

Appendix H

Special-Status Species Surveys Conducted by PacifiCorp

This appendix provides information on special-status species based on surveys conducted by PacifiCorp and originally documented in:

Terrestrial Resources Final Technical Report. Klamath Hydroelectric Project (FERC Project No. 2082). PacifiCorp, Portland, Oregon. February, 2004.

The PacifiCorp study considered special-status species as plant and wildlife species with federal status through the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Bureau of Land Management (BLM), U.S. Forest Service (USFS), or with state status in Oregon or California. The study also included federal threatened and endangered species (TES), federal candidate species, and federal species of concern, as well as state threatened and endangered species, state sensitive species, and state species of concern. The study included BLM and USFS Sensitive Species, Assessment Species, and Tracking Species, along with Survey and Manage species identified in the Northwest Forest Plan. In addition, species that were considered culturally sensitive for Indian Tribes and species of special interest or of economic significance were also addressed.

The list of special-status plant species for the PacifiCorp study was developed through agency consultation and included 65 vascular plants, three bryophytes, and ten lichens that could occur in the study area. In addition, a list of culturally sensitive species was provided by the Cultural Resources Working Group. The list of special-status wildlife species was developed in consultation with the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, BLM, the Oregon Natural Heritage Program, now known as the Oregon Biodiversity Information Center, and the California Department of Fish and Game and includes 107 vertebrates (12 amphibians, 5 reptiles, 67 birds, and 23 mammals), 18 mollusks, and 4 insects.

PacifiCorp conducted focused surveys for special-status plants from May–July 2002 at representative cross sections of all the major habitats and topographic features in the study area, particularly in areas with a high potential for supporting the special-status plants. Several sites were revisited later in 2002 and in 2003. Special-status wildlife surveys were conducted in 2002 and 2003 in suitable habitat, identified on the basis of preliminary results of vegetation cover type mapping and in consultation with the resource agencies.

PacifiCorp conducted special-status amphibian surveys at ponds and wetlands, in selected tributary streams, and during a limited number of upland surveys in mesic coniferous

habitat. Focused surveys were conducted for Oregon spotted frog and foothill yellow-legged frog. Survey locations were identified in consultation with state and federal resource agencies and local species experts and through review of aerial photos, maps, previous observations, and historical records. PacifiCorp conducted Oregon spotted frog surveys at four select wetland locations, and foothill yellow-legged frog surveys were conducted at ten sample sites.

Special-status reptile surveys were conducted by PacifiCorp in wildlife survey plots established in habitats throughout the study area, in select rock talus areas, and at potential snake hibernacula sites. PacifiCorp also conducted focused surveys for northwestern pond turtle along shorelines and within the river channel at reservoirs and along river reaches. Based on information gained from agency coordination, PacifiCorp conducted surveys for basking northwestern pond turtles and mapped suitable pond turtle nesting habitat.

PacifiCorp conducted special-status bird species using avian point counts and area searches in wildlife survey plots as well as at reservoirs. Focused surveys were conducted for northern spotted owl, northern goshawk, great gray owl, and bald eagle. In addition, five Rapid Ornithological Inventories were conducted in 2002 by ornithologists from the Klamath Bird Observatory to document avian use and occurrence in riparian habitat during the fall migration. The Rapid Ornithological Inventories included mist-netting and banding along with area searches and nocturnal call-and-response owl surveys conducted during an intensive 3-day survey period in several river reaches.

PacifiCorp conducted special-status mammal surveys in the winter of 2003 using track surveys and winter bait station field studies. PacifiCorp also conducted small mammal trapping and bat roost surveys in 2003 to further investigate the distribution of special-status mammals. Bat roost surveys were conducted once inside 24 PacifiCorp facility structures in June 2003 and under 14 bridges in the study area and entailed a visual inspection of all practically accessible areas within each facility by qualified biologists to identify bats to genus or species, if possible.

Figures H-1 through H-5 show vegetation surveys for TES plants along the Klamath River. Figures H-6 through H-8 show state and federal observations of TES wildlife along the Klamath River.

