# Stibnite Gold Project EIS Appendix O

**Scenic Resources** 



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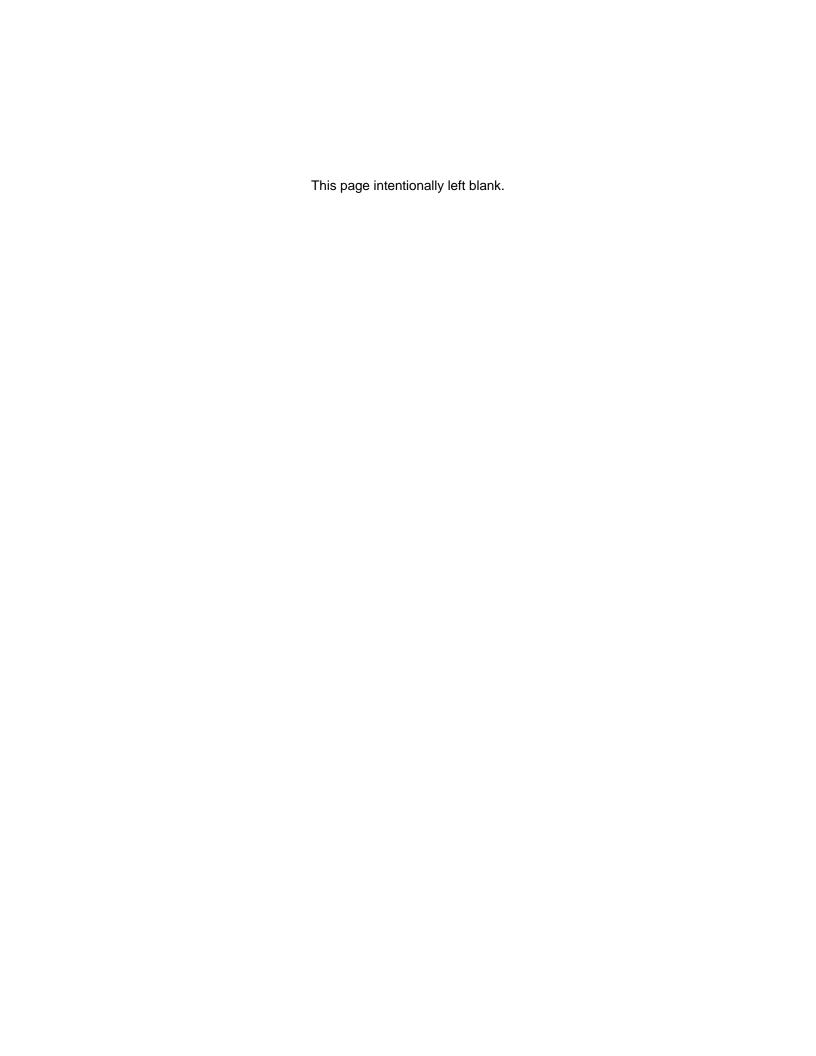
Appendix O-2: Alternatives Viewshed Analyses and Key Observation Points, Alternative 1

Appendix O-3: Alternatives Viewshed Analyses and Key Observation Points, Alternative 2

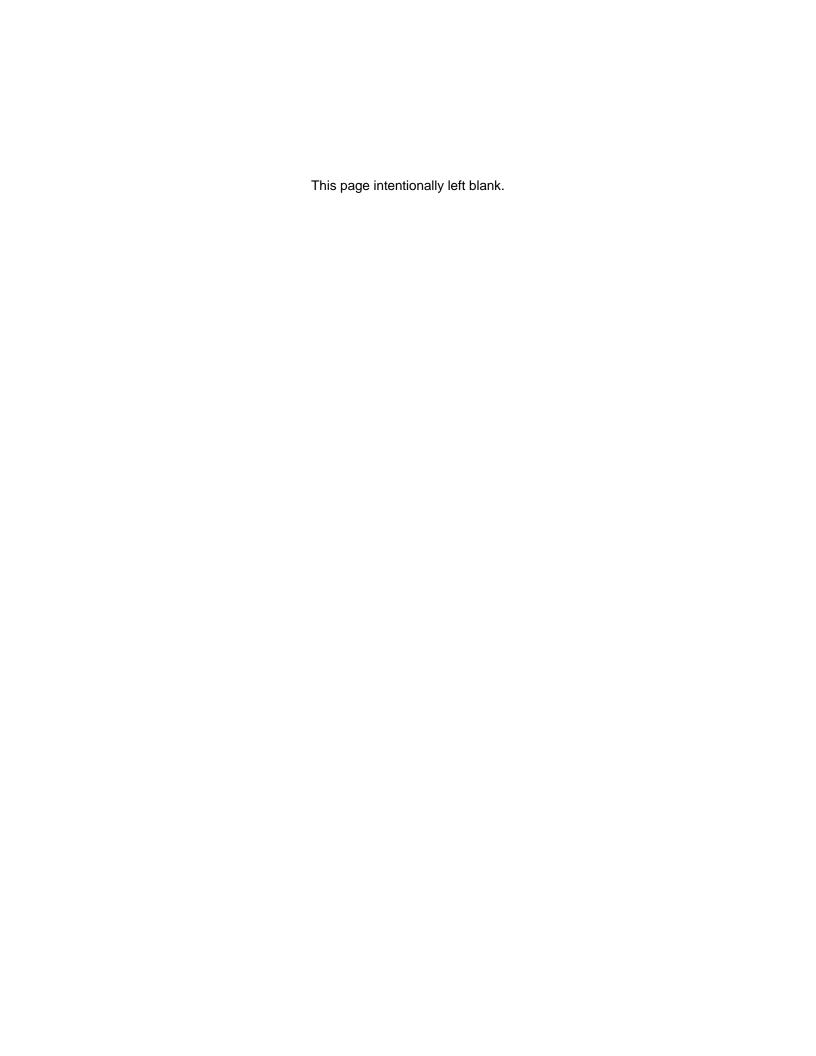
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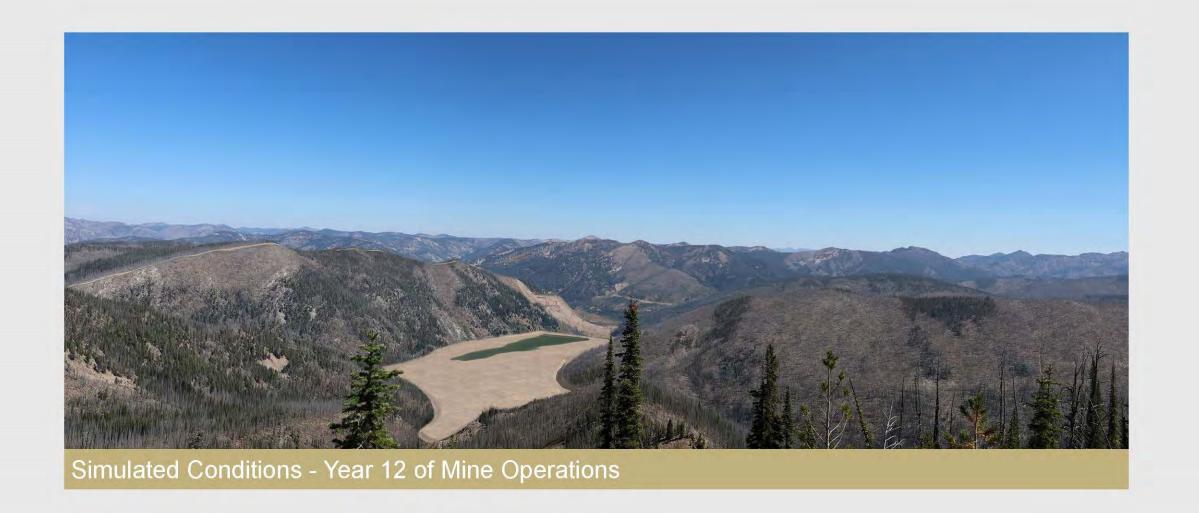
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Appendix O-1: Key Observation Point Simulation Photos





# STIBNITE GOLD PROJECT KEY OBSERVATION POINTS

KOP 1A
Meadow Creek
Lookout
Simulation



VICINITY MAP

## **Photograph Information**

Time of photograph: 12:45 PM
Date of photograph: 08-29-2018
Wealther condition: Clear
Viewing direction: NE
Latitiude: 44.8686 N
Longitude: -115.3887 W



# STIBNITE GOLD PROJECT KEY OBSERVATION POINTS

KOP 1B
Meadow Creek
Lookout
Simulation



VICINITY MAP

## **Photograph Information**

Time of photograph: 1:00 PM
Date of photograph: 08-29-2018
Wealther condition: Clear
Viewing direction: S
Latitiude: 44.8681 N

Longitude: -115.3893 W

Note: Simulation was not advanced because the new Burntlog Road would not be visible from KOP 2. The new road would be downslope and the view of it blocked by existing terrain.

# STIBNITE GOLD PROJECT KEY OBSERVATION POINTS

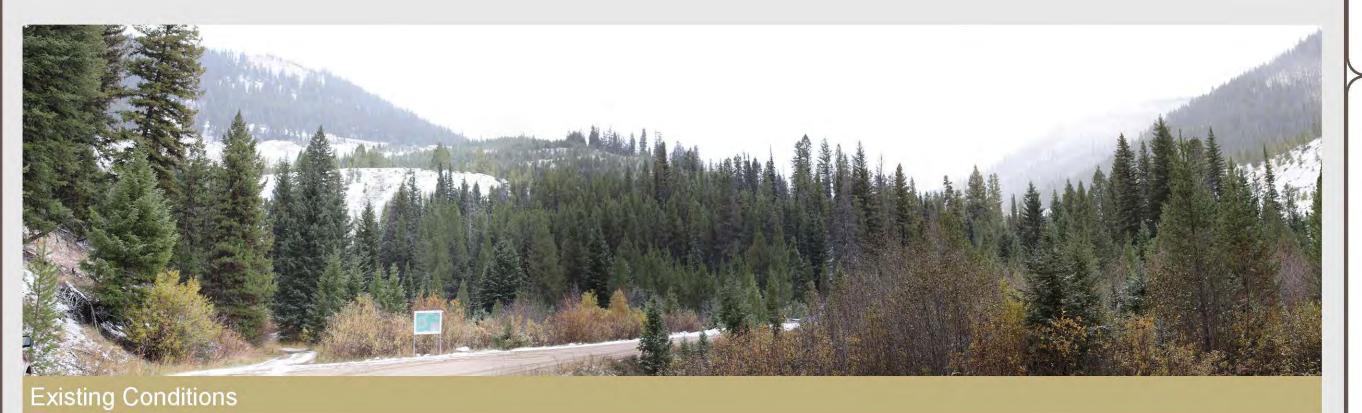
## KOP 2 Summit Trail



VICINITY MAP

### **Photograph Information**

Time of photograph: 12:15 PM
Date of photograph: 08-29-2018
Wealther condition: Clear
Viewing direction: W
Latitiude: 44.8477 N
Longitude: -115.3764 W



# STIBNITE GOLD PROJECT KEY OBSERVATION POINTS

# KOP 3 Photograph Information Time of photograph: 10:03 AM

Time of photograph: 10:03 AM
Date of photograph: 08-29-2018
Wealther condition: Clear
Viewing direction: NW
Latitiude: 44.8608 N
Longitude: -115.3086 W



### VICINITY MAP

## KOP 4

## Photograph Information Time of photograph: 12:32 PM

Date of photograph: 12:32 PM
Date of photograph: 10-06-2018
Wealther condition: Cloudy
Viewing direction: SE
Latitiude: 44.9363 N
Longitude: -115.3352 W



VICINITY MAP



**Existing Conditions** 

# STIBNITE GOLD PROJECT KEY OBSERVATION POINTS

# KOP 5 Photograph Information Time of photograph: 4:14 PM

Date of photograph: 4:14 PM

Date of photograph: 10-06-2018

Wealther condition: Clear

Viewing direction: E Latitiude: 44.8907 N Longitude: -115.4611 W



VICINITY MAP

# KOP 6 Photograph Information

Time of photograph: 11:20 AM
Date of photograph: 10-06-2018
Wealther condition: Cloudy
Viewing direction: S
Latitiude: 44.8073 N

Latitiude: 44.8073 N Longitude: -115.5120 W



VICINITY MAP

**Existing Conditions** 



Simulated Conditions - Year 12 of Mine Operations

KOP 7
Idaho Centennial Trail
Simulation



VICINITY MAP

### **Photograph Information**

Time of photograph: 5:38 PM
Date of photograph: 10-06-2018
Wealther condition: Clear
Viewing direction: W
Latitiude: 44.7867 N

Longitude: -115.5238 W

**Existing Conditions** 



**Existing Conditions** 

## KOP 8

## Photograph Information Time of photograph: 10:49 AM

Date of photograph: 10:49 AM

Date of photograph: 10-06-2018

Wealther condition: Cloudy

Viewing direction: W

Latitiude: 44.7472 N

Longitude: -115.5555 W



VICINITY MAP

# KOP 9 Photograph Information

Time of photograph: 3:02 PM
Date of photograph: 08-28-2018
Wealther condition: Clear
Viewing direction: NW
Latitiude: 44.7256 N
Longitude: -115.4165 W



VICINITY MAP





KOP 10 Burntlog Road Simulation



VICINITY MAP

## **Photograph Information**

Time of photograph: 12:49 PM
Date of photograph: 08-28-2018
Wealther condition: Clear
Viewing direction: SW
Latitiude: 44.6873 N
Longitude: -115.4619 W

# STIBNITE GOLD PROJECT KEY OBSERVATION POINTS

**KOP 11** 



VICINITY MAP

# Photograph Information Time of photograph: 4:30 PM

Time of photograph: 4:30 PM
Date of photograph: 08-29-2018
Wealther condition: Clear
Viewing direction: W
Latitiude: 44.6644 N
Longitude: -115.4495 W



