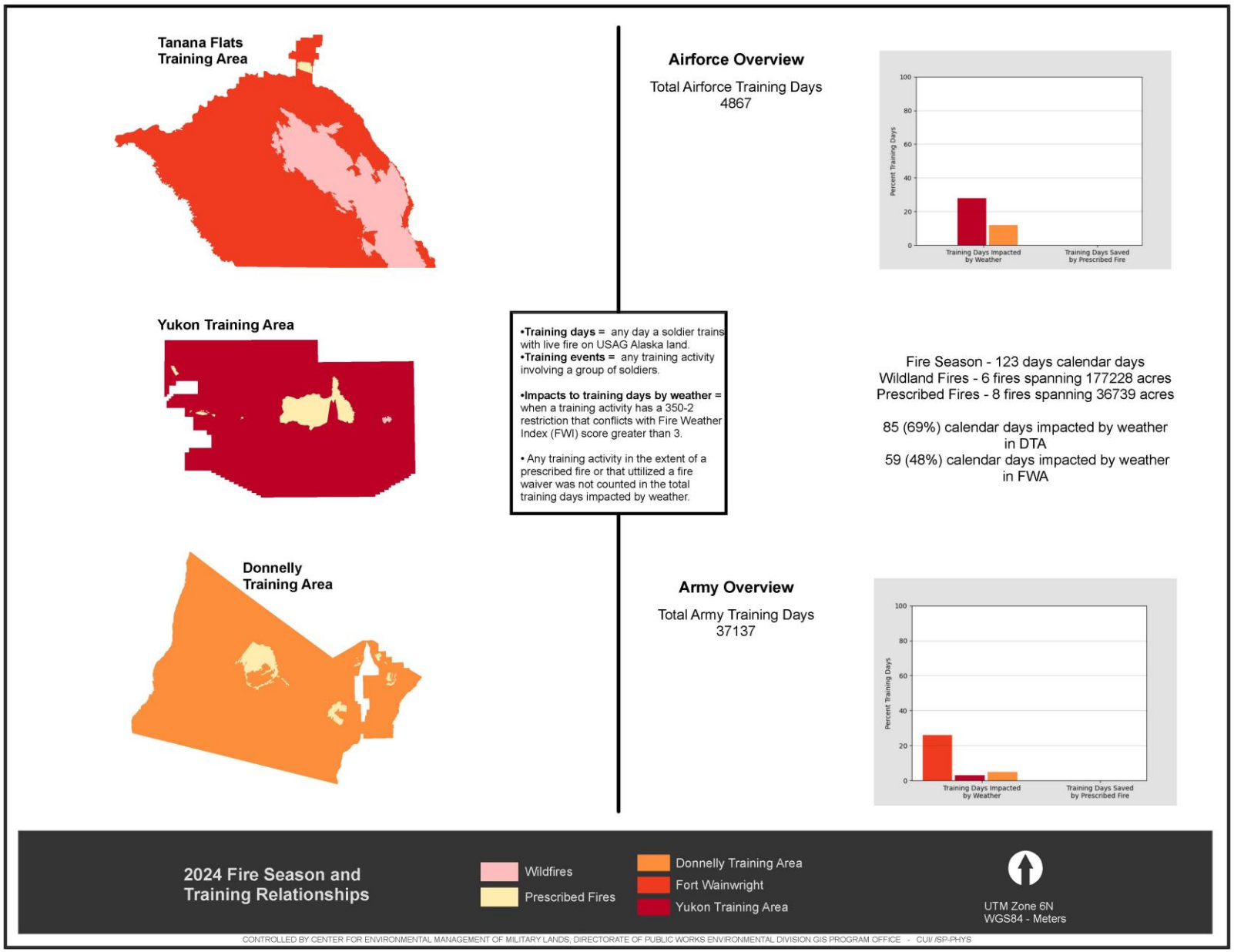
USAG Alaska Fort Wainwright DPW Environmental personnel, with assistance from USAG Alaska Fort Wainwright 516th Signal Brigade, manage the GIS application data. The data supports GIS users from USAG Alaska Fort Wainwright and Fort Greely DPW, and the 11th Airborne Division/USARAK Range Control at Fort Wainwright, Donnelly Training Area, and Joint Base Elmendorf Richardson (JBER).

Each of the three primary GIS users (DPW Environmental, DPW Real Property, 11th Airborne Division/USARAK TSA-AK) are responsible to be data stewards for their data layers. DPW Environmental is responsible for natural resource data layers, such as soils, water, vegetation, forestry, and wildlife resources. DPW Real Property is responsible for real property data layers such as boundaries and infrastructure, while the 11th Airborne Division/USARAK TSA-AK maintains data layers for range and training activities.

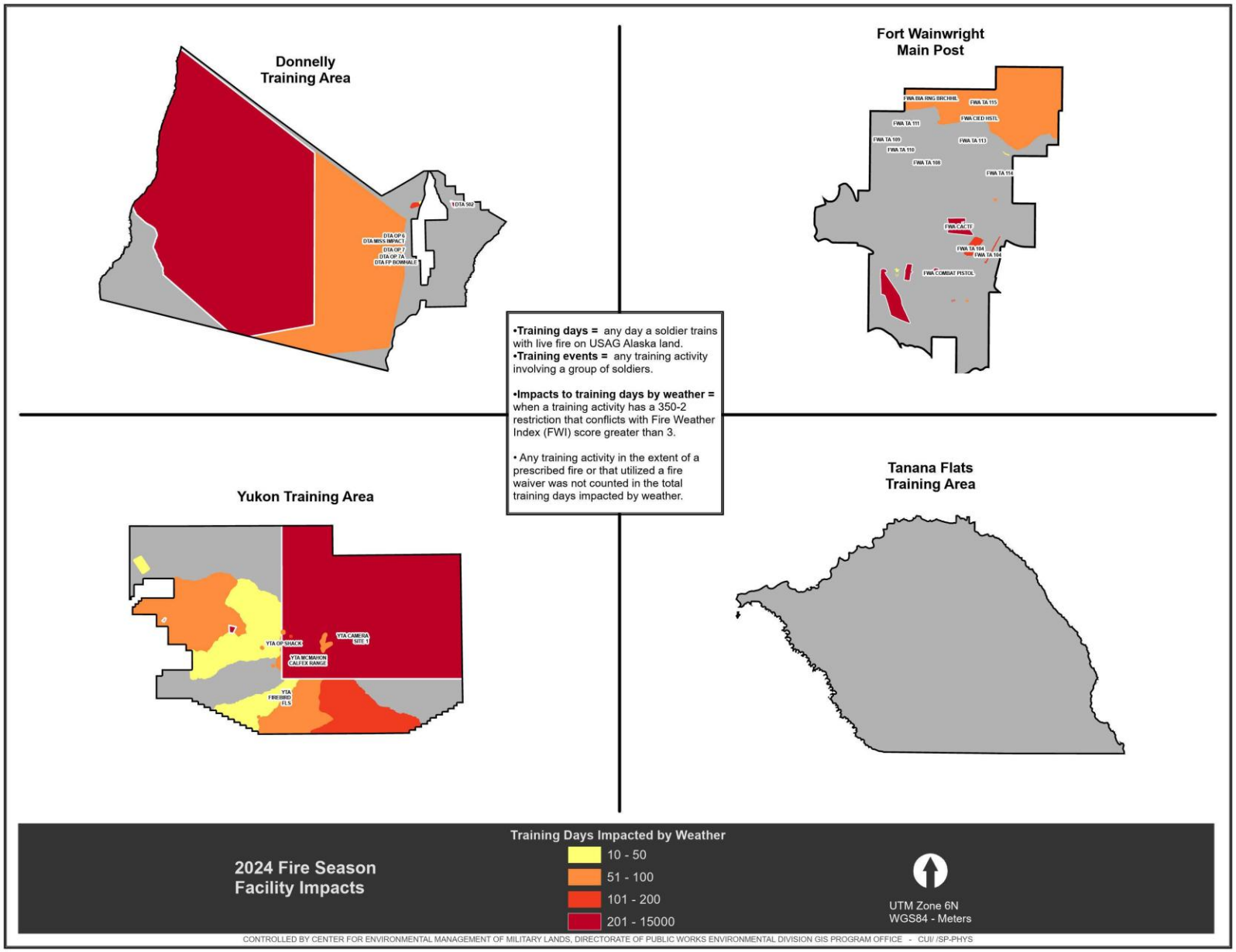
The following describe the GIS Natural Resources 2024 completed tasks relevant to BLM and Sikes Act partners. The tasks are displayed as maps or graphics with a brief description. For more information, or higher resolution map or graphic, for each completed, ongoing, or future tasks, please contact the USAG Alaska Natural Resource office. For a detailed explanation and history of each program, please refer to the USAG Alaska INRMP.



Large reference maps were generated for DTA, YTA, and TFTA. These maps display hand thinning areas, this year's prescribed and wildfires, updates to Alaska Known Sites Database (AKSD), updates to fuel breaks, as well as relevant infrastructure, including firing points, ranges, etc.



The goal of this project is to describe the relationship between Fire Weather Index (FWI) and training restrictions, which will improve costs assessment associated with prescribed burning, 350-2 fire waivers, and imposed training restrictions. Analysis updated annually.



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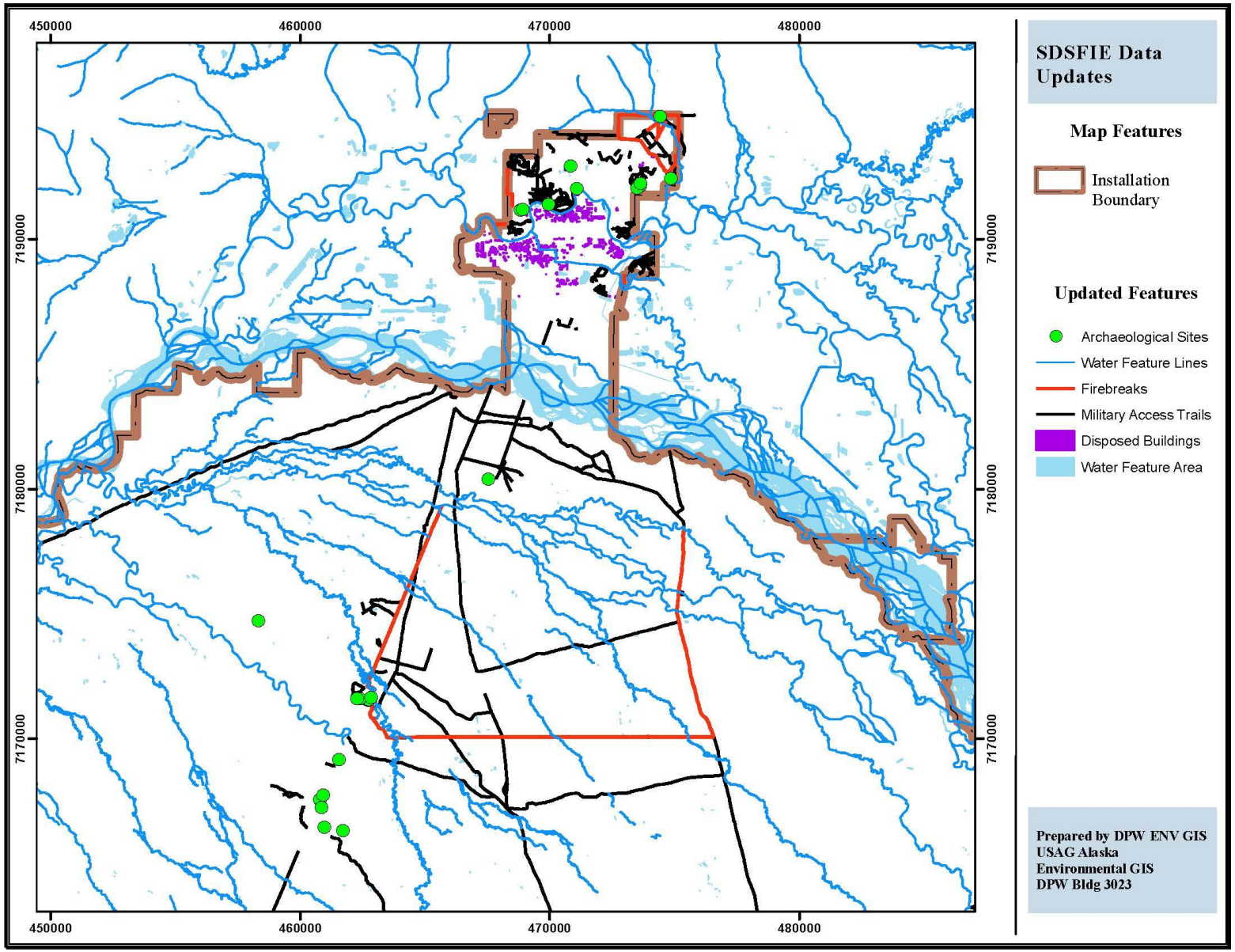
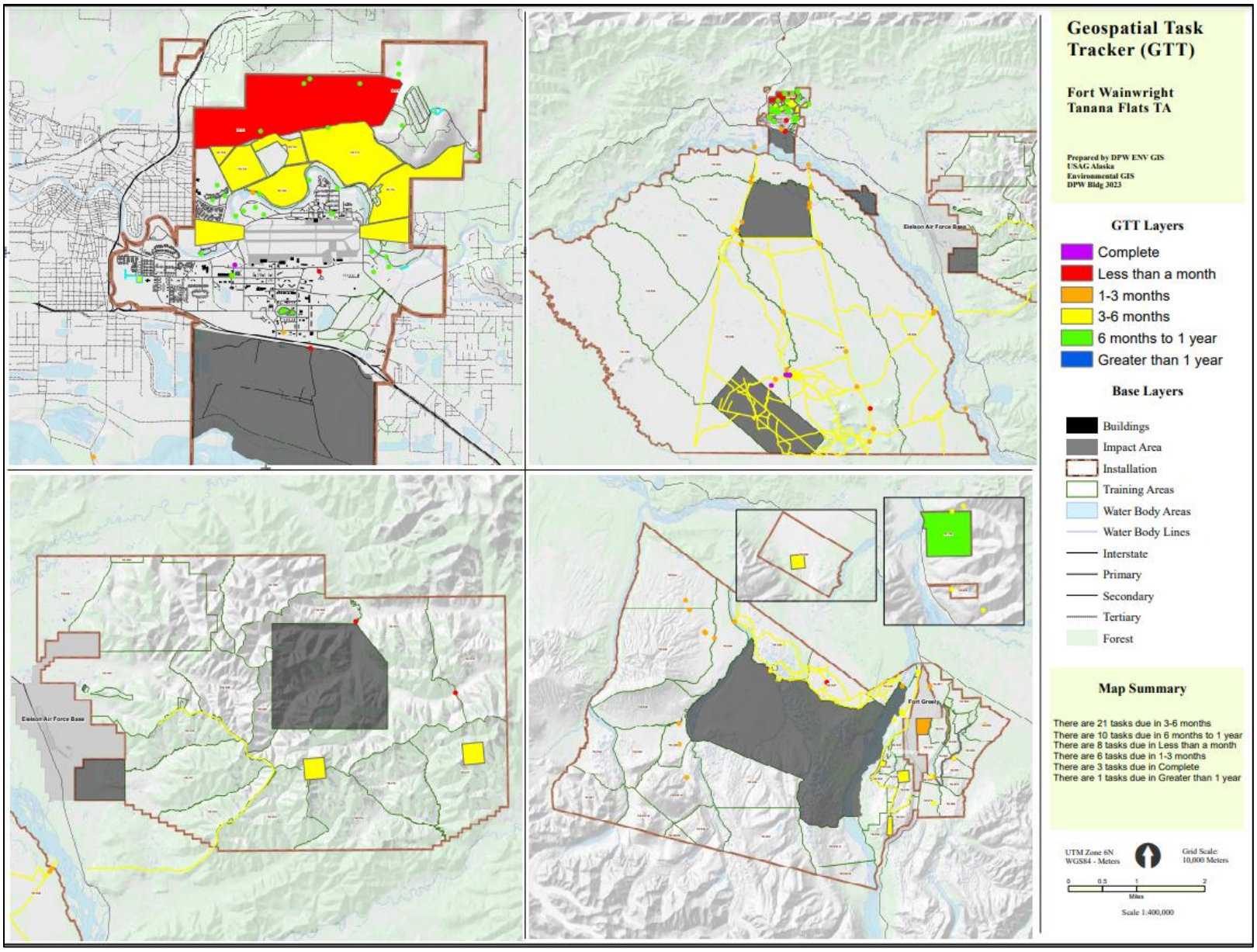
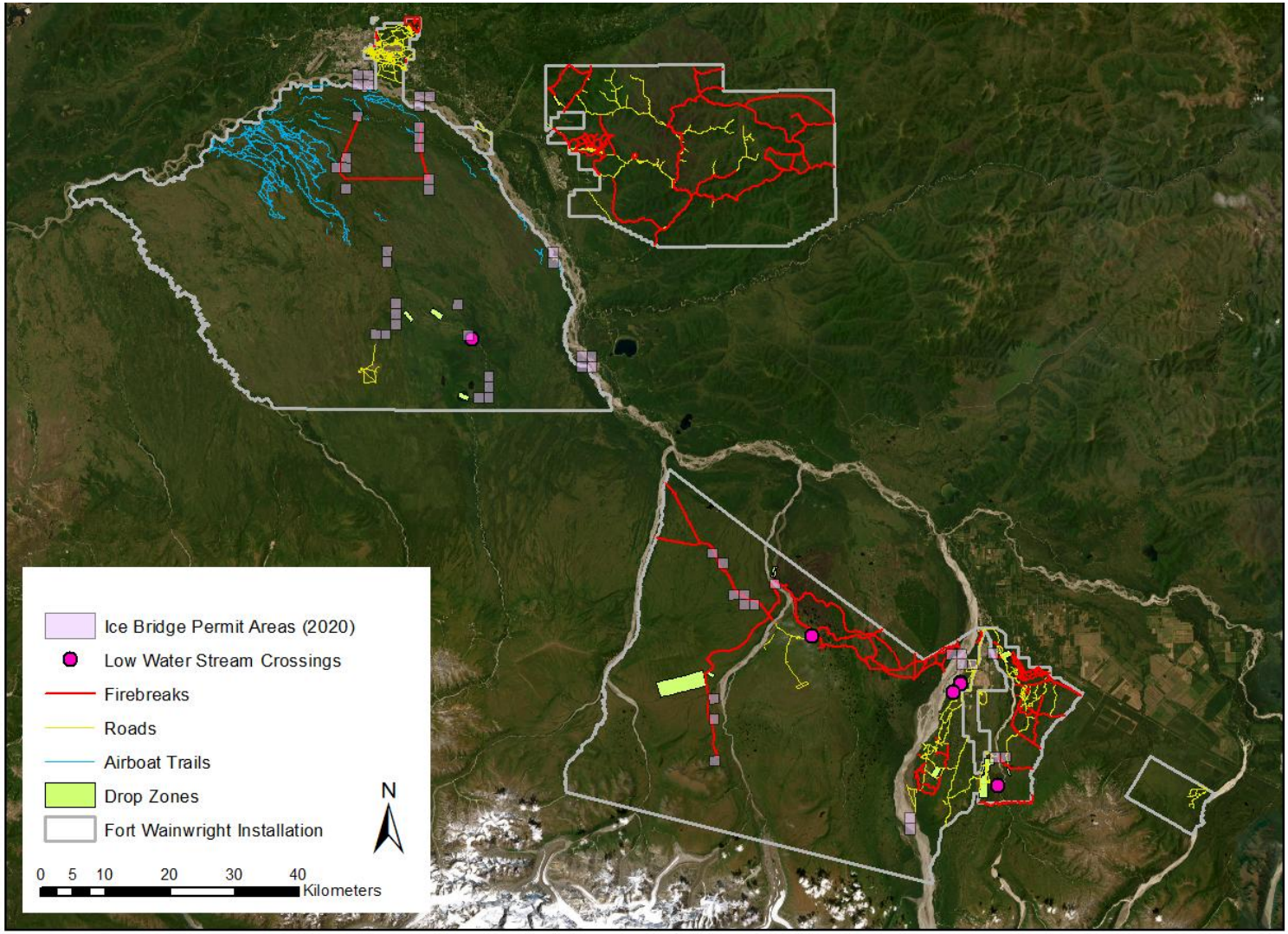


