



WETLAND AND RIPARIAN MAPPING STATUS FOR MONTANA

- **WHAT DO THE DIFFERENT CATEGORIES REPRESENT?**

Modern Mapping completed by MTNHP: This is modern, full coverage mapping completed in an ArcMap GIS environment by MTNHP's Wetland and Riparian Mapping Center at a scale of 1:4,500. Base imagery is National Agricultural Imagery Program (NAIP) 1-meter aerial photography (2005 to current) and contemporary datasets. Modern mapping includes both wetland and riparian features and it meets the Federal Geographic Data Committee (FGDC) Standards in effect at the time the mapping was completed. The minimum mapping unit is 0.1 acres for wetland polygons and 0.5 acres for riparian polygons, although polygons smaller in size have been mapped if interpretable and mappable. Linear features such as streams, canals, or ditches have been mapped if they are 15 feet (3 meters) or greater in width at a mapping scale of 1:4,500.

NOTE: While all MTNHP completed mapping has been submitted to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) National Wetland Inventory (NWI), work backlogs in their office mean that only some of our completed mapping will appear, and be available for download, through their Wetlands Mapper. NWI's Wetland Mapper may show **Outdated** or **Incomplete** mapping (see below) in places where modern mapping is available by MTNHP. For the most current mapping in Montana, visit the Montana Spatial Data Infrastructure (MSDI) website at: <http://geoinfo.msl.mt.gov/msdi/wetlands/>. Modern mapping can also be explored and summarized using the MTNHP MapViewer web application at <http://mtnhp.org/mapviewer/?t=8>.

Modern Mapping in progress by MTNHP: These mapping projects are currently underway, based on 2013 (and in some cases 2011 and 2015) NAIP imagery. Some have been completed, but are in a QA/QC phase. If your area of interest is shown as "in progress," contact Jamul Hahn at (406) 444-4793 or by email at jhahn@mt.gov, as MTNHP may be able to make modern provisional mapping available to you. If modern provisional mapping is not yet ready for your area of interest, **Outdated** or **Incomplete** mapping (see below) may be available.

Scheduled to be mapped by MTNHP: These USGS quadrangles (quads) have funding in place, but mapping has not yet begun. **Outdated** or **Incomplete** mapping (see below) may be available. Contact us for information on when we expect mapping for these quads will begin.

Outdated mapping (NWI Legacy): This is the original NWI mapping based on ink lines drawn on aerial photographs taken from 1980-1989 at a scale of 1:58,000 to 1:65,000 (in Montana). These physical drawings were later transferred to a digital file. Only wetland features are mapped and classified; riparian areas are **NOT** mapped. While cartographers attempted to capture all wetlands in Montana regardless of size, the imagery did not support it. Therefore, small or linear wetlands are represented as points or lines, or not at all. While this mapping met FGDC standards at the time it was created, it no longer meets current FGDC standards.

The only mapping currently available for quads marked as Outdated (NWI Legacy) on MTNHP's Wetland and Riparian Mapping Status Map is mapping completed between 1980-1989 by the NWI. It is available for download from the NWI at <http://www.fws.gov/wetlands/Data/Data-Download.html>. NWI's Wetland Mapper may show 'Legacy' mapping in places where **Modern** mapping (see above) is available by MTNHP. NWI Legacy wetlands are NOT the same as what the USFWS NWI calls 'Historic

Wetlands'. Outdated (NWI Legacy) mapping can also be explored and summarized using the MTNHP MapViewer web application at <http://mtnhp.org/mapviewer/?t=8>.

Incomplete Mapping (NWI Scalable): This is a recent addition (2012-2014) to the NWI prepared by the USFWS using an automated ArcMap mapping process and is intended to be an interim product. The data are generalized wetland mapping and are to be used for landscape level (small scale) use only. According to the USFWS, "these interim products may include map information at different scales, classification level(s), or resolution." In Montana, creation of the scalable layer involved applying the Cowardin classification system to the "swamp/marsh" features on USGS Topographic maps, some of the river and lake features in the USGS National Hydrography Dataset and other ancillary data layers. The incomplete mapping does not satisfy any FGDC standard.

The only mapping currently available for quads marked as Incomplete (NWI Scalable) on MTNHP's Wetland and Riparian Mapping Status Map is mapping completed between 2012-2014 by the NWI. It is available for download from the NWI at <http://www.fws.gov/wetlands/Data/Data-Download.html>. NWI's Wetland Mapper may show 'Scalable' mapping in places where **Modern** mapping (see above) is available by MTNHP.

- **WHAT KIND OF WETLAND AND RIPARIAN MAPPING CAN I GET FOR MONTANA?**

Modern mapping:

Sources:

Montana Spatial Data Infrastructure (MSDI): <http://geoinfo.msl.mt.gov/msdi/wetlands/>
MTNHP MapViewer: <http://mtnhp.org/mapviewer/?t=8>

Outdated mapping (NWI Legacy):

Sources:

MTNHP MapViewer: <http://mtnhp.org/mapviewer/?t=8>
USFWS NWI: <http://www.fws.gov/wetlands/Data/Data-Download.html>

Incomplete mapping (NWI Scalable):

Source:

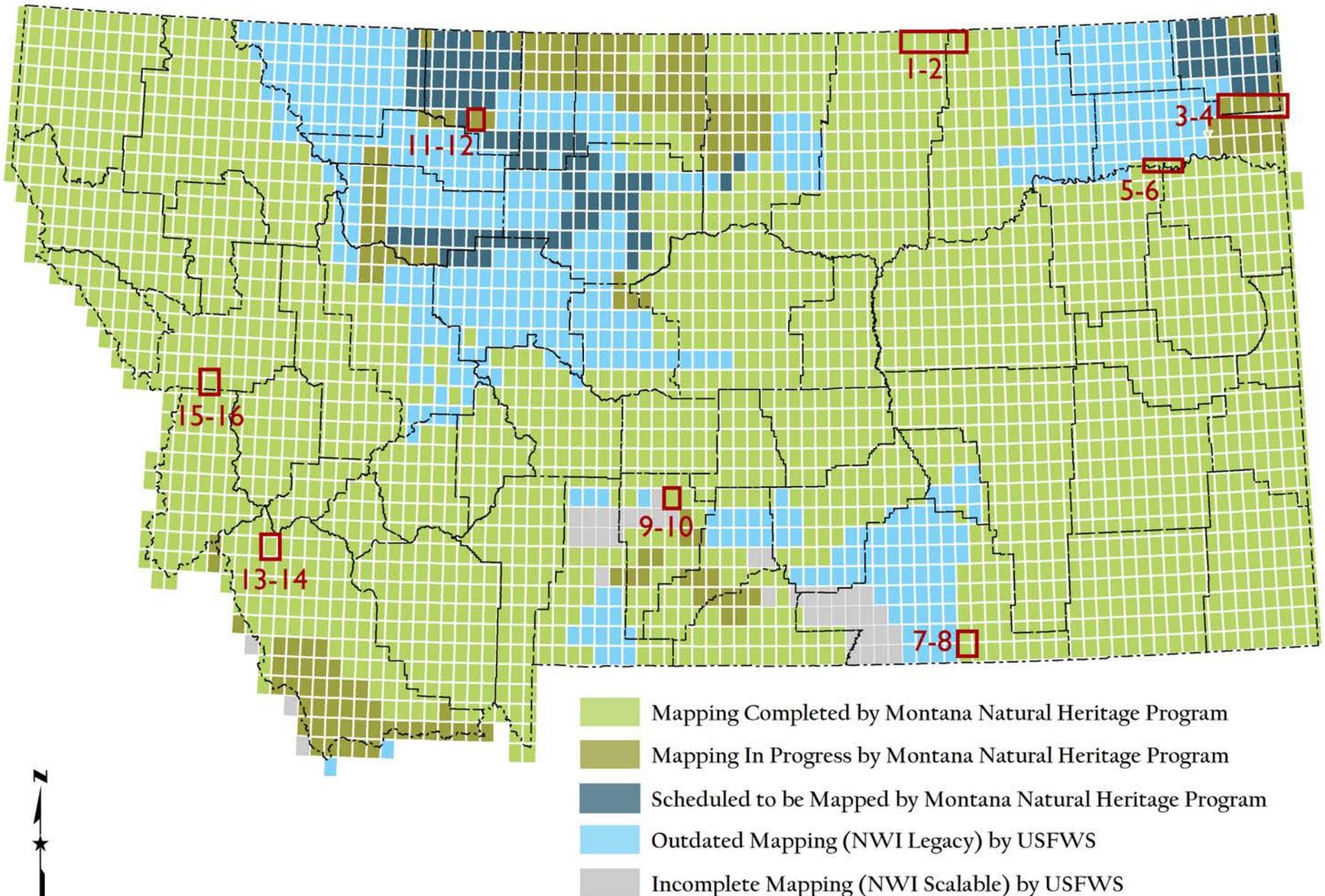
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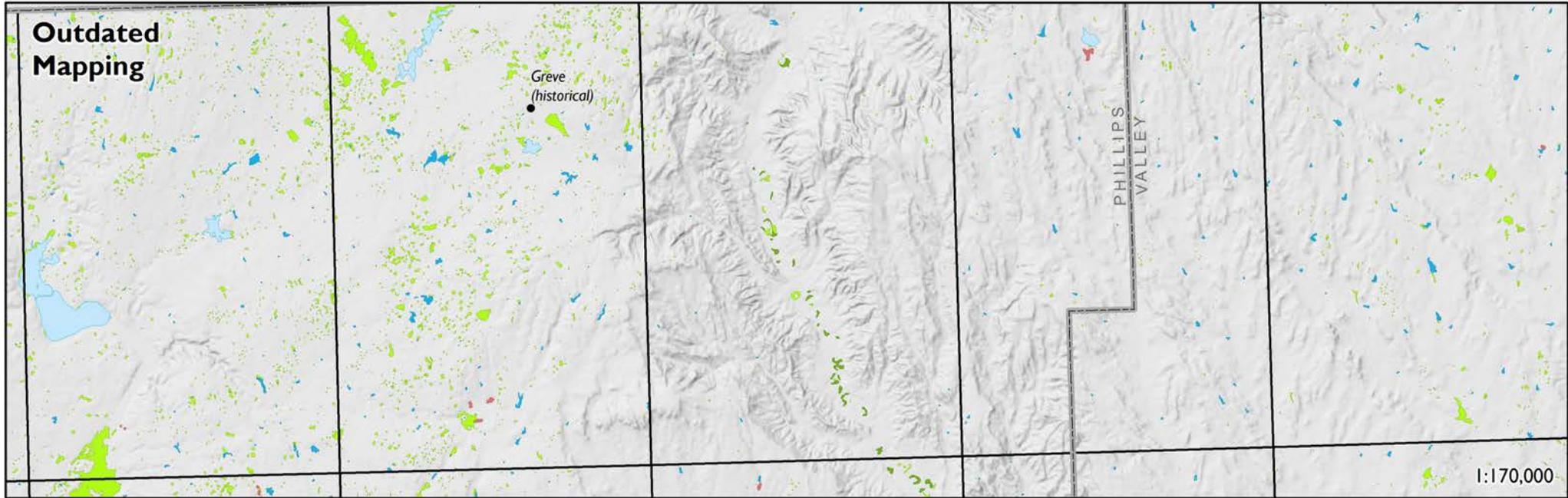
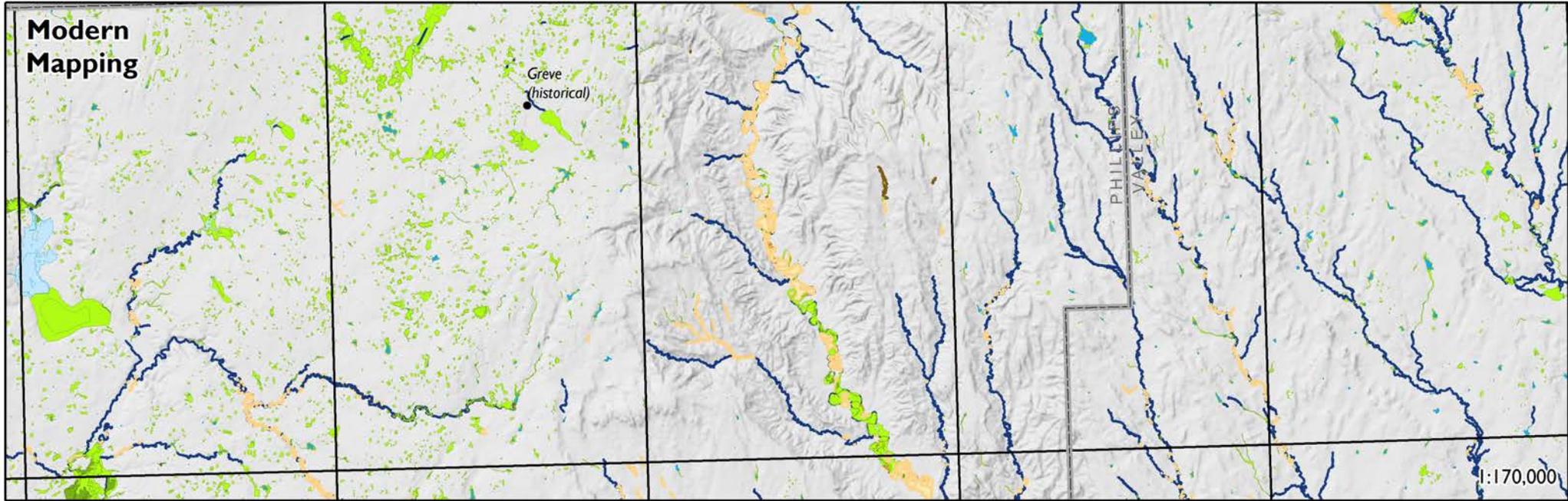
- **HOW DO I KNOW WHAT PRODUCT IS RIGHT FOR MY PURPOSES?**

In the following pages, we have gathered some images so that different types of mapping can be compared. Each set of images compares mapping completed by MTNHP to outdated mapping, or mapping completed by MTNHP to incomplete mapping. If you are still uncertain about the different mapping types, please contact us. We are also available to take on additional mapping projects, and would be happy to discuss costs and timelines with you.

