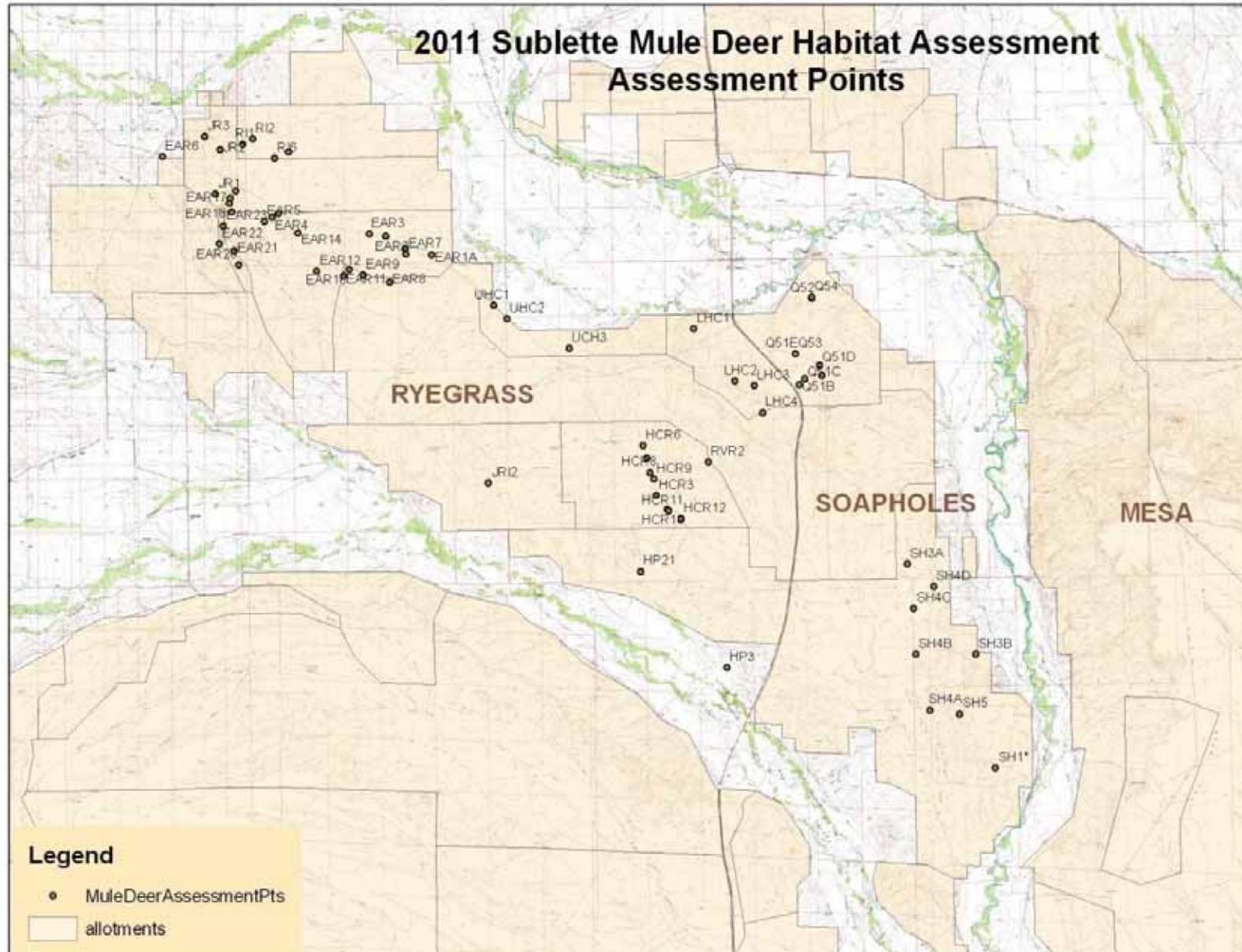


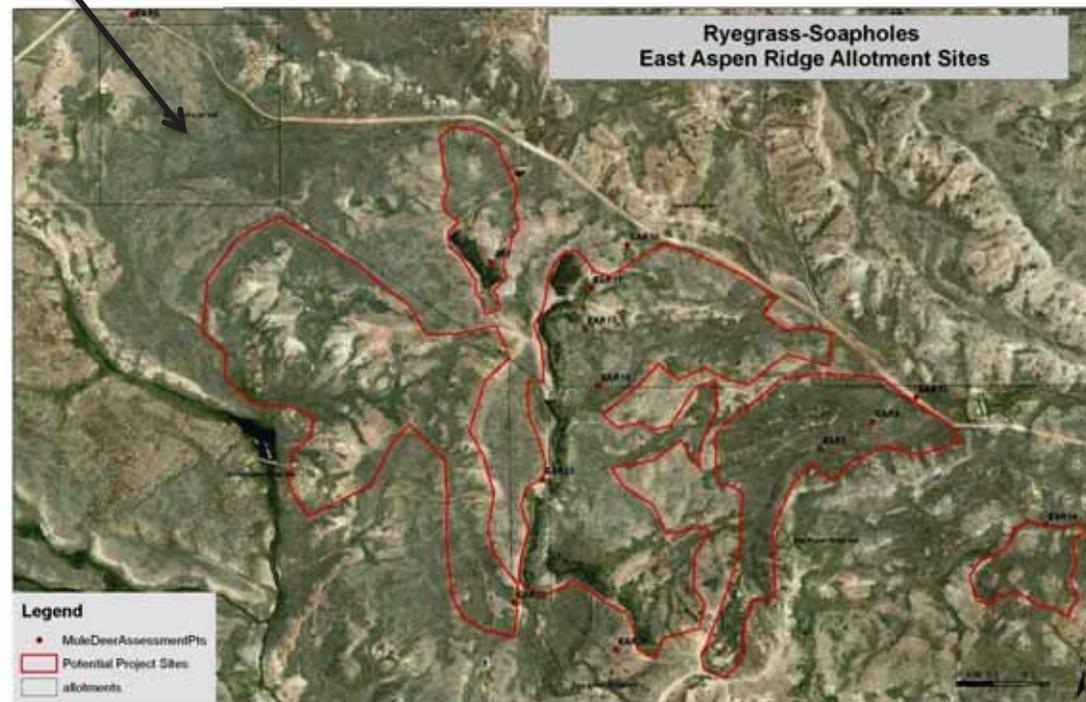