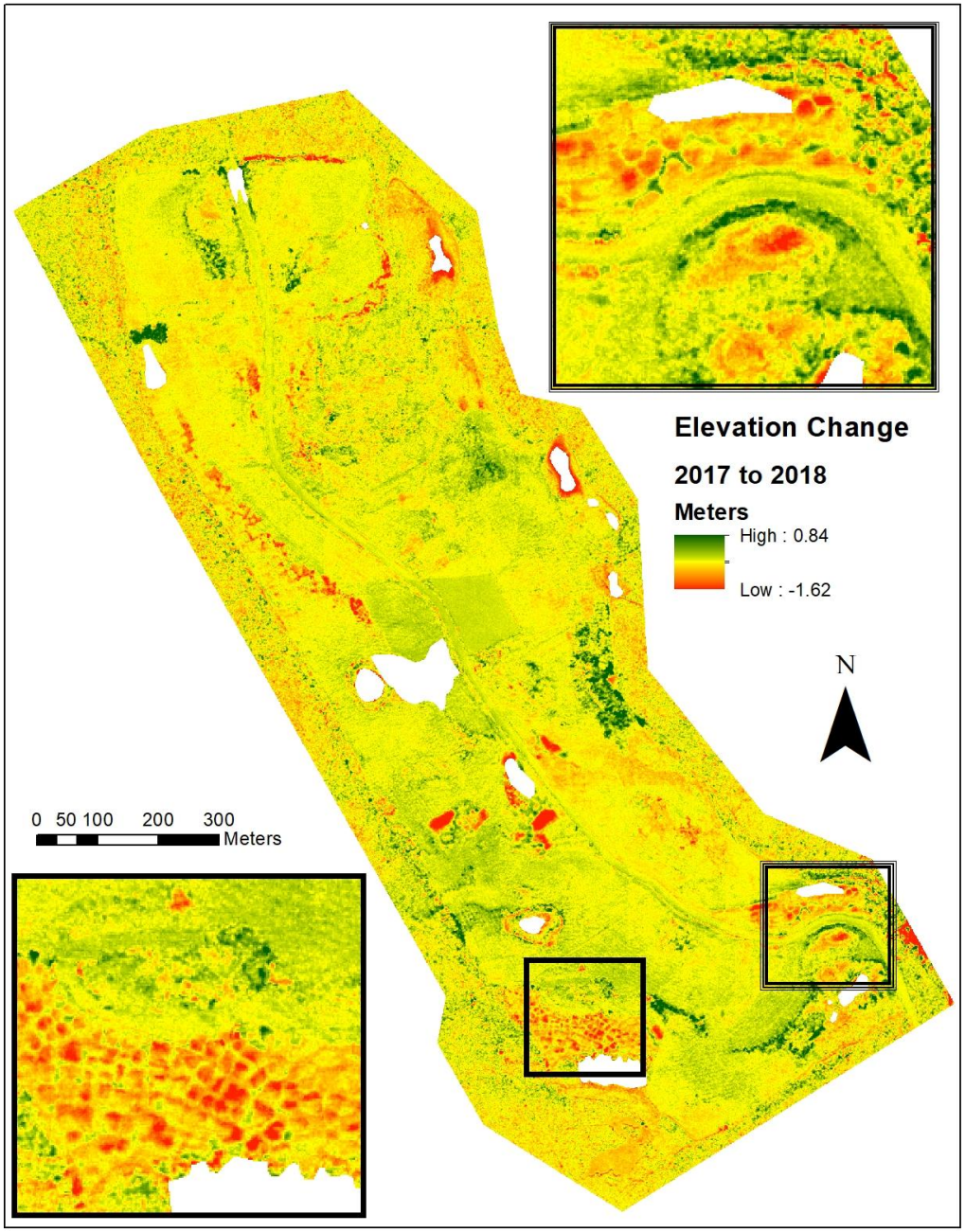
Updates to the geometry and attribution of all data layers were completed with the objective of improving compliance with the SDSFIE 4.0 format (a DoD IT standards requirement), to provide more information for all data users and prepare for land withdrawal review. Additionally, a series of new data layers was created. Data layers are updated annually.



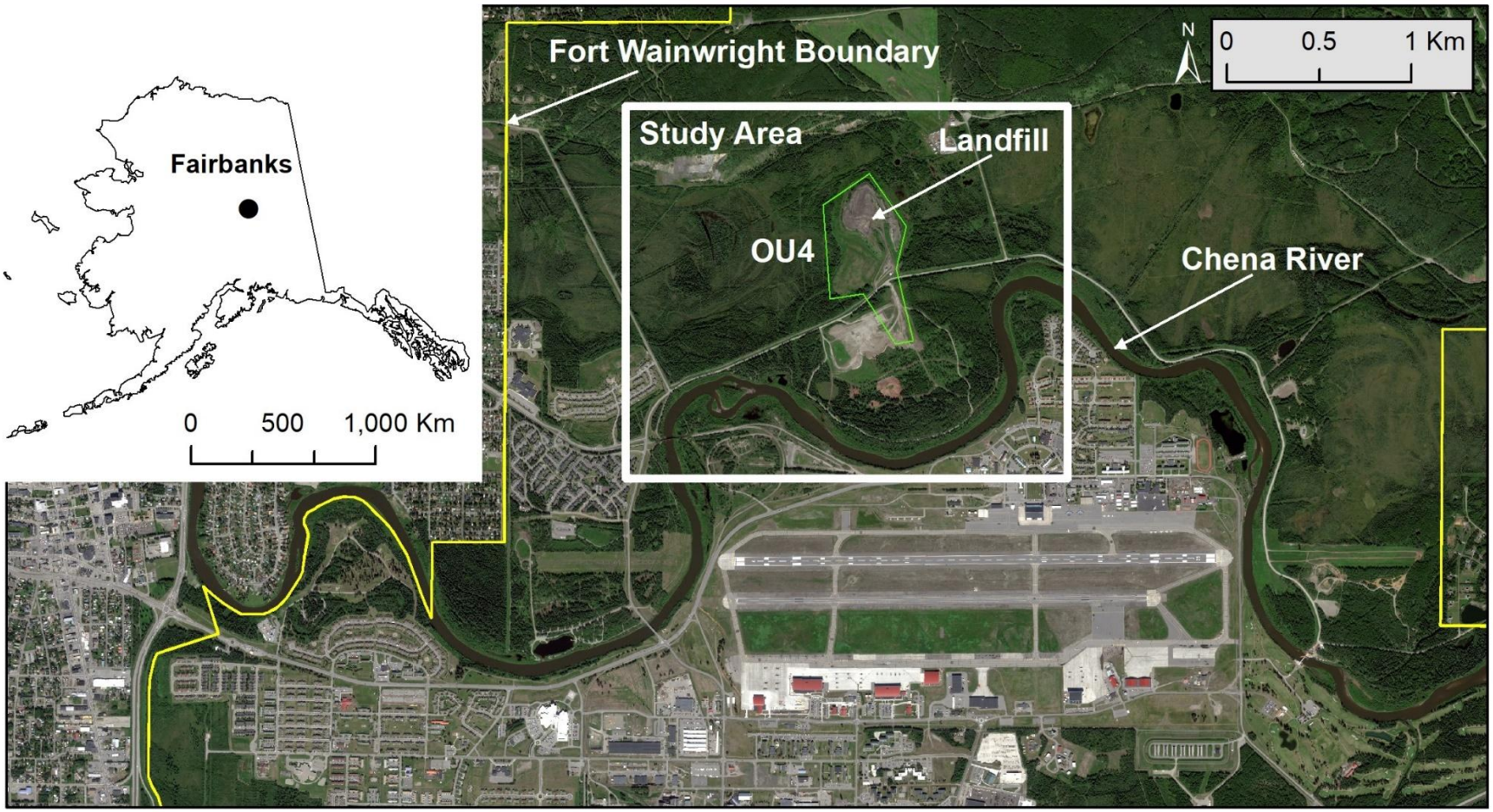
The Geospatial Task Tracker (GTT) is a database system and map-based application that allows the natural resource management crew to track in real time the status of all projects.



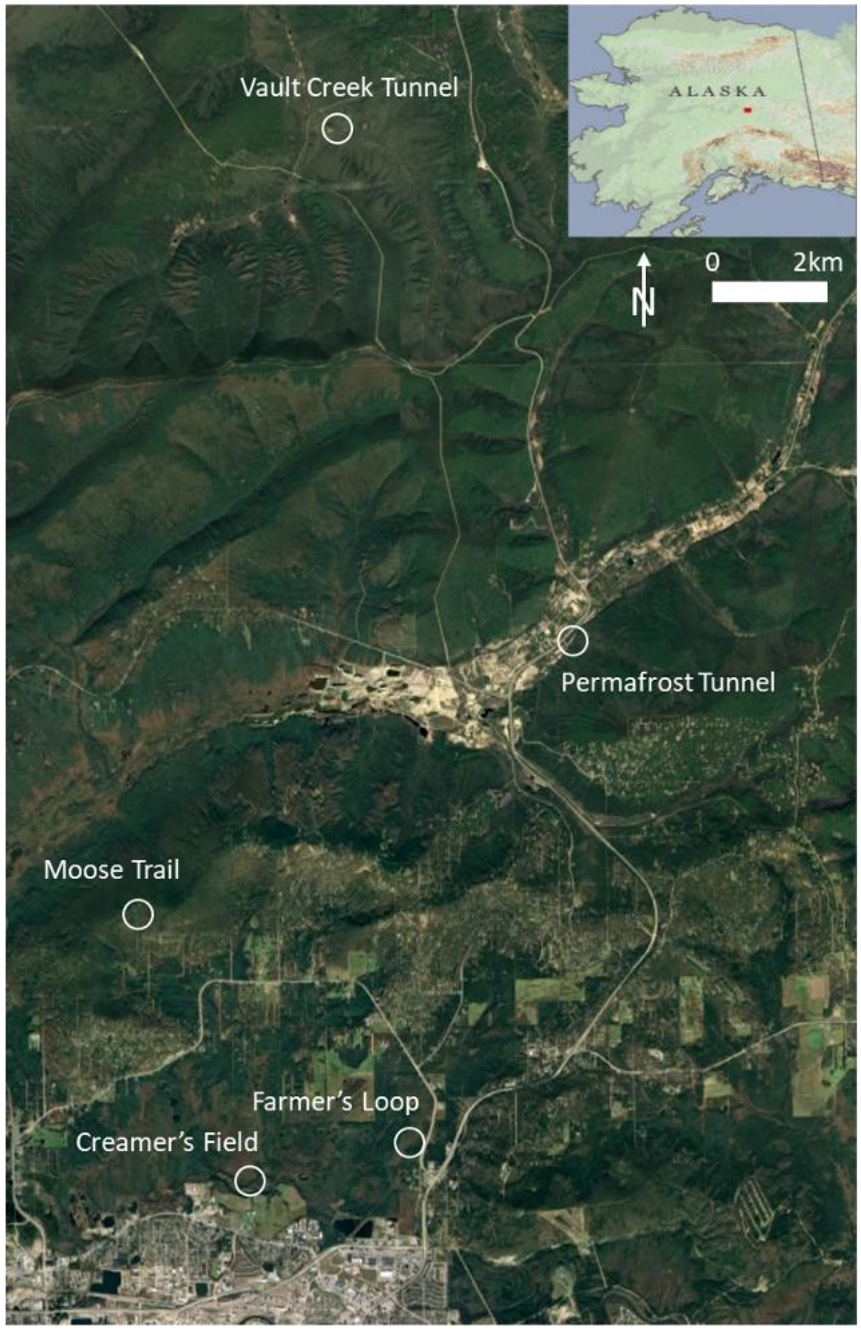
Since 2022, the U.S. Army Cold Regions Research and Engineering Laboratory (CRREL) has led an Environmental Security Technology Certification Program (ESTCP) project to develop Standard Operating Procedures for the design, construction, and maintenance of nine types of linear infrastructure, based on current Army procedures and best practices. The infrastructure types include firebreaks, summer roads, all-season roads, airfields, drop zones, fens, low water stream crossings, winter snow roads, and ice bridge crossings. CRREL has conducted a comprehensive literature review of the methods currently followed for all nine infrastructure types by coordinating with USAG Alaska Department of Public Works Environmental Natural Resource Managers and the Integrated Training Area Management Coordinator. This three-year effort will conclude in FY25. The figure shows a selection of linear infrastructure that are the focus of the ESTCP project on USAG Alaska managed lands.



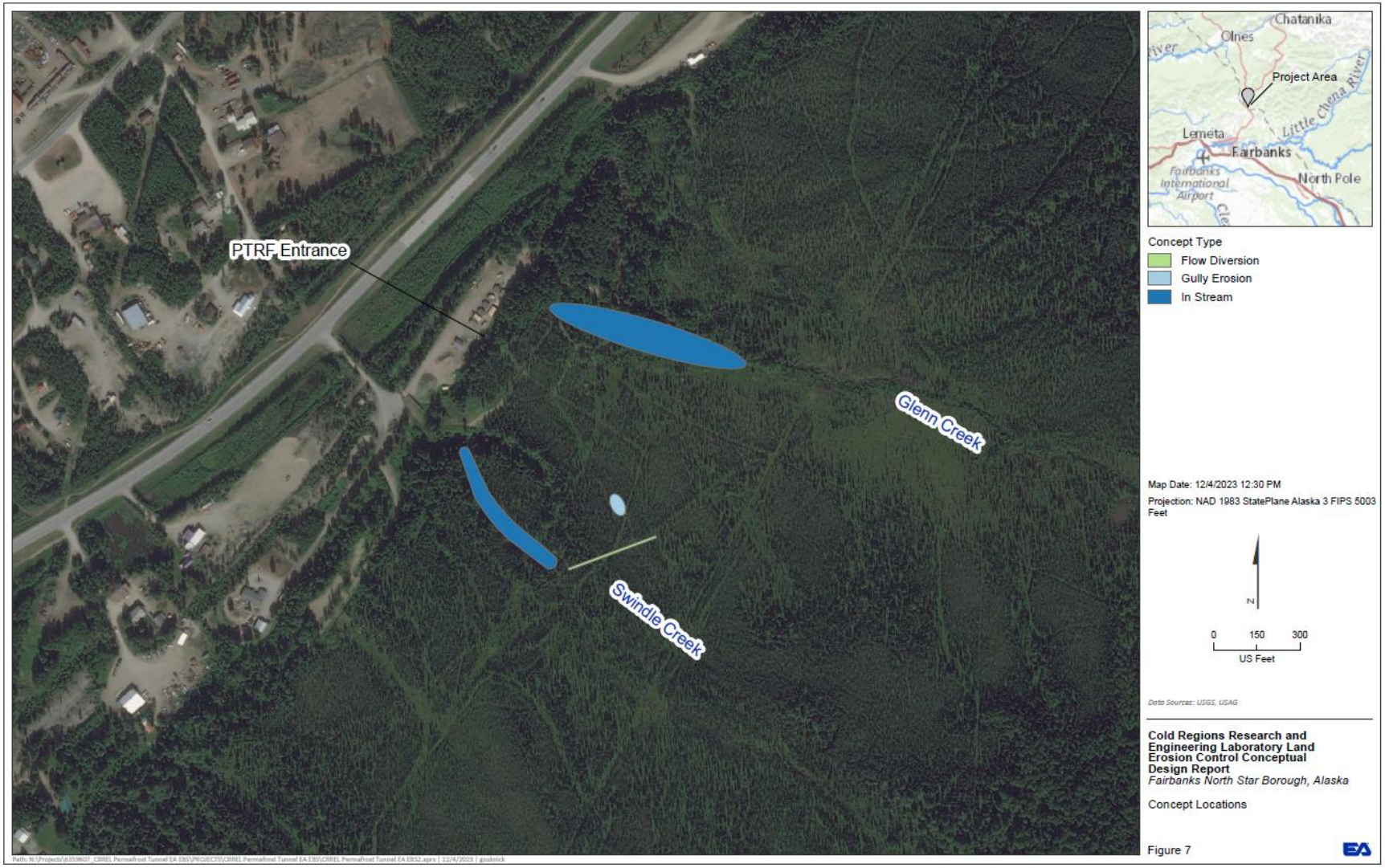
CRREL led an effort at Husky Drop Zone to integrate remote sensing data into machine learning methods to study soil moisture and thermokarst development. Additional fieldwork in March and May 2024 complemented fieldwork previously conducted in 2021 and 2022 by CRREL. The project produced an ensemble-based machine learning model that combined remote sensing and geophysical data to produce projections of surface soil moisture across the training area. This work was supported by PE 0602144A Program Increase 'Defense Resiliency Platform Against Extreme Cold Weather' and the DoD's Environmental Security Technology Demonstration Program. A manuscript entitled "Integrating geophysical data in machine learning algorithms to map permafrost terrain and soil moisture" is in development and will be submitted to a peer-reviewed journal early in 2025. Figure shows the difference between two Light Detection and Ranging (LiDAR) datasets from 2017 and 2018 at the field site, which was used to assess permafrost thaw and thermokarst development.



CRREL led a permafrost and groundwater characterization project that involved a site investigation at a discontinuous permafrost area near the Fort Wainwright landfill in Alaska. Its objectives were to assess permafrost extent, groundwater flow, and compare new subsurface data with historical information. Key findings included changes in stream channels, significant deepening and reduction in permafrost extent, and south-to-southwest groundwater flow. This study was conducted for the United States Army Environmental Command. See *Wagner, A.M., Sullivan, T.D., Glaser, D. R., Barker, A. J., Hiemstra, C. A., Liddle Broberg, K., Maakestad, J. B., Saari, S. P., Bosche, L. V., Gelvin, A. B., Nelsen, P. E., Baxter, W. B., Vas, D. A., Larsen, G. W., (2024). Permafrost and Groundwater Characterization at the Proximity of the Landfill, Fort Wainwright, Alaska. ERDC/CRREL TR-24-7.* Figure is from Wagner et al. (2024).



CRREL led a project at five sites around Fairbanks including the Permafrost Tunnel to reconstruct paleoclimate from 40,000 year old relict permafrost. Based on historic snow and rain samples from the tunnel and their stable water isotope values, CRREL researchers calculated a Local Meteoric Water Line (LMWL). The LMWL enabled them to establish inferences on the paleoclimatic conditions based on different permafrost ice types in the tunnel. This research was funded by the Strategic Environmental Research and Development Program. See *Douglas T.A., Barker A.J., Monteath A.J. and Froese D.G. (2024) A Local Meteoric Water Line for Interior Alaska constrains Interior Alaska Paleoclimate from 40,000 year old Relict Permafrost. Geophysical Research Letters. DOI: 10.1088/1748-9326/ada16b.* Figure is from Douglas et al. (2024).