**Existing Conditions** 

### STIBNITE GOLD **PROJECT KEY OBSERVATION POINTS**

# KOP 12A Photograph Information Time of photograph: 11:37 AM

Date of photograph: 08-28-2018 Wealther condition: Clear Viewing direction: N Latitiude: 44.6488 N Longitude: -115.5001 W



VICINITY MAP

### **KOP 12B Photograph Information**

Time of photograph: 11:42 AM Date of photograph: 08-28-2018 Wealther condition: Clear Viewing direction: SW

Latitiude: 44.6488 N Longitude: -115.5001 W

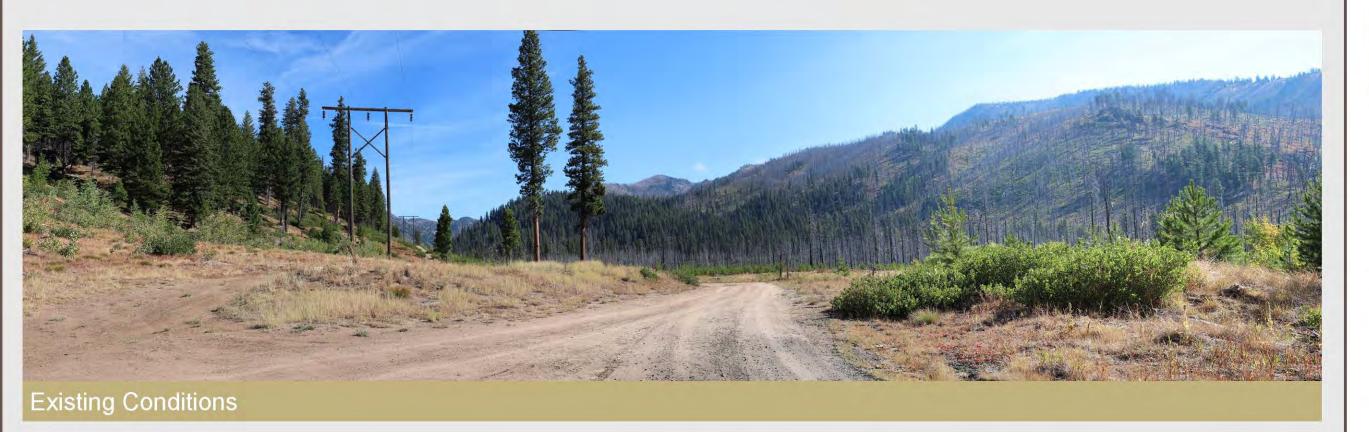
**KOP 13** 



VICINITY MAP

Photograph Information
Time of photograph: 6:15 PM
Date of photograph: 10-06-2018 Wealther condition: Clear Viewing direction: N Latitiude: 44.6524 N Longitude: -115.5438 W





# STIBNITE GOLD PROJECT KEY OBSERVATION POINTS

# KOP 14A Photograph Information Time of photograph: 10:36 AM

Time of photograph: 10:36 AM
Date of photograph: 08-28-2018
Wealther condition: Clear
Viewing direction: SW
Latitiude: 44.6747 N
Longitude: -115.6664 W

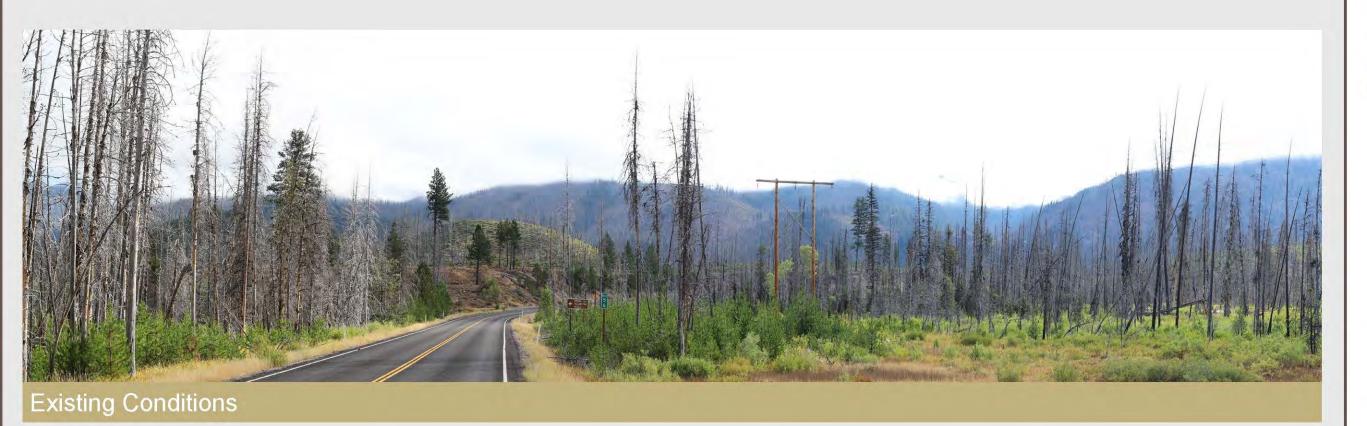


VICINITY MAP

# KOP 14B Photograph Information Time of photograph: 10:40 AM

Time of photograph: 10:40 AM
Date of photograph: 08-28-2018
Wealther condition: Clear

Viewing direction: NE Latitiude: 44.6747 N Longitude: -115.6664 W



## VIC

# STIBNITE GOLD PROJECT KEY OBSERVATION POINTS

# KOP 15A Photograph Information Time of photograph: 9:43 AM

Time of photograph: 9:43 AM
Date of photograph: 08-28-2018
Wealther condition: Cloudy
Viewing direction: SW
Latitiude: 44.6654 N
Longitude: -115.6832 W



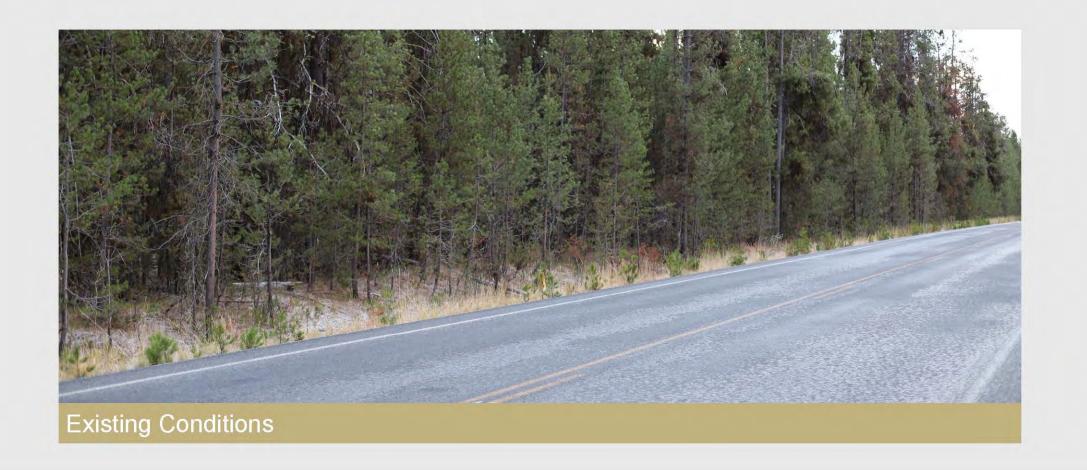
VICINITY MAP

## KOP 15B

## Photograph Information Time of photograph: 10:08 AM

Date of photograph: 08-28-2018
Wealther condition: Cloudy
Viewing direction: NE
Latitiude: 44 6641 N

Latitiude: 44.6641 N Longitude: -115.6859 W



# STIBNITE GOLD PROJECT KEY OBSERVATION POINTS

# KOP 16A Photograph Information Time of photograph: 9:25 AM

Time of photograph: 9:25 AM
Date of photograph: 10-06-2018
Wealther condition: Cloudy
Viewing direction: NE
Latitiude: 44.559 N
Longitude: -115.905 W



VICINITY MAP

# KOP 16B Photograph Information

Time of photograph: 9:16 AM
Date of photograph: 10-06-2018
Wealther condition: Cloudy
Viewing direction: SW
Latitiude: 44.556 N
Longitude: -115.901 W



# STIBNITE GOLD PROJECT KEY OBSERVATION POINTS

KOP 17
Lake Cascade
Powerline Corridor
Simulation



**VICINITY MAP** 

## **Photograph Information**

Time of photograph: 6:15 PM
Date of photograph: 08-29-2018
Wealther condition: Clear
Viewing direction: N
Latitiude: 44.7204 N
Longitude: -116.0681 W

**Existing Conditions** 



**Existing Conditions** 

# KOP 18 Photograph Information Time of photograph: 6:06 PM

Date of photograph: 08-29-2018
Wealther condition: Clear
Viewing direction: N

Viewing direction: N Latitiude: 44.6783 N Longitude: -115.0680 W



VICINITY MAP

# KOP 19 Photograph Information

Time of photograph: 4:45 PM
Date of photograph: 08-28-2018
Wealther condition: Clear
Viewing direction: NW
Latitiude: 44.7851 N
Longitude: -115.4561 W



