

Postings, Permitting & Progress

2023 Western Region COFE Seminar, January 12, 2023

Tiffany Netz, Bridge Engineer

Douglas County Public Works

Background:

Tiffany Netz, PE

Bridge Engineer

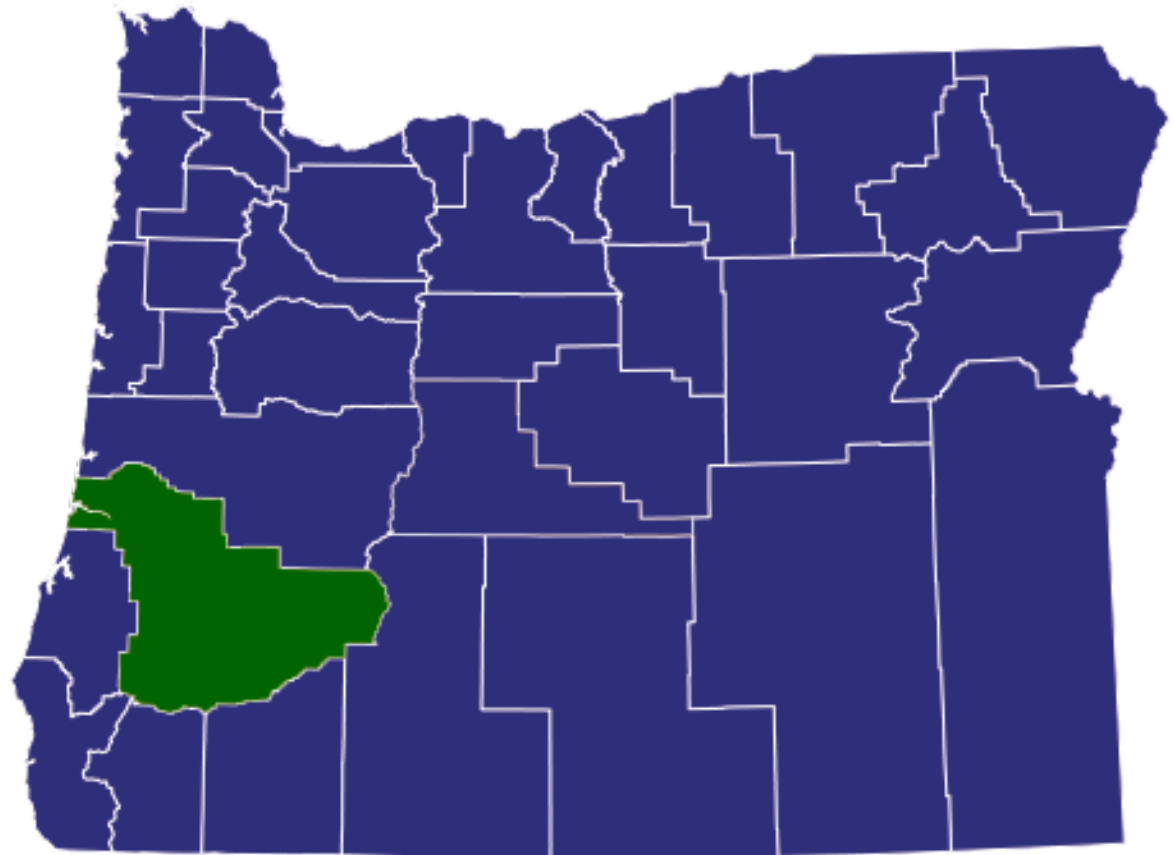
Douglas County Public Works (2016- Present)