USACE contracted EA Engineering, Science, and Technology, Inc., PBC to study drainage patters and erosion above the Permafrost Tunnel Research Facility (PTRF) and produce a PRTF Erosion Control Conceptual Design Report to explore the potential application of USACE Engineering With Nature (EWN) program concepts. The project included a desktop data review, documentation of data gaps, a review of erosion control concepts and designs with Nature Based Solutions, and identification of additional research, funding opportunities, and subsequent project phases. As part of this process, a stakeholder group was convened in January 2024 to hold a workshop to discuss and develop design ideas. This research was funded by the EWN program. Figure is from *EA Engineering, Science, and Technology, Inc., PBC. (2024). Permafrost Tunnel Research Facility Erosion Control Conceptual Design Report.*

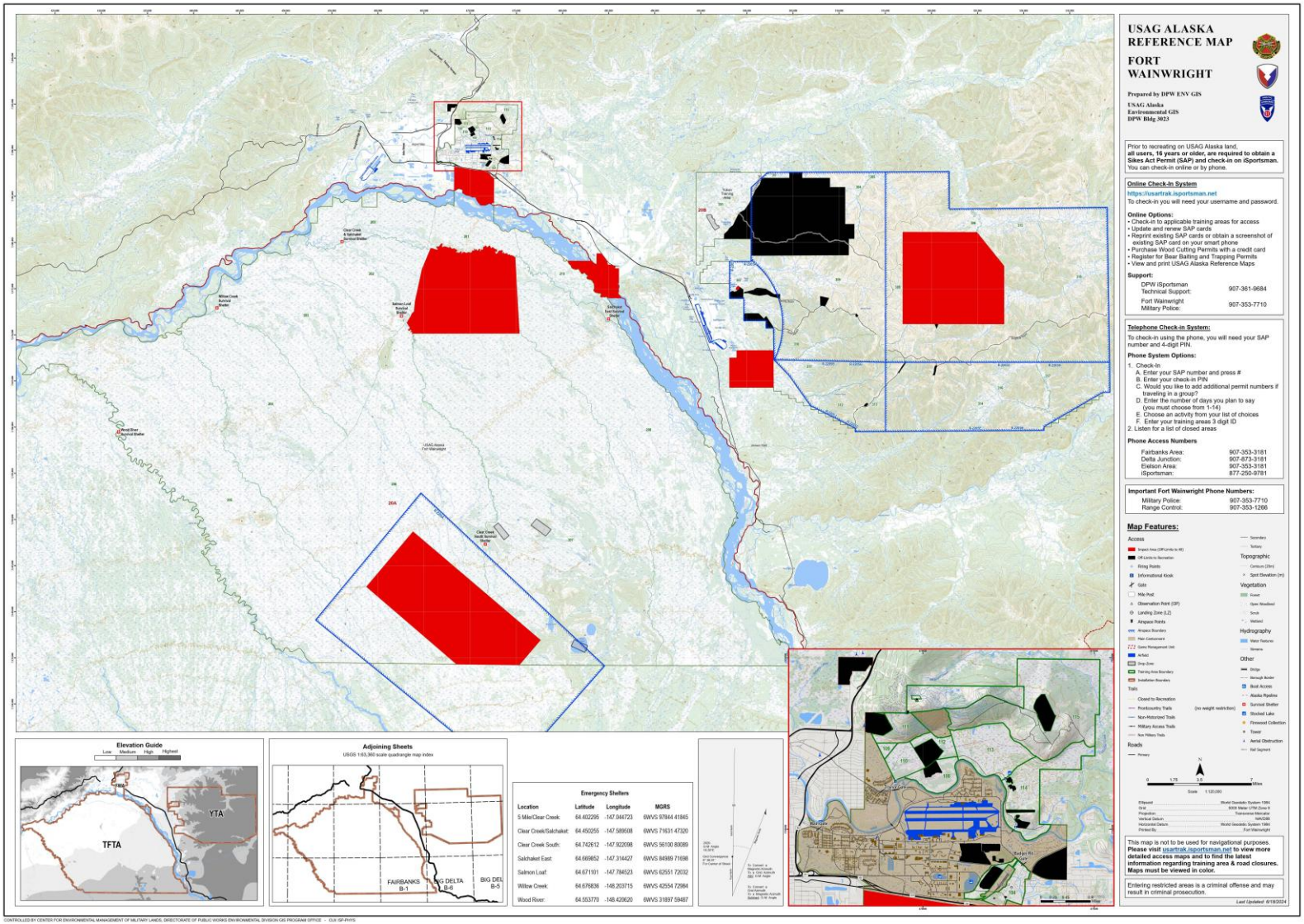
Recreation

Training areas on USAG Alaska lands are open to fishing, hunting, and trapping when the training areas are not being used for military training. Hunters, trappers, and fishermen must follow state regulations and USAG Alaska Regulation 190-13 (Enforcement of Hunting, Trapping, and Fishing on Army Lands in Alaska). USAG Alaska currently uses the USAG Alaska iSportsman website to (1) inform the public where they are able to recreate, (2) when accessible training areas are available for recreation, (3) record when recreationists access USAG Alaska managed lands.

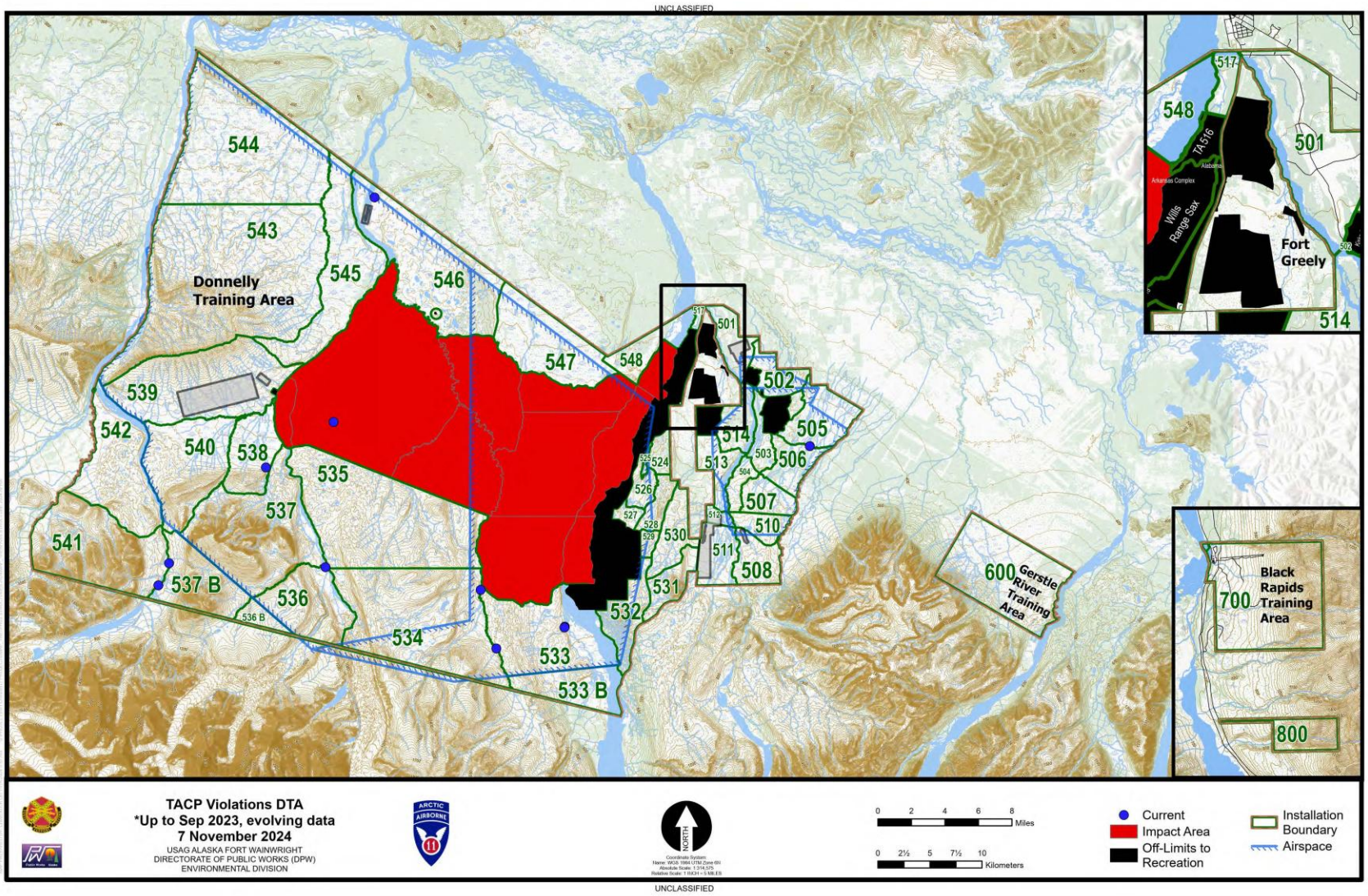
The goals of USAG Alaska Recreation Program include; (1) providing for sustainable use by the public of natural resources to the extent that the use is not inconsistent with the needs of fish and wildlife resources, (2) providing high quality, sustainable hunting, trapping, and fishing opportunities to Soldiers, civilians, and the public, (3) making the program self-sustainable, potentially by implementation of hunting, trapping, and fishing fees, (4) increasing hunting, trapping, and fishing opportunities for disabled veterans, (5) supporting ADFG population goals on USAG Alaska lands, (6) providing professional enforcement of natural resources related laws, and (7) providing for the same fee schedule for all participants, except for senior citizens, children, and the handicapped.

Recreation management has a long legacy on USAG Alaska managed lands. Hunting, fishing, and trapping on USAG Alaska managed lands are regulated by both the State of Alaska, through its hunting and trapping regulations and the federal government through Army-wide and installation specific regulations. The ADFG issues various regulations for fisherman, hunters, and trappers in Alaska. Army Regulation 200-1, USAG Alaska Regulation 190-13, and the ADFG annual Hunting and Fishing Regulations are the primary means of establishing controls on fishing, hunting, and trapping as well as other natural resources-related activities on USAG Alaska managed lands. USAG Alaska Regulation 190-13 pertains to hunting, trapping, fishing, and off-road recreational vehicle use on USAG Alaska managed lands. The USAG Alaska iSportsman website content (updated continuously) condense these regulations into a user-friendly format and are distributed to the public.

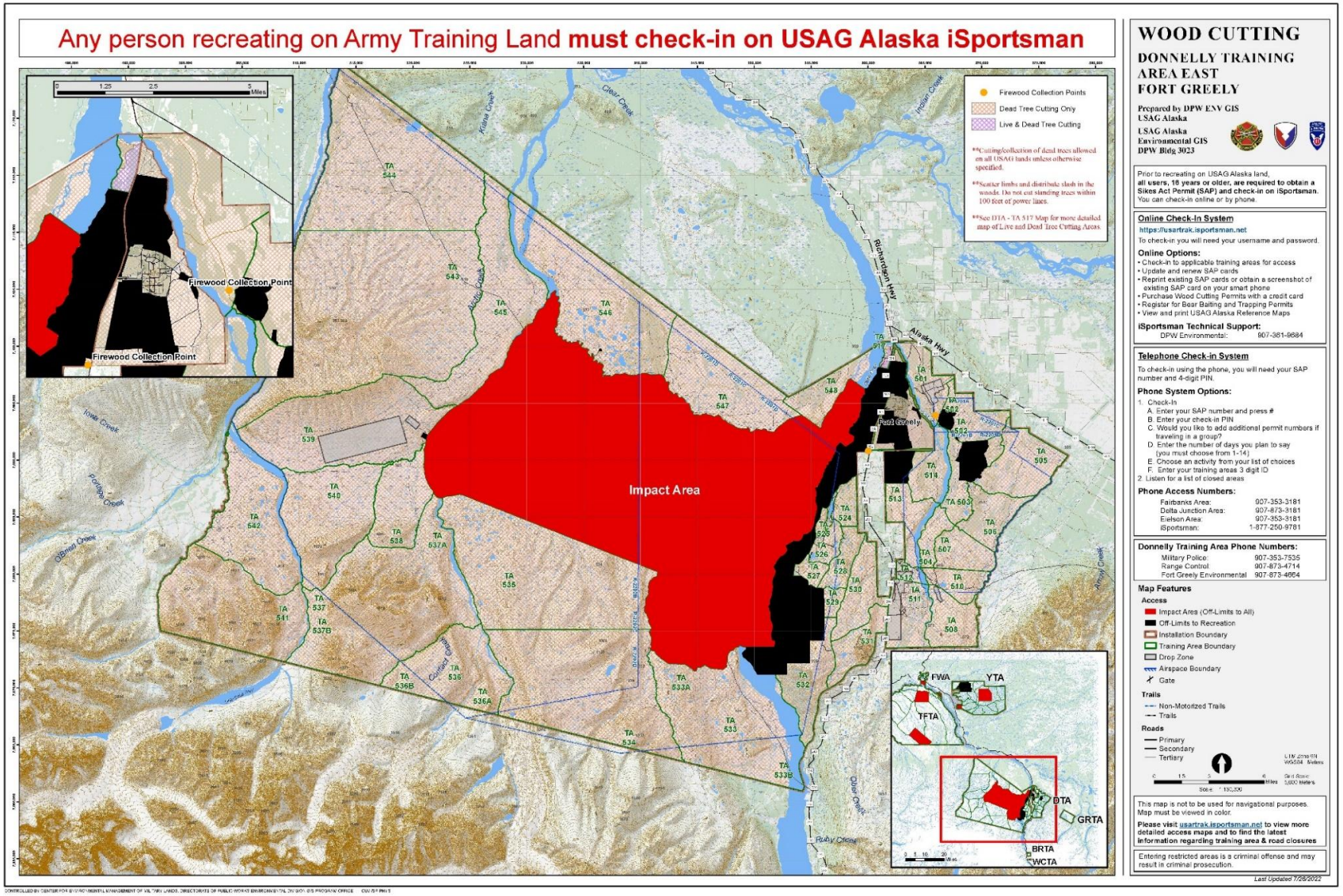
The following describe the 2024 Recreation Program pertinent information. The tasks are displayed as maps or graphics with a brief description. For more information or higher resolution maps or graphics for each completed, ongoing, or future tasks, please contact the USAG Alaska Natural Resource office. For a detailed explanation and history of each program, please refer to the USAG Alaska INRMP.



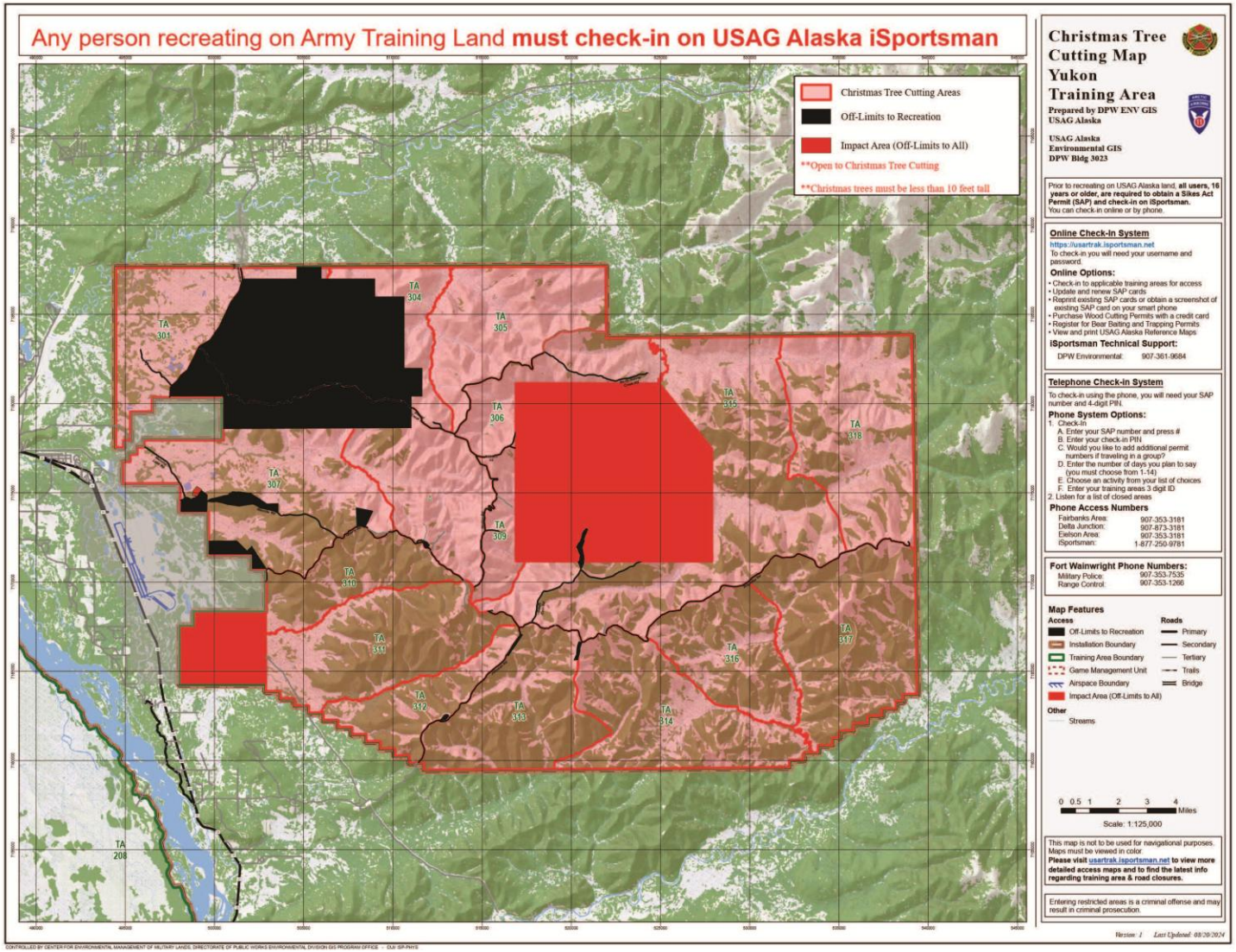
The existing recreation map template was reformatted to enhance readability and provide more precise instructions of all map series for customer consumption which include, but not limited to; Trail Maps, Wood Cutting, Christmas Trees, General Access, Reference, Moose Hunting, Bear Baiting, and iSportsman Brochures. Each map series are updated annually and published on the USAG Alaska iSportsman website.



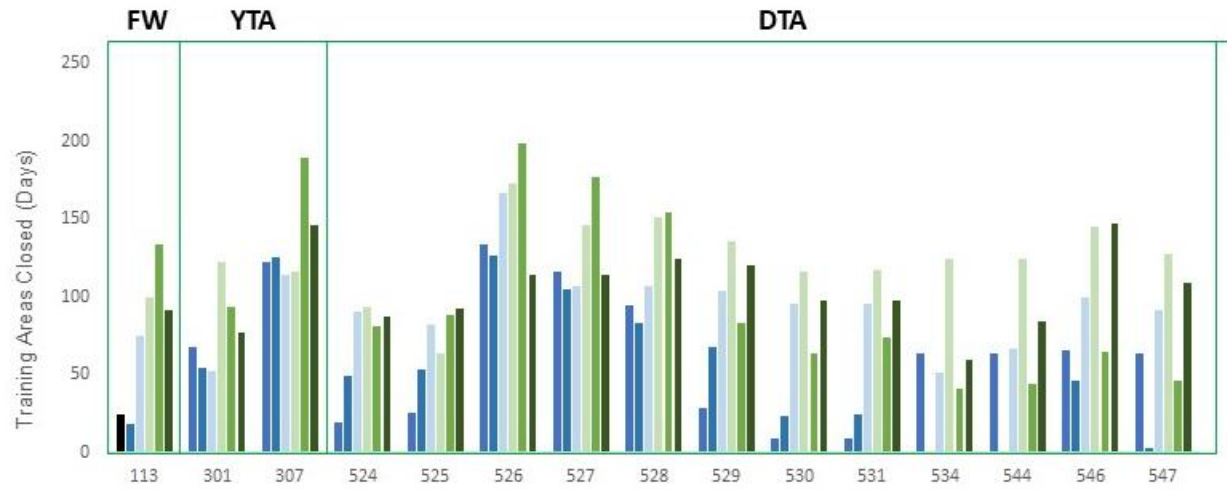
USAG Alaska records trespass violations and removes trash placed in the Training Areas through the Training Area Cleanup Program. In FY 2024, there was approximately 2 tons of trash removed from the training area, mainly trash from illegal hunting camps and stashed ORVs.



