

# **EASTERN OREGON SOLAR SITING RULEMAKING ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING PACKET #2**



**TO:** Solar Siting Rulemaking Advisory Committee Members  
**FROM:** Adam Tate, Renewable Energy Planner  
**SUBJECT:** Rulemaking Advisory Committee (RAC) Meeting Packet #2

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Dear Solar Siting Rulemaking Advisory Committee Members,

Thank you for bringing your lived experience and expertise to this rulemaking process and for a great first RAC meeting in Christmas Valley. Our focus now turns to Burns, Oregon and our second RAC meeting on Thursday April, 18<sup>th</sup>. At this meeting we will have a presentation on wildlife habitat by ODFW followed by a description of what considerations go into a developer site selection process provided by Mr. Brian Walsh of MN8 Energy. Then Jon and I will present a draft outline of possible revisions to Division 23 before we break out into small group discussions. As with our meeting in Christmas Valley there will be an optional tour; early Friday morning we will reconvene to go and see an active Sage Grouse Lek.

## **Desired Outcomes**

- Shared understanding of wildlife information relevant to photovoltaic solar power generation facilities siting.
- Shared understanding of developer site selection process.
- Shared understanding of the Land Conservation and Development Commission's Goal 5 and review and discuss the draft Rule Outline.

We look forward to hearing your thoughts and will create a meeting summary the week after the meeting.

## **RAC Meeting Packet Contents:**

1. Cover Memo
2. Agenda & Tour Information
3. Summary from First RAC Meeting
4. Updated Charter & RAC Meeting Schedule
5. Text of applicable rules
6. Draft Division 23 Rule Outline
7. Maps

The meeting will be held in the Grant Central room of the Historic Central Hotel, 171 N Broadway Ave #A, Burns, OR 977720. The meeting will run from 12:00 to 5:00 PM, beginning with a working lunch and opening remarks. Lunch will be provided by the Juniper Cookhouse.

For those of you who cannot attend in person, please use the following Zoom link:

<https://kearnswest.zoom.us/j/81914815353?pwd=9t0LAWTPpYUjYVeaiS3bFXS3ASdz0x.1> Casaria Taylor will be providing support for the Zoom meeting. [Casaria.taylor@dlcd.oregon.gov](mailto:Casaria.taylor@dlcd.oregon.gov) 971-600-7699.

Members of the public can livestream the meeting on the DLCD YouTube Channel

<https://youtube.com/live/Jw4HmZVzV3M>

For reference all statewide planning land use planning goals may be found [here](#). Information for this committee, including background information and meeting materials may be found on the Eastern Oregon Solar Siting project page [Department of Land Conservation and Development : Eastern Oregon Solar Siting Possibilities : Laws and Rules : State of Oregon](#).

Thank you,

**Adam Tate**

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## AGENDA

### Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development (DLCD) - Solar Siting Rules Advisory Committee (RAC) Meeting

#### Date and Time

Thursday, April 18, 2024, from 12:00 pm – 5:00 pm PT

- The meeting will be held in the Historic Central Hotel, in the Grant Central Room, located at 171 N Broadway Ave # A, Burns, OR 97720. Lunch will be provided for RAC members.
- Members of the public can livestream the meeting at <https://youtube.com/live/Jw4HmZVzV3M>
- There will be an optional Sage-Grouse Lek tour on Thursday, April 19, 2024. Please meet at the Central Hotel at 171 N Broadway Ave # A, Burns, OR 97720 at 5:15 am. DLCD will be providing van transportation to the wildlife habitat area.

#### Desired Outcomes

- Shared understanding of wildlife information relevant to photovoltaic solar power generation facilities siting.
- Shared understanding of developer site selection process.
- Shared understanding of the Land Conservation and Development Commission's Goal 5 and review and discuss the draft Rule Outline.

#### Public Outreach Event

DLCD will be hosting an open house following the RAC meeting on Thursday, April 18, 2024, from 5:30 – 7:00 pm PT at the Historic Central Hotel, in the Grant Central Room, located at 171 N Broadway Ave # A, Burns, OR 97720.

#### Solar Siting Rules Advisory Committee (RAC) Meeting Agenda


Time (PT)	Topic	Lead
12:00 – 12:30 pm	<b>Welcome, Opening Remarks, and Agenda Review</b> <i>Working Lunch</i>	Jamie Damon, Kearns & West
12:30 – 1:15 pm	<b>Presentation: Wildlife and Solar Siting</b>	Jeremy Thompson, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife
1:15 – 1:45 pm	<b>Presentation: Developer Site Selection Process</b>	Brian Walsh, MN8 Energy



1:45 – 2:30 pm	<b>Presentation: Goal 5 Overview and Draft Rule Outline</b>	Jon Jinings and Adam Tate, Department of Land Conservation and Development
2:30 – 2:35 pm	<b>Break</b>	
2:35 – 3:35 pm	<b>Tabletop Discussions: Draft Rule Outline Review - Subsections (5) and (6)</b>	All
3:35 – 4:20 pm	<b>Report Out from Tabletop Discussions</b>	Jamie Damon, Kearns & West
4:20 – 4:50 pm	<b>Discussion on Technical Advisory Committees</b>	Jamie Damon, Kearns & West
4:50 – 5:00 pm	<b>Closing and Next Steps</b>	Jamie Damon, Kearns & West
5:00 pm	<b>Meeting Adjourn</b>	



## Friday, April 19 - Optional Sage-Grouse Tour

Time (PT)	Topic
5:00 AM	<b>Begin Gathering at the Rally Point. Due to the sensitive nature of the habitat we will be asking tour participants to travel in one of our vans.</b> <b>THE FIRST 15 TOUR PARTICIPANTS TO ARRIVE WILL RECEIVE A SPECIAL PRIZE!!!</b>
5:15 AM	<b>Depart in vans to view an active Sage-Grouse Lek. It will take about an hour to reach our destination.</b>
8:00 AM	<b>Should be returning to Burns about this time.</b>
<div> <div> <p><u>Notes</u></p> <p>“Lek” means an area where male sage-grouse display during the breeding season to attract females (also referred to as strutting-ground).</p> <p>Please Bring:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* A good jacket and outdoor shoes or boots.</li> <li>* A camera and binoculars if you have them.</li> <li>* A sense of adventure!</li> </ul> </div> <div>  <p>Sage-grouse displaying on a lek. Photo: Jeremy Roberts, Conservation Media.</p> </div> </div>	



# Eastern Oregon Solar Opportunities Rulemaking Advisory Committee (RAC) Meeting Summary

March 12, 2024, RAC Meeting #1

**Location:** Christmas Valley Boosters Building, Christmas Valley, Oregon, and Zoom Webinar. There was an option solar facility tour that began at 2:00 pm.

## **RAC Member Attendees:**

- Andrew Mulkey, 1000 Friends of Oregon
- Mike W. McArthur, Community Renewable Energy Association
- Will Van Vactor, Crook County Community Development Director
- Elaine Albrich, Davis Wright Tremain
- Kimberly Peacher, Department of the Navy
- Jason Callahan, Green Diamond Resource Company
- Brandon McMullen, Harney County Planning Director
- Councilor Les Anderson, Klamath Tribes
- Commissioner James Williams, Lake County
- Michael Eng, Lostine Fire Wise
- Max Yoklic, New Sun Energy
- Marc Hudson, Oregon Agricultural Trust
- Andrea Kreiner, Oregon Association of Conservation Districts
- Jack Southworth, Oregon Cattlemen's Association
- Lauren Poor, Oregon Farm Bureau
- Mike Totey, Oregon Hunters Association
- Jack Watson, Oregon Solar+Storage Industries Association
- April Snell, Oregon Water Resources Congress
- Thad Eakin, Oregon Wheat Growers League
- Travis Sellers, Pendleton Building and Construction Trades Council.
- Dugan Marieb, Pine Gate Renewables
- Mark Lindley, Portland General Electric
- Emily Griffith, Renewable Northwest
- Max Greene (Alternate), Renewable Northwest (Alternate)
- F. Steven Knudsen, Retired BPA
- Bill Richardson, Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation
- Anahi Segovia Rodriguez, Verde
- Denise Stillwell, South Central Oregon Economic Development District



- Laura Tabor, The Nature Conservancy

**Ex-Officio Attendees:**

- Vice Chair Nick Lelack, Land Conservation and Development Commission
- Jim Johnson, Oregon Department of Agriculture
- Jeremy Thompson, Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife (ODFW)
- Dan Hubner, Oregon Department of Forestry
- Shawn Zumwalt, Oregon Department of State Lands (DSL)
- Darin Michael, Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries (DOGAMI)
- Todd Farmer, Oregon Military Department (OMD)
- Chad Higgins, Oregon State University (OSU)

**DLCD Staff Attendees:**

- Brenda Ortigoza Bateman, Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development (DLCD)
- Angie Brewer, Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development (DLCD)
- Sadie Carney, Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development (DLCD)
- Alexis Hammer, Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development (DLCD)
- Dawn Marie Hert, Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development (DLCD)
- Gordon Howard, Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development (DLCD)
- Jon Jinings, Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development (DLCD)
- Adam Tate, Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development (DLCD)
- Casaria Taylor, Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development (DLCD)

## Welcome Opening Remarks and Agenda Review

Jamie Damon, Kearns & West, introduced herself as a neutral third-party facilitator. She facilitated introductions between Department of Land Conservation and Development (DLCD) staff. She provided an overview of the hybrid meeting format.

