JOINT WORK SESSION FLAGSTAFF CITY COUNCIL/COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

AGENDA

4:00 P.M. - MONDAY MARCH 12, 2018 COUNCIL CHAMBERS 211 WEST ASPEN AVENUE

- 1. Call to Order
- 2. Pledge of Allegiance and Mission Statement

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the City of Flagstaff is to protect and enhance the quality of life for all.

3.

Roll Call:

NOTE: One of more Councilmembers/Supervisors may be in attendance telephonically or by other technological means.

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:

CHAIRMAN RYAN SUPERVISOR ARCHULETA SUPERVISOR BABBOTT

SUPERVISOR FOWLER SUPERVISOR PARKS

CITY COUNCIL:

MAYOR EVANS
VICE MAYOR WHELAN
COUNCILMEMBER BAROTZ
COUNCILMEMBER MCCARTHY

COUNCILMEMBER ODEGAARD COUNCILMEMBER OVERTON COUNCILMEMBER PUTZOVA

4. Public Participation:

Public Participation enables the public to address the Council about an items that are not on the agenda. Public Participation appears on the agenda twice, at the beginning and at the end of the work session. You may speak at one or the other, but not both. Anyone wishing to comment on an item thatis on the agenda is asked to fill out a speaker card and submit it to the recording clerk. When the item comes up on the agenda, your name will be called. You may address the Council up to three times throughout the meeting, including comments made during Public Participation. Please limit your remarks to three minutes per item to allow everyone an opportunity to speak.

- 5. Discussion of Potential Land Exchange Related to the 1996 Navajo-Hopi Land Settlement Act.
- 6. Public Participation

7.	Informational Items To/From Chairman, Supervisors and County Manager/Mayor, Council
	and City Manager; requests for future agenda items.

8. Adjournment

CERTIFICATE OF POSTING OF NOTICE					
The undersigned hereby certifies that a copy of the foregoing notice was duly posted at Flagstaff City Hall on, at a.m./p.m. in accordance with the statement filed by the City Council with the City Clerk.					
Dated this day of, 2018.					
Elizabeth A. Burke, MMC, City Clerk					

CITY OF FLAGSTAFF

STAFF SUMMARY REPORT

To: The Honorable Mayor and Council

From: Caleb Blaschke, Assistant to the City Manager

Date: 02/28/2018 **Meeting Date:** 03/12/2018



TITLE

Discussion of Potential Land Exchange Related to the 1996 Navajo-Hopi Land Settlement Act.

STAFF RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Discussion of potential land exchange and draft letter.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The City of Flagstaff was recently made aware of a potential land exchange that would seek to fulfill federal government commitments under the 1996 Navajo-Hopi Land Dispute Settlement Act (P.L. 104-363) (Attachment 1: East & West). Senator McCain and Congressman O'Halleran issued a letter informing the City about a potential settlement, seeking our input and sharing that "no federal lands have been predetermined for inclusion and that [they] will not advance any legislation in Congress without first seeking [our] input and support" (Attachment 2).

On February 26, 2018 the City of Flagstaff, Coconino County, the City of Winslow and Navajo County discussed a plan for a joint response to the letter (Attachment 3).

INFORMATION:

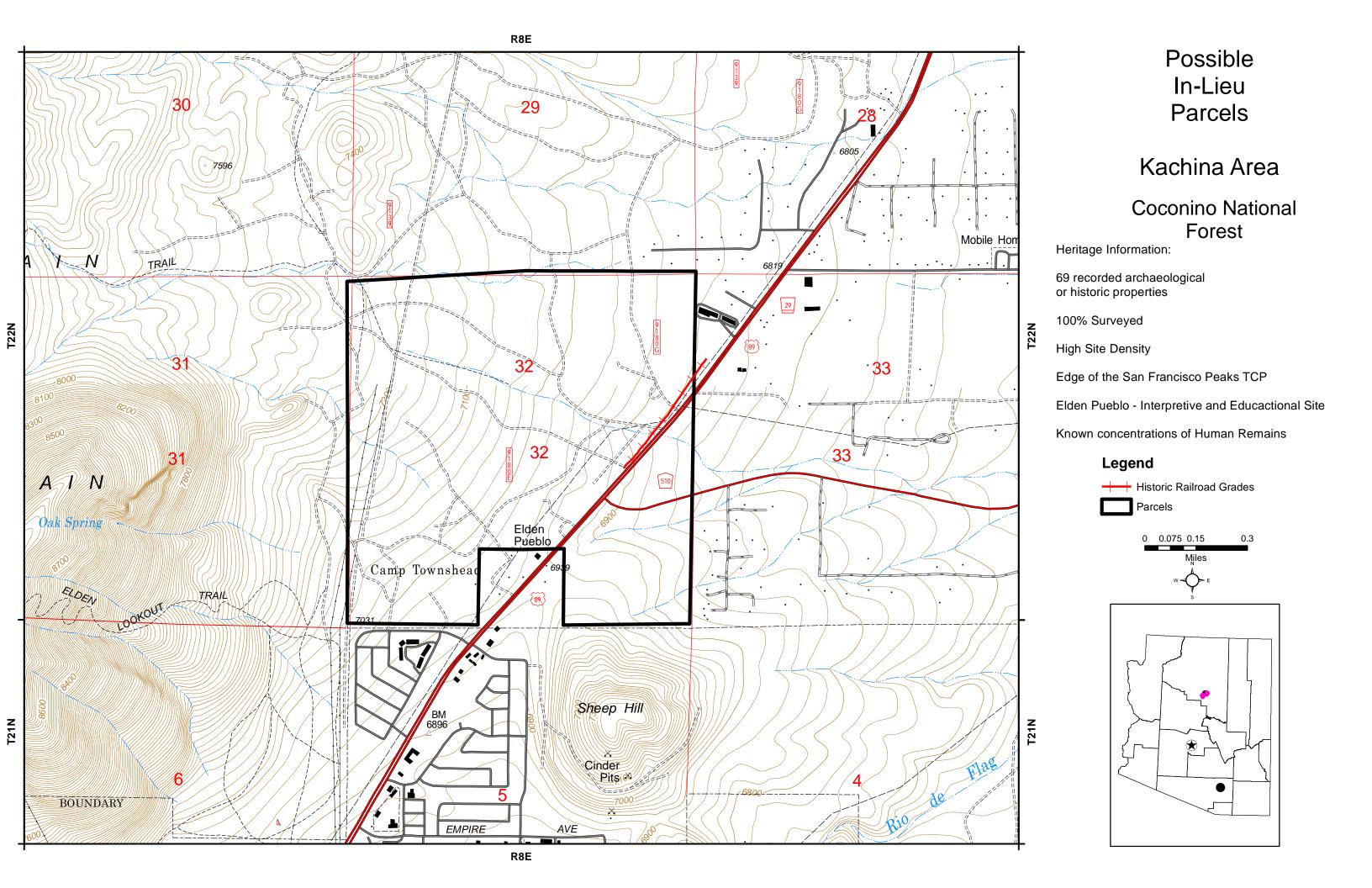
Council Goals:

