

Map 5

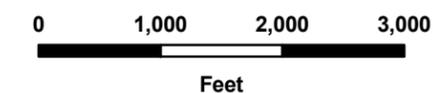
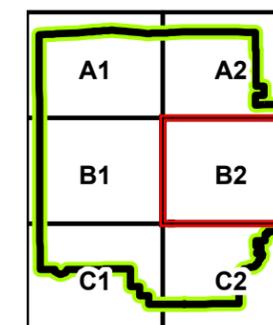
Town of Erie

Natural Areas

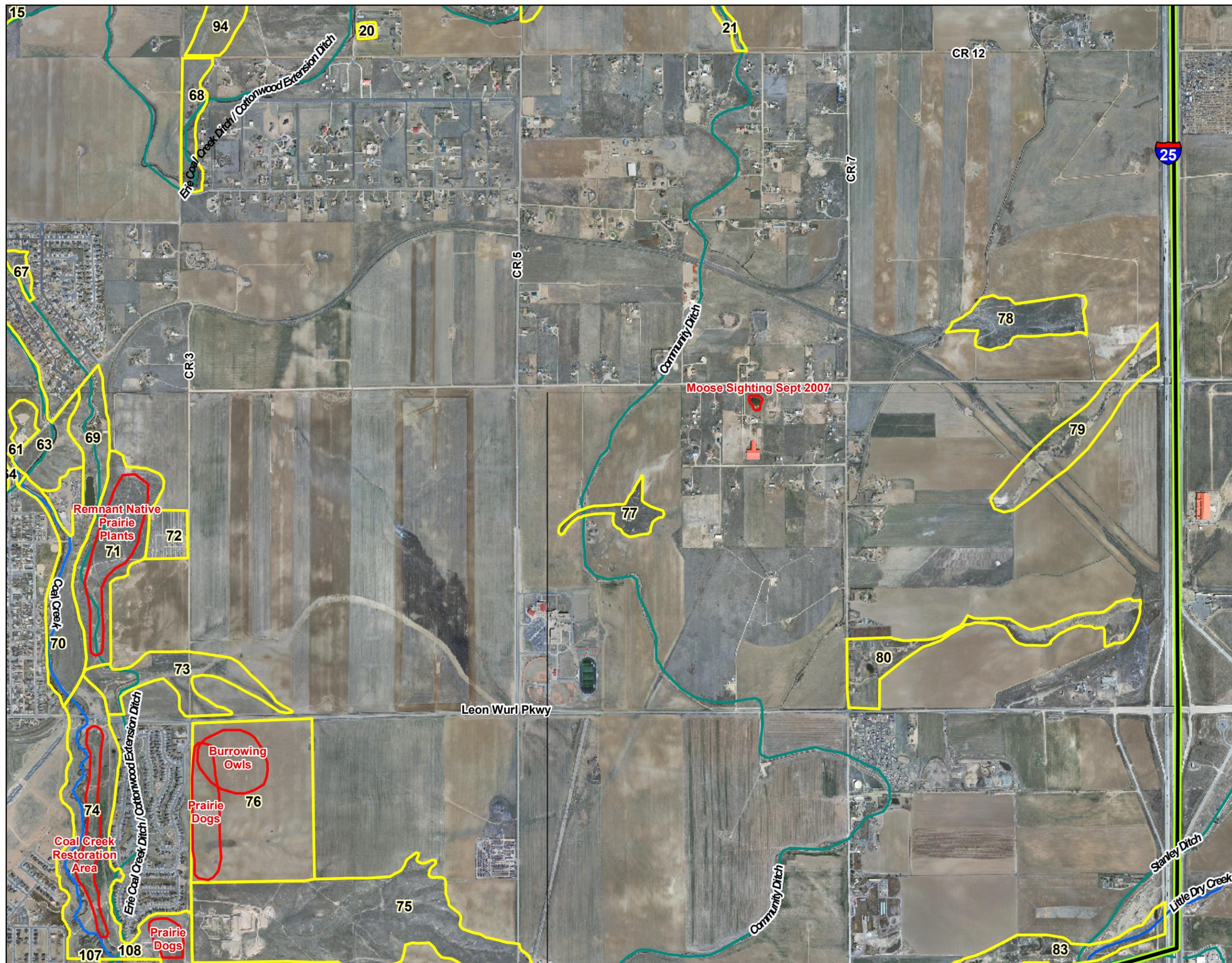
Sheet B2

Legend

-  Natural Areas
-  Wildlife Sites
-  Planning Area Boundary
-  Creek - River - Drainage
-  Ditch - Canal



Datum: North American 1983 HARN
Projection: Lambert Conformal Conic



TOWN OF ERIE NATURAL AREAS INVENTORY



Site #: 75
Big Draw

Map: B2
Acres 177

This site is a shooting range with interesting topography created by rolling hills and swales.

Wetlands:

Wetland Functionality: 3

Wetland Value: 1

Landscape Context

Nearby Land Use:

Habitat Types Present: 2

Field without Crops
Subdivision
Natural Area

Agriculture
Other

Viewshed: From Site

Vegetation

Plant Communities: ADUD, CSL, ISAP

Vegetation Structure:	County-listed Noxious Weeds:	Noxious Weed Cover	5
Forbs	Musk Thistle	Ground Disturbance:	3
Grass	Canada Thistle	Plant Diversity:	2
		Grassland Value:	0

Wildlife Habitat

Prairie Dog Habitat: 0%

Wildlife Species of Concern:

Overall Wildlife Habitat Quality: 3

ferruginous hawk, plains harvest mouse, hispid pocket mouse

Primary Factors Present	Secondary Factors Present
Water or wetland is present State or federally listed species potentially present	Site is larger than 3 acres Site is adjacent to another natural area One of the three vegetation structure types is in good condition

Wildlife Species Seen western meadowlark

Enhancement Effort: Low

Summary Rating: 13

Site Comments

This site comprises a large field with interesting topography created by rolling hills and swales. Monoculture stands of rye grass dominate the site and have out-competed other vegetation. This abundance of rye grass has kept the area devoid of other weeds. This also means that native species are few. The site is used as a shooting range. Utility lines overhead provide excellent perches for raptors such as ferruginous hawks that would forage on the adjacent prairie dog colonies. Access was denied to the site, and the evaluation was conducted from aerials and adjacent roads.