

Owen-Putnam State Forest Storm Salvage Management

Location

Three areas within Owen-Putnam State Forest (see location map).

General Description

On Tuesday, June 26, at approximately 3:30 p.m. ET, a mesoscale convective system, characterized by clusters of individual thunderstorms, struck the southern area of the Owen-Putnam State Forest. With winds upwards of 70 mph many trees were snapped in half, uprooted, or crowns damaged. Following a field reconnaissance of the affected area, it was determined enough damage had occurred to warrant a salvage harvest.

The core of the storm damaged approximately 84 acres mainly within portions of the following tracts:

Compartment 9 tract 5 (also known as tract 6380905) – 35 acres of the 100-acre tract
Compartment 9 tract 6 (also known as tract 6380906) – 23 acres of the 25-acre tract
Compartment 10 tract 2 (also known as tract 6381002) – 19 acres of the 75-acre tract
Compartment 10 tract 3 (also known as tract 6381003) – 7 acres of the 130-acre tract

History

Forest management activities (i.e., timber harvests) have occurred within these tracts except for compartment 9 tract 6.

Landscape Context

The surrounding landscape is predominately forested. There are a few scattered rural homes and agricultural fields.

Topography, Geology and Hydrology

The salvage area within each tract is comprised of gentle to moderately steep slopes. Aspects vary between the tracts with a mixture of north, south, east, and west. There is a mapped intermittent stream within the salvage area of compartment 9 tract 5. The 2022 Best Management Practices (BMP) field guide will be used to minimize negative impacts to soils and water quality.

Soils

Numerous soil types are present across the four tracts. Tulip-Welston-Adyeville silt loam, Zanesville silt loam, and Solsberry silt loam are the most common within the salvage areas.

Access

Access is good to these salvage areas.

Boundary

Some tracts are bound by other state forest tracts and others private property. Only portions of the tract damaged by the storm are part of the salvage harvest. Not all areas within the salvage harvest boundary will be impacted by the harvest.

Ecological Considerations

A formal Ecological Review process, which includes a search of Indiana's Natural Heritage Database, is part of the management planning process. If Rare, Threatened, or Endangered species were found to be associated with this area, the activities prescribed in this guide will be conducted in a manner that will not threaten the population viability of those species or communities.

Recreation

There are no designated recreational trails within these tracts. Access to these tracts will be temporarily restricted during the salvage removal process for safety reasons. They will reopen following the completion of the removal process.

Cultural

Cultural resources may be present, but their location(s) is protected. Adverse impacts to significant cultural resources will be avoided during any activities.

Description and Silvicultural Prescription

An estimated 190,439 board feet (BDFT) was marked for salvage removal. The following is a volume breakdown by tract:

Compartment 9 tract 5 – 105,706 BDFT

Compartment 9 tract 6 – 56,632 BDFT

Compartment 10 tract 2 – 20,981 BDFT

Compartment 10 tract 3 – 7,120 BDFT

The salvage harvest targeted damaged and uprooted trees. Once the damage trees are removed islands of young forest habitat will be created like that of a patch cut or group selection opening. Some individually damaged or uprooted trees were marked between the larger pockets of damage, like single tree selection removal.

Following the salvage harvest timber stand improvement (TSI) will be administered to complete the areas where salvage removal created an opening.

The following table represents the total marked trees for salvage removal.

Species	# Trees	# Poles	# Culls	Volume	Cords
Northern Red Oak	115	0	0	43,201	0.0
Sugar Maple	171	0	8	36,480	0.0
Yellow Poplar	89	0	0	31,469	0.0
Sassafras	89	0	1	13,620	0.0
White Oak	28	0	0	9,573	0.0
Black Cherry	42	0	0	9,121	0.0
Pignut Hickory	43	0	0	9,071	0.0
Shagbark Hickory	29	0	0	6,512	0.0
American Sycamor	19	0	1	5,697	0.0
Red Maple	35	0	2	5,044	0.0
White Ash	15	0	1	4,422	0.0
Largetooth Aspen	23	0	0	4,270	0.0
American Beech	30	0	3	3,643	0.0
Virginia Pine	32	0	0	3,182	0.0
Black Oak	4	0	0	1,573	0.0
Black Walnut	11	0	0	1,169	0.0
Chinkapin Oak	2	0	0	1,058	0.0
Red Elm	8	0	0	1,050	0.0
Blackgum	1	0	0	238	0.0
Basswood	1	0	0	46	0.0
Totals	787	0	16	190,439	0