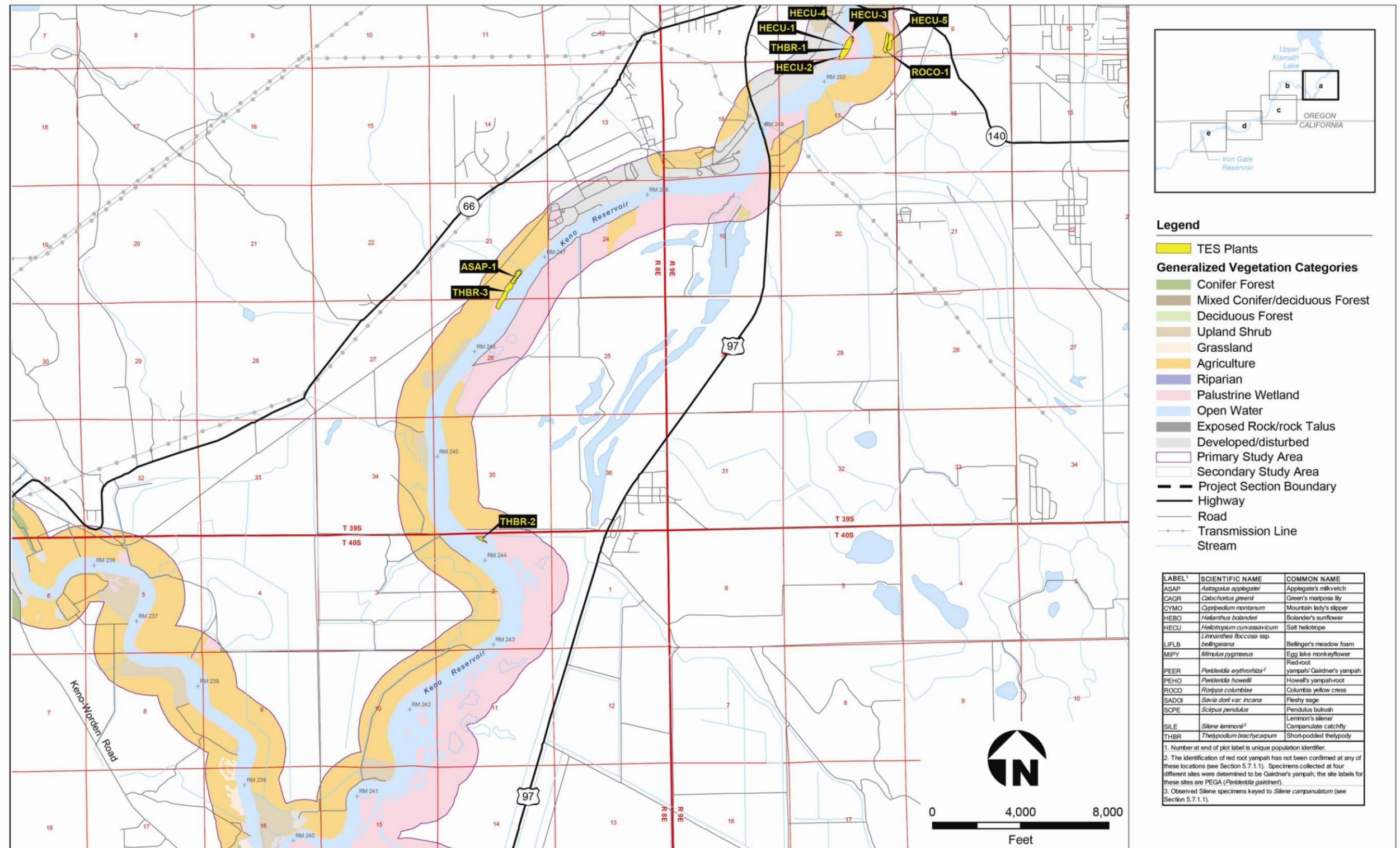


Figure H-1. TES Plants (PacifiCorp 2004)