Lake County Commissioner James Williams provided opening remarks. He welcomed meeting attendees to Lake County and thanked RAC members and members of the public for attending in person. He shared his excitement for the RAC process and robust discussion.

Brenda Bateman, DLCD, introduced herself and provided opening remarks. She acknowledged the history of the land that is at the center of the work, including DLCD's commitment to avoid perpetuating harm and being in deliberate partnership with local and Tribal governments. She shared her excitement for the RAC process and looked forward to working with RAC members.



Vice Chair Nick Lelack, Land Conversation and Development Commission (LCDC) introduced himself and shared he represents Eastern Oregon and will be the RAC's Liaison to the Commission until his term ends in June. He noted there is clear direction from HB 3409 to find opportunities and reduce conflicts in utility-scale solar siting and stated that the rulemaking charge should provide a north star for this RAC process. He shared his experience in Deschutes County relating to Solar Development and stated that he is glad this RAC work will begin in Lake County.

Jamie Damon, Kearns & West, reviewed the meeting agenda and objectives.

Jon Jinings, DLCD, detailed the maps around the room for folks to reference throughout the day, including maps that show groundwater, military training areas, solar projects, private and public lands, big game habitat, solar resources, and transmission. He stated that he would share via email the maps for those online.

## Presentation: Project Overview

Adam Tate, DLCD, provided an overview of HB 3409, including RAC requirements and the charge to recommend policies, language, and direction to LCDC by July 1, 2025. He shared that the RAC would focus on Central and Eastern Oregon and consider a variety of natural resources and related items including proximity to transmission, Oregon's climate goals, and agrivoltaics. He reviewed the RAC meeting schedule and shared the farm and forest acreage thresholds. He shared the Oregon solar resource map, the transmission corridor width map, and the wildlife habitat map. He reminded the RAC to share any accessibility needs so DLCD can provide accommodations.

Jamie Damon, Kearns & West, asked if there were any questions.

- RAC Member Question: What is the timeline for the RAC?
  - *DLCD Response: The timeline is to finish by the end of this year and have LCDC vote in December.*
- RAC Member Question: Will LCDC have a public hearing during the RAC timeline?
  - *DLCD Response: Yes, there will be a public hearing process in the Fall during the RAC timeline and after the last RAC meeting.*
  - *DLCD Response: It's likely that between now and December, DLCD will brief the Commission and there will be public comment. DLCD is also hosting public outreach events before each RAC meeting.*
- RAC Member Question: What happens after December when the RAC completes its work? Will the draft rules go through the state statutory notice process and procedures to provide additional public comment?
  - *DLCD Response: Yes, DLCD is following the rulemaking process. The conclusion of the RAC's work will identify recommendations. The recommendations will be reviewed at a hearing which will include an opportunity for public comment, and*



*then it will go to a full LCDC hearing in December. DLCD will also file a notice of rules to the Secretary of State.*

## Presentation: Existing Process for Solar Siting

Elaine Albrich introduced herself as a Partner at Davis Wright Tremaine and presented an overview of local land use permitting for solar projects (see slides from RAC meeting #1). She detailed inherent siting conflicts, including transmission, and shared that at local permitting, an applicant is faced with either one or two approvals, a Conditional Use Permit, and if needed, a Goal Exception Permit. She shared what is required for a Conditional Use Permit and when Goal Exception Permits are needed. She listed the common plans developed in consultation with local agencies and included in a complete land use application for a solar project. She emphasized that not all permitted projects go to construction and that there are various pathways for streamlining solar facility permitting while still protecting important resources and having meaningful public engagement.

- RAC Member Question: Are there any commonalities amongst the conditions for the conditional use permits at the local level or is that decided on a county-by-county basis?
  - *Elaine Albrich Response: Yes, the counties usually have code provisions that give guidance on what types of conditions to adopt for conditional use permits. The conditions vary from county to county but there are similarities as there's more coordination among the counties. Oftentimes, applicants will propose conditions consistent with the plan requirements to ensure ongoing compliance.*
- RAC Member Question: Which one of the counties do you think is easier to work with?
  - *Elaine Albrich Response: There are good practices that people are starting to implement, and I encourage counties to look to each other for best practices and resources. I'm happy to share as a follow-up some examples of what I think are good conditions.*
- RAC Member Question: If I'm a renewable development company, and I choose a site that is 500 acres on arable land, I will need a Goal Exception. If I get identified as a Goal 5 resource, do I need to get a Goal Exception, or is Goal 5 my reason for the exception? Can you clarify the interactions of the goals as they exist today?
  - *Elaine Albrich Response: It depends on what comes out of this RAC. Goal 5 is tricky and pursuing a Goal 5 permit is very difficult for aggregate mining operations, and I would not like to see a similar process for solar. There is an opportunity for Goal 5 to be used to adopt an energy overlay zone to make it easier to site, but inventorying areas of solar resources does not help create a more streamlined permitting process.*
- DLCD Comment: Thank you for your time and being candid. The RAC will work on understanding Goal 5's potential and how it intersects with Goals 3 and 4. Goal 5 siting



would likely be executed by elevating thresholds in Divisions 33 and 6. Goal 13 is not the focus of the RAC but is important overall in this issue.

- RAC Member Question: Could you talk to us about how soils are inventoried, how a parcel could be identified as high value, and how that connects to project siting?
  - *Elaine Albrich Response: Soil is complicated. There is the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) soil classification and mapping system. Measure 37 and 49 adopted legal definitions that define high-value farmland soils, arable soils, and non-arable soils, which are incorporated in DLCD siting standard rules and apply to renewable projects. The legal definitions are based on the legislature's desire to protect certain types of lands from development, which is difficult because legal definitions and on-the-ground soil characteristics are now mixed.*
- RAC Member Question: From an agricultural perspective, there is concern that there are inflationary impacts in the real estate market right now that are associated with solar. Part of it is speculative and part of it relates to the undefined land use policies that currently don't guide solar construction. How do we both narrow the limits of speculation and address mitigation where we can't offset that speculative requirement? Right now, there are younger farmers and ranchers locked out of the real estate market because of speculation and overproduction value.
  - *Elaine Albrich Response: That is outside the scale of my discussion today. My thought is it's not our job to curb speculation.*
- Ex-Officio Question: I was a member of the rule advisory committee that looked at the serial development of solar in the Willamette Valley and acreages were developed in that RAC which went to LCDC.
  - *DLCD Response: There's been the potential for power generation commercial operations for sale to the public in the LCDC rule for over 40 years. In the early 90s, it was interpreted to limit projects to 12 acres on high-value farmland and 20 acres on all other farmland for any kind of energy project. My understanding is that those numbers were based on the footprint of a natural gas fire plant. In 2010 or 2011, the RAC recommended and LCDC accepted that those sizes would remain for high-value farmland, but the threshold was elevated to 100 acres for dry-range land then. The dry-range land was then elevated again to 320 acres, but the sizes for high-value have stayed the same.*
- RAC Member Question: If those acreages were set to protect agricultural usage, why would you then change them based on the type of facility that's being built? The other item to consider is that you don't build a bunch of gas plants, but you do build a bunch of solar installations. When looking at changing the size of the footprint, it must be relative to the area. It's not as simple as looking at the size of a gas plant.
  - *Elaine Albrich Response: That is where the least conflict goal exception exclusion areas come into balance impacts and resource values.*



- RAC Member Comment: Going back to the soil, there's relativity here with soil classifications that need to be considered. For example, let's say you're going to use the soil classification metric to preserve everything better than class 6 soils. The majority of agricultural land in Lake County is class six or worse and we grow some of the best alfalfa in the state on it. We've made poor soil beneficial for a lot of people in Lake County. Last night we had a landowner who detailed the water rights history in Lake County. North Lake County has a moratorium to try and prevent the loss of considerable groundwater storage. There are no surface water rights. When we start talking about development, we're not even discussing agrivoltaics where you aren't taking the land out of agricultural use but incorporating a secondary use on top of it.

Councilmember Les Anderson provided opening remarks and shared that he brings a Tribal perspective to the RAC which is a heavyweight as he is not only speaking on behalf of the Klamath Tribes but all nine Tribes of Oregon. He stated that no matter where you go in Oregon, there is a Tribe that is there that has their own values, resources, and concerns. He encouraged building relationships with Tribes and consulting with Tribes early, often, and meaningfully.

## Small Group Discussions

The RAC split into small groups facilitated by DLCD staff members. There were four sessions, Session One had four small groups, but the remaining sessions had five small groups. Session One asked members to discuss items that they thought had been missing from the discussions so far, Session Two asked members to discuss the possibilities of Technical Advisory Committees, Session Three asked members to discuss community priorities and benefits, and Session Four asked members to discuss solar resources and proximity to transmission lines. The results of these conversations are captured under the Report Out from Small Group Discussions section.

## Charter Review and Approval

Jamie Damon, Kearns & West, asked the small groups to discuss the proposed Charter and report their feedback. The groups had the following input:

- Some members raised questions about how to evaluate the success of the rulemaking process. Specifically, there were concerns about clarity regarding the purpose and goals of the rulemaking efforts and a call for clear metrics to measure the success of the rulemaking process.
- Members discussed the relationship between the RAC and potential Technical Advisory Committees. Some expressed a need for clarification on how these two committees would work together.