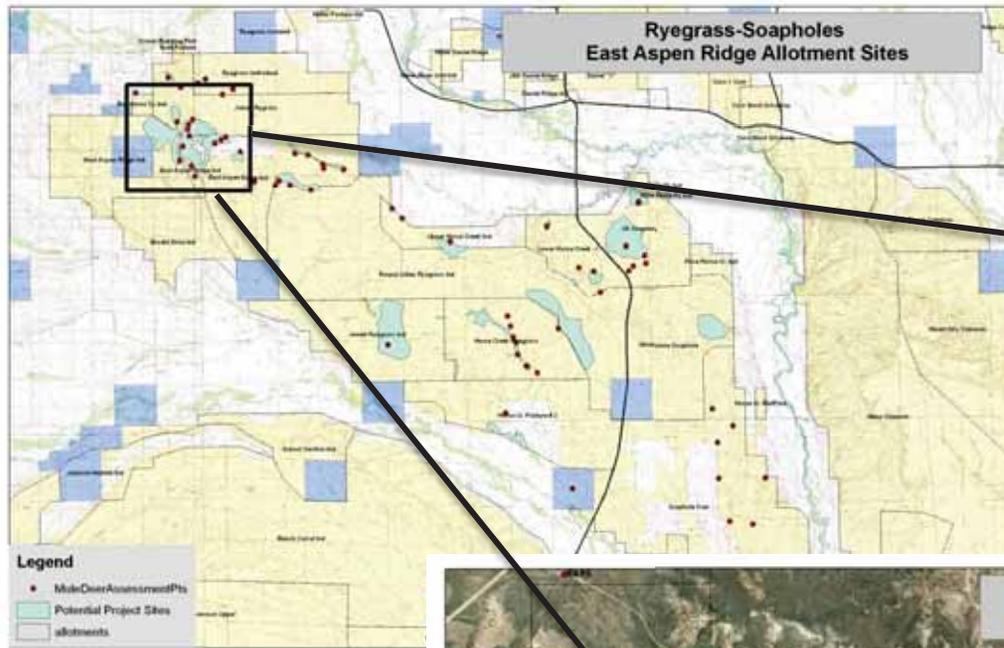
SUBLETTE MULE DEER HABITAT ASSESSMENT



