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BLAINE COUNTY
LAND USE & BUILDING SERVICES

20-064

**Blaine County Land Water & Wildlife Program
Pre-Application for Conservation Funding**

The Blaine County Land, Water and Wildlife Program (Program) was created to invest the funds from the 2008 Land Water and Wildlife Levy. For complete information about the purposes, policies and procedures, please refer to the Program website (blainecounty.org >>>County Departments >>> Land, Water & Wildlife Program >>> Info >>> Application Materials OR [click here](#)). The Program Guide and Project Evaluation Checklist provide background on the application process, eligibility and selection criteria.

Landowners, non-profit organizations, or other local government agencies wishing to request funding from the Program should take the following steps to initiate their project:

Step 1: Review background information about the Program and talk to the Land, Water & Wildlife Program Coordinator, Land Use & Building Services, 219 1st Avenue South, Ste. 208, Hailey, telephone 208-788-5570.

Step 2: Complete this Pre-Application. It is used to present an initial project proposal to the Program. Pre-Applications are reviewed by county staff and the Levy Advisory Board (a volunteer board of citizens, appointed by the Board of County Commissioners to advise on Levy expenditures and make recommendations to the County Commissioners). This is the first of two application phases. A fillable version of this Form, for optional use, is available on the website.

Pre- Applications are accepted anytime, and evaluated promptly by the Levy Advisory Board (LAB). If a project appears to serve Levy objectives, the Applicant will be invited to submit a Full Application for Conservation Funding. Following submittal of the Full Application, the project would be evaluated during the next competitive application cycle. The Full Application deadlines are on the website.

Step 3: Following review of your Pre-Application, the Land, Water and Wildlife Program Coordinator will contact you to schedule a meeting to discuss the initial evaluation and the next steps.

Please see the Program Guide for a thorough explanation of the application process. If you have questions regarding this process please contact the Program Coordinator at (208) 788-5570.

Pre-Applications should be submitted digitally and with two (2) paper copies to:

Land, Water and Wildlife Program Coordinator
Blaine County Land, Water & Wildlife Program
Land Use & Building Services
219 1st Avenue S., Ste. 208
Hailey, ID 83333
pzcounter@co.blaine.id.us

Please Note: When submitted to the County, this application will become a public document, and all information contained in it may be viewed by any member of the public who may request to do so.

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1. Applicant Information

Project Name: Guy Creek Restoration Project

Applicant (Note that only landowners and their representatives or partners may apply):

University of Idaho

Contact Name (if different than Applicant): Cameron Packer and Eric Winford

Address: 16 W. Croy St. Unit K Hailey, ID 83348

Contact primary phone number: 208-721-4134 - Cameron

Cell or other alternative phone number: 208-364-3176 - Eric

Contact e-mail address: cpacker@uidaho.edu/ ewinford@uidaho.edu

2. Project Type (check one):

Land acquisition Easement acquisition TDR Non-acquisition*

Other (explain)

* Non-acquisition projects could include wildlife habitat, water quantity and quality, stream reconnections, improvement to natural systems and processes, and studies linked to projects.

If the project is an acquisition, is there a willing seller? NA

If the project involves a conservation easement (acquired or donated), is there a qualified entity willing and able to hold and maintain the interest to be conveyed? NA Will it be perpetual? NA

If the project is a restoration, are the landowner(s) committed to the project? Yes.

Do you know whether the Property is a lot of record as defined in Blaine County Code (Section 9.2.1), or its equivalent in incorporated cities? _____

Are you aware of any permits or approvals you may need in order to do your project? Yes If "Yes," what are they? The project may require submitting a Stream Alteration Permit (Joint Permit) to the Army Corps of Engineers and Idaho Department of Water Resources. The project may require submitting a Stream Alteration Permit to Blaine County. Most of the proposed work is in an ephemeral stream system.

3. Project Description

Approximate acreage of project: 20

Using a separate sheet of paper, describe the property proposed for protection, the conservation purpose of the proposed project and how it will fulfill the purposes of the Land, Water and Wildlife Program. To the extent known, please discuss how the conservation outcomes will be lasting. Refer to the Program Guide for an understanding of the Program priorities. Please answer in **500 words or fewer**.

