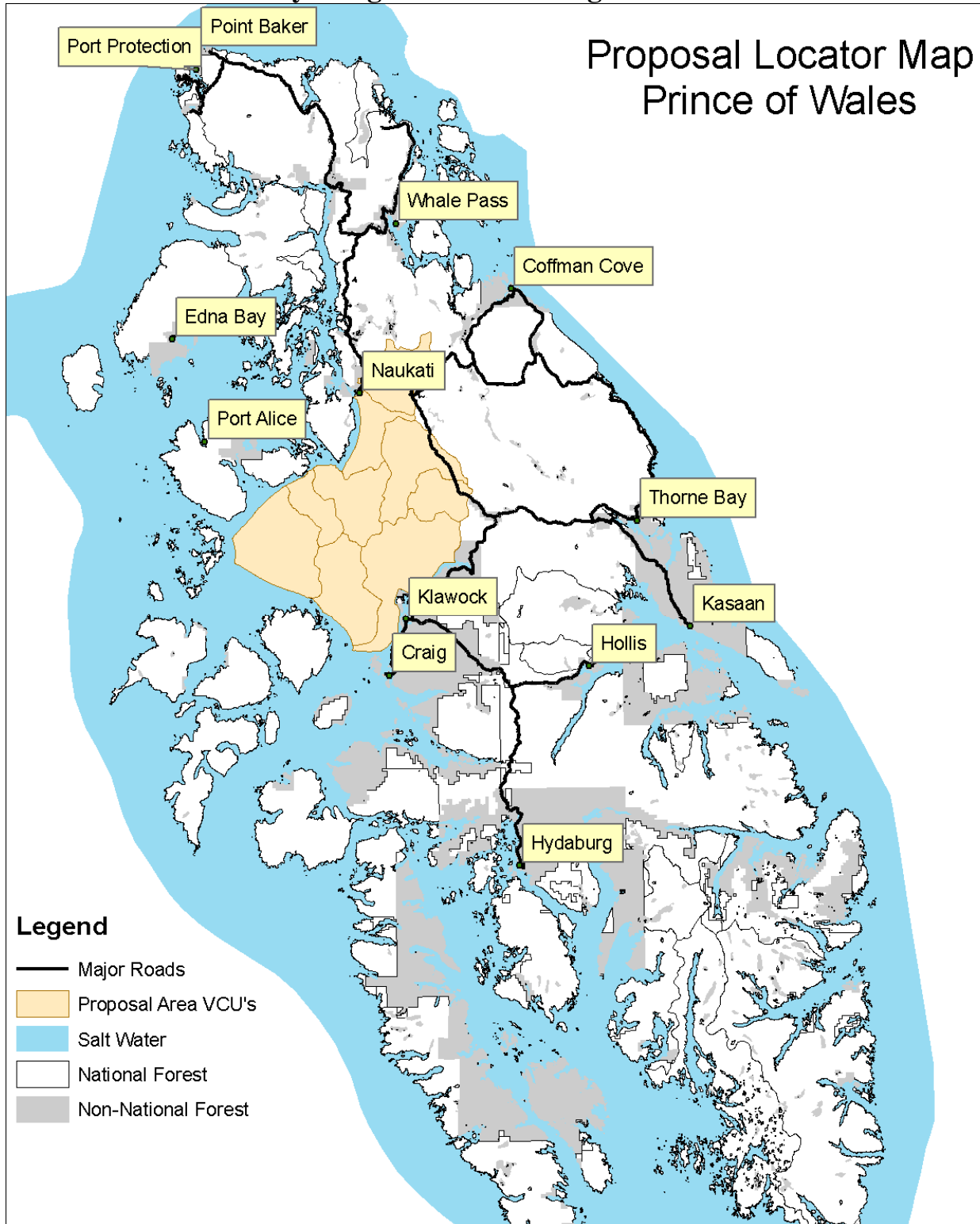


STANEY CREEK

Integrated Resource Management Plan Proposal for Action

Thorne Bay Ranger District • Tongass National Forest



This effort was a focused data-mining effort without additional field verification. Some data sources are course in nature, and subsequent assessment and field verification will yield changes to numbers in both the Existing Condition and the Proposal for Action sections of this document. Readers may find inconsistencies in some of the numbers provided as a result of the coarse level of analysis used to develop this Proposal for Action.

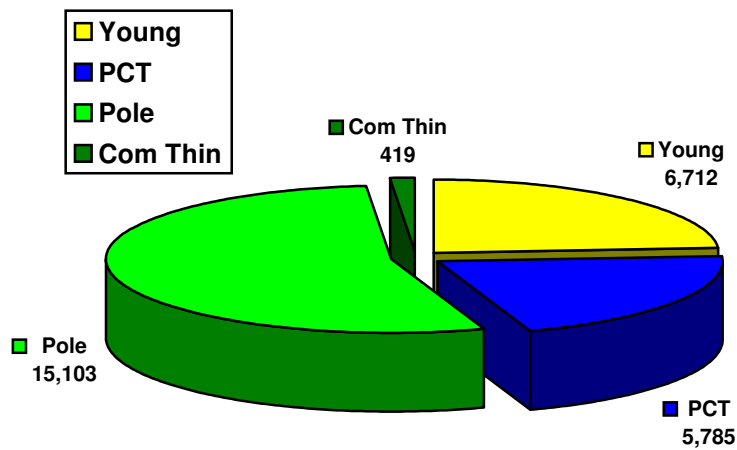
EXISTING CONDITIONS

What we know about the Project Area

Acreage:	139,063 acres
VCU's:	5710, 5871, 5880, 5890, 5900, 5910, 5920, 5930, 5940
Miles of Road on NFS Lands	240 System 76 Non-System (known temp roads)
Past Timber Harvest:	28,018 acres