Proposed Activities Listing

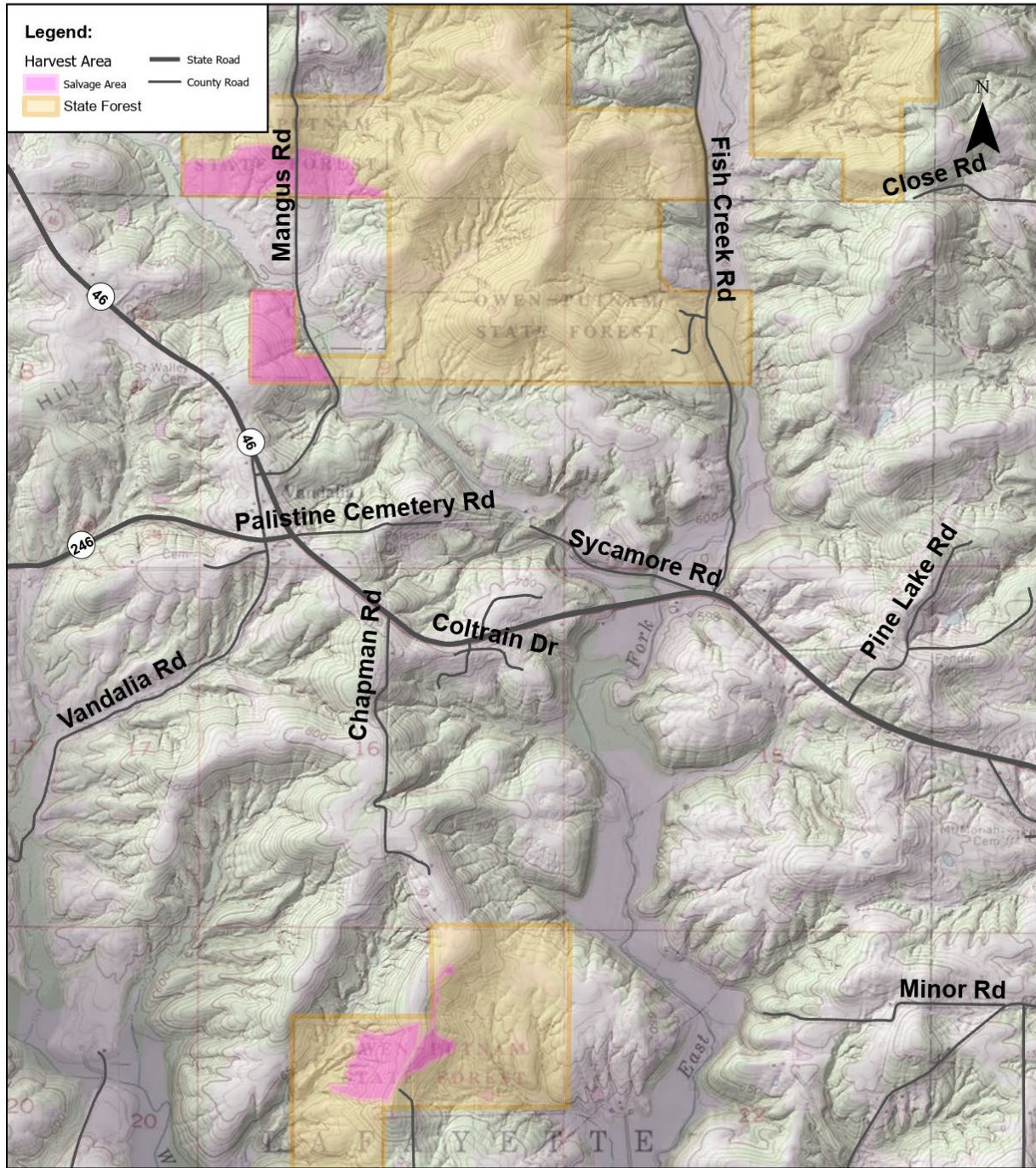
Proposed Management Activity

Proposed Date

Salvage sale marked
 Salvage sale sold
 Salvage harvest
 Post-harvest TSI and invasive work
 3-year regeneration opening review
 Monitor until next forest inventory