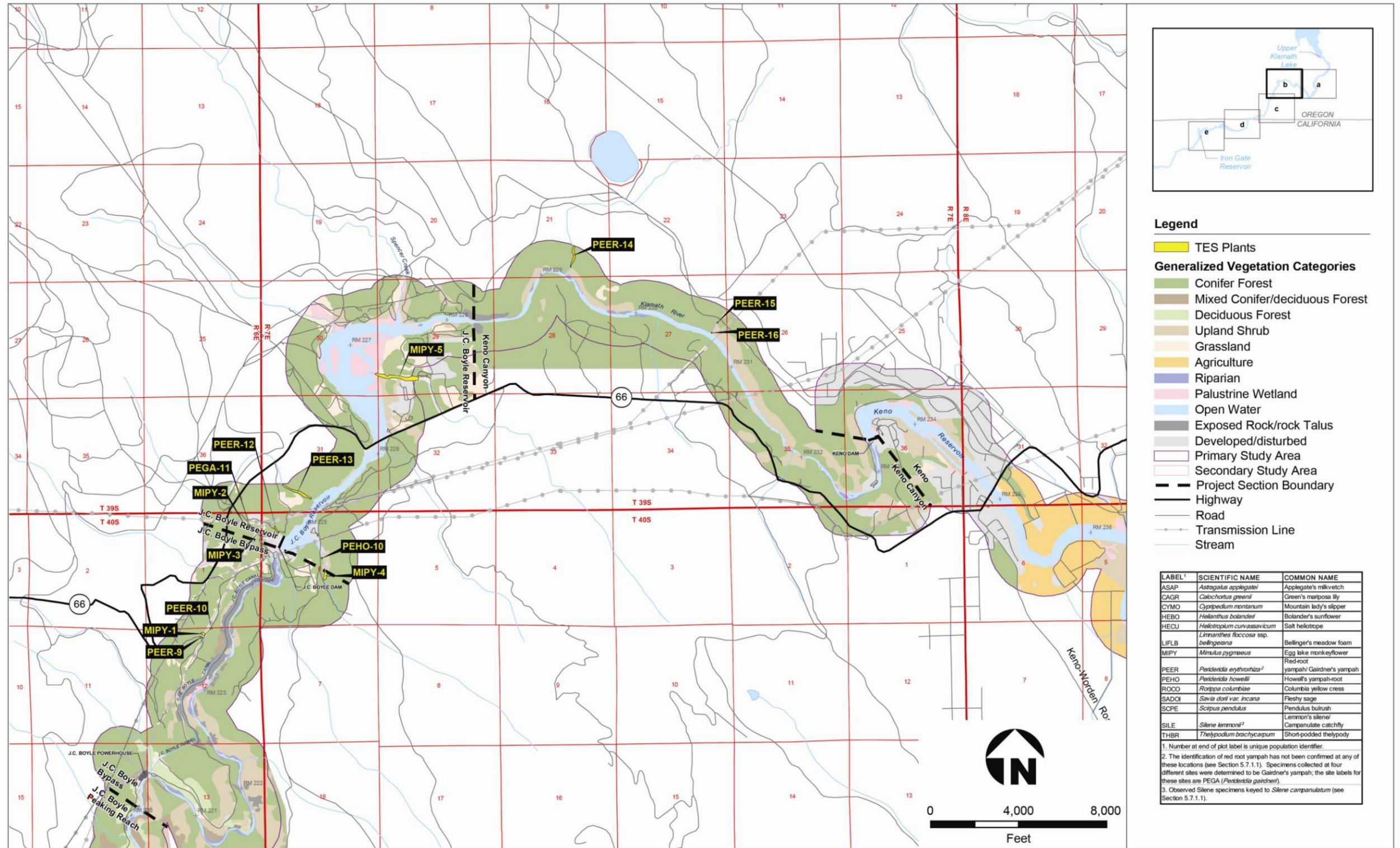


Figure H-2. TES Plants (PacifiCorp 2004)