Oregon State University

Forest Engineering & Civil Engineering

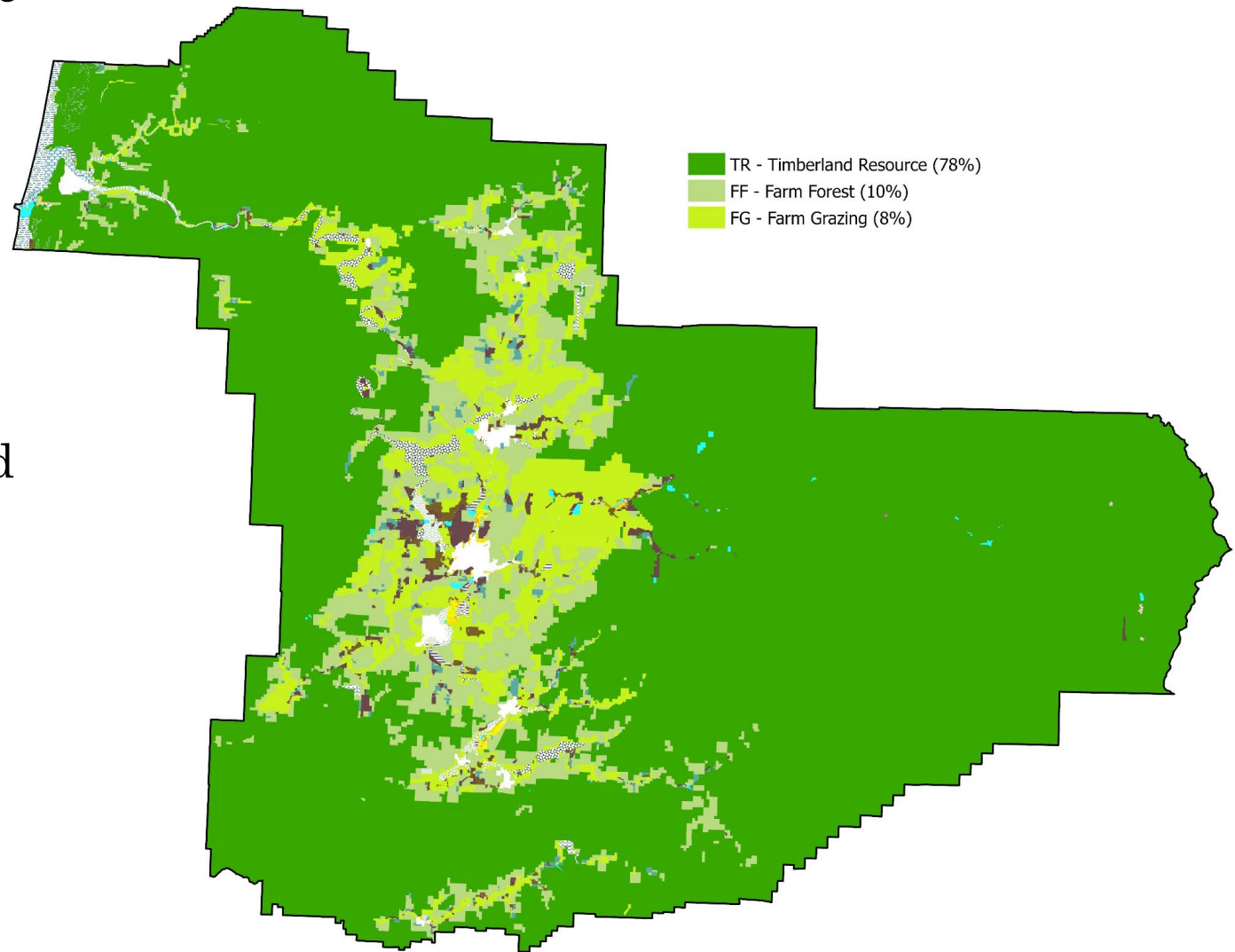


College of Forestry



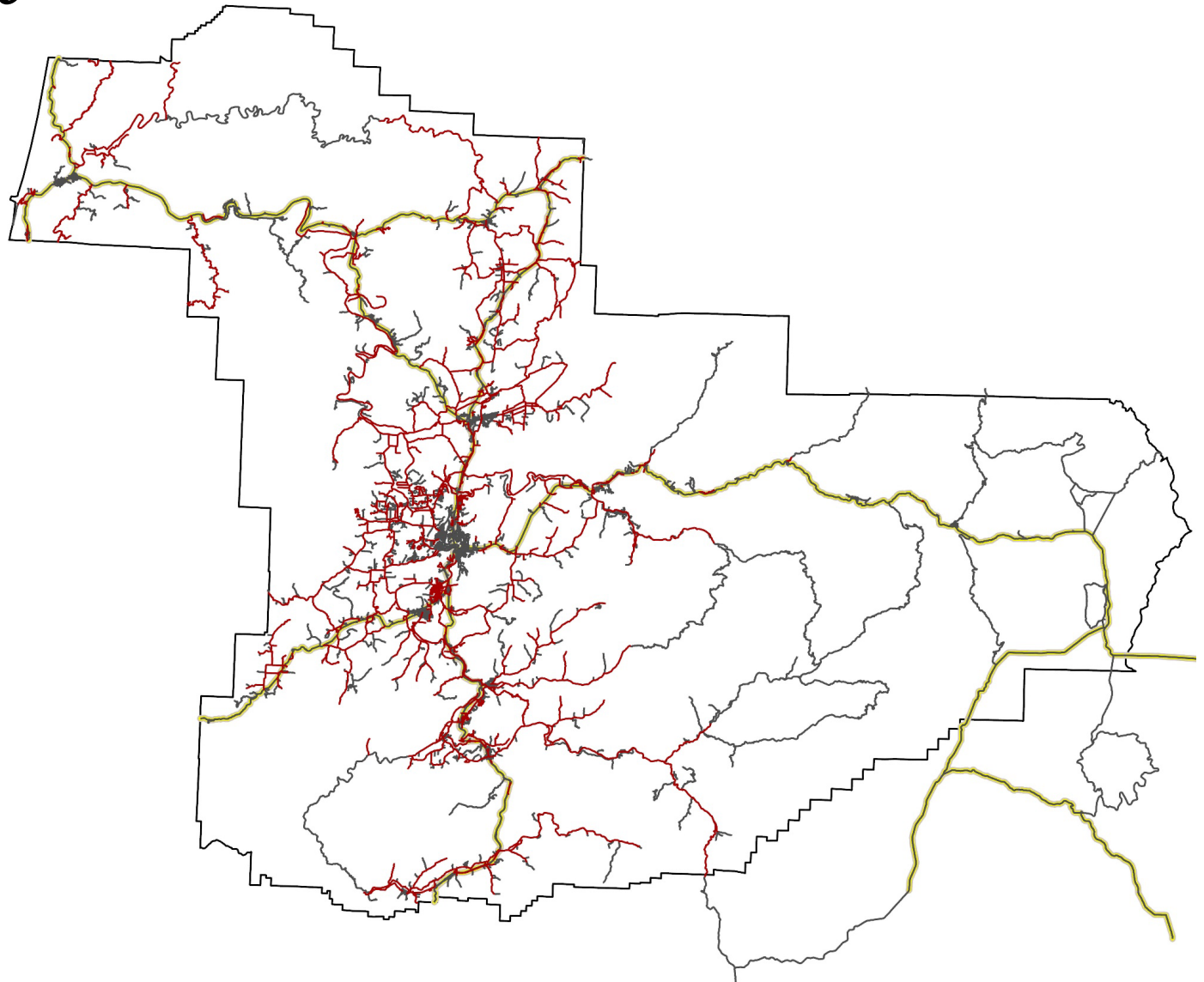
Douglas County

- “Timber Capitol of the World”
- 78% of the land area of the County is zoned as Timberland Resource
- Approximately 2.8 million acres of commercial forest land