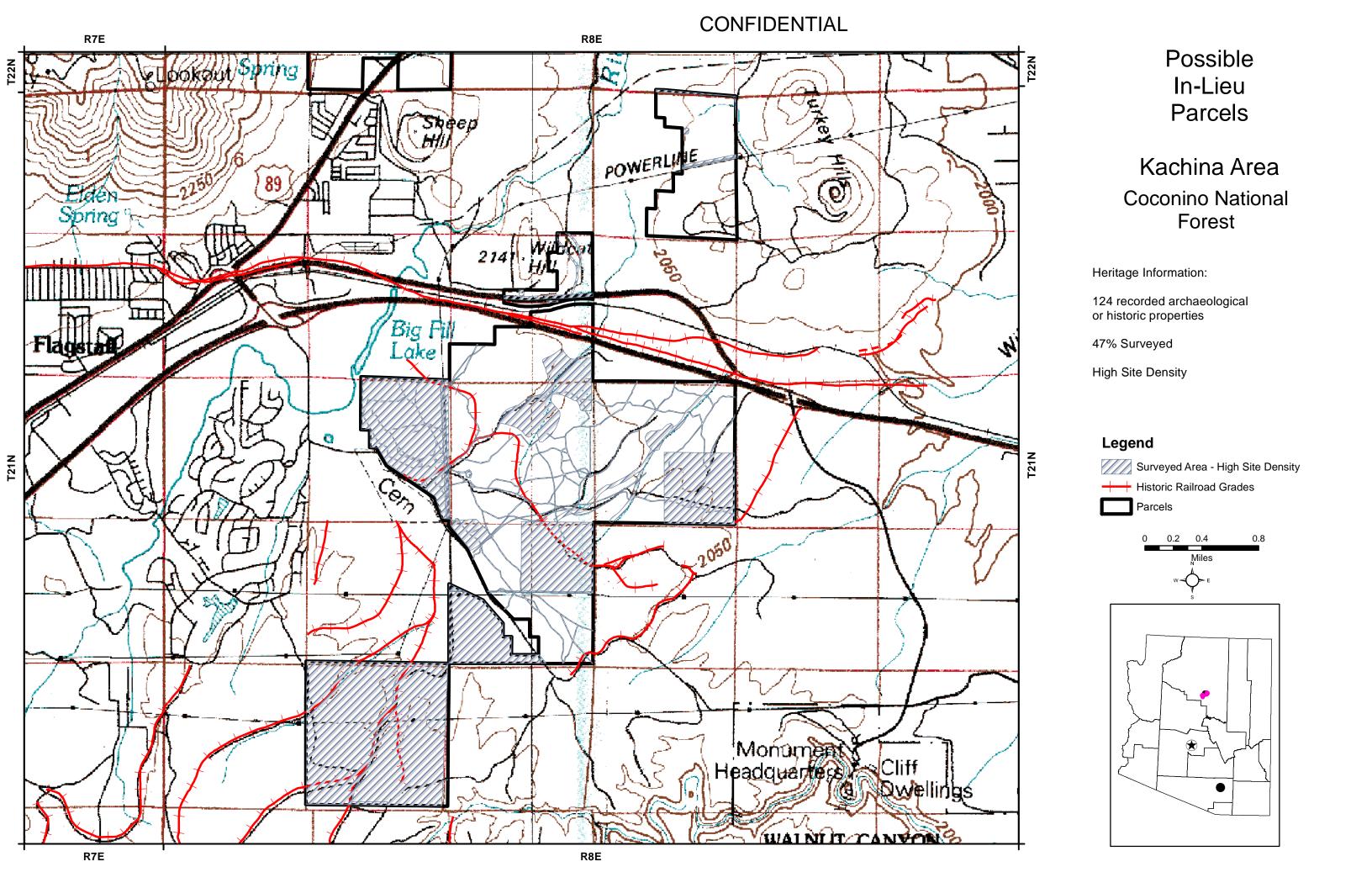
Community Outreach, Building and Zoning/Regional Plan, Water Conservation, Economic Development, Environmental and Natural Resources

