

Good morning, Chairman Porter and members of the House Energy and Natural Resources Committee. For the record my name is Representative Lisa Finley-DeVile. I'm a member of the Mandan, Hidatsa, Arikara nations and I represent the people of District 4A which encompasses the Fort Berthold Reservation. I have lived in Mandaree my entire life and have been living with oil and gas extraction for 15 years. I am not against fracking and oil production and support responsible development as with any industry. I am here to introduce you to House Concurrent Resolution 3028 and why it is needed.

As a lifelong resident of Mandaree, ND I support responsible oil and gas development and how it benefits my people. I have also witnessed how my community has been directly impacted by fracking.

For those of you not familiar, fracking is a process used to extract natural gas and oil from underground shale rock formations. This process involves injecting a mixture of water, sand, and chemicals into the rock formations to release the trapped gas or oil. While fracking has led to increased production of oil and gas, it has also raised concerns about its potential impact on the environment.

One of the major environmental concerns associated with fracking is the large volume of water required for the process. This water, once it has been mixed with chemicals and sand, becomes contaminated and must be disposed of properly. Improper disposal of this wastewater can lead to contamination of nearby water sources, including rivers, lakes, and groundwater. This contamination can have serious impacts on aquatic life and the health of humans and animals that rely on these water sources.

For instance, in 2014 near my hometown of Mandaree, North Dakota, one million gallons of produced water or brine spilled near Bear Den Bay, a tributary of Lake Sakakawea. The spill occurred from an above ground pipeline that ruptured and drained 2-miles down a ravine that ended up in the tributary, killing every living thing in its path. Though the area was flushed with fresh water, years after the spill, vegetation still does not grow in the spill area.

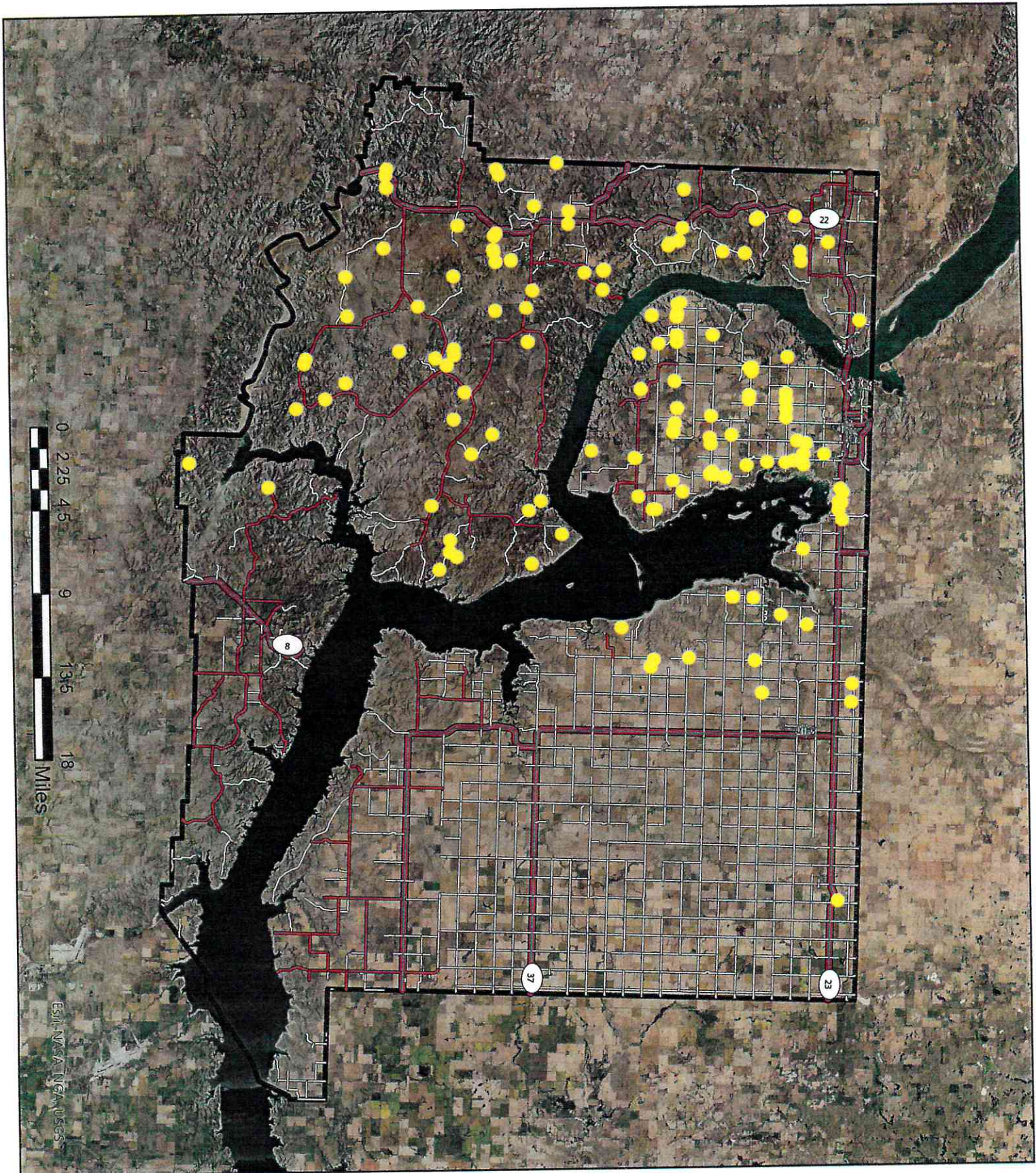
In addition to the potential impacts on water quality, the use of sand in fracking can also have negative environmental impacts. The large-scale mining of sand can lead to habitat destruction, soil erosion, and air pollution. In some cases, the sand used in fracking may also contain radioactive materials, which can pose additional risks to human health and the environment.

