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**SAWTOOTH
ENVIRONMENTAL
CONSULTING, LLC**



Memo

To: Kathy Grotto - Blaine County Lands Use and Building Services

Preston Ziegler - Three Creeks Subdivision (landowner)

From: Trent Stumph - Sawtooth Environmental Consulting, LLC

Date: September 13, 2016

Re: Three Creeks Subdivision - Bugleg Goldenweed (*Pyrrcoma insecticurus*) Plant Survey

September 09, 2016 Sawtooth Environmental Consulting, LLC (SEC), conducted a preliminary plant survey for the presence of Bugleg Goldenweed (*Pyrrcoma insecticurus*) for the defined project area associated with the Three Creeks Crossing Subdivision, located within the northeast-northeast quarter of Section 35, Township 2 North, Range 17 East, B.M., Blaine County, Idaho (Figure 1 – Vicinity Map).

Plant survey was made at the request of Preston Ziegler, landowner of the subject property. Area surveyed was specific to the area where target species was observed and identified by Idaho Fish and Game in 1993 (IDFG/Blackburn, 1993). Area surveyed approximately 5.0 +/- acres. Area includes lowland drainage swale, associated wetland and upland habitat types, and cultivated ground. On-site observations would suggest the complete project area has been altered by past land-use applications which have displace a majority of the pre-existing vegetation communities.

The purpose of the survey was to confirm the presence or absence of Bugleg Goldenweed (*Pyrrcoma insecticurus*), document location if detected, and to collect general information associated with site to help guide future land-use management applications on the subject parcel.

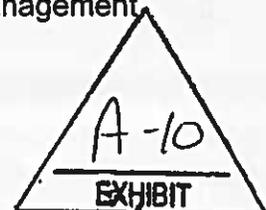
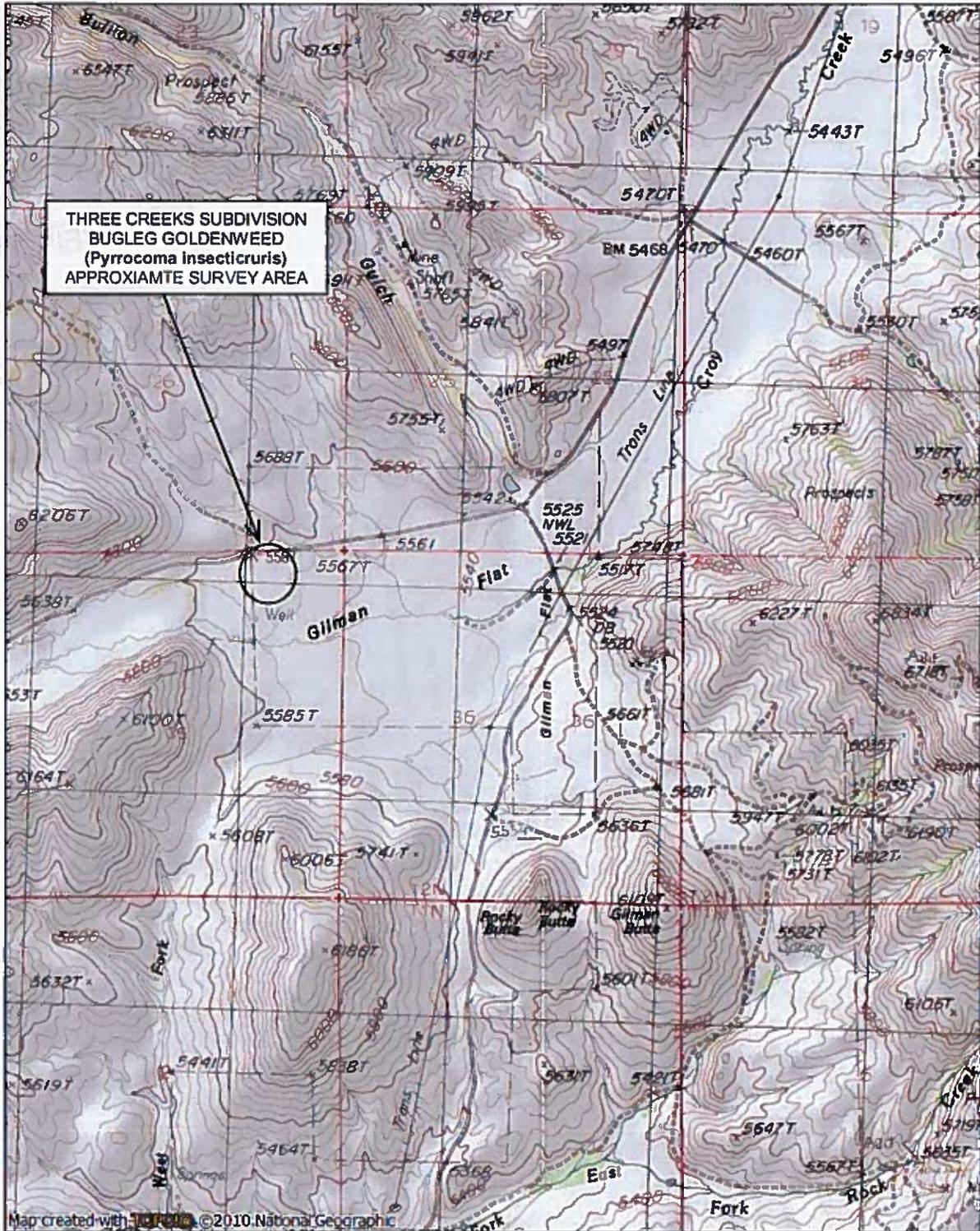
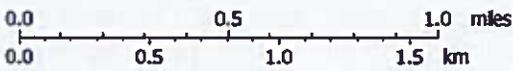