- Over 50% of the land area of the County is owned by the Federal Government and managed by USFS and BLM



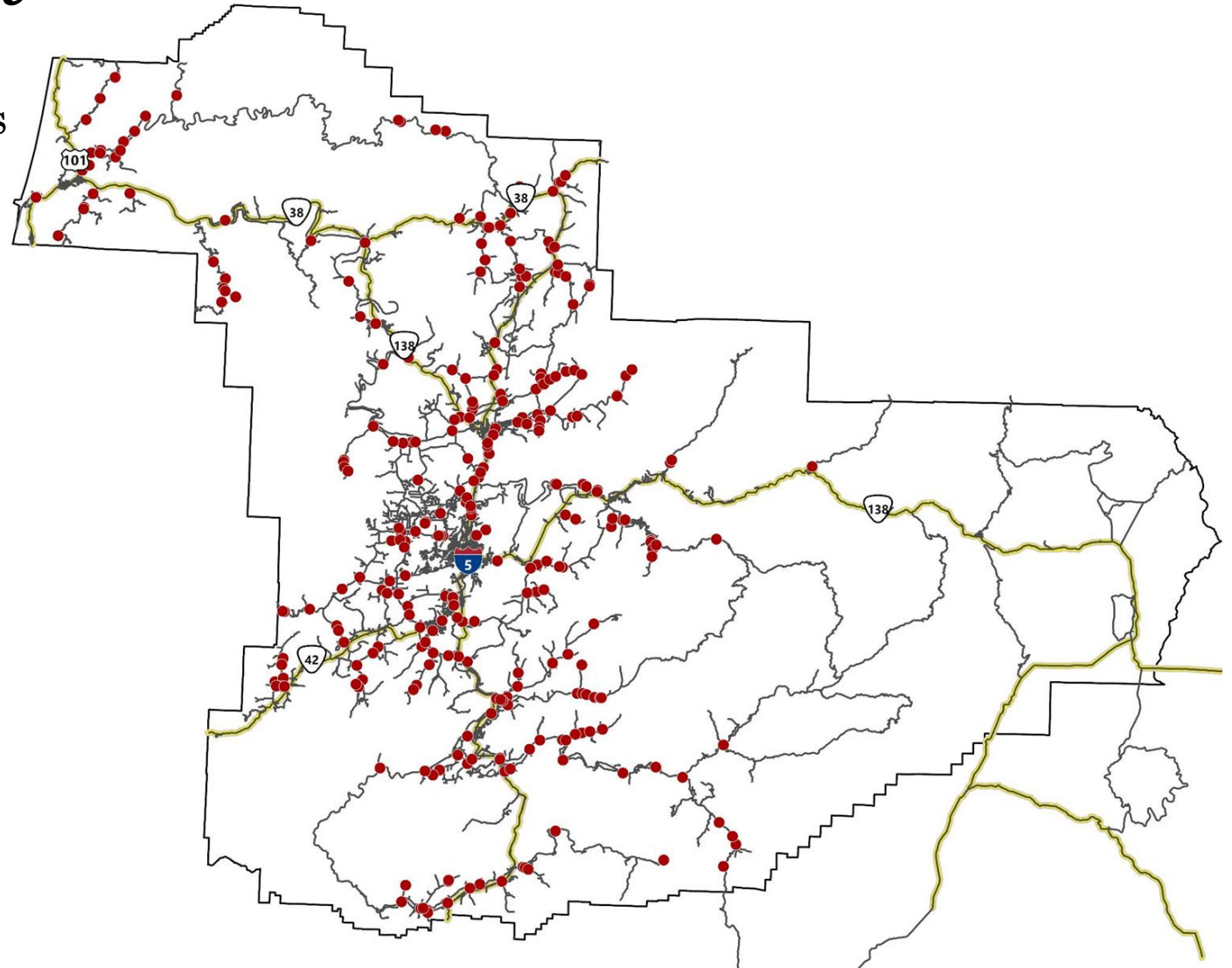
Douglas County

- 6,600 miles of public roads
- 4,400 miles BLM or USFS
- 1,500 miles County
- 375 miles State Highway
- 275 miles City Streets
- 50 miles State Forest/Tribal