Wetland and Riparian Mapping Status

by USGS Topographic Quad



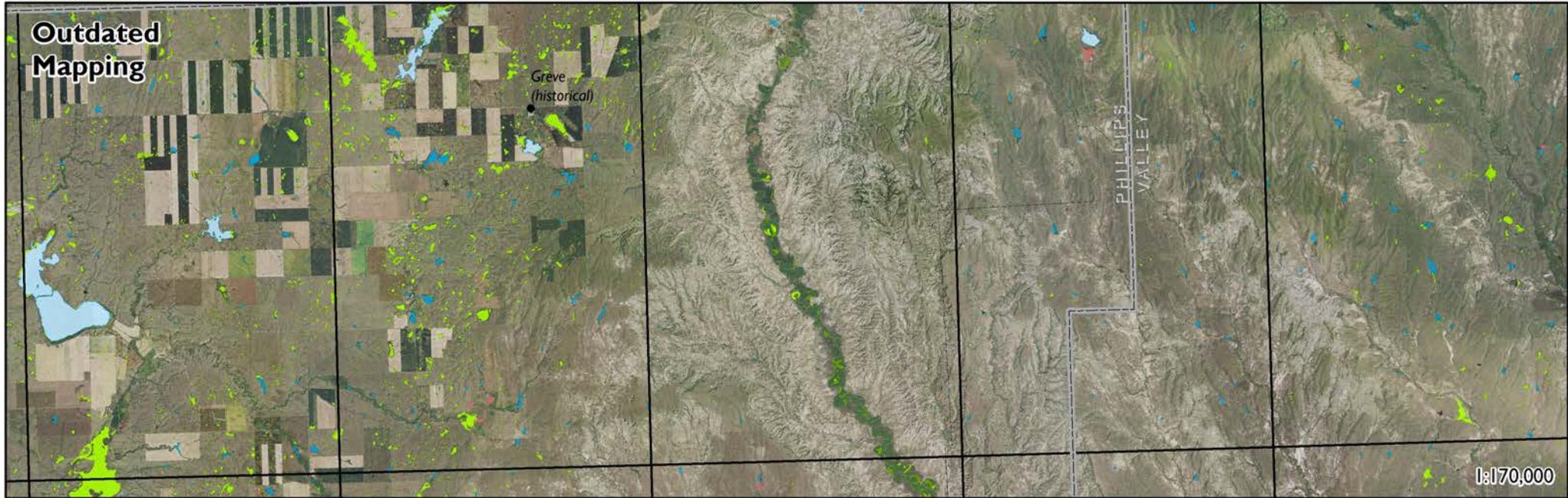
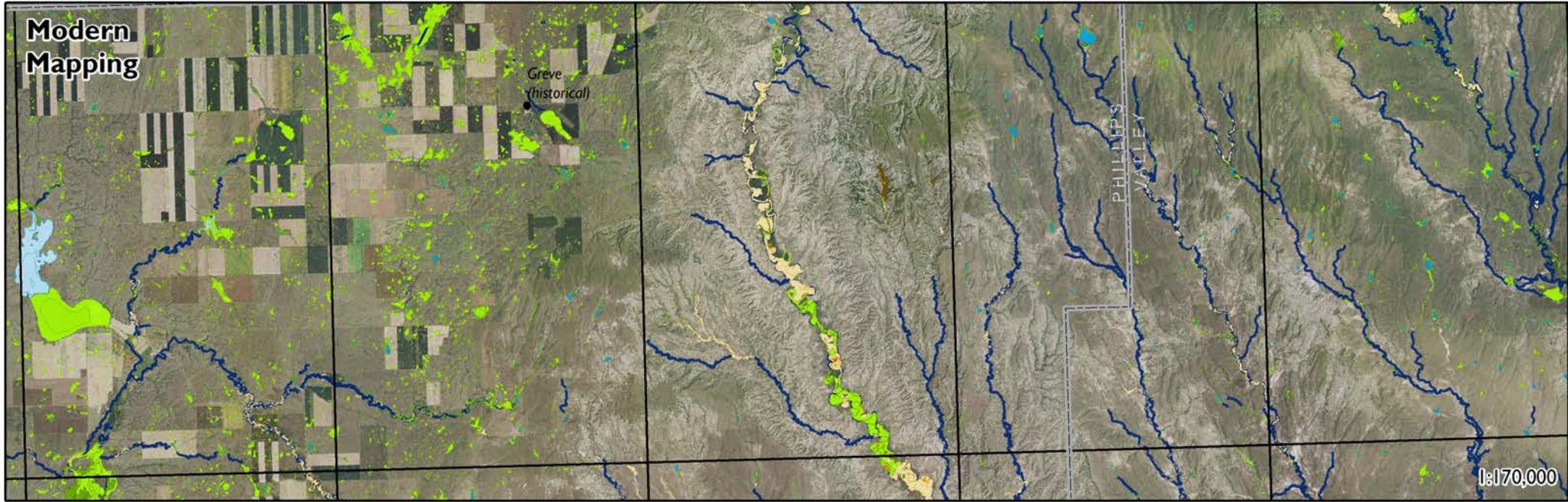


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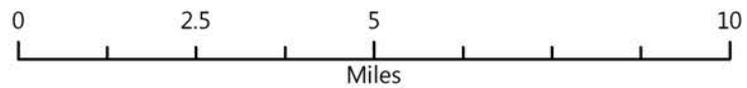


-  County
-  USGS Quad



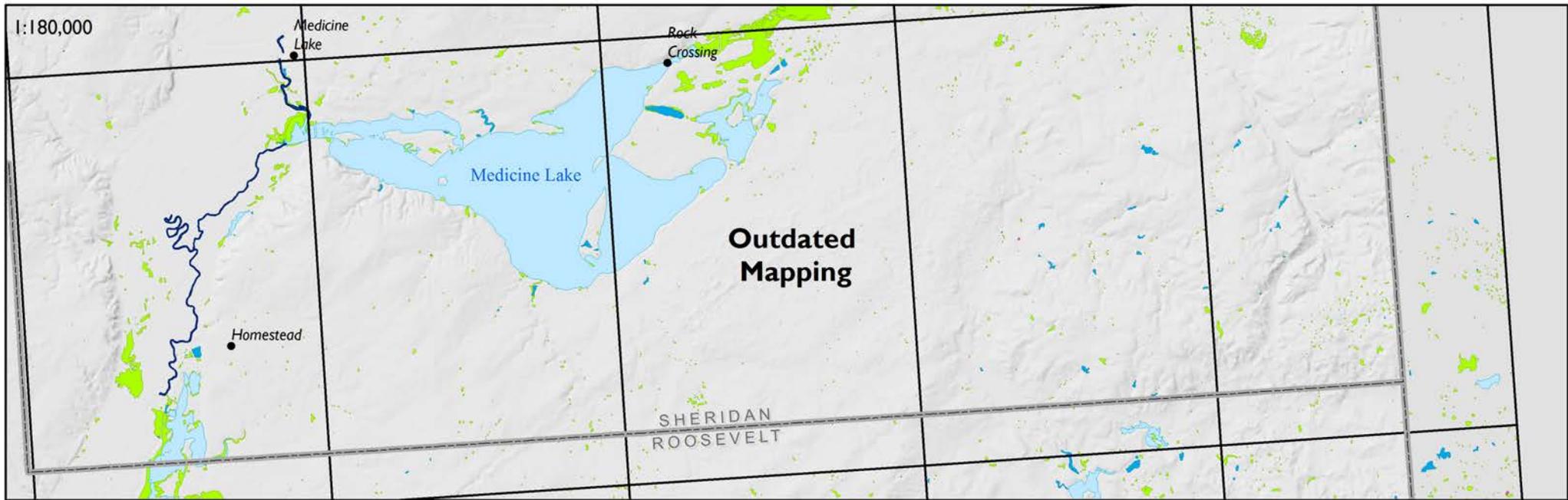
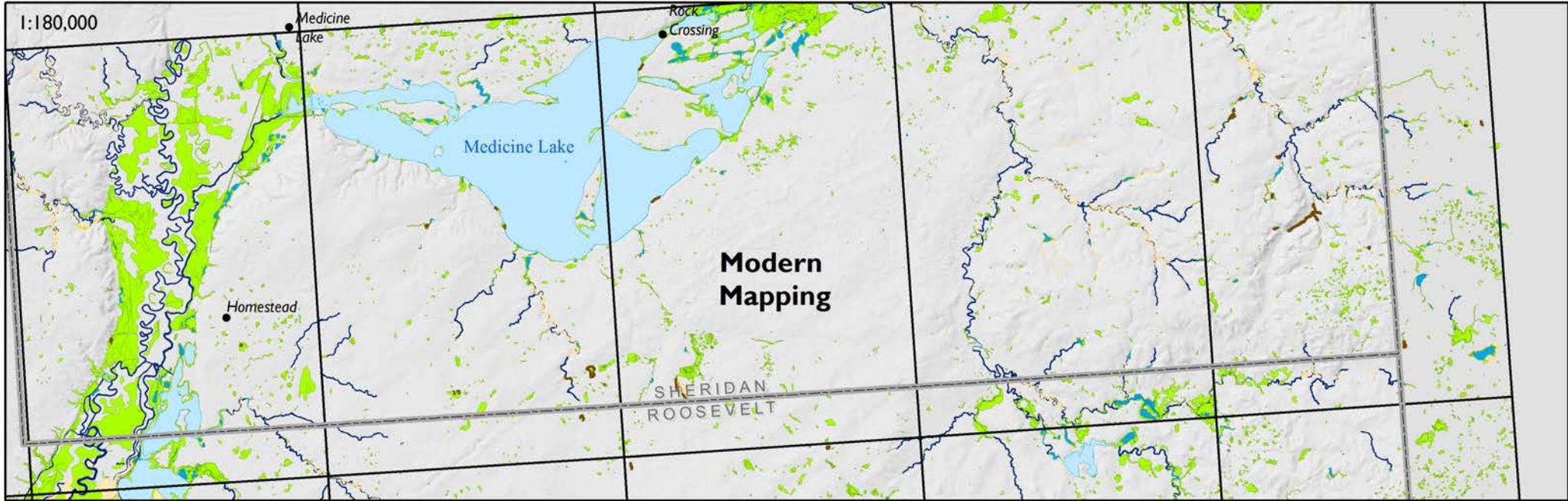


2 - Prairie Pothole Region



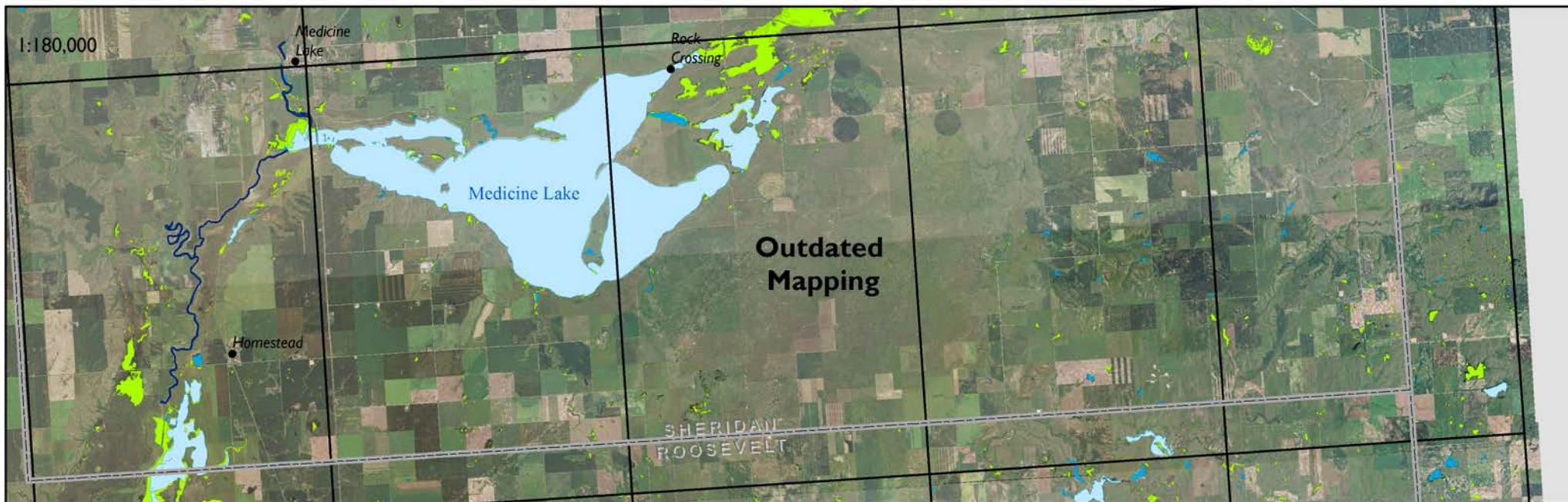
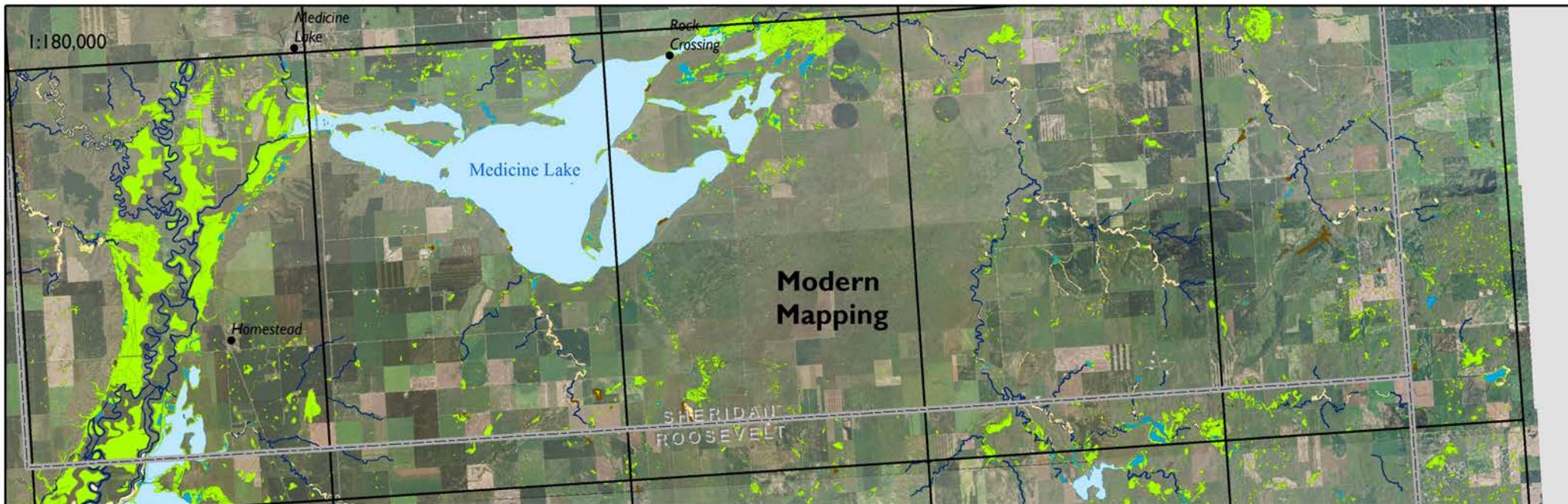
County
USGS Quad
Imagery: 2013 NAIP