↳ **By Decade (or Approximate Size Class)**

1990-present (very young)	6,712
1980-1989 (Pre-Commercial Thinning Class)	5,784
1960-1979 (Pole Class)	15,103
Prior to 1960 (Commercial Thinning Class)	419



Aquatics Conditions:

Miles of Stream:

By stream class	Miles of inventoried stream	Number of road crossings
Class I	278	128
Class II	163	150
Class III	609	567
Class IV	39	53

Number of Inventoried Fish Passages (culverts on fish streams): In reference to fish passage information and potential actions to be considered, the number and definition of Red, Green and Gray pipes is provided below:

- **11 Gray** pipes- **require additional analysis** to determine if they meet required passage standards
- **63 Red** pipes - assumed **not to meet** juvenile fish passage standards
- **105 Green** pipes - assumed to **meet** juvenile passage standards

A culvert is determined to be a blockage to fish passage if it fails to allow passage of a designated species and life stage at or below a designated stream flow.

Total Acres of Riparian Management Area (RMA): 23,997
Acres of past harvest in RMA: 4,639








Total Acres TTRA Buffer in Project Area*: 13,506
Acres of past harvest in TTRA Buffers: 2,645

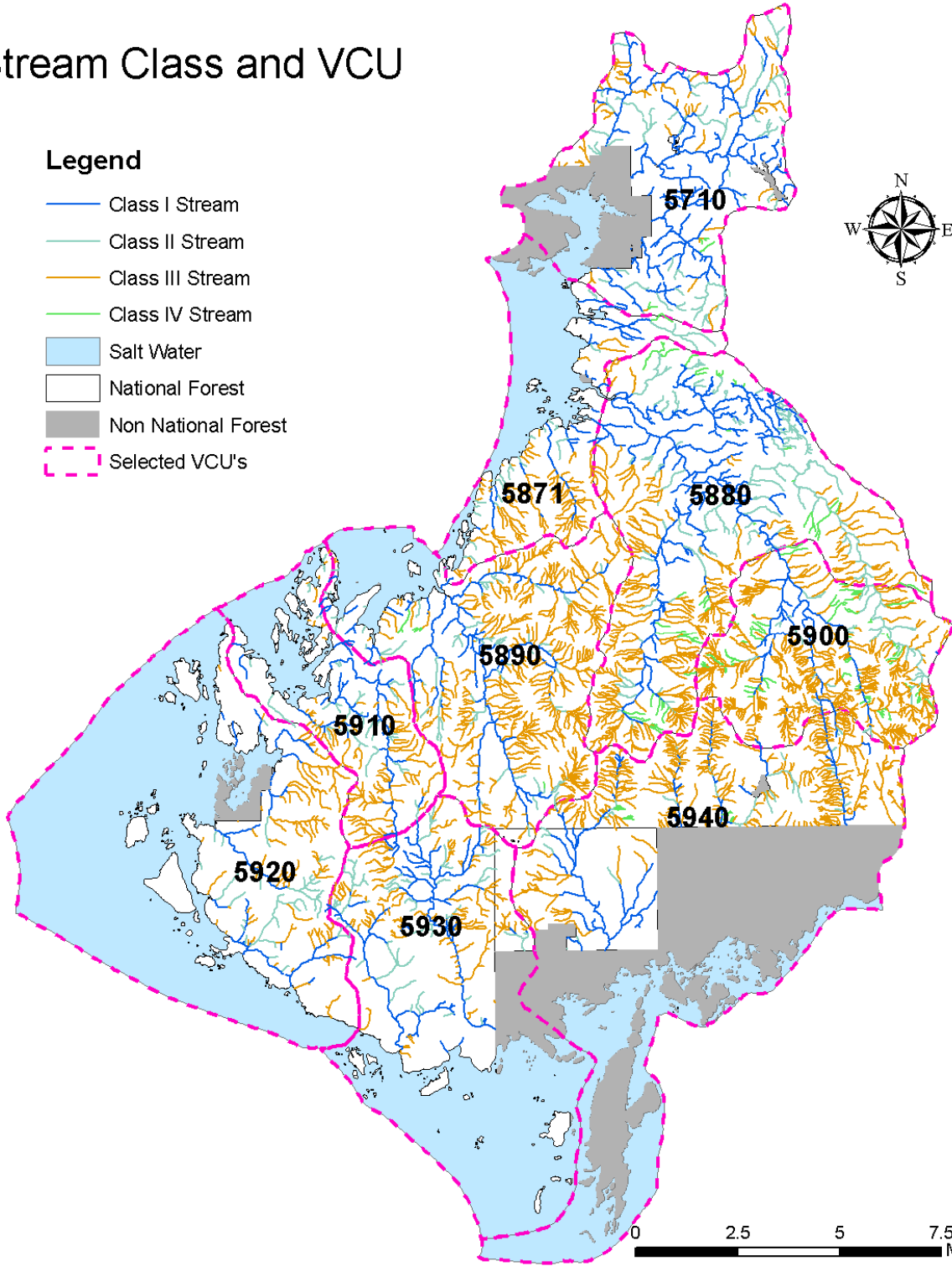
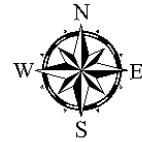
Acres of OGR in Project Area: 23,139
Acres of past Harvest in OGR's: 3,420