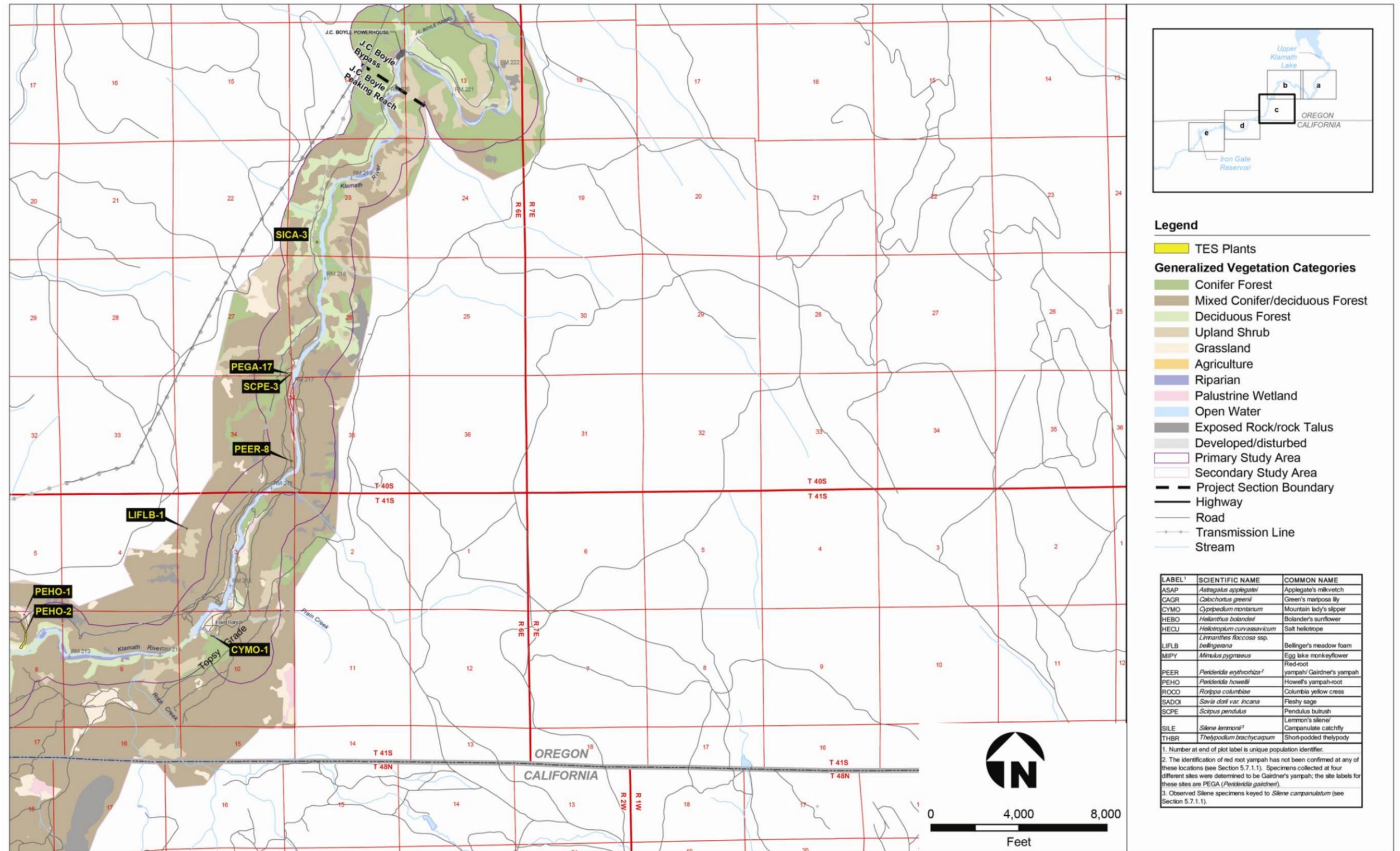


Figure H-3. TES Plants (PacifiCorp 2004)