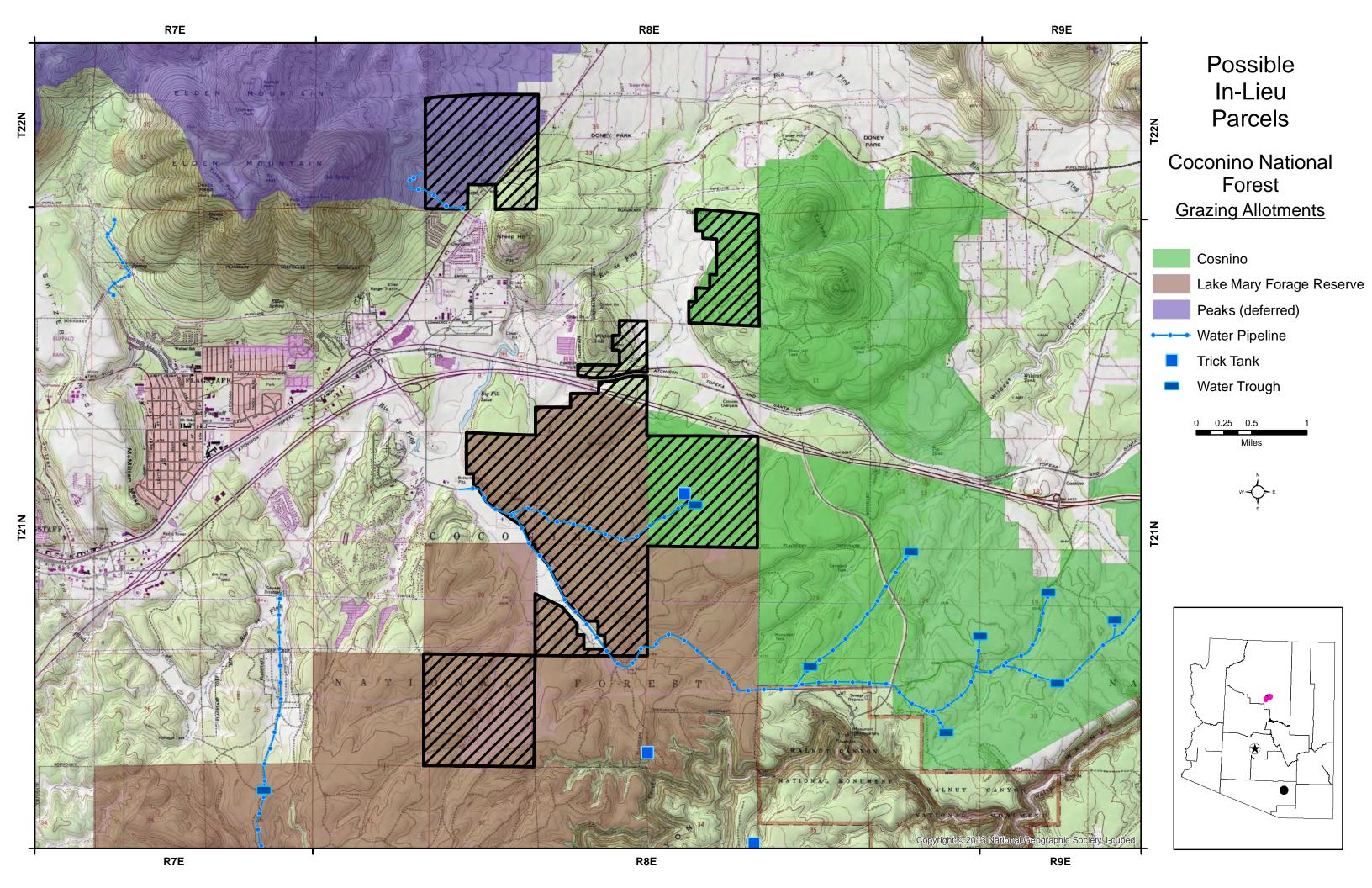
Attachments: Attachment 1: Maps East

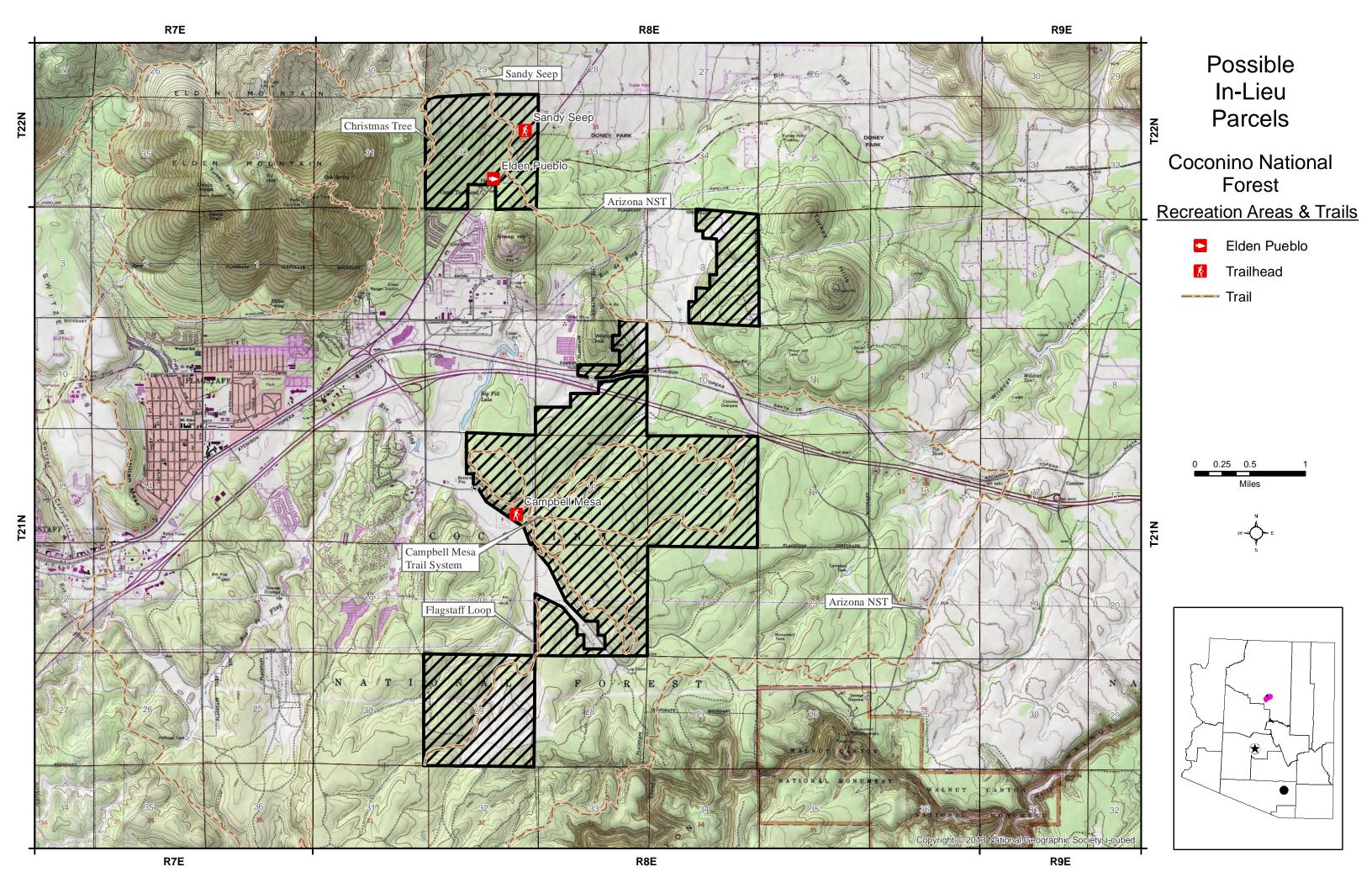