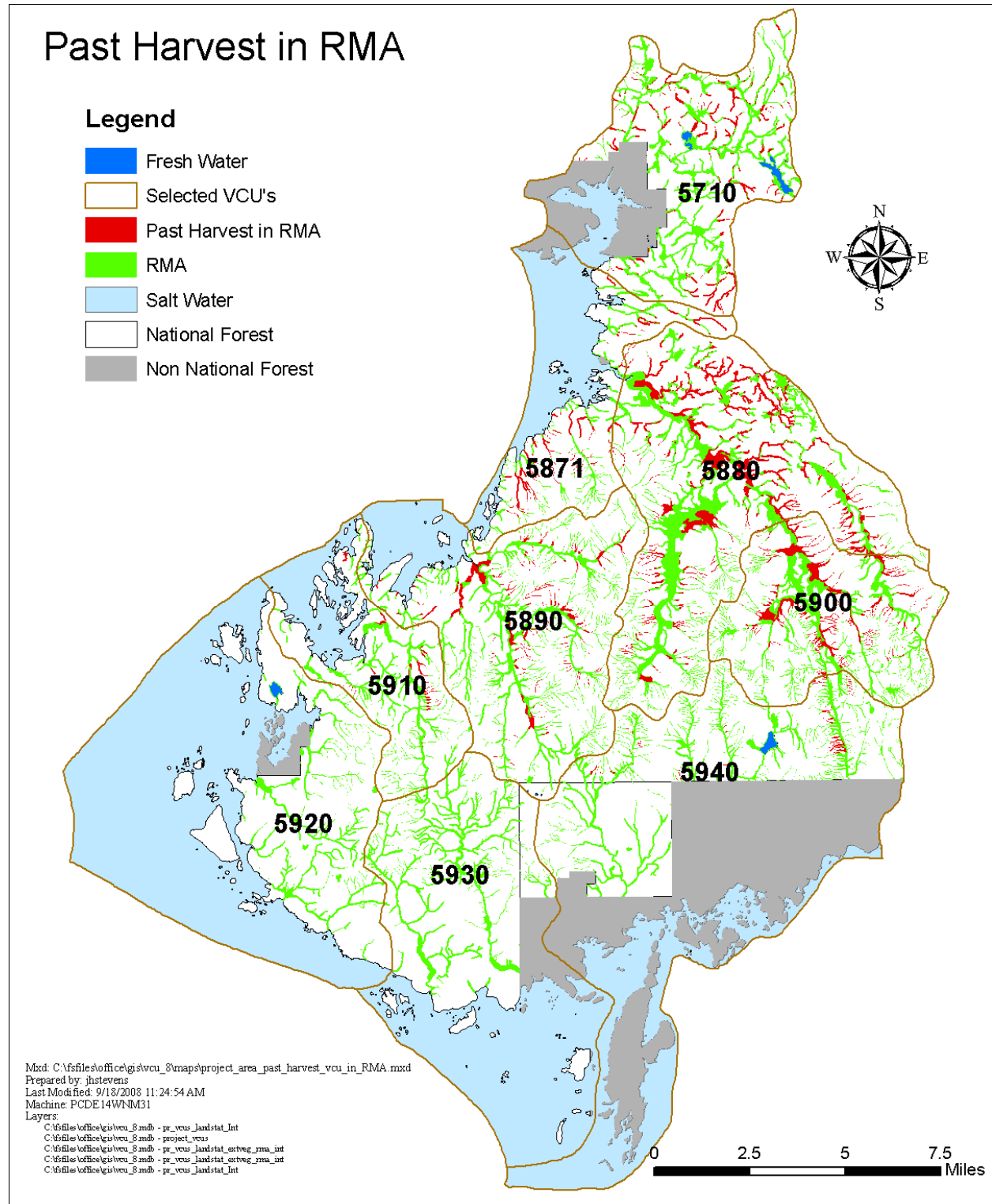
**TTRA Buffers are included in RMA Acreage listing. They are displayed separately for discussion purposes only and DO NOT represent cumulative conditions.*

Stream Class and VCU

Legend

-  Class I Stream
-  Class II Stream
-  Class III Stream
-  Class IV Stream
-  Salt Water
-  National Forest
-  Non National Forest
-  Selected VCU's





GMU2-Defined Deer Winter-Range

High Value (south facing aspect below 800’):	17,797
Medium Value**:	76,126
Total:	93,923

** For the purpose of Deer Management on Prince of Wales (GMU2) Medium Value Habitat is considered to be E, W and S aspects between 800’-1200’ elevation, and N. aspect below 800’ elevation.