RYEGRASS-SOAPHOLES ASSESSMENT POINTS



EAST ASPEN RIDGE – EAR4-22



EAR-17 – Aspen/Mixed Shrub Community



This overall area has great potential for treatments from assessment points EAR4 through EAR 22

This example highlights mostly the aspen area and lower slopes

EAR-17 – Aspen/Mixed Shrub Community



This specific site contains at least two age classes of aspen with various shrubs in understory including serviceberry, rose, snowberry and currant
As you proceed downslope and to east, you have added mesic areas, some containing snowberry, highlighting added potential for mixed shrubs
As you continue further downslope, opportunities exist to implement projects in sagebrush communities and/or sagebrush communities containing bitterbrush

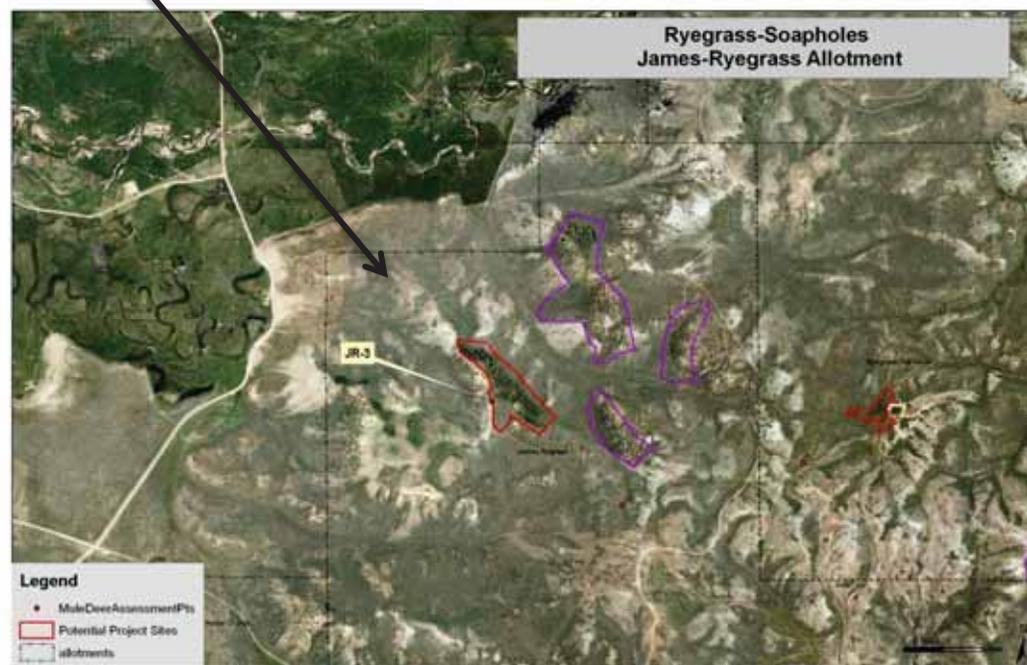
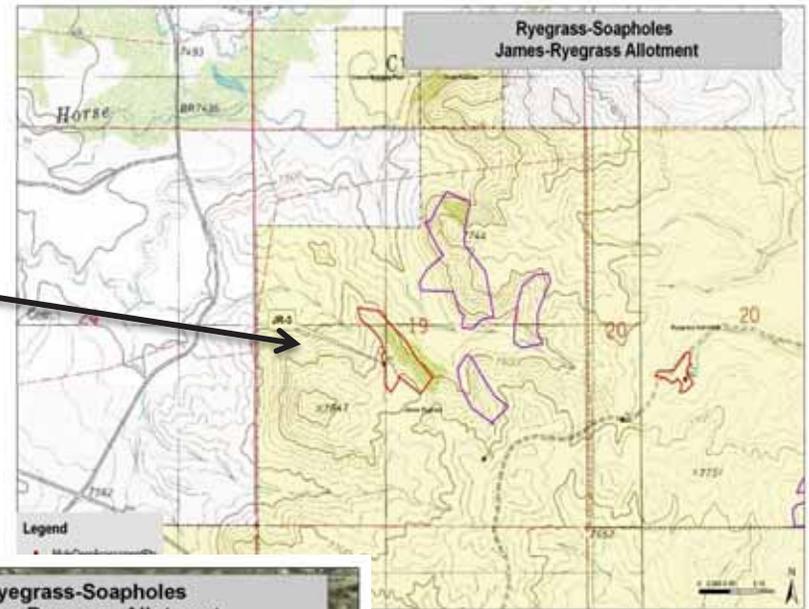
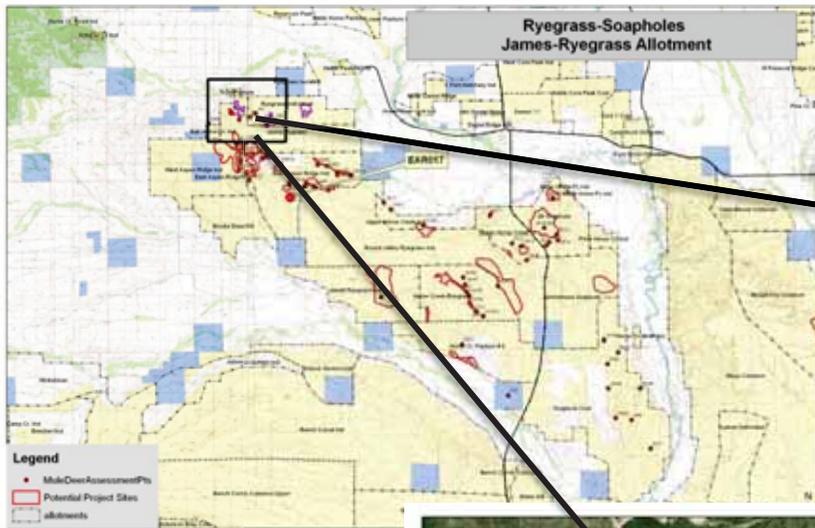
East Aspen Ridge Panoramic