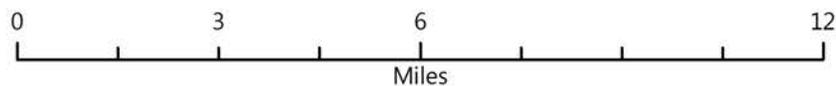


3 - Medicine Lake Area



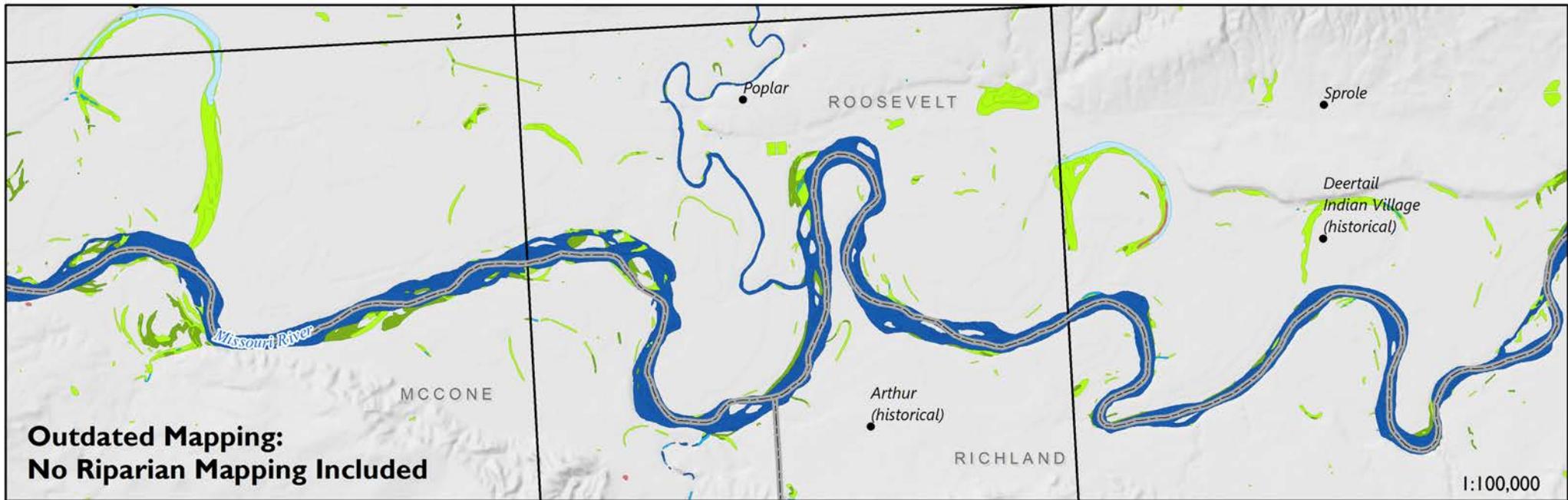
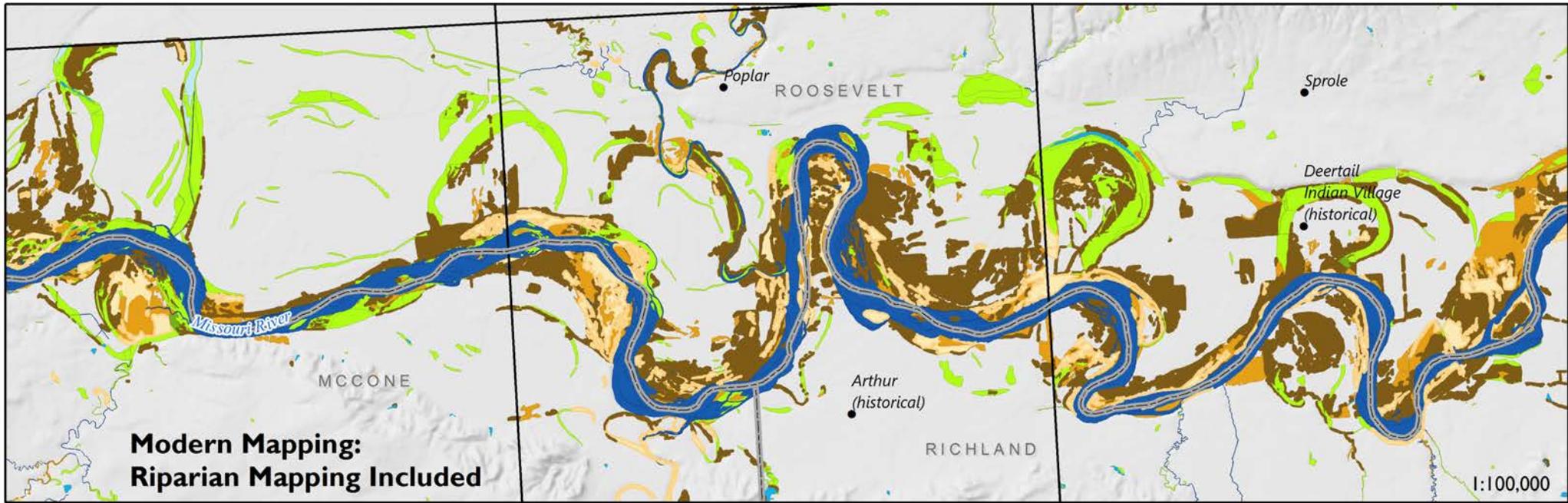


4 - Medicine Lake Area

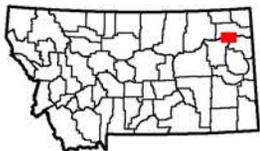


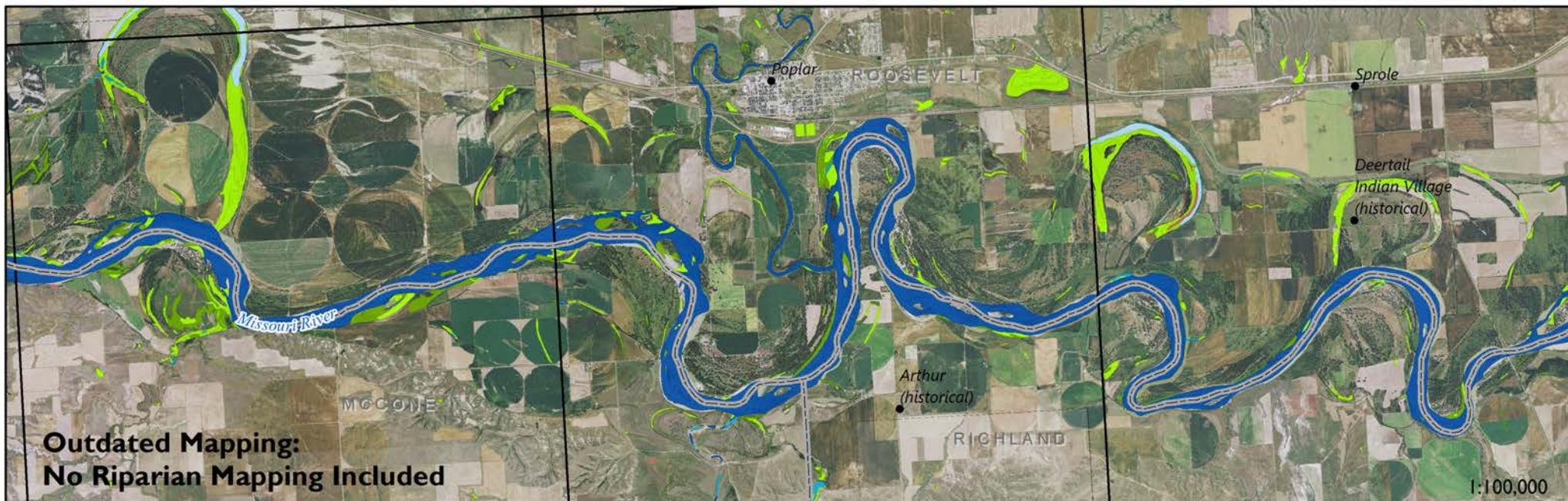
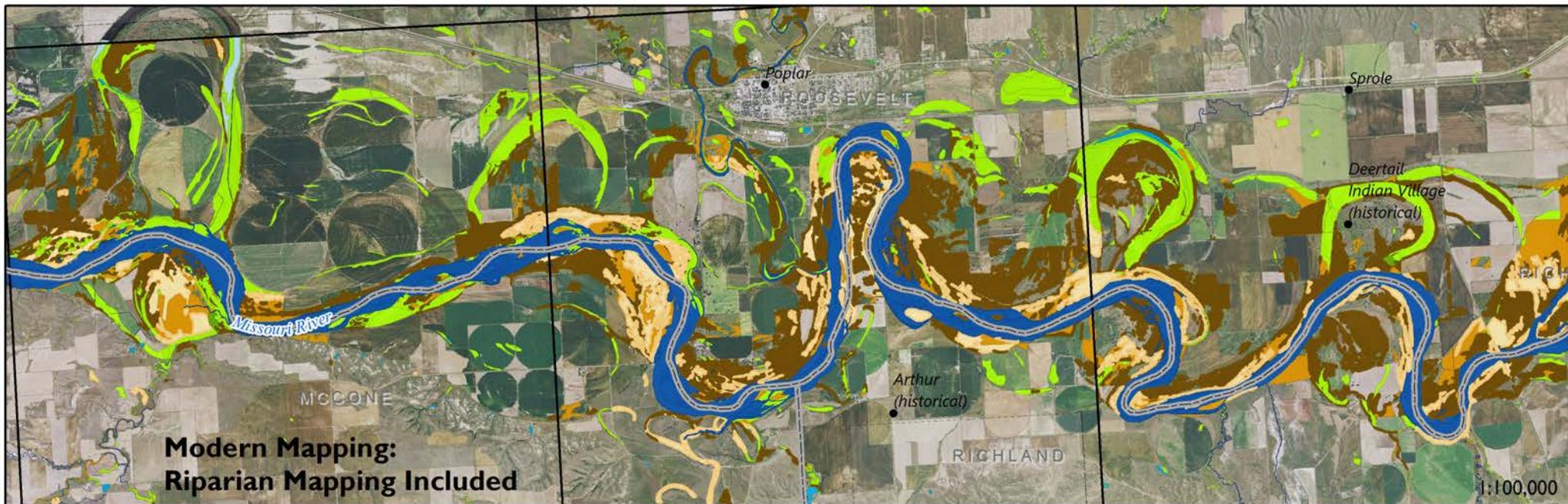
 County
 USGS Quad
 Imagery: 2013 NAIP