FIGURE 1: VICINITY MAP – THREE CREEKS SUBDIVISION



Base Map:
USGS Richardson Summit, ID
1981



TN* MN
13°
09/13/16



September 9, 2016, a reconnaissance level field investigation was performed by Sawtooth Environmental Consulting and Carol Blackburn, consulting botanist who conducted 1993 IDFG survey and identified original Bugleg Goldenweed plant community within the identified project area. On-site investigation involved an on the ground survey throughout the defined project area to locate target species and determine the range of conditions present.

Species:

Bugleg Goldenweed (*Pyrrcoma insecticruris*)

USFWS Status: C1

USFS Region 4 Status: Sensitive

State List: ID

Heritage State Status: G3/ID-S3

Description – A member of the sunflower family, bugleg goldenweed grows upright, 30-40 cm high many-celled and jointed white hairs. The leaves are 8-10 cm long, oblanceolate, and sharply toothed or entire. Flower heads are 10-15 mm high. The ray flowers are light yellow, 10-12 mm long, and 20 in number. A short-lived perennial, flowering occurs from July to August (Spahr, USDA, Forest Service. Intermountain Region, 1991).

Habitat – Species typically associated with well drained, gravelly soils within wet meadows and wetter sites associated with sagebrush steppe habitat types. Plant ranges between 5,000 – 6,000 feet elevation (IDFG, 2016 and Spahr, 1991).

Distribution – Endemic to the western end of Big Camas Prairie, Blaine and Camas counties, Idaho (Spahr, 1991).

Management Implications – Agricultural and cattle production, along with landscape alterations may degrade suitable habitat parameters (Spahr, 1991).

Observations

Four (4) individual Bugleg Goldenweed plants were located within the defined project area, two older (multi-stem) plants and two younger plants were identified.