- One group raised a point about the decision-making processes by suggesting the inclusion of minority reports to accurately reflect different viewpoints and options considered during discussions. Members stated that documenting moments when participants agree to disagree could ensure transparency and clarity in the decision-making process.
- One group mentioned the importance of clarity regarding roles and responsibilities, including how proposed rules are brought forward and the process for handling disagreements.
- One member suggested incorporating specific language from HB 3409 into the charter, indicating a need for alignment with legislative mandates.

The RAC approved the Charter with the following edits:

- Include clarity on the RAC's role.
- Include clarity on how the RAC and Technical s would work together.
- Include language on striving for broad agreement, documenting areas of agreement, and minority reports.
- Include HB 3409 language.

DLCD will update the Charter with the reflected edits and share it with the RAC.

## Report Out from Small Group Discussions

DLCD staff Casaria Taylor, Gordon Howard, Dawn Marie Hert, Angie Brewer, and Adam Tate reported key themes and discussion highlights from their small group discussions.

### **Session One: What issues/subjects should be on the table for further discussion?**

RAC members indicated the following issues and subjects should be discussed further:

- Infrastructure to support solar development, including workforce housing.
- Land quality and least conflict zone definitions including high-value farmland and irrigated land.
- Intersections with other goals, processes, and jurisdictions, including the Oregon State Energy Strategy, Oregon Climate Goals, the Department of Defense, the Bureau of Land Management, and others.
- Agrivoltaics.
- Tribal consultation best practices.
- Incentives and community benefits. (discussed in Session Three)
- Cumulative impacts to solar development, such as fragmented wildlife habitat, loss of productive agricultural lands, and potential economic loss of development are too difficult.
- Transmission proximity.
- Industry standards such as project retirement and emission reduction requirements.



## **Session Two: Technical Advisory Committees (TACs)**

RAC members shared the following points about TACs.

- The need for good communication between different TAC groups and the RAC to align efforts toward a common goal.
- Transmission and interconnection, water resources, mitigation, community benefits, cultural resources, agriculture, wildlife, and geology as potential TAC topics.
- TACs should better inform RAC members and their understanding of the issues to avoid unintended consequences.
- Informational webinars could be a substitute for TACs.
- TACs should have clear roles and tasks.
- The sitting table results should be reviewed.

## **Session Three: Community Priorities and Benefits**

RAC members shared the following items regarding community benefits and priorities.

- Consider agricultural mitigation and if a community is reliant on agriculture.
- Tax dollars and fees could bring an economic boom to Eastern Oregon communities. Ensure taxes benefit communities.
- Agrivoltaics and dual-use can economically benefit farmers by diversifying income streams.
- Consider community development agreements.
- Address size thresholds and adjust as needed.
- Provide workforce housing and job creation.
- Consider water rights.
- Community infrastructure such as community centers and fire stations.
- Ensure equity and focus on each community's needs and benefits. Engage communities and ask what they would like, reference existing county plans for priorities, or ask counties to create their own TAC to generate information.
- Require developers to host a public meeting to inform process and outcomes.
- Do not use the comprehensive plan due to local capacity.

## **Session Four: Solar Resources and Proximity to Transmission**

RAC members discussed the following points regarding solar resources and transmission.

- Need for baseline information to understand what reasonable proximity is, how much can be produced, and what is the utility-scale and capacity. A TAC could help provide this information along with data maps.
- Land availability and proximity to transmission matter as anywhere in Eastern Oregon receives enough sunlight. Generally, developers won't look at a site greater than 10 miles away from transmission.



- Need to avoid culturally sensitive areas.
- Need to avoid geologically difficult terrain like volcanic rock and wetlands. It would be beneficial to have a TAC member who specializes in geology and includes a soil layer in the ORESA mapping tool.
- Agrivoltaics are viable, but developers worry about increasing panel height and prefer small projects for dual-use sites.
- Consider scale size for proximity.
- Consider federal investments to develop new transmission lines.
- There are conflicting priorities at the state and local levels. Suggestion to identify potential areas to assist local decision-makers.

## Closing and Next Steps

Jamie Damon, Kearns & West, adjourned the meeting and noted the next steps. RAC members and some members of the public attended a solar facility tour from 2:00 – 4:00 pm stopping at Obsidian Solar's Center Site and New Suns's Fort Rock South Site.

The next steps are:

- DLCD to share the maps posted in the meeting room.
- DLCD to update and share the Charter.
- Elaine Albrich to share examples of best practices and resources of county policies and conditions.



**OREGON**

Department of  
Land Conservation  
& Development

## Eastern Oregon Solar Siting Rulemaking Advisory Committee (RAC) Charter

*DRAFT April 10, 2024*

### **I. Purpose of the Solar Siting Rulemaking Advisory Committee**

A Solar Siting Rulemaking Advisory Committee has been established to develop guidance to the Land Conservation and Development Commission on how and where to site photovoltaic solar power generation facilities to minimize conflict and maximize opportunities.

At their November 2, 2023, meeting, the Land Conservation and Development Commission directed Department of Land Conservation and Development (DLCD) staff to begin rulemaking to carry out the requirements of Section 35(2), [House Bill 3409](#). The commission's charge includes, among other things, guidance for consulting with Tribal Governments, establishing the RAC, and an expectation that revisions to [OAR Chapter 660](#), Divisions 6, 23, and 33 will be identified for review and amendment. The provisions of OAR Chapter 660, Division 4 may also be considered.

State and commission policy requires that community members, or the public be involved in the drafting of rules. HB3409 outlines the charge of the RAC as follows:

“The rules advisory committee shall prepare a report that includes: (a) A summary of the rules adopted under section 35 of this 2023 Act; (b) Review of renewable energy siting assessment tools used by the State Department of Energy and recommendations regarding missing or outdated data sets; (c) Review of existing practices relating to mitigation of impacts of photovoltaic solar power generation facilities and transmission development and recommendations for: (A) Mitigating impacts on farming practices on agricultural lands through best practices and land use regulations; (B) Mitigating impacts on fish and wildlife habitat in accordance with the policies described under ORS 496.012 and 506.109; (C) Supporting certainty for developers regarding mitigation requirements within the siting process; and (D) Identifying characteristics and considerations of regional and local habitats that may require specific mitigation practices; and (d) Recommendations for technical assistance resources to support county siting processes and the engagement of public bodies, tribal governments and communities in the siting process for renewable energy and transmission development.”

This committee is advisory to the Land Conservation and Development Commission (LCDC). DLCD will livestream the meetings and provide meeting summaries posted to the department's project webpage.

## II. Organizational Structure

**Membership.** According to the commission's charge, RAC membership includes tribal, state, and local government representatives, as well as representatives of conservation, habitat, agriculture, and private and commercial development interests. DLCD staff will provide committee support. According to commission practice, LCDC has appointed a commission liaison to this work.

## III. Meetings

**Attendance at Meetings.** Members are expected to make a good-faith effort to attend all meetings. Staff expect that the RAC will meet approximately every 6 weeks. Earlier in the process meetings may be scheduled more frequently. Later in the process meetings might be scheduled less frequently. Pursuant to the direction in HB 3409, at least four of the RAC meetings will be held at "various locations around the state." Meetings held at different locations will also include an optional tour of facilities at various stages of development as well as resource lands, habitat, and local communities. Because of the collaborative nature of the meetings, in-person attendance is optimal. At least two meetings will be virtual. All meetings will be live streamed and include a hybrid attendance option. It is important to have RAC members attend consistently for continued discussions and shared learning. To facilitate consistent participation of RAC member organizations and interests, the RAC can include one alternate for each member designated in advance. In addition to RAC meetings, several workshops or webinars focused on technical topics may be scheduled. It is anticipated that these technical meetings will provide the RAC with helpful information to inform their work.

**Summaries.** DLCD has contracted with a neutral third-party to facilitate RAC meetings and prepare draft and final meeting summaries. Staff ask RAC members to communicate any corrections within one week of the publish date of the draft. All final summaries will be posted on the [project webpage](#).

## IV. Decision-making and Commitments

DLCD's goal in convening this RAC is to receive individual and group guidance on developing Oregon Administrative Rules to LCDC for consideration at their December 2024 meeting. RAC members are encouraged to communicate their guidance while participating in meetings or in writing.

It is the agency's intent for the RAC to strive for broad agreement on their guidance presented to LCDC. Documentation from RAC meetings will reflect the issues and concerns expressed and ideas considered leading to RAC support. If RAC members choose to articulate areas of agreement and disagreement, members representing the different perspectives on specific issues will be invited to prepare language reflecting their views. The statements should clearly

identify the issues and information needs and uncertainties. In addition, those members that support each perspective will be identified with their permission.

Tribal representatives' participation in the RAC does not take the place of formal consultation.

## **V. Member Expectations**

**Collaboration.** RAC members agree to:

1. Bring up concerns for discussion at the earliest point in the process.
2. Share all relevant information that will assist RAC members in achieving their goals.
3. Keep their agency, organization, or community of interest informed of recommendations formulated by the RAC.
4. Review and comment on draft and revised rules, fiscal impact statements and other associated strategies and / or documents.