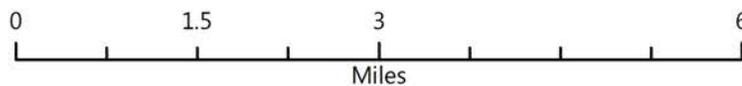


5 - Poplar Area



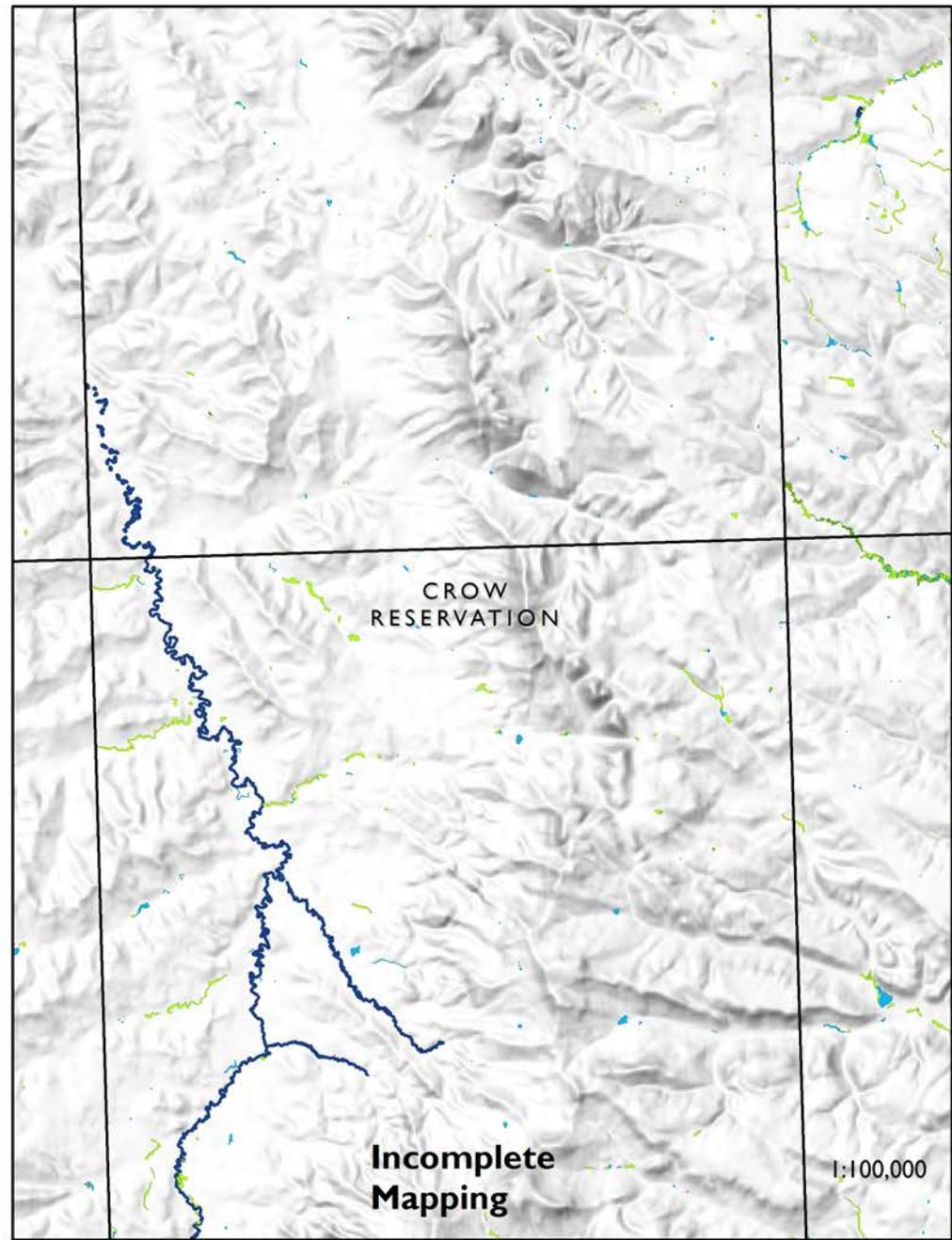
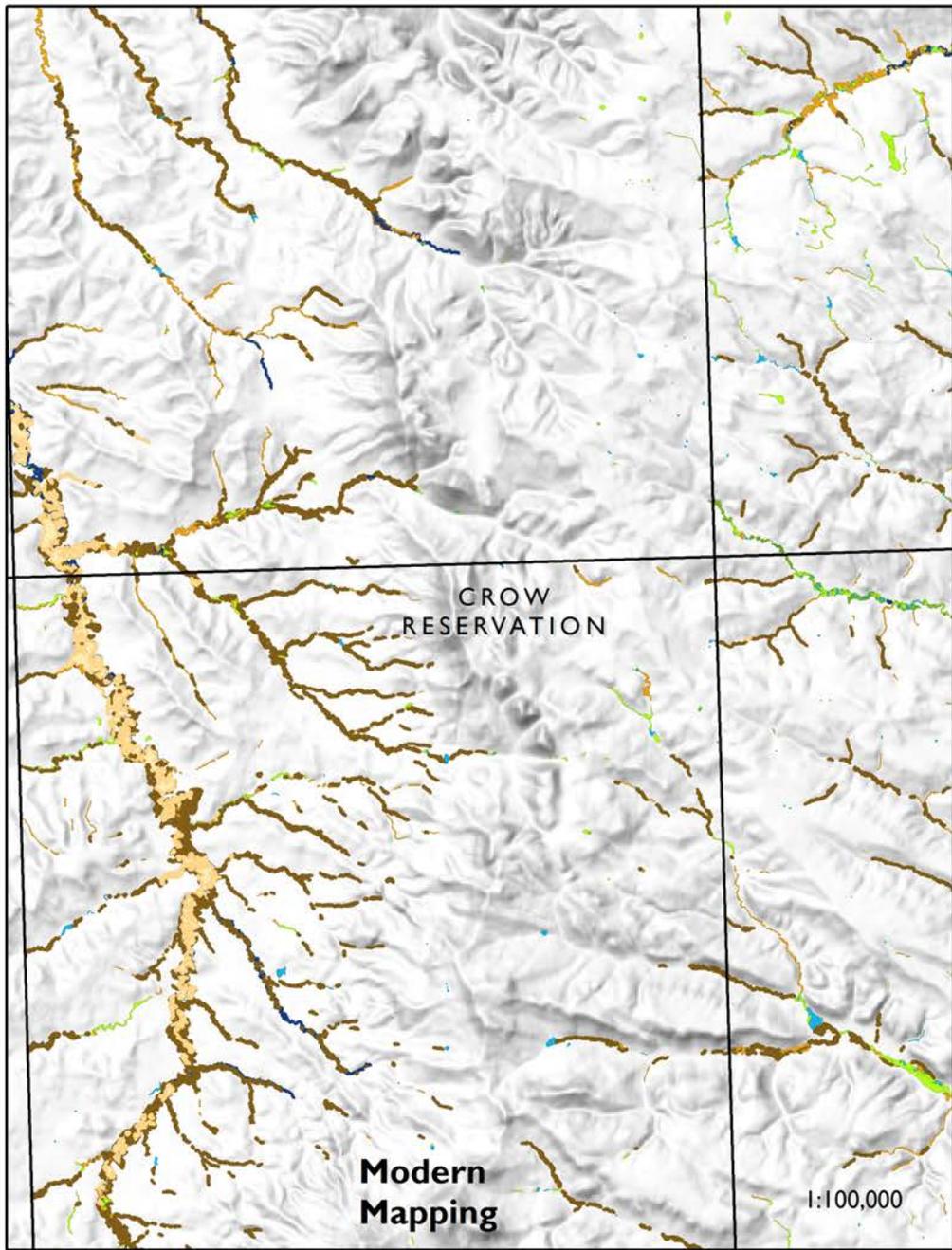


6 - Poplar Area



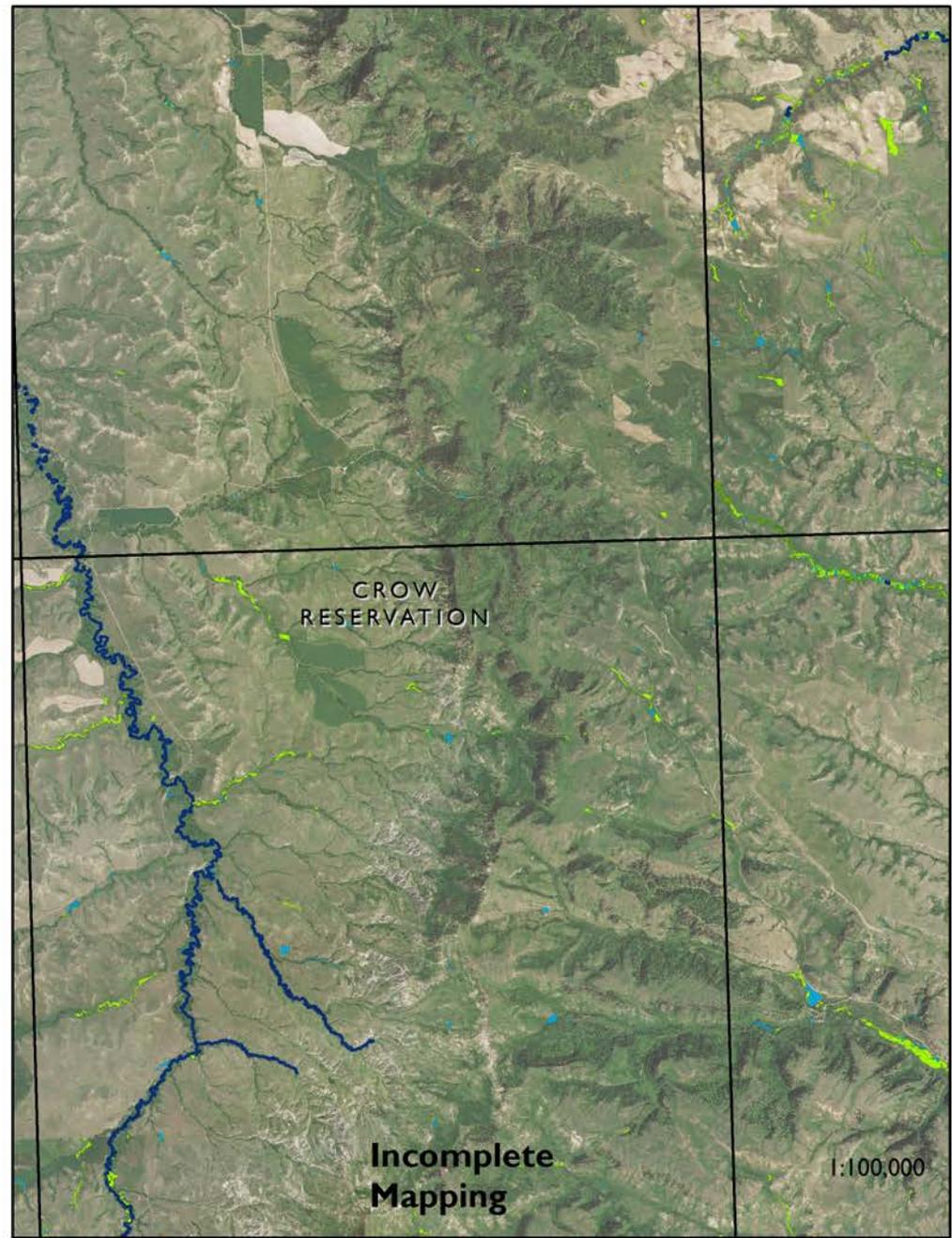
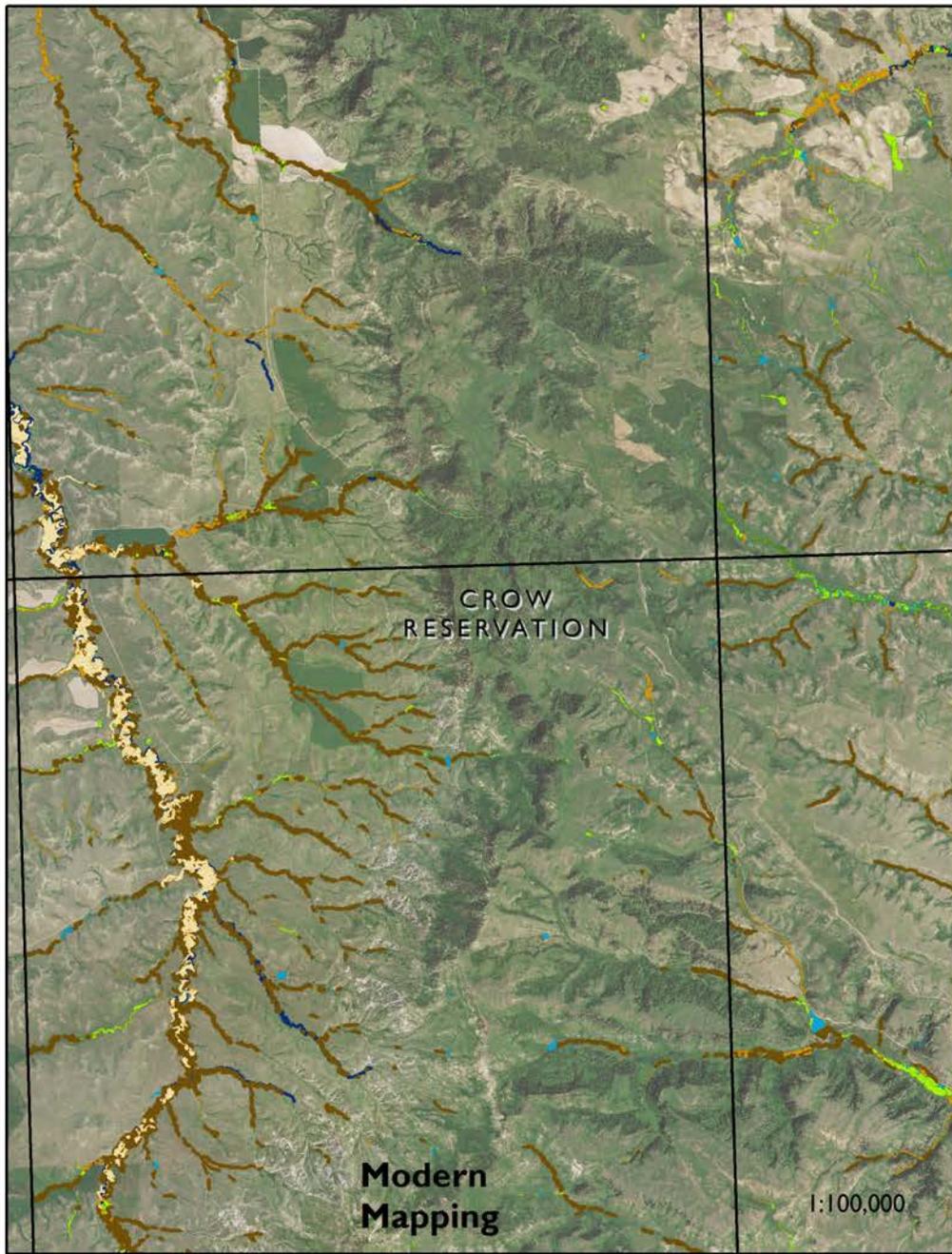
-  County
-  USGS Quad
- Imagery: 2013 NAIP