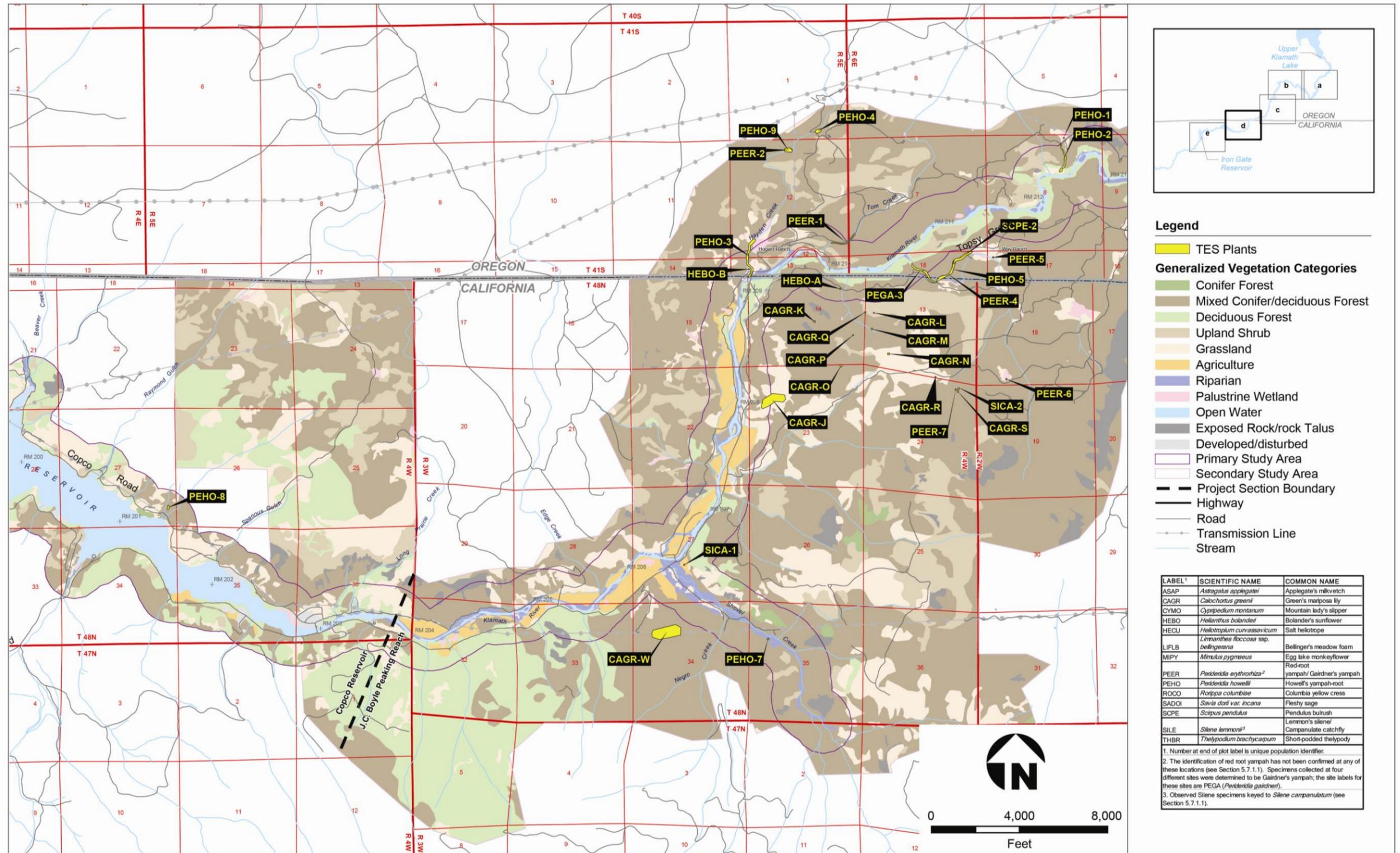


Figure H-4. TES Plants (PacifiCorp 2004)