Treatment opportunities in area include:

- Rx burn in and adjacent to aspen with emphasis on edges
- Shrub planting after burn (as has been done in Idaho – Tex Creek)
- Thinning of sagebrush in other areas that are more mesic and contain snowberry or other remnant mixed shrubs (including areas downslope to private lands (EAR4&5))
- Consider ripping lower edge of aspen for increased suckering response
- Close road directly below aspen stand

James-Ryegrass Allotment Assessment Point JR-3



James-Ryegrass Assessment Point JR-3



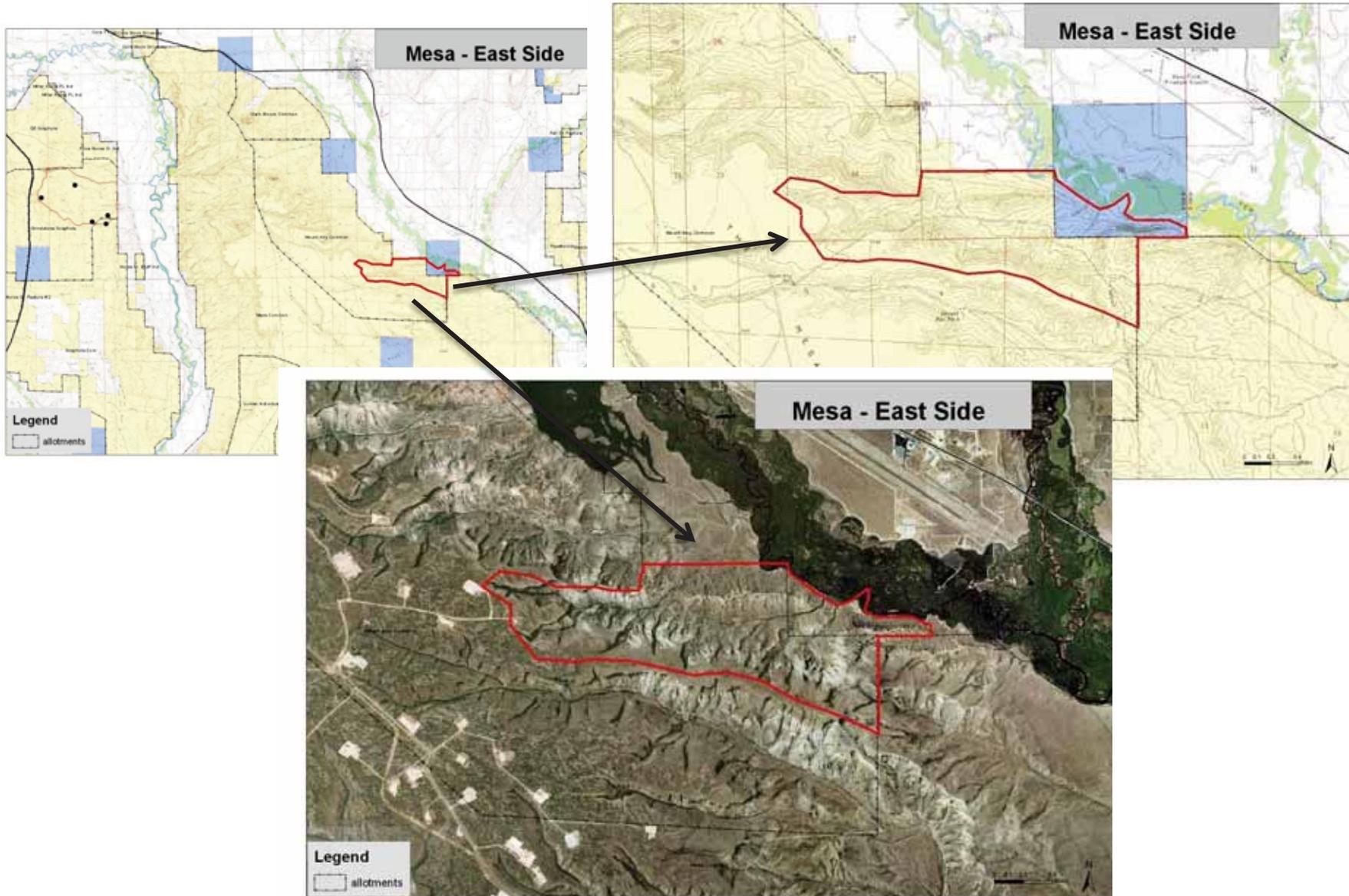
Shrubs present include mountain big sagebrush, snowberry, serviceberry, Oregon grape, and rabbitbrush

James-Ryegrass Area Shot from Road to North



- Photo illustrates extent of aspen community
- Potential treatment recommendations include Rx burning to reduce sagebrush densities followed by planting of mixed shrubs (e.g. Tex Creek examples)
- May also want to consider ripping along lower edge of aspen to stimulate suckering response
- Bottom of draw has some mowing that has already been done – may want to consider/evaluate seeding within the mowing to increase diversity