Acres past harvest within High Value Winter Range:	3,907
Acres past harvest within Medium Value Winter Range:	17,752

Karst Terrain

Total Acres of Karst Terrain:	18,786
High vulnerability (inventoried):	968
Medium vulnerability (inventoried):	76
Total Acres of Past Harvest on Karst Terrain:	8,788
High Vulnerability (inventoried):	345
Medium Vulnerability (inventoried):	< 2

Pre-Commercial Thinning

Acres Pre-Commercial Thinning Accomplished To Date:	12, 517
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Invasive Plants

Number of Invasive Plant Species Observations in Project Area*: 3,143**

*** Represents distinct populations of 45 different, unwanted plant species within the project area. Some populations cover hundreds of square feet, others might have been only a few plants observed along the roadside.

Recreation Sites: Several popular facilities are located within the project area.



Winter Harbor: A developed Marine Access Facility (MAF) that provides boat launch opportunities for accessing the West Coast of POW and Sea Otter Sound. Primitive Camping near the MAF is common with visitors and residents.

Staney Cabin: One of the few Recreation Cabins on POW that is accessible by road and trail, making it one of the more heavily occupied cabins. Also accesses good waterfowl hunting on the Staney Estuary, and is within an easy drive from good fishing and hunting.

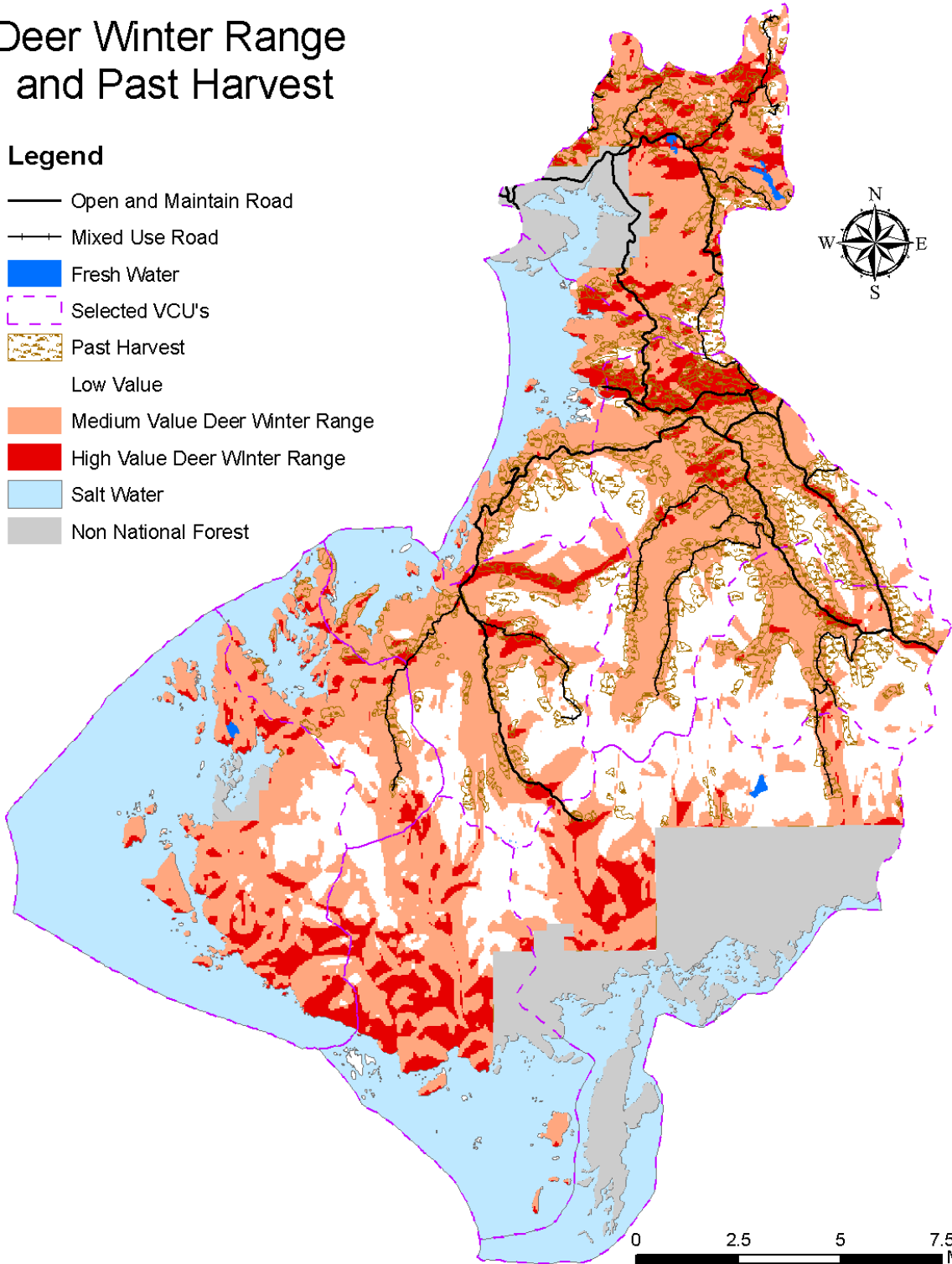
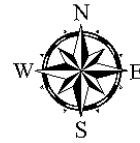
Miles of Trail: The project area currently has no designated hiking or OHV Trails, although there are several popular stored road systems which provide OHV and foot traffic to subsistence areas. The ATM will proposed to designate 38 miles of stored road, as OHV trail is conditions can facilitate such use.