**Preparation.** Members will make a good faith effort to review meeting materials in advance of each meeting.

**Communication.** Members will make a good faith effort to notify one another in advance of actions outside the RAC which could affect the proposals, recommendations, or agreements being discussed.

**Press and Public Forums.** Please refer media inquiries about this process to DLCD staff. If a member does speak to the media, DLCD asks that RAC members identify that their views are their own, and not necessarily of the RAC or DLCD.

## **VI. Process**

Staff and RAC members agree to apply the following:

- Listen with respect, seeking to understand each other's perspectives.
- Listen to others' point of view without interruption.
- Allow for a balance of speaking time while respecting time and agenda meeting goals.
- Be tough on issues and questions, rather than on people and organizations.
- As appropriate, discuss topics together rather than in isolation.
- Seek to resolve differences.
- Strive for broad agreement and support of recommendations.
- Silence cell phones during meetings.

## VII. Schedule

The RAC will meet approximately every six weeks to prepare draft rules for a regional hearing to be presided over by a Hearings Officer in November 2024 and a full commission hearing in December 2024.

### Eastern Oregon Solar Siting Rulemaking Advisory Committee Schedule

#### Remaining Meetings

Thursday, April 18th 12:00 – 5:00 PM	<b>RAC 2:</b> Burns, Oregon: <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Presentations on wildlife and solar siting, and the solar developer site selection process</li><li>2. DLCD to Present Goal 5 Overview &amp; Draft Rule Outline.</li><li>3. RAC members to participate in small group discussion on Draft Rule Outline and Solar Siting Process.</li><li>4. Optional Sage Grouse Habitat Tour Friday morning.</li></ol>
Thursday, May 30th Time TBD	<b>RAC 3:</b> Boardman, Oregon location TBD: <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Presentations on Statewide Energy Strategy and more</li><li>2. Updates on TAC process</li><li>3. RAC works to continue filling in Draft Rules Outline</li><li>4. Optional Tour TBD.</li></ol>
Wednesday, July 17th Time TBD	<b>RAC 4:</b> Madras, Oregon location TBD: <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Presentations TBD</li><li>2. Updates from TACs</li><li>3. RAC to finish Draft Rules Outline</li><li>4. Optional Tour TBD</li></ol>
Tuesday, September 10 <sup>th</sup> Time TBD	<b>RAC 5:</b> All Virtual via Zoom: <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Presentations TBD</li><li>2. Updates from TACs</li><li>3. RAC to refine Draft Rules</li></ol>
Tuesday, November 5 <sup>th</sup> Time TBD	<b>RAC 6:</b> Salem, Oregon DLCD Hearings Room <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Presentations TBD</li><li>2. Finalize draft rules to present to LCDC</li><li>3. Celebrate!</li></ol>

Chapter 660

Division 4

INTERPRETATION OF GOAL 2 EXCEPTION PROCESS

**660-004-0022**

**Reasons Necessary to Justify an Exception Under Goal 2, Part II(c)**

An exception under Goal 2, Part II(c) may be taken for any use not allowed by the applicable goal(s) or for a use authorized by a statewide planning goal that cannot comply with the approval standards for that type of use. The types of reasons that may or may not be used to justify certain types of uses not allowed on resource lands are set forth in the following sections of this rule. Reasons that may allow an exception to Goal 11 to provide sewer service to rural lands are described in OAR 660-011-0060. Reasons that may allow transportation facilities and improvements that do not meet the requirements of OAR 660-012-0065 are provided in OAR 660-012-0070. Reasons that rural lands are irrevocably committed to urban levels of development are provided in OAR 660-014-0030. Reasons that may justify the establishment of new urban development on undeveloped rural land are provided in OAR 660-014-0040. Reasons that may justify the establishment of temporary natural disaster related housing on undeveloped rural lands are provided in OAR 660-014-0090.

(1) For uses not specifically provided for in this division, or in OAR 660-011-0060, 660-012-0070, 660-014-0030 or 660-014-0040, the reasons shall justify why the state policy embodied in the applicable goals should not apply. Such reasons include but are not limited to the following: There is a demonstrated need for the proposed use or activity, based on one or more of the requirements of Goals 3 to 19; and either:

(a) A resource upon which the proposed use or activity is dependent can be reasonably obtained only at the proposed exception site and the use or activity requires a location near the resource. An exception based on this subsection must include an analysis of the market area to be served by the proposed use or activity. That analysis must demonstrate that the proposed exception site is the only one within that market area at which the resource depended upon can reasonably be obtained; or

(b) The proposed use or activity has special features or qualities that necessitate its location on or near the proposed exception site.

(2) Rural Residential Development: For rural residential development the reasons cannot be based on market demand for housing except as provided for in this section of this rule, assumed continuation of past urban and rural population distributions, or housing types and cost characteristics. A county must show why, based on the economic analysis in the

plan, there are reasons for the type and density of housing planned that require this particular location on resource lands. A jurisdiction could justify an exception to allow residential development on resource land outside an urban growth boundary by determining that the rural location of the proposed residential development is necessary to satisfy the market demand for housing generated by existing or planned rural industrial, commercial, or other economic activity in the area.

**(3) Rural Industrial Development: A local government may consider a photovoltaic solar power generation facility as defined in OAR 660-033-0130(38)(f) to be a rural industrial use. For the siting of rural industrial development on resource land outside an urban growth boundary, appropriate reasons and facts may include, but are not limited to, the following:**

(a) The use is significantly dependent upon a unique resource located on agricultural or forest land. Examples of such resources and resource sites include geothermal wells, mineral or aggregate deposits, water reservoirs, natural features, or river or ocean ports;

(b) The use cannot be located inside an urban growth boundary due to impacts that are hazardous or incompatible in densely populated areas; or

(c) The use would have a significant comparative advantage due to its location (e.g., near existing industrial activity, an energy facility, or products available from other rural activities), which would benefit the county economy and cause only minimal loss of productive resource lands. Reasons for such a decision should include a discussion of the lost resource productivity and values in relation to the county's gain from the industrial use, and the specific transportation and resource advantages that support the decision.

Language added Nov, 2023. Possible discussion could include whether additional guidance could be useful (ie, proper zoning of exceptions for photovoltaic solar projects). Changes regarding substantial policy shifts are not contemplated.

Chapter 660

Division 6

GOAL 4 FOREST LANDS

660-006-0025

Uses Authorized in Forest Zones

\*\*\*\*\*

(4) The following uses may be allowed on forest lands subject to the review standards in section (5) of this rule:

(a) Permanent facility for the primary processing of forest products that is:

(A) Located in a building or buildings that do not exceed 10,000 square feet in total floor area, or an outdoor area that does not exceed one acre excluding laydown and storage yards, or a proportionate combination of indoor and outdoor areas; and

(B) Adequately separated from surrounding properties to reasonably mitigate noise, odor and other impacts generated by the facility that adversely affect forest management and other existing uses, as determined by the governing body;

(b) Permanent logging equipment repair and storage;

(c) Log scaling and weigh stations;

(d) Disposal site for solid waste approved by the governing body of a city or county or both and for which the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality has granted a permit under ORS 459.245, together with equipment, facilities or buildings necessary for its operation;

\*\*\*\*\*

(h) Television, microwave and radio communication facilities and transmission towers;

(i) Fire stations for rural fire protection;

**(j) Commercial utility facilities for the purpose of generating power. A power generation facility shall not preclude more than 10 acres from use as a commercial forest operation unless an exception is taken pursuant to OAR chapter 660, division 4;**

(k) Aids to navigation and aviation;

(l) Water intake facilities, related treatment facilities, pumping stations, and distribution lines;

(m) Reservoirs and water impoundments;

Consideration of revised language accounting for what will become the new Section in Division 23 should occur, as well as, any additional language specific to photovoltaic solar project development that may prove helpful. (temporary workforce housing, decommissioning,

Chapter 660

Division 33

AGRICULTURAL LAND

**660-033-0130**

**Minimum Standards Applicable to the Schedule of Permitted and Conditional Uses**

The following requirements apply to uses specified, and as listed in the table adopted by OAR 660-033-0120. For each section of this rule, the corresponding section number is shown in the table. Where no numerical reference is indicated on the table, this rule does not specify any minimum review or approval criteria. Counties may include procedures and conditions in addition to those listed in the table, as authorized by law.

\*\*\*\*\*

(38) A proposal to site a photovoltaic solar power generation facility shall be subject to the following definitions and provisions:

(a) “Arable land” means land in a tract that is predominantly cultivated or, if not currently cultivated, predominantly comprised of arable soils.

(b) “Arable soils” means soils that are suitable for cultivation as determined by the governing body or its designate based on substantial evidence in the record of a local land use application, but “arable soils” does not include high-value farmland soils described at ORS 195.300(10) unless otherwise stated.

(c) “Dual-use development” means developing the same area of land for both a photovoltaic solar power generation facility and for farm use.

(d) “Nonarable land” means land in a tract that is predominantly not cultivated and predominantly comprised of nonarable soils.

(e) “Nonarable soils” means soils that are not suitable for cultivation. Soils with an NRCS agricultural capability class V–VIII and no history of irrigation shall be considered nonarable in all cases. The governing body or its designate may determine other soils, including soils with a past history of irrigation, to be nonarable based on substantial evidence in the record of a local land use application.