4. Project Funding and Partnership Information

Estimated total project cost: \$92,000

Estimated Land, Water & Wildlife Program funding request: \$20,000

If a non-acquisition project, please include a basic budget that identifies which costs you are requesting funding for.

Are any funds for this project already secured? Yes

If yes, please list sources and amounts: NRCS - \$52,000; USFWS - \$10,000; UI - \$10,000

Prospective or committed project partners:

Name: Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS);

Mailing Address: 9173 W. Barnes Dr. Suite C.

E-mail or Phone: denise.adkins@is.usda.gov/ (208) 685-6991

5. Project Maps and Photos

Please include up to two maps of your proposed project and the general area. The map (or maps) should depict project boundaries, property ownership (private or public), roads, significant topographic or ecological features, and any parcels within the project area that may be excluded from the project. Also include up to two photos that illustrate the conservation values of the project.

6. Signatures

I/we have read and understand the LWWP Program Guide.

I/we understand that approval of the Pre-Application is no guarantee of funding, and that public resources will be used in the evaluation process.

Applicant (if not the landowner)

Date

Landowner(s) or authorized Representative

Date

A. Cameron Packer

8-13-20

Authorized Representative of managing agency (if project is on public land)

Date

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Rinker Rock Creek Ranch – Guy Canyon Restoration Project Narrative:

Background:

A 2017 restoration assessment of the four main tributaries to Rock Creek commissioned by the Wood River Land Trust identified numerous places where restoration work could improve the riparian areas and stream conditions in Guy Canyon. A perennial stream in its lower reaches, the creek runs dry seasonally in the upper reaches. The restoration assessment identified several locations that lack stabilizing riparian vegetation, have steep, incised banks, and have active head-cuts. Livestock seasonally graze the area and there are two dilapidated stock water ponds that only provide water in the early summer, leaving the only reliable source of water coming from the stream itself.

The proposed tributary restoration work seeks to improve wildlife habitat and water quality by increasing stabilizing riparian vegetation along the stream, decreasing the amount of eroded and unstable stream bank, and increasing the extent of the riparian area. It also seeks to balance the needs of livestock and wildlife by restoring the dilapidated ponds and installing off-channel water to allow improved dispersal of livestock to utilize available forage. This would have the added benefit of relieving grazing pressure on the stream and associated vegetation in the hot season.

Objectives:

The Guy Canyon restoration project would restore approximately 1000 yards of creek and an associated 20 acres of riparian vegetation. The goals of the restoration project would be to remove non-functioning stock water and irrigation structures, stop active head-cuts, reduce sections of incised stream banks, increase stabilizing riparian vegetation, and increase the length of the time when the upper reaches of the stream has water in it.

To accomplish this, the proposal seeks funds from the LWWP to decommission in-stream stock water impoundments and replace them with off channel stock water. These two water developments would be in the upper reaches of the canyon and would replace in-stream ponds that only function part of the year. The proposed design would pipe early season run off into a holding tank that would be drawn into stock water tanks in on the hillsides, providing water later in the season, and relieving grazing pressure in the stream itself.

The in-stream and riparian restoration work will be funded by a partnership with the Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS), the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), and the Wood River Land Trust (WRLT). This portion of the work will install up to 100 small in-stream wood structures to help increase stream functionality by increasing the stream's connectivity with the adjacent floodplain, increasing groundwater recharge, and increasing riparian resiliency. These structures would help address the areas of Guy Canyon that have been identified as incised or lacking vegetation. This portion of the project will include a monitoring component that will evaluate whether the objectives have been met. Monitoring will focus on changes to riparian vegetation, ground water, channel morphology, and stream flow. Our monitoring program will enable us to adaptively manage the project by providing short and long-term feedback on progress made in achieving the project's objectives and help us understand how these structures impact and restore stream and riparian function.

