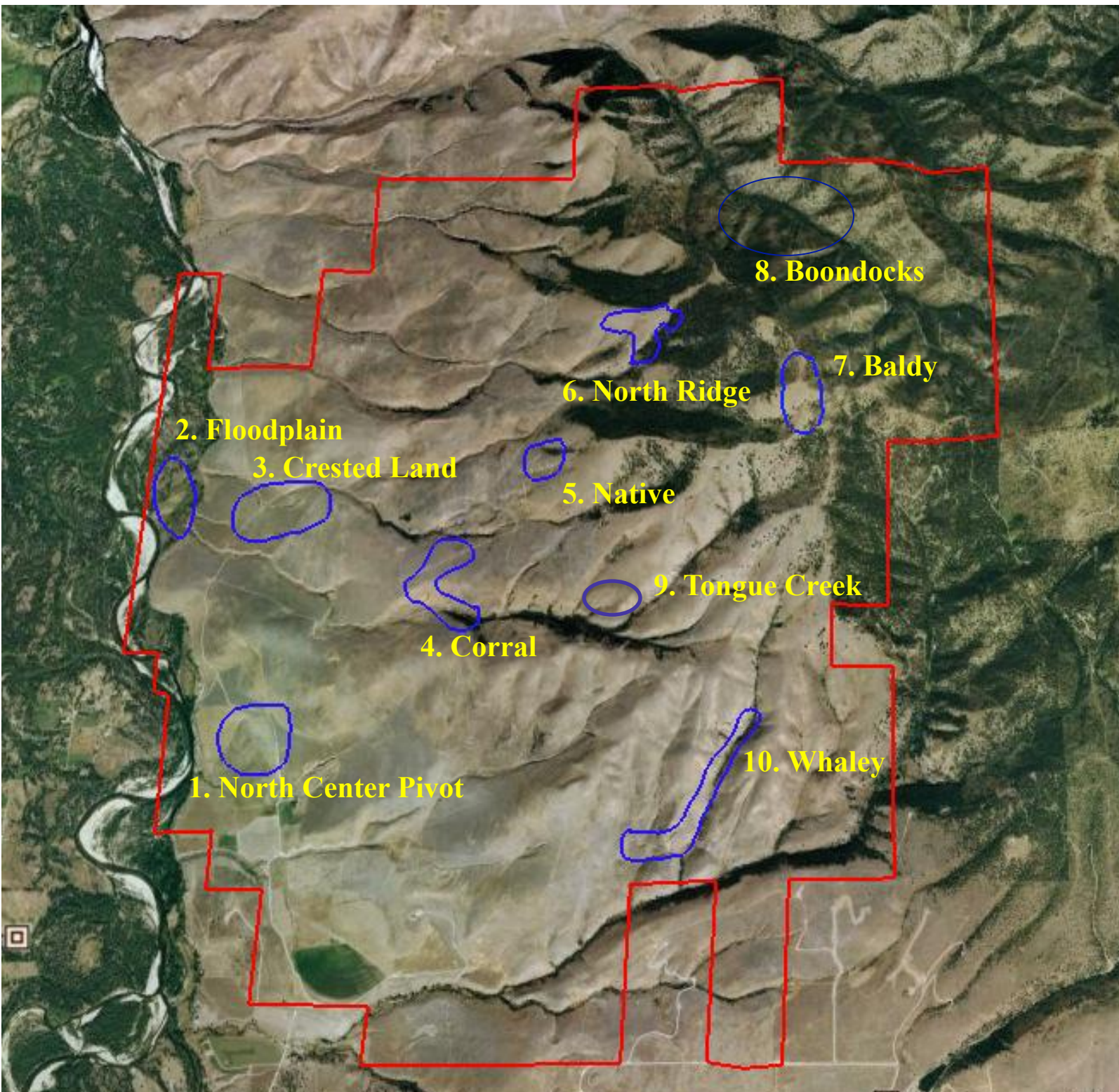
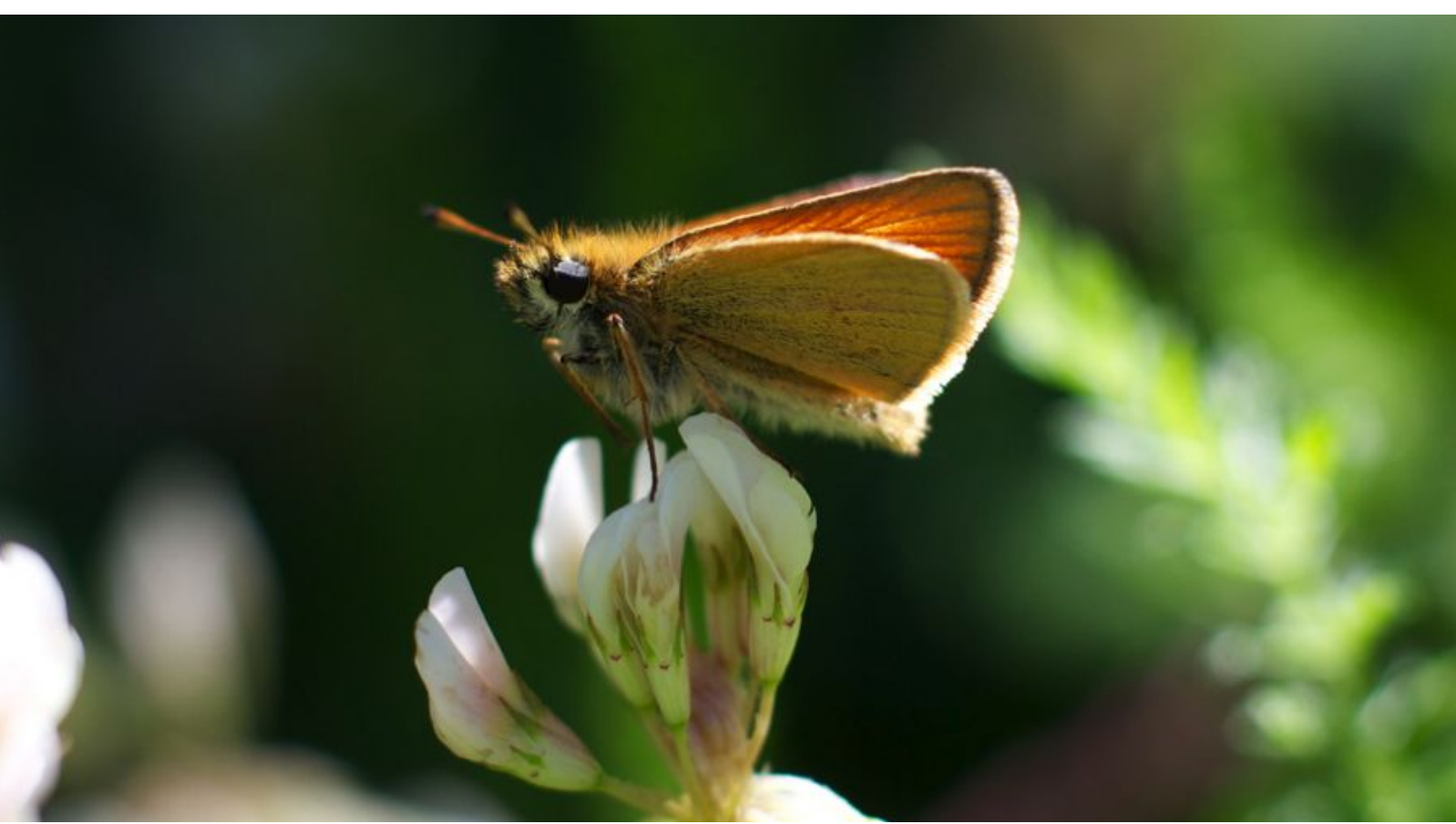