Wypt 01 Bugleg Golden 3 Creeks Subdivision

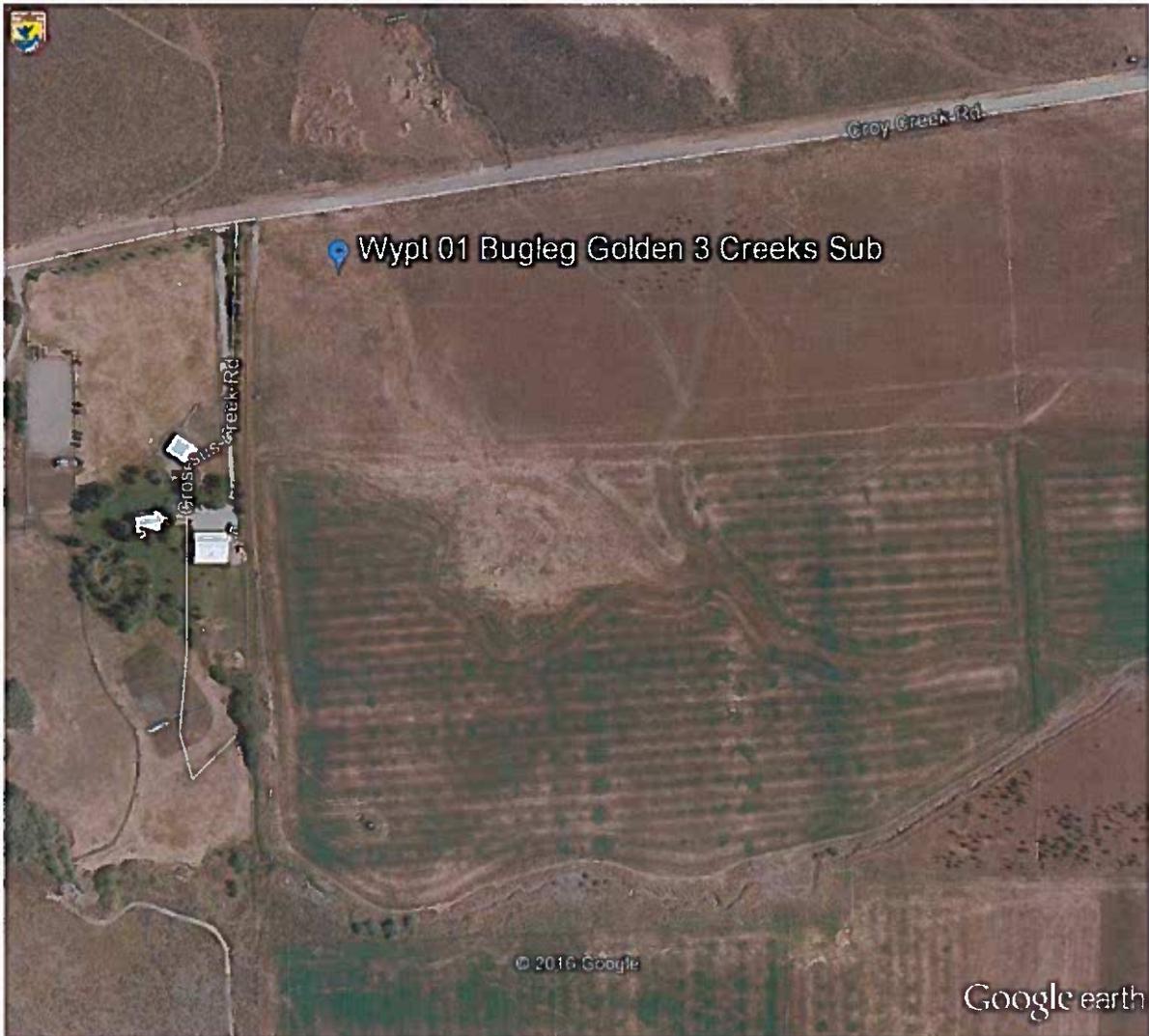
Sep 9, 2016 9:53 am

Latitude: 43 28' 12" N

Longitude: 114 23' 28" W

Altitude: 5,585 ft.