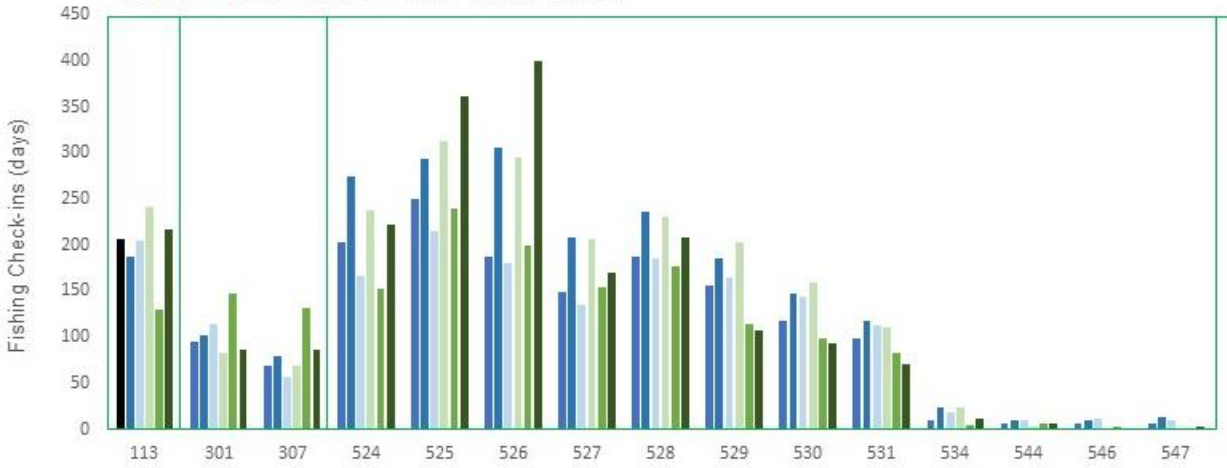
Roughly 1950 cords of firewood were harvested USAG Alaska managed lands with approximately 50 acres newly opened for wood cutting in 2024. Visit the [USAG Alaska iSportsman wood cutting page] for a complete set of maps.



14 Christmas Tree Cutting Permits were issued in 2024.
Visit the [USAG Alaska iSportsman Christmas Tree Cutting page] for more info and a complete set of maps.



The number of days each Training Area was closed for training each year.
2019 – 2024

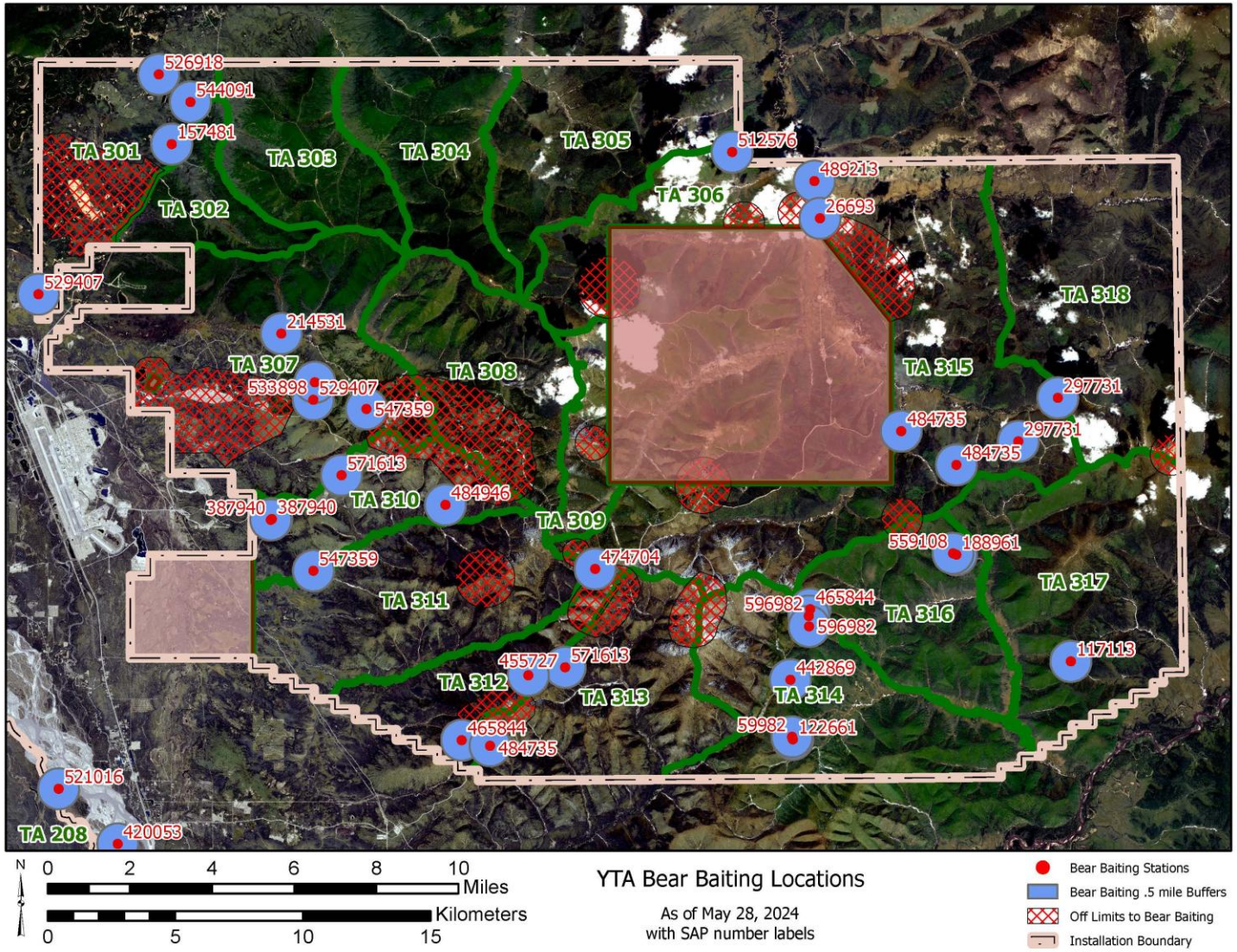


The number of "Fishing" check-in's for each Training Area each year.
2019 – 2024

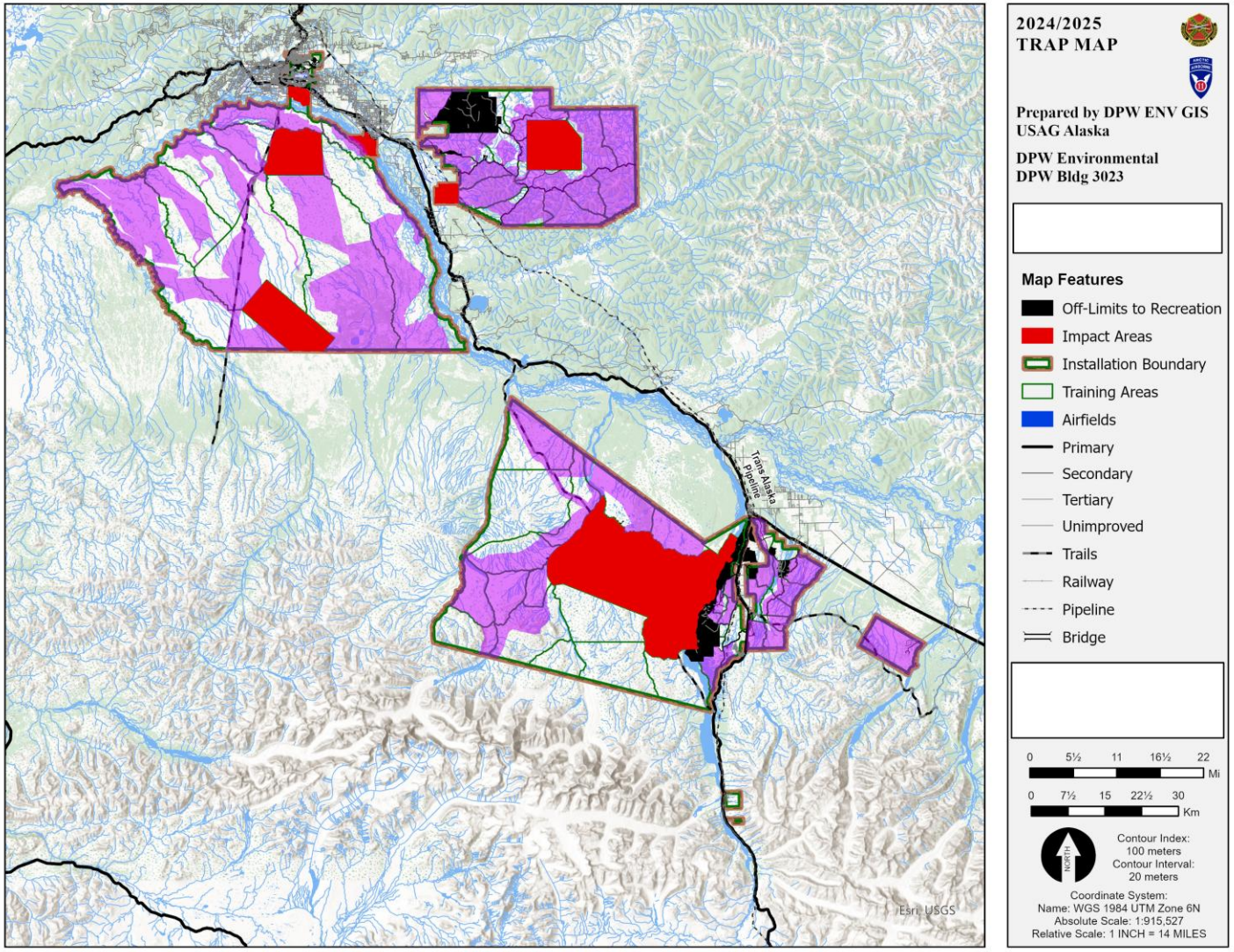
Note: accuracy is dependent on individual recreationist's self reported use and check-in status.

To compare maps with these data, please visit:
https://usartrak.isportsman.net/Fishing.aspx

There were 1,137 check-ins under the fishing activity on USAG Alaska land in 2024. Training areas containing stocked lakes had the highest use. Recreationists can review stocked lake information and location maps on the USAG Alaska iSportsman Fishing page.



There were 56 registered bear bait stations on USAG Alaska in spring 2024 in the TFTA, YTA, DTA, and GRTA. Recreationists can register bait stations on the [USAG Alaska iSportsman Bear Baiting page].



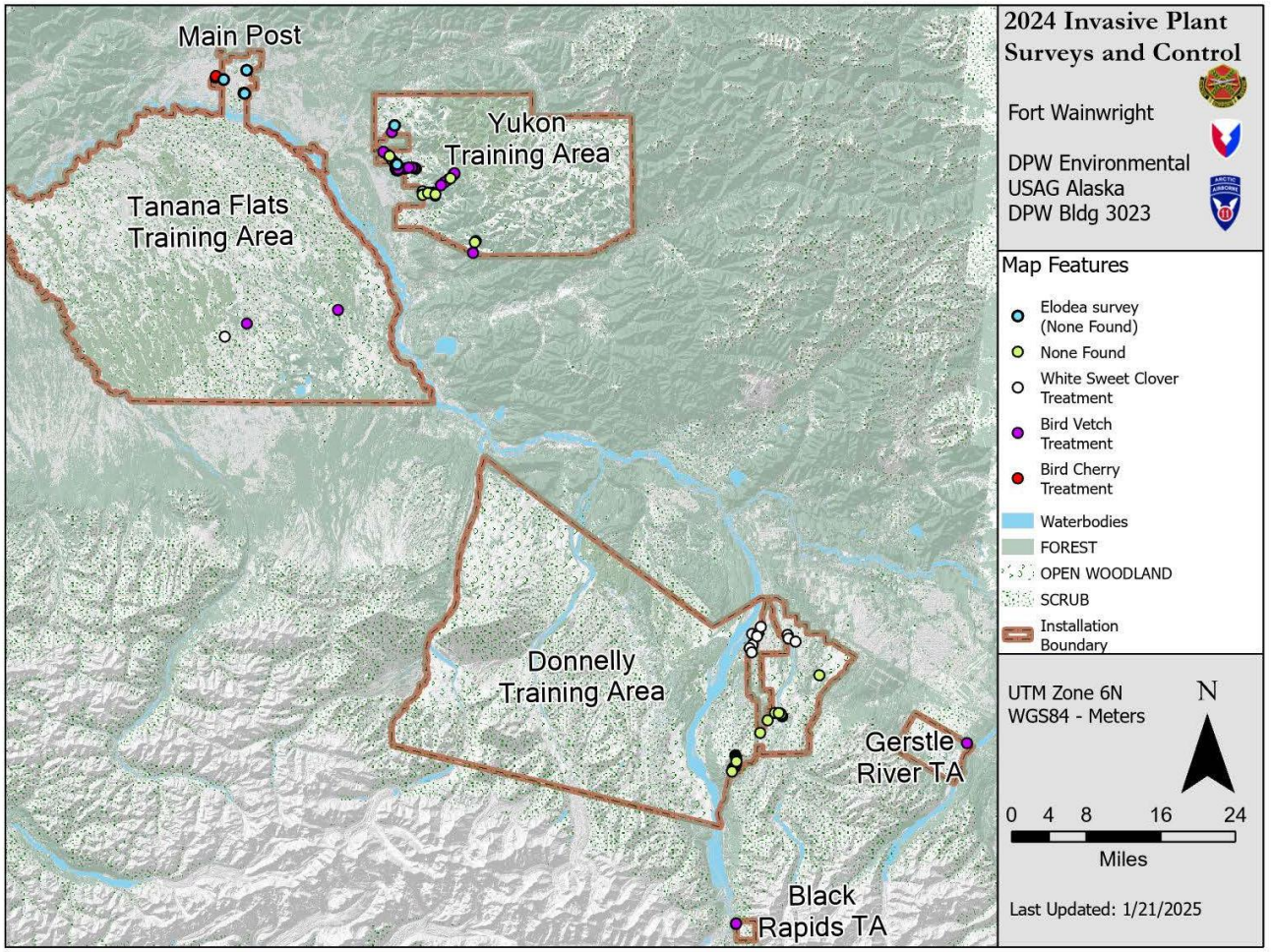
There are 64 registered trapping areas on USAG Alaska land with 24 active trappers in the 2024/2025 (October 2024 – December 2024) season. Trappers are asked to complete a Trapper Questionnaire at the end of each trapping season, which includes harvest and conflict related questions. Recreationist can register trapping areas on the [USAG Alaska iSportsman website].

Invasive Species

USAG Alaska opportunistically surveys for invasive species focusing on high use areas and recent disturbance areas. This is accomplished by maintaining compliance with the Integrated Pest Management Plan (IPMP) and focusing control efforts on State listed Noxious Species. The state list of Noxious Species is annually reviewed and checked for presence on USAG Alaska managed lands. The U.S. Forest Service, State of Alaska, and Private Forestry entities monitor the cantonment areas and training lands for invasive insects and diseases annually.

Invasive species monitoring has been included as part of other surveys continually occurring within the installation, which include fisheries management, wetland surveys, flora and fauna planning level surveys, and a multitude of natural resource related surveys. Invasive species monitoring has also occurred informally through the Range and Training Land Assessment (RTLA) program and natural resources program. The RTLA program has quantitatively documented invasive plant species on training lands at plot locations, and pest control manages invasive plant species in cantonment areas. USAG Alaska managed lands currently have few faunal invasive species, and the primary focus of these efforts are currently invasive vascular plants such as *Elodea* spp. Forest insects, diseases and invasive plant species are annually monitored on USAG Alaska managed lands by the US Forest Service. Annual Forest Health Survey Reports are available from the US Forest Service, State, and Private Forestry Forest Health website.

The following describe the Invasive Species 2024 completed tasks. The tasks are displayed as maps or graphics with a brief description. For more information or higher resolution maps or graphics for each completed, ongoing, or future tasks, please contact the USAG Alaska Natural Resource office. For a detailed explanation and history of each program, please refer to the USAG Alaska INRMP.



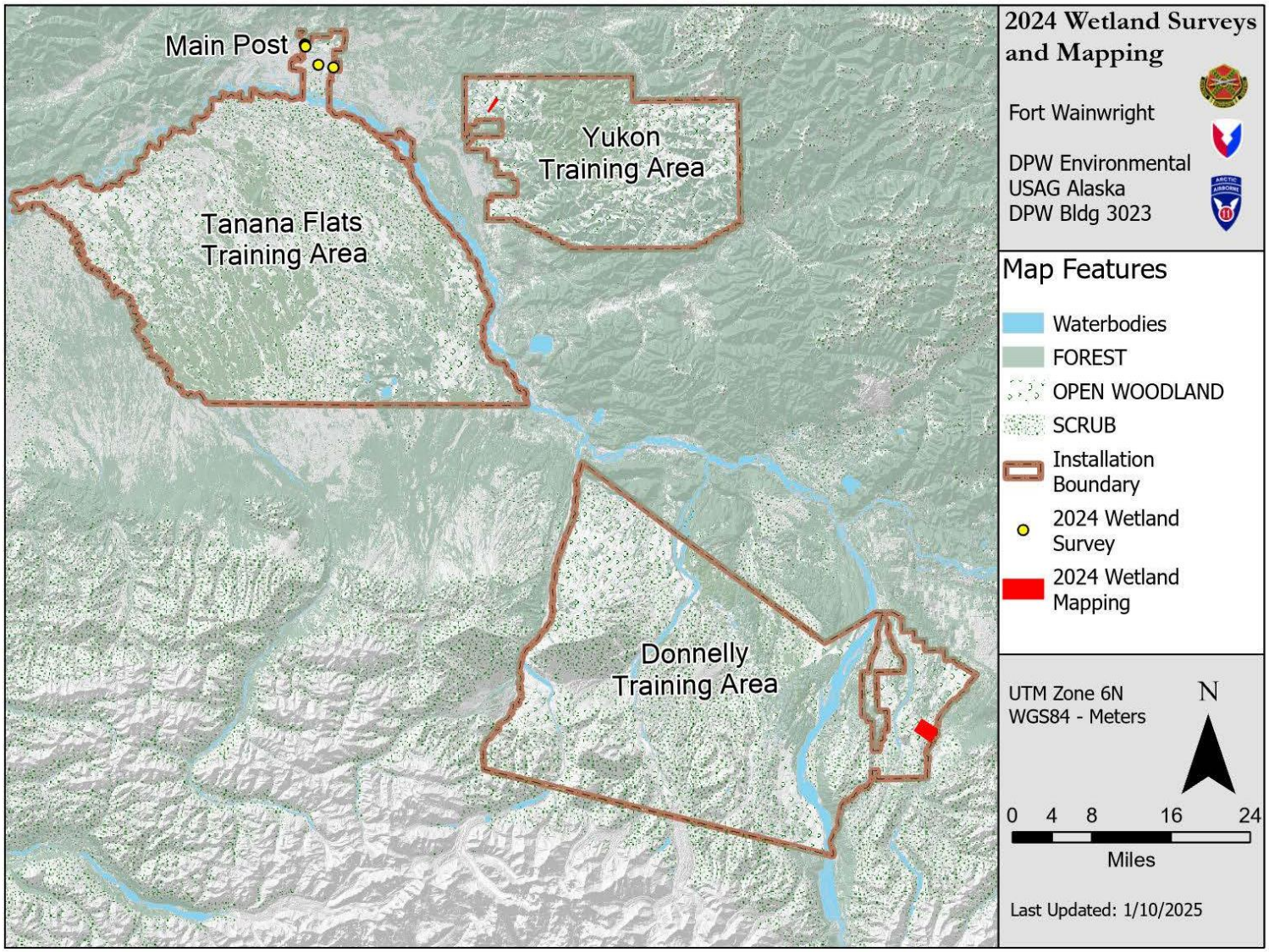
111 invasive species populations were surveyed across the installation in 2024. Four priority terrestrial invasive plant species were targeted; bird vetch (*Vicia cracca*), white sweet clover (*Melilotus albus*), perennial sow thistle (*Sonchus arvensis*) and European bird cherry (*Prunus padus*). 99 sites were previously identified populations, and 12 sites were newly identified in 2024. Sites were selected for chemical control based on size of infestation, likelihood of spread, and habitat sensitivity. Sixty-five populations received at least one herbicide treatment and one site was treated manually. An additional 44 sites were found to have no invasive species where treatments were conducted in previous years. Elodea (*Elodea canadensis*), an aquatic invasive plant was also targeted. Six waterbodies were surveyed for Elodea during the 2024 field season, Four on Fort Wainwright's Main Cantonment; Chena Cove, Wainwright #6 and Wayside Ponds #1 & 2 and two in the Yukon Training Area; Manchu Lake and Horseshoe Lake. No Elodea was found during these surveys. The third and final annual chemical treatment for Elodea was applied in Chena Cove, where Elodea was first found in 2021.