VICINITY MAP



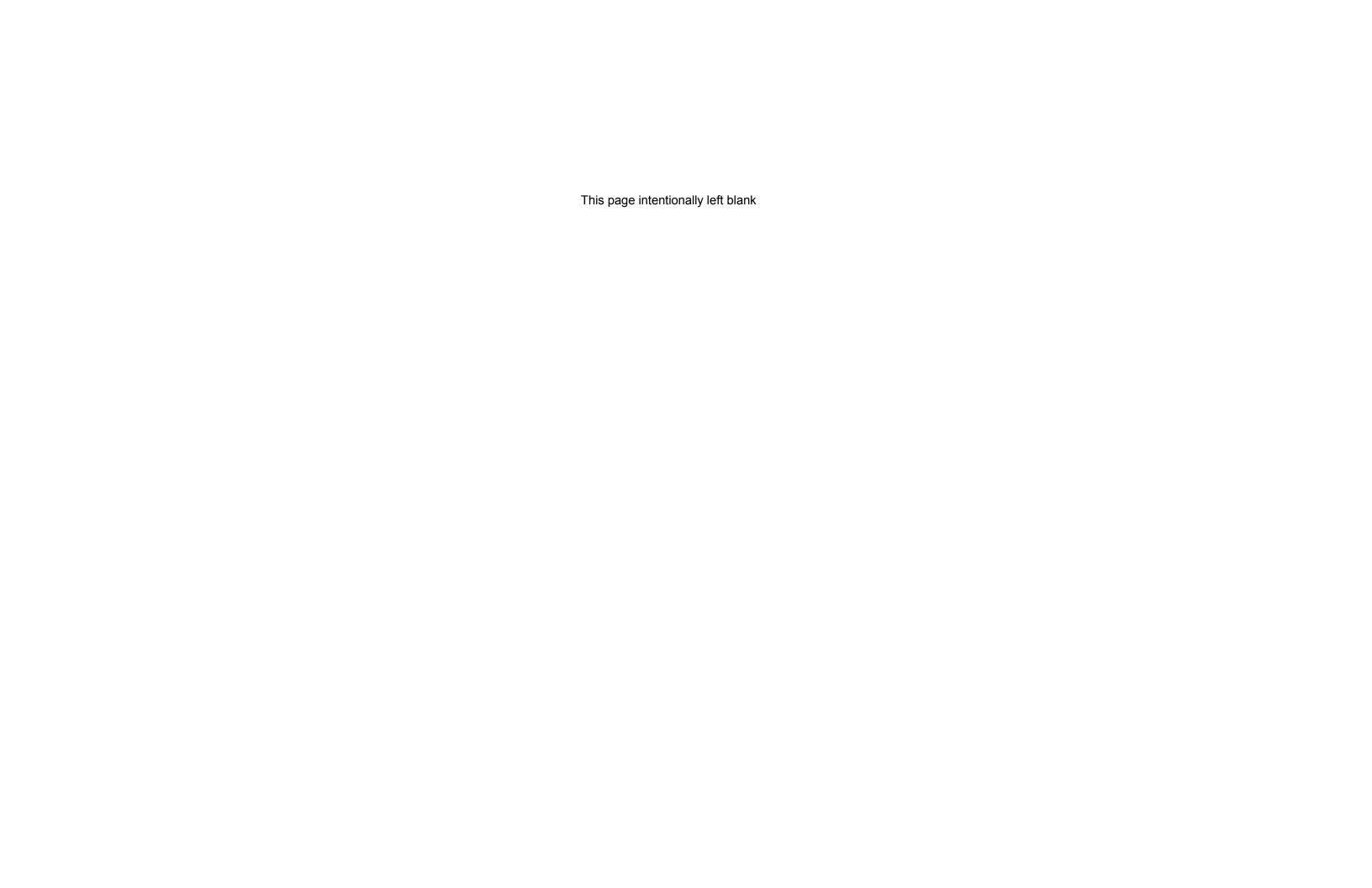
**KOP 20** 



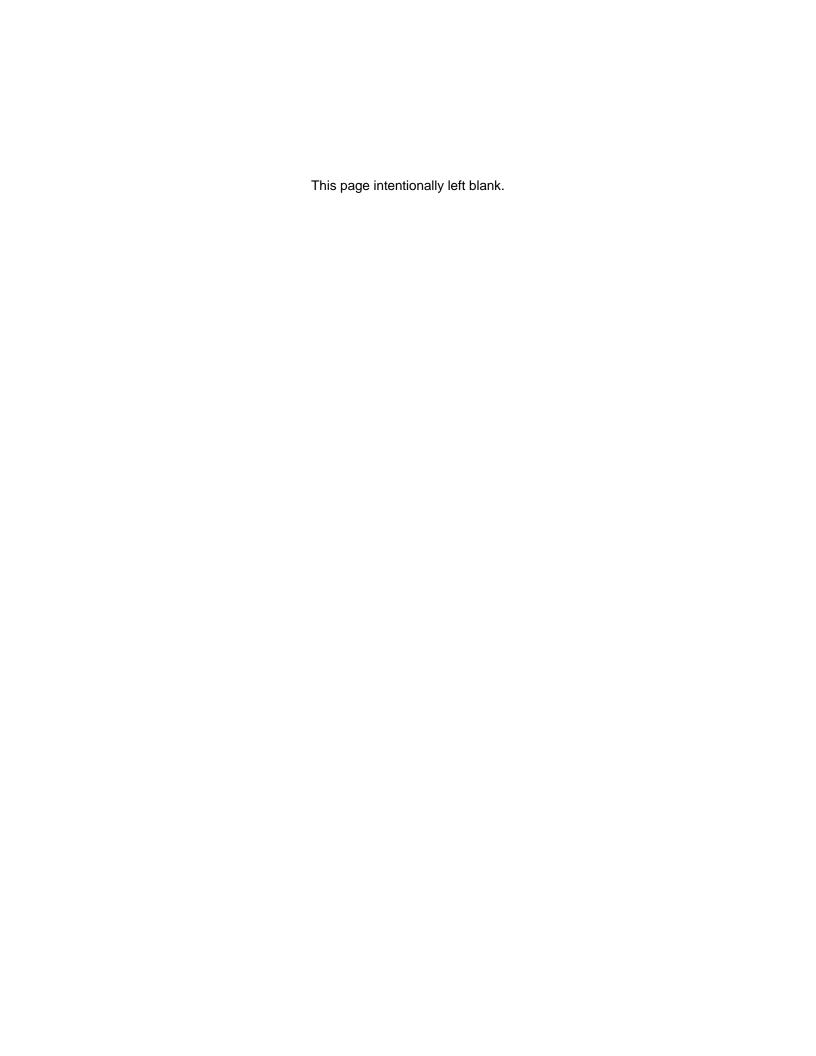
VICINITY MAP

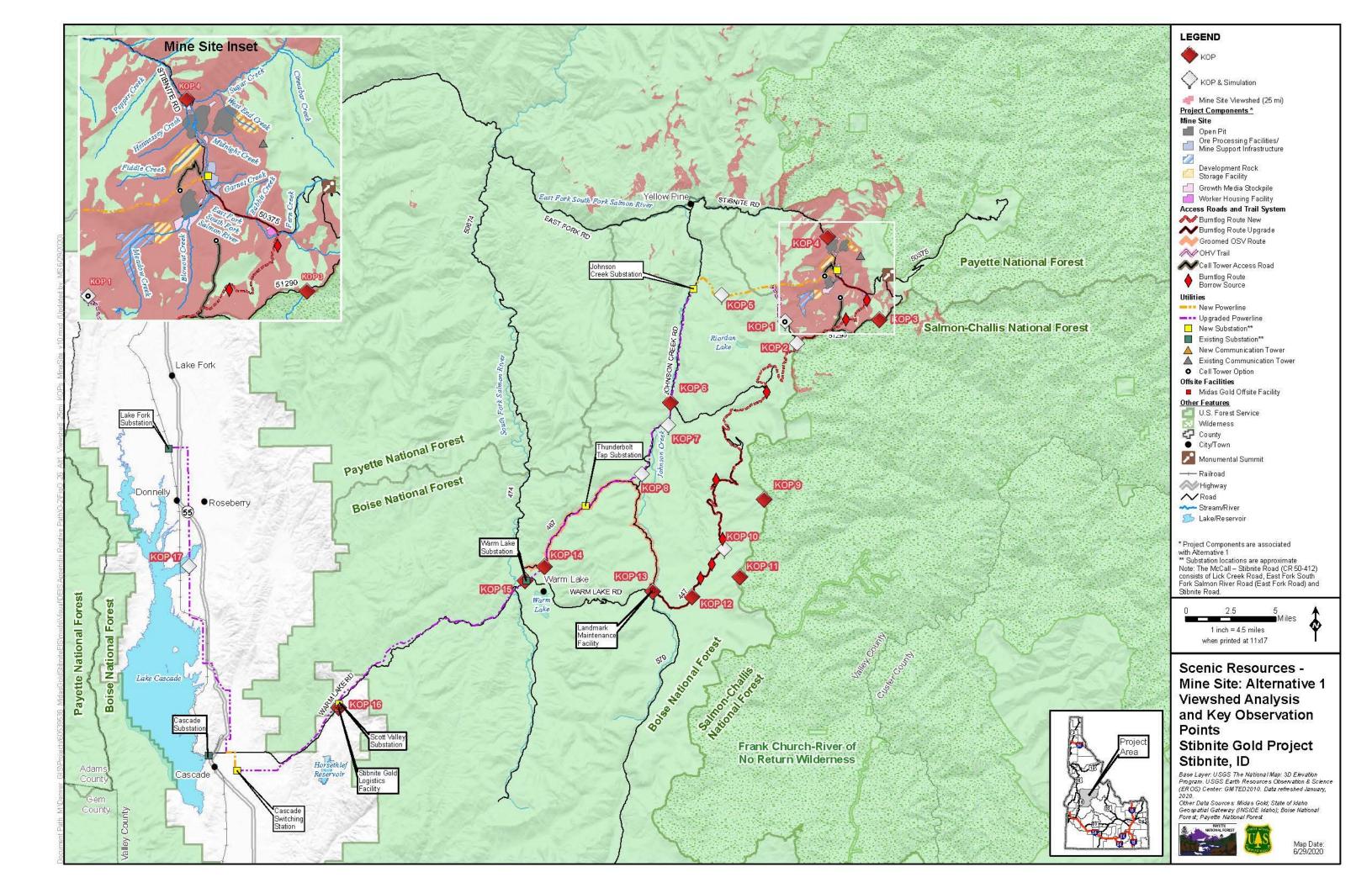
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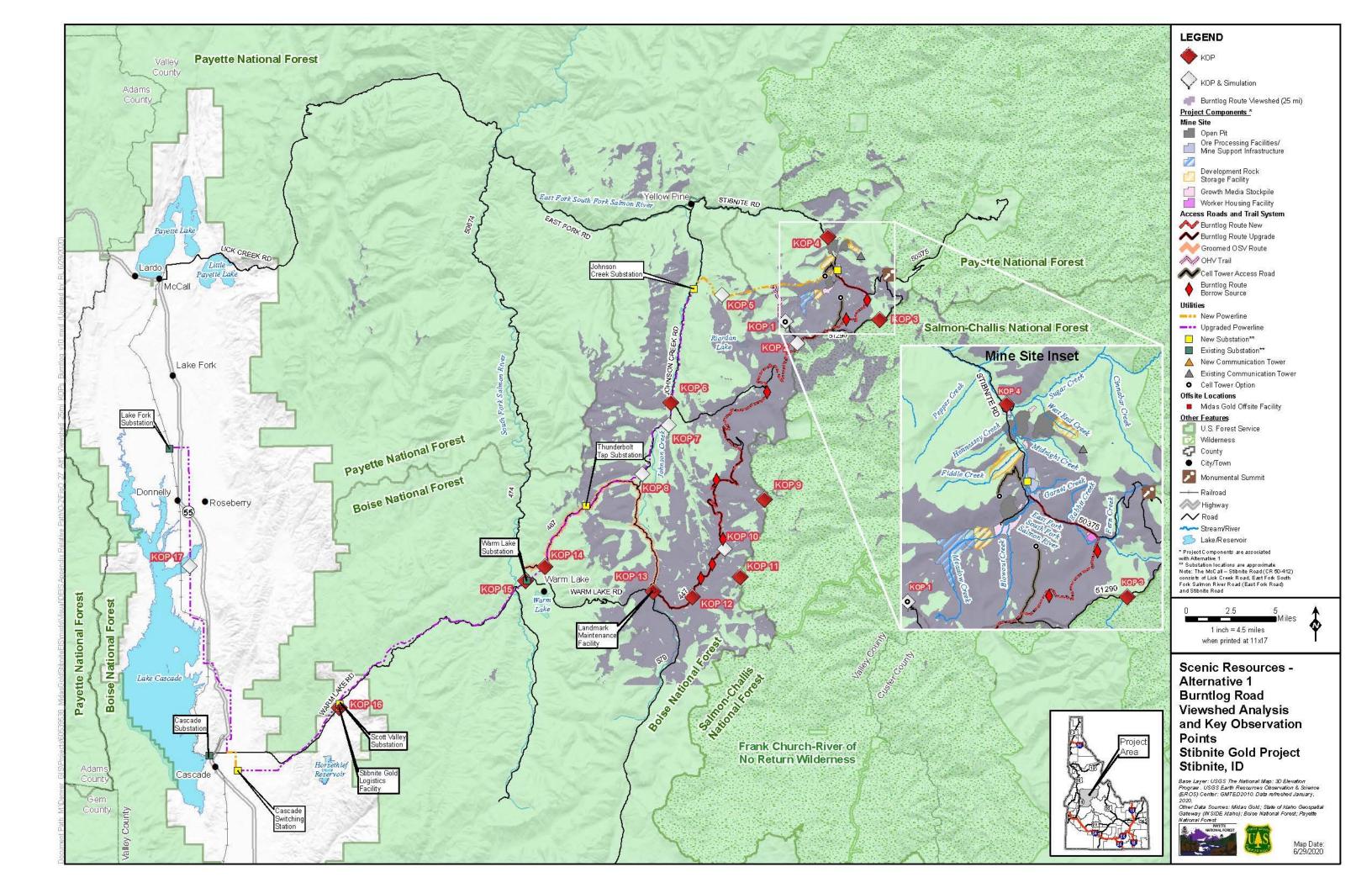
Time of photograph: 12:16 PM
Date of photograph: 08-28-2018
Wealther condition: Clear
Viewing direction: NE
Latitiude: 44.661 N
Longitude: -115.4919 W