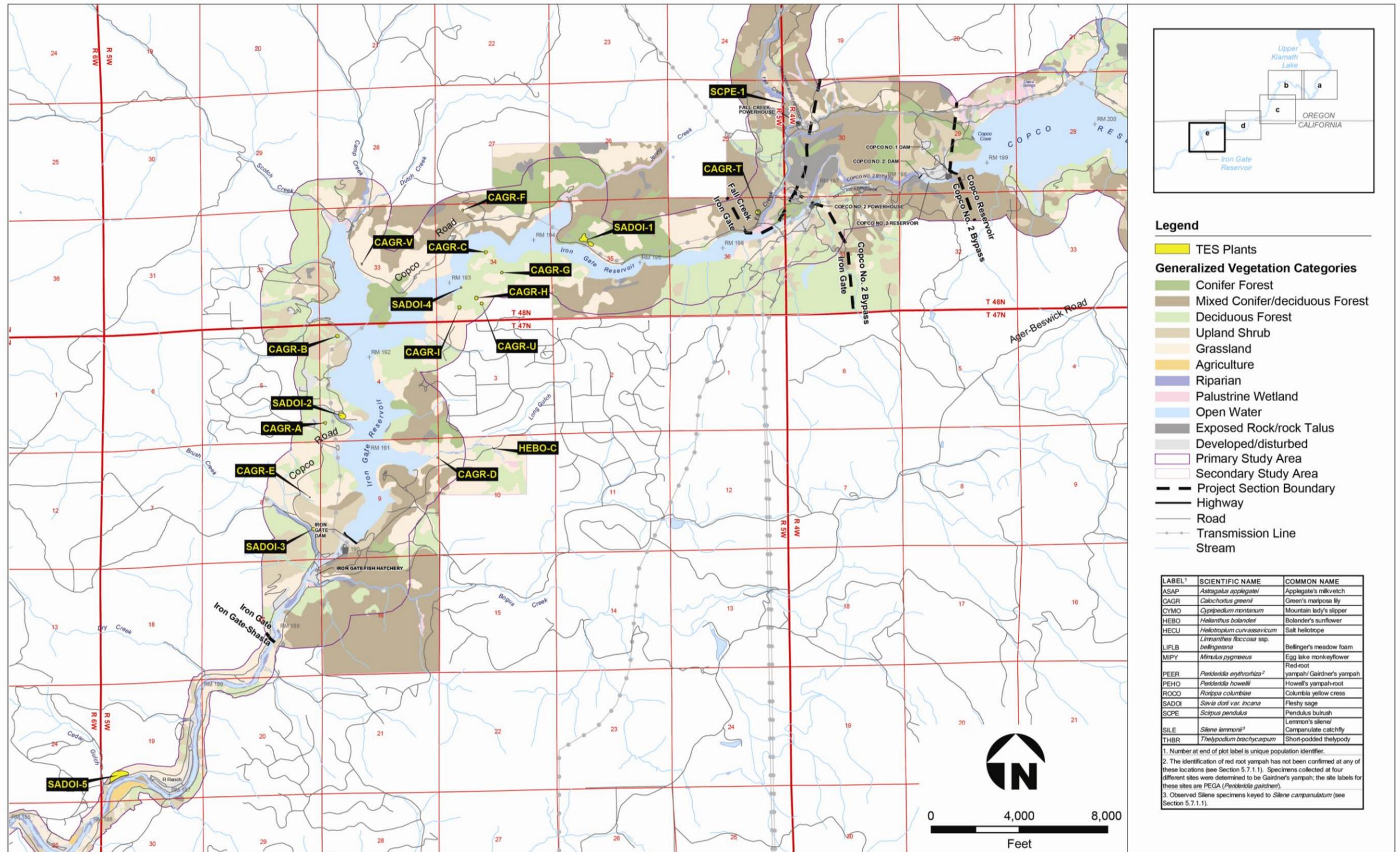


Figure H-5. TES Plants (PacifiCorp 2004)