Wetlands

There are over 1 million acres of wetlands located across all major training areas on USAG Alaska managed lands. Military operations have minimal impact on wetlands in most watersheds in the Training Lands, while the most impacted wetlands are located on Main Post Fort Wainwright and Fort Greely. USAG Alaska actively manages wetlands through the USACE Alaska Regulatory permit process. USAG Alaska's wetland and waterbody management program (WWMP) facilitates compliance with Section 404 of the Clean Water Act, Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbor Act, and other environmental regulations. Wetland and waterbody management on USAG Alaska managed lands is implemented on the primacy that conduct of the military mission must comply with applicable laws and should not result in long-term damage to the environment. Training and testing that incorporates environmental stewardship make this possible and allow for the maintenance of a quality military training and testing environment, as well as protection of sensitive habitats, such as wetlands.

The goals of the USAG Alaska WWMP are to (1) ensure that USAG Alaska, the 11th Airborne Division, tenant organizations, and Missile Defense are in compliance with all applicable federal and state laws and regulations regarding wetlands, (2) provide wetland areas for realistic military training while maintaining ecosystem integrity and minimizing impacts to wetlands, (3) promote early coordination between installation staff and DPW Environmental to prevent adverse impacts to wetlands, (4) provide a customer- friendly process to initiate wetland permits for military exercises or construction.

The following describe the USAG Alaska WWMP 2024 completed tasks. The tasks are displayed as maps or graphics with a brief description. For more information (like permitting information) or higher resolution maps or graphics for each completed, ongoing, or future tasks, please contact the USAG Alaska Natural Resource office. For a detailed explanation and history of each program, please refer to the USAG Alaska INRMP.



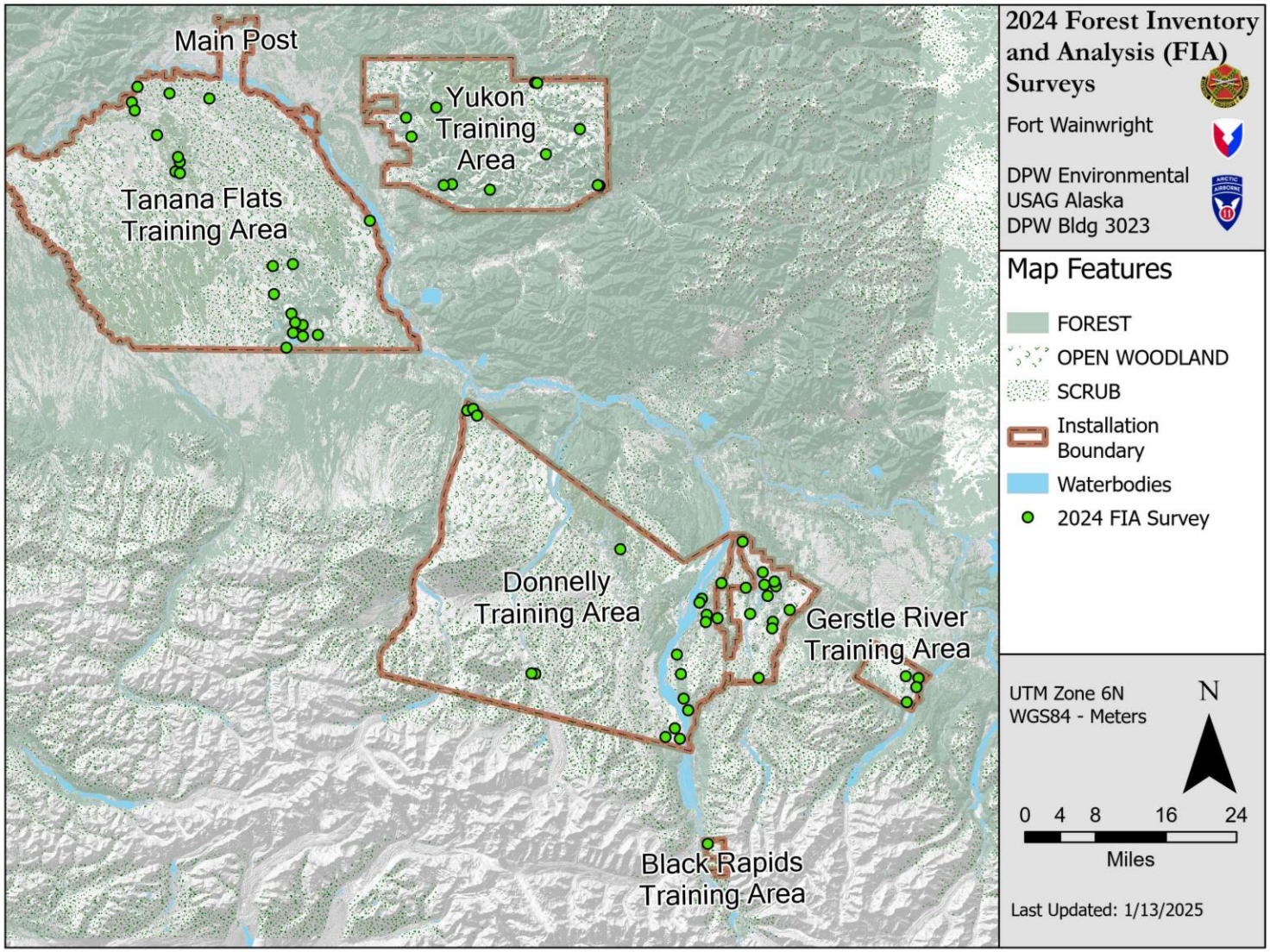
In 2024, field data was collected at 4 wetland determination sites to identify wetland and upland boundaries. Survey data from 2024 and previous years were used to delineate and classify wetlands and vegetation across 4,000 acres of training lands.

Forestry

USAG Alaska manages 374,678 acres of forest. Forest inventory and forest stand maps are maintained for all USAG Alaska lands. USAG Alaska sells firewood, and money is deposited into the DoD Forestry Account. USAG Alaska issues approximately 200 firewood permits annually and cuts approximately 50 acres (1000 cords) per year primarily to support military training and wildfire management. Secondary benefits are for forest health and wildlife habitat.

The goals of USAG Forestry Program include (1) maintaining a diverse forest to enhance a varied military training environment, (2) maintaining ecosystem functionality and manage vegetation and timber in support of ecosystem management objectives, (3) maintaining and enhancing the health, productivity, and biological diversity of forest and woodland ecosystems, (4) reducing wildland fire risk, (5) maintaining forestry operations and standards as defined by the State of Alaska Forest Practices Act, (6) maintaining forest inventory, (7) Operating a firewood program within the limits of annual allowable harvest within each major training area as defined by the State of Alaska Forest Practices Act.

The following describe the Forestry 2024 completed tasks. The tasks are displayed as maps or graphics with a brief description. For more information, or higher resolution maps or graphics, for each completed, ongoing, or future tasks, please contact the USAG Alaska Natural Resource office. For a detailed explanation and history of each program, please refer to the USAG Alaska INRMP.



In 2024, 70 FIA plots were surveyed across the installation; one in BRTA, 31 in DTA, four in GRTA, 21 in TFTA, one in Tok, and 12 in YTA. The surveys provided summaries of tree species composition, size class distribution, understory species composition, canopy cover, crown size and position, stem density, basal area, mean annual growth, regeneration composition and density, and merchantable volumes by species.

LRAM/RTLA

Integrated Training Area Management (ITAM) maintains the live maneuver training environment and sustains the Army's live training capability by repairing maneuver damage and creating a resilient and resistant training land base. ITAM fundamentally supports installation compliance with the Sikes Act and is a critical component of installation natural resource management. USARAK's ITAM planning process generates land management projects from Senior Commander's requirements by integrating mission analysis and maneuver training tasks with terrain capability assessments, land condition requirements, and land sustainability. The ITAM program consists of five key components: (1) Training Requirements Integration, (2) Range and Training Land Assessment (RTLA), (3) LRAM, (4) Sustainable Range Awareness, and (5) GIS (as mentioned in GIS section). ITAM works directly with USAG Alaska Natural Resources to ensure Sikes Act compliance.

RTLA is the land monitoring component of the ITAM program. RTLA staff collect and analyze land condition information for the purpose of ensuring training lands can support training loads. This is managed using several different assessments that include a mix of inventory and monitoring techniques. Some assessments are conducted on a regular basis (e.g., annually, every 5 years, etc.), while others can be developed to address a one-time need. The various assessments currently being used are listed in the annual ITAM work plan. Information gathered through RTLA feeds TRI decision support and LRAM project development. Data analysis and report-writing occurs through the fall and winter, with annual reports available at each range control office. This task is performed through Range Control contracted by Colorado State University's Center for Environmental Management of Military Lands (CEMML).

LRAM is the visible component of ITAM on the landscape with projects designed to: address safety hazards and repair training damage on maneuver land; maintain training lands that receive regular use for maintenance of operational conditions; reconfigure existing lands to optimize their availability for a variety of live training uses. LRAM uses the information gathered through RTLA to help determine what repair, maintenance, and reconfiguration projects are needed. LRAM maneuver damage repair techniques include smoothing ruts, redistributing organic material moved or disturbed from digging or snow plowing during military training events, reseeding with native vegetation, and fertilizing when appropriate. Besides reseeding, revegetation methods also include willow live staking, vegetation matting, and tree/shrub planting. LRAM vegetation management techniques include masticating woody vegetation when clearing is needed and using woody debris to promote erosion control, tree removal by feller-buncher in accordance with timber salvage requirements, brushing or mowing where conditions allow, hand crew chainsaw and brush-cutter use where large heavy equipment is not appropriate, tree and shrub retention within and around project sites. This task is performed through Range Control contracted by CEMML and by the Salcha-Delta Soil and Water Conservation District (SDSWCD).

The following describe the USARAK LRAM/RTLA 2024 completed tasks. The tasks are displayed as maps or graphics with a brief description. For more information or higher resolution maps or graphics for each completed, ongoing, or future tasks, please contact the USAG Alaska Natural Resource office. For a detailed explanation and history of each program, please refer to the USAG Alaska INRMP.

LRAM 2024 Completed Tasks-CEMML

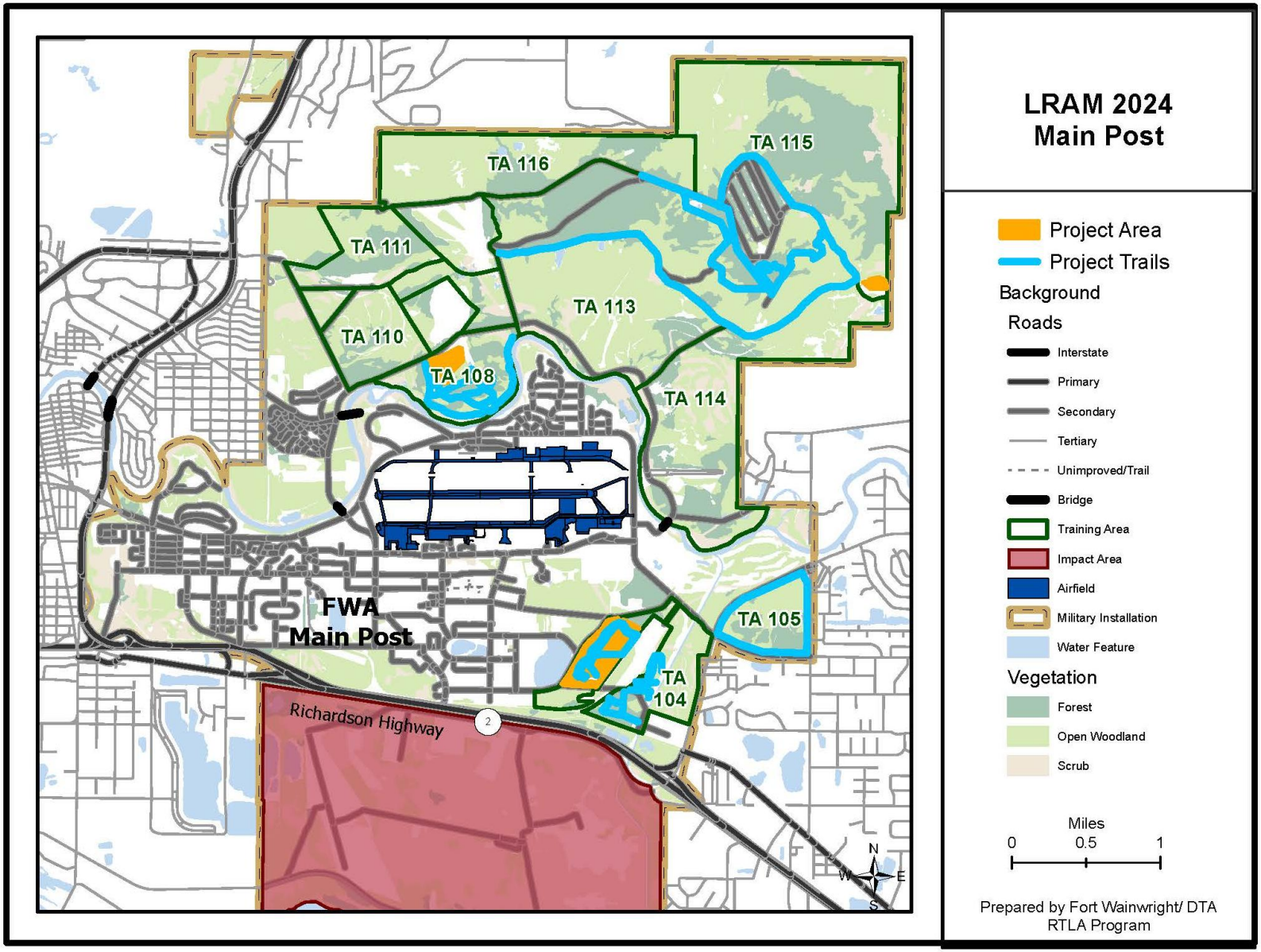
The following describe the CSU-CEMML LRAM 2024 completed tasks. The tasks are first described by area divided into (1) Fort Wainwright Main Post, YTA, TFTA and (2) DTA, GRTA, BRTA, WCTA. The tasks are then displayed, by area, as maps or graphics in the subsequent pages.

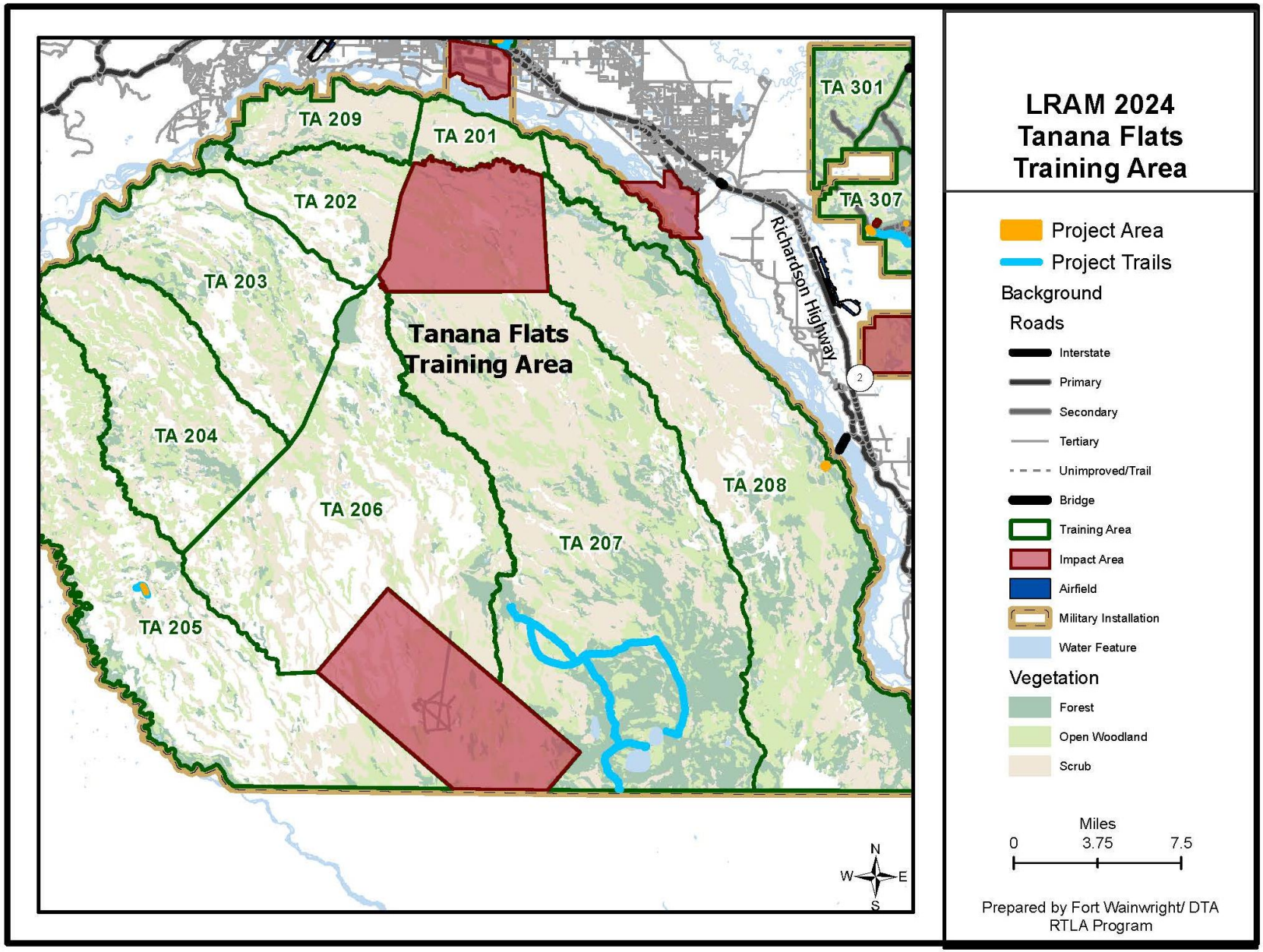
Fort Wainwright Main Post, YTA, and TFTA