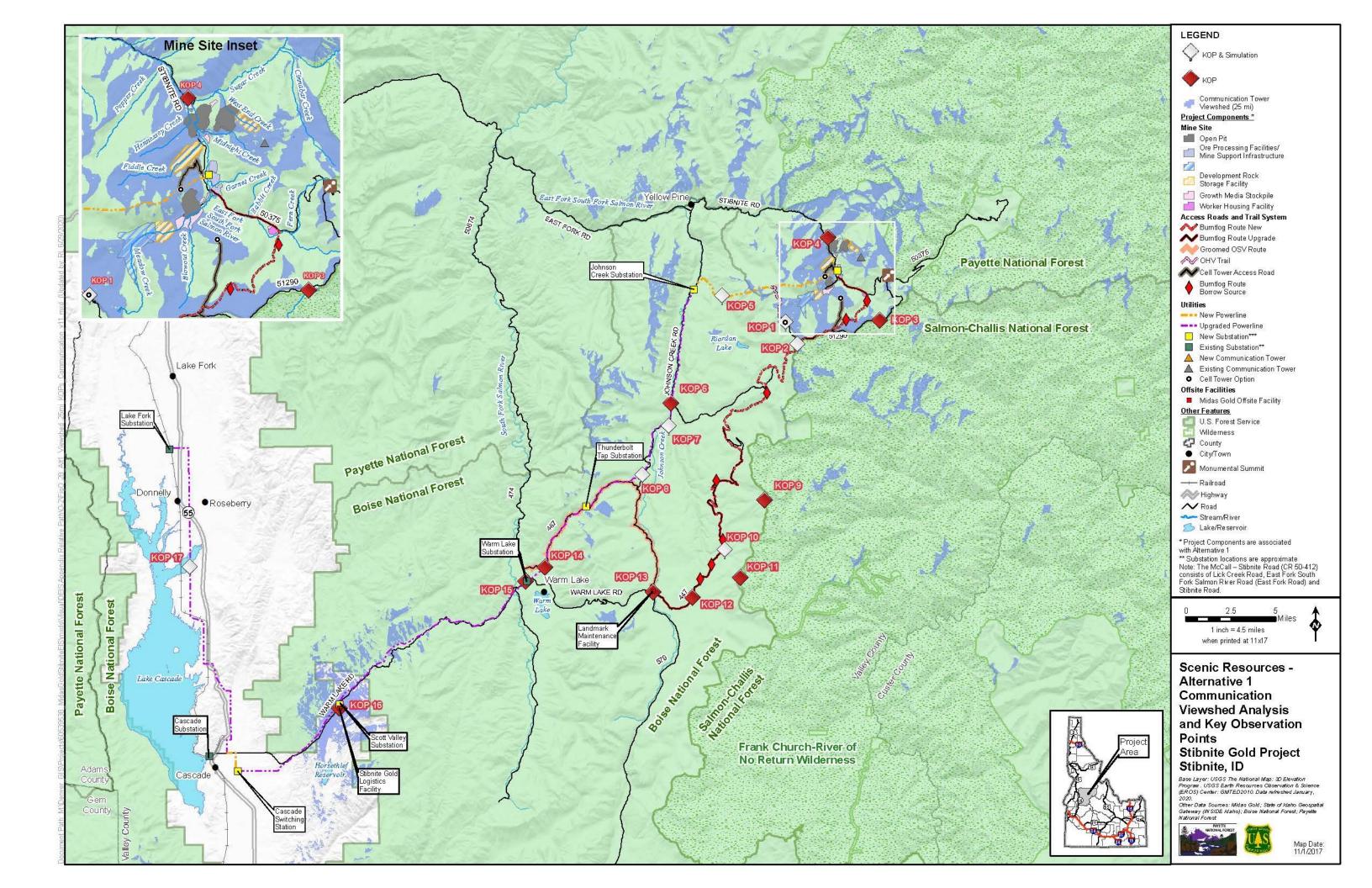


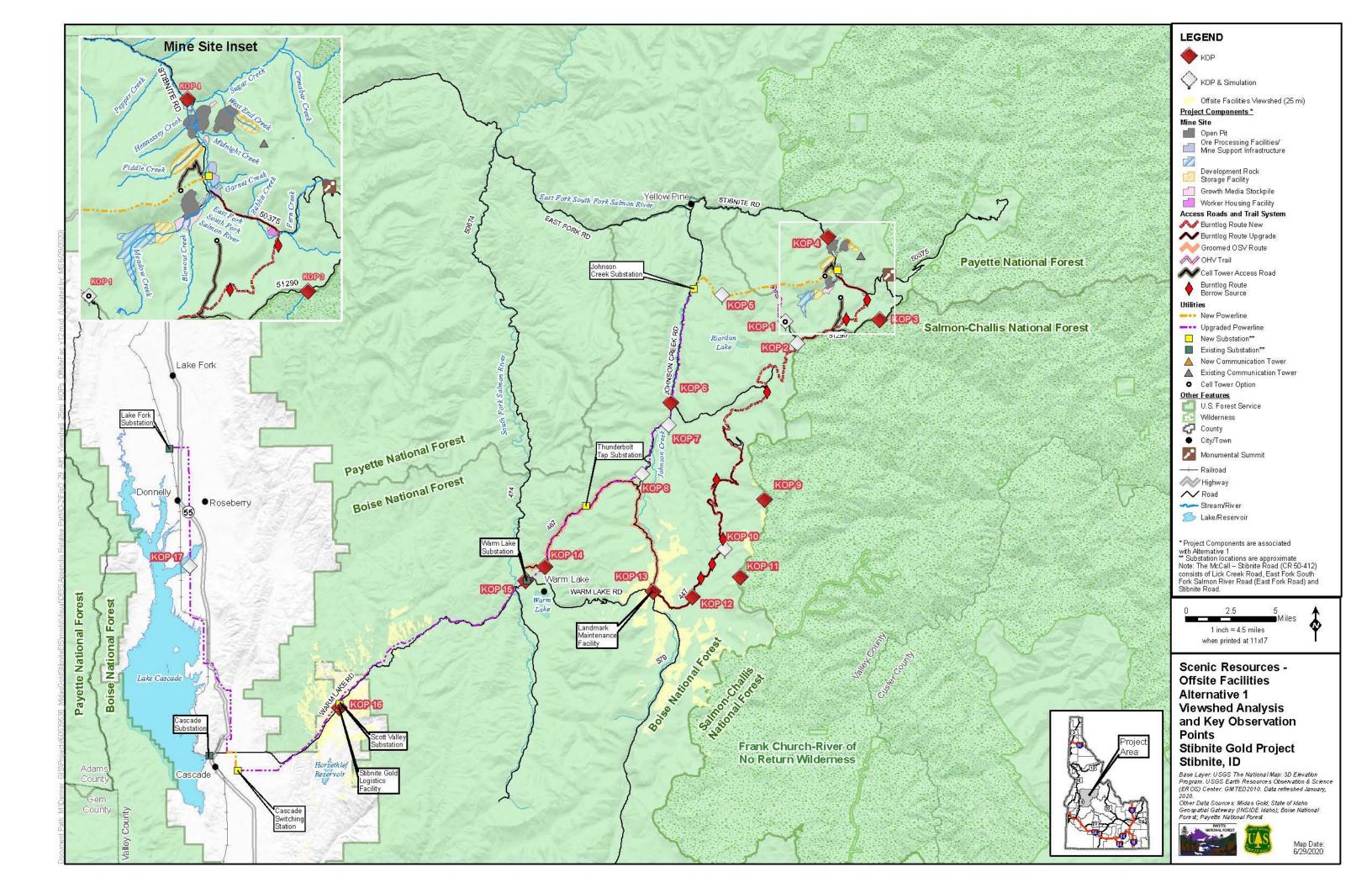
Appendix O-2: Alternatives Viewshed Analyses ar	nd Key Observation Points, Alternative 1