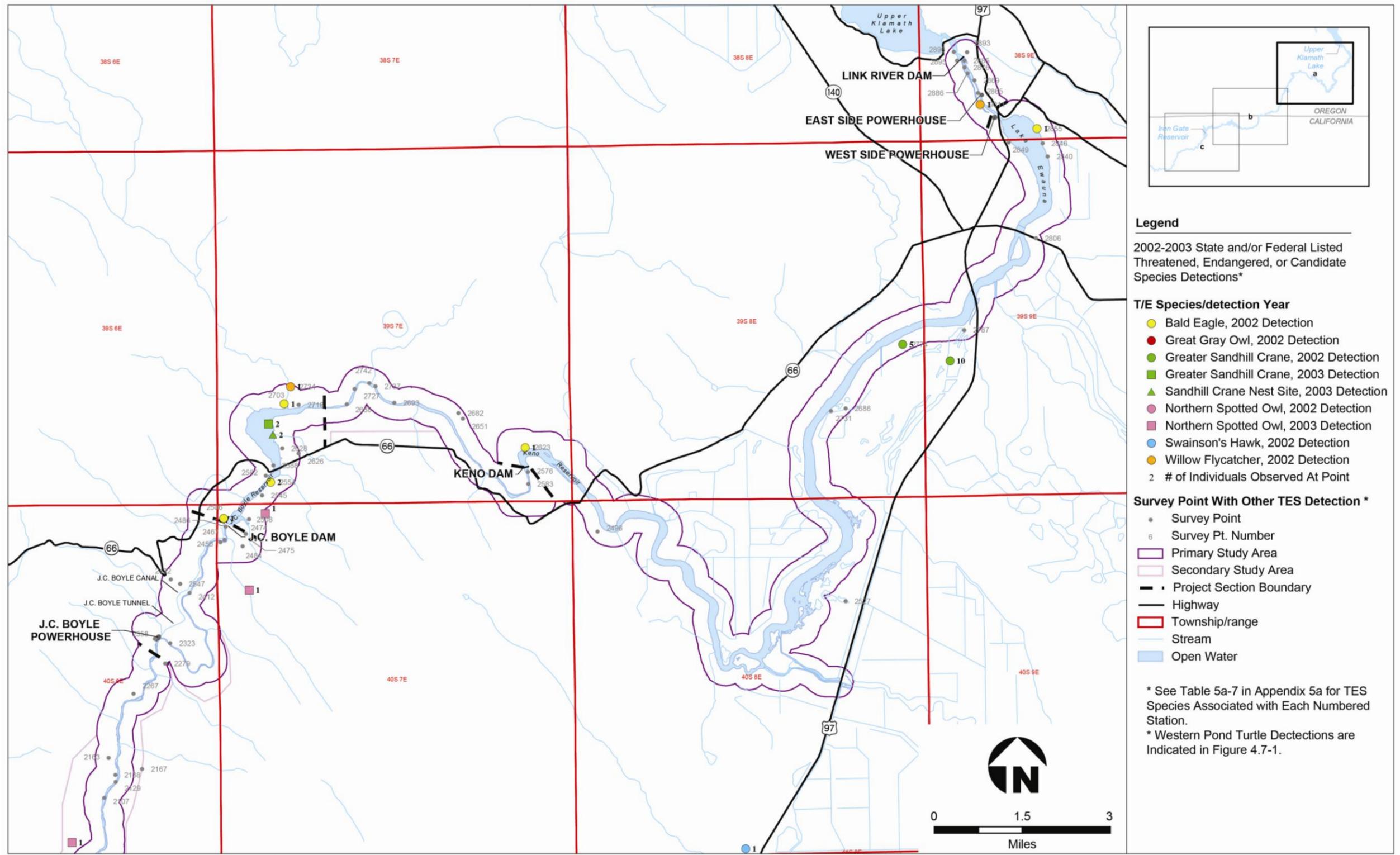


Figure H-6. 2002 TES Wildlife State and Federal Observations (PacifiCorp 2004)

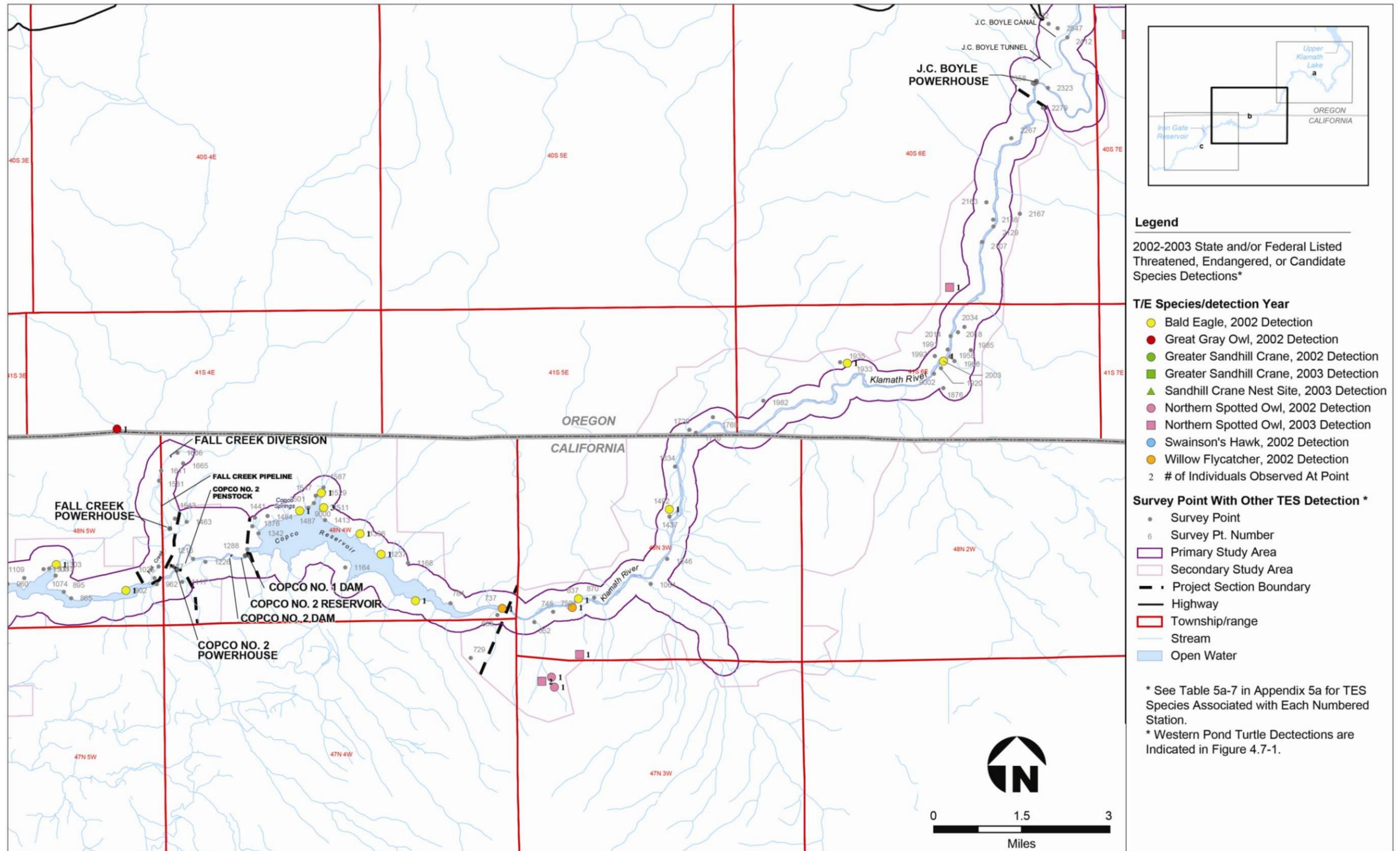


Figure H-7. 2002 TES Wildlife State and Federal Observations (PacifiCorp 2004)

