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Scenic Resources Report

Craggy Project

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Siskiyou County, California

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SCENIC RESOURCES REPORT

Introduction

The purpose of this report is to analyze the effects of the Craggy Project alternatives on scenic resource values. The project proposes one no-action alternative and two action alternatives. The two action alternatives have varying combinations of fuel breaks, brush mastication, underburning, and thinning with and without forest product removal.

The Forest Service visual resource management system, the Forest Plan visual quality objectives, and standards and guides for visual resource management guide the amount, degree, intensity, and distribution of management activities needed to achieve desired scenic conditions.

Specifically:

- Forest Service Manual Chapter 2380 (Landscape Management) requires the assessment and documentation of project impacts on scenic resource values, and the proposal of mitigation measures (project design features) and scenic integrity objectives.
- US Department of Agriculture Handbooks 434, 462 and 559 are components of series of handbooks that help define the nationally-established principles and methods of the visual resource management system (VRM), and define visual quality objectives used in the Klamath National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan of 1995 (Forest Plan).
- The Forest Plan visual quality objectives cover every acre of the Klamath National Forest (Forest). Per the Forest Plan (1995, as amended, pp. 4-7), general forest-wide management direction calls for:
 1. Managing visual resources to conserve the natural scenic character of the Forest.
 2. Emphasize management of the visual resource seen from communities, high-use recreation areas and major roads and trails.
 3. Conserve the inherent scenic attractiveness of distinctive landscapes.
 4. Rehabilitate areas not currently meeting visual quality objectives.

Because the wild and scenic river corridor of the Klamath River occupies a very small portion of the project area (six acres of private ownership at the confluence with Humbug Creek), and is located away from project activities, no wild and scenic river report will be included as a part of this analysis.

Methodology

This evaluation applies current National Forest Landscape Management methodology in conjunction with existing Forest Plan direction. It relies on geospatial information system analysis, field observations from sensitive viewpoints, modeling to determine visibility of Project

activities, and a literature review of public preferences for scenic quality. This evaluation relies on the following assumptions:

Assumption 1: The project alternative activities in modification or maximum modification visual quality objective areas would typically meet their assigned visual quality objectives. Frequently, activities in modification and maximum modification are generally not visible from moderate or high sensitivity viewpoints or travel routes (roads or trails).

Assumption 2: Public sensitivity is not necessarily related to aesthetic appeal. Visual significance may be conferred to broad landscapes or components that would otherwise appear unexceptional. Areas having local, regional, or national cultural significance may not be aesthetically scenic, yet their visual character is considered important based on cultural values. Therefore, baseline descriptions for visual impact analysis does not measure the aesthetic appeal, but the indicators of sensitivity help infer the importance of an affected landscape (Port of Los Angeles, Appendix B., 2011).

Scenic resource analysis follows this general process:

- Qualifying the existing landscape character of the project area. Landscape character is based on the existing physical features inherent to the project area. Physical features include ecological and cultural (human) processes, function (land use or ecological relationships), and structure (feature patterns, such as natural and irregular mosaics of agricultural practices, forests, fields, and cultural development). Note that character is not necessarily based on aesthetic appeal, regardless of established regulations, plans, or policies, such as public sensitivity. (Port of Los Angeles, Appendix B., 2011).
- Literature review of appropriate forest aesthetics and forest science research in order to apply broad, transferrable lessons regarding public preferences towards forested environment aesthetics.
- Identifying all Forest Plan and post-Forest Plan recommended public recreation sites within the project area, as well as identified recreation sites outside of the project area with potential views of the proposed alternatives.
- Identifying all Forest Plan and post-Plan recommended high and moderately sensitive travel routes (roads and trails) with potential views of proposed alternatives, inside and outside the project area boundary. Locations identified in the Forest Plan are those public viewing areas most affected by the subject action; meaning they have the greatest potential for impact intensity due to proximity to the project, visibility, view duration, or other factors. The degree of visual sensitivity is based on a collective function of viewer expectations, activity, awareness, values, and goals.

- Completing geospatial information system viewshed analyses from all Forest Plan and post Plan identified viewpoints and travel routes to determine proposed project alternative visibility.
- Representative views where proposed project alternative will be most noticeable (based on proximity, degree, and duration of viewing exposure, as well as views representative of the public experience) are selected for detailed analysis.
- Comparing proposed project alternative treatment prescriptions with visual quality objective overlay mapping, combined with professional judgment, helps determine the amount, degree, intensity, and distribution of visible change (as the change is viewed, dependent on the foreground, middleground, and background viewing distance zones); this step informs the development of appropriate project design features.
- Develop project design features that meet Forest Plan visual quality objective and visual resource management thresholds, in conjunction with meeting additional resource area objectives.

Literature Review

According to Ryan (2005) and Islas (2012), peer-reviewed forest aesthetics research reveal common patterns in public preferences regarding perceptions of a scenic forest. These consistencies range across North American and European forest types. Although the research focuses on fuels management, these general patterns also apply to timber management.

According to the research, the public values the following visual characteristics:

- Large mature trees,
- Forests with more open structure; views into the understory are generally considered more scenic than those with extremely dense understory,
- The amount of thinning varies by topography and forest type; however, partial clearing of up to 50 percent in a dispersed pattern may be visually acceptable in moderately sensitive areas, especially with large tree retention,
- Downed wood from timber harvesting and tree thinning has a negative impact on scenic beauty. Removing dead wood or chipping onsite can greatly increase scenic rating on thinning projects,
- Low-intensity prescribed burning generally improves long-term scenic beauty, but also may have short-term negative visual impacts, such as tree bole (trunk) scorching and burned mosaic patterns along the forest floor and vegetation.

Although the public has common expectations of what they perceive as scenic, the patterns listed above are not appropriate for every forest type and ecosystem. Furthermore, according to Nassauer (1992) and Gobster (1999), some aspects of forest management may not be visually appealing to the public, even though positive short and long-term ecological benefits can be

achieved. In order to balance the two, as well as meet all Forest Plan visual and ecological objectives, project design features are implemented, mitigating effects to forest ecological and aesthetic resource objectives, so both are met to a successful degree. Project design features are listed in chapter 2 of the Craggy Environmental Impact Statement.

Analysis Indicators

Visual Quality Objectives

Proposed landscape treatments are measured against the Forest Plan identified thresholds for acceptable visual change. Visual quality objectives, per Agricultural Handbook 462 are defined below:

- *Retention*: Management activities are *not visually evident*, and may only repeat form, line, color, and texture, which are frequently found in the landscape. Changes in their qualities of size, amount, intensity, direction, pattern, etc., should not be evident.
- *Partial Retention*: Management activities are noticeable, but remain *visually subordinate* to the characteristic landscape, and may repeat form, line, color, or texture common in the landscape.
- *Modification*: Vegetation and landform management activities *may visually dominate* the original characteristic landscape; however, they must *borrow from the naturally-established form, line, color, or texture at a level and scale that the visual appearance of the activity mimics those natural features occurring within the surrounding area*.
- *Maximum Modification*: Vegetation and landform management activities *may dominate* the characteristic landscape; however, *when viewed in the background zone (three to five miles), the visual appearance must mimic those natural features within the surrounding area or character type*. When viewed in *foreground or middle ground*, the activity may *not appear to completely borrow from the naturally-established form, line, color, or texture*.