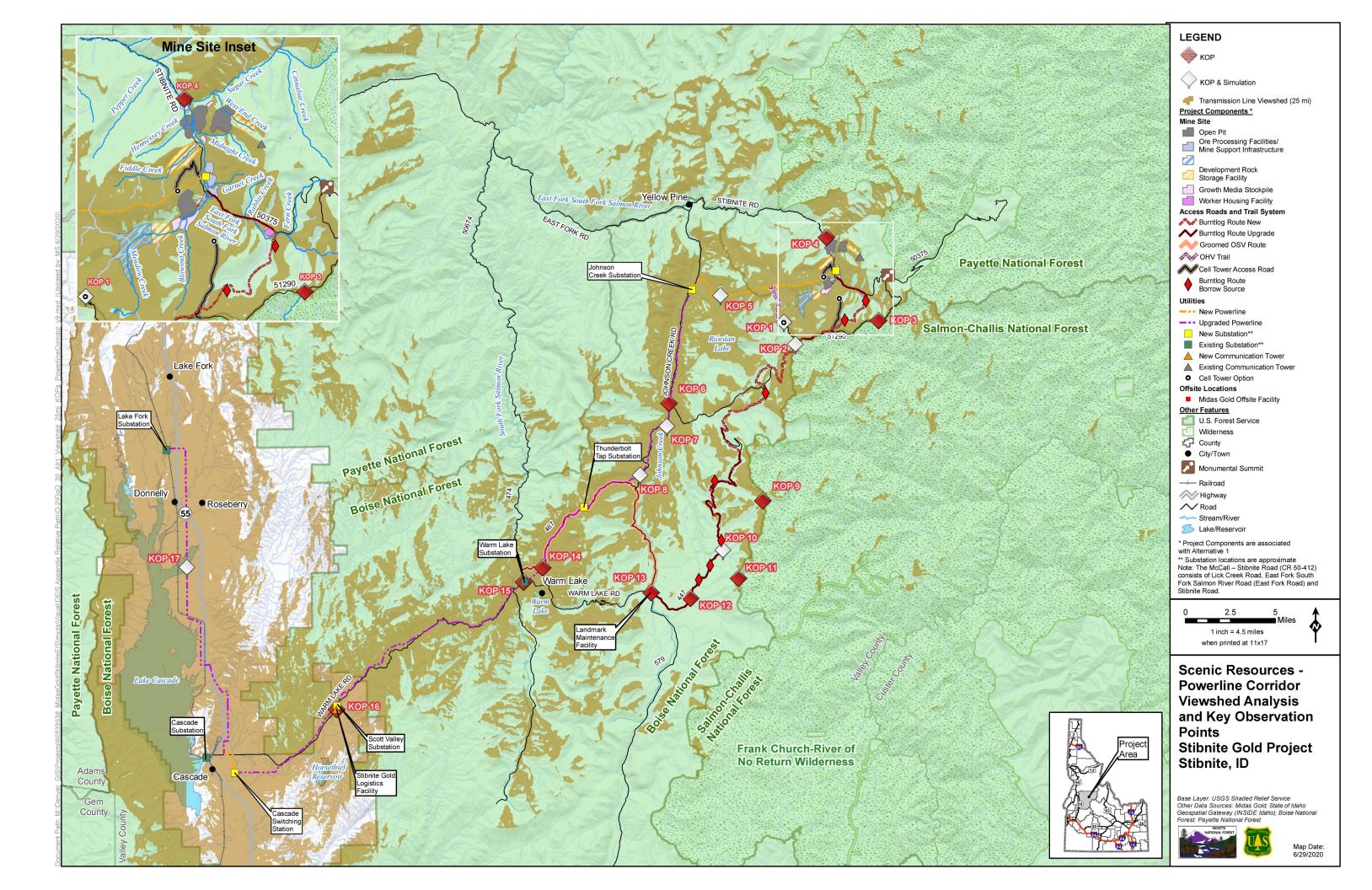


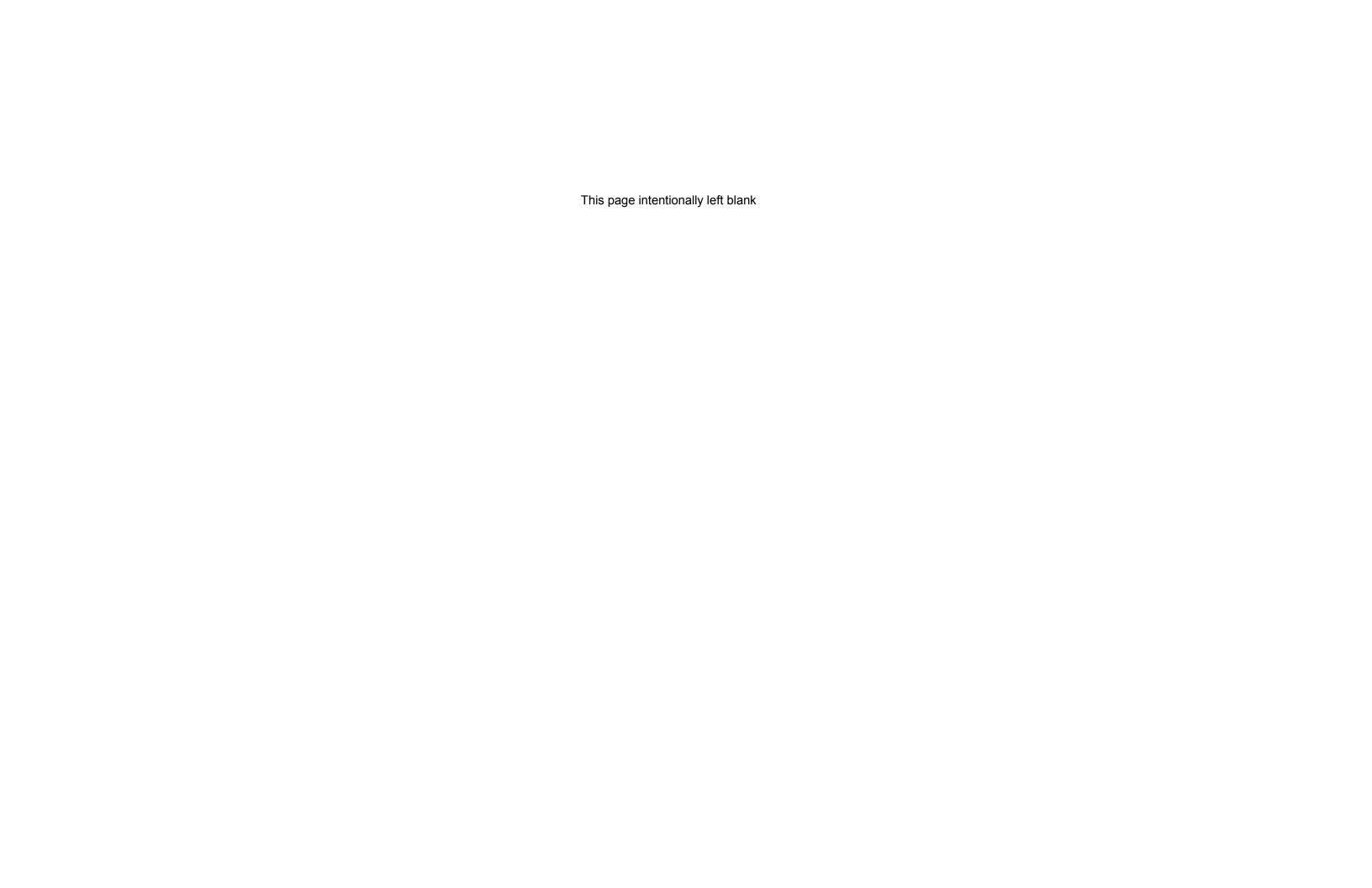




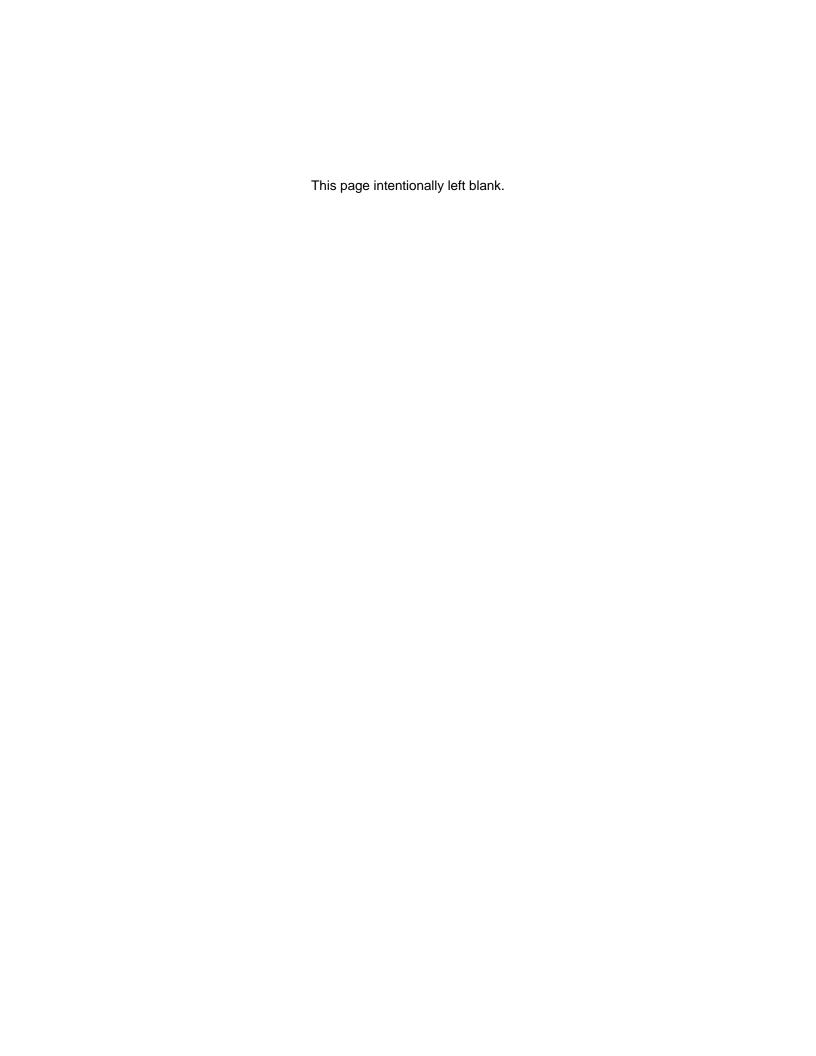


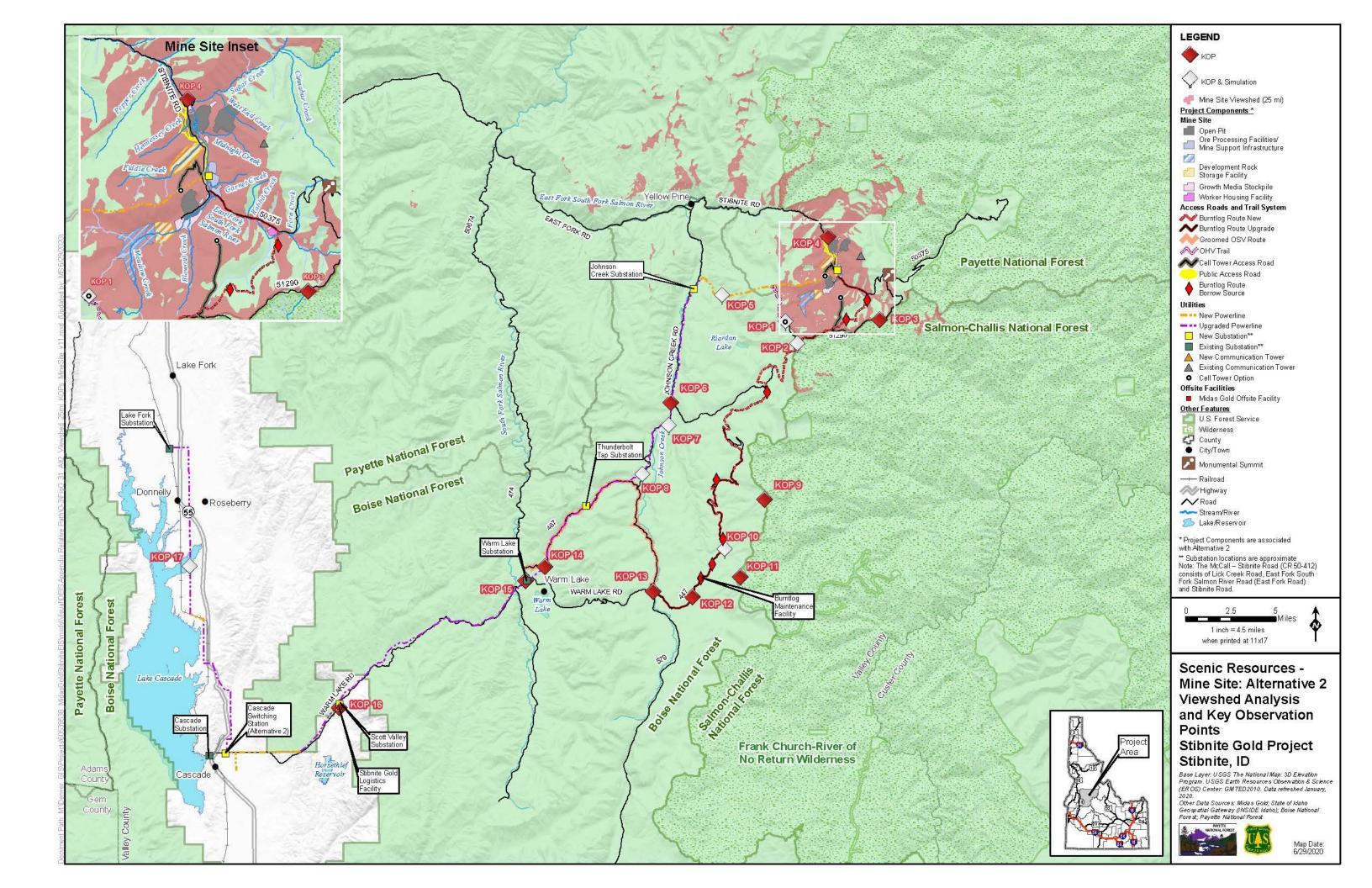