Douglas County

300 County Maintained Bridges



Posting

Legal Loads



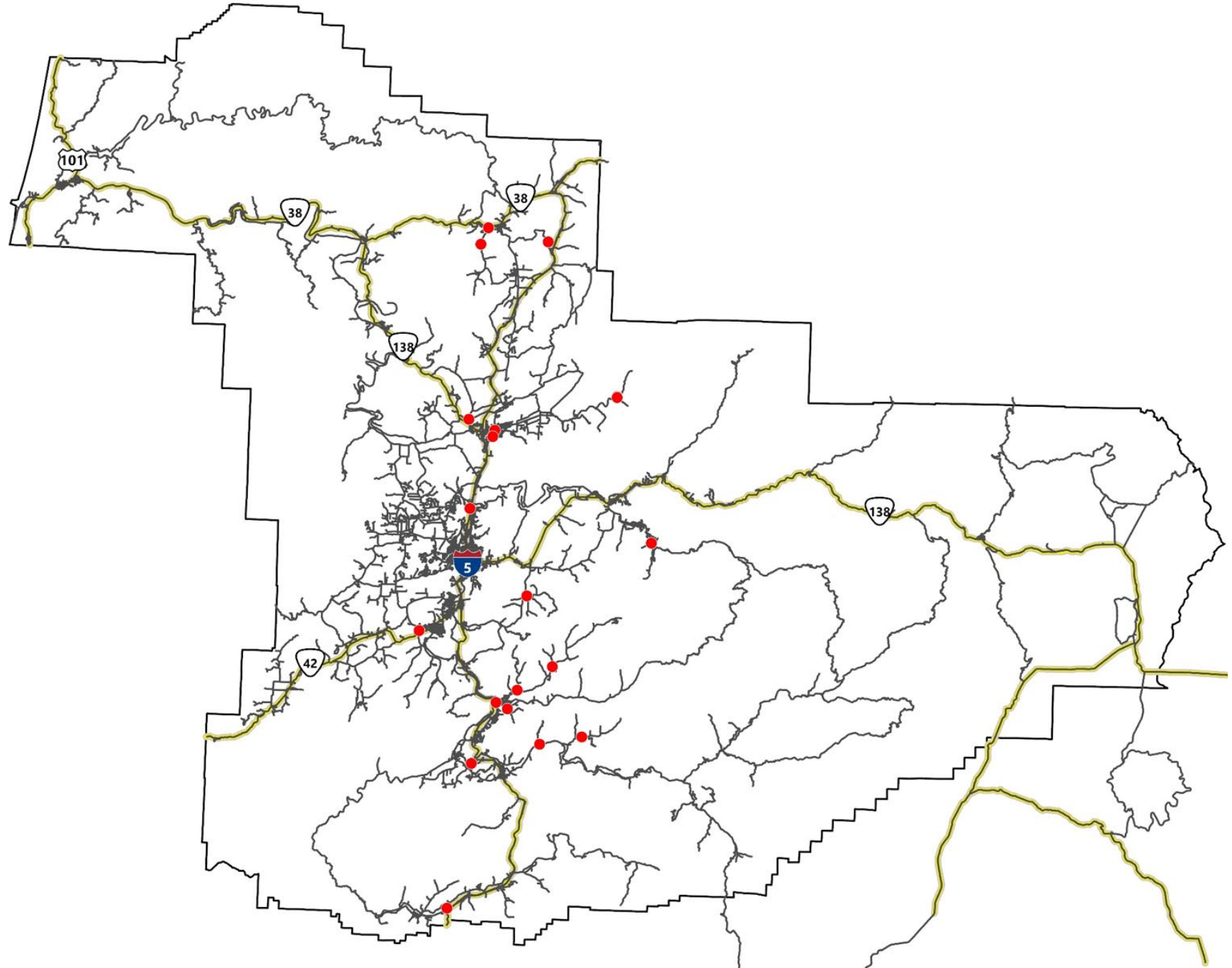
← Single-Unit Vehicles

← All Semi-Tractor and Trailer Vehicles

← All Double Combination Vehicles

Posting

- 20 Bridges Posted for Legal Loads



Posting

Legal Loads



← Single-Unit Vehicles