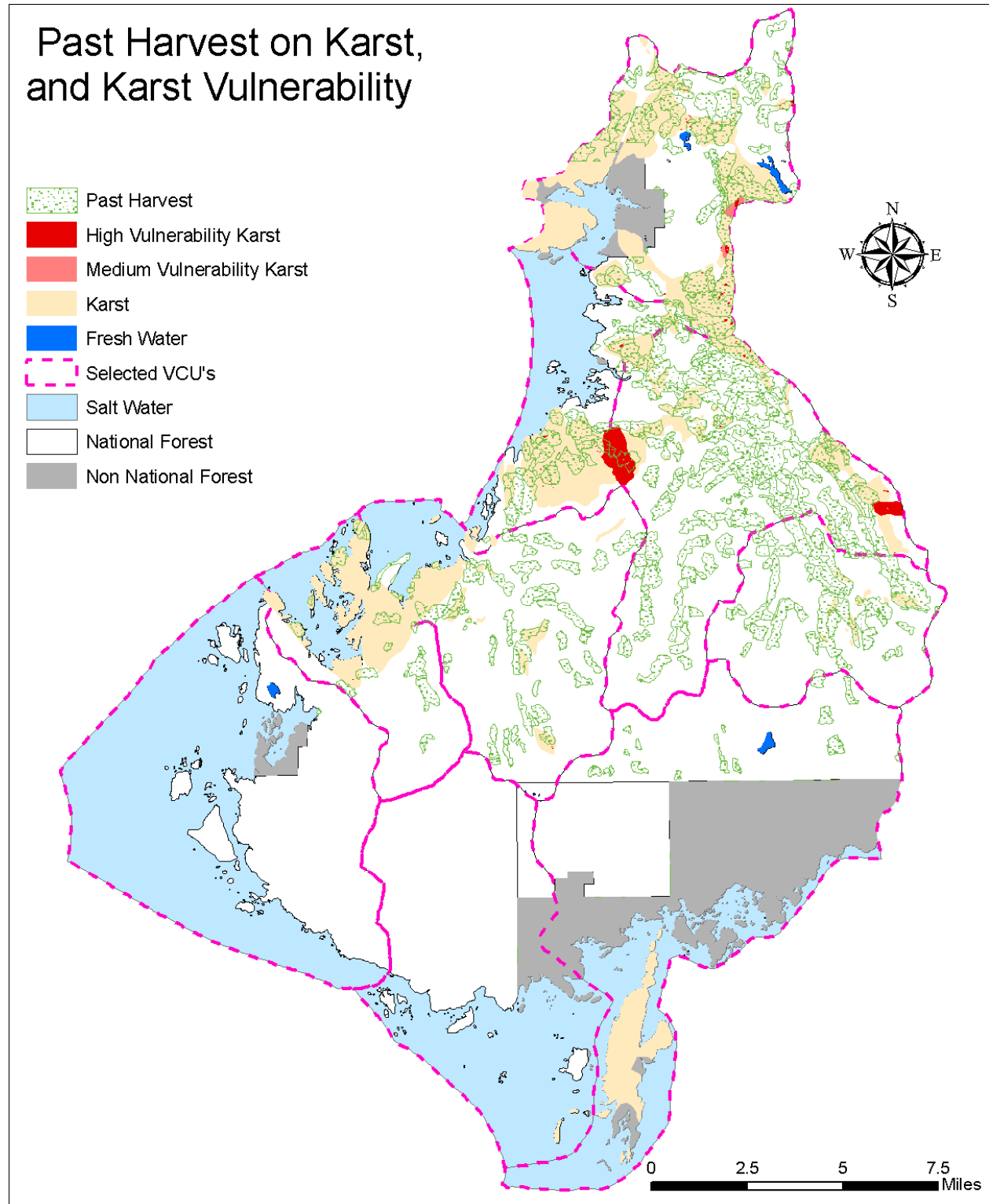
Fishing Access Points: Given the productivity of the Staney watershed for salmonids, there are several popular “fishing holes” within the project area, consisting of bridge crossings and other stretches of creek which require a short hike.