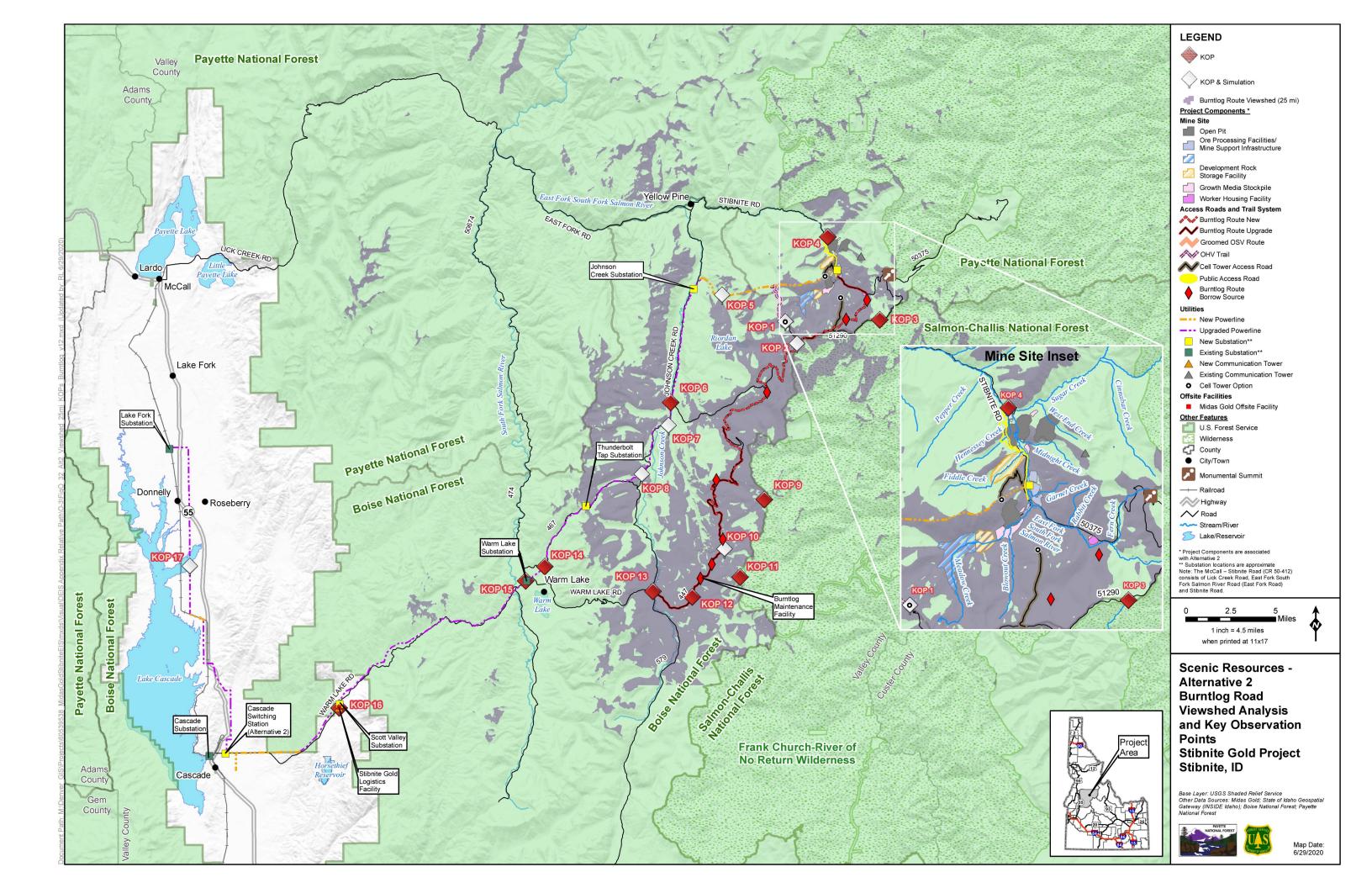


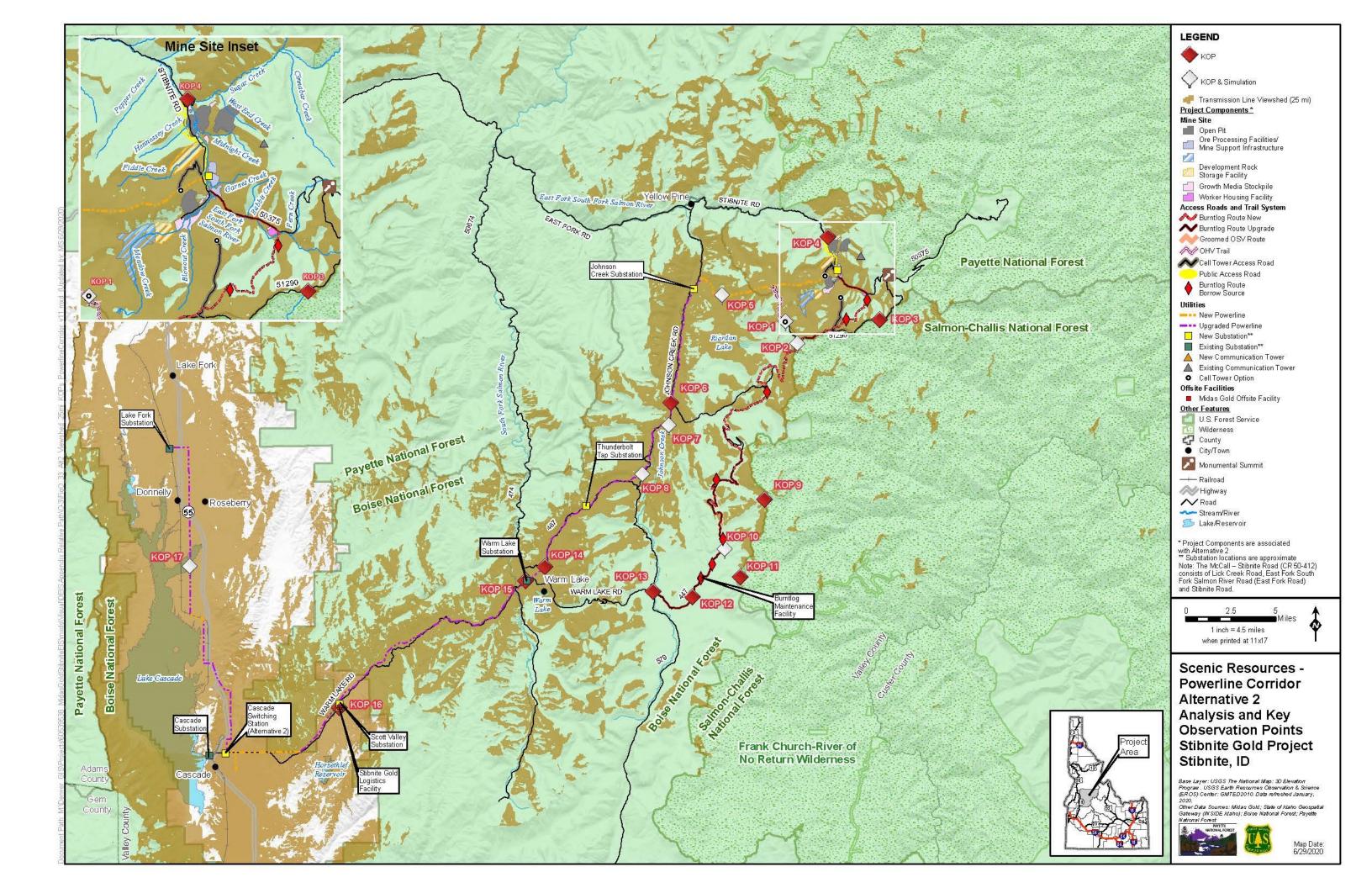


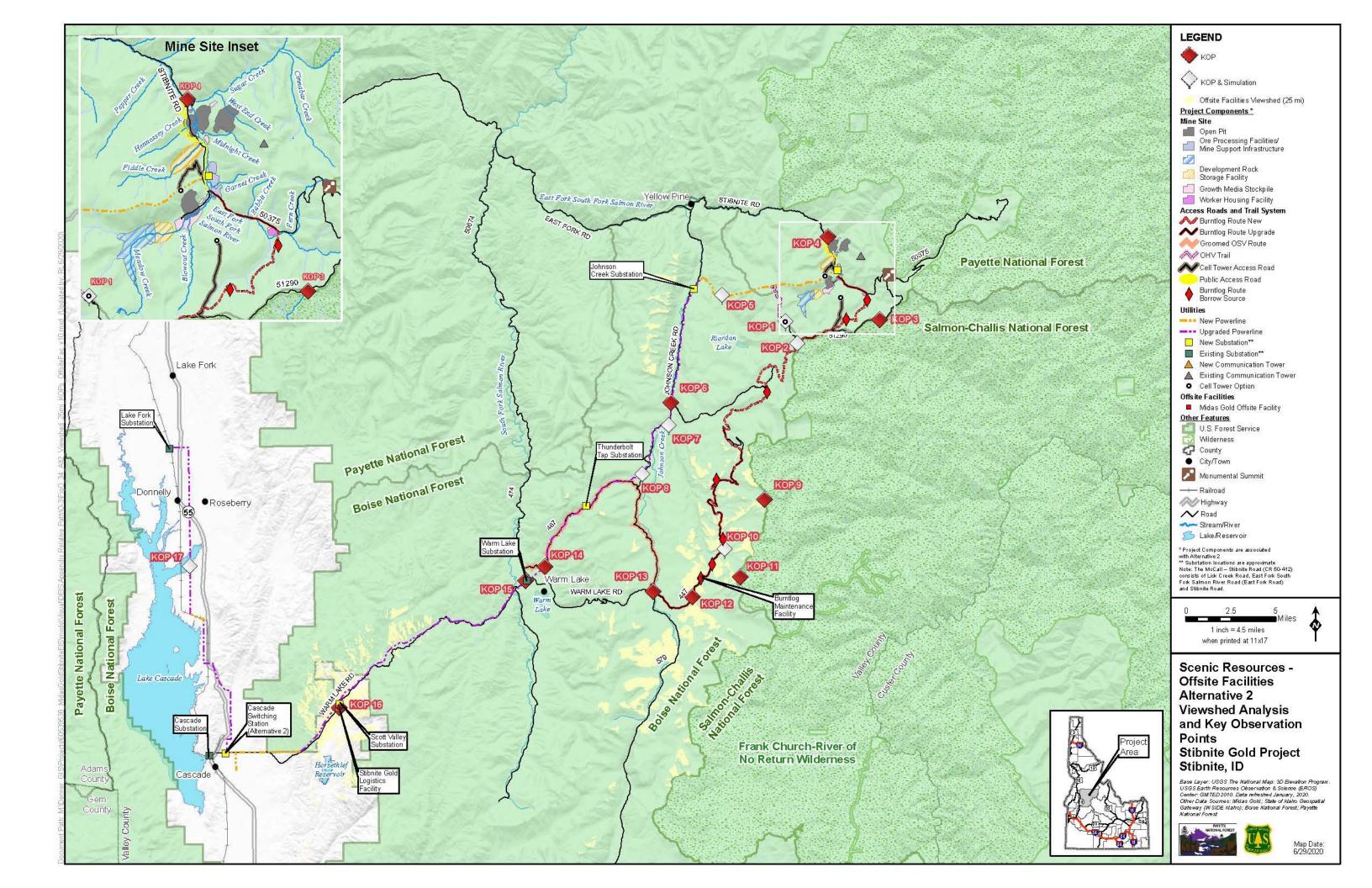
Appendix O-3: Alternatives Viewshed Analyses and Key Observation Points, Alternative 2