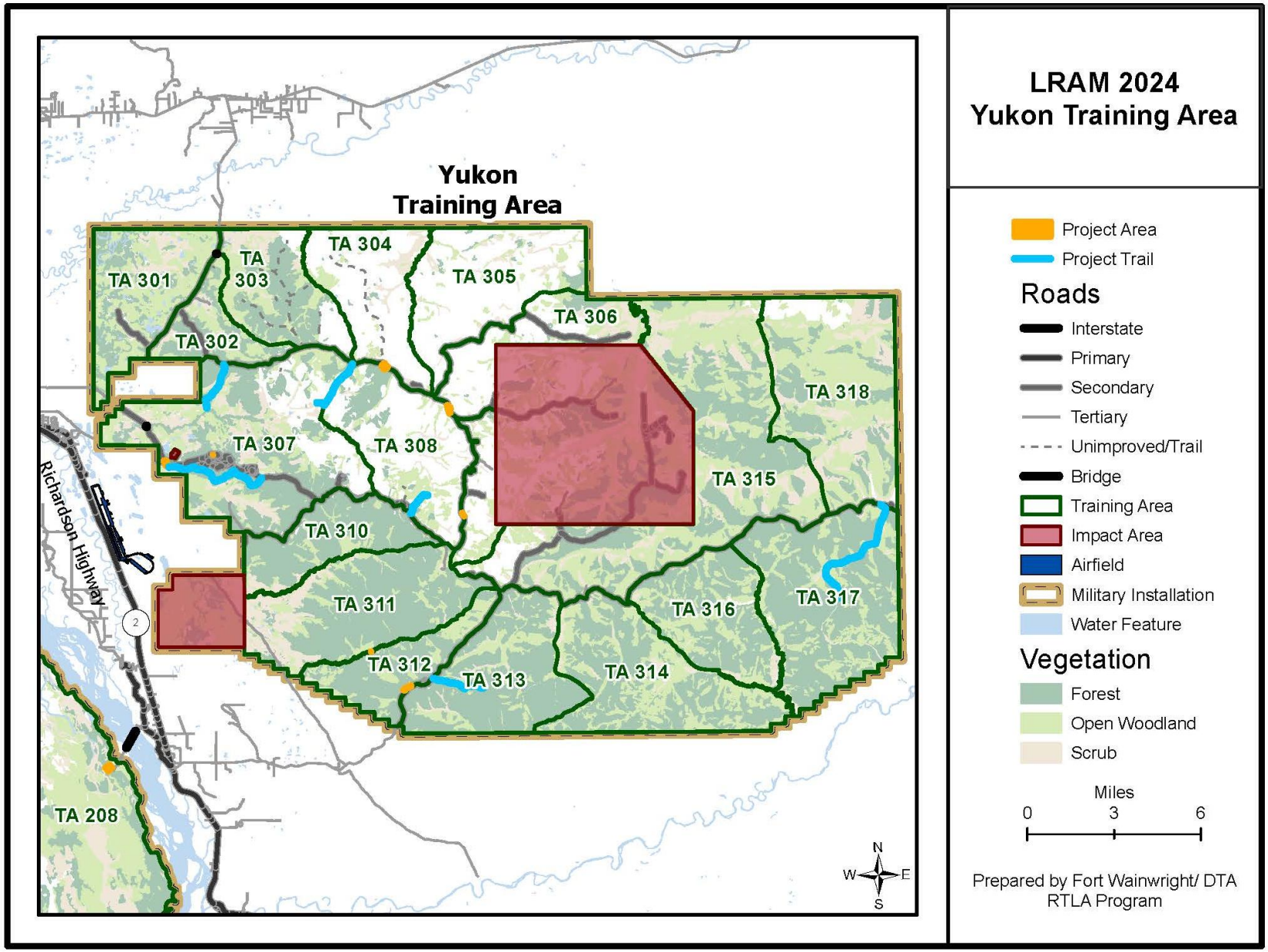
The Fort Wainwright LRAM Hand Crew conducted a variety of vegetation maintenance activities. A total of 74 acres of training land were accessed and maintained through mowing, seeding or chainsaws (mostly removing hazard trees). The crew also completed about 94 KM of trails and linier maintenance activities. The LRAM Crew 2024 annual report is in progress and will be completed by January 31, 2025.

DTA, GRTA, BRTA, and WCTA

The Donnelly Training Area LRAM Hand Crew, conducted a variety of vegetation maintenance activities. Approximately 5 acres of training lands were accessed and received thinning treatments, both sapling removal and hazard trees. The crew also completed about 3 miles of new trail and maintained roughly 15 miles of existing trails. The LRAM Crew 2024 annual report is in progress and will be completed by January 31, 2025


LRAM 2024
Main Post
TA 115
TA 116
TA 111
TA 113
TA 110
TA 108
TA 114
FWA
Main Post
TA 105
TA
104
Richardson Highway
2
Project Area
Project Trails
Background
Roads
Interstate
Primary
Secondary
Tertiary
Unimproved/Trail
Bridge
Training Area
Impact Area
Airfield
Military Installation
Water Feature
Vegetation
Forest
Open Woodland
Scrub
Miles
0
0.5
1
N
W
E
S
Prepared by Fort Wainwright/ DTA
RTLA Program


TA 301
TA 209
TA 201
TA 307
TA 202
Richardson Highway
TA 203
Tanana Flats
Training Area
TA 204
TA 208
TA 206
TA 207
TA 205
N
W
E
S
LRAM 2024
Tanana Flats
Training Area
Project Area
Project Trails
Background
Roads
Interstate
Primary
Secondary
Tertiary
Unimproved/Trail
Bridge
Training Area
Impact Area
Airfield
Military Installation
Water Feature
Vegetation
Forest
Open Woodland
Scrub
Miles
0
3.75
7.5
Prepared by Fort Wainwright/ DTA
RTLA Program


Yukon
Training Area
TA 301
TA 303
TA 304
TA 305
TA 306
TA 302
TA 307
TA 308
TA 318
TA 315
TA 310
TA 311
TA 316
TA 317
TA 312
TA 313
TA 314
TA 208
Richardson Highway
2
N
W
E
S
LRAM 2024
Yukon Training Area
Project Area
Project Trail
Roads
Interstate
Primary
Secondary
Tertiary
Unimproved/Trail
Bridge
Training Area
Impact Area
Airfield
Military Installation
Water Feature
Vegetation
Forest
Open Woodland
Scrub
Miles
0
3
6
Prepared by Fort Wainwright/ DTA
RTLA Program

LRAM 2024 Completed Tasks-SDSWCD

The following describe the SDSWCD and LRAM 2024 completed tasks. The tasks are first described by area divided into (1) Fort Wainwright Main Post, YTA, TFTA and (2) DTA, GRTA, BRTA, WCTA. The tasks are then displayed, by area, as maps or graphics in the subsequent pages.

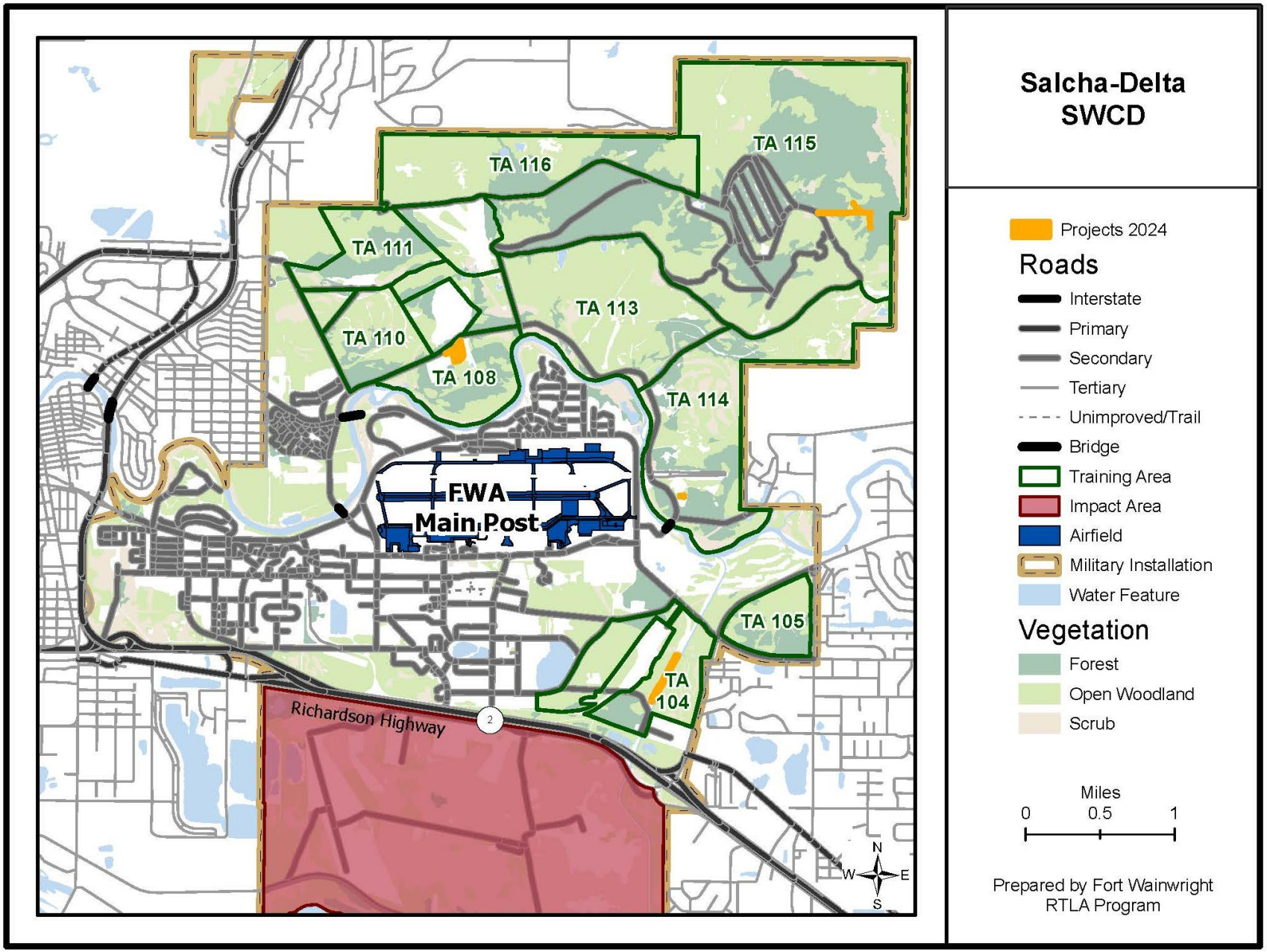
Fort Wainwright Main Post, YTA, and TFTA

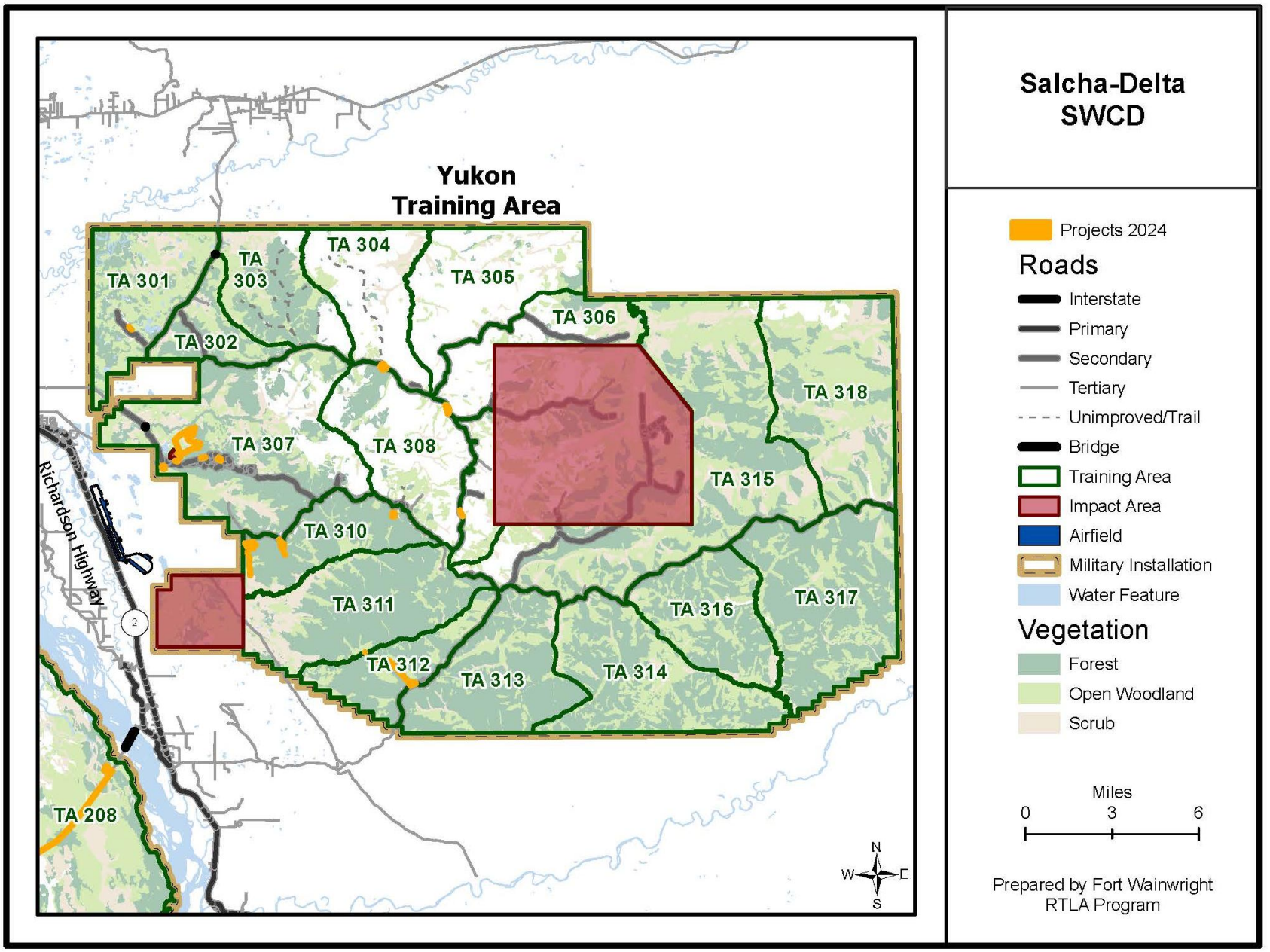
A total of 232.9 acres were treated for general training lands maintenance on Fort Wainwright, the YTA and TFTA. Treatments included masticating, mowing, seeding, fertilizing, brush removal and light dirt work for erosion control.

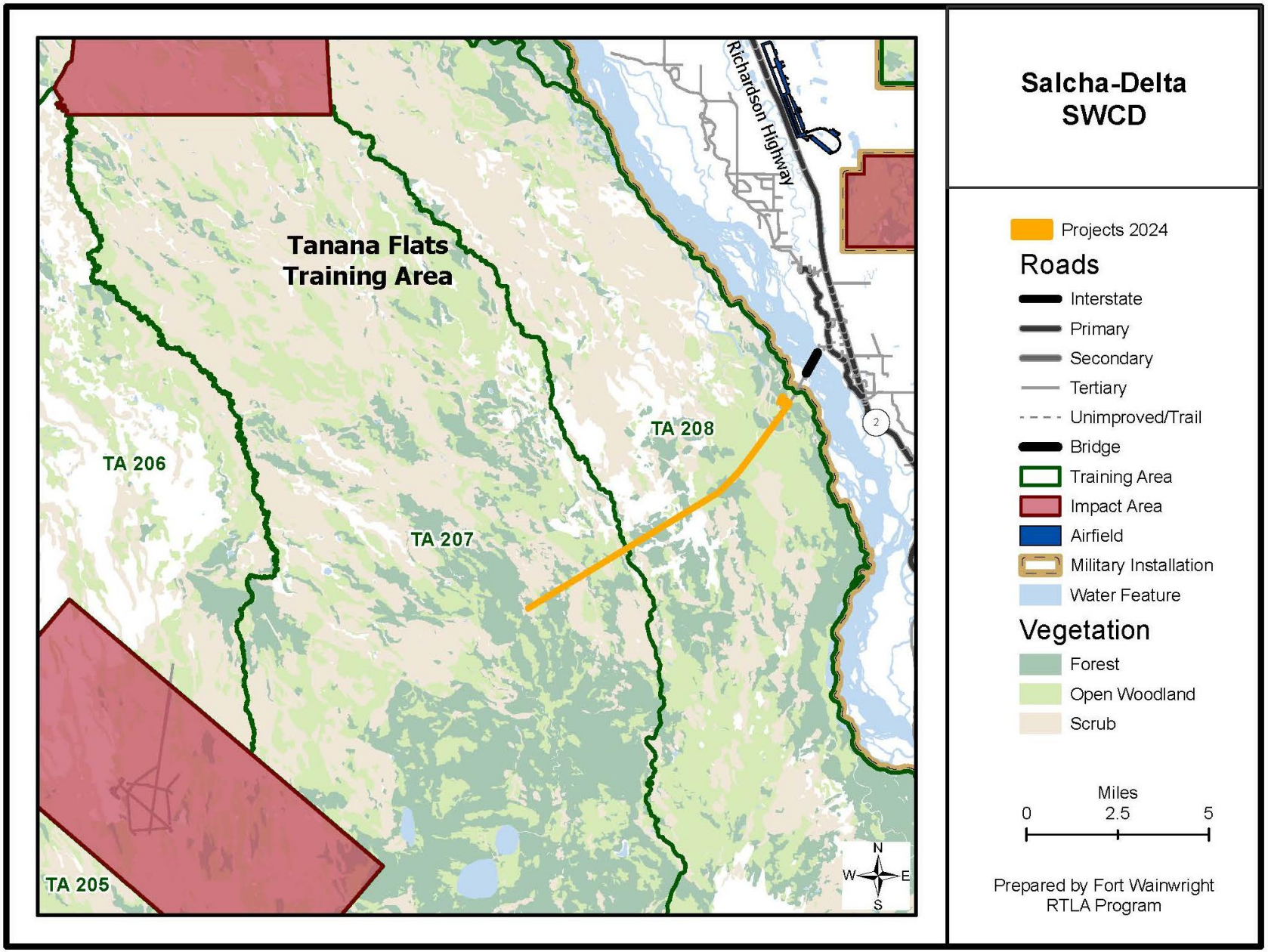
- Fort Wainwright Main Post maintenance and repair: Masticated 5.7 acres of trails and staging areas in TA's 115 and 108. Removed brush from 0.2 acres in TA 114, repaired 2.2 acres of maneuver damage as well as seeded and fertilized 3.7 acres in TA 104. Additionally, 2 miles of trail were mechanically cleared, and fill material was added in TA 112, and 6 miles of trail in TA 115. There were a few parking area improvements as well. Temperature sensors were added to those trails and parking for ground monitoring.
- YTA maintenance and repair: Performed maneuver damage repair on 11 acres in TA's 301, 308, 310 and 312. Masticated 20.4 acres of trails and staging/bivouac areas in TA's 301, 307, 310 and 312. Seeded and fertilized 29 acres of firing points and LZ's in TA's 308, 310 and 312. Mowed 40.7 acres of firing points and LZ's in TA's 308, 312 and 315. Conducted 0.85 acres of erosion repairs in TA 310. Removed brush from 1 acre in TA's 307 & 310. Carried out light dirt work on 28.3 acres in TA's 307, 310 and 312. Additionally, trail improvements include 2 miles from Manchu Rang to Lilly Pond, seeding and fertilizing along Quary Road (0.3 miles), the FARP area (0.6 miles), near the south fork of the Chena River near Beaver Creek Road (0.6 miles), Canoe Launch N Beaver Creek Road (0.1 acres).
- TFTA maintenance and repair: Masticated large woody debris as well as seeded and fertilized a 22 acre LZ/ staging area in TA 208. Removed windfall trees from 90 acres of trails with chainsaws and a hand crew in recently burned portions of TA's 207 & 208.

