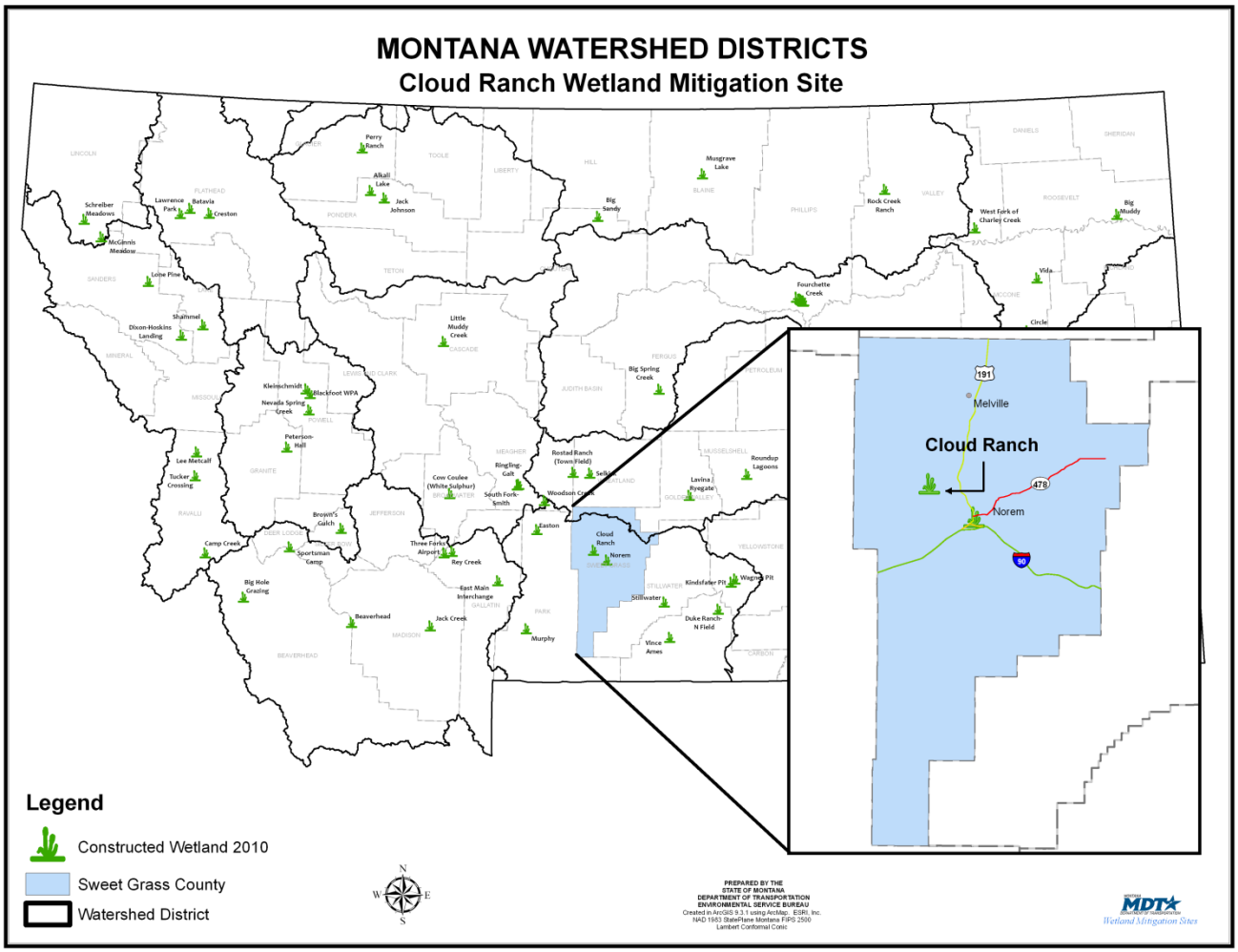
CLOUD RANCH

Watershed # 13-Upper Yellowstone River Basin
Sweet Grass County, Montana



LAND OWNERSHIP: PRIVATE

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The Big Timber Creek stream and wetland restoration was constructed in the spring of 2003 to mitigate wetland impacts associated with proposed Montana Department of Transportation (MDT) projects in Watershed #13, Upper Yellowstone Basin. The site is located in Sweetgrass County northwest of Big Timber. The project was constructed on private property within an MDT conservation easement. The project goals were to restore a degraded reach of Big Timber creek by narrowing the channel and revegetating the river bank areas with riparian trees, shrubs, wetland grasses and forbs. This restoration project has developed approximately 5 acres of aquatic mitigation credits to mitigate transportation projects in the watershed.

WETLAND INHABITANTS

REPTILES None
AMPHIBIANS Western Chorus Frog (*Pseudacris triseriata*)[2]
FISH Brook trout (*Salvelinus fontinalis*)[2]
Brown trout (*Salmo trutta*)[2]
Rainbow trout (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*)[2]
BIRDS[1] Bald eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*)[2] Unidentified sparrow sp.[1]
MAMMALS Black bear (*Ursus americanus*)[2] White-tailed deer (*Odocoileus virginianus*)[2] Mule deer (*Odocoileus hemionus*)[2]

[1] Weather conditions were very poor on day of monitoring with 30-40 mph winds, light rain, and 40-50 degrees.
[2] Observed by Aquatic Design & Construction, Inc.



Western Chorus Frog



***Rainbow trout**

*** http://www.epa.gov/bioiweb1/images/fish/trout/rainbow_trout_TN_IMG_5857_web.JPG: By Wayne Davis**

WETLAND VEGETATION

Dominant Wetland Vegetation

Seven community types were observed:

Type 1- Yellow sweetclover (*Melilotus officinalis)* and Smooth brome (*Bromus inermis)*

Type 2- Narrowleaf cottonwood (*Populus angustifolia)* and Redtop (*Agrostis alba)*

Type 3- Redtop (*Agrostis alba)*

Type 4- Torreyi's rush (*Juncus torreyi)* and Creeping spikerush (*Eleocharis palustris*)

Type 5 – Manna Grass (*Glyceria spp.)* and Redtop (*Agrostis alba)*

Type 6- Broad-leaf cattail (*Typha latifolia)* and Sedge (*Carex spp*.)

Type 7- Cheatgrass (*Bromus sp.)* and Meadow fescule (*Festuca pratensis*)



Tall Manna Grass

Cloud Ranch



Click the icon below for complete monitoring reports for this site (2004 to 2009)

MONTANA MDT DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Wetland Mitigation Site