Measures

Forest Plan inventoried viewpoints and travel routes

Scenic resources are evaluated from Forest Plan-designated sensitive viewpoints, roads, trails, as well as recreation points with extended viewing times.

Distance Zones

As part of the measure of visible change from inventoried viewpoints and travel routes, distance zones are important divisions of the landscape as viewed by the public. Foreground views generally offer more detail at a smaller scale, in terms of textures, patterns, and forms, whereas middleground and background viewing distance zones offer less details, frequently at larger scales. In terms of project analysis, distance zones are important based on the proximity of project activities to the viewer. As defined in the Agricultural Handbook 462:

- **Foreground:** The detailed landscape found within 0-0.25 and 0.5 miles from the observer.
- **Middleground:** The landscape located between 0.25 and 0.5 miles to three to five miles from the observer.
- **Background:** The distant landscape located between three to five miles and infinity.

Table 1: Evaluation Viewpoints and how they are Considered

Viewpoint/Road/Trail	Visual Sensitivity Level	Distance Zone
County Road 7J002 (Hawkinsville)	Moderate	Foreground, Middleground
County Road 7H01 (Greenhorn)	High (first 1.3 miles – the high-sensitivity designation ends 0.4 miles west of the junction of Bennett Drive)	Foreground, Middleground
County Road 7H01 (Greenhorn)	Moderate (8.5 miles to analysis area boundary at the junction of Deadwood Creek Road)	Foreground, Middleground
Forest Road 45N28	Moderate	Foreground, Middleground, Background
Forest Road 45N39	Moderate	Foreground, Middleground
Humbug OHV Area (and associated trails)	Moderate	Foreground, Middleground
Yreka (Community)	High	Middleground, Background
Visual Sensitivity Level: High: High public use, corresponding with a high level of visual scenery interest. Moderate: Moderate public use, corresponding with a moderate level of visual scenery interest.		

Spatial and Temporal Bounding of Analysis Area

The spatial bounding includes the entire project area within the boundary for direct, indirect, and cumulative effects, and also includes the following areas beyond the boundary:

- The community of Yreka, and,
- Portions of County Road 7H01 (Greenhorn Road) affected by a proposed fuelbreak.

Temporal boundaries for scenic resource contrasts (or effects) caused by project activities encompass many variables. Here, professional judgment is used to describe the temporal range and the more common short and long-term visual evidence that may be seen as a result of the collective range of treatments proposed for this Project. Key variables considered here include the distance zone. For example, the details of the more immediate effects of forest management are more visually apparent in foreground than in middleground and background. In middleground and background, overall form (such as shape or mass), textures and line contrasts generally become more apparent. For example, thinning treatments that reduce canopy cover may create line edges when contrasted against denser forest canopy surrounding the treatment boundary and therefore, appear unnatural. Depending on the angle of viewing and the distance zone, reduction in the canopy cover may also increase the appearance of coarser textures by

breaking up the continuity of a potentially denser canopy cover surrounding treatment areas. This also may appear unnatural.

Additional variables include how quickly vegetation responds (regrowth) to the collective range of treatments. Response depends on the type of vegetation, intensity and type of treatment, aspect, elevation, soils, and many other factors. Over time and when viewed as a whole, vegetation response generally tends toward a decrease in the visual contrasts (or effects) seen as a result of human manipulation. For example, foliage regrowth such as needles or leaves will eventually decrease views into the forest understory, while grass and shrub regrowth may conceal stumps in some locations. Seasonal leaf and needle litter fall may also visually mask ground disturbance and stumps in some locations. Stumps and slash also begin to weather and decompose, generally becoming more subdued in color. Decomposition rates depend on climactic and biological factors, such as temperature and moisture, as well as the amount and type of microbes and soil animals present.

Because of the variation described above, short-term scenery contrasts (effects) may range between three and 10 years. Generally, beyond 10 years, the effects of soil and vegetation contrasts, slash, and stumps decrease, depending on decomposition rates and vegetation response. Long-term effects are also variable, and may range longer than 10 years and up to 45 years for all distance viewing zones. While some visual effects may be seen beyond 45 years, it is assumed here that all proposed treatments in the Project area without intervening treatments will appear natural to the public. Note that as required by Forest Plan analysis, these are the treatments seen in all viewing distance zones from Level 1 and 2 (high and moderate) visual sensitivity roads, the Humbug Off-Highway Vehicle Recreation Area and associated trails. Because Visual Quality Objectives cover every acre of the Klamath National Forest, effects include all seen areas affected by proposed project alternatives within and outside of the project area, regardless of visual sensitivity levels.

Affected Environment

Current Topography, Hydrology, and Vegetation:

Encompassing approximately 29,500 acres, the Craggy Project consists of rugged topography with elevations ranging from just under 2,000 feet along the Klamath River to approximately 6,200 feet near McKinley Mountain. The topography is heavily influenced by the ridgeline that bounds the project area at all cardinal points, except for a break at the confluence of Humbug Creek and the Klamath River. Humbug Creek and associated tributaries also influence the topography of deeply-incised drainages. Major peaks along the ridgeline include China Peak and Vesa Bluffs to the north, Deadwood Baldy Peak, McKinley Mountain, Gunsight Peak, Mahogany Point, and Montana Peak to the west and south, and Badger Mountain to the east.

Vegetation is generally dominated by Douglas-fir natural conifer stands, with ponderosa pine, white fir, sugar pine, and incense cedar in lesser amounts. Plantations are dominated by

ponderosa and Jeffrey pine, with lesser amounts of Douglas-fir, sugar pine, white fir, and incense cedar.

The eastern ridgeline boundary and east-facing slopes of the project area form the sense of place backdrop (for background on the multiple meanings of “sense of place” within a forest management context, refer to Stedman 2003) for those living within the community of Yreka and its immediate surroundings. Throughout the project area, and especially as seen from Yreka, slope vegetation patterns, natural and created openings, road lines, and other landscape details become more visible under appropriate atmospheric conditions, such as when highlighted by sunlight, or by snow events. Conversely, they become less visible during precipitation, or when concealed by low cloud cover or fog.

Vegetation patterns are pronounced throughout the project area, and the appearance is either one of textures, such as interspersed mixed conifers and brush across the slopes in foreground and middleground views, or a dense and continuous conifer, and oak and brush canopy in middleground and background views. As seen during field reconnaissance, there is visual evidence of oak savanna being out-competed by conifers in some areas. The landscape elements of the watershed can be best characterized as heterogeneous, fragmented, patchy, and finely-textured (USDA 1993).

Culture and Disturbance:

A network of Siskiyou County and Forest Service roads traverse the project area, facilitating access to the Humbug Off-highway Vehicle area. Evidence of road lines and scattered private residences, or other evidence of human habitation are seen in middleground views across the project area.

Most of the project area lies within the extent of the 1955 Haystack Fire, and much of the post-fire area was salvage logged and reforested (refer to the Silviculture Report for more details). Part of these timber operations resulted in the visual evidence of terrace forestry, as revealed in unnatural-appearing vegetation patterns as seen in middleground and background views. In foreground views, the terraced slopes are prominent, as are the planted tree rows.