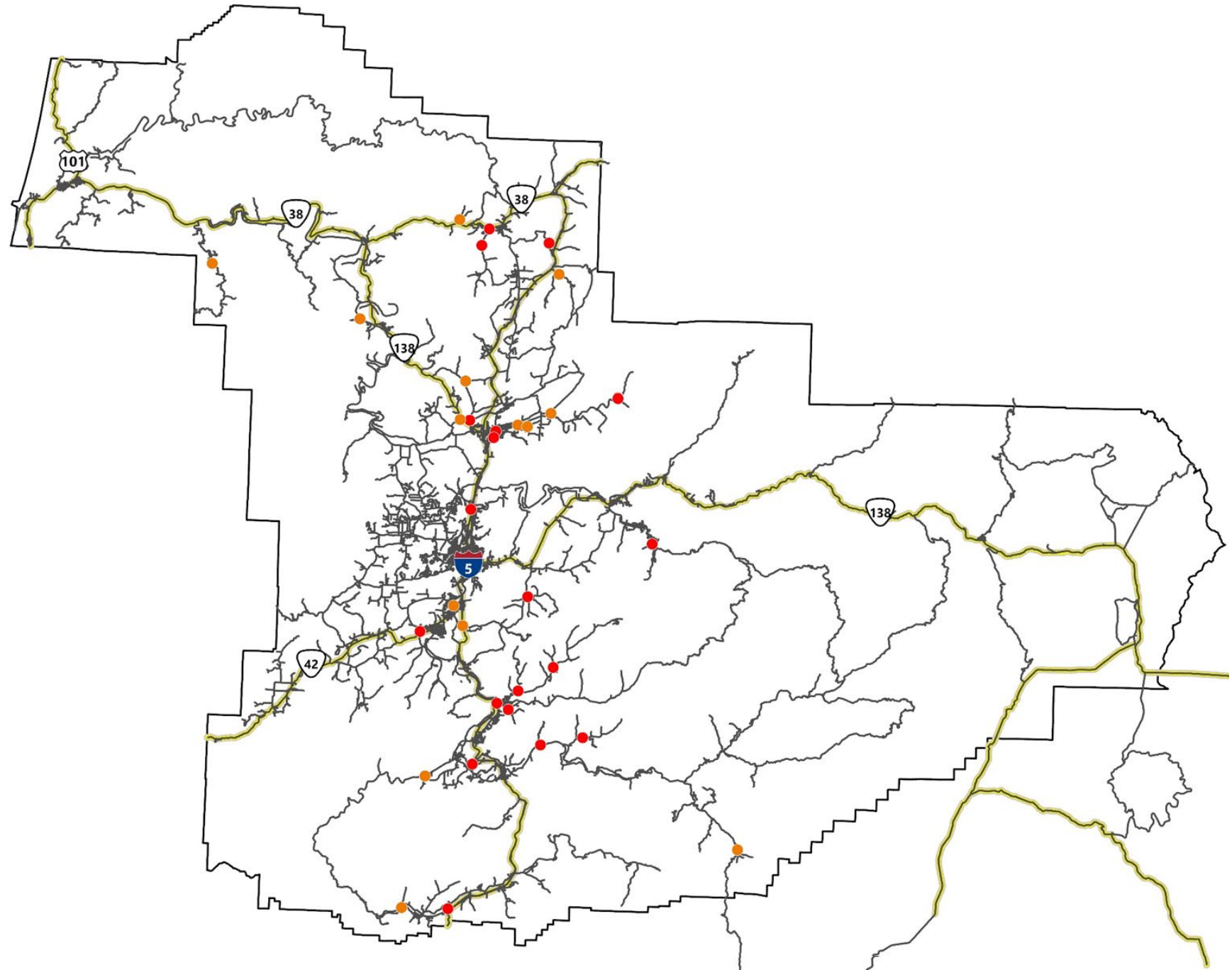
← **SHVs** (Specialized Hauling Vehicles)

← All Semi-Tractor and Trailer Vehicles

← All Double Combination Vehicles

Posting

- 20 Bridges Posted for Legal Loads
- 14 Posted for SHVs



Posting

Legal Loads



Single-Unit Vehicles

SHVs (Specialized Hauling Vehicles)