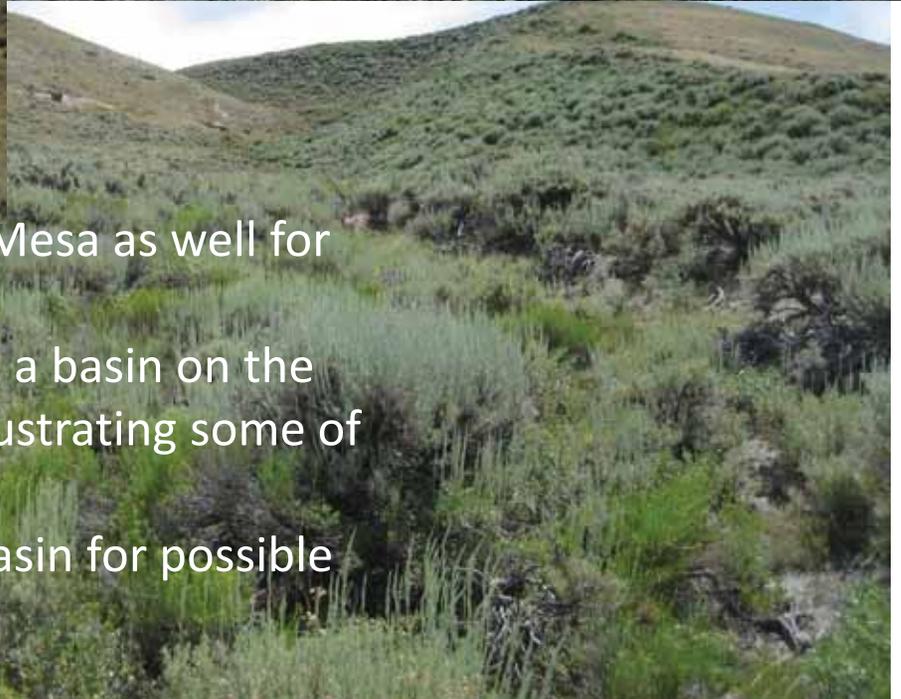
Mesa Deer Range Eastern side



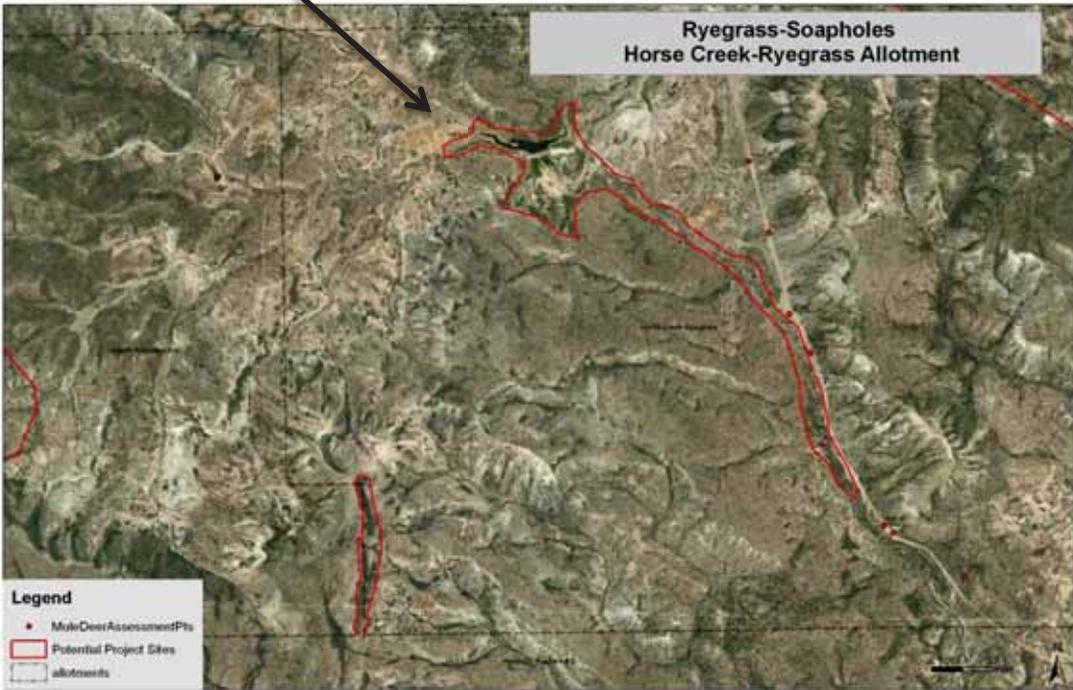