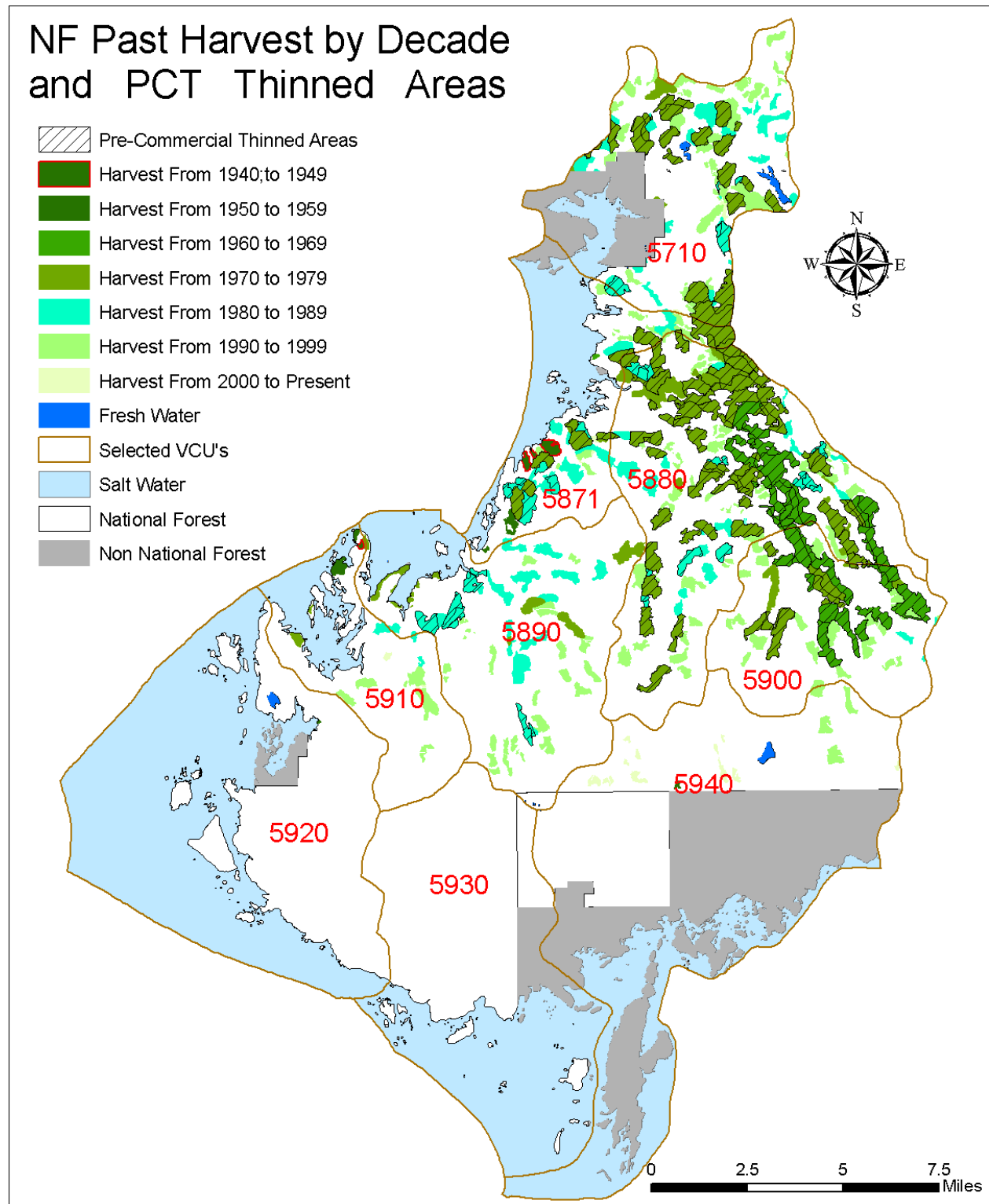
Deer Winter Range and Past Harvest

Legend

- Open and Maintain Road
- +— Mixed Use Road
- Fresh Water
- ▭ Selected VCU's
- ▨ Past Harvest
- Low Value
- Medium Value Deer Winter Range
- High Value Deer Winter Range
- Salt Water
- Non National Forest







PROPOSAL FOR ACTION

What we can do with the project area

Young Growth

On Timber LUDS:

Acres of YG (1979-present): 8,119

Objective – Increase commercial value sooner

Treatment – 14 x 14 spaced hand thinning and felling; e.g. current practice which includes the retention of unthinned wildlife corridors.

Acres of older YG (pre-1980): >15,000 (not all acres have been PCT)

Objective – forage enhancement, connectivity and to provide biomass – focus GMU2 high and/or medium priority landscapes

Treatment - commercial thinning (mechanical) and/or site specific gap thinning (hand and mechanical), including slash treatment.

On Non-timber LUDS:

Acres past harvest in RMA's (includes harvest in TTRA Buffers): 4,639

Objective - Promote old-growth characteristics and provide recruitment of Large Woody Debris for fish streams

