

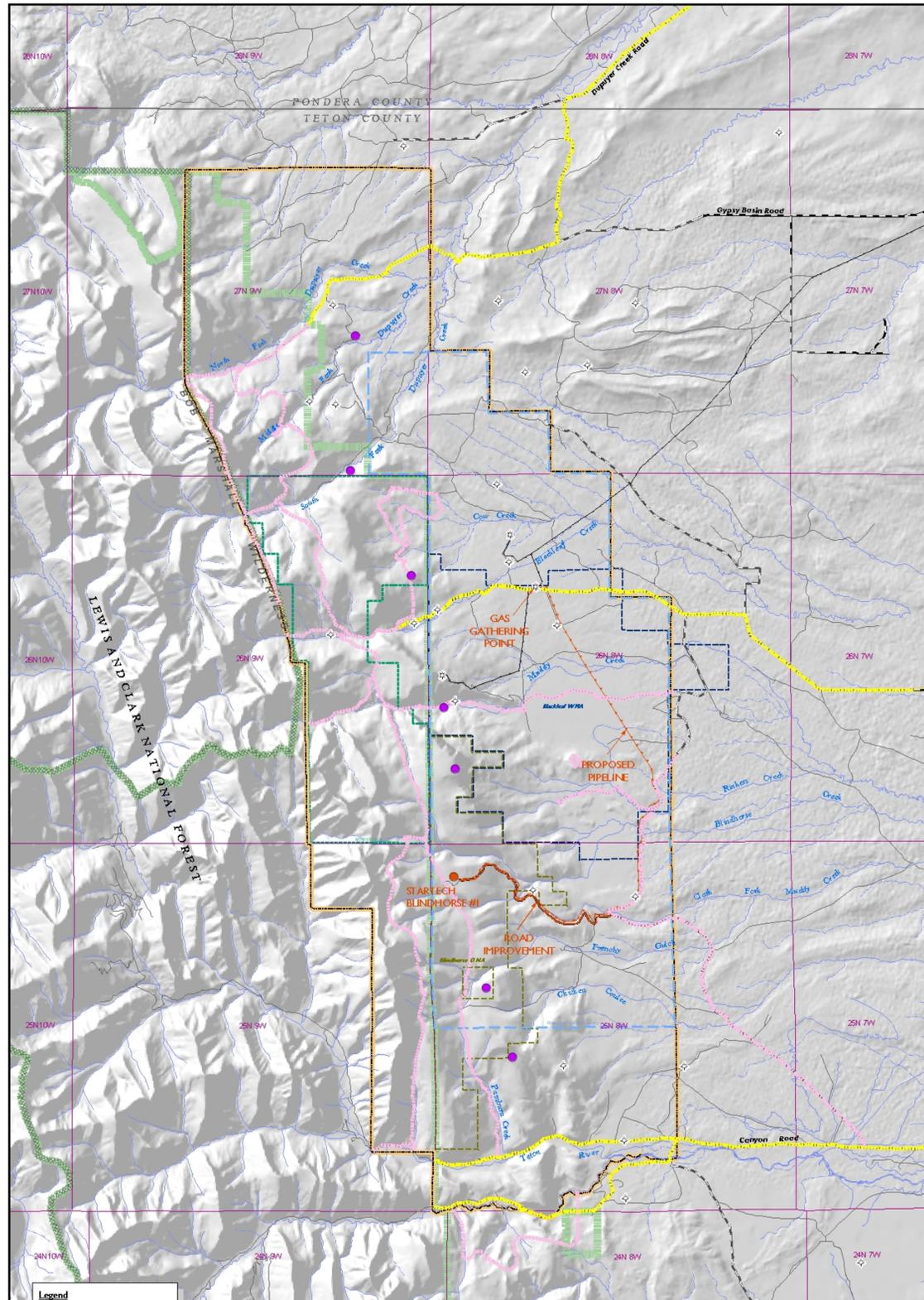


# BLACKLEAF PROJECT



## ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

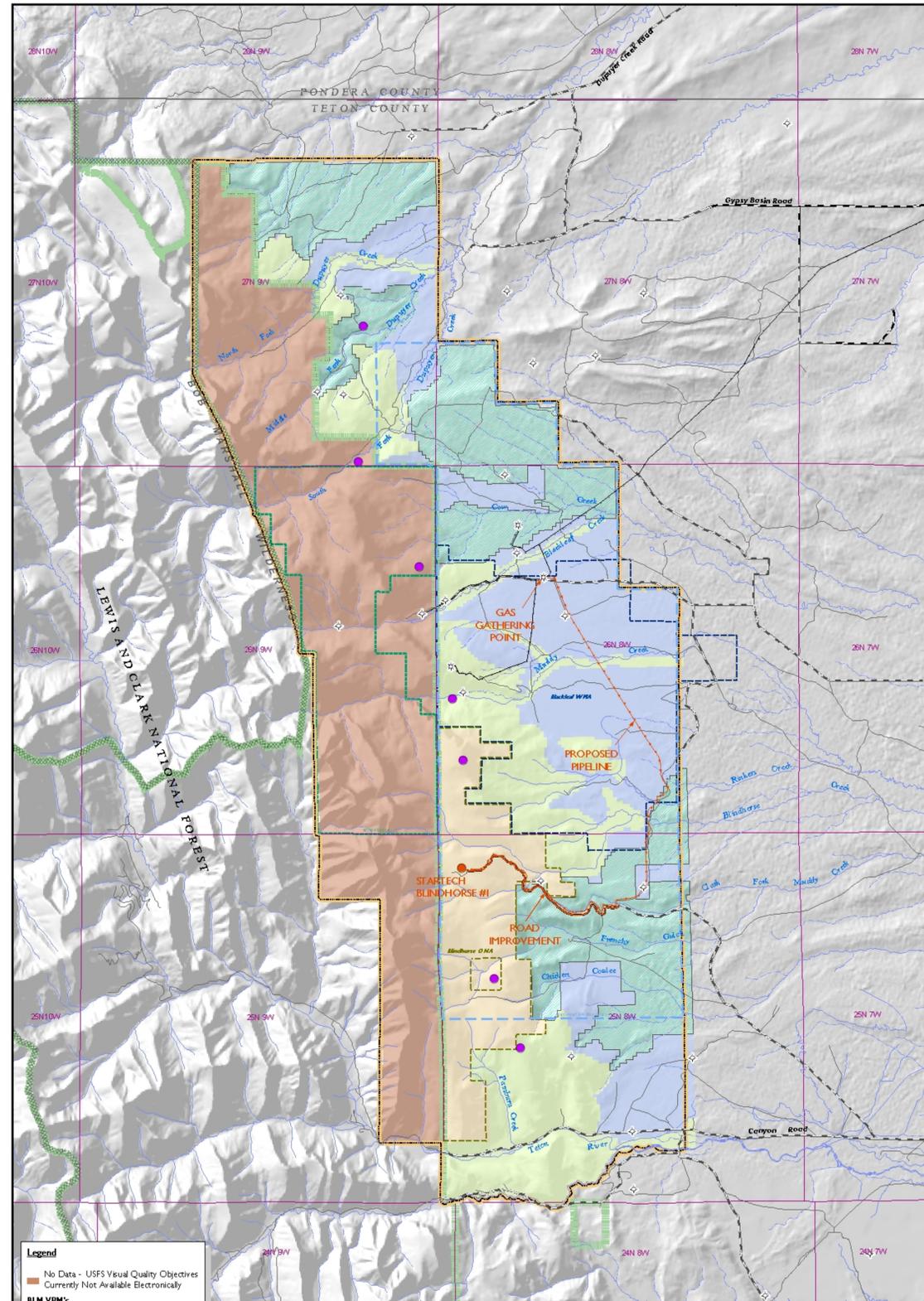
### SCOPING



### KEY OBSERVATION POINTS (KOP)

**Legend**

- High Sensitivity KOP (USFS and BLM)
- Moderate Sensitivity KOP (BLM Only)



### BLM VISUAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT CLASSES

**Legend**

- No Data - USFS Visual Quality Objectives Currently Not Available Electronically
- BLM VRM's
  - Class I
  - Class II
  - Class III
  - Private Land (No VRM Class)

### SCENERY

#### PRELIMINARY ISSUES FOR SCENERY:

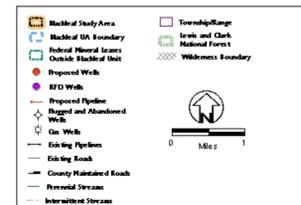
- Effects of Proposed Action on scenic qualities
- Regional haze effects on visual resources
- Impacts of night lighting and gas flaring
- Impacts on Visual Resource Management classifications

#### SOURCES OF BASELINE INFORMATION FOR VISUALS:

- Blackleaf Study Area VRM Report (2003)
- BLM Manual Handbook 8410-1, Visual Resource Inventory (1986)
- BLM Manual Handbook 8431-1, Visual Resource Contrast Rating (1986)
- BLM Technical Publication, Visual Simulation Techniques (1980)
- Montana BOGC, Oil and Gas Drilling and Production in Montana (1989)
- BLM Blackleaf EIS, A Report on Air Quality and Noise (1988)
- Lewis and Clark National Forest Plan

#### Objectives for BLM Visual Resource Classes

1. Class I Objective – The objective of this class is to preserve the existing character of the landscape. This class provides for natural ecological changes; however, it does not preclude very limited management activity. The level of change to the characteristic landscape should be very low and must not attract attention.
2. Class II Objective – The objective of this class is to retain the existing character of the landscape. The level of change to the characteristic landscape should be low. Management activities may be seen, but should not attract the attention of the casual observer. Any changes must repeat the basic elements of form, line, color, and texture found in the predominant natural features of the characteristic landscape.
3. Class III Objective – The objective of this class is to partially retain the existing character of the landscape. The level of change to the characteristic landscape should be moderate. Management activities may attract attention but should not dominate the view of the casual observer. Changes should repeat the basic elements found in the predominant natural features of the characteristic landscape.
4. Class IV Objective – The objective of this class is to provide for management activities which require major modifications of the existing character of the landscape. The level of change to the characteristic landscape can be high. These management activities may dominate the view and be the major focus of viewer attention. However, every attempt should be made to minimize the impact of these activities through careful location, minimal disturbance, and repeating the basic elements.



**Data Source**  
 Base Data: Compilation of GIS layers obtained from Lewis and Clark National Forest, BLM, and State of Montana.  
 Visual Data: From Baseline Visual Study Report, October 2003, EPG.



SCENERY