DTA, GRTA, BRTA, and WCTA

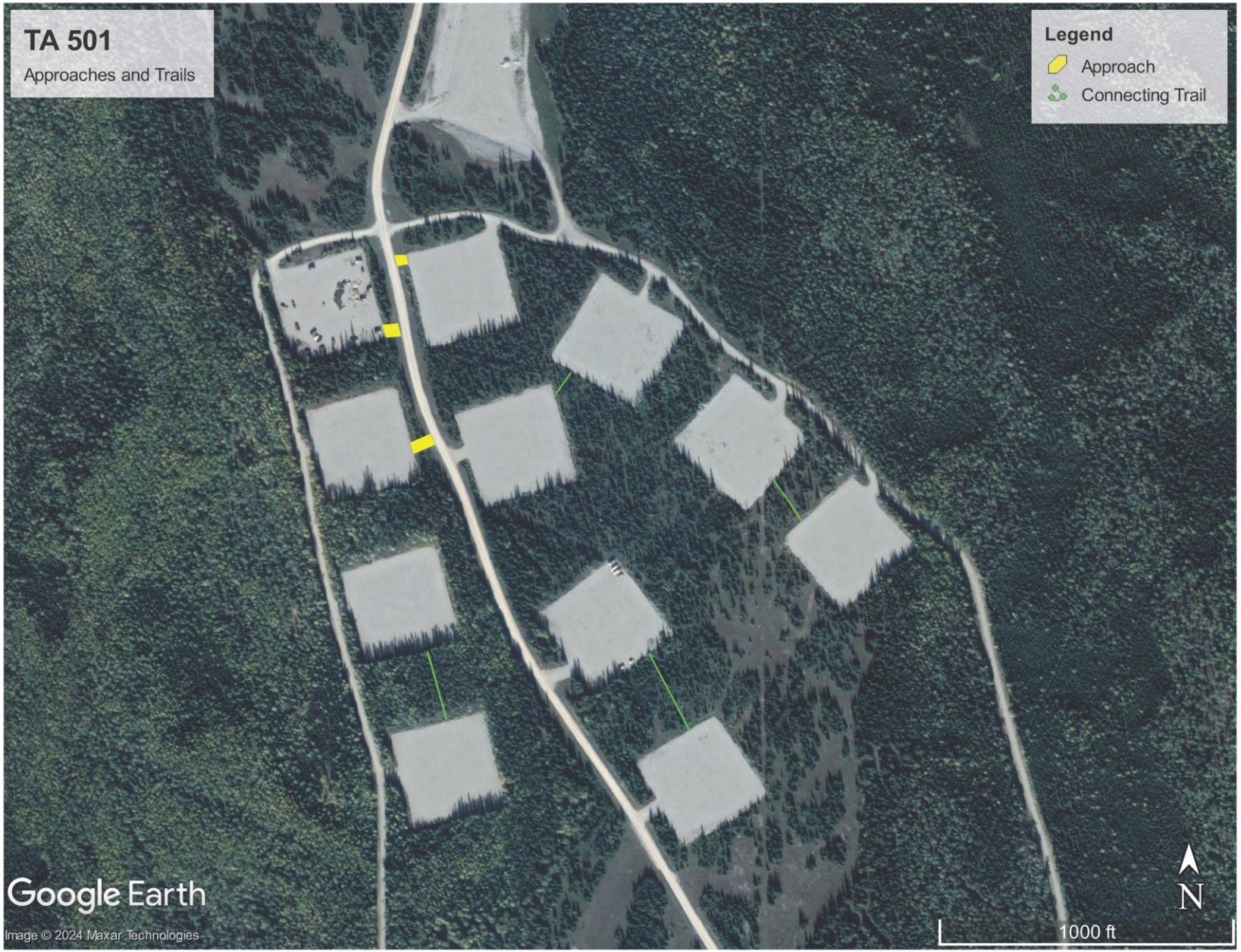
- DTA maintenance and repair: 4 miles of trail was cleared at 10' wide in Texas Range. Approximately 1.5 acres of trees and vegetation along the three access roads to the Threat Operations Pads in TA 501 was cleared. 0.81 miles of trail at 20' wide was cleared on Lampkin LZ. 1 mile of trail in the Gerstle TA was cleared of fire kill and debris. 7.17 acres in TA 501 was cleared for an assembly pad. Cleared 2.15 miles at 60' wide in TA 507. Cleared 2.15 miles at 60' wide in TA 507. 1.7 miles at 60' wide was cleared in TA 506. Three approaches from 33-mile loop to 501 pads and four connecting trails.


Salcha-Delta SWCD
TA 115
TA 116
TA 111
TA 113
TA 110
TA 108
TA 114
FWA Main Post
TA 105
TA 104
Richardson Highway
2
N
W
E
S
Projects 2024
Roads
Interstate
Primary
Secondary
Tertiary
Unimproved/Trail
Bridge
Training Area
Impact Area
Airfield
Military Installation
Water Feature
Vegetation
Forest
Open Woodland
Scrub
Miles
0
0.5
1
Prepared by Fort Wainwright
RTLA Program

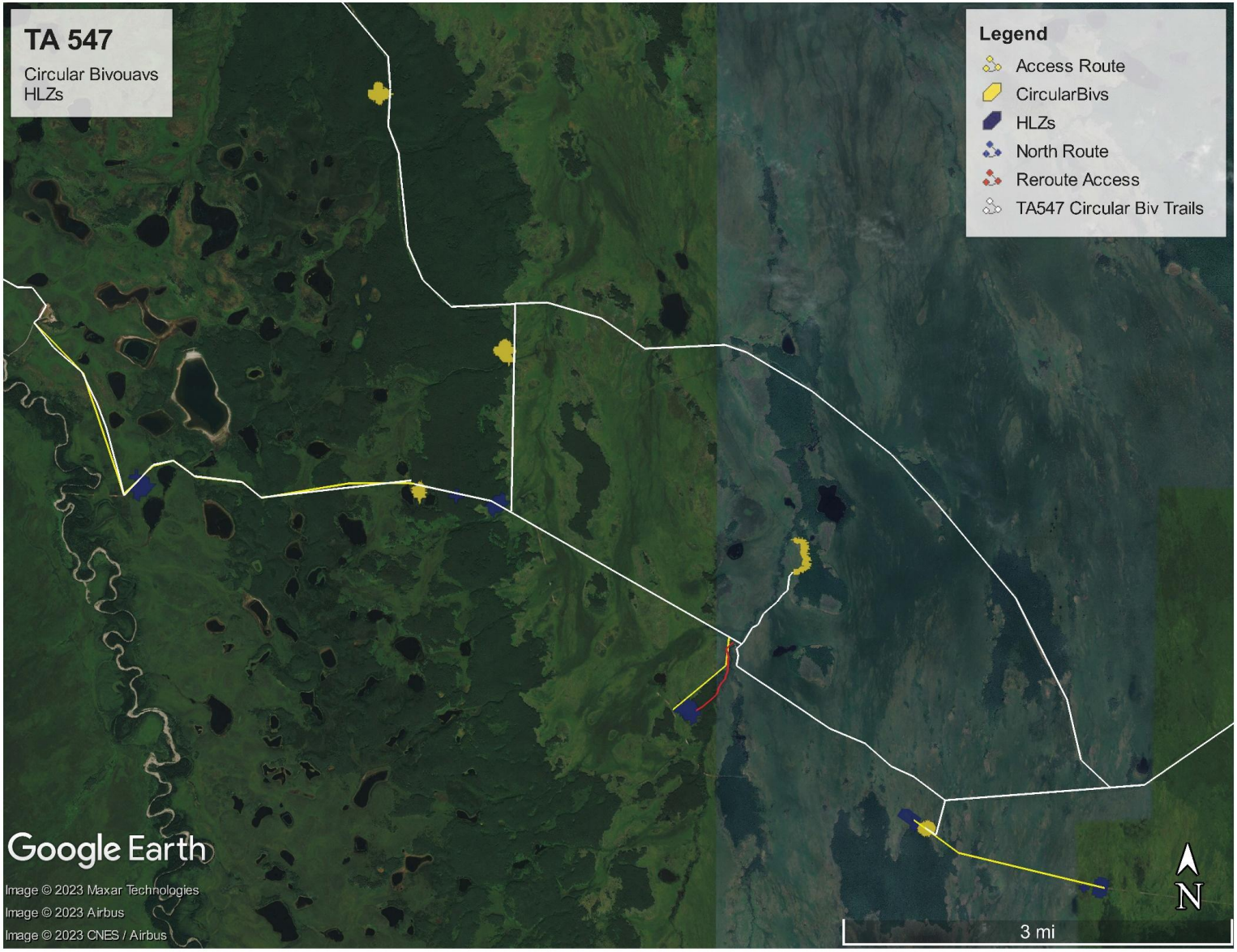

Yukon
Training Area
TA 301
TA 303
TA 304
TA 305
TA 306
TA 302
TA 307
TA 308
TA 318
TA 315
TA 310
TA 311
TA 316
TA 317
TA 312
TA 313
TA 314
TA 208
Richardson Highway
2
N
W
E
S
Salcha-Delta
SWCD
Projects 2024
Roads
Interstate
Primary
Secondary
Tertiary
Unimproved/Trail
Bridge
Training Area
Impact Area
Airfield
Military Installation
Water Feature
Vegetation
Forest
Open Woodland
Scrub
Miles
0
3
6
Prepared by Fort Wainwright
RTLA Program


Tanana Flats
Training Area
TA 206
TA 207
TA 208
TA 205
Richardson Highway
2
N
W
E
S
Salcha-Delta
SWCD
Projects 2024
Roads
Interstate
Primary
Secondary
Tertiary
Unimproved/Trail
Bridge
Training Area
Impact Area
Airfield
Military Installation
Water Feature
Vegetation
Forest
Open Woodland
Scrub
Miles
0
2.5
5
Prepared by Fort Wainwright
RTLA Program

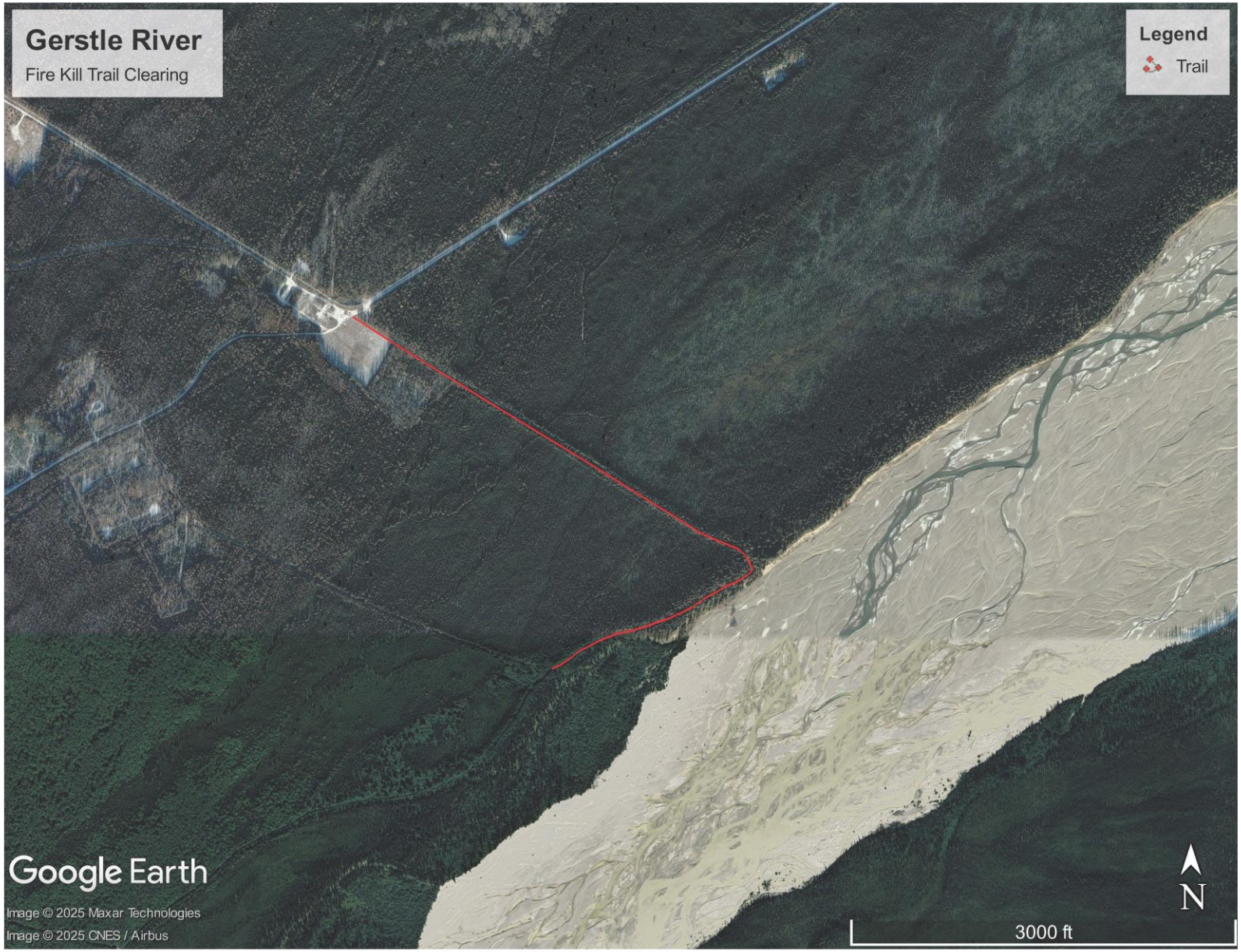

TA 547
Project Overview
Legend
Circular Bivs
GPR Trail
Pad Access
Reroute
TA547 Circular Biv Trails
TA547PadsHLZs
Winter Trail
Big Delta
2
Google Earth
Image © 2023 Airbus
Image Landsat / Copernicus
Image © 2023 Maxar Technologies
Image © 2023 CNES / Airbus
N
9 mi


TA 501
Approaches and Trails
Legend
Approach
Connecting Trail
Google Earth
Image © 2024 Maxar Technologies
N
1000 ft

Training Area 501 EW Access Roads - 1.5 acres cleared.


TA 547
Circular Bivouavs
HLZs
Legend
Access Route
CircularBivs
HLZs
North Route
Reroute Access
TA547 Circular Biv Trails
Google Earth
Image © 2023 Maxar Technologies
Image © 2023 Airbus
Image © 2023 CNES / Airbus
N
3 mi


Lampkin LZ
Clearing
Legend
Clearing
Google Earth
Image © 2025 Airbus
1000 ft
N


Gerstle River
Fire Kill Trail Clearing
Legend
Trail
Google Earth
Image © 2025 Maxar Technologies
Image © 2025 CNES / Airbus
N
3000 ft


0 0.05 0.1 0.2 0.3
Miles
SOW #22-106 TARP work
Texas Fuel Break Nov 2023
Work Needed
Hydroaxe
None
N
Texas Range Maintenance

RTLA 2024 Completed Tasks

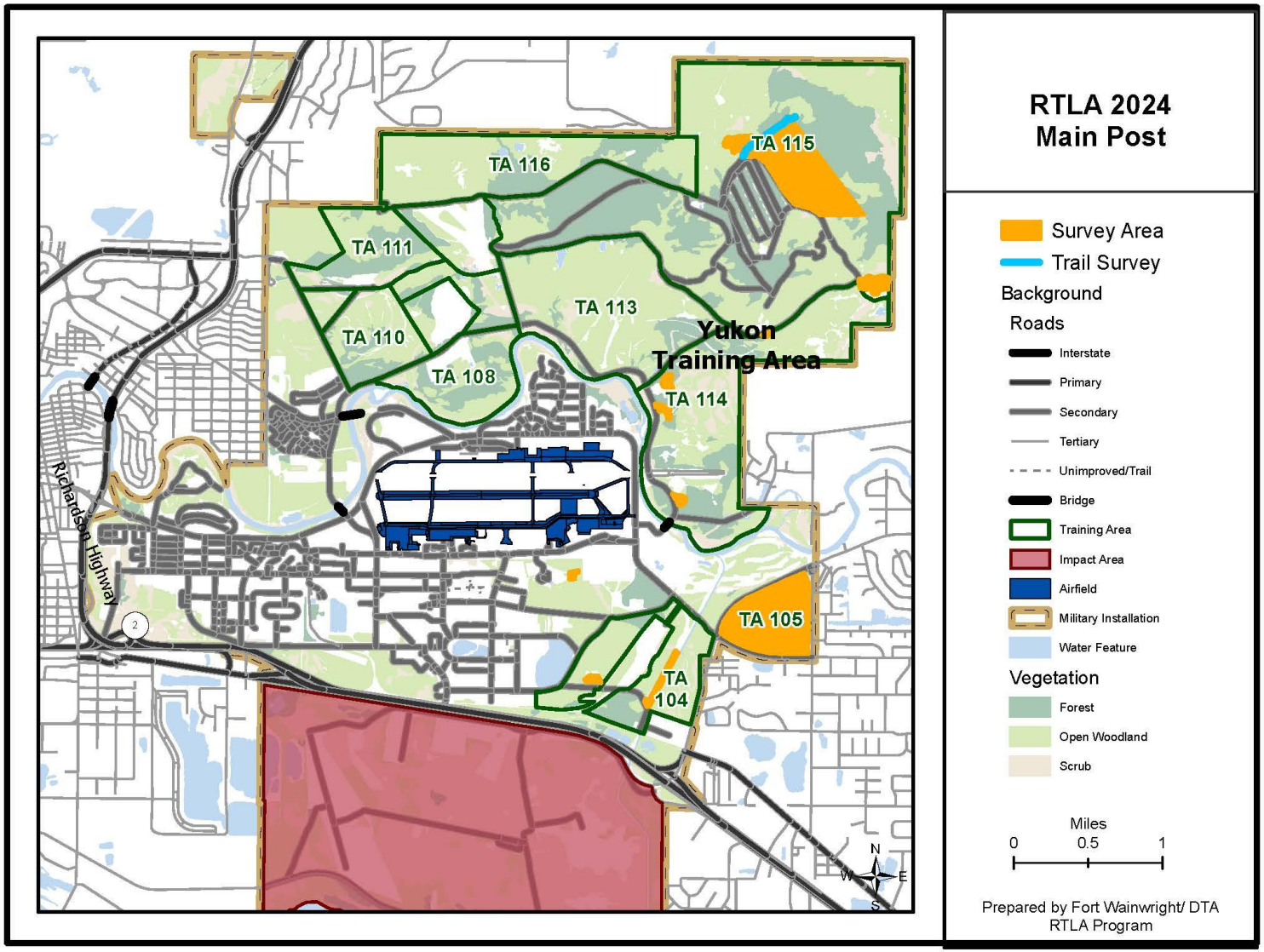
The following describe the CEMML RTLA 2024 completed tasks. The tasks are first described by area divided into (1) Fort Wainwright Main Post, YTA, TFTA and (2) DTA, GRTA, BRTA, WCTA. The tasks are then displayed, by area, as maps or graphics in the subsequent pages.