Plant Field Note
MPG Operations
Rebecca Durham
August 2013





A skipper pauses on white clover. More moths than butterflies linger during the hot days of August (*Trifolium repens*, Boondocks).



Oceanspray blossoms cascade into sunlight (*Holodiscus discolor*, Boondocks).



Yampah's lace-like leaves emerged early spring and stayed unchanged for months before a white umbel appeared. Few forbs share this life strategy: most late season bloomers also emerge late. While the majority of forbs near senescence, yampah blooms against withering deciduous foliage (*Perideridia gairdneri*, Baldy).



August rain falls on a parched landscape. Water droplets collect on snowberry leaves and magnify their venation (*Symphoricarpos albus*, Boondocks).



Both pearly everlasting and pussytoes possess flower heads with dry papery bracts (*Anaphalis margaritacea*, Boondocks).



The bitter fruits of chokecherry provide food for bears, rodents, birds, and hares. The pit contains the compound prussic acid, making the raw fruit poisonous to humans. Cooking or drying the fruit breaks down the poisonous compounds (*Prunus virginiana*, North Ridge).



Brilliant plains coreopsis thrives among the kochia. (*Coreopsis tinctoria*, North Center Pivot).



A juba skipper clings to knapweed's spine-tipped bracts. Knapweed blooms across elevations and microsites simultaneously. (*Centaurea stoebe*, Whaley).



The most common aster of the forest, showy aster's periwinkle flowers appear in late summer and bloom into early fall (*Eurybia conspicua*, Baldy).



J.W. Blankinship, one of western Montana's earliest botanists, noted in 1905 that sticky currant was a prized fruit for local Native Americans (*Ribes viscosissimum*, Baldy).



The sticky involucre of curlycup gumweed attracts insects. This late blooming plant in the Asteraceae prefers disturbed areas such as old roadbeds and road shoulders (*Grindelia squarrosa*, North Ridge).



Such ephemeral abundance, now summer slips towards fall, green bleeds to red, and silence holds it all (*Physocarpus malvaceus*, Native).