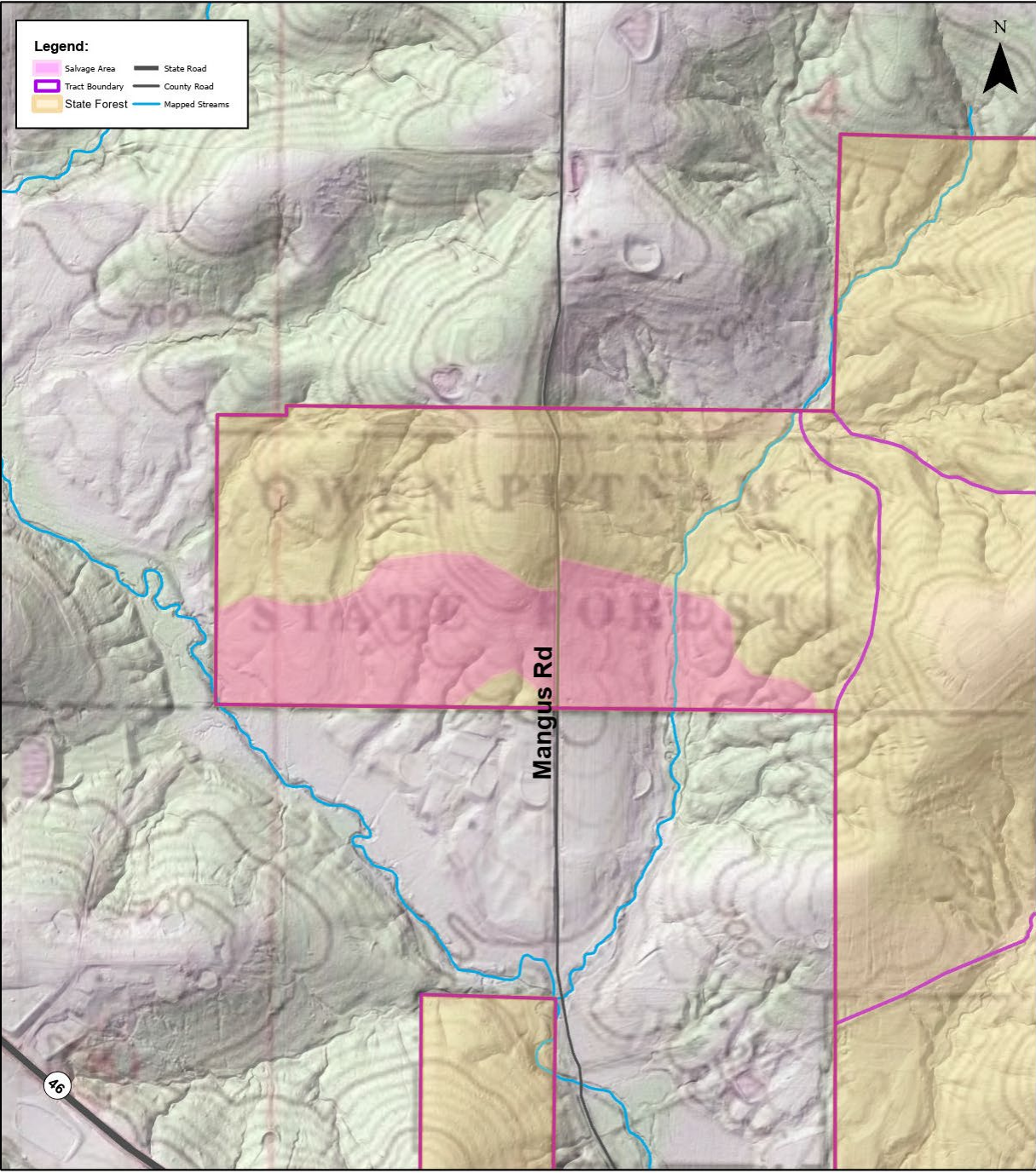
2024
 2024
 2024-2025
 2025
 Three years after salvage harvest
 2040-2044