(f) “Photovoltaic solar power generation facility” includes, but is not limited to, an assembly of equipment that converts sunlight into electricity and then stores, transfers, or both, that electricity. This includes photovoltaic modules, mounting and solar tracking equipment, foundations, inverters, wiring, storage devices and other components. Photovoltaic solar power generation facilities also include electrical cable collection

Consideration of revised language accounting for what will become the new Section in Division 23 should occur, as well as, any additional language specific to photovoltaic solar project development that may prove helpful. (temporary workforce housing, decommissioning, etc...)

1 systems connecting the photovoltaic solar generation facility to a transmission line, all  
2 necessary grid integration equipment, new or expanded private roads constructed to serve  
3 the photovoltaic solar power generation facility, office, operation and maintenance  
4 buildings, staging areas and all other necessary appurtenances. For purposes of applying  
5 the acreage standards of this section, a photovoltaic solar power generation facility  
6 includes all existing and proposed facilities on a single tract, as well as any existing and  
7 proposed facilities determined to be under common ownership on lands with fewer than  
8 1320 feet of separation from the tract on which the new facility is proposed to be sited.  
9 Projects connected to the same parent company or individuals shall be considered to be in  
10 common ownership, regardless of the operating business structure. A photovoltaic solar  
11 power generation facility does not include a net metering project established consistent  
12 with ORS 757.300 and OAR chapter 860, division 39 or a Feed-in-Tariff project established  
13 consistent with ORS 757.365 and OAR chapter 860, division 84.

14 (g) For high-value farmland described at ORS 195.300(10), a photovoltaic solar power  
15 generation facility shall not use, occupy, or cover more than 12 acres unless:

16 (A) The provisions of paragraph (h)(H) are satisfied; or

17 (B) A county adopts, and an applicant satisfies, land use provisions authorizing projects  
18 subject to a dual-use development plan. Land use provisions adopted by a county  
19 pursuant to this paragraph may not allow a project in excess of 20 acres. Land use  
20 provisions adopted by the county must require sufficient assurances that the farm use  
21 element of the dual-use development plan is established and maintained so long as the  
22 photovoltaic solar power generation facility is operational or components of the facility  
23 remain on site. The provisions of this subsection are repealed on January 1, 2022.

24 (h) The following criteria must be satisfied in order to approve a photovoltaic solar power  
25 generation facility on high-value farmland described at ORS 195.300(10).

26 (A) The proposed photovoltaic solar power generation facility will not create unnecessary  
27 negative impacts on agricultural operations conducted on any portion of the subject  
28 property not occupied by project components. Negative impacts could include, but are not  
29 limited to, the unnecessary construction of roads dividing a field or multiple fields in such a  
30 way that creates small or isolated pieces of property that are more difficult to farm, and  
31 placing photovoltaic solar power generation facility project components on lands in a  
32 manner that could disrupt common and accepted farming practices;

33 (B) The presence of a photovoltaic solar power generation facility will not result in  
34 unnecessary soil erosion or loss that could limit agricultural productivity on the subject  
35 property. This provision may be satisfied by the submittal and county approval of a soil and

erosion control plan prepared by an adequately qualified individual, showing how unnecessary soil erosion will be avoided or remedied. The approved plan shall be attached to the decision as a condition of approval;

(C) Construction or maintenance activities will not result in unnecessary soil compaction that reduces the productivity of soil for crop production. This provision may be satisfied by the submittal and county approval of a plan prepared by an adequately qualified individual, showing how unnecessary soil compaction will be avoided or remedied in a timely manner through deep soil decompaction or other appropriate practices. The approved plan shall be attached to the decision as a condition of approval;

(D) Construction or maintenance activities will not result in the unabated introduction or spread of noxious weeds and other undesirable weed species. This provision may be satisfied by the submittal and county approval of a weed control plan prepared by an adequately qualified individual that includes a long-term maintenance agreement. The approved plan shall be attached to the decision as a condition of approval;

(E) Except for electrical cable collection systems connecting the photovoltaic solar generation facility to a transmission line, the project is not located on those high-value farmland soils listed in OAR 660-033-0020(8)(a);

(F) The project is not located on those high-value farmland soils listed in OAR 660-033-0020(8)(b)-(e) or arable soils unless it can be demonstrated that:

(i) Non high-value farmland soils are not available on the subject tract;

(ii) Siting the project on non high-value farmland soils present on the subject tract would significantly reduce the project's ability to operate successfully; or

(iii) The proposed site is better suited to allow continuation of an existing commercial farm or ranching operation on the subject tract than other possible sites also located on the subject tract, including those comprised of non high-value farmland soils; and

(G) A study area consisting of lands zoned for exclusive farm use located within one mile measured from the center of the proposed project shall be established and:

(i) If fewer than 48 acres of photovoltaic solar power generation facilities have been constructed or received land use approvals and obtained building permits within the study area, no further action is necessary.

(ii) When at least 48 acres of photovoltaic solar power generation facilities have been constructed or received land use approvals and obtained building permits, either as a single project or as multiple facilities within the study area, the local government or its

designate must find that the photovoltaic solar power generation facility will not materially alter the stability of the overall land use pattern of the area. The stability of the land use pattern will be materially altered if the overall effect of existing and potential photovoltaic solar power generation facilities will make it more difficult for the existing farms and ranches in the area to continue operation due to diminished opportunities to expand, purchase or lease farmland, acquire water rights, or diminish the number of tracts or acreage in farm use in a manner that will destabilize the overall character of the study area.

(H) A photovoltaic solar power generation facility may be sited on more than 12 acres of high-value farmland described in ORS 195.300(10)(f)(C) without taking an exception pursuant to ORS 197.732 and OAR chapter 660, division 4, provided the land:

(i) Is not located within the boundaries of an irrigation district;

(ii) Is not at the time of the facility's establishment, and was not at any time during the 20 years immediately preceding the facility's establishment, the place of use of a water right permit, certificate, decree, transfer order or ground water registration authorizing the use of water for the purpose of irrigation;

(iii) Is located within the service area of an electric utility described in ORS 469A.052(2);

(iv) Does not exceed the acreage the electric utility reasonably anticipates to be necessary to achieve the applicable renewable portfolio standard described in ORS 469A.052(3); and

(v) Does not qualify as high-value farmland under any other provision of law; or

(i) For arable lands, a photovoltaic solar power generation facility shall not use, occupy, or cover more than 20 acres. The governing body or its designate must find that the following criteria are satisfied in order to approve a photovoltaic solar power generation facility on arable land:

(A) Except for electrical cable collection systems connecting the photovoltaic solar generation facility to a transmission line, the project is not located on those high-value farmland soils listed in OAR 660-033-0020(8)(a);

(B) The project is not located on those high-value farmland soils listed in OAR 660-033-0020(8)(b)-(e) or arable soils unless it can be demonstrated that:

(i) Nonarable soils are not available on the subject tract;

(ii) Siting the project on nonarable soils present on the subject tract would significantly reduce the project's ability to operate successfully; or

(iii) The proposed site is better suited to allow continuation of an existing commercial farm or ranching operation on the subject tract than other possible sites also located on the subject tract, including those comprised of nonarable soils;

(C) No more than 12 acres of the project will be sited on high-value farmland soils described at ORS 195.300(10);

(D) A study area consisting of lands zoned for exclusive farm use located within one mile measured from the center of the proposed project shall be established and:

(i) If fewer than 80 acres of photovoltaic solar power generation facilities have been constructed or received land use approvals and obtained building permits within the study area, no further action is necessary.

(ii) When at least 80 acres of photovoltaic solar power generation facilities have been constructed or received land use approvals and obtained building permits, either as a single project or as multiple facilities within the study area, the local government or its designate must find that the photovoltaic solar power generation facility will not materially alter the stability of the overall land use pattern of the area. The stability of the land use pattern will be materially altered if the overall effect of existing and potential photovoltaic solar power generation facilities will make it more difficult for the existing farms and ranches in the area to continue operation due to diminished opportunities to expand, purchase or lease farmland, acquire water rights, or diminish the number of tracts or acreage in farm use in a manner that will destabilize the overall character of the study area; and

(E) The requirements of OAR 660-033-0130(38)(h)(A), (B), (C) and (D) are satisfied.