Before Forest Service stewardship, the Humbug landscape was heavily disturbed by mining activities beginning with hand placer mining in the early 1850s to 1860s. Hydraulic mining began in the 1870s and played out during the 1880s. Miners then moved upslope out of drainages to mine lode deposits, creating the scattered adits and tailings now seen throughout the watershed (Stumpf 1979).

Human-caused and natural fire was the main disturbance mechanism that dominated the appearance of vegetation in the Klamath Mountains (Whitaker 1960). Overall, the project area was affected by frequent fires of low to mixed severity (Skinner and Taylor 2006, Taylor and Skinner 1998). Original vegetation patterns were likely characterized by complex mosaics of age, size, and spatial structure (Wills 1991). Early 20th century accounts of pine and mixed conifer forests noted similar spatial structure patterns of wide tree spacing, denser tree clumps or

groupings, small dense patches of seedlings and saplings, non-forested openings, shrub fields and meadows (Larson and Churchill 2012).

Overall, past disturbance patterns of fire suppression, mining, logging, and replanting have altered the project area vegetation from the more irregular, open, and structurally diverse patterns ecologically established by the historic fire regimes. The current condition comparatively is a much more uniform and dense forest and shrub habitat, with smaller openings. This condition trends away from meeting forest ecological health objectives and the Forest Plan standard of perpetuating ecologically-established scenery.

Environmental Consequences

Alternative 1

Direct and Indirect Effects

This alternative would not produce any short- or long-term visual contrasts (e.g., typical effects of management from thinning, mastication, creation of fuel breaks, and under burning), or directly change the project area's existing disturbances as viewed from all inventoried moderately and highly sensitive travel routes and viewpoints. Visual quality objectives would not negatively be affected to the scale or intensity that would detract from its natural or socially-valued appearance.

Long-term indirect effects may include gradually decreasing views into the forest understory, or decreasing views from open viewpoints as seen from former landing sites, or along line-of-sight vistas, as seen from road and riparian corridors. Barring any major future natural or cultural disturbances, a combination of natural and culturally-created openings along ridgelines, as seen in middleground and background views may gradually decrease in size, eventually creating the appearance of an unbroken forest canopy. Project area existing visual disturbances that are noticeable from all viewing distances may generally reduce over time through revegetation, in the absence of future human or natural disturbances.

Additional long-term effects include the general decrease of vegetation structural diversity over time, and the density of vegetation would increase through cumulative growth cycles. The effects of Alternative 1 will negatively move the analysis area for this indicator further away from what is identified as its ecologically-established landscape character. All visual quality objectives will not be affected by this alternative.

With increased vegetation density, there will be the potential decline of fire-adapted vegetation, as well as the decline of forest ecological resiliency to insects and disease. Within the project area and beyond, the probability will increase for future strong landscape visual contrasts created by non-ecologically or historically established high-severity wildfire, insect infestation outbreaks, or a combination of insect infestation and subsequent tree mortality, followed by

high-severity wildfire events. These potential events could negatively affect the visual quality objectives.

Cumulative Effects

Adding the effects of Alternative 1 to the effects of the past, current and reasonably foreseeable future actions described in Appendix C of the Craggy Environmental Impact Statement, will not result in measureable cumulative effects on scenery.

Alternatives 2 and 3

Direct and Indirect Effects

Alternative 2 proposes treatments on approximately 36 percent of the project area's 29,500 acres through a combination of fuel breaks, brush mastication, underburning, and thinning with and without forest product removal. Alternative 3 proposes treatments on approximately 38 percent of the project area's 29,500 acres through a similar combination of fuel breaks, brush mastication, underburning, and thinning with and without forest product removal as seen in Alternative 2; however, there will be an acreage increase proposed for fuel breaks and thinning without removal, and acreage decrease for mastication and thinning with removal. Additionally, there will be a decrease in temporary roads for Alternative 3. See chapter 2 for specific details. For scenic resources, the direct and indirect effects will be the same for Alternative 2 and Alternative 3.

Collectively, these treatments will create minor short-term visual contrasts, along with short- and long-term scenic resource and ecosystem benefits, and will not negatively affect the visual quality objectives to the scale or intensity that would detract from its natural or socially-valued appearance. These benefits will visually improve the spatial and structural characteristics of scenic resources, as well as increasing insect, disease and fire resiliency of those treated portions of the forest. Desired visual characteristics include a more diverse vegetation structure as well as a more open forest understory, which are two of the attributes the general public considers aesthetically pleasing. These characteristics benefit from the improved forest ecological function that will be a result of implementing the treatments in Alternative 2 or 3. Increased tree spacing will increase resilience to insect and disease outbreaks and wildfire, and the same irregular spatial structure will mimic the ecologically-established landscape character historically created by a low-mixed severity fire regime.

As previously mentioned in the methodology section of this report, although the short-term visual evidence of low-intensity (and the assumption of medium and high-intensity) prescribed burning is generally perceived as negative, the short- and long-term ecological benefits outweigh these negative short-term visual perceptions.

Foreground view effects: short-term direct and indirect management effects in foreground views for all project area visual quality objectives, as seen from Forest Plan inventoried viewpoints,

trails, and along designated highly and moderately traveled roads may include: tangible and intangible elements associated with active forest management during project implementation, such as harvesting activity, noise, dust, and traffic along haul routes. Additional short-term effects include the change in vegetation density and spacing during and immediately upon project completion, cut stumps, tree paint and flagging as seen from project area trails and moderately-traveled roads, exposed soils (such as decomposed granite, which tends to have a greater visual color contrast than the surrounding terrain), large concentrated slash piles in new and existing landings or along trails and moderately traveled roads, skyline corridors and ground-based units, as well as linear evidence of skyline corridors, as expressed through soil disturbance. Additional short-term effects from underburning include tree bole (trunk) scorching, mortality of small trees, and mosaic burn patterns on the forest floor.

Long-term effects in foreground views for all project area visual quality objectives may include cut stump patterns as seen from project area non-designated high and moderately sensitive (traveled) roads, tree paint and flagging, exposed soils with greater visual color contrasts than surrounding terrain, large concentrated slash piles in new and existing landings or along trails and roads, skyline corridors and ground-based units, as well as linear evidence of skyline corridors.

Long-term underburning effects will gradually decrease over time, as will the contrast change in vegetation massing, as vegetation growth responds to increased sunlight in the gaps.

Short-term effects in middleground and background views for all project area visual quality objectives may include: change in vegetation massing (form and texture, when contrasted against non-treated stands), exposed soils from landings, and linear evidence (seen in both line and color contrast) of skyline corridors or skid roads and existing road alignments exposed by a decrease in vegetation.

Long-term effects in middleground and background views for all project area visual quality objectives may include change in vegetation massing (form and texture, when compared against non-treated stands), linear evidence of skyline corridors or skid roads and existing road alignments exposed by a decrease in vegetation.

Project design features will guide the implementation of treatments so the respective visual quality objectives will be met within the designated time-frame, especially those foreground areas along designated moderate sensitivity roads, trails, and forest plan-designated viewpoints, and in middleground views as seen from the Yreka community and surrounding area. Overall, the quality of the ecologically-established landscape character will be improved through Alternative 2 or 3 treatments.

Cumulative Effects

Past actions are described in the affected environment section of this report. The following are ongoing and reasonably foreseeable future actions considered within the project area that have bearing on scenic resources and the analysis indicator.