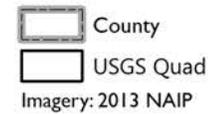


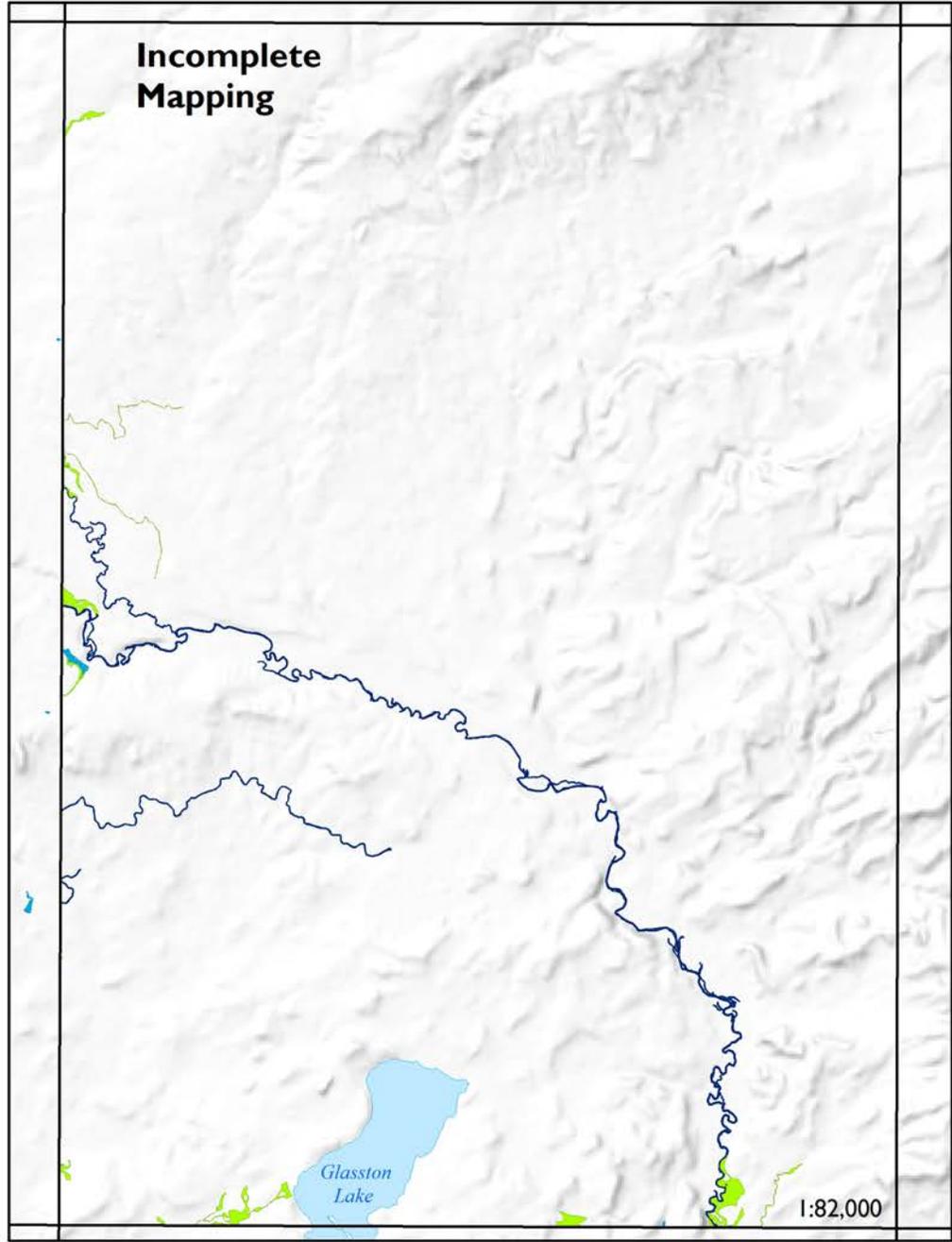
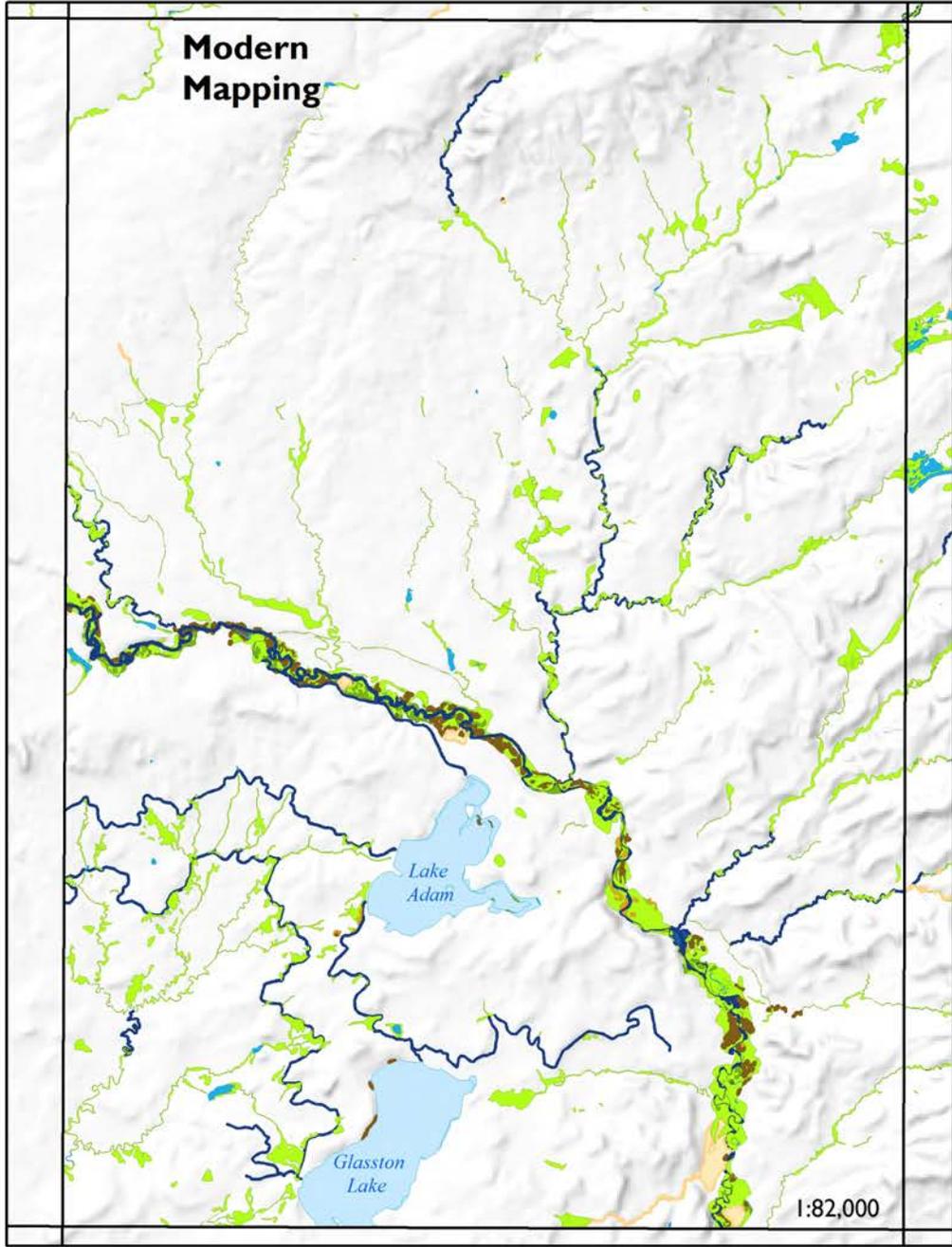
7 - Crow Reservation



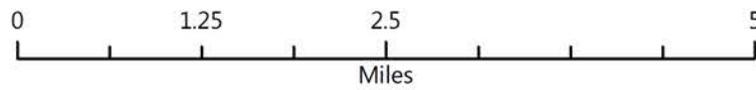


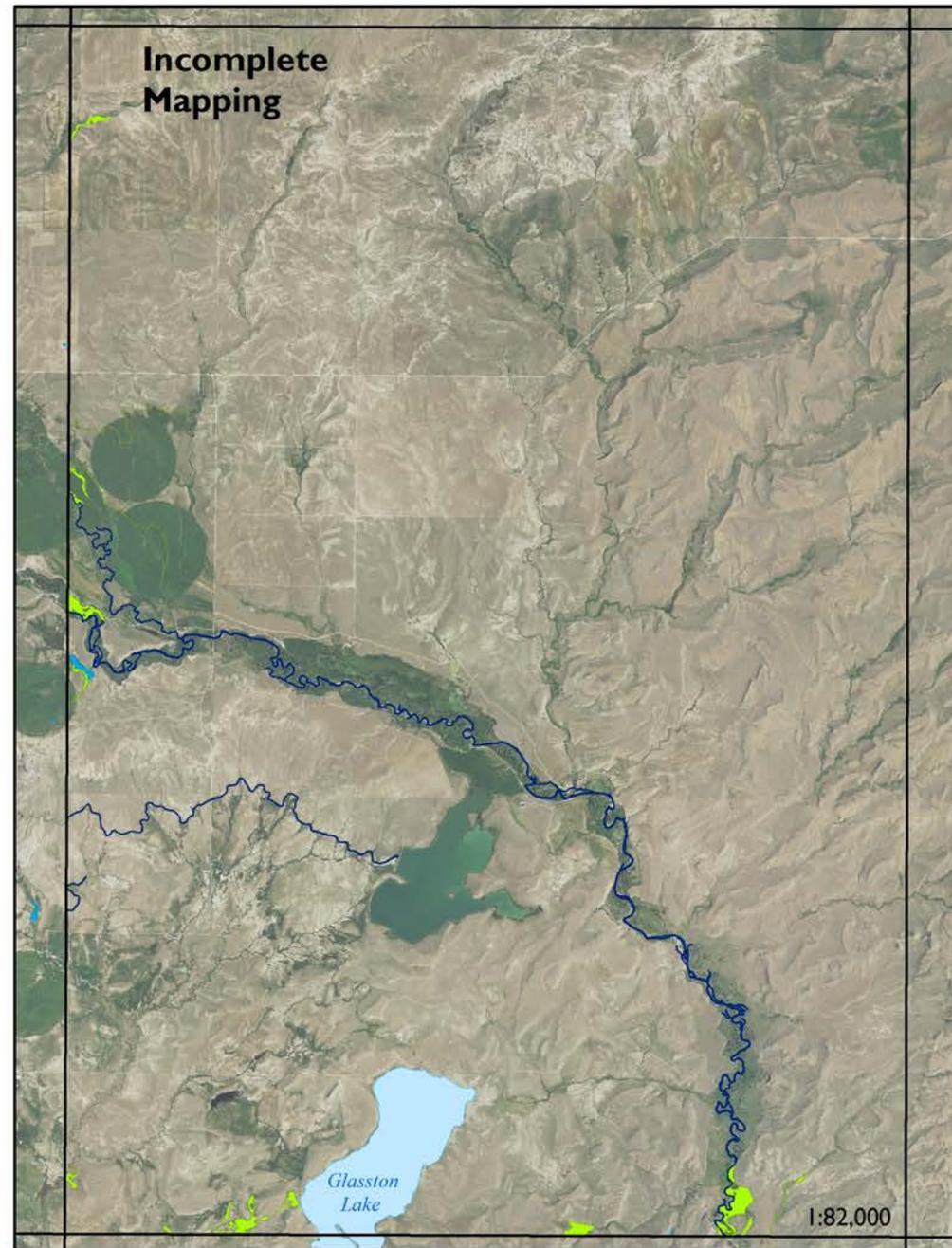
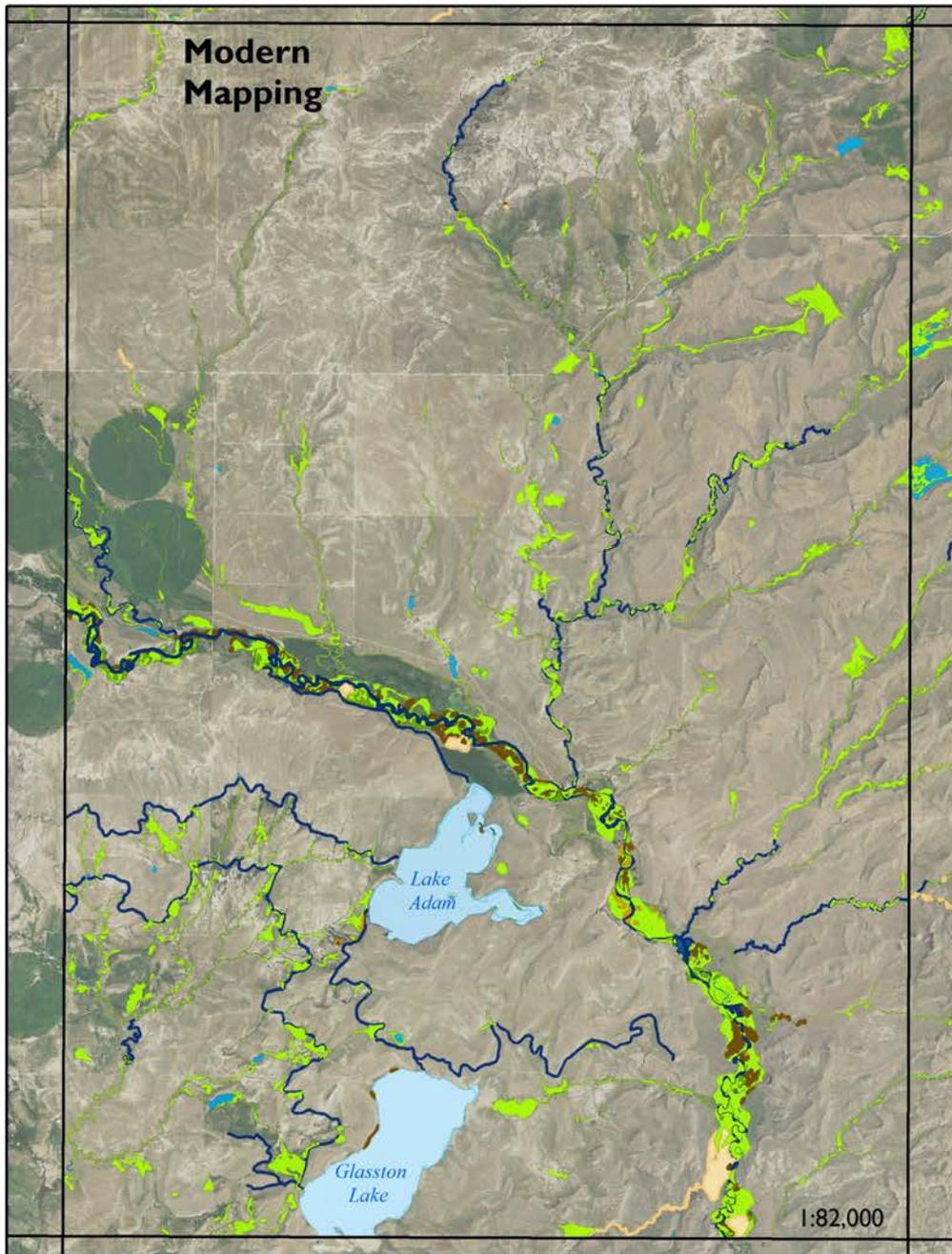
8 - Crow Reservation