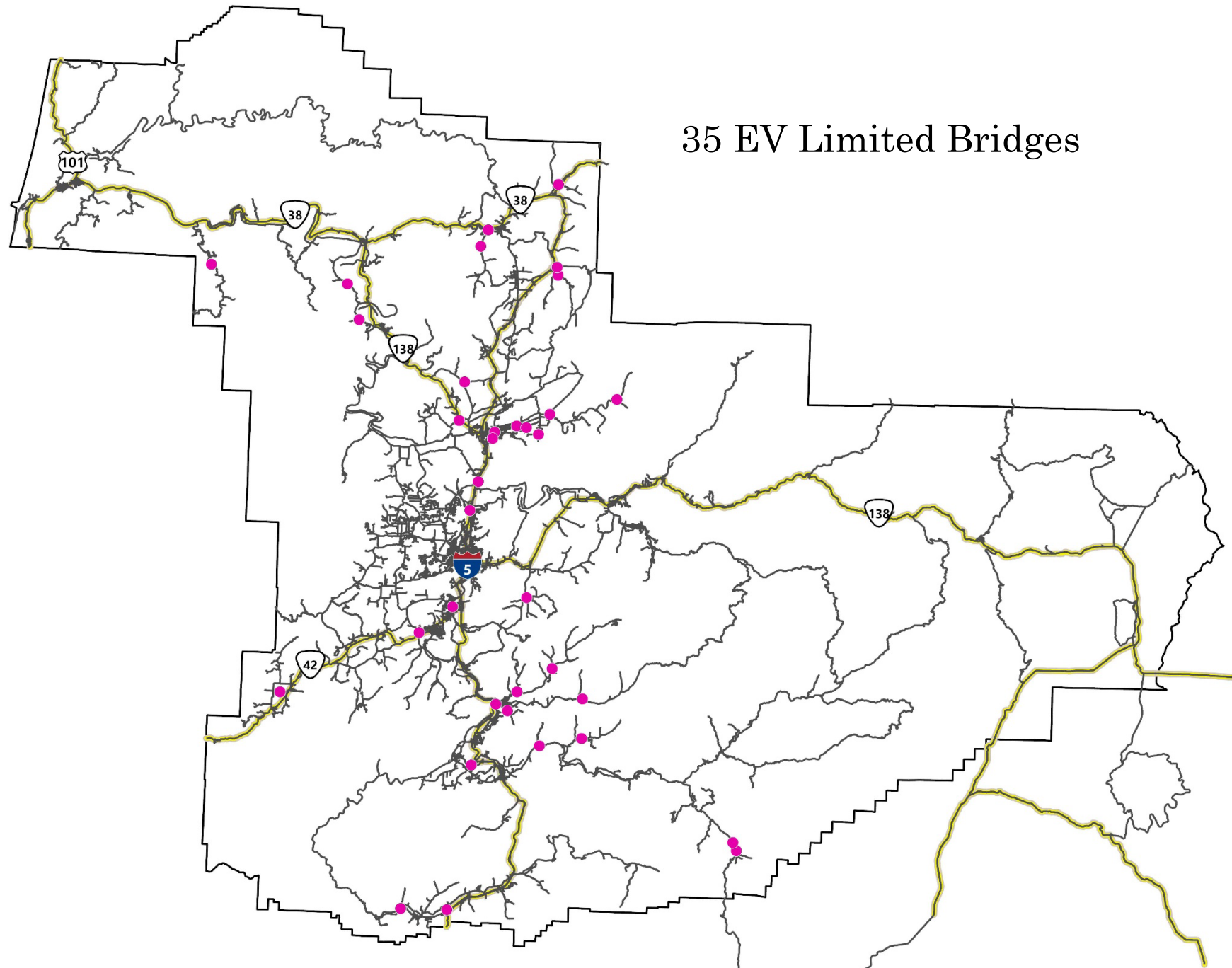
All Semi-Tractor and Trailer Vehicles

All Double Combination Vehicles

EVs (Emergency Vehicles)

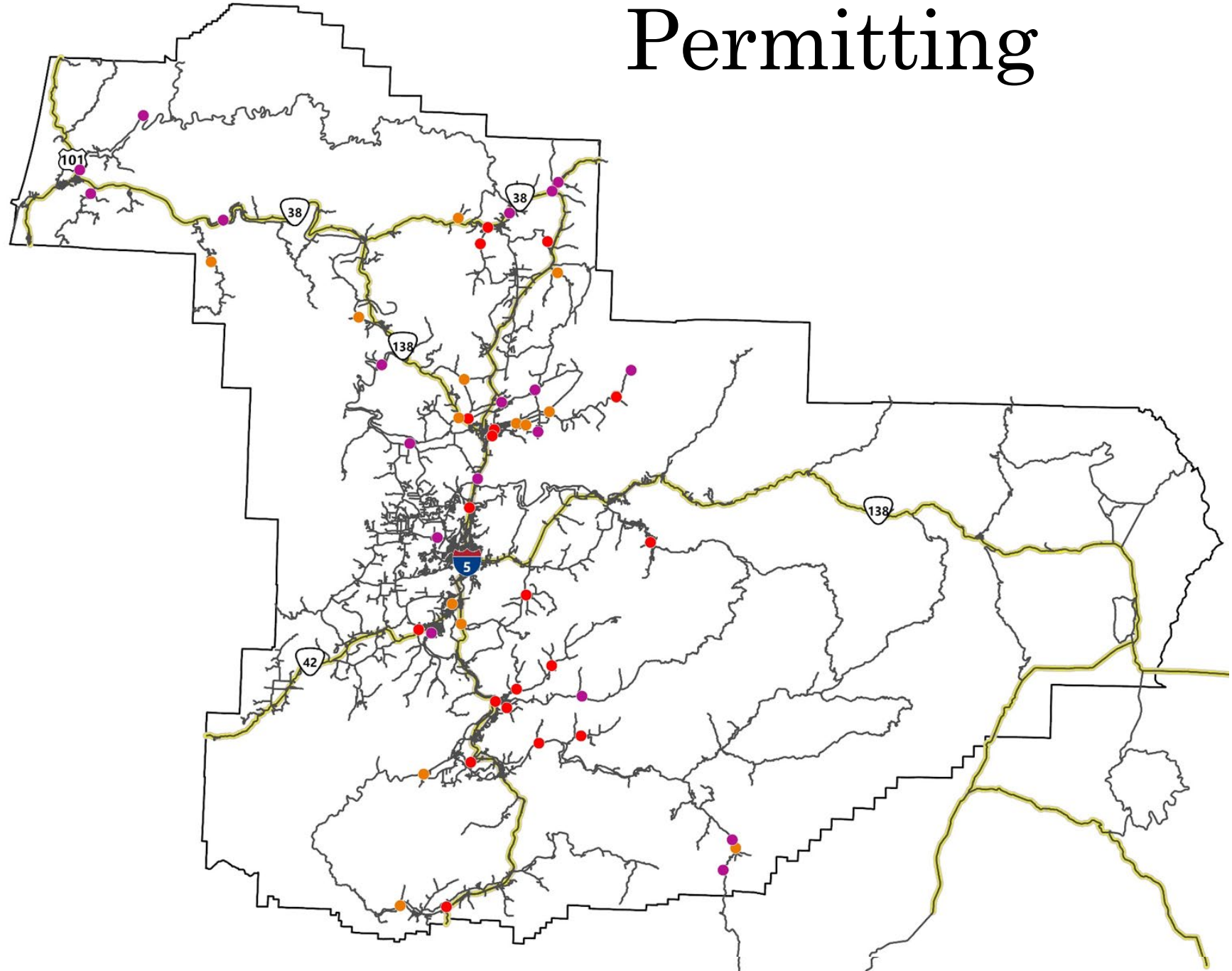
Posting

- 20 Bridges Posted for Legal Loads
- 14 Posted for SHVs
- Only 1 EV



Permitting

- 20 Bridges Posted for Legal Loads
- 14 Posted for SHVs
- 19 Permit Restricted, but NOT posted



Permitting

What does this mean for you?