There are no ongoing actions by the Forest Service within the project area, other than current ongoing use and maintenance of roads and trails.

The Badger timber harvest plan will treat approximately 48 acres in through a combination of clearcutting and shelterwood removal with tractor logging. Located along the north slope of Badger Mountain, it is expected that there will be strong line visual contrasts associated with this project between 10 and 20 years after it is complete, or until the vegetation grows to the extent to reduce the contrasts. The public may be able to view these contrasts from California State Highway 96 coming eastbound in the western vicinity of the Tree of Heaven Campground, but this depends on the actual location of the harvest units. Due to topography, Alternative 2 or 3 treatments for the Craggy Project will not be seen in combination with the Badger timber harvest plan treatments. Additionally, with project design features, Alternative 2 and 3 will not induce non-natural line or textural visual contrasts, and will not negatively affect the visual quality objectives to the scale or intensity that would detract from its natural or socially-valued appearance.

Therefore, no cumulative effects in time and space are expected in association with the Badger timber harvest plan.

Comparison of Alternatives

Table 2: Scenery Comparison of Effects.

Indicator	Alternative 1	Alternatives 2 and 3
Visual Quality Objectives	Existing visual disturbances are minor and widespread. This alternative meets the Forest Plan thresholds for all sensitive views. There will be no new visual impacts; however there will be increasing future risk for ecosystem disturbances, such as high-severity wildfire, and insect outbreaks.	There will be widespread new minor visual disturbances within designated viewsheds for 1-3 years. With project design features, Forest Plan visual quality objective thresholds for all designated views and road and trail travel corridors will be met.

Compliance with law, regulation, policy, and the Forest Plan

Alternatives 2 and 3 will comply with relevant law, regulation, and policy. Alternative 1 will negatively affect the project area's existing scenic resources and will continue the trend away from vegetation spatial patterns established by a low to mixed severity fire regime, which is not consistent with Forest-wide Klamath National Forest Plan Standard 11-4, which gives direction to "perpetuate the ecologically established landscape character."

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Appendix A - Project Area Photographs



Figure 1: September, 2016: Typical View along Forest Road 46N27, Looking Southeast Across the Humbug Drainage. Existing Forest Vegetation Patterns in Foreground and Middleground Views. N 41° 48' 32.28", W 122° 46' 07.90", 4,253' Elevation.

In general, effects from vegetation management are seen more easily in foreground views from the roadside.



Figure 2: September, 2016: Typical view along Forest Road 45N28 (moderate visual sensitivity), looking southeast. N 41° X44' 41.48", W 122° 42' 34.35", 5,140' Elevation

The Yreka community is just out of site beyond the left image edge. Existing forest vegetation patterns in foreground, middleground, and background views.



Figure 3: December, 2016: View of the Sense of Place Backdrop from Miner Street in Downtown Yreka.. N 41° 43' 55.60", W 122° 38' 16.88", 2,625' Elevation.

The ridgeline is approximately 3.5 miles away from this point, in the middleground.

Appendix B – Maps

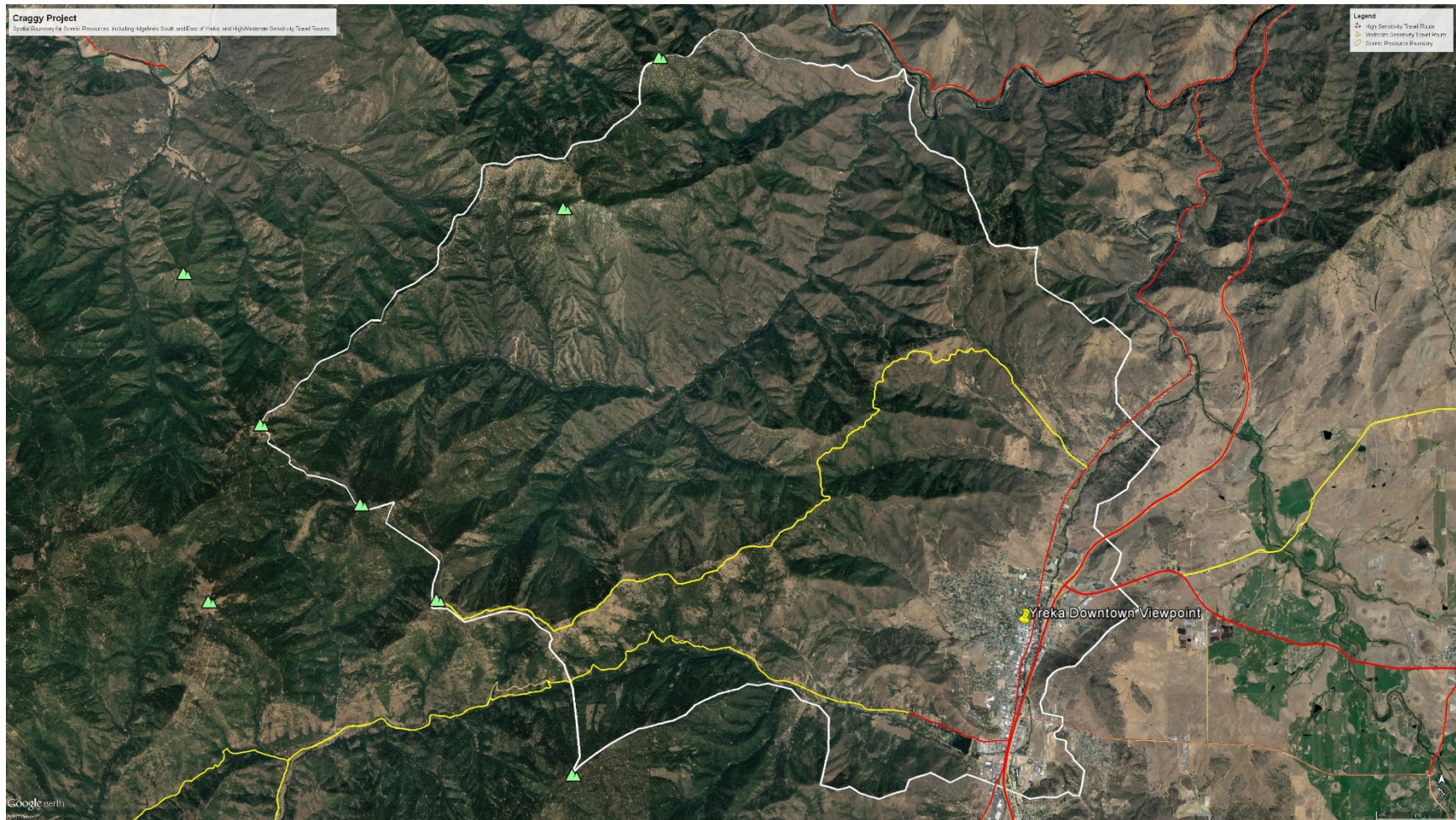


Figure 4: Spatial Boundary for Scenic Resources, to Include Ridgelines South and East of the Yreka Community.

Also indicated are the Forest Plan-designated high and moderate sensitivity travel routes. Yellow indicates those travel routes with moderate public interest in scenery, and red indicates those travel routes with high public interest in sensitivity.