Attachment 1: Maps West

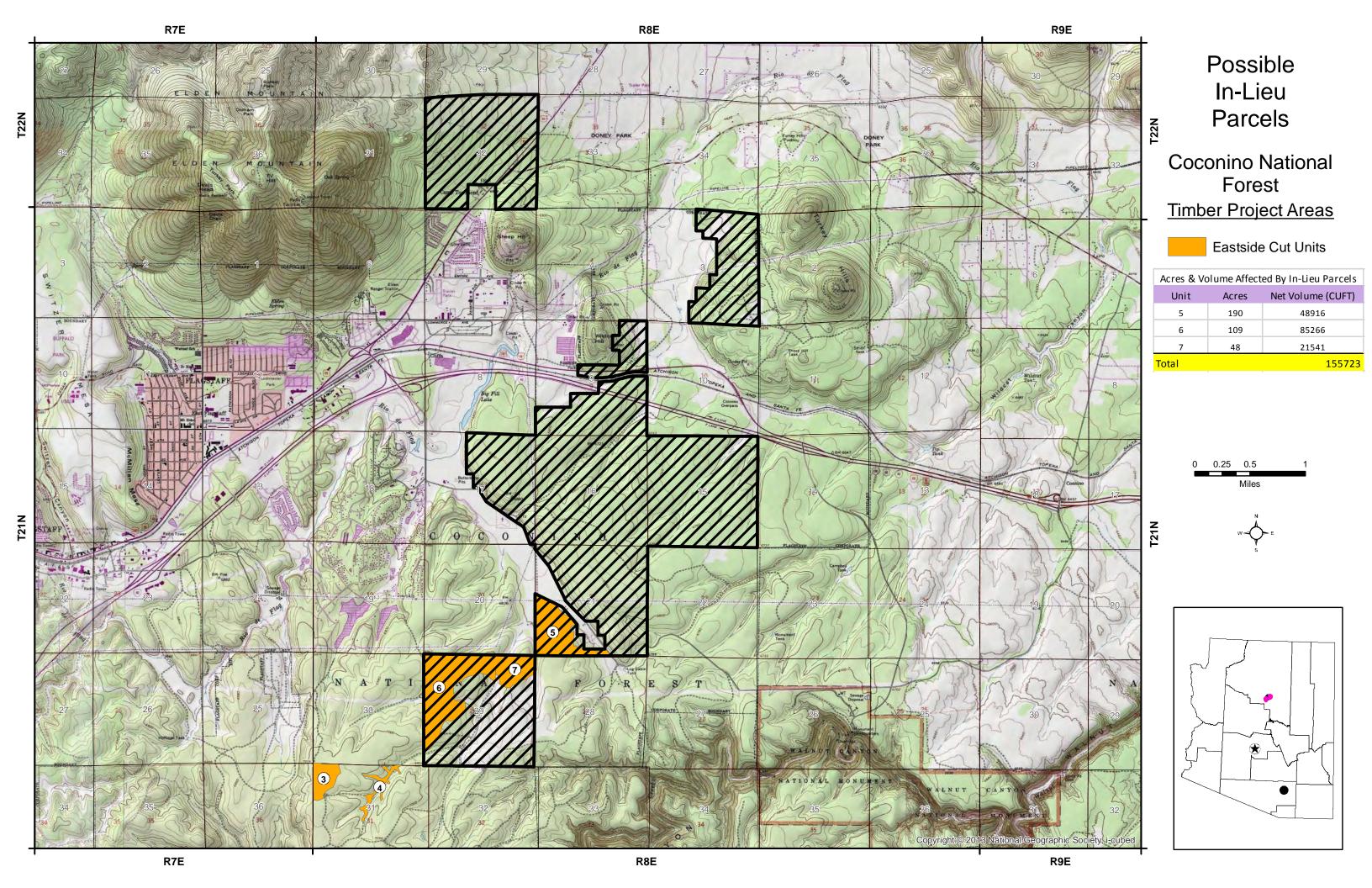
Attachment 2: McCain/O'Halleran Letter
Attachment 3: Draft Response Letter