- 53 bridges that have restricted haul use
- When you request an overweight permit through Motor Carrier it gets sent to the County to review
 - We add Permit Conditions:
 - No Heavy Haul (17)
 - Single Lane/Only Vehicle on Bridge (21)
 - Slow to 10 mph (13)
 - Special Conditions (2)



Permitting

What about legal loads?

ODOT Motor Carrier does not permit for legal loads...

...but the same process can be applied for analyzing legal loads crossing posted bridges.

If certain conditions are met, posted bridges can carry loads greater than the posting limits

Conditional Use Permits:

Billy Creek Bridge (Bridge #19C104) carries Hayhurst Rd (County Road #24) over Billy Creek at Milepost 7.12. In October 2021 the bridge was load posted at 22 tons for the Type 3 Truck, 35 tons for the Type 3S2 Truck, 40 tons for the Type 3-3 Truck, 20 tons for SU4, 22 tons for SU5, and 25 tons for SU6 and SU7.

This letter shall serve as a permit for conditional use of Billy Creek Bridge by the United States Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and its contractors.

The following conditions must be met for trucks exceeding the load posting:

- All trucks crossing the bridge shall not exceed 80,000 lb. gross vehicle weight and meet the criteria for "Legal Loads" as determined by the State of Oregon.
- All trucks exceeding the posted load restriction shall safely come to a complete stop within 15 ft. of the bridge before crossing the bridge.
- All trucks shall proceed over the centerline of the bridge at a maximum speed of 10 MPH, ensuring that no other traffic is occupying the bridge.
- All truck drivers employed by or under contract with the United States BLM that exceed the posting and are using the bridge shall obtain and keep a copy of this letter in their truck when using the bridge.



2023 WR COFE Seminar – Streaming attendees

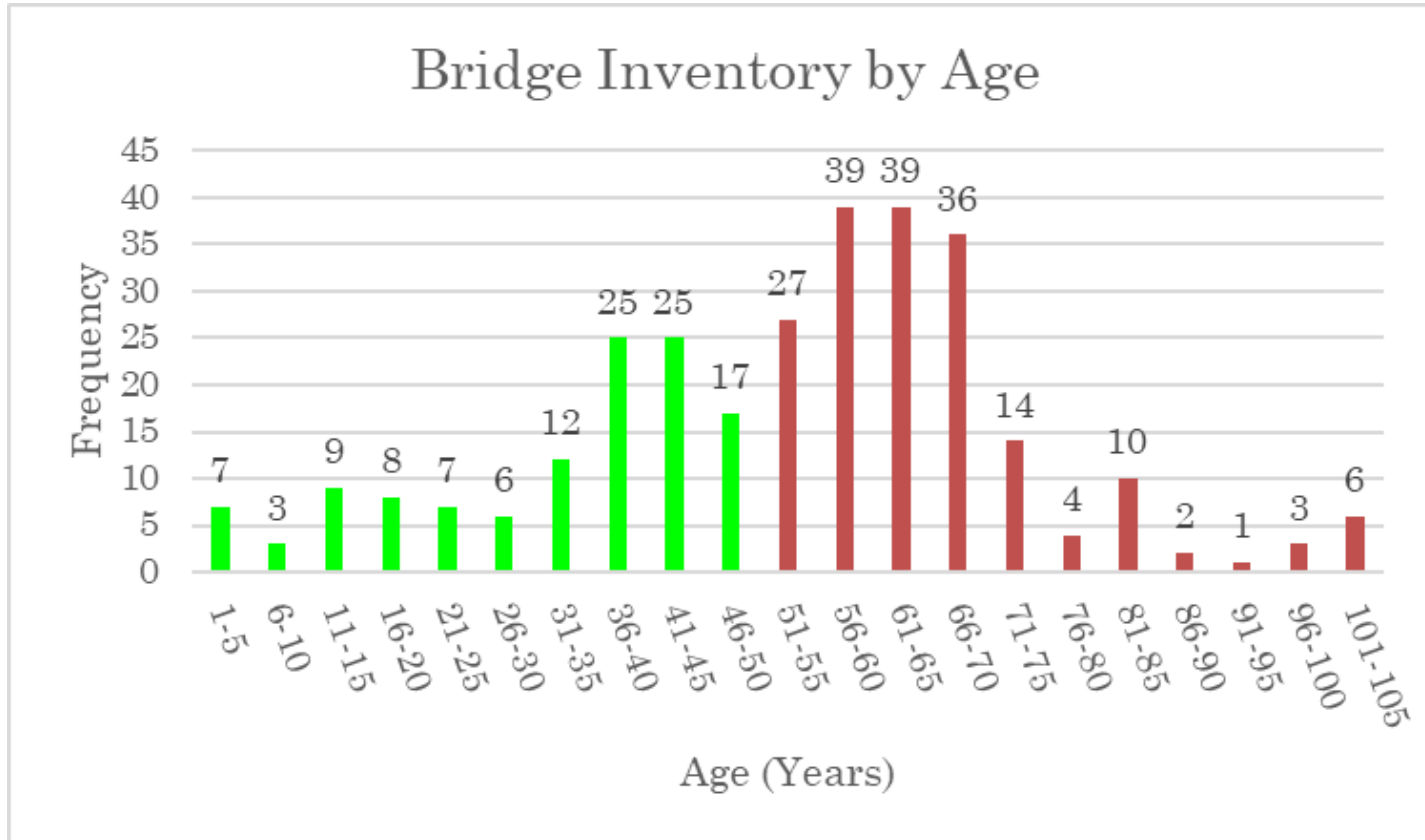
Secret word for credits:

grapple yarding

Enter the secret word by 10am, Friday, January 13th.