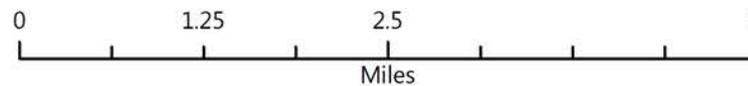


9 - Glasston Lake Area



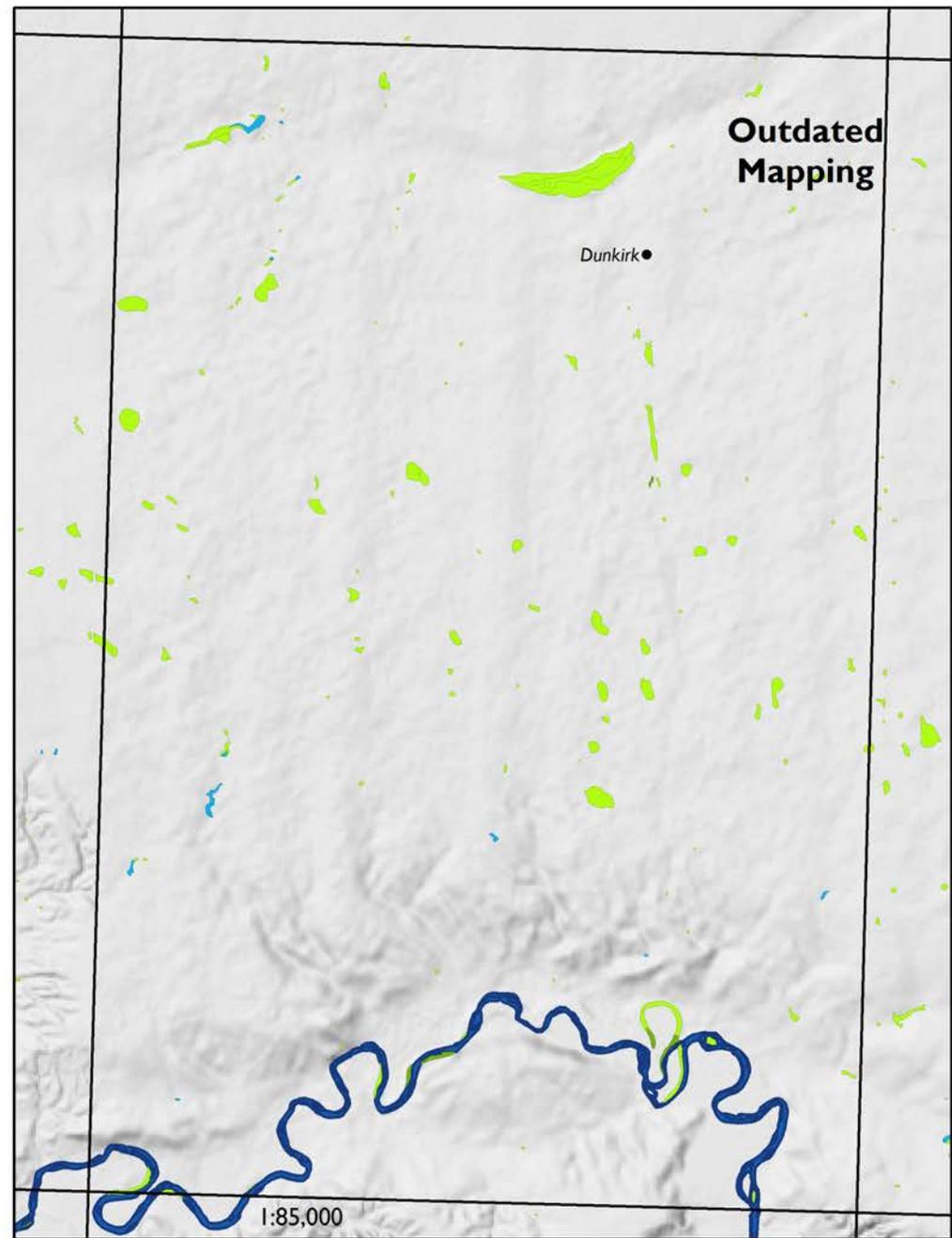
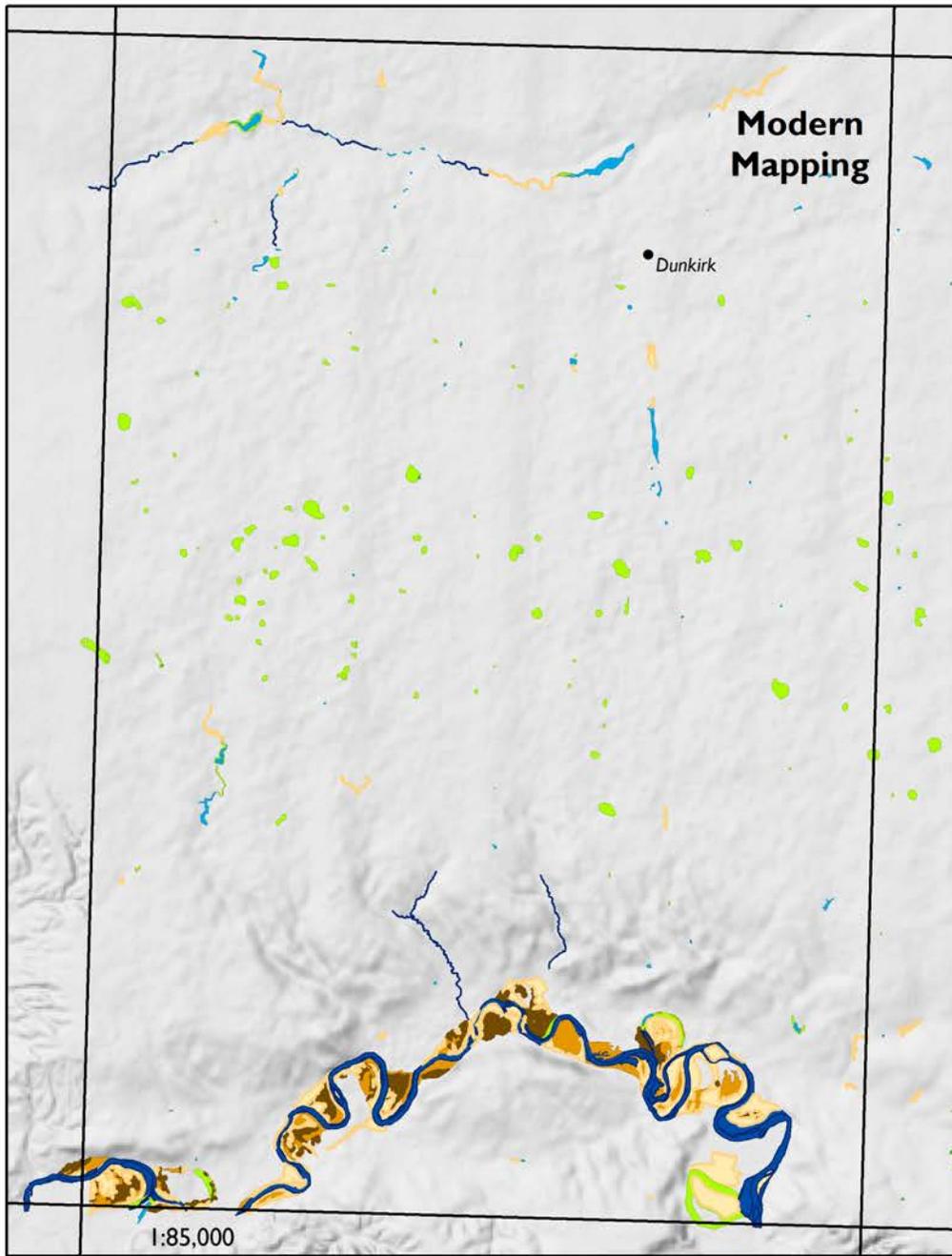


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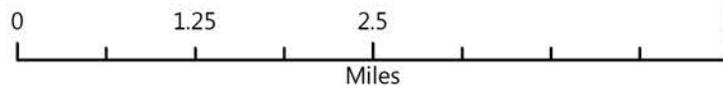


 County
 USGS Quad
 Imagery: 2013 NAIP



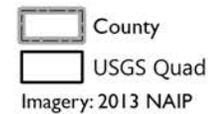
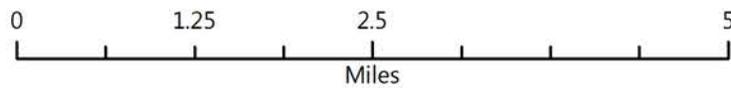