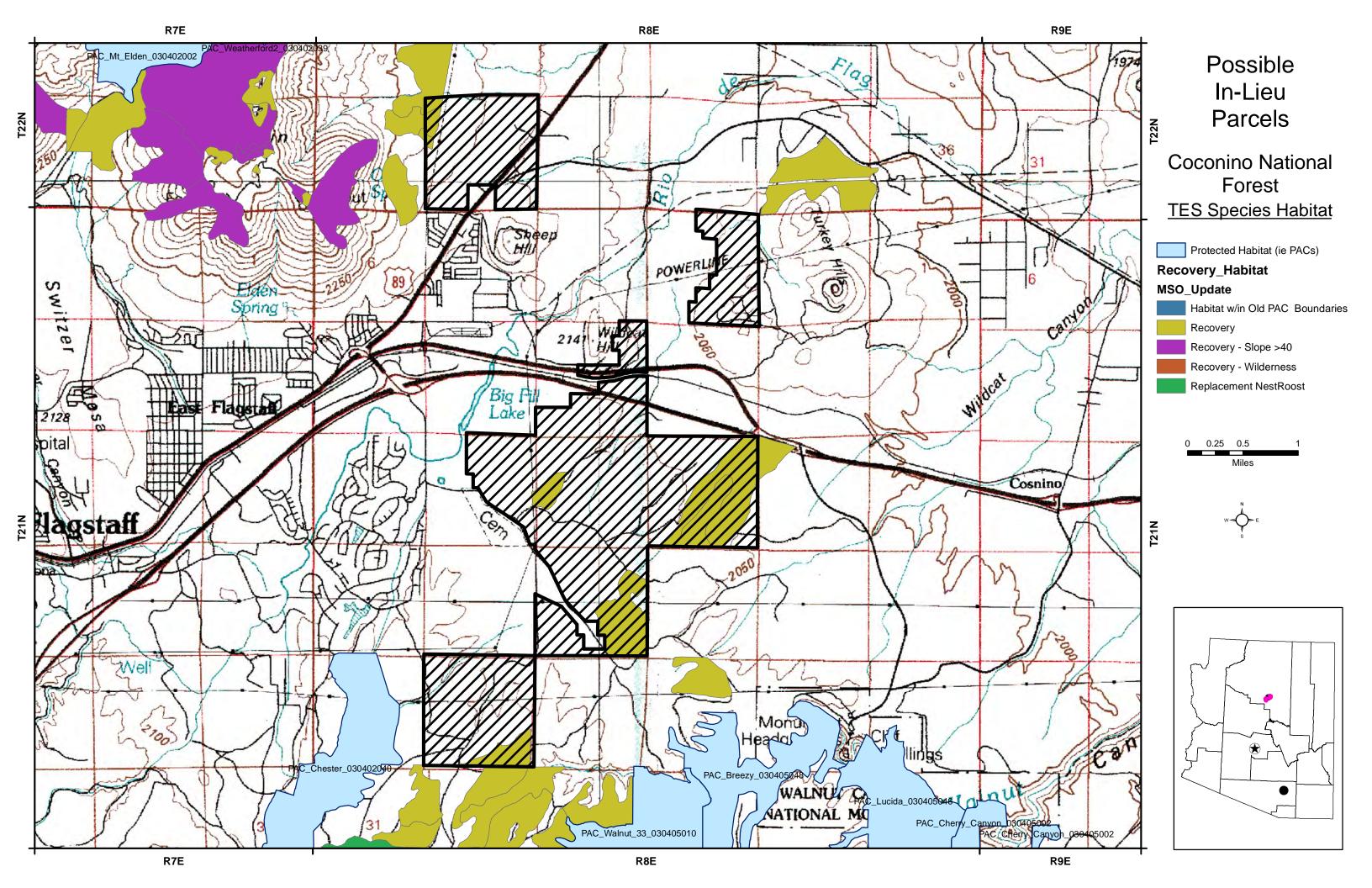


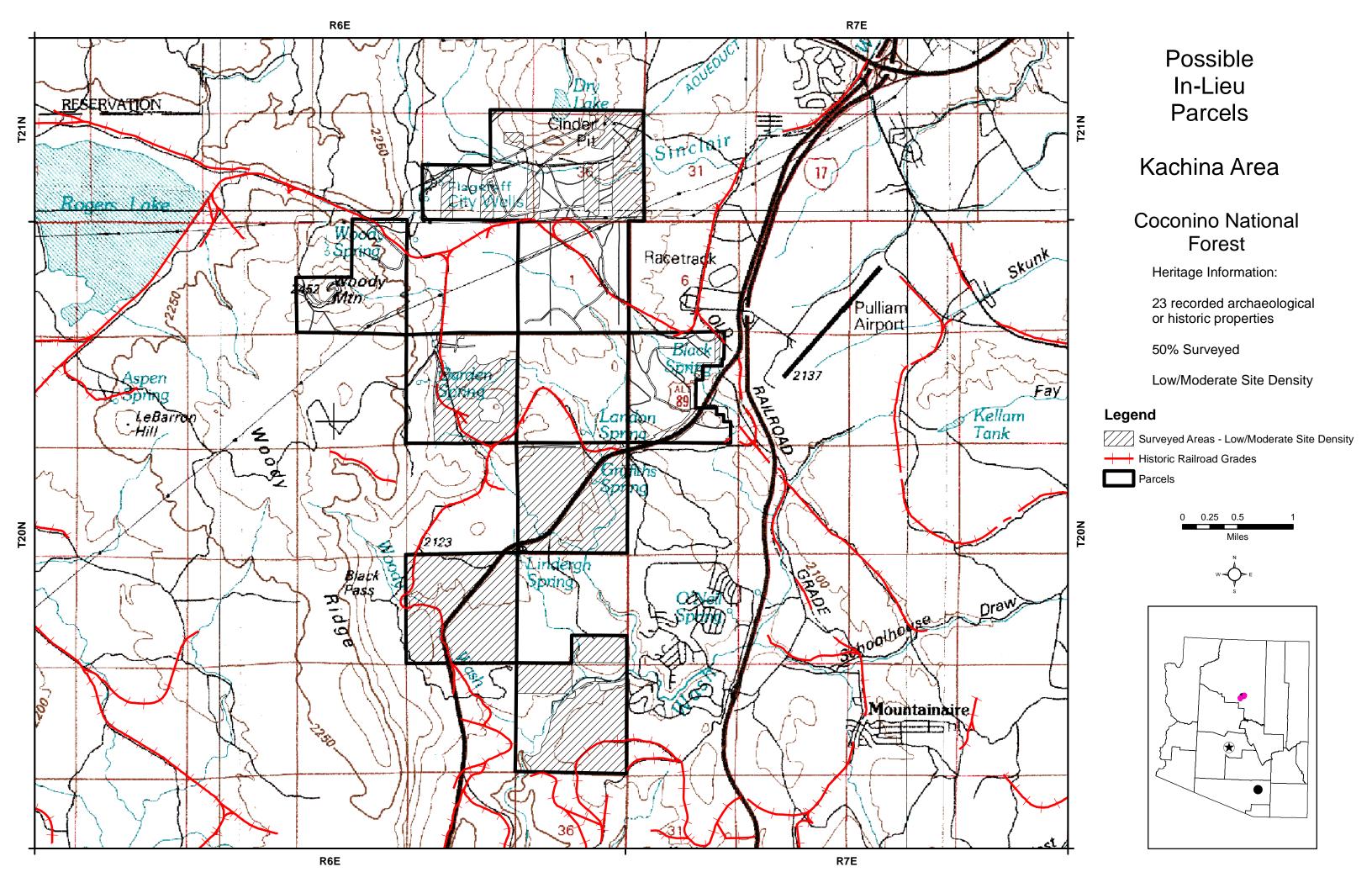


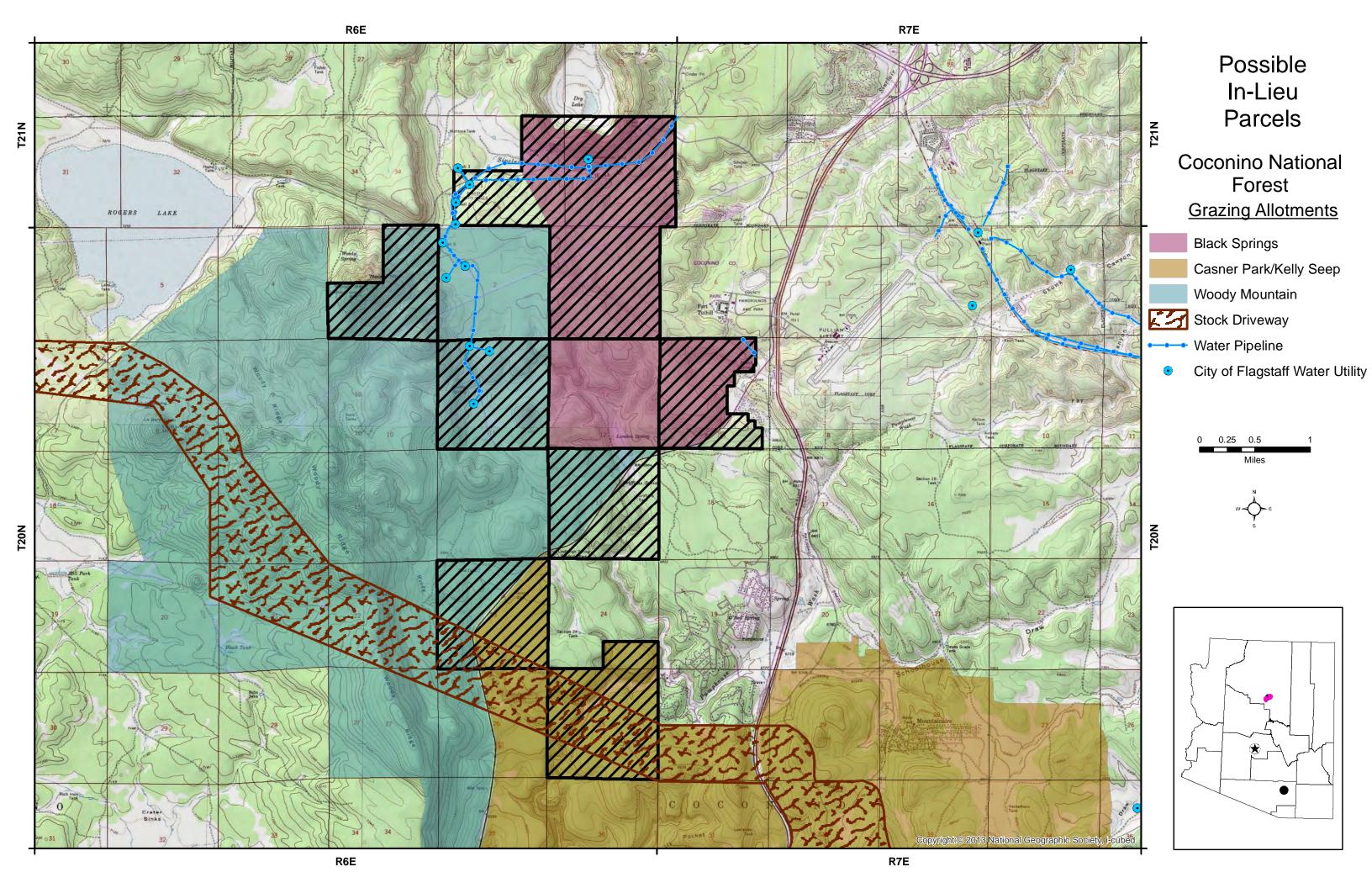


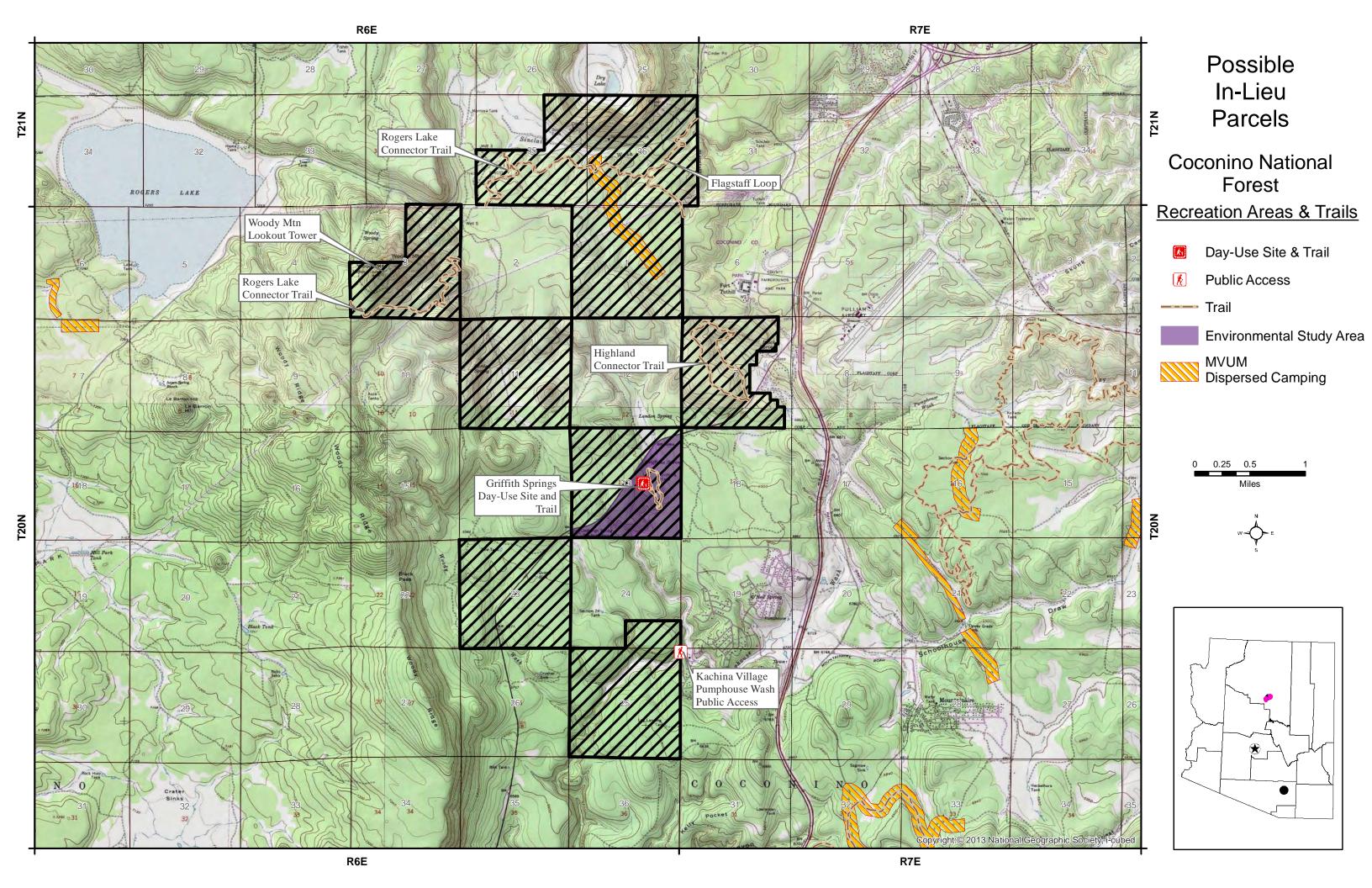


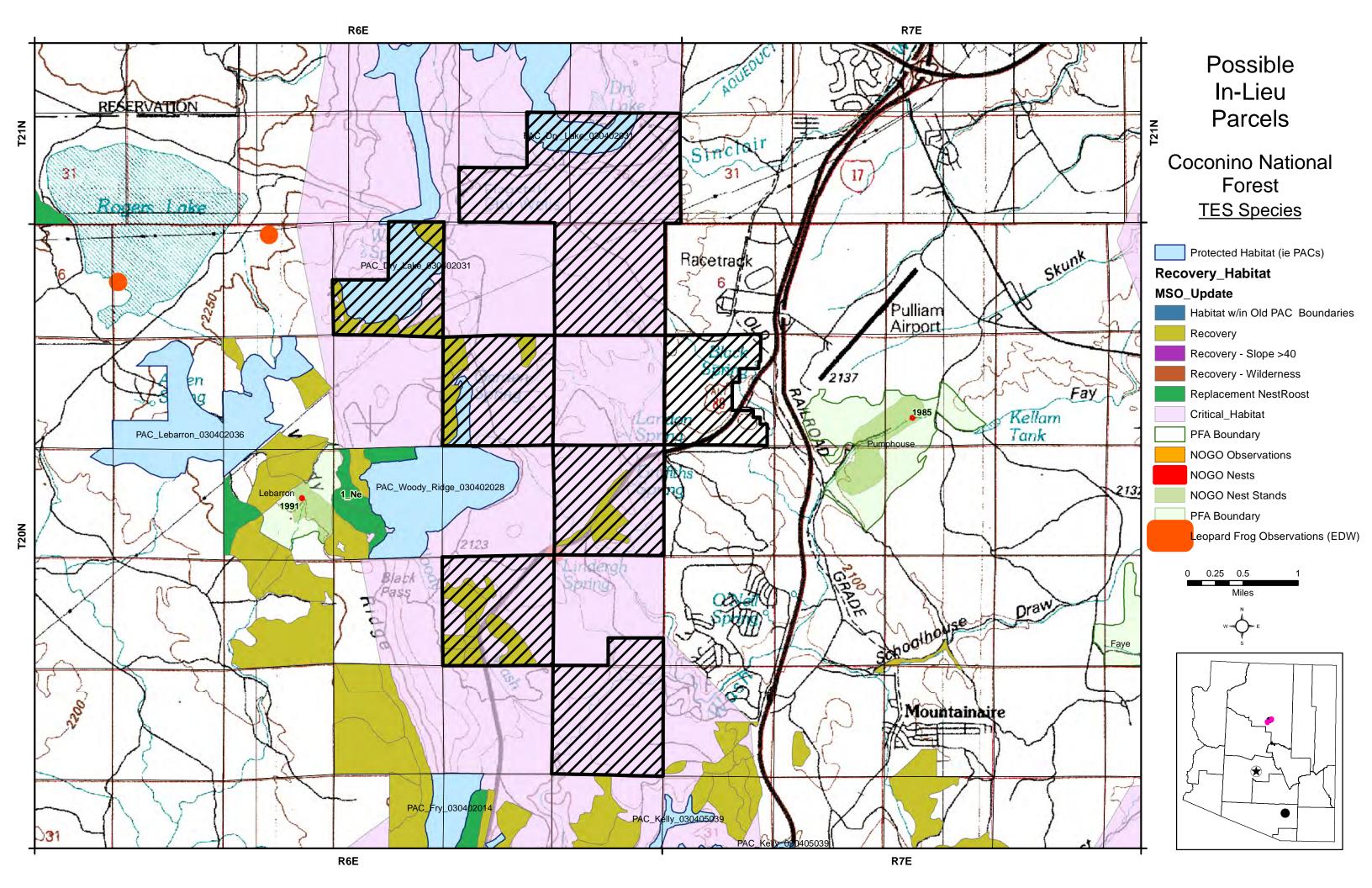












Congress of the United States Washington, DC 20515

February 22, 2018

The Honorable Coral Evans Mayor City of Flagstaff 211 W. Aspen Avenue Flagstaff, AZ 86001

Dear Mayor Evans:

We write regarding our efforts to conclude the Navajo-Hopi land dispute.

The leaders of the Hopi Tribe recently requested our assistance to ensure that the federal government fulfills its commitments under the 1996 Navajo-Hopi Land Dispute Settlement Act (P.L. 104-363). As you know, the 1996 Act was intended to execute a 1995 Settlement Agreement between the Tribe and the U.S. Department of the Interior (DOI), which obligates DOI take into trust approximately 146,228 acres of interspersed State Trust Land located in an unincorporated area along Interstate 40. Unfortunately, the 1996 Act is not implementable because the law requires the Interior Department to acquire the State Trust Land through condemnation. Therefore, we have communicated our willingness to explore the possibility of drafting new legislation in lieu of the 1996 Act.

This matter is timely as the Hopi Tribe anticipates losing about 80% of its General Fund following the closure of the Navajo Generation Station. The Hopi Tribe may be able expand their economic base with sustainable options