Use this link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2023WRCOFE>

Progress



- Post WWII
- Timber & Housing Boom
- Federal Timber Receipts
- Bridge designed for 50-year lifespan
- Funding declines with decline in federal harvesting

Progress

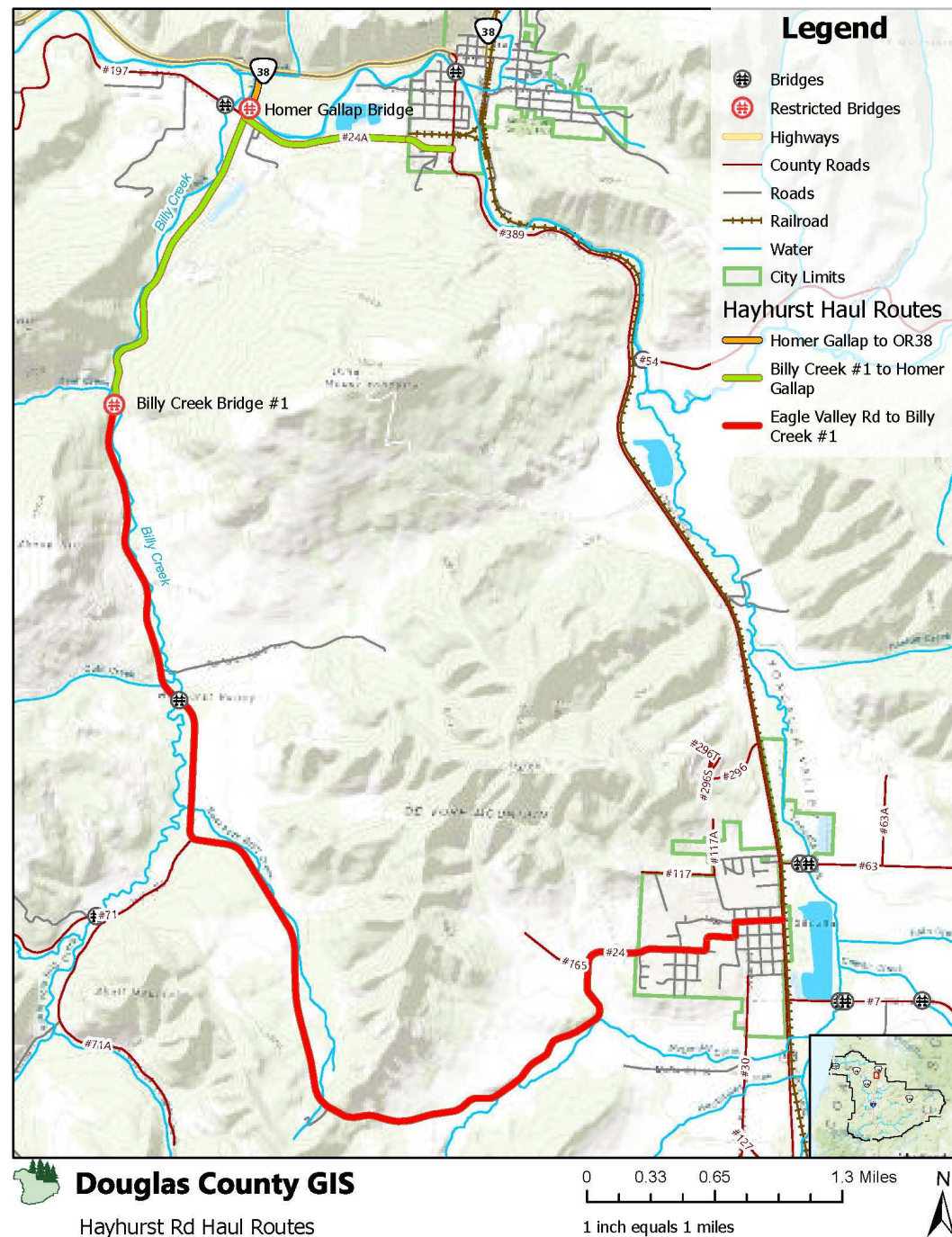
- Secure Rural Schools Act provides payments to Counties based on federal forest land area
- Recently the allowable use of a portion of these funds (Title III obligations) was amended to include the implementation of Community Wildfire Protection Plans.
- This summer Douglas County completed our first Title III funded bridge replacement project to replace a load posted structure on a critical wildfire evacuation route.



Progress

Bridge Posting Notifications

- When we get a load restriction recommendation letter from ODOT we only have 30 days to post the bridge
- Prior to posting, Douglas County sends out an email to a list-serve of haulers
 - This includes a Google Earth location, detour/routing maps (when available), examples of the posting signs, and information on how permit requests will be handled.



Questions?

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