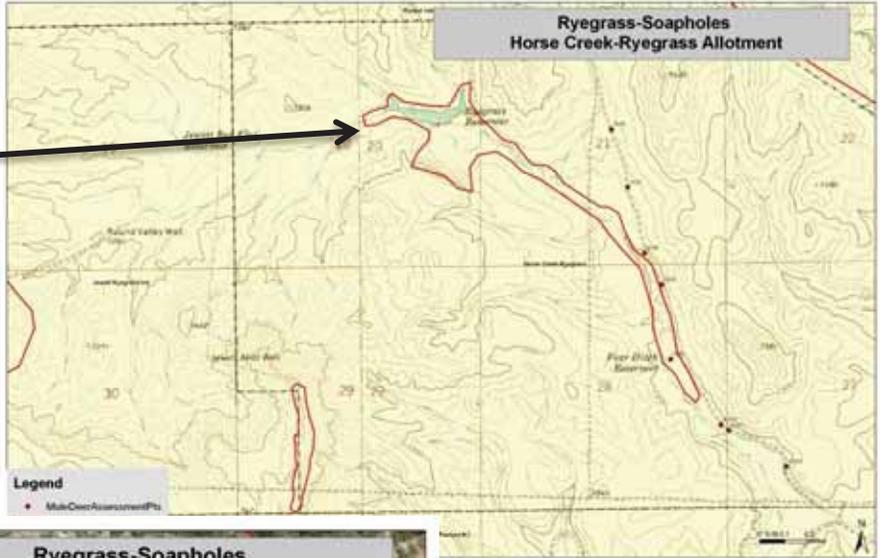
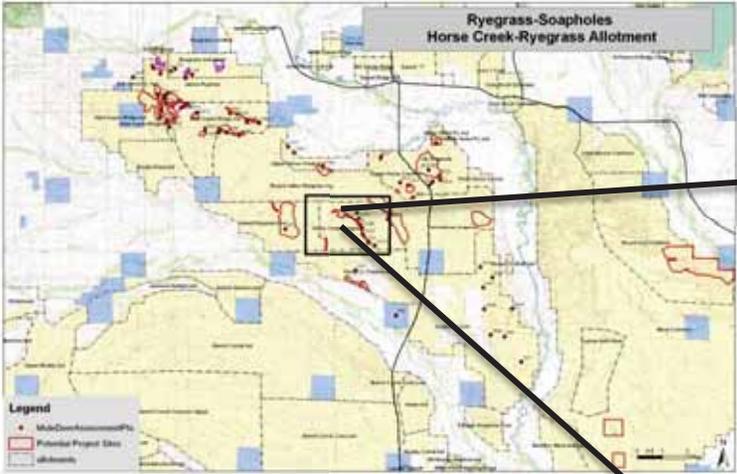
Mesa Deer Range Eastern side