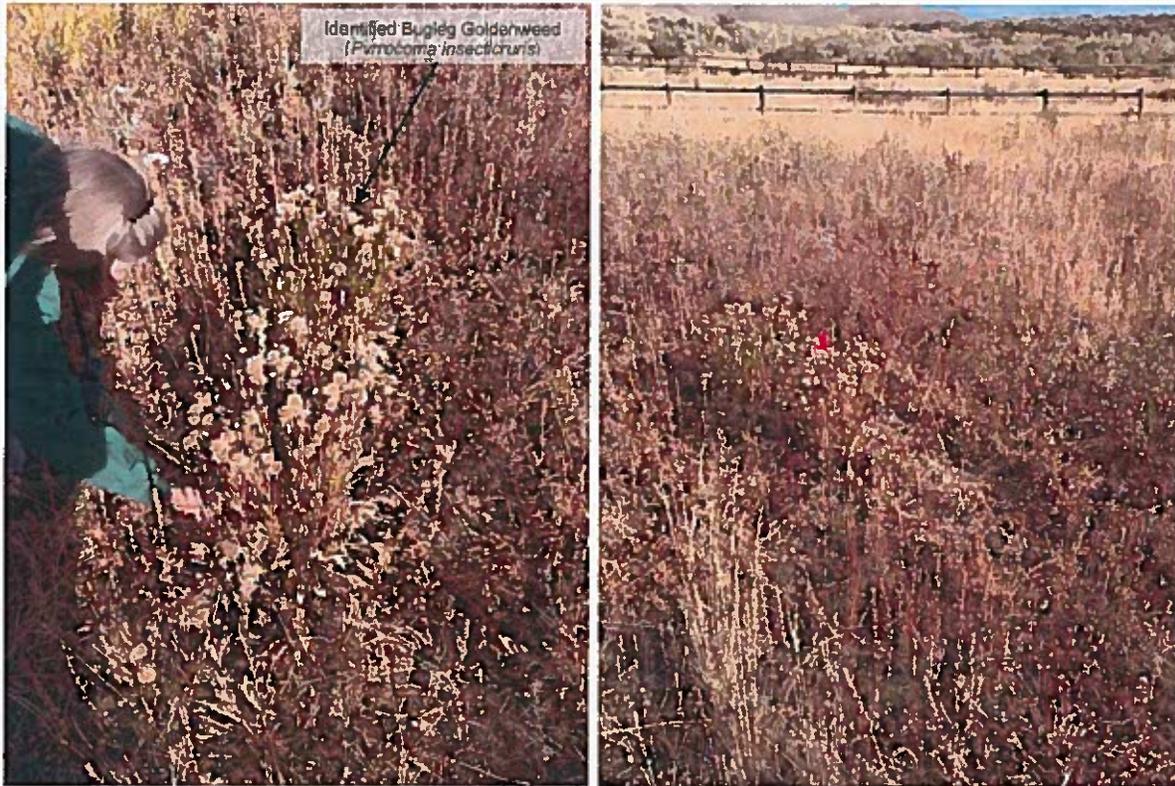
[Handheld Motion X GPS]



Identified Bugleg Goldenweed (*Pyrrocoma insecticuriis*) plants located within and/or directly adjacent to identified wetland resources (American Water Resources, 2004), as illustrated on the Three Creeks Crossing Subdivision Preliminary Plat map (Galena Engineering, August 2016). Identified plants located within transition zone between wetland and upland plant communities along drainage swale located within the northwest corner of the subject property, area of existing 2016 plant community approximately 100 sq. ft.

Individual plants associated with the existing Bugleg Goldenweed plant community are greatly reduced from the 1993 reference plant community due to past land-use applications, land clearing and agricultural applications (Blackburn - personal observation, September 2016).

Blaine County Riparian Setback District and Wetland Overlay District (9-19-1), and associated regulatory setback requirements may better promote conservation and protection measures for the targeted species by regulating future development and land-use management applications within and adjacent to suitable Bugleg Goldenweed habitat.



Photos: Bugleg Goldenweed plants and site characteristics associated with the identified 2016 plant community (September 9, 2016).