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Rock Creek Ranch -Guy Canyon Restoration Components	Anticipated Cost	Source
In-stream restoration		
- Crew to install in-stream structures	\$ 25,000	NRCS, FWS, and UI
- Materials and equipment	\$ 5,000	NRCS and FWS
Monitoring and Maintenance		
- Monitoring equipment	\$ 15,000	NRCS and UI
- Monitoring crew	\$ 25,000	NRCS and UI
Off-channel water systems (x2) in Upper Guy Canyon		
- Installation costs	\$ 5,000	LWWP
- Materials and equipment	\$ 7,000	LWWP
Decommission defunct stock ponds (x2)		
- Equipment and earthwork	\$ 8,000	LWWP
- Vegetation plantings/seeds	\$ 2,000	UI
Permitting		
- USACE & IDWR Permit (joint app)	\$ 250	NRCS and UI
- Blaine Co Stream Alteration Permit	\$ 600	NRCS and UI
Total	\$ 92,850	
Request to LWWP	\$ 20,000	
In-kind	\$ 72,850	

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Rock Creek Ranch Overview

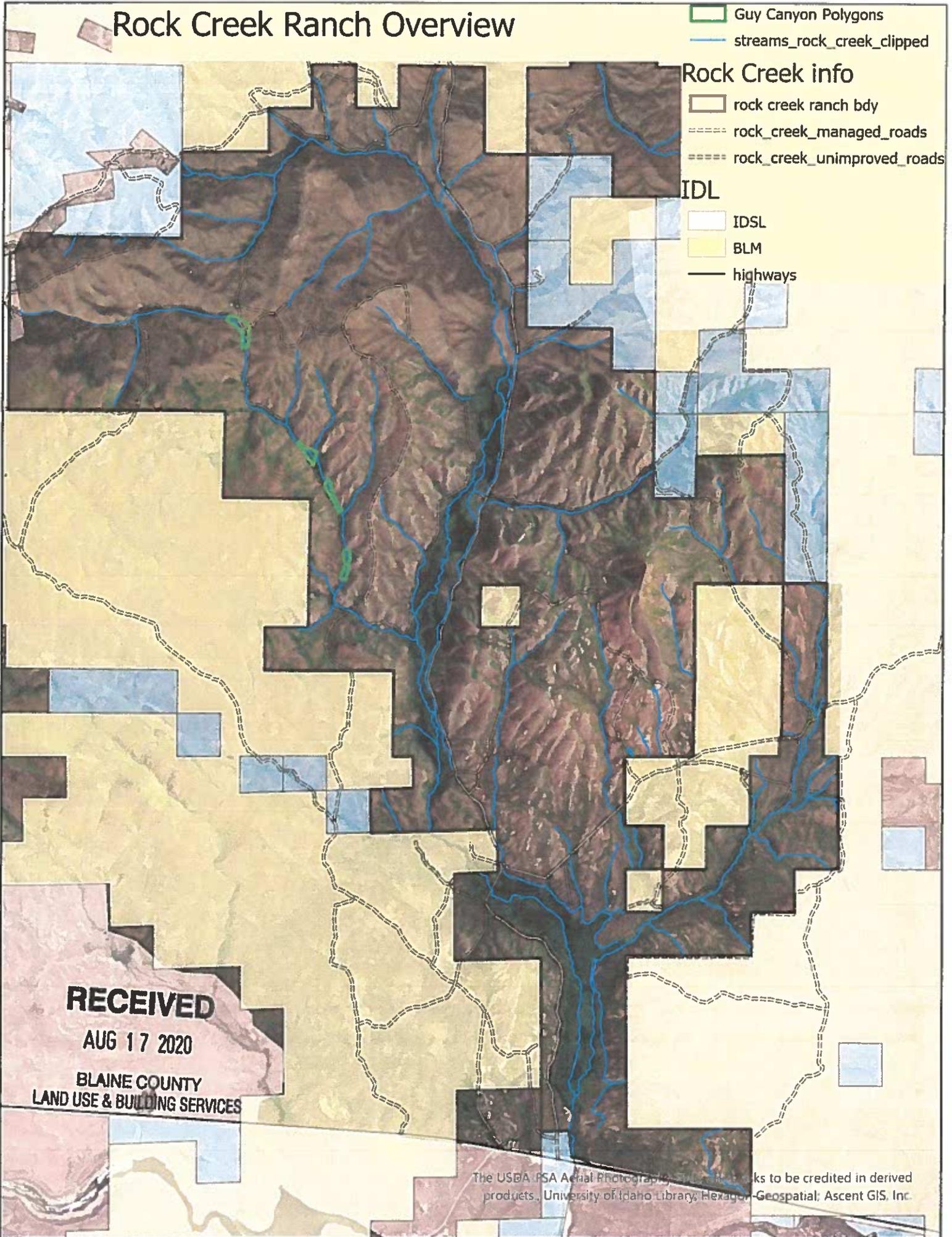
- Guy Canyon Polygons
- streams_rock_creek_clipped