(j) For nonarable lands, a photovoltaic solar power generation facility shall not use, occupy, or cover more than 320 acres. The governing body or its designate must find that the following criteria are satisfied in order to approve a photovoltaic solar power generation facility on nonarable land:

(A) Except for electrical cable collection systems connecting the photovoltaic solar generation facility to a transmission line, the project is not located on those high-value farmland soils listed in OAR 660-033-0020(8)(a);

(B) The project is not located on those high-value farmland soils listed in OAR 660-033-0020(8)(b)-(e) or arable soils unless it can be demonstrated that:

(i) Siting the project on nonarable soils present on the subject tract would significantly reduce the project's ability to operate successfully; or

(ii) The proposed site is better suited to allow continuation of an existing commercial farm or ranching operation on the subject tract as compared to other possible sites also located on the subject tract, including sites that are comprised of nonarable soils;

(C) No more than 12 acres of the project will be sited on high-value farmland soils described at ORS 195.300(10);

(D) No more than 20 acres of the project will be sited on arable soils;

(E) The requirements of OAR 660-033-0130(38)(h)(D) are satisfied;

(F) If a photovoltaic solar power generation facility is proposed to be developed on lands that contain a Goal 5 resource protected under the county's comprehensive plan, and the plan does not address conflicts between energy facility development and the resource, the applicant and the county, together with any state or federal agency responsible for protecting the resource or habitat supporting the resource, will cooperatively develop a specific resource management plan to mitigate potential development conflicts. If there is no program present to protect the listed Goal 5 resource(s) present in the local comprehensive plan or implementing ordinances and the applicant and the appropriate resource management agency(ies) cannot successfully agree on a cooperative resource management plan, the county is responsible for determining appropriate mitigation measures; and

(G) If a proposed photovoltaic solar power generation facility is located on lands where, after site specific consultation with an Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife biologist, it is determined that the potential exists for adverse effects to state or federal special status species (threatened, endangered, candidate, or sensitive) or habitat or to big game winter range or migration corridors, golden eagle or prairie falcon nest sites or pigeon springs, the applicant shall conduct a site-specific assessment of the subject property in consultation with all appropriate state, federal, and tribal wildlife management agencies. A professional biologist shall conduct the site-specific assessment by using methodologies accepted by the appropriate wildlife management agency and shall determine whether adverse effects to special status species or wildlife habitats are anticipated. Based on the results of the biologist's report, the site shall be designed to avoid adverse effects to state or federal special status species or to wildlife habitats as described above. If the applicant's site-specific assessment shows that adverse effects cannot be avoided, the applicant and the appropriate wildlife management agency will cooperatively develop an agreement for project-specific mitigation to offset the potential adverse effects of the facility. Where the applicant and the resource management agency cannot agree on what mitigation will be

1 carried out, the county is responsible for determining appropriate mitigation, if any,  
2 required for the facility.

3 (k) An exception to the acreage and soil thresholds in subsections (g), (h), (i), and (j) of this  
4 section may be taken pursuant to ORS 197.732 and OAR chapter 660, division 4.

5 (l) The county governing body or its designate shall require as a condition of approval for a  
6 photovoltaic solar power generation facility, that the project owner sign and record in the  
7 deed records for the county a document binding the project owner and the project owner's  
8 successors in interest, prohibiting them from pursuing a claim for relief or cause of action  
9 alleging injury from farming or forest practices as defined in ORS 30.930(2) and (4).

10 (m) Nothing in this section shall prevent a county from requiring a bond or other security  
11 from a developer or otherwise imposing on a developer the responsibility for retiring the  
12 photovoltaic solar power generation facility.

13

**660-023-0195**

**Photovoltaic Solar Energy Resources**

(1) Introduction.

(2) Definitions.

(3) Local governments may amend their acknowledged comprehensive plans to designate renewable energy districts or establish renewable energy sites using the standards and procedures in OAR 660-023-0030 through 660-023-0050.

(4) Rather than using the standard process described at subsection (3) above, counties in eastern Oregon may instead choose the following process identified in subsections (5) thru (15) to designate renewable energy districts for photovoltaic solar power generation facilities.

(5) Quality, Quantity and Location.

(6) Determination of Significance.

(a) For purposes of this rule, areas meeting the description of subsection (5) shall be considered significant photovoltaic solar power generation resources when they do not include:

(b) Areas otherwise meeting the description of subsection (4) may be considered significant photovoltaic solar power generation resources when one of the following categories is also present and mitigation as identified at section (10) of this rule is also required:

(7) Conflicting uses.

(8) Economic, Social, Environmental and Energy (ESEE) consequences.

(9) If a local government chooses to conduct an additional analysis regarding subsections (7), or (8), or both, it must follow the provisions of OAR 660-023-0040.

(10) Program to achieve the goal. A local government may approve a photovoltaic solar power generation facility proposed within a renewable energy district designated pursuant to this subsection by determining that the following items have been satisfied:

(11) Metering.

(12) Mitigation.

(a) Wildlife.

(b) Agricultural Lands.

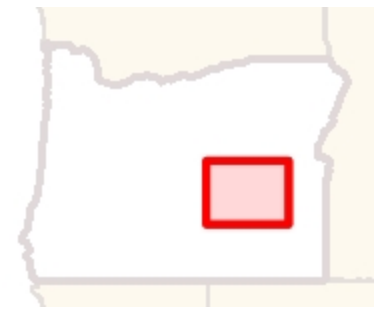
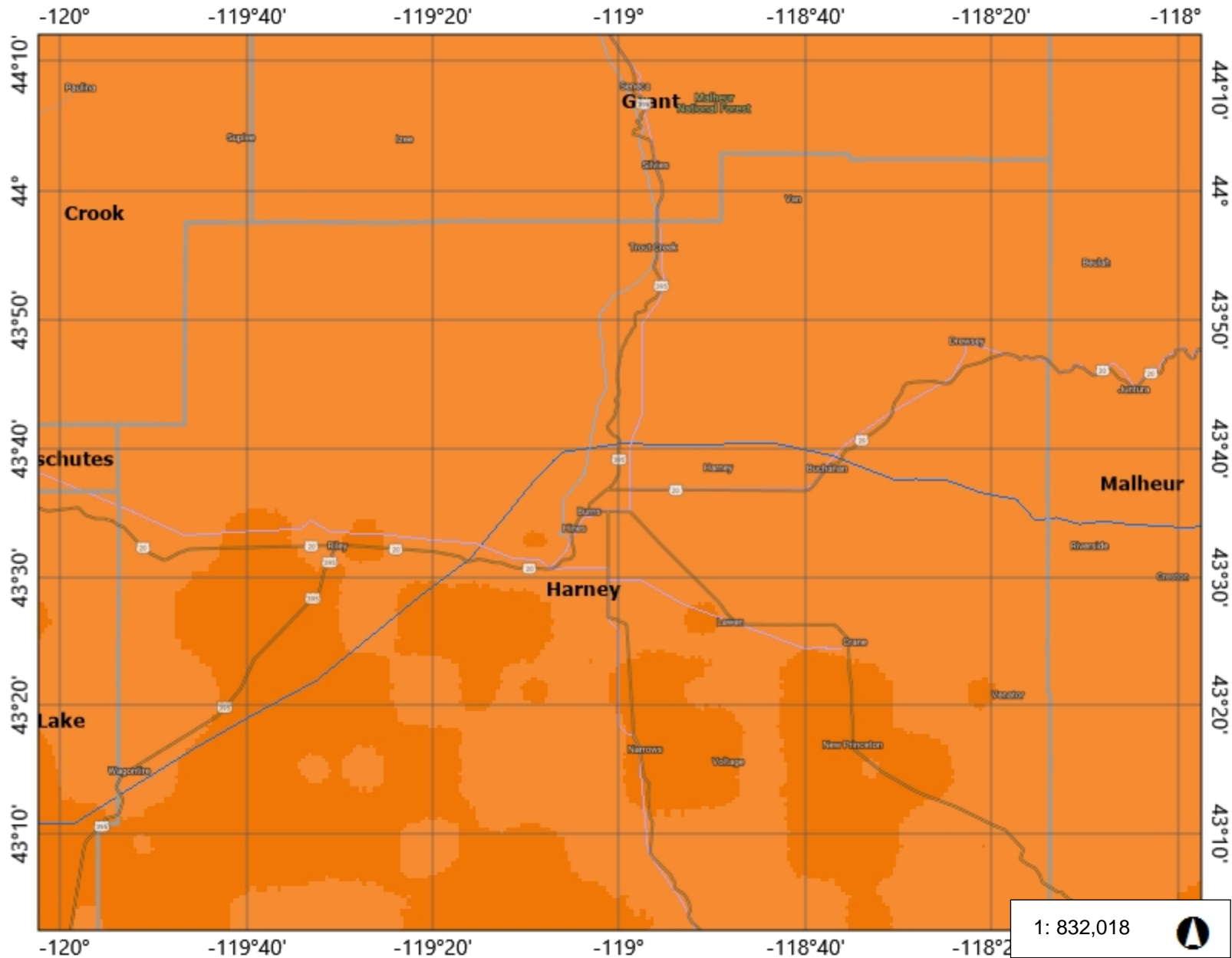
(c) Forest Lands.

(d) Wildfire.

(e) Other.