Overall, the environmental impacts of fracking water and sand on land and water should be a serious concern. While there are steps that can be taken to minimize these impacts, such as proper wastewater disposal and responsible sand mining practices, it is important that we continue to study and monitor the environmental effects of fracking in order to ensure that this process is not causing undue harm to our planet and its inhabitants.

Given these concerns, it is crucial that we conduct thorough environmental studies on the impacts of oil, hydraulic fracturing sand, and hydraulic fracturing wastewater to determine the true extent of its environmental impact. Such studies can help us identify potential hazards associated with the process, as well as develop effective strategies for mitigating these risks.

For example, environmental studies could help us determine the best practices for managing wastewater from fracking operations, and for minimizing the impact of sand mining on local ecosystems. This study can also help us identify areas where fracking should be prohibited due to environmental concerns, or where additional safeguards may be needed to protect local water resources, wildlife, and human health.

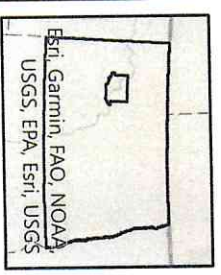
This resolution is needed now that we are in the 15th year of oil and gas development. Our priority should be to support this environmental study to understand the potential environmental impacts, and for developing effective strategies for mitigating these risks. We owe it to ourselves, our communities, and future generations to conduct these studies and to make informed decisions about how to proceed with energy production in a way that protects our planet and its inhabitants. This study will also serve as a tool for our future generations once the oil and gas production is gone. I now stand for questions, thank you for your time.



**Fort Berthold
State, Federal
BIA
Roads With
Spills
2021-Current**



- BIA Roads
- Roads
- State/Federal Roads
- Reservation Boundary
- 2021-Current Spills



This map (or data product) is for only assessment and planning purposes. It is not intended for use as a substitute for professional engineering, architectural, or other professional services. Users are encouraged to examine the documentation or metadata associated with the data on which this map is based for information related to its accuracy, currentness, and limitations.

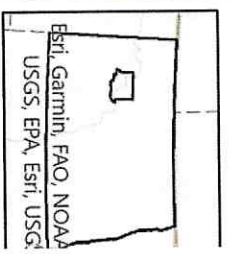
Esri, NASA, INGA, USGS

Fort Berthold
State, Federal
BIA
Roads With
Spills