Rock Creek info

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- rock_creek_unimproved_roads

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- IDSL
- BLM
- highways



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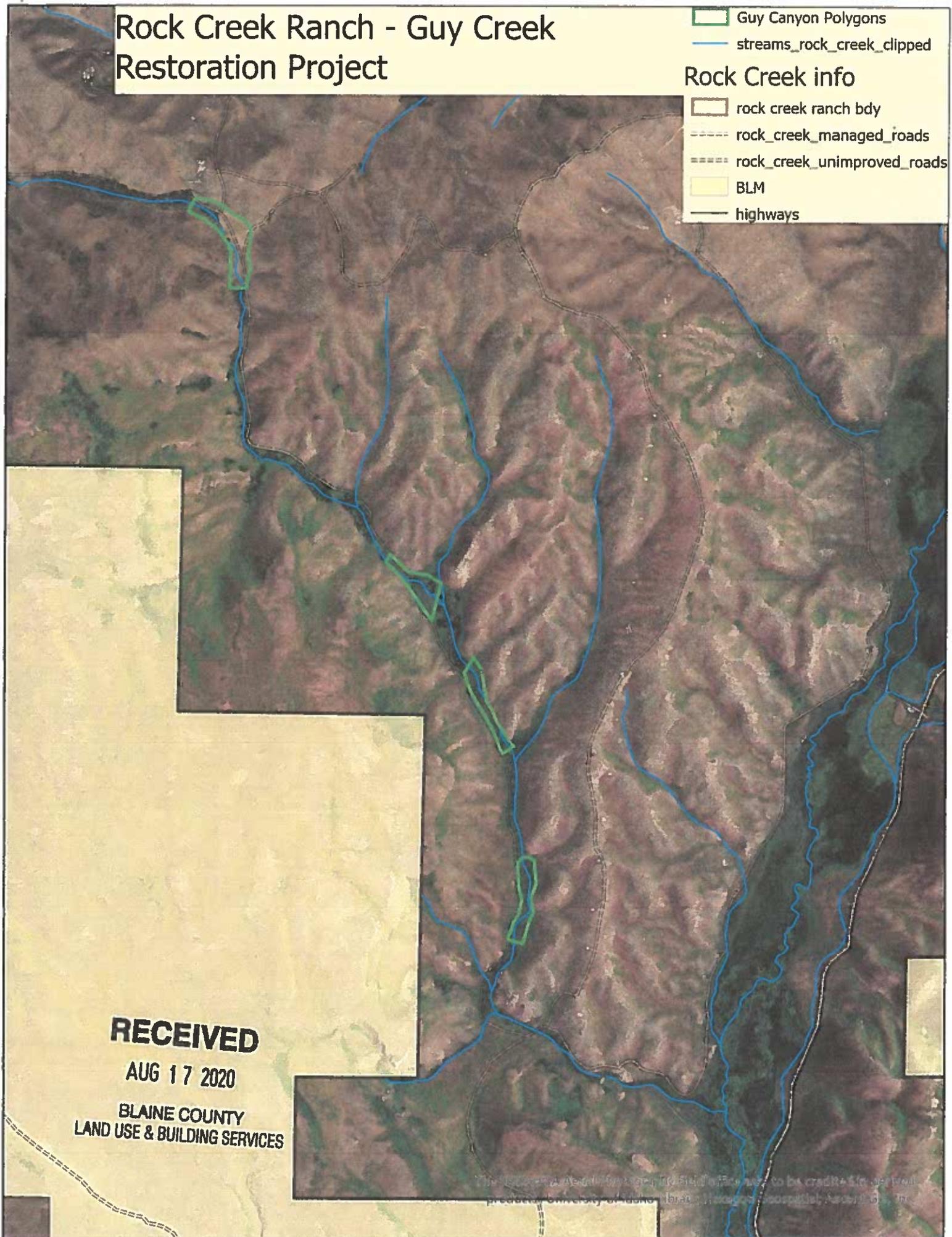
The USDA, PSA Aerial Photographs, and other data to be credited in derived products. University of Idaho Library, Hexagon-Geospatial, Ascent GIS, Inc.