- 1 (13) Voluntary Implementation.
- 2 (14) Prior to conducting a hearing to consider an ordinance, a local government will:
- 3 (15) Prior to making a decision regarding an ordinance, a local government will:
- 4 (16) Local governments shall coordinate planning activities for energy sources with the Oregon
- 5 Department of Energy.
- 6

Discussion Draft



### Legend

□ Counties

#### Transmission Lines

— Unknown

— 115 kV

— 115 - 230 kV

— 230 - 500 kV

— ≥ 500 kV

#### Estimated Annual Solar Utility-Scale Capacity Factor

16 - 18 %

18 - 19 %

19 - 21 %

21 - 22 %

22 - 24 %

24 - 25 %

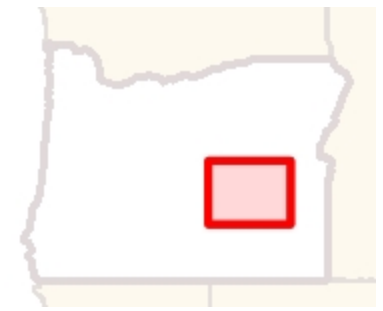
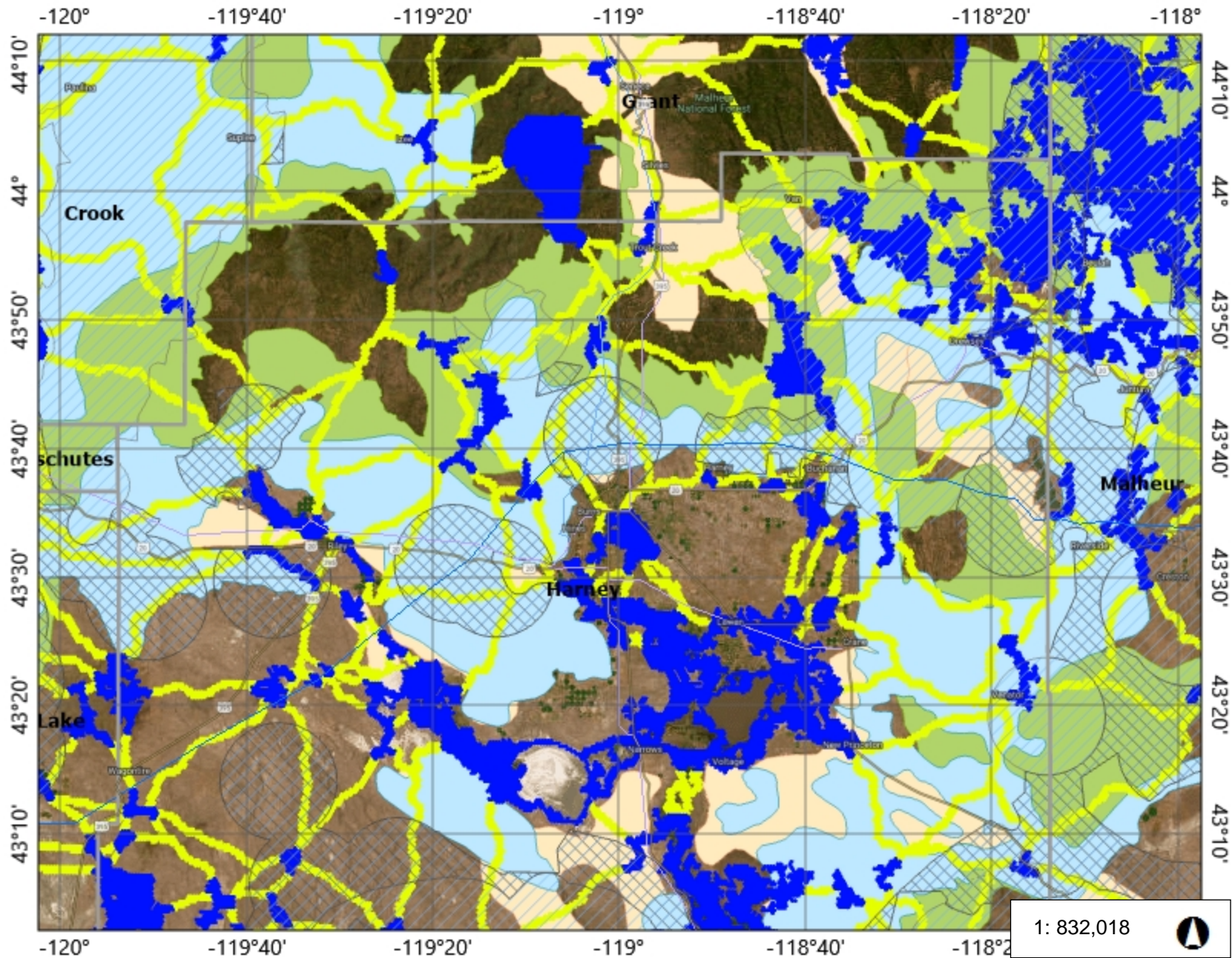
### Notes

North Harney County  
Solar Resource and Transmission

26.3 0 13.13 26.3 Miles

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## Legend

- Counties
- Transmission Lines
  - Unknown
  - 115 kV
  - 115 - 230 kV
  - 230 - 500 kV
  - >= 500 kV
- ▨ Greater Sage-grouse Core Areas
- ▩ Greater Sage-grouse Low Density Habitat
- Priority Wildlife Connectivity Areas
  - Connector
  - Region
  - Steppingstone
- Eastern Oregon Deer Winter Range
- Eastern Oregon Elk Winter Range
- Pronghorn Essential and Limited Habitat

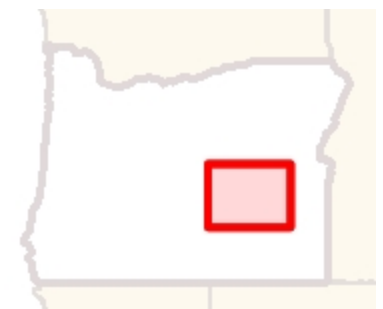
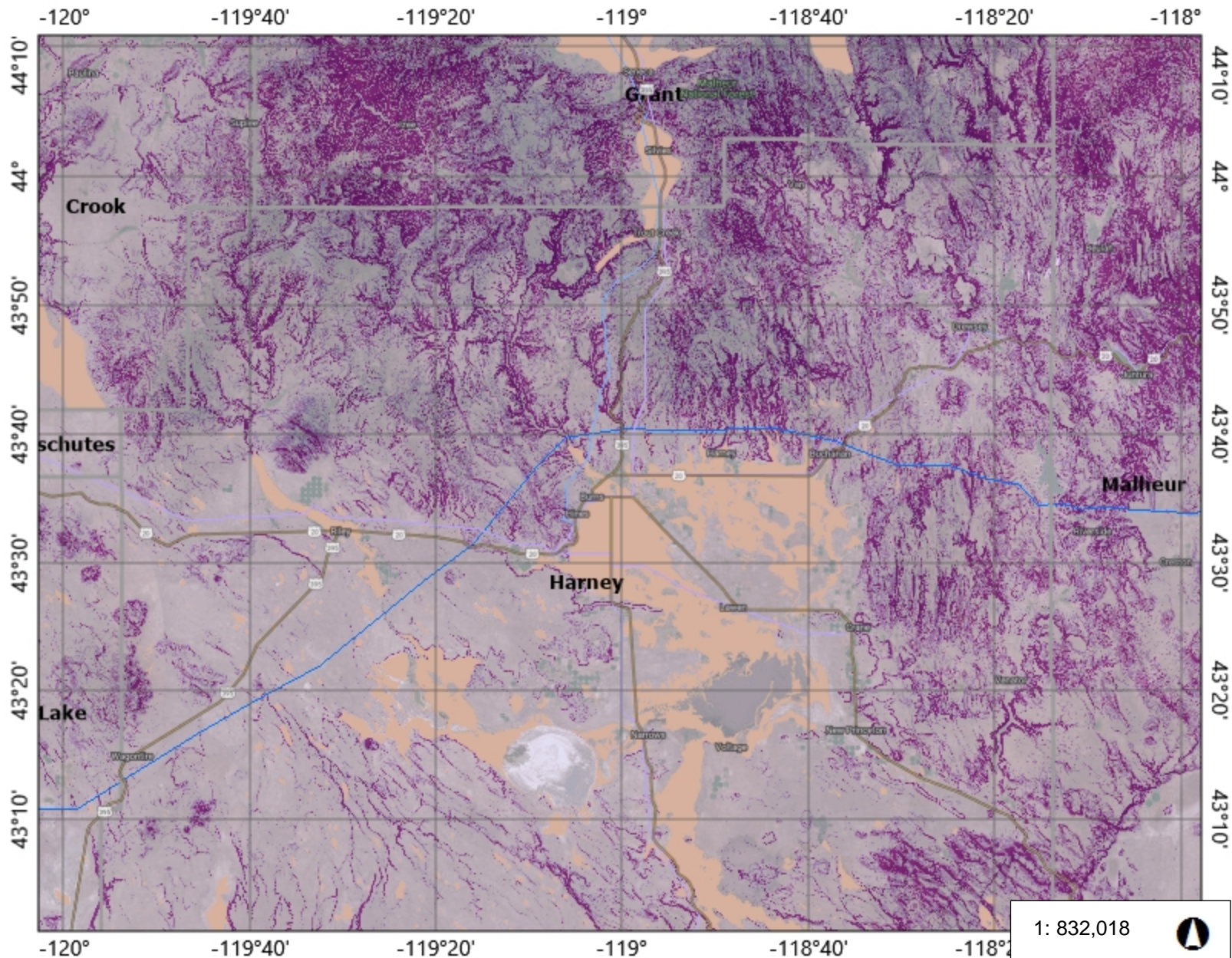
## Notes

North Harney County  
Wildlife Habitat  
Sage-Grouse Layer may be based on  
outdated data.

