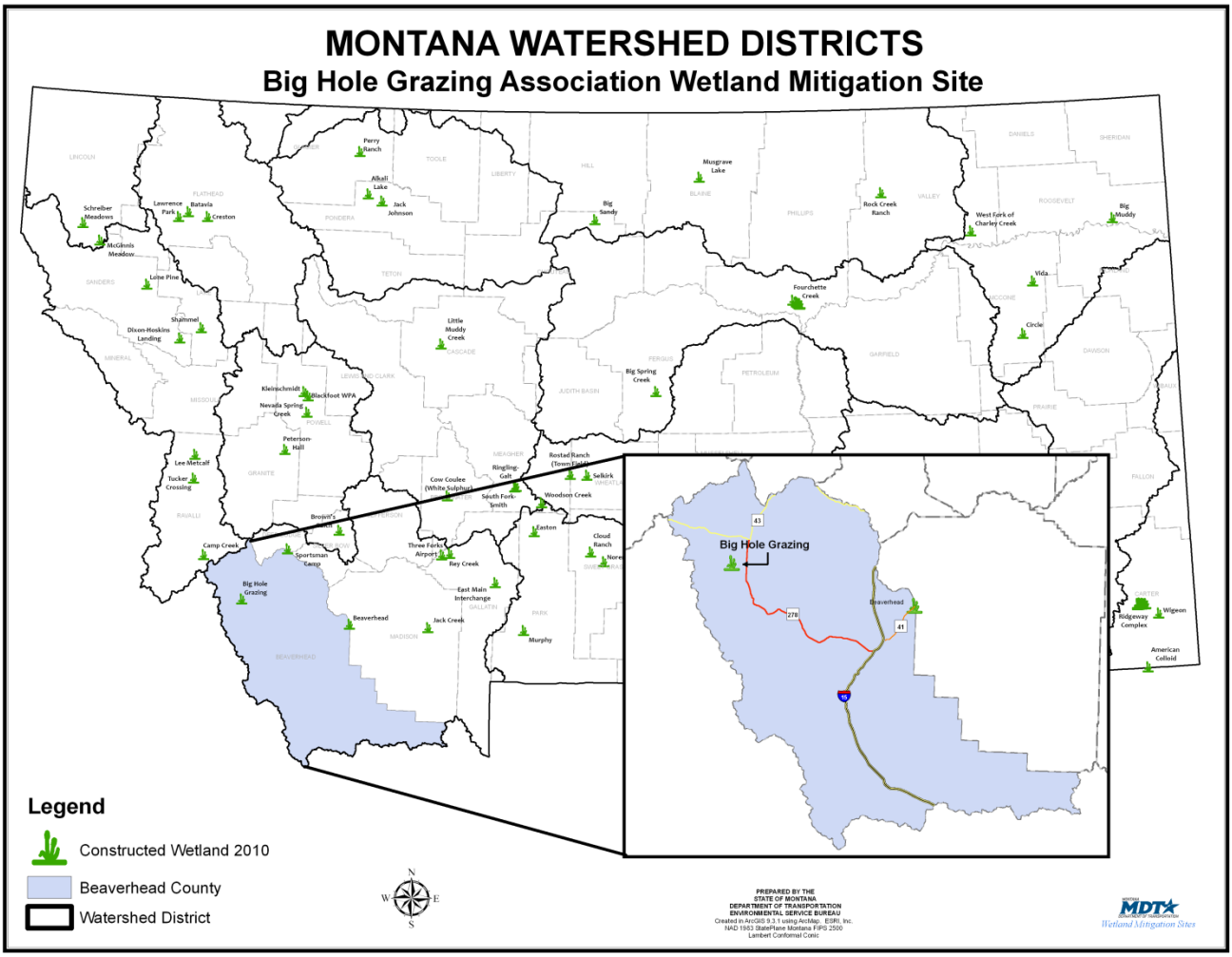
BIG HOLE GRAZING

Watershed # 6- Upper Missouri River Basin
Beaverhead County, Montana



LAND OWNERSHIP: PRIVATE

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The Big Hole Grazing Association (BHGA) wetland mitigation project was constructed in the fall of 2007. The project provided a wetland mitigation reserve in Watershed #6 – Upper Missouri River Basin. The purpose of the project was to restore approximately 45 acres of wetland habitat within an MDT conservation easement area on private property. In an attempt to restore natural hydrology to the site and thus restore wetlands within the easement area, the primary drainage ditch, which flowed northwest to southeast through then easement area, was filled and reclaimed. A secondary ditch which runs north to south across the western portion of the site was breached in three locations in an attempt to prevent drainage of the site and re-hydrate former wetlands by raising groundwater levels across the site.

WETLAND INHABITANTS

FISH, AMPHIBIAN, and REPTILE
Trout – unidentified species in Rock Creek
BIRD
Bank Swallow (*Riparia riparia*) Cliff Swallow (*Petrochelidon pyrrhonota*) Great Horned Owl (*Bubo virginianus*) Great Blue Heron (*Ardea herodias*) Killdeer (*Charadrius vociferous*) Mallard (*Anas platyrhynchos*) Red-winged Blackbird (*Agelaius phoeniceus*) Rock Dove (*Columba livia*) Spotted Sandpiper (*Actitis macularia*) Wilson's Phalarope (*Phalaropus tricolor*) Song Sparrow (*Melospiza melodia*)
MAMMAL
Deer (*Odocoileus* sp.) Moose (*Alces alces*) American Badger (*Taxidea taxus*)



Bank Swallow



Wilson’s Phalarope

WETLAND VEGETATION

Dominant wetland vegetation

Six community types were observed:

Type 1- Mixed upland grasses; *Festuca octoflora*

Type 2- Baltic rush (*Juncus balticus)*

Type 3- Water sedge *(Carex aquatilis)*

Type 4- Lemmon's willow (*Salix lemmonii*)

Type 5- Meadow foxtail (*Alopecurus pratensis)*

Type 6- Creeping bentgrass, red top (*Agrostis alba)*



Baltic rush



Lemmon's willow

Big Hole Grazing Association



Click the icon below for complete monitoring reports for this site (2007 to 2010)

MONTANA MDT DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Wetland Mitigation Site