Rock Creek Ranch - Guy Creek Restoration Project

- Guy Canyon Polygons
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Rock Creek info

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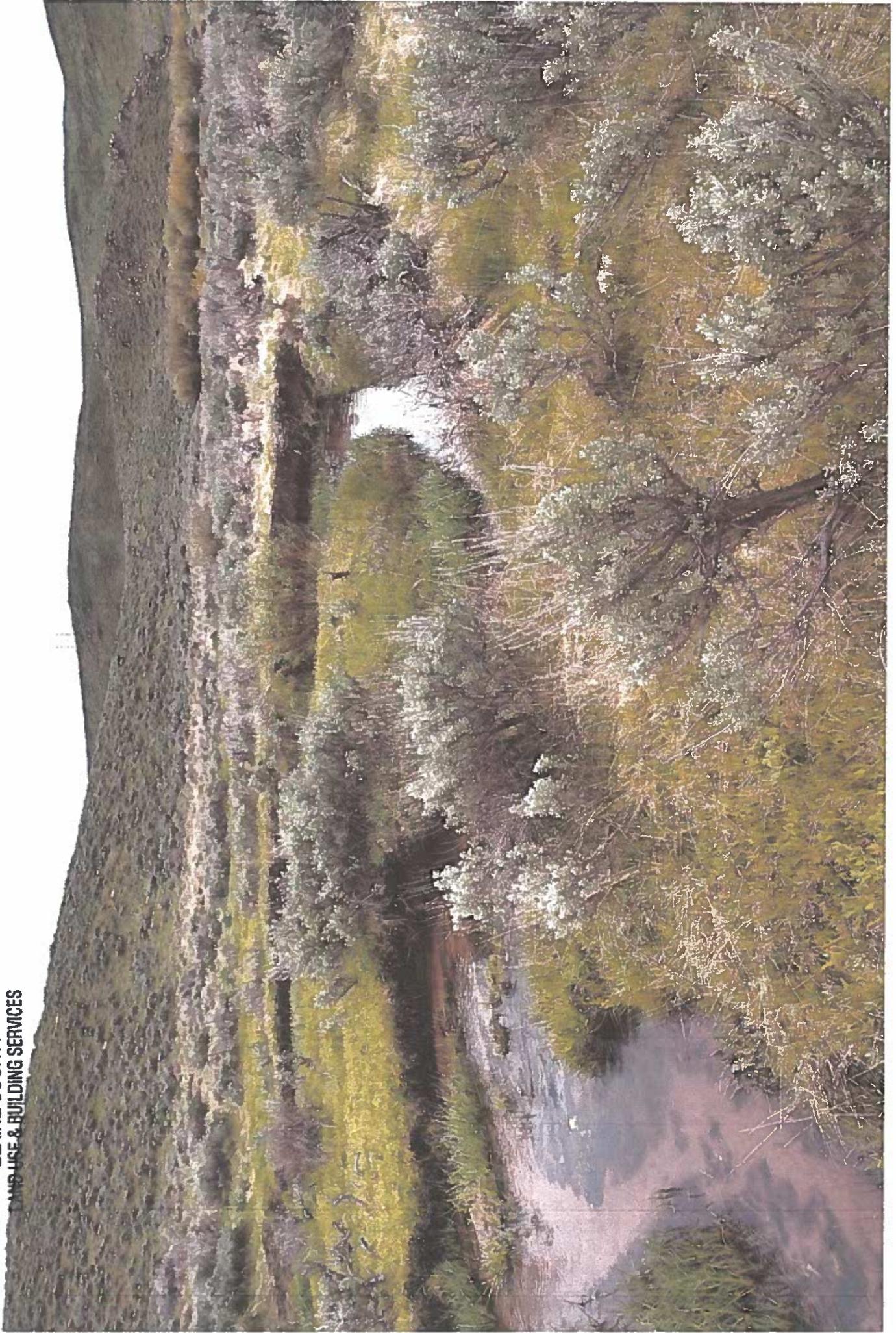


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