Opportunities exist on the Mesa as well for possible projects
These photos were taken in a basin on the eastern side of the Mesa illustrating some of the potential of the area
Consider focusing on this basin for possible projects



Horse Creek-Ryegrass Allotment



Horse Creek-Ryegrass Allotment Project 1 – Reservoir Area



This potential project would probably have more benefits to sage-grouse and other wildlife than mule deer, although some benefits may also be related to mule deer (spring period)

- Project involves the maintenance/repair and possible expansion of existing fence, presumed to protect Ryegrass Reservoir area
- Evaluate with assistance (NRCS) drainage below reservoir for possible restoration

Horse Creek-Ryegrass Allotment

Project 2 – Drainage Below Reservoir

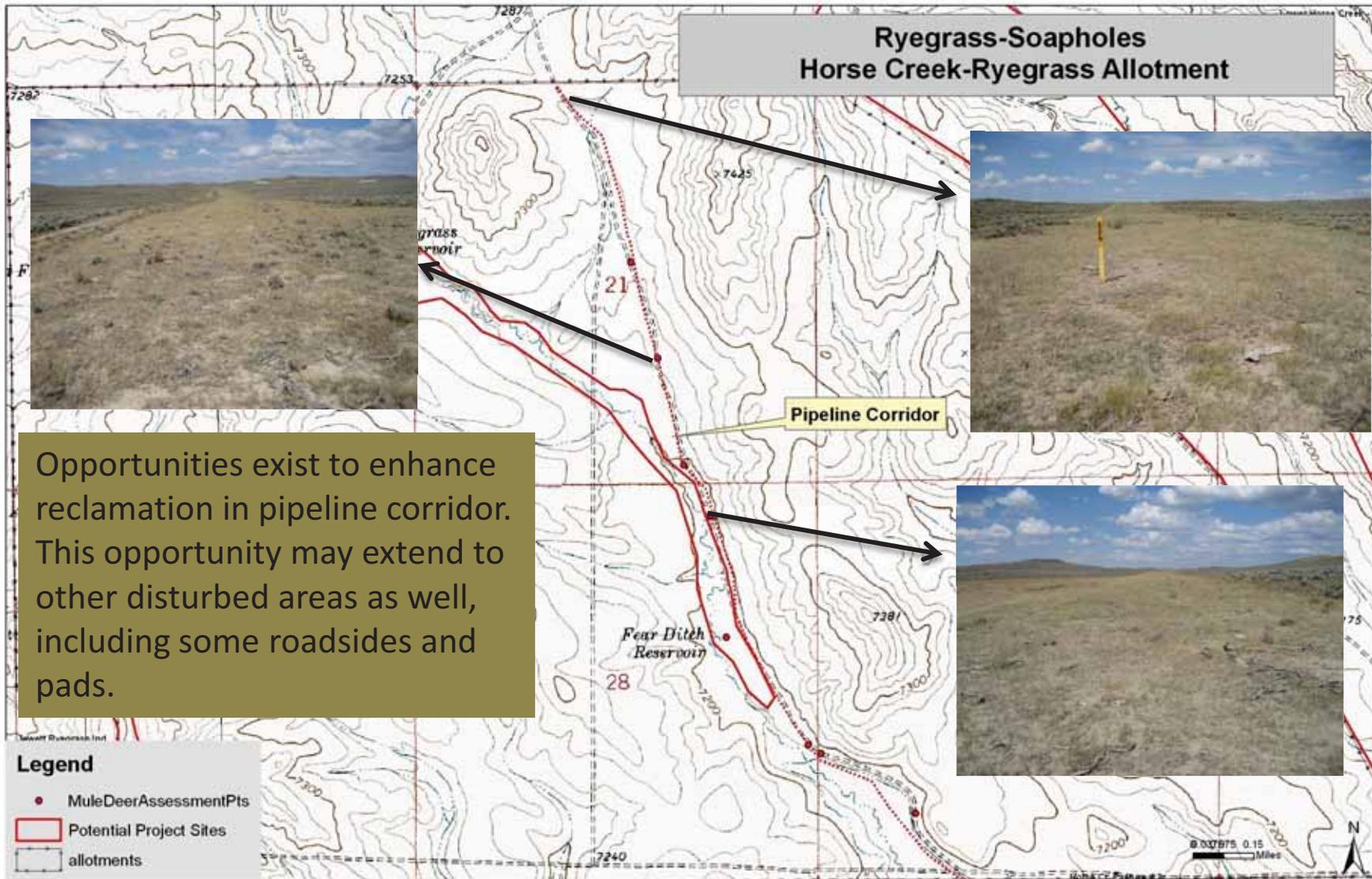


Drainage below Reservoir – Existing Conditions

Possible opportunities

- Gabions or other structures on bottom with seeding
- Use of Lawson Aerator with seeding on edges of drainage

Horse Creek-Ryegrass Allotment Project 3 – Pipeline Corridor



Added thoughts:

- A variety of treatment types should give us greater diversity across the landscape, even if some appear to be more related to other species
- Spring migration and associated needs may be more likely addressed at higher elevations as this migration appears quicker than the fall migration where deer tend to hold up longer as they travel to winter ranges
- Deseret Ranch has done a lot of projects in the past and some of my recommendations come from them
- Some of my recommendations are outside the scope of the types of treatments we have done in the past; but are based on results from other areas where they have been tried, or based on the potential of certain sites per ecological site descriptions
- There is a lot more that we can do in this area than I have depicted here. At a minimum, many of the project areas could easily be expanded to a much greater area.