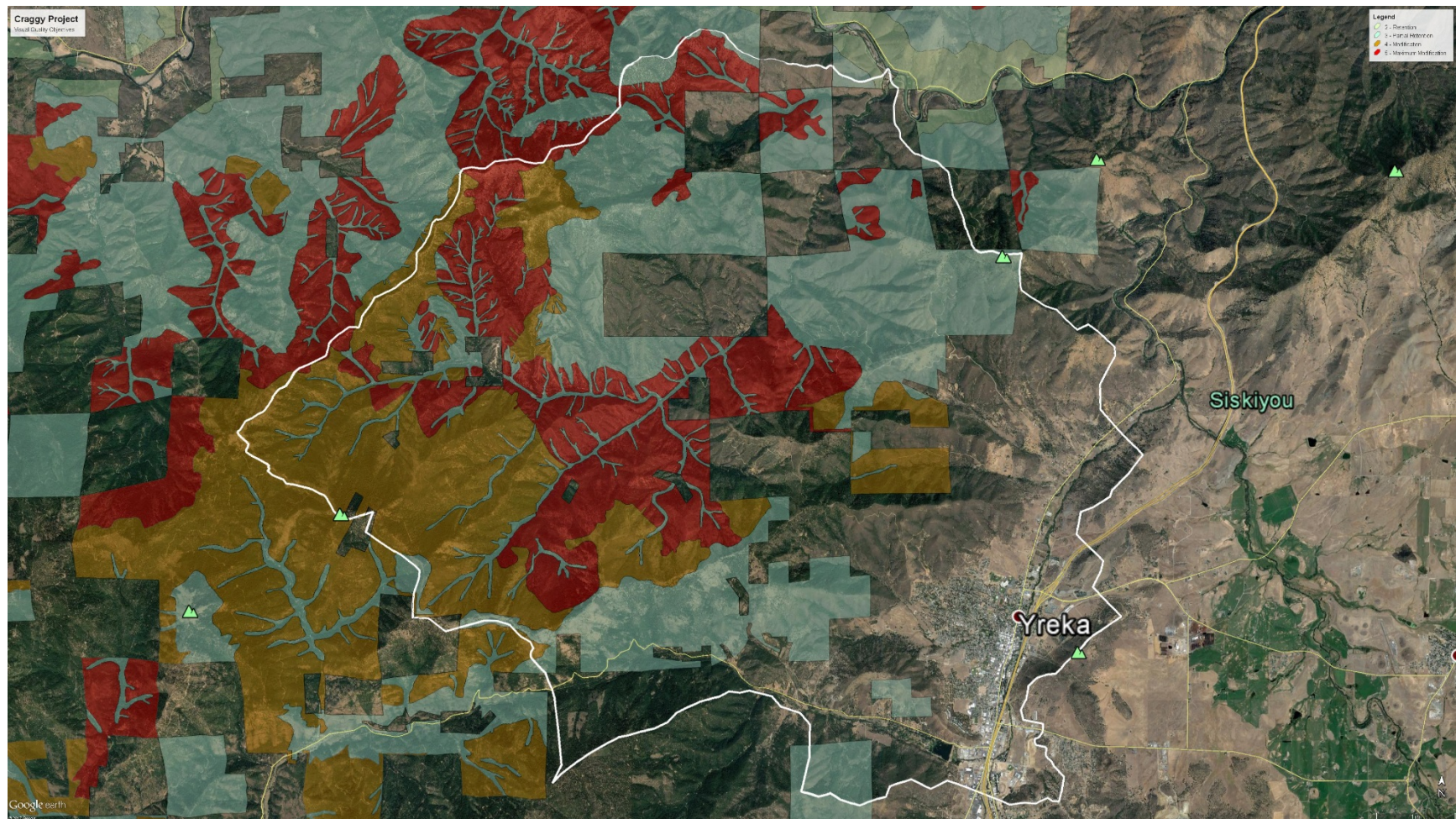


Figure 5: Forest Plan-Designated Visual Quality Objectives for the Project Area.

Green transparent polygons (upper right, along the Klamath River) indicate Retention. Transparent blue/green polygons indicate Partial Retention. Transparent orange polygons indicate Modification, and transparent red polygons indicate Maximum Modification.

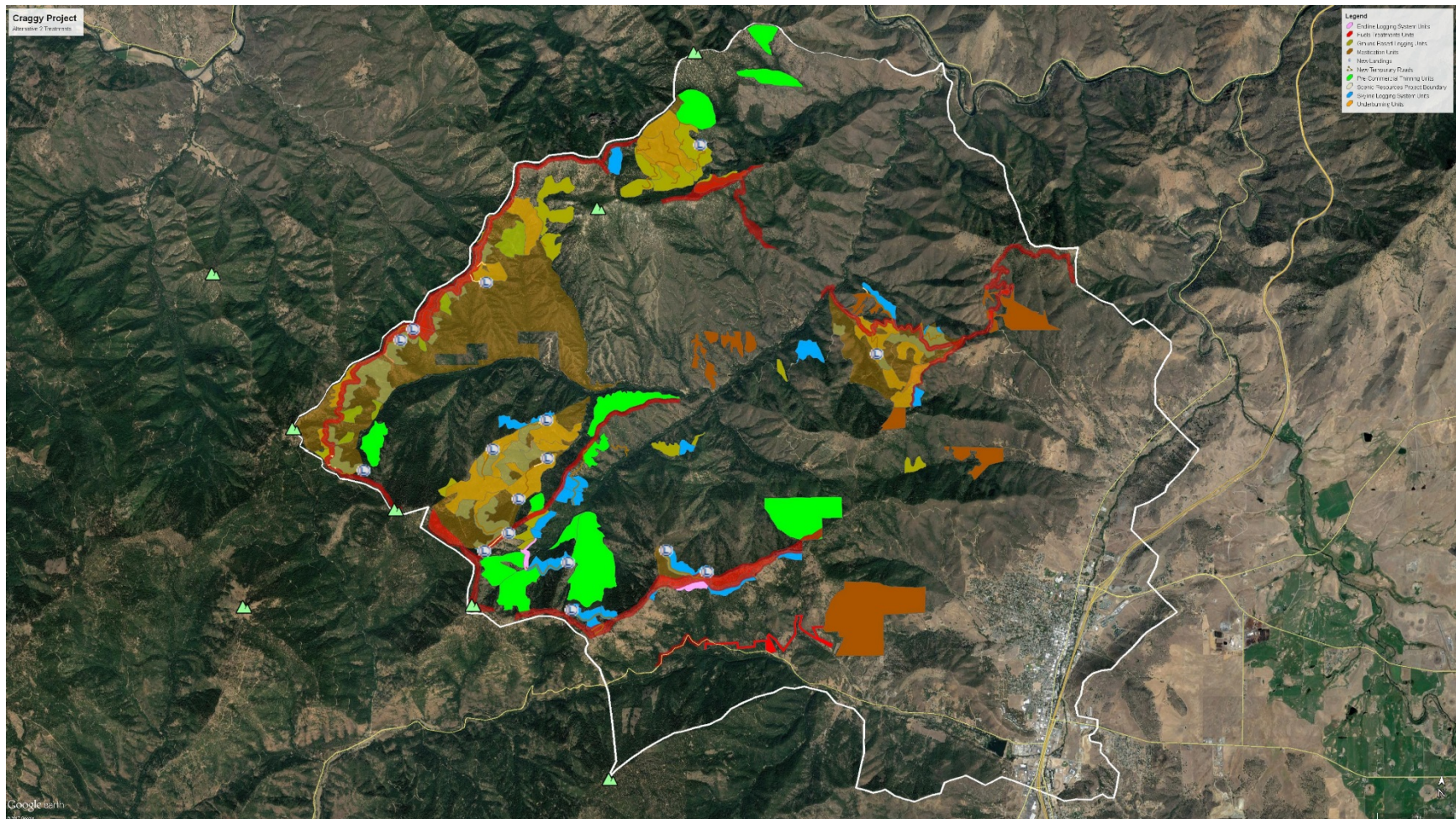


Figure 6: Alternative 2 Proposed Treatments in the Project Area.