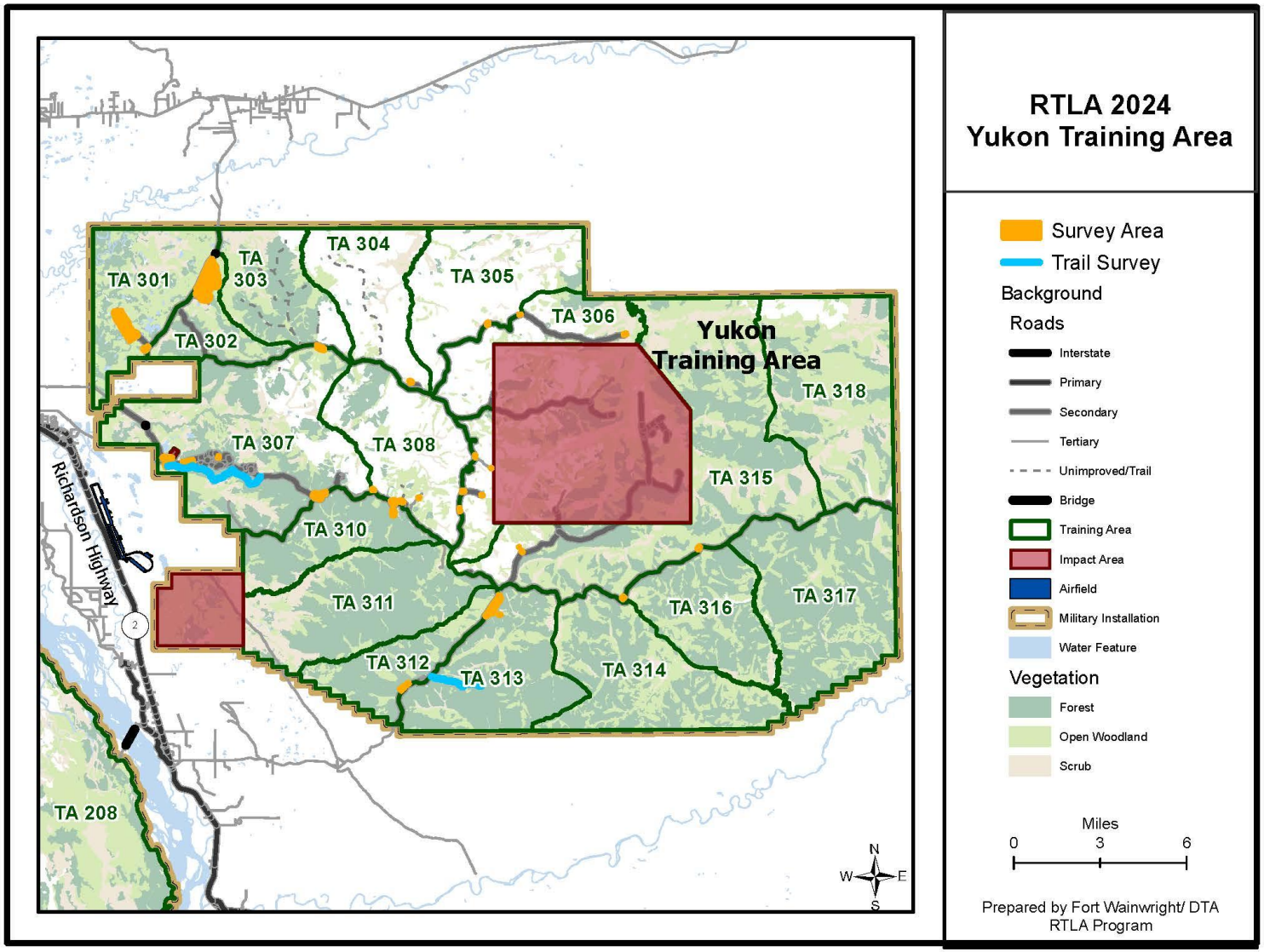
Fort Wainwright Main Post, YTA, and TFTA

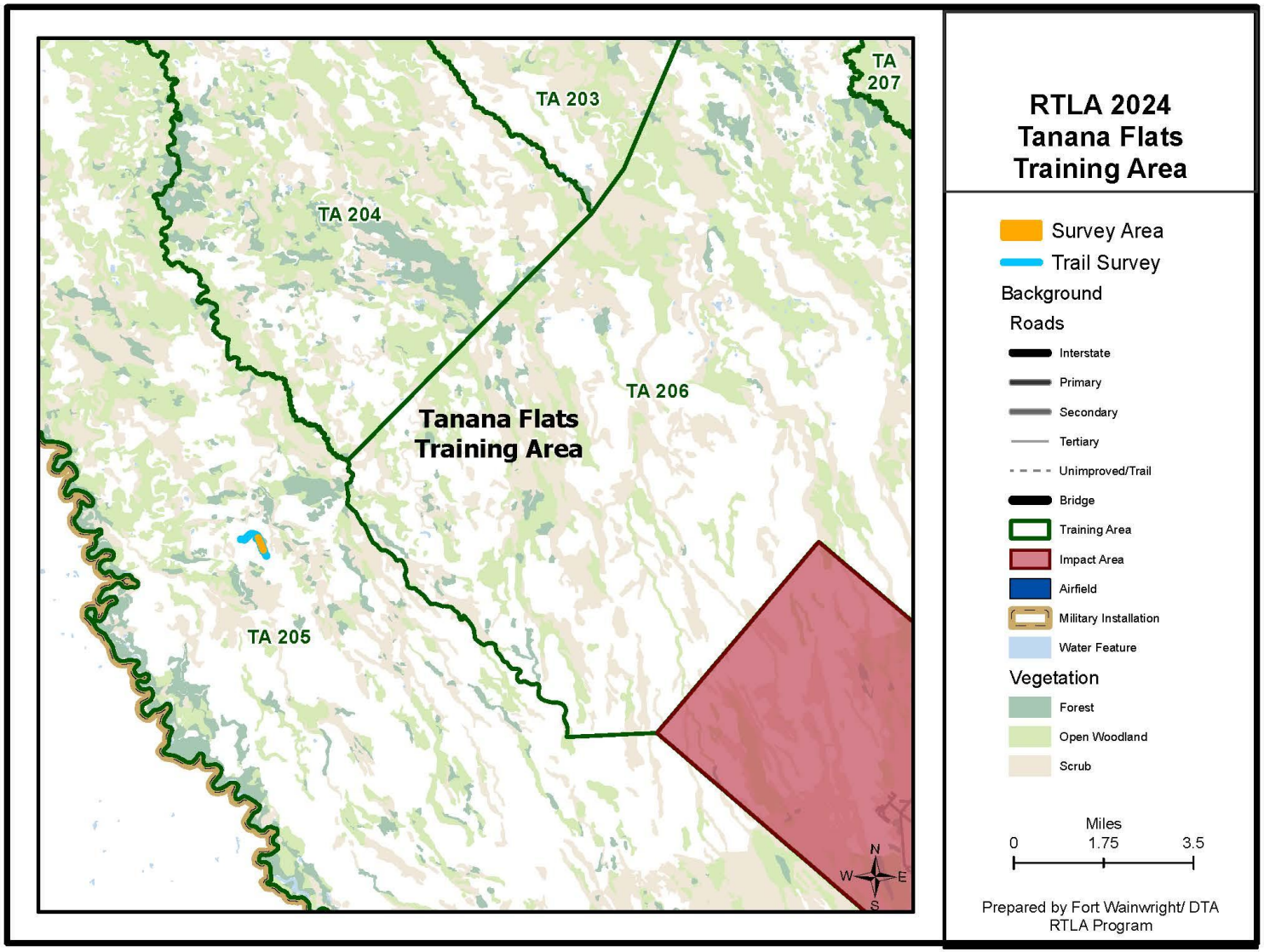
Fort Wainwright Range and Training Land Assessment (RTLA) surveyed 990 data points representing 810 acres of training lands. This data was used to calculate Land Condition rating, Accessibility, Sufficiency for primary use, and suggest future maintenance needs. RTLA also surveyed 36 kilometers of trails in the training lands both historic and currently maintained. Each Calendar year, RTLA analyses training land use distributed across the landscape, as recorded in the Range Facility Management Support System (RFMSS). All data has been analyzed and the RTLA 2024 annual report was completed 31 January 2024.

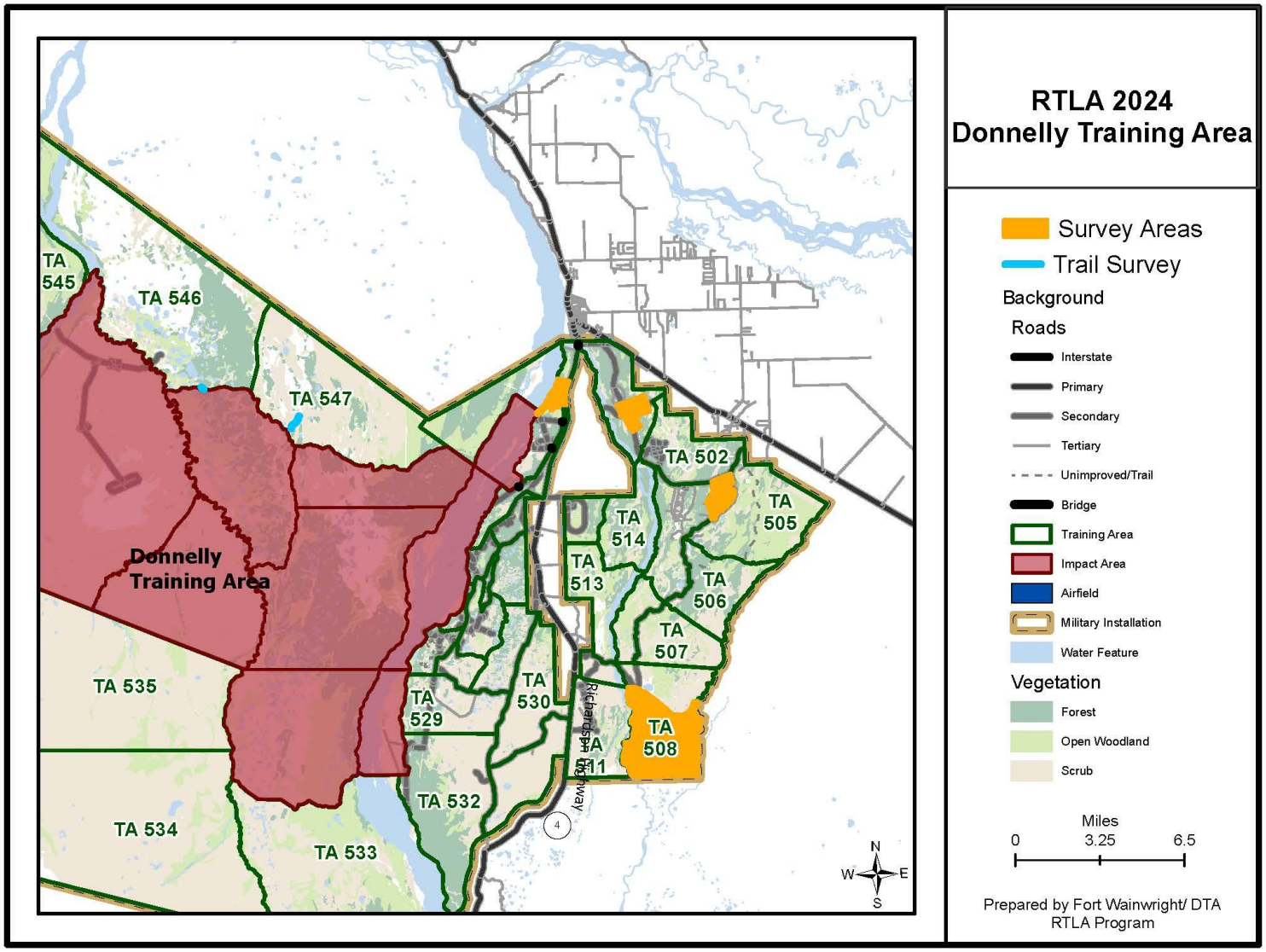
DTA, GRTA, BRTA, and WCTA

Donnelly Training Area RTLA surveyed 400 data points representing 10,085 acres of training lands. This data was used to calculate Land Condition rating, Accessibility, Sufficiency for primary use, and suggest future maintenance needs. Each calendar year, RTLA analyzes training land use distributed across the landscape, as recorded in the Range Facility Management Support System (RFMSS). 2024 data was completed 31 January 2024.


RTLA 2024
Main Post
TA 115
TA 116
TA 111
TA 113
TA 110
TA 108
Yukon
Training Area
TA 114
TA 105
TA
104
Richardson Highway
2
Survey Area
Trail Survey
Background
Roads
Interstate
Primary
Secondary
Tertiary
Unimproved/Trail
Bridge
Training Area
Impact Area
Airfield
Military Installation
Water Feature
Vegetation
Forest
Open Woodland
Scrub
Miles
0
0.5
1
N
W
E
S
Prepared by Fort Wainwright/ DTA
RTLA Program


RTLA 2024
Yukon Training Area
Survey Area
Trail Survey
Background
Roads
Interstate
Primary
Secondary
Tertiary
Unimproved/Trail
Bridge
Training Area
Impact Area
Airfield
Military Installation
Water Feature
Vegetation
Forest
Open Woodland
Scrub
Miles
0
3
6
Prepared by Fort Wainwright/ DTA
RTLA Program
Yukon
Training Area
TA 301
TA 303
TA 304
TA 305
TA 306
TA 302
TA 318
TA 307
TA 308
TA 315
TA 310
TA 311
TA 316
TA 317
TA 312
TA 313
TA 314
TA 208
Richardson Highway
2
N
W
E
S


TA 203
TA 207
TA 204
TA 206
Tanana Flats
Training Area
TA 205
N
W
E
S
RTLA 2024
Tanana Flats
Training Area
Survey Area
Trail Survey
Background
Roads
Interstate
Primary
Secondary
Tertiary
Unimproved/Trail
Bridge
Training Area
Impact Area
Airfield
Military Installation
Water Feature
Vegetation
Forest
Open Woodland
Scrub
Miles
0
1.75
3.5
Prepared by Fort Wainwright/ DTA
RTLA Program

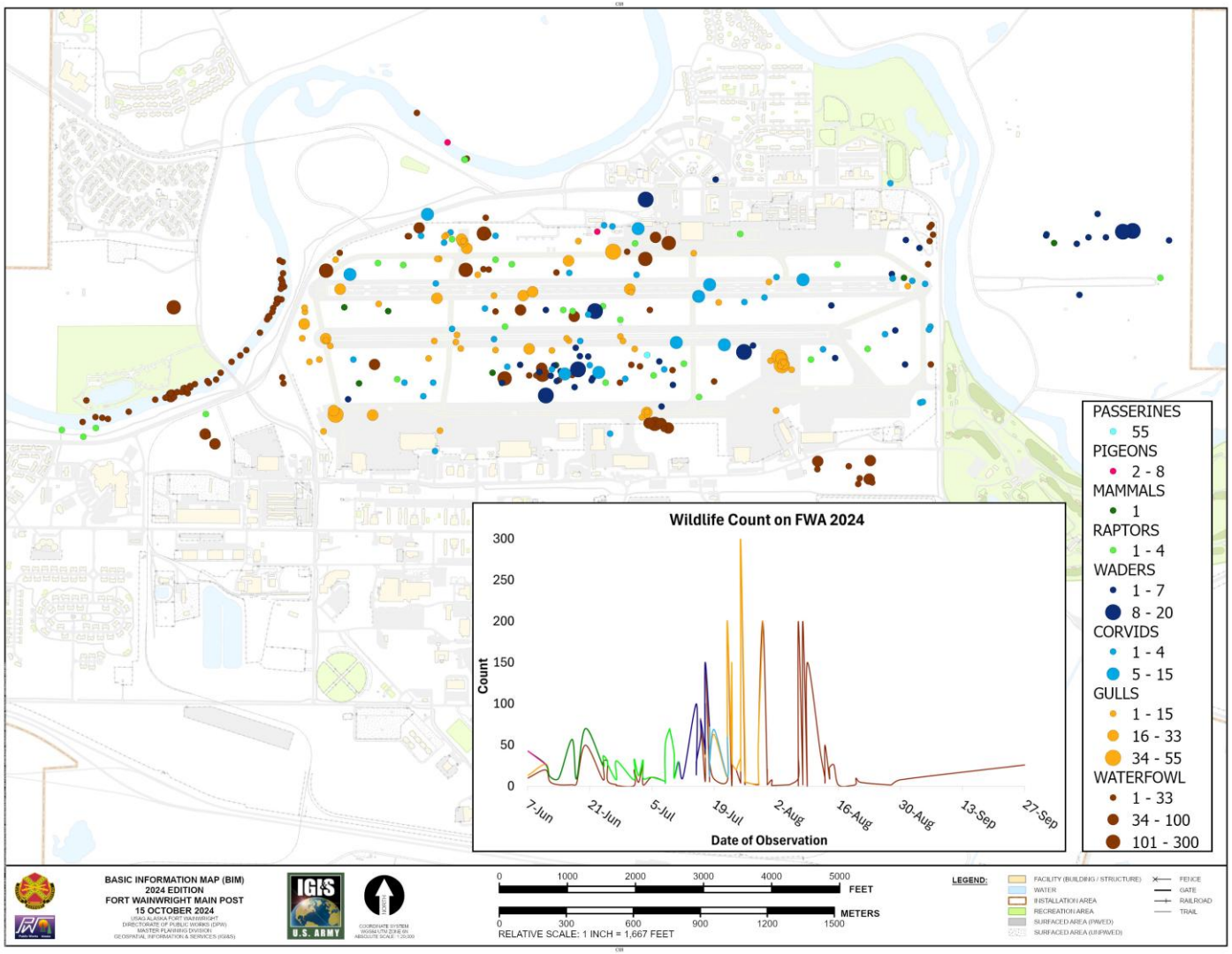

RTLA 2024
Donnelly Training Area
Survey Areas
Trail Survey
Background
Roads
Interstate
Primary
Secondary
Tertiary
Unimproved/Trail
Bridge
Training Area
Impact Area
Airfield
Military Installation
Water Feature
Vegetation
Forest
Open Woodland
Scrub
Miles
0
3.25
6.5
Prepared by Fort Wainwright/ DTA
RTLA Program
TA 545
TA 546
TA 547
Donnelly
Training Area
TA 535
TA 534
TA 533
TA 532
TA 529
TA 530
TA 511
TA 508
TA 513
TA 514
TA 502
TA 505
TA 506
TA 507
Richardson Highway
4
N
W
E
S

Fish and Wildlife

Fish and wildlife is a broad category encompassing game species, non-game species, fisheries management, migratory birds, wildlife strike hazards, fish and wildlife habitat, wildlife viewing, lake stocking, raptor nesting, and more. Various fish and wildlife work is done to more broadly improve fish and wildlife knowledge.

USAG Alaska DPW Environmental, in cooperation with Ladd Army Airfield and Allen Army Airfield operations, entered into an agreement with U.S. Department of Agriculture Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service Wildlife Services (APHIS WS) to manage permits and migratory birds on Main Post FWA in 2018. APHIS WS is contracted to work towards the goals of (1) reducing the number of birds attracted to the airfield, (2) assisting USAG Alaska to reduce Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) violations, specifically for nesting Cliff Swallows (*Petrochelidon pyrrhonota*) and Mew Gulls (*Larus canus*), and (3) conduct bird surveys and input on habitat management around the airfield. The Ladd and Allen Army Airfield Wildlife Aircraft Strike Hazard (WASH) Programs are designed to help minimize the risk of a strike to fixed- and rotary-winged aircraft or human health and safety posed by populations of hazardous wildlife on and around Ladd and Allen Army Airfields. An integrated approach of techniques, tactics, and entities is used to support the overall WASH Program.

The following describe the USAG Alaska fish and wildlife 2024 completed task, displayed as a map with a brief description. For more information or higher resolution maps or graphics for each completed, ongoing, or future tasks, please contact the USAG Alaska Natural Resource office. For a detailed explanation and history of each program, please refer to the USAG Alaska INRMP.



The USDA conduced 302 dispersal events on 27 bird species and 2 mammal species from 1 April to 30 September 2024.