State Forest Location Map



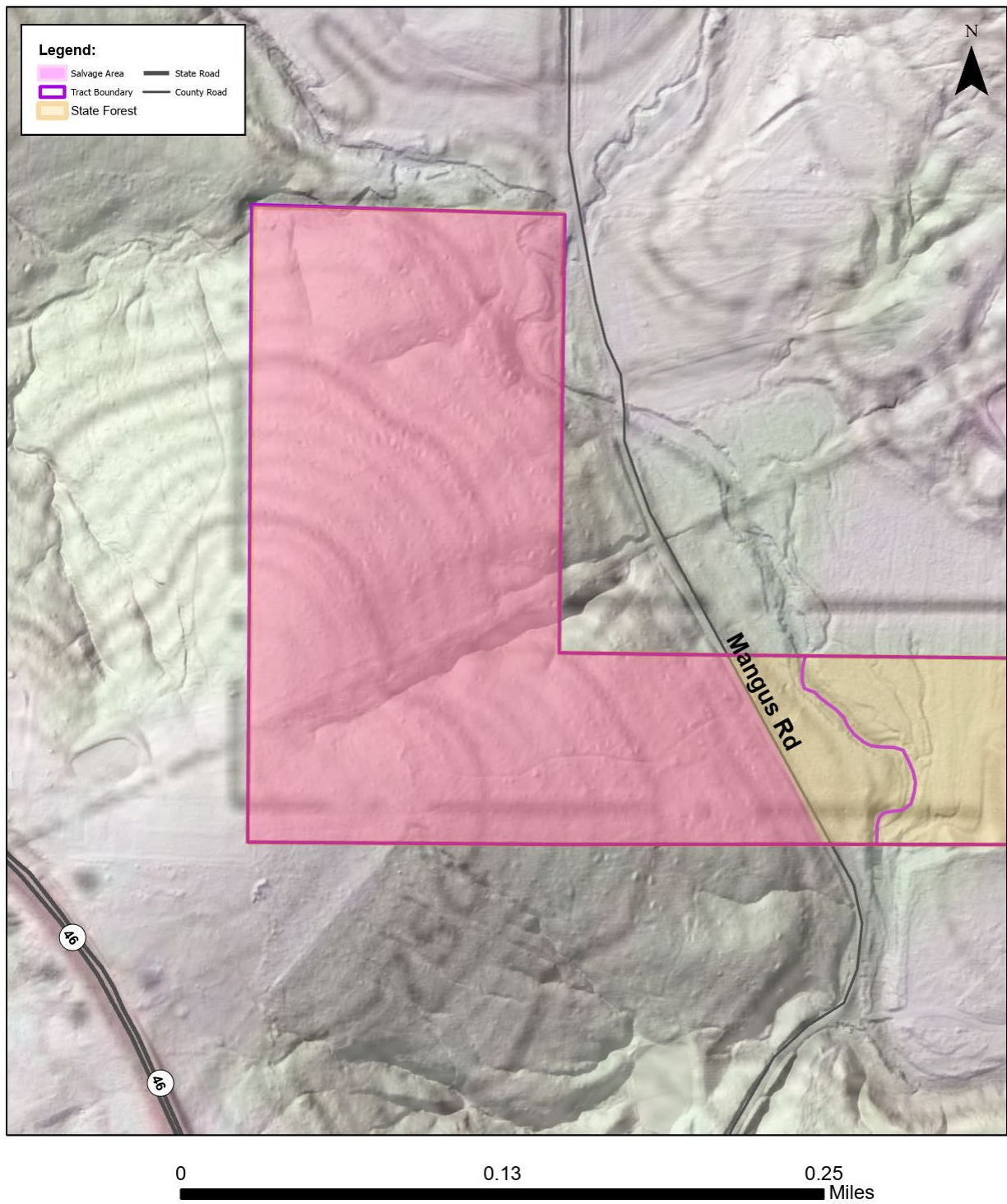
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Salvage Harvest Area Tract 6380905