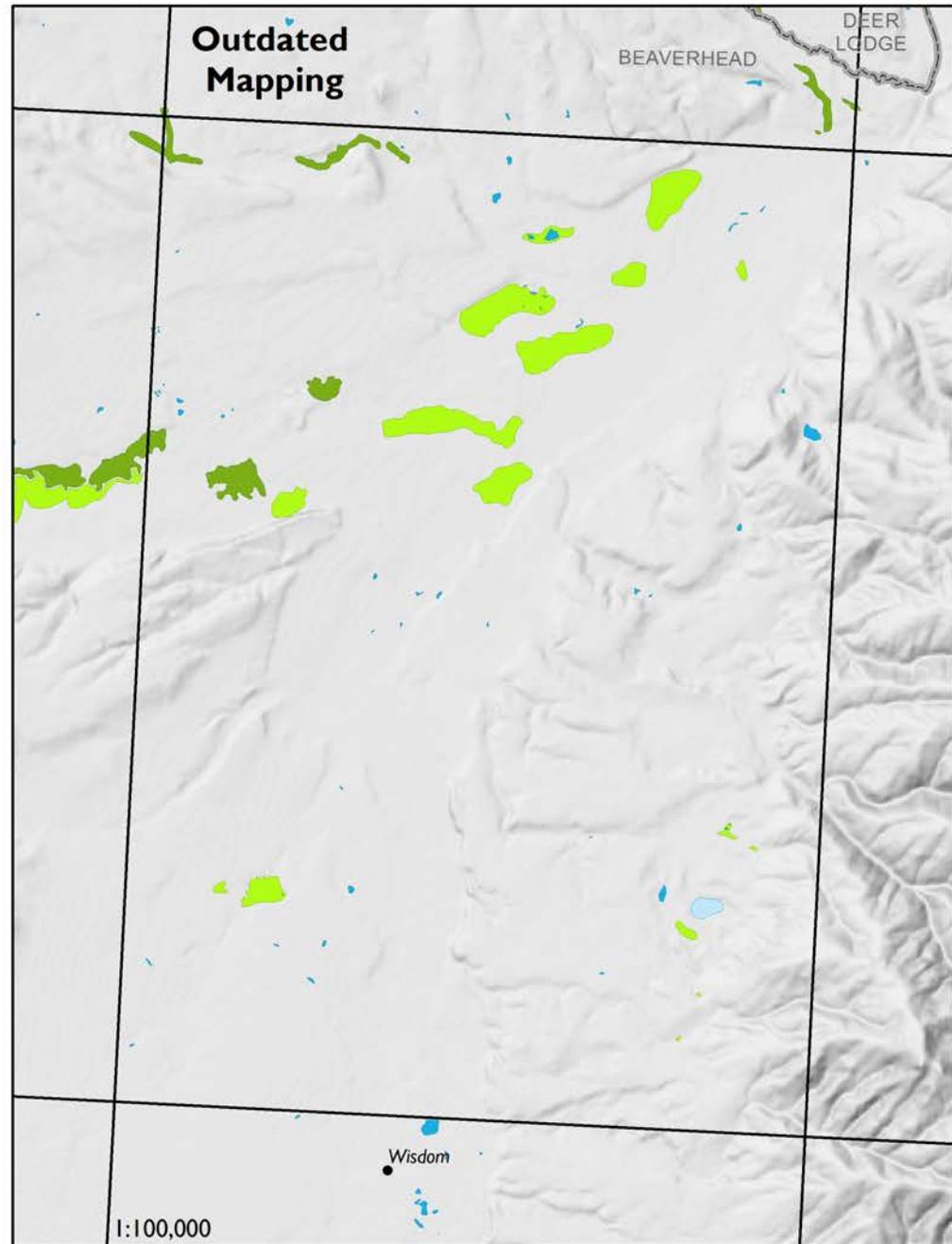
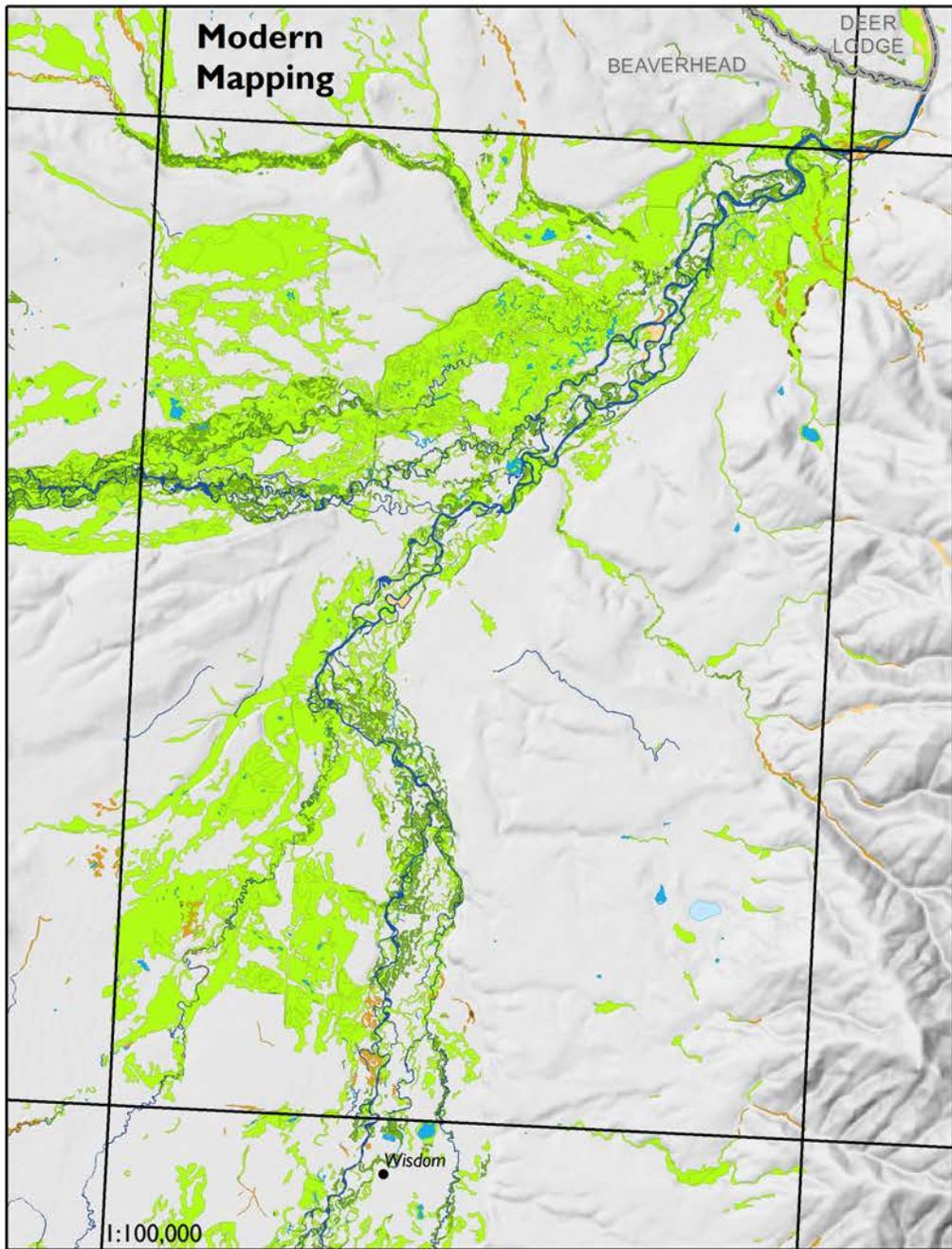
11 - Dunkirk Area



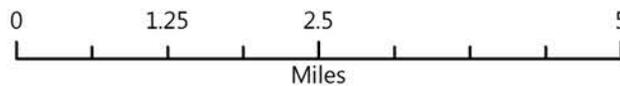


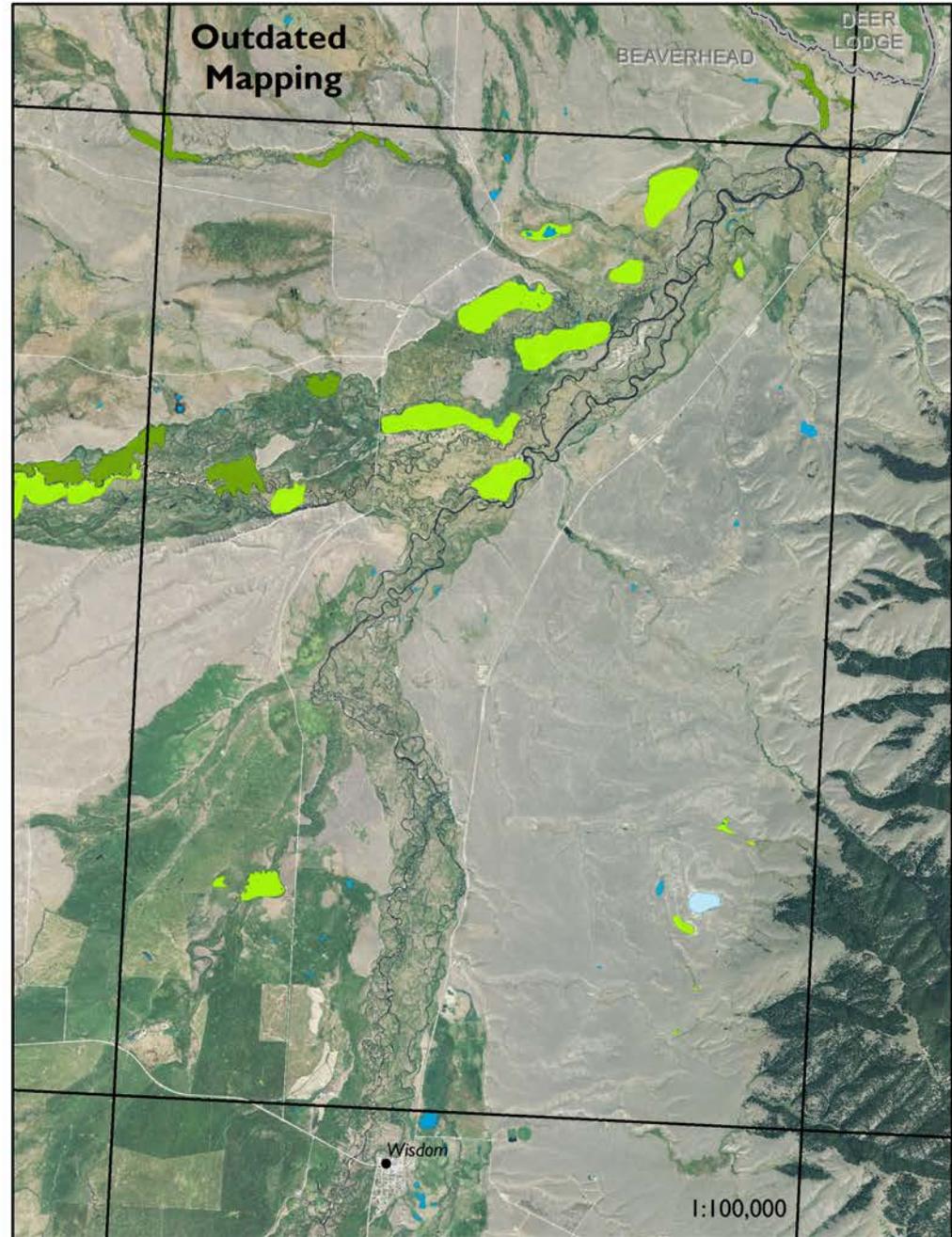
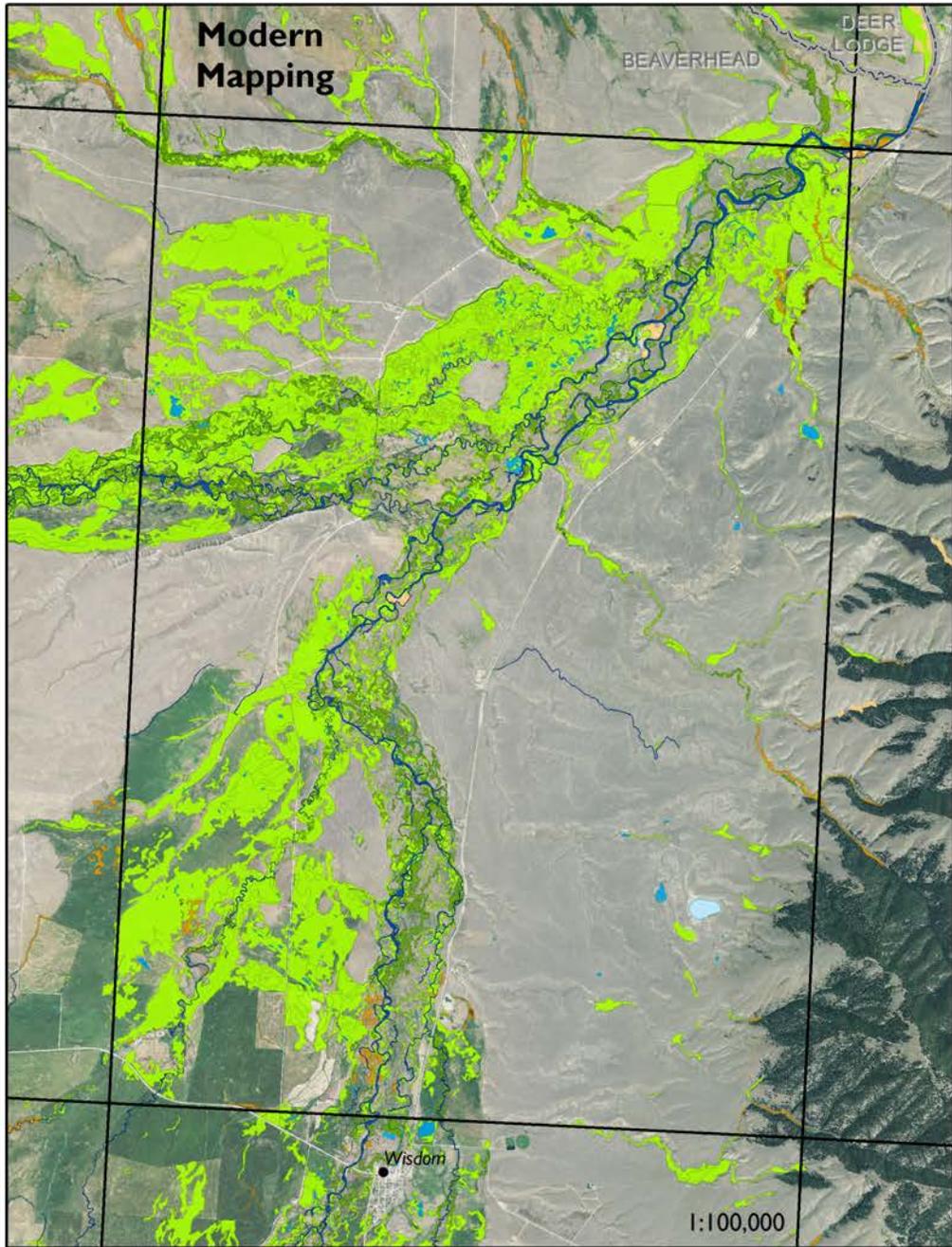
12 - Dunkirk Area