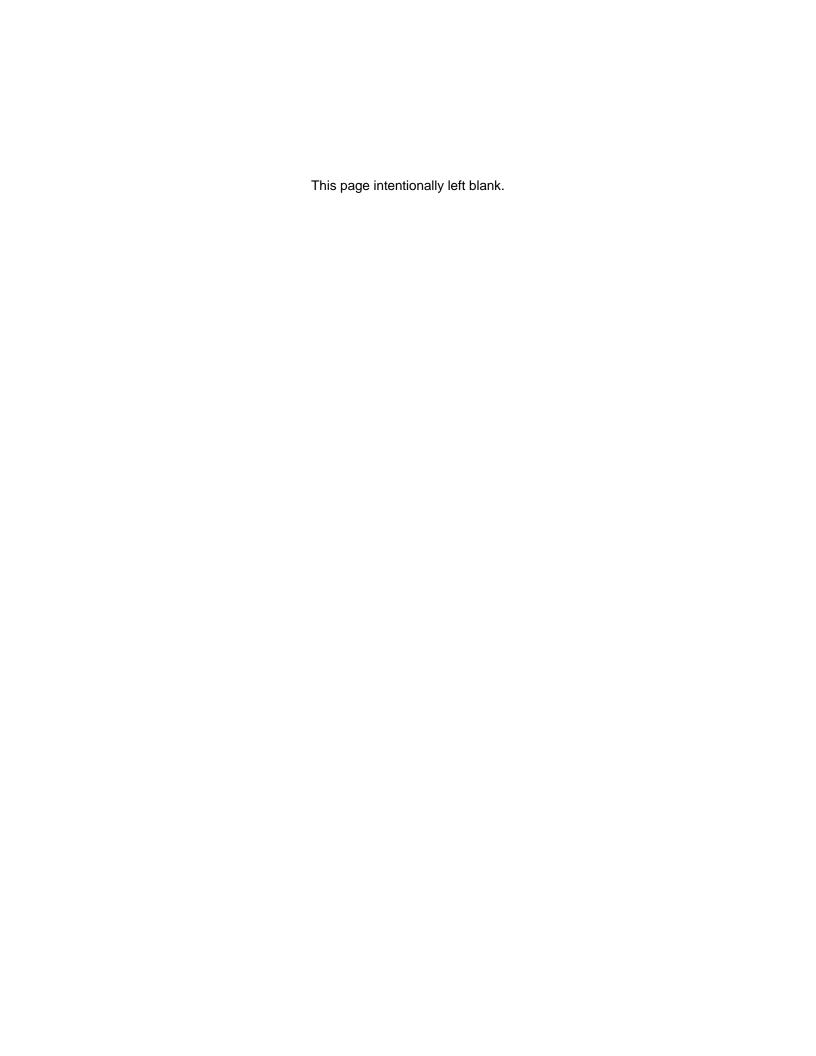


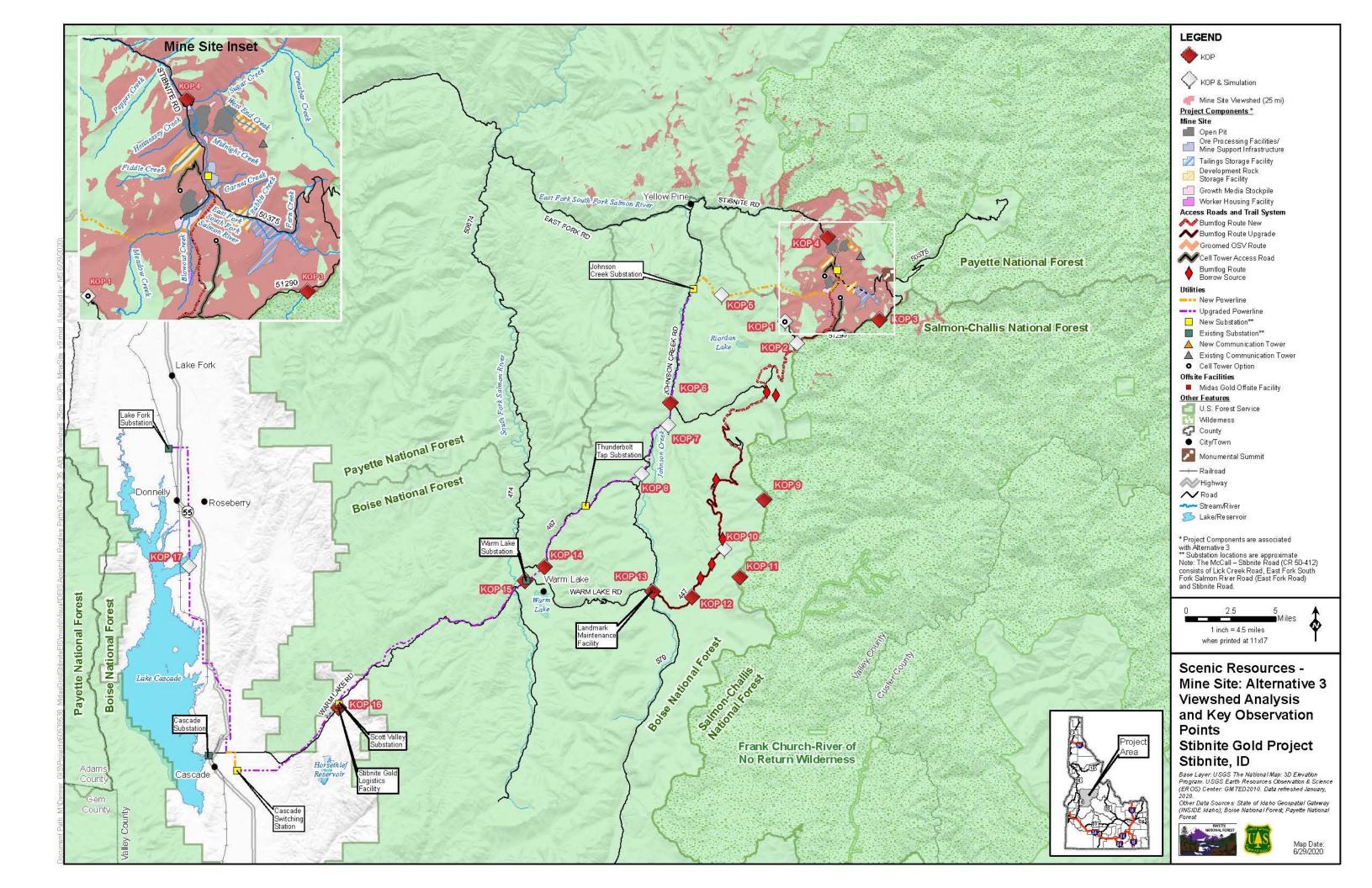


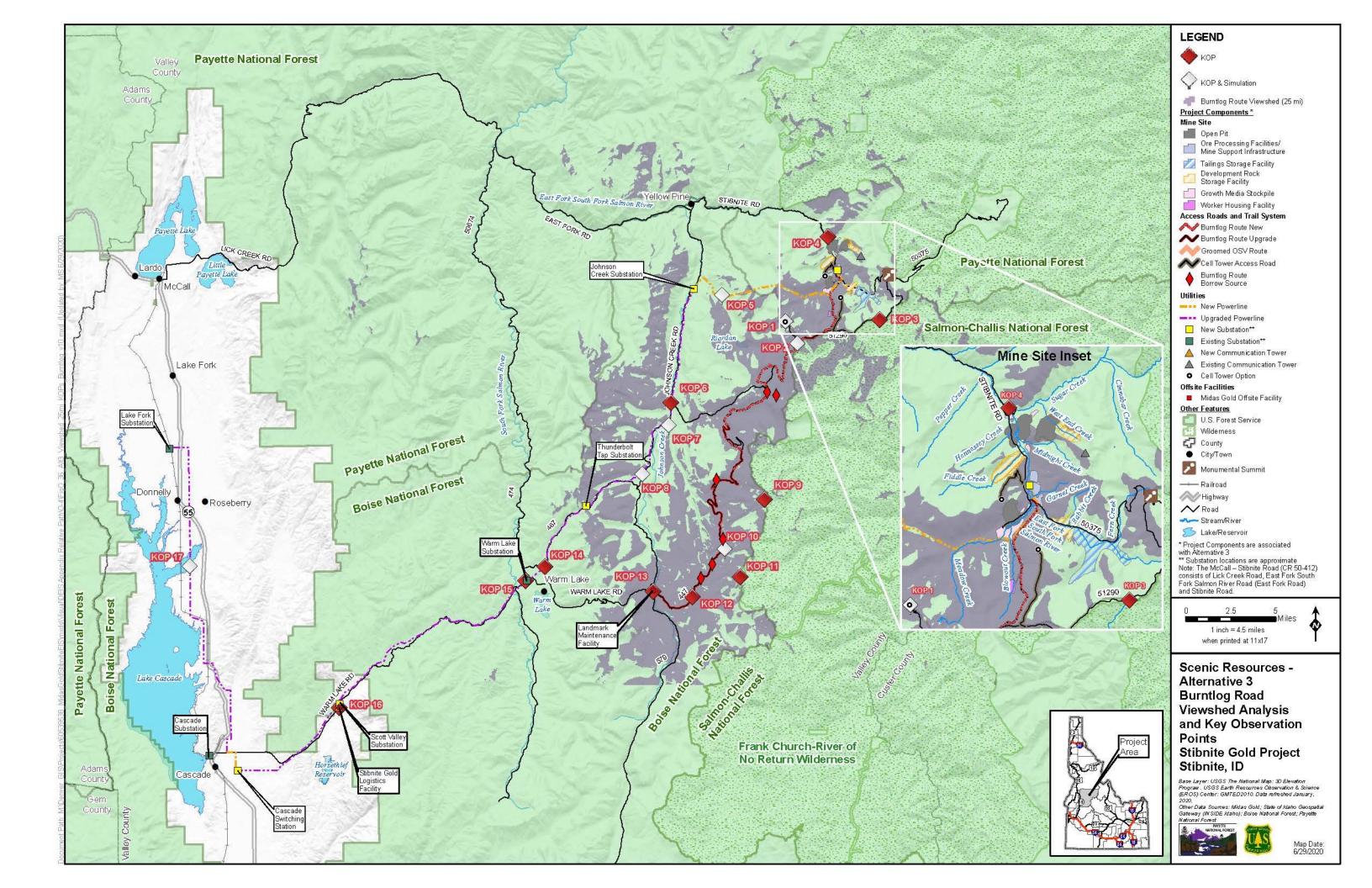


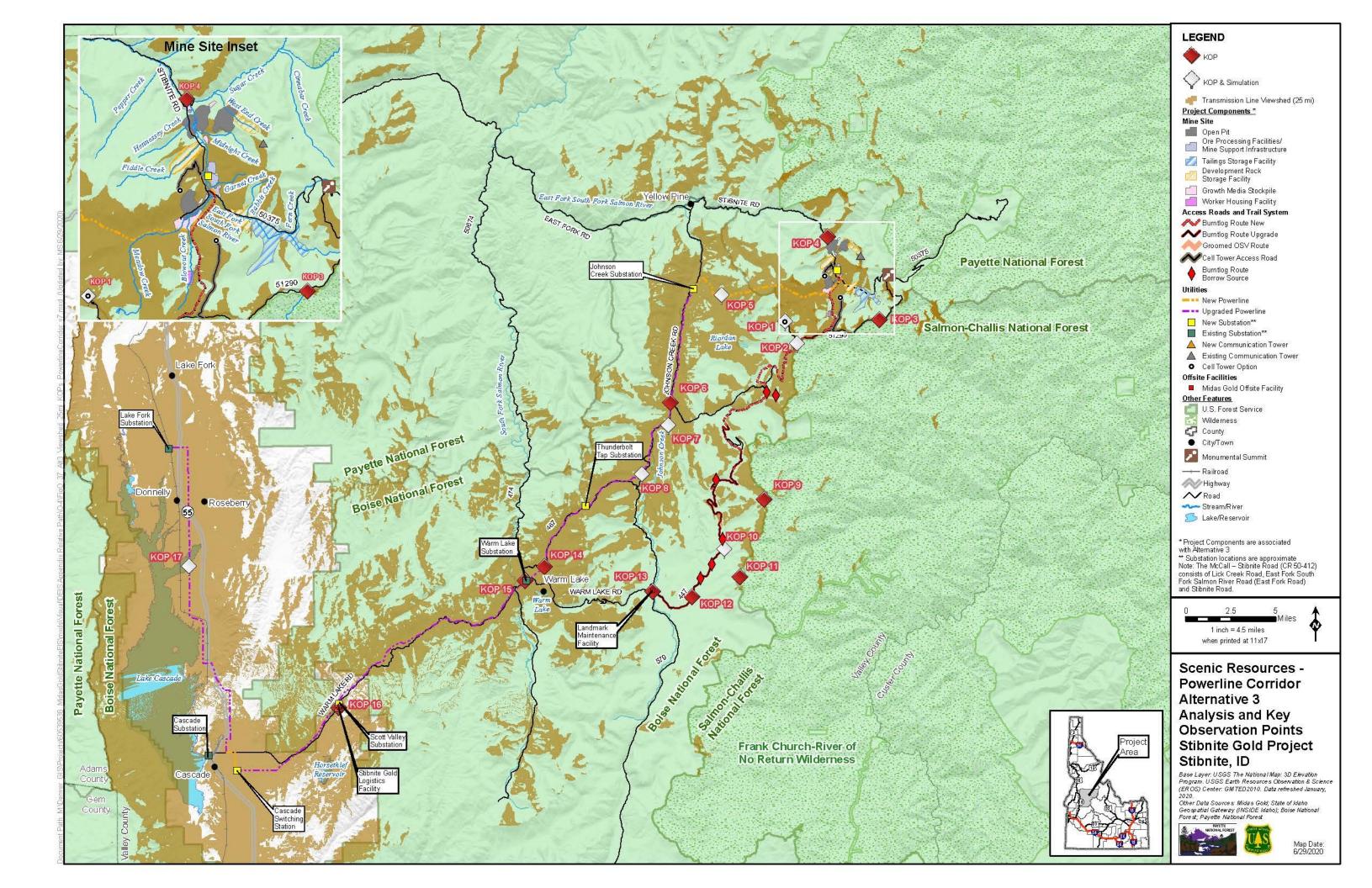


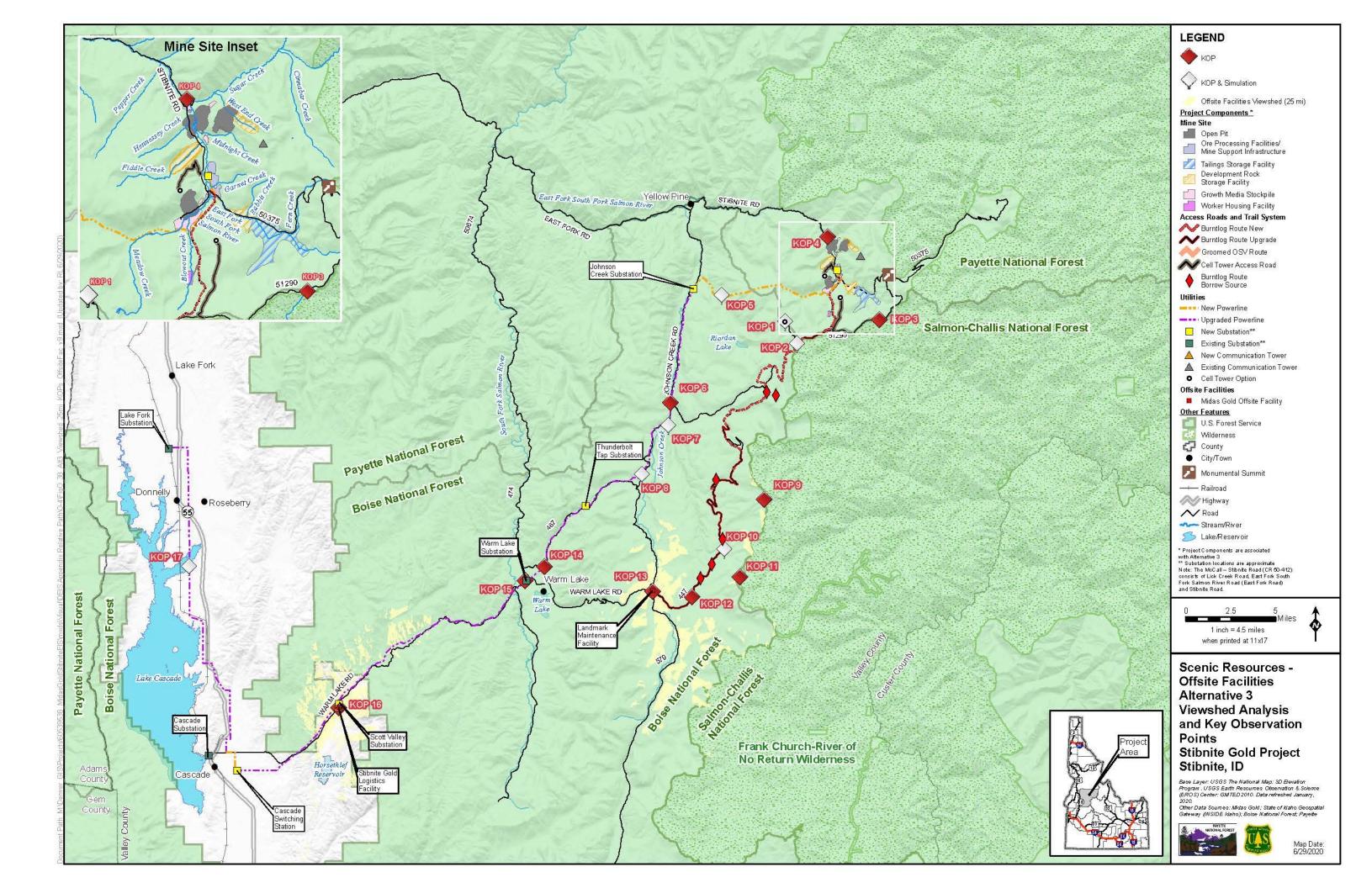
Appendix O-4: Alternatives Viewshed Ana	llyses and Key Observation Points, Alternative 3