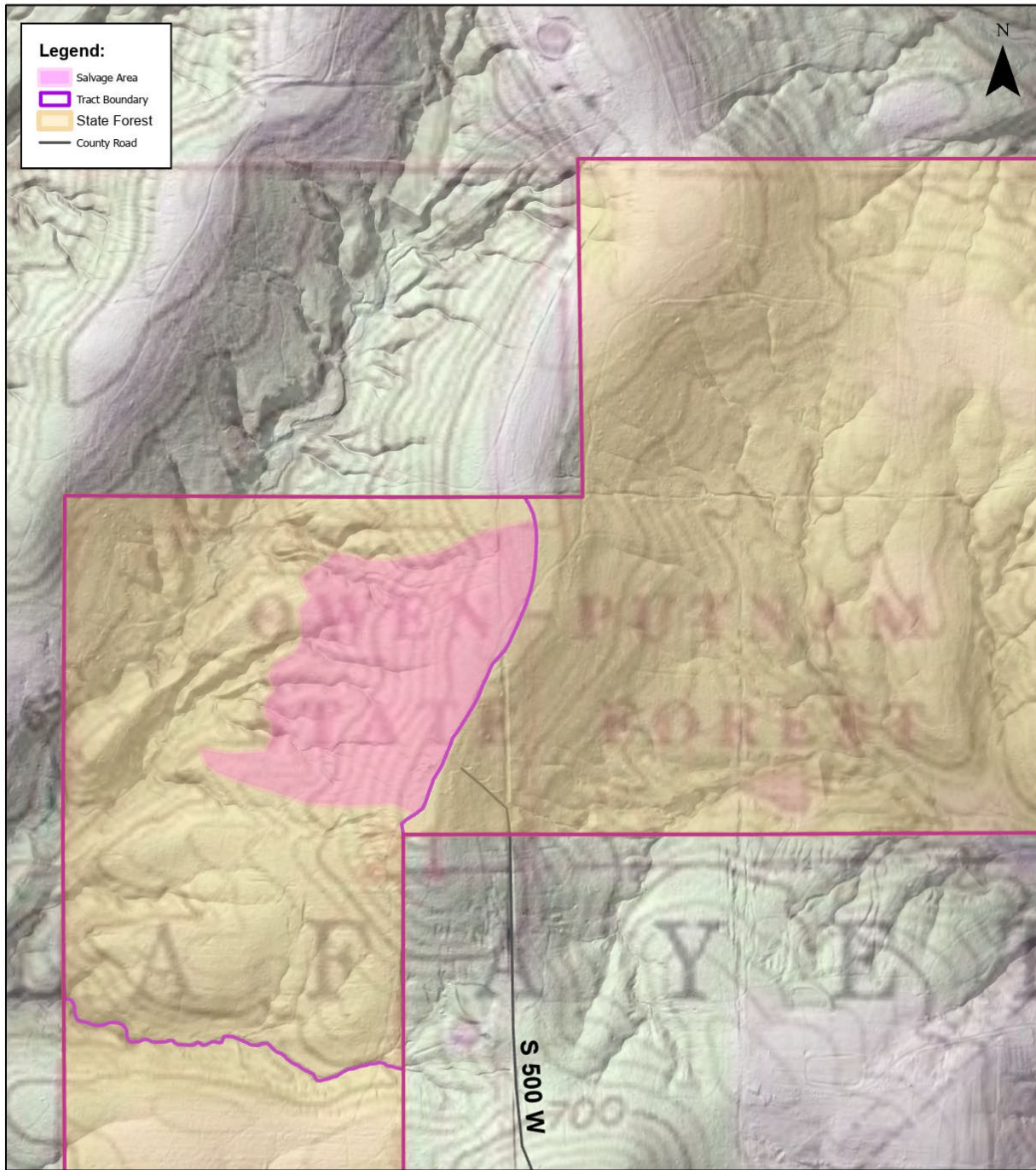


0 0.13 0.25 Miles

Salvage Harvest Area Tract 6380906



Salvage Harvest Area Tract 6381002



0 0.25 0.5 Miles

Salvage Harvest Area Tract 6381003