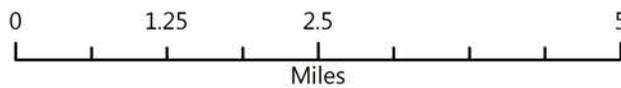


13 - Big Hole River



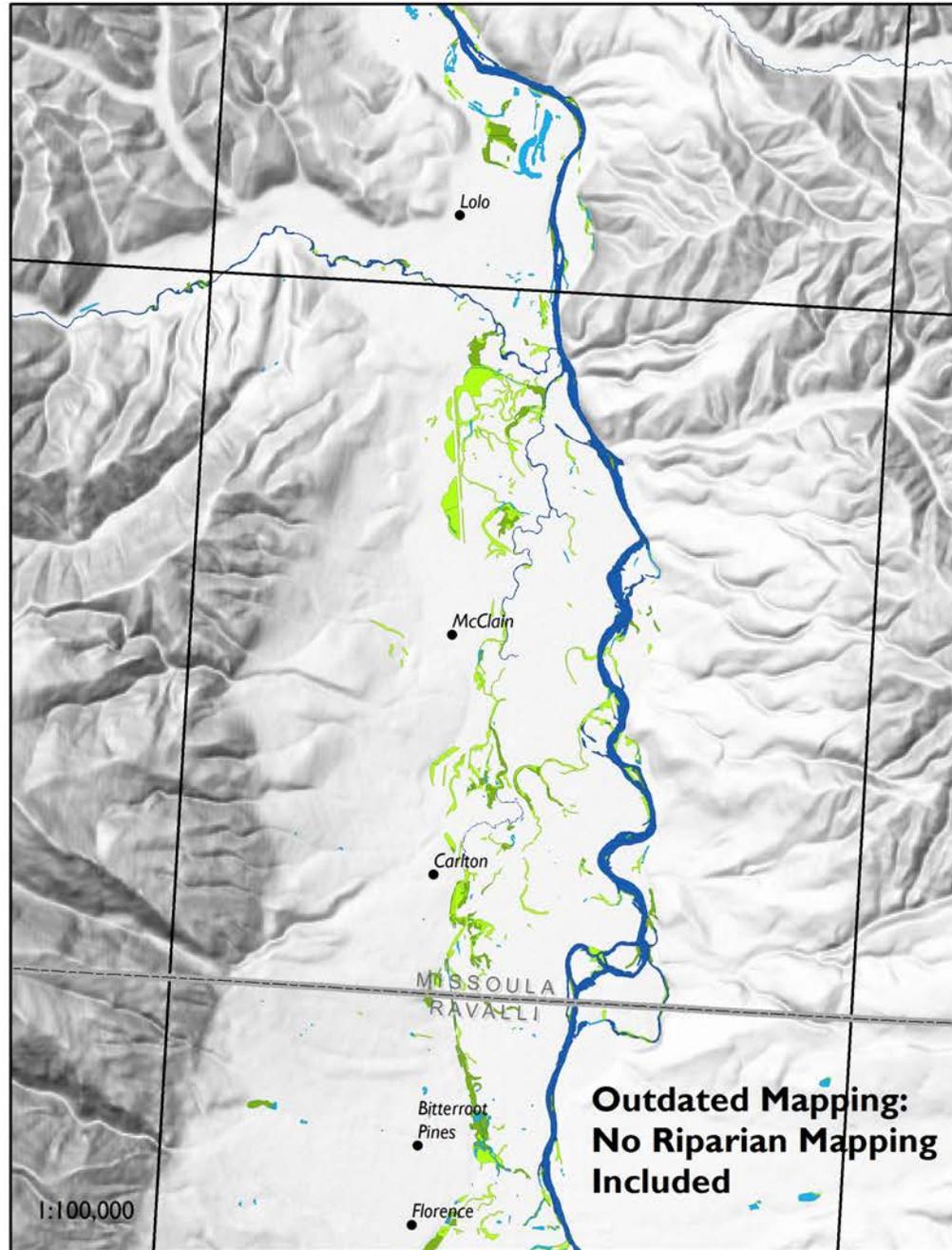
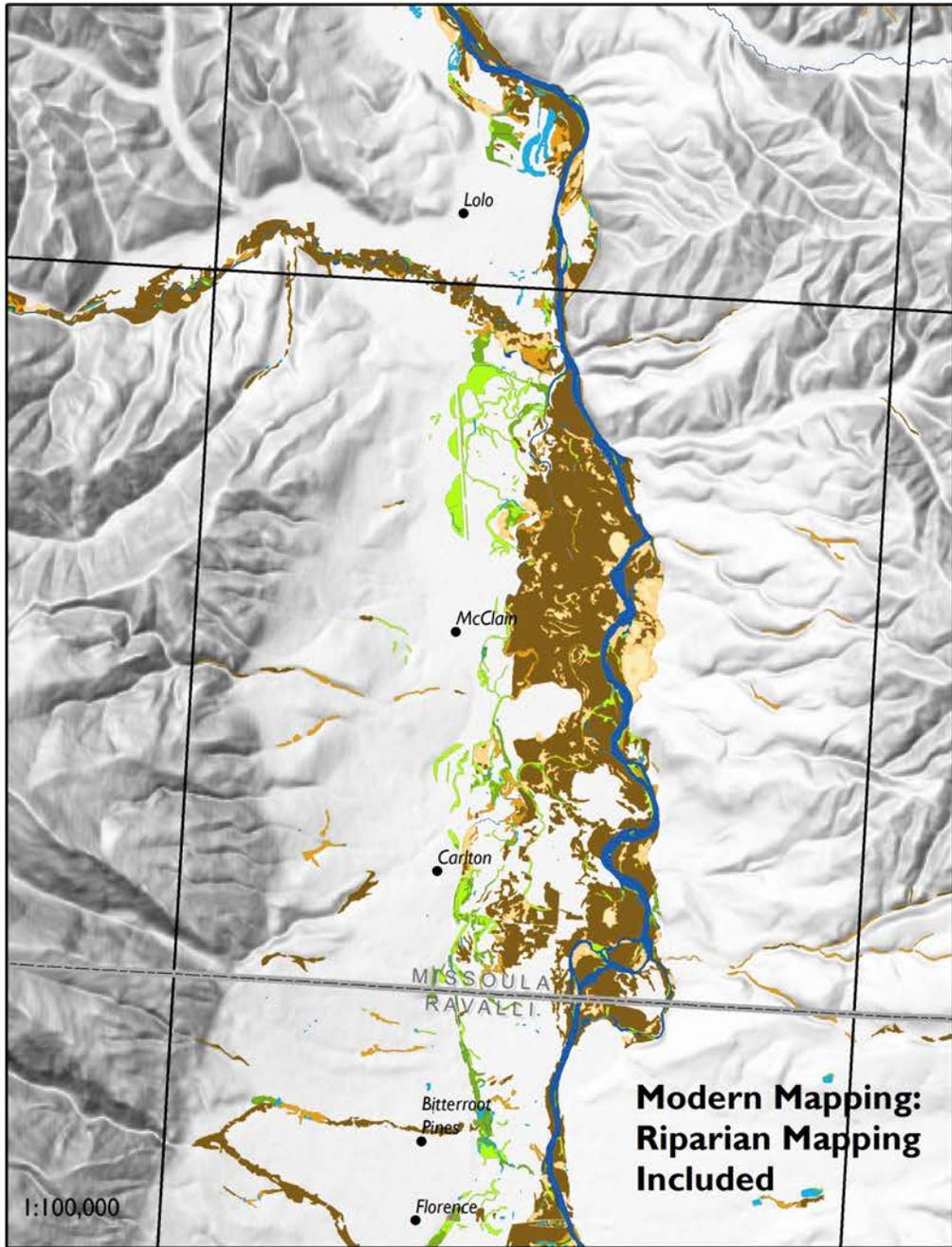


14 - Big Hole River

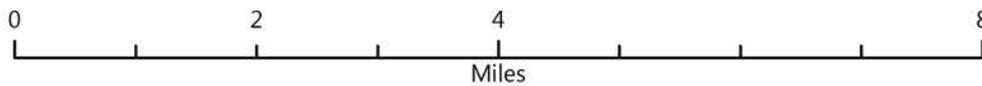


County
USGS Quad
Imagery: 2013 NAIP



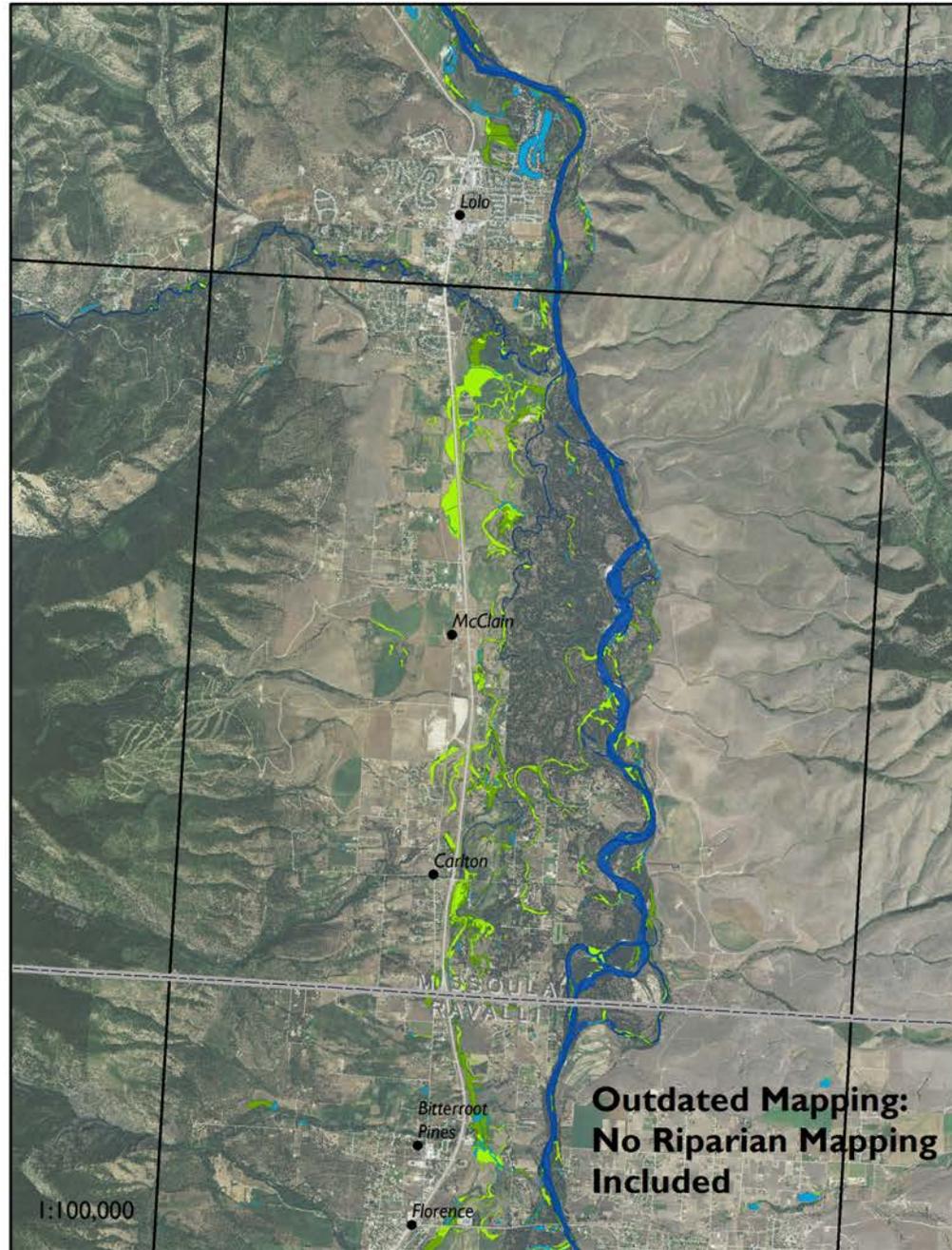
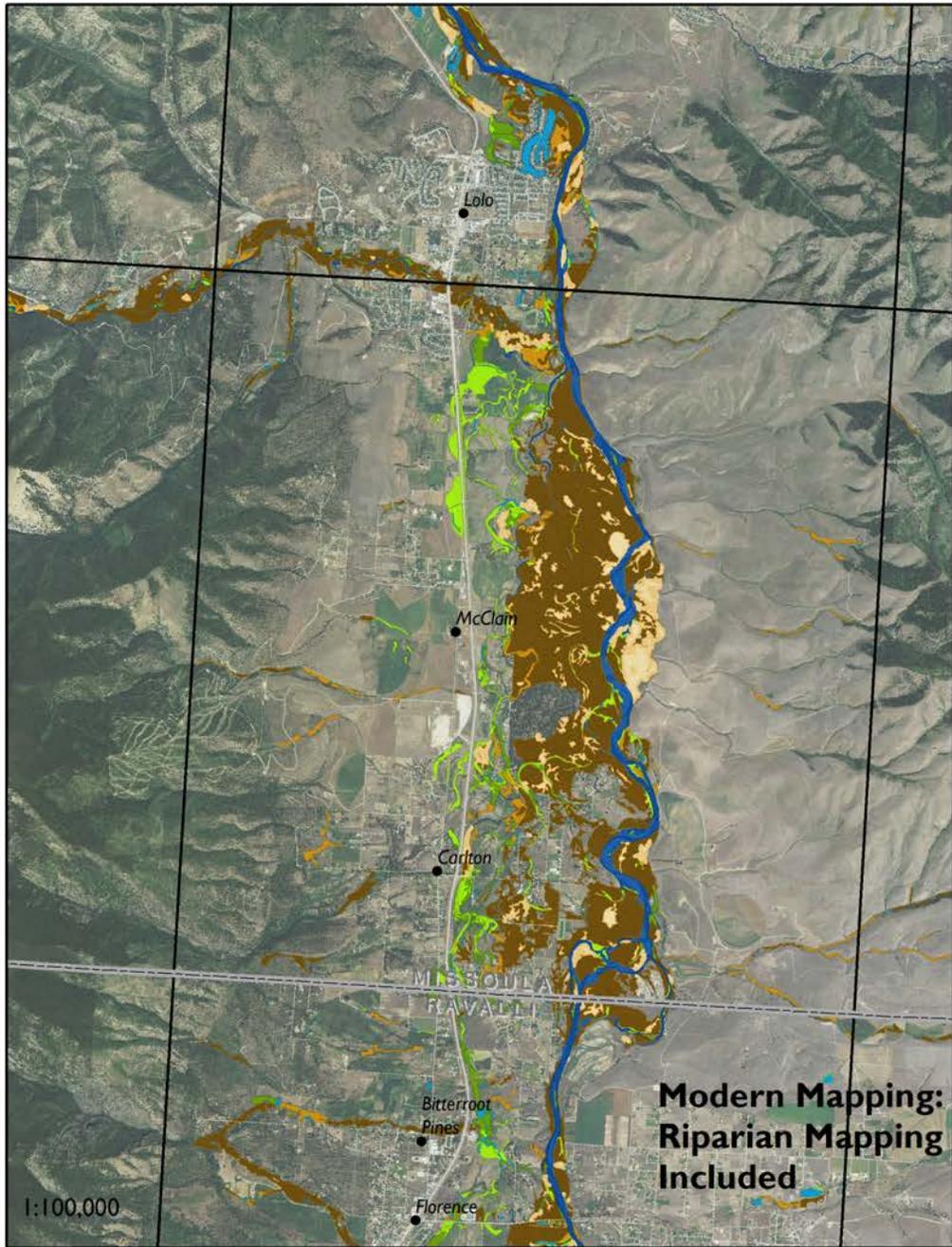


15 - Lolo Area



-  USGS Quad
-  County





16 - Lolo Area



 USGS Quad
 County
 Imagery: 2013 NAIP