on land adjacent to the I-40 corridor that was promised to them more than 20 years ago. Addressing this matter could also advance the economic and conservation goals of other northern Arizona parties, including the Navajo Nation, Coconino County, and the City of Flagstaff.

We believe the first step before introducing legislation is for the Hopi Tribe and the Arizona State Land Department to develop and mutually agree on an alternative land disposition process. We have encouraged both parties to meet to identify federal lands suitable for a land conveyance that ensure the State land Trust receives on fair market value for its land. Similarly, we welcome hearing your preferences and priorities. Please be assured that no federal lands have been predetermined for inclusion and that we will not advance any legislation in Congress without first seeking your input and support.

Sincerely,

John McCain

United States Senator

Tom O'Halleran Congressman Falleran

Cc: The Honorable Matt Ryan, Chairman Coconino County Board of Supervisors

Congress of the United States Washington, DC 20515

February 22, 2018

The Honorable Matt Ryan Chair Coconino County Board of Supervisors 219 E. Cherry Avenue Flagstaff, AZ 86001

Dear Chairman Ryan:

We write regarding our efforts to conclude the Navajo-Hopi land dispute.

The leaders of the Hopi Tribe recently requested our assistance to ensure that the federal government fulfills its commitments under the 1996 Navajo-Hopi Land Dispute Settlement Act (P.L. 104-363). As you know, the 1996 Act was intended to execute a 1995 Settlement Agreement between the Tribe and the U.S. Department of the Interior (DOI), which obligates DOI take into trust approximately 146,228 acres of interspersed State Trust Land located in an unincorporated area along Interstate 40. Unfortunately, the 1996 Act is not implementable because the law requires the Interior Department to acquire the State Trust Land through condemnation. Therefore, we have communicated our willingness to explore the possibility of drafting new legislation in lieu of the 1996 Act.

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Sincerely,

John McCain

United States Senator

Tom O'Halleran

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Congressman

Cc: The Honorable Coral Evans, Mayor City of Flagstaff The Honorable John McCain 218 Russell Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510 The Honorable Tom O'Halleran 126 Cannon House Office Building Washington, DC 20515

Dear Senator McCain and Congressman O'Halleran:

Thank you for your letter regarding the Navajo-Hopi Land Dispute dated February 22, 2018. We, the undersigned, appreciate the opportunity to partner with your respective offices and other stakeholders in finding a long-term workable resolution on this matter.

While we are grateful that you will not advance any legislation in Congress without first seeking our input and support, we believe our involvement in any potential land disposition process is imperative. Our early involvement with all the stakeholders as federal lands are identified and discussed is crucial. Our expectation is that, at a minimum, the key stakeholders must include the Arizona State Land Department, Hopi Tribe, Navajo Nation and all other related parties along the I-40 corridor.

We strongly support the 1996 Navajo-Hopi Land Dispute Settlement Act, particularly with respect to it excluding U.S. Forest Service lands from consideration. We have several concerns about any potential land exchange to resolve the settlement including, but not limited to, the following: water, planning and zoning, economic development, open space, quality of life and recreation, traffic impact, dark skies, forest restoration and autonomous operation of tribal lands.

Again, we support partnering with all stakeholders to find a resolution that is vetted through the cities, counties, and residents of northern Arizona. We look forward to working with you and your staff to develop and execute a process that ensures that the public has been appropriately involved and we are happy to facilitate and provide meeting spaces for public meetings to occur.

Thank you in advance for your attention to this important matter and please accept our best regards.

Respectively,

City of Flagstaff	Coconino County	City of Winslow	Navajo County
Mayor Coral Evans	Chair Matt Ryan	Mayor Robin Boyd	Chair Steve Williams