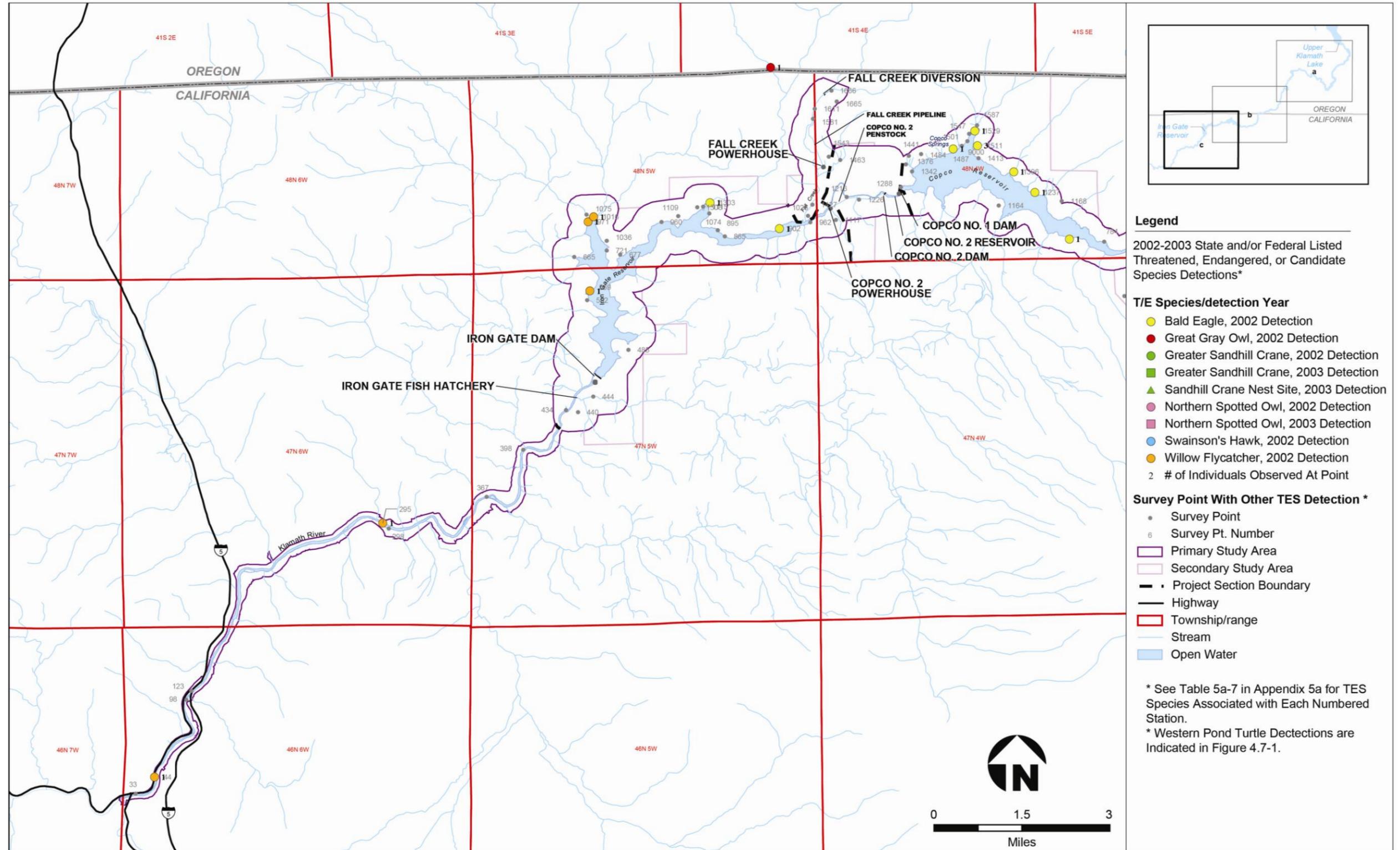


Figure H-8. 2002 TES Wildlife State and Federal Observations (PacifiCorp 2004)

H.1 References

PacifiCorp. 2004. Terrestrial Resources Final Technical Report. Klamath Hydroelectric Project (FERC Project No. 2082). Portland, Oregon.

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