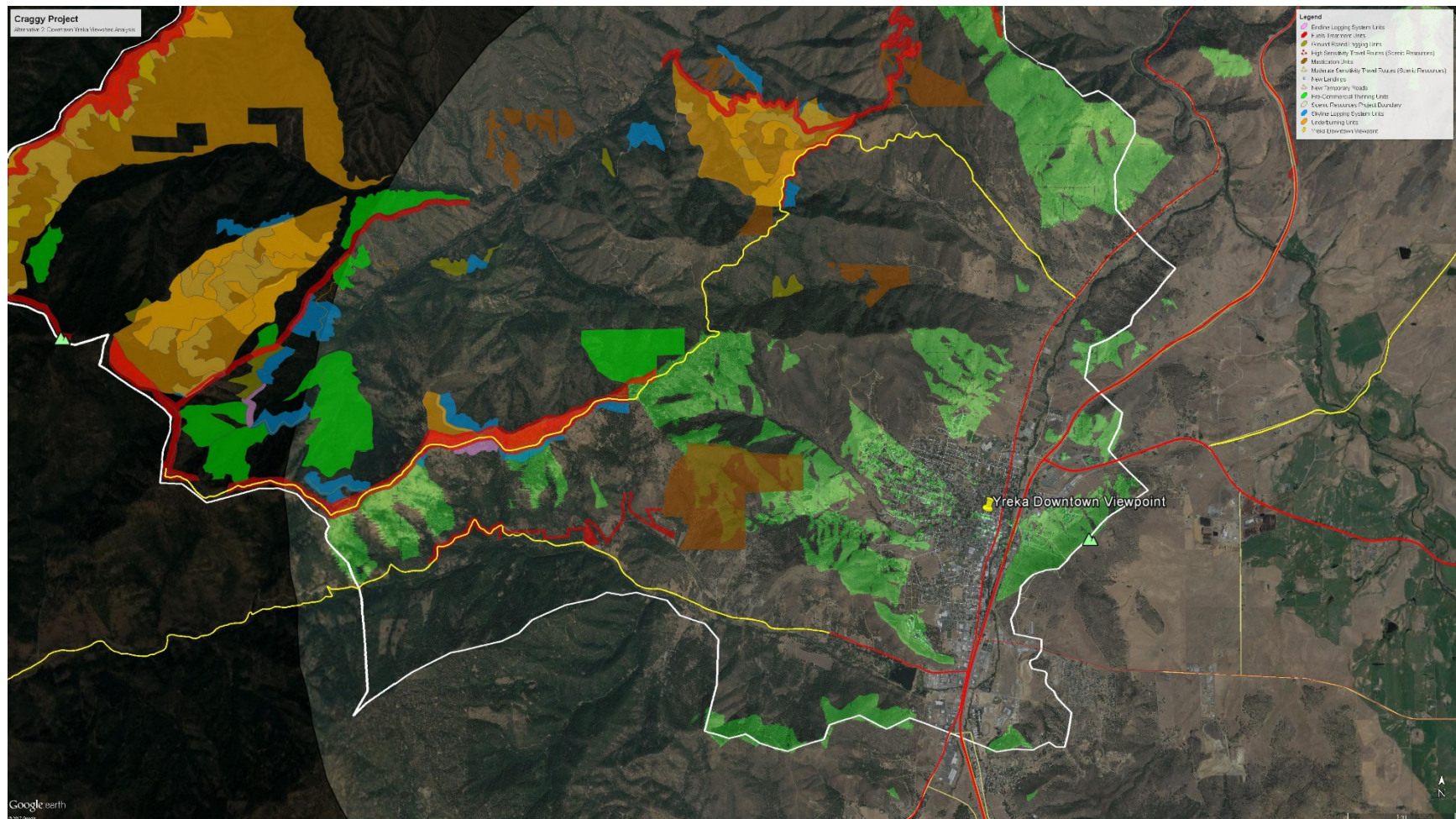


Figure 7: Downtown Yreka Forest Plan-Designated Viewpoint and Viewshed Analysis of Alternative 2 Proposed Treatments.

Light green shaded areas indicate the seen areas from downtown. Note these seen areas are depicted as a “bare earth” visual analysis, and do not account for physical objects, such as buildings, structures, and vegetation, that obstruct views.