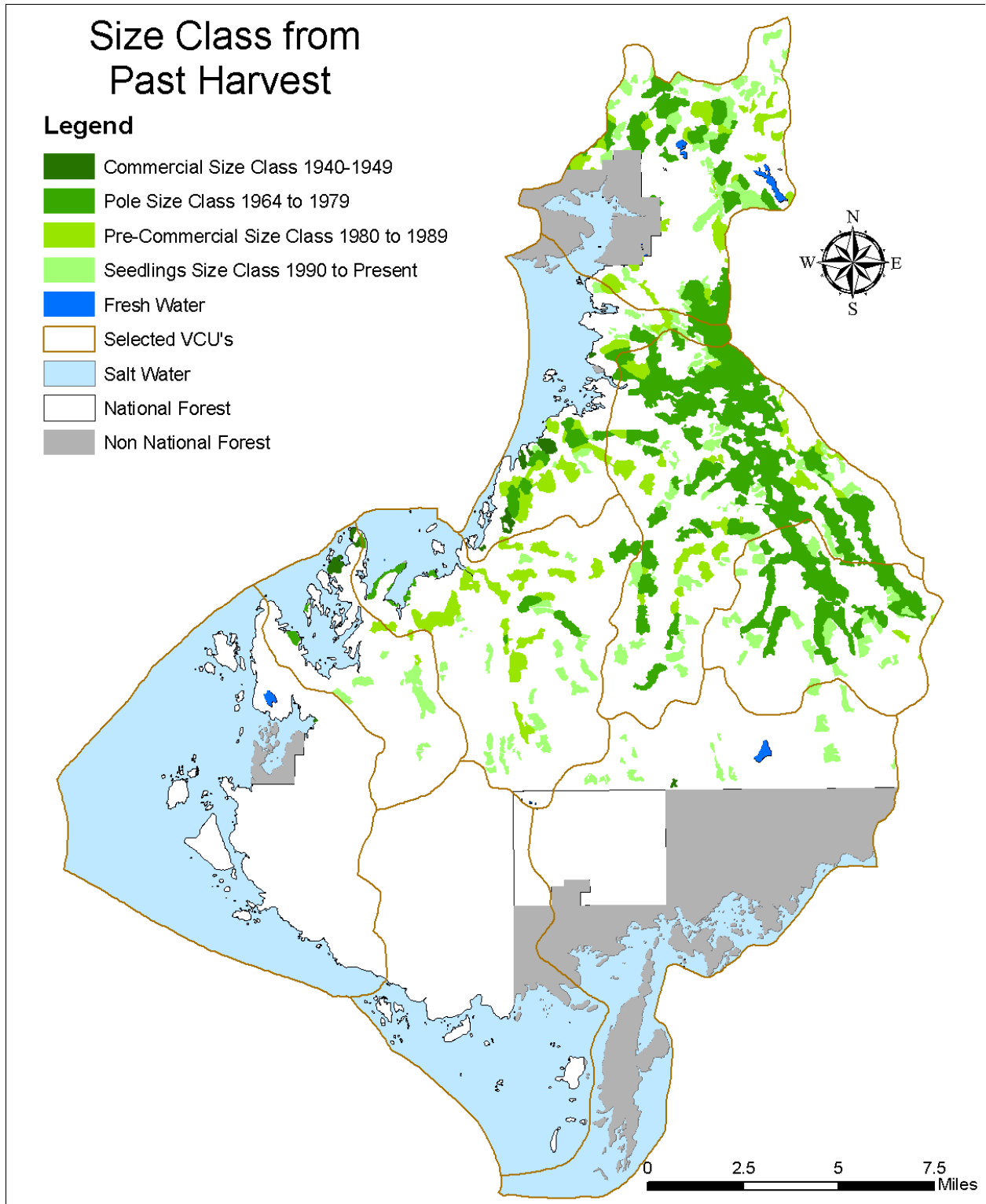
Treatment - at 50-60 years post initial harvest – Thin from below with slash treatment to help promote OG characteristics and wildlife use

Acres past harvest in OGRs: 3,420

Objective – Long-term - return to old-growth function
Short-term –forage and connectivity

Treatment – 1/10 acre gaps in YG and/or PCT when applicable–in each, consider slash treatment for wildlife movement needs.

NOTE: The Staney Creek Restoration and Enhancement EA #1, scoped in June 2008, proposed enhancement thinning within the Staney Project IRMP Area. The proposed treatment is hand-felled 0.10-acre canopy gaps. Public comment in response to the scoping notice encouraged commercial thinning applications to meet habitat objectives while producing a biomass byproduct. Subsequent discussions among the IDT has lead to the development of a commercial thinning alternative for the EA.



Commercial Timber Harvest

Acres suitable and available for Harvest in Phase 1 Landbase: 14,919

Volume associated with those acres per Forest-level LSTA: 279.6 mmbf

Acres Associated with Logical, Economic Unit Pool (Gate 1**):** ~9,000

Volume Estimated from Logical, Economic Unit Pool (Gate 1): 190 mmbf

Acres cable:	5,288
Acres ground (shovel):	1,874
Acres helicopter:	1,578

Miles of proposed logging road constructed: Unknown at this time

**** Gate 1 is a coarse level analysis of GIS information and Photo Interpretation to develop potential units to be further analyzed for harvest. Volume estimates are general and can only be verified through stand-exams and/or cruising.