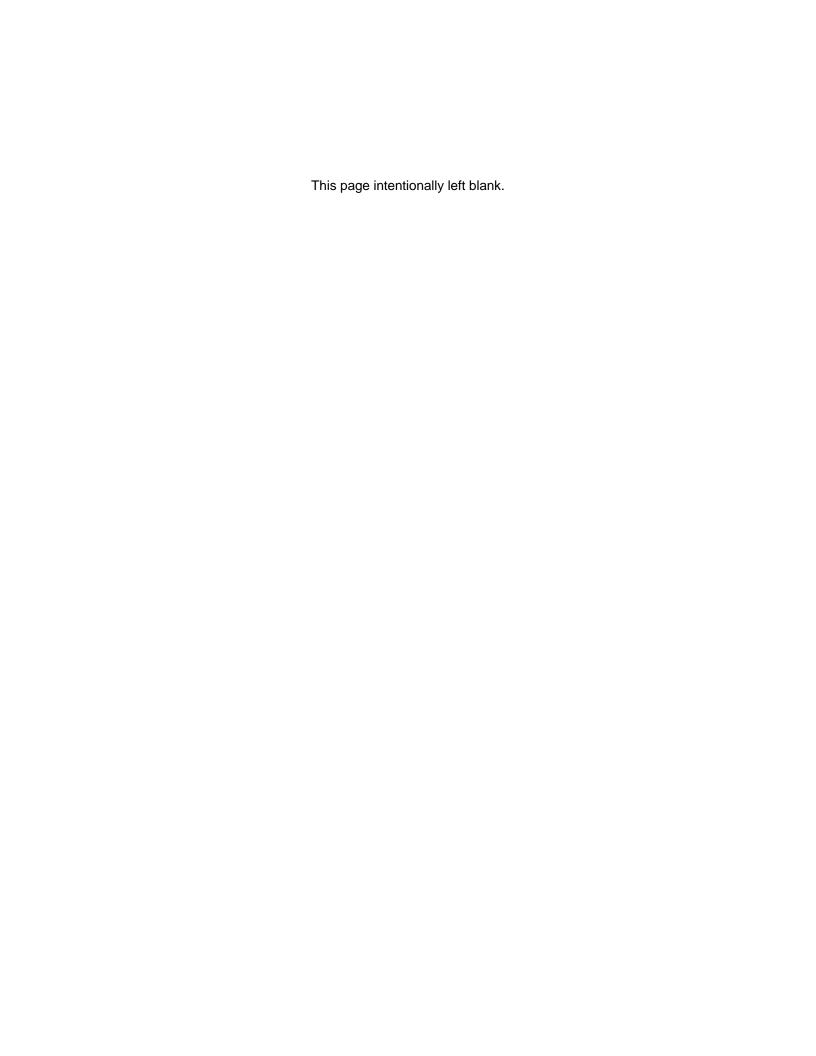


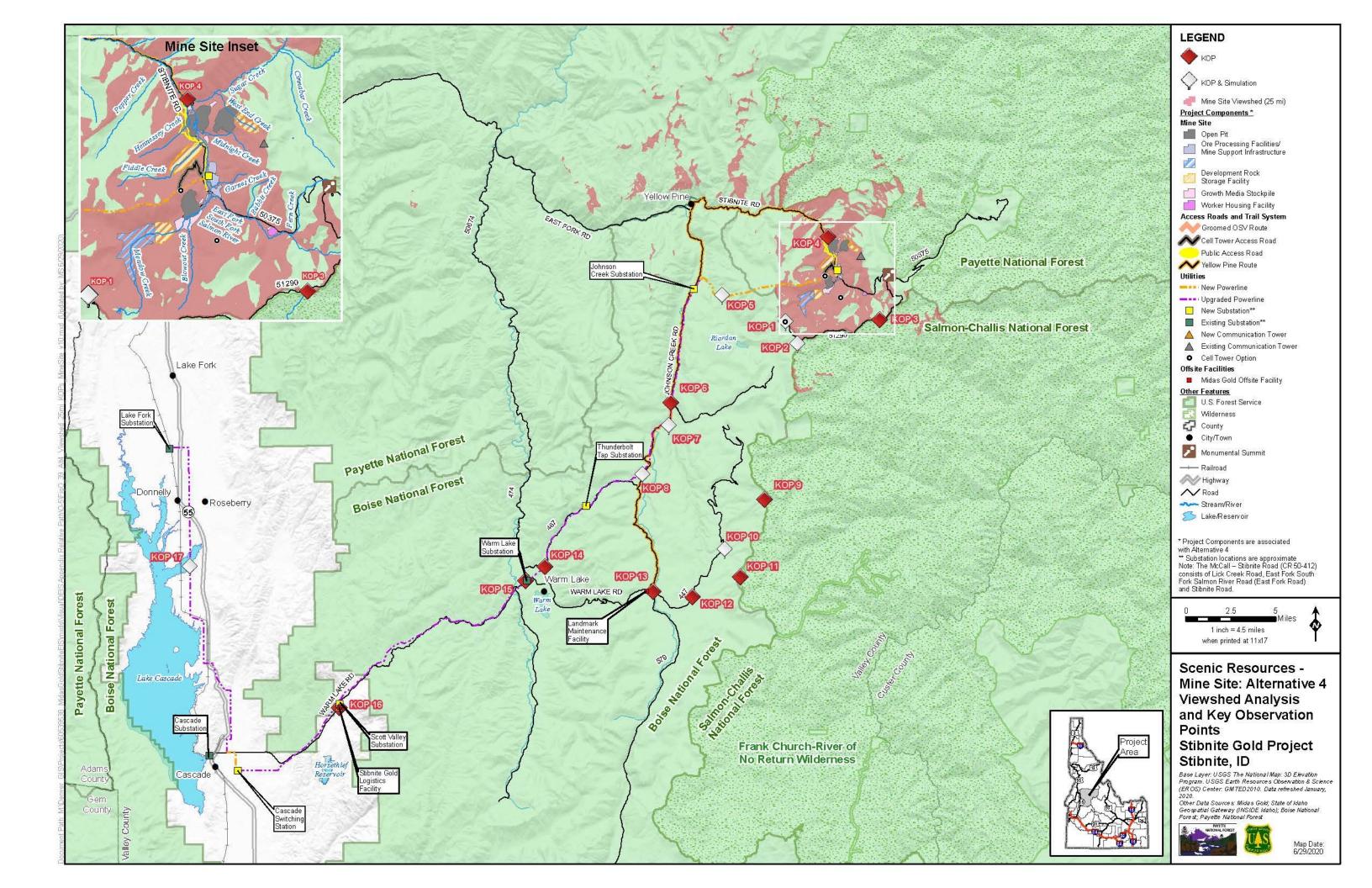


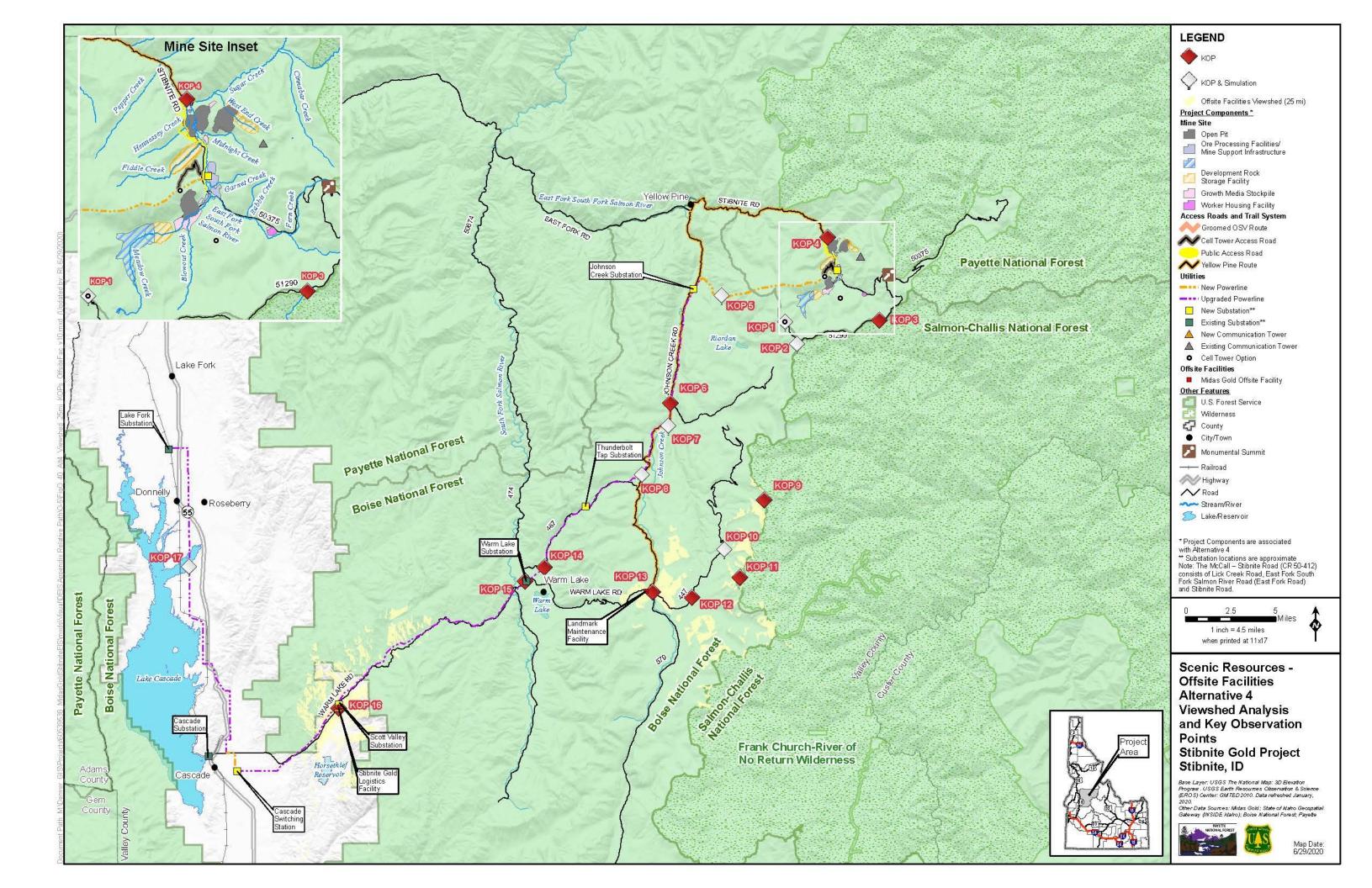




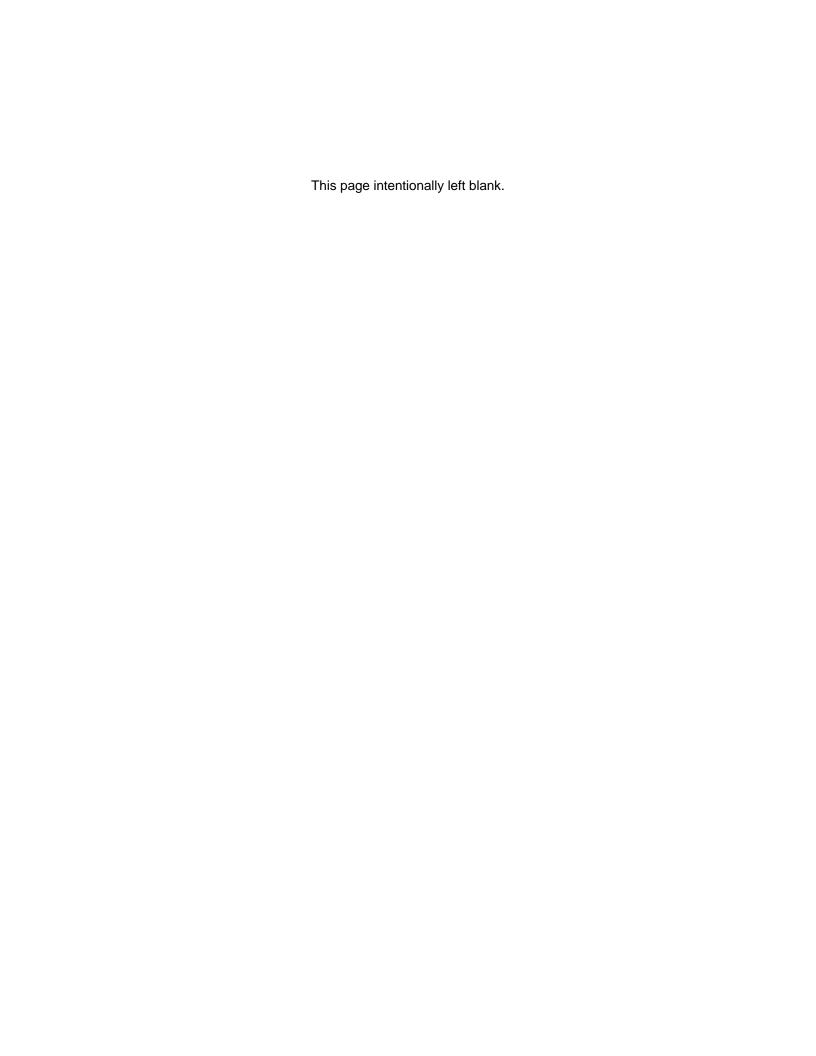
Appendix O-5: Alternatives Viewshed Analyses and Key Observation Points, Alternative 4







Appendix O-6: Consistency with Visual Quality Objectives



#### **APPENDIX O-6**

# Consistency with Visual Quality Objectives

The existing visual quality objectives (VQOs) within the Payette National Forest (PNF) and Boise National Forest (BNF) were reviewed where Stibnite Gold Project (SGP) components are proposed under each action alternative. The SGP component (mine site, access roads, transmission line ROW, or off-site maintenance facilities) were reviewed against the existing VQO to determine whether the SGP would conform to that VQO. This analysis was based on the following general assumptions:

The mine site would not be consistent with the Preservation, Retention, or Partial Retention VQO but would be consistent with the Modification or Maximum Modification VQO.

New or improved roads would not be consistent with the Preservation or Retention VQO but would be consistent with the Partial Retention, Modification, or Maximum Modification VQO, with the exception of where new soil nail walls would be constructed.

Soil nail walls would not be consistent with the Preservation, Retention, or Partial Retention VQO but would be consistent with the Modification or Maximum Modification VQO.

New or upgraded transmission line ROWs would not be consistent with the Preservation, Retention, or Partial Retention VQO but would be consistent with the Modification or Maximum Modification VQO.

Maintenance facilities would not be consistent with the Preservation or Retention VQO but would be consistent with the Partial Retention, Modification, or Maximum Modification VQO.

# **Analysis of the Mine Site**

Under all action alternatives, the mine site would be located in areas managed as a VQO of Retention or Partial Retention. Where visible from viewing platforms, the mine site would not meet either of these VQOs, as the mine site components would introduce form, line, color, and texture found infrequently or not at all in the characteristic landscape, and, to a degree, that would dominate the characteristic landscape. These effects could be visible from the following viewing platforms: McCall-Stibnite Road (National Forest System Road [FR] 50412), Kootenai Road (FR 50883), and the Meadow Creek Lookout.

## **Analysis of New and Improved Access Roads**

Under Alternatives 1, 2, and 3, new construction associated with Burntlog Route would cross areas managed as Retention, Partial Retention, and Modification VQOs. With the exception of the soil nail walls under Alternatives 1 and 2, access roads would generally conform to the Partial Retention and Modification VQO. Although new and upgraded portions of the access roads could introduce strong visual contrast in some areas, it typically would be limited to the

immediate foreground as viewed from the road introducing the contrast and would appear subordinate from other viewing platforms. New access roads would not be consistent with the Retention VQO as it would introduce new lines, colors, and textures that would be evident.

Under Alternative 4, the access road would cross an area managed as Partial Retention and road upgrades would cross areas managed as Retention and Partial Retention. With the exception of the retaining walls, access roads would generally conform to the Partial Retention VQO. Although new and upgraded portions of the access roads could introduce strong visual contrast in some areas, it typically would be limited to the immediate foreground as viewed from the road introducing the contrast and would appear subordinate from other viewing platforms.

# Analysis of New and Improved Transmission Line ROWs

Under all action alternatives, a new transmission would cross areas managed as Retention and Partial Retention, and an upgraded transmission line would cross areas managed as Preservation, Retention, and Partial Retention. Generally, new and upgraded transmission lines would not meet the Preservation, Retention, or Partial Retention VQO but would meet the Modification VQO. The line, color, form, and texture of the ROW would visually dominate the landscape but would not be out of scale with the natural surroundings. These effects would be visible from the following viewer platforms in the foreground and middle ground distance zones: Johnson Creek Road, Burntlog Route (new segment), and the Meadow Creek Lookout.

## **Analysis of Off-site Maintenance Facilities**

Under Alternatives 1, 3, and 4, the Landmark Maintenance facility would be located in an area managed as Partial Retention. Under Alternative 2, the Burntlog Maintenance facility also would be located in an area managed as Partial Retention. Under all action alternatives, the proposed maintenance facility would meet the Partial Retention VQO, as the building would be constructed using materials and colors that appear in the characteristic landscape. Additionally, due to surrounding vegetation these facilities would typically not be visible past the foreground distance zone.

## **Summary**

The SGP would have effects on the scenery resources within the PNF and BNF and would conflict with the current forest plan VQO designations. Portions of the SGP crossing NFS lands managed as Retention require that activities be "not visually evident." Portions of the SGP crossing NFS lands managed as Partial Retention require that activities be "visually subordinate" to the characteristic landscape. Implementation of the SGP could require changing some areas designated Retention and Partial Retention to the Modification VQO category.

**Tables 1a** and **1b** summarize acres of each SGP component described above that could result in the need for a change in the VQO designation in order to achieve consistency with the Payette National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan (Payette Forest Plan) (Forest Service 2003).

Table 1a SGP Components in Retention VQO in the PNF

Acres of SGP Component in the Retention VQO	Alternative 1	Alternative 2	Alternative 3	Alternative 4
Mine site	621.6	621.6	461.3	621.6
New or improved roads	55.4	55.3	16.8	11.0
New or upgraded powerline ROW	33.3	33.3	37.3	33.3

Table 1b: SGP Components in Partial Retention VQO in the PNF

Acres of SGP Component in the <u>Partial</u> <u>Retention</u> VQO	Alternative 1	Alternative 2	Alternative 3	Alternative 4
Mine site	1,277.3	1,185.2	1,542.0	1,298.7
Acres associated with soil nail walls or retaining walls for road work	26.1	41.4	7.1	26.5
New or upgraded powerline ROW	31.3	31.3	42.0	31.3

**Tables 2a, 2b,** and **2c** summarize acres of each SGP component described above that could result in the need for a change in the VQO designation in order to achieve consistency with the Boise National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan (Boise Forest Plan) (Forest Service 2010).

Table 2a SGP Components in Preservation VQO in the BNF

Acres of SGP Component in the <u>Preservation</u> VQO	Alternative 1	Alternative 2	Alternative 3	Alternative 4
Mine site	0	0	5.1	0
New or improved roads	12.1	12.1	0	0
New or upgraded powerline ROW	5.1	5.1	0	5.1

Table 2b SGP Components in Retention VQO in the BNF

Acres of SGP Component in the <u>Retention</u> VQO	Alternative 1	Alternative 2	Alternative 3	Alternative 4
Mine site	0	0	74.8	0
New or improved roads	10.2	25.1	9.2	9.2
New or upgraded powerline ROW	74.8	77.0	0	74.8

Table 2c SGP Components in Partial Retention VQO in the BNF

Acres of SGP Component in the <u>Partial</u> <u>Retention</u> VQO	Alternative 1	Alternative 2	Alternative 3	Alternative 4
Mine site	0	0	83.2	0
Acres associated with soil nail walls or retaining walls for road work	193.7	165.0	32.5	32.5
New or upgraded powerline ROW	83.2	88.6	0	83.2

**Table 3** summarizes the acres of the SGP that would be inconsistent with VQO designations per the Payette Forest Plan and Boise Forest Plan, as informed by the tables above. It presents the total acres for Retention and Partial Retention that would need to be changed to Modification by alternative in order to achieve Forest Plan consistency.

Table 3 Consistency with Scenery Management Designations by Forest and Alternative (acres)

Management Area/VQO	Alternative 1	Alternative 2	Alternative 3	Alternative 4
PNF Acres to be changed from Retention to Partial Retention <sup>1</sup>	55.4	55.3	16.8	11.0
PNF Acres to be changed from Retention to Modification <sup>2</sup>	654.9	654.9	498.6	654.9
PNF Acres to be change from Partial Retention to Modification <sup>2</sup>	1,334.7	1,257.8	1,591.1	1,356.5
BNF Acres to be changed from Preservation to Partial Retention <sup>1</sup>	12.1	12.1	0	0

Management Area/VQO	Alternative 1	Alternative 2	Alternative 3	Alternative 4
BNF Acres to be changed from Preservation to Modification <sup>2</sup>	5.1	5.1	5.1	5.1
BNF Acres to be changed from Retention to Partial Retention <sup>1</sup>	10.2	25.1	9.2	9.2
BNF Acres to be changed from Retention to Modification <sup>2</sup>	74.8	77.0	74.8	74.8
BNF Acres to be changed from Partial Retention to Modification <sup>2</sup>	276.9	253.7	115.6	115.6

#### Table Notes:

- 1 Areas where new or improved roads are proposed would meet the Partial Retention VQO.
- 2 Areas where soil nail walls, new or upgraded transmission lines, and the mine site as proposed would meet the Modification VQO.

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