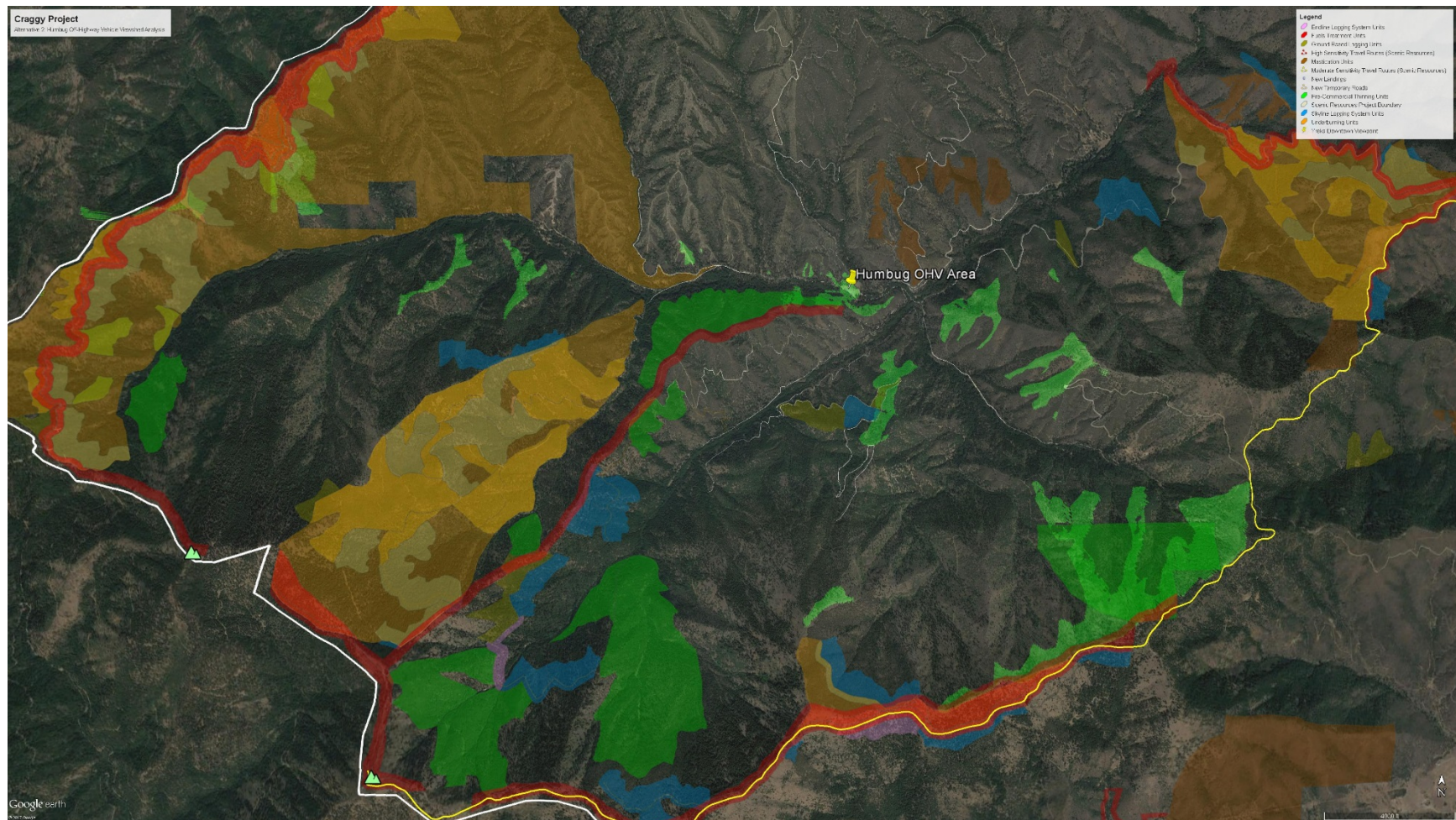


Figure 8: Humbug Off-highway Vehicle Recreation Area Viewpoint and Viewshed Analysis of Alternative 2 Proposed Treatments.

Light green shaded areas indicate the seen areas from the Humbug recreation area. Note these seen areas are depicted as a “bare earth” visual analysis, and do not account for vegetation obstructing the view.

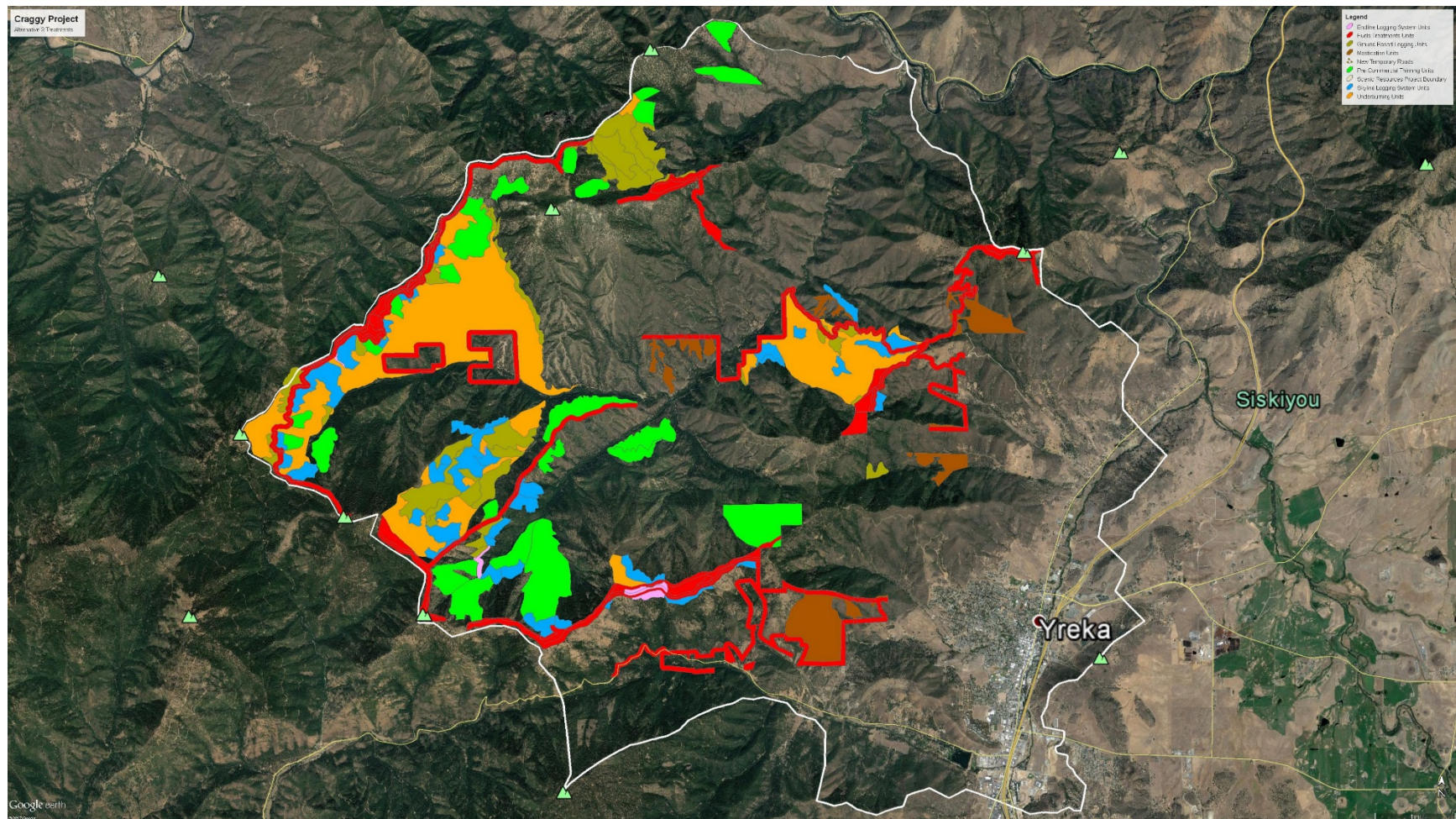


Figure 9: Alternative 3 Proposed Treatments in the Project Area.

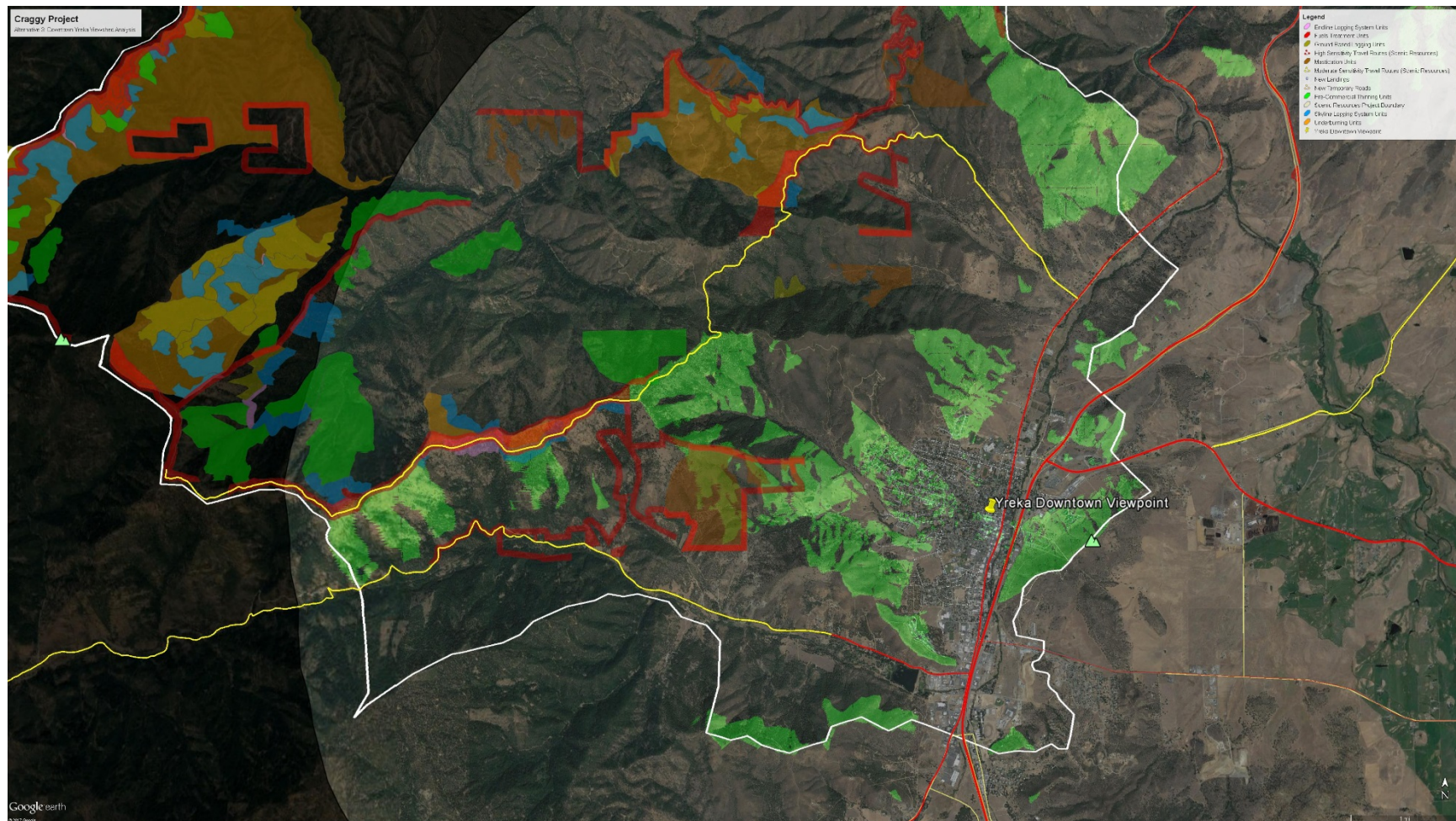


Figure 10: Downtown Yreka Forest Plan-Designated Viewpoint and Viewshed Analysis of Alternative 3 Proposed Treatments.

Light green shaded areas indicate the seen areas from downtown. Note these seen areas are depicted as a “bare earth” visual analysis, and do not account for physical objects, such as buildings, structures, and vegetation, that obstruct views.

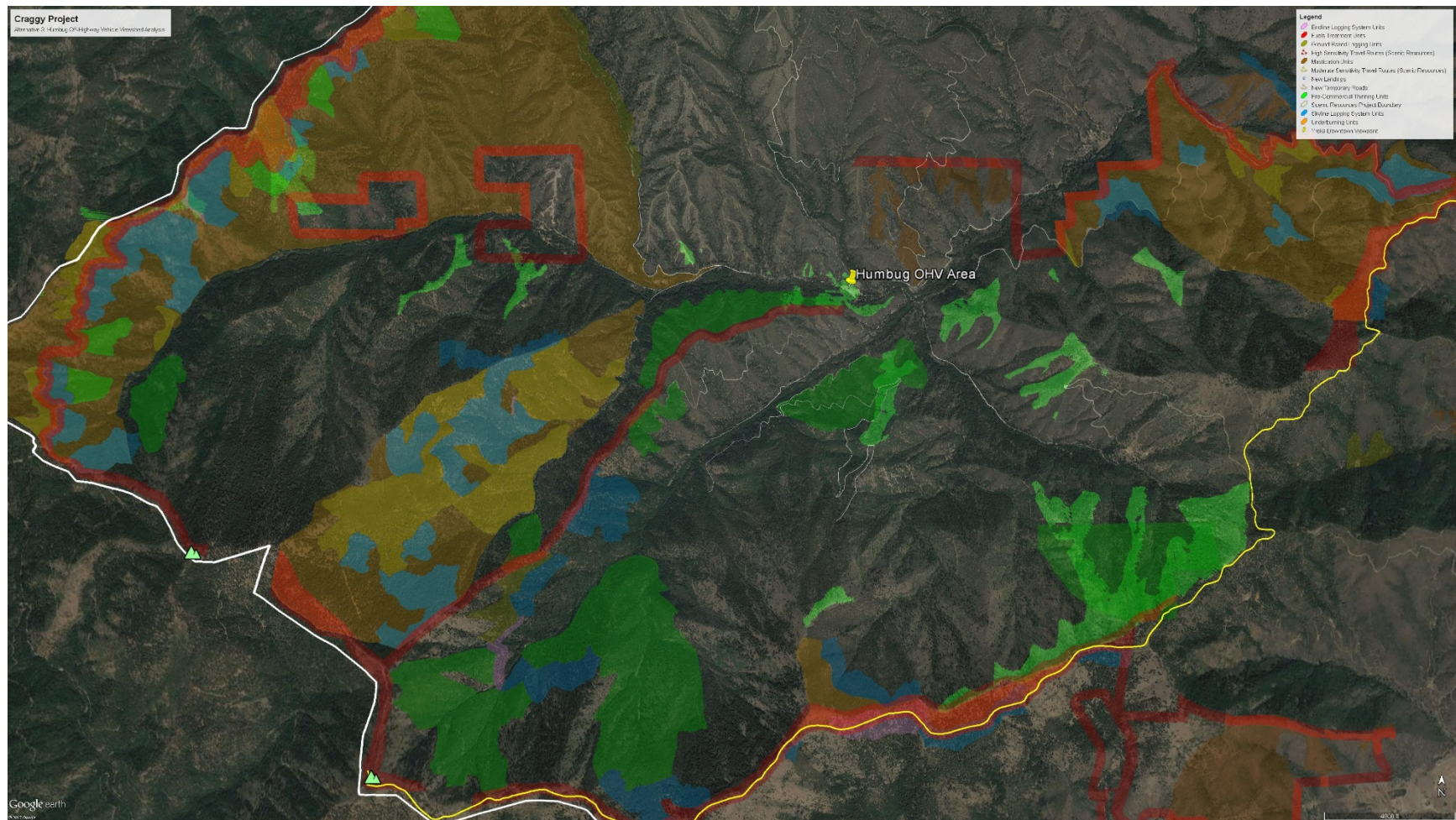


Figure 11: Humbug Off-highway Vehicle Recreation Area Viewpoint and Viewshed Analysis of Alternative 3 Proposed Treatments.

Light green shaded areas indicate the seen areas from the Humbug recreation area. Note these seen areas are depicted as a “bare earth” visual analysis, and do not account for vegetation obstructing the view.