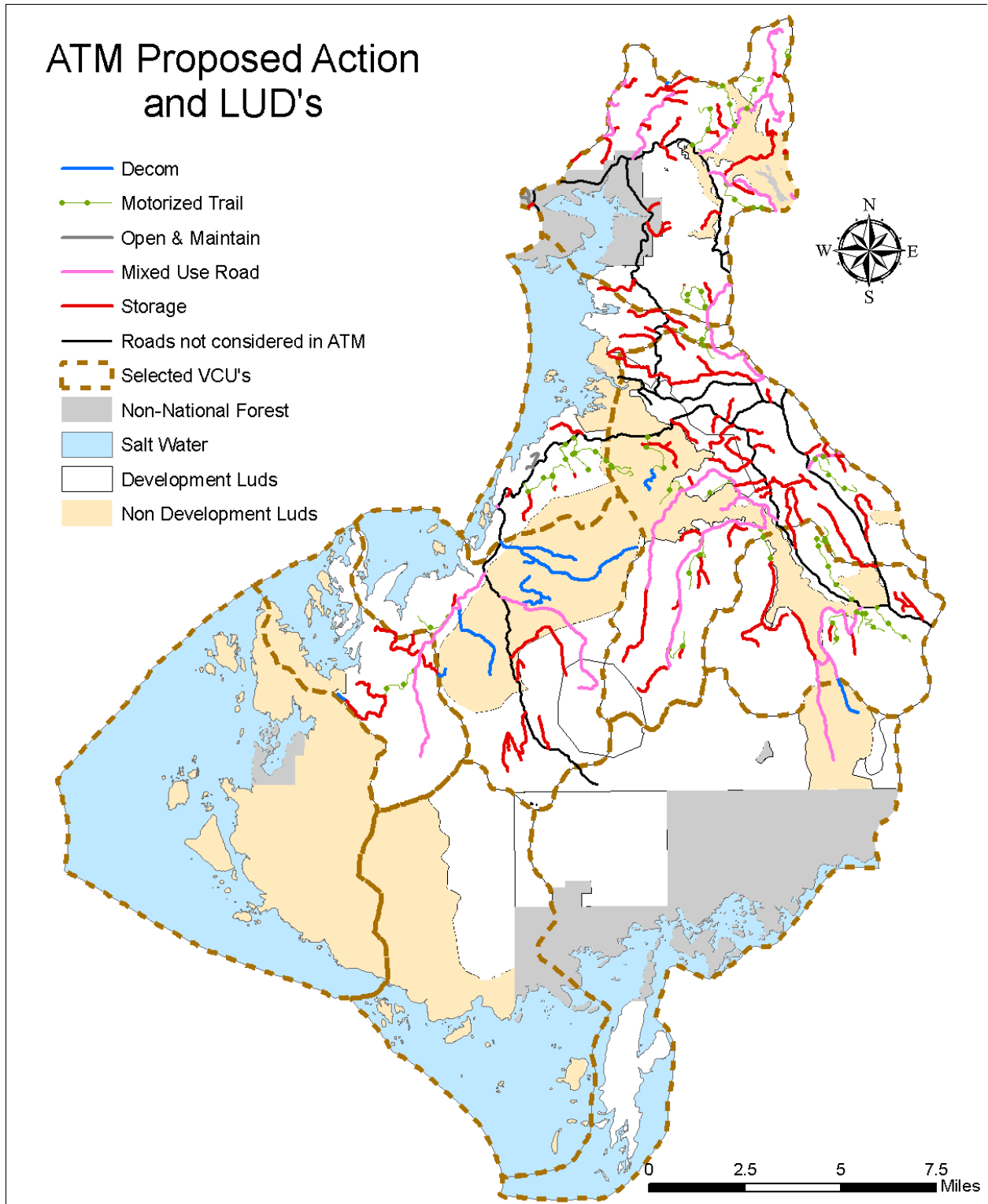
Road Management Proposed Per ATM: Includes only ML1 and ML2 Roads:

Miles of Road Decommissioned:	13
Miles of Road Stored:	80
Miles of Stored Road Converted to OHV Trail:	38
Miles of ML2 Road Remaining Open and Drivable:	52

The POW ATM only analyzed Maintenance Level 1 and 2 roads:

- ML1 Roads by definition are stored roads which are no longer drivable
- ML2 Roads are those which are currently open and passable by high-clearance vehicles only
- In order to meet subsistence requirements under ANILCA, the establishment of OHV trails on Stored Roads has been proposed by the public and the Forest Service.

While Road Storage actions are a good business practice, it is typically considered to be an improvement to hydrologic / aquatic resources on the landscape, and is often a keystone action in many of our proposed Restoration efforts.



Aquatic Restoration: These numbers are a composite of proposed actions from the Staney Ck. Restoration & Enhancement EA #1 and the POW Access and Travel Management Plan. Additional opportunities may be located with further assessment.

Fish crossings potentially treated / corrected through Road Management Actions:

Gray Pipes: 5
Red Pipes: 44
Green Pipes: 75

Miles of In-stream work currently proposed (Staney EA): 0.6

RMA Thinning Treatments – see YG Management Section Above

NOTE: The Staney Creek Restoration and Enhancement EA also proposed to store several road segments, consistent with the Proposed ATM action, as well as performing some in-stream restoration efforts. These actions are still being analyzed under the EA, with the expectation of implementation in the coming season (funding dependent).

Karst Management Proposed: Through Potential YG Management efforts

In areas where past harvest may be affecting Karst drainage systems, thinning opportunities will be explored to re-establish a normal range of canopy through-fall. Thinning objectives and operations will conform to underlying LUDS as well as Karst sensitivity ratings and ongoing throughfall monitoring efforts.

Recreation

Miles of Proposed Motorized Trail (per ATM Proposed Action) - 38

The POW Recreation Master Plan held a series of Public Involvement efforts which identified the desire for a POW West Coast Kayak Route, with associated shelter points along the way. These 3-sided shelters could be constructed from thinning byproducts in old beach-logging units within the project area, similar to what was developed in Sitka at the Starrigavin Campground.