26.3 0 13.13 26.3 Miles

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## Legend

- Counties
- Transmission Lines
  - Unknown
  - 115 kV
  - 115 - 230 kV
  - 230 - 500 kV
  - ≥ 500 kV
- ▤ Local Wetland Inventory Study Areas (Statewide Wetlands Inventory)
- Predominantly Hydric Soil Map Units
- Slope
  - 0 - 10
  - 10.00000001 - 15
  - 15.00000001 - 20
  - 20.00000001 - 30
  - 30.00000001 - 756

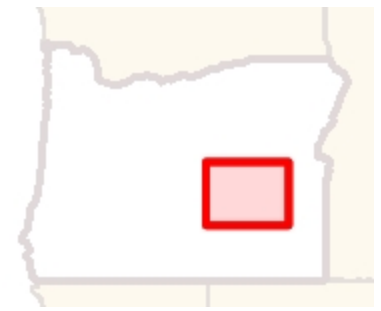
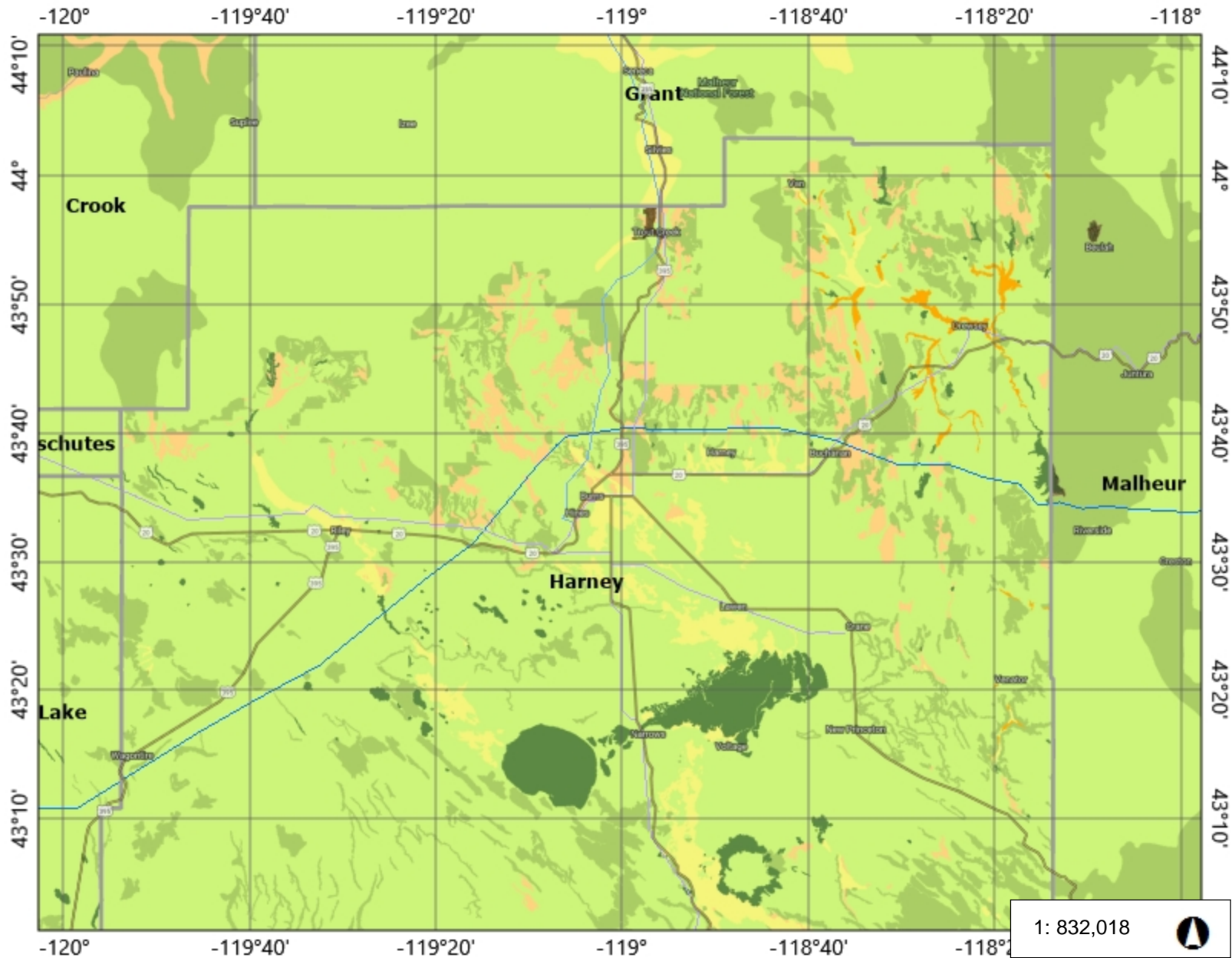
## Notes

North Harney County  
Slope & Wetlands

26.3 0 13.13 26.3 Miles

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## Legend

- Counties
- Transmission Lines
  - Unknown
  - 115 kV
  - 115 - 230 kV
  - 230 - 500 kV
  - >= 500 kV
- Non-Irrigated Soil Capability Class
  - No Data
  - Class 1
  - Class 2
  - Class 3
  - Class 4
  - Class 5
  - Class 6
  - Class 7
  - Class 8

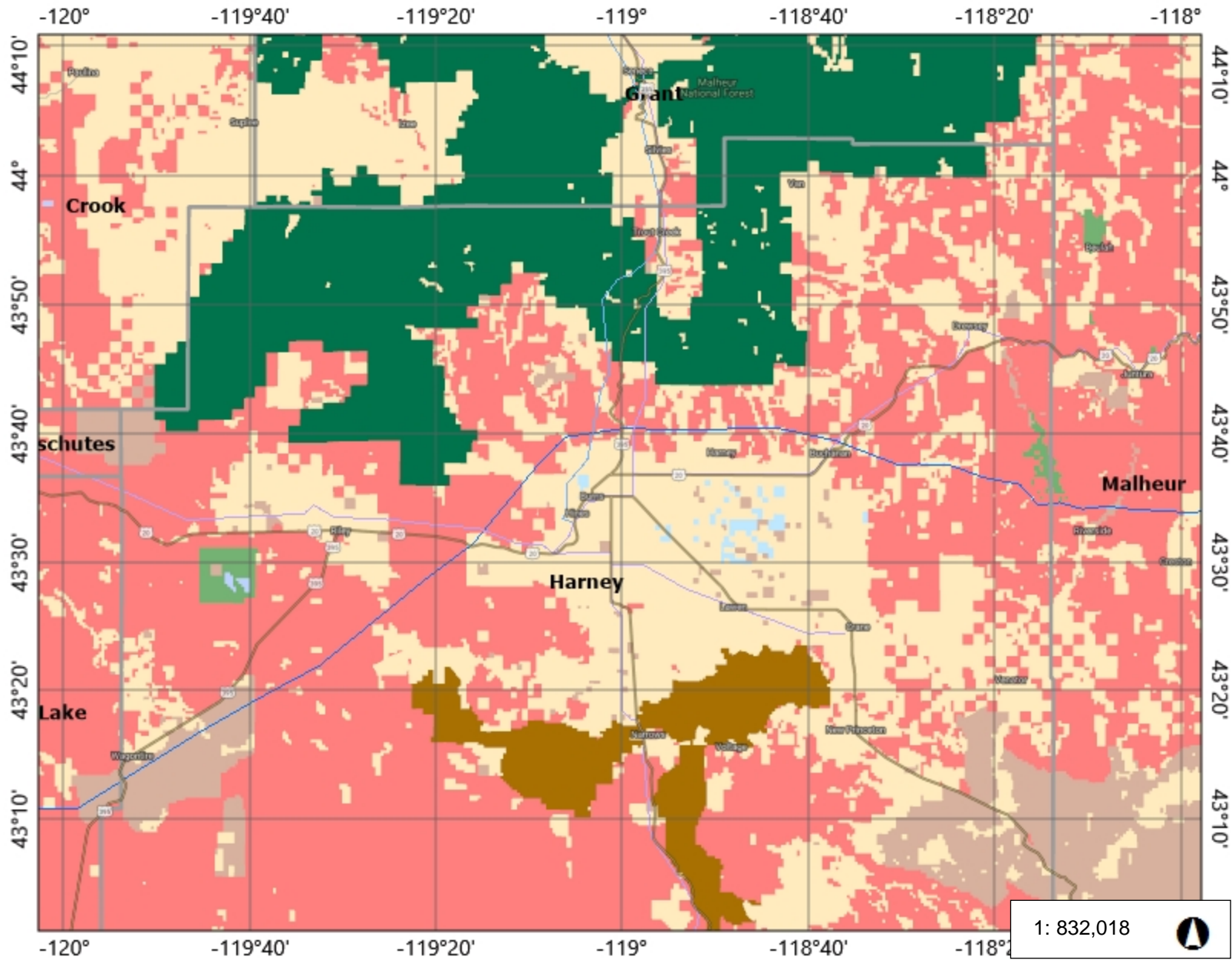
## Notes

North Harney County  
Nonirrigated Soil Qualities

26.3 0 13.13 26.3 Miles

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## Legend

- Counties
- Transmission Lines
  - Unknown
  - 115 kV
  - 115 - 230 kV
  - 230 - 500 kV
  - >= 500 kV
- Land Management
  - Private
  - Local Government
  - State Government
  - Federal (BLM)
  - Federal (USFS)
  - Federal (USFWS)
  - Federal (Other)
  - Tribal
  - Water

## Notes

North Harney County  
Land Ownership

26.3 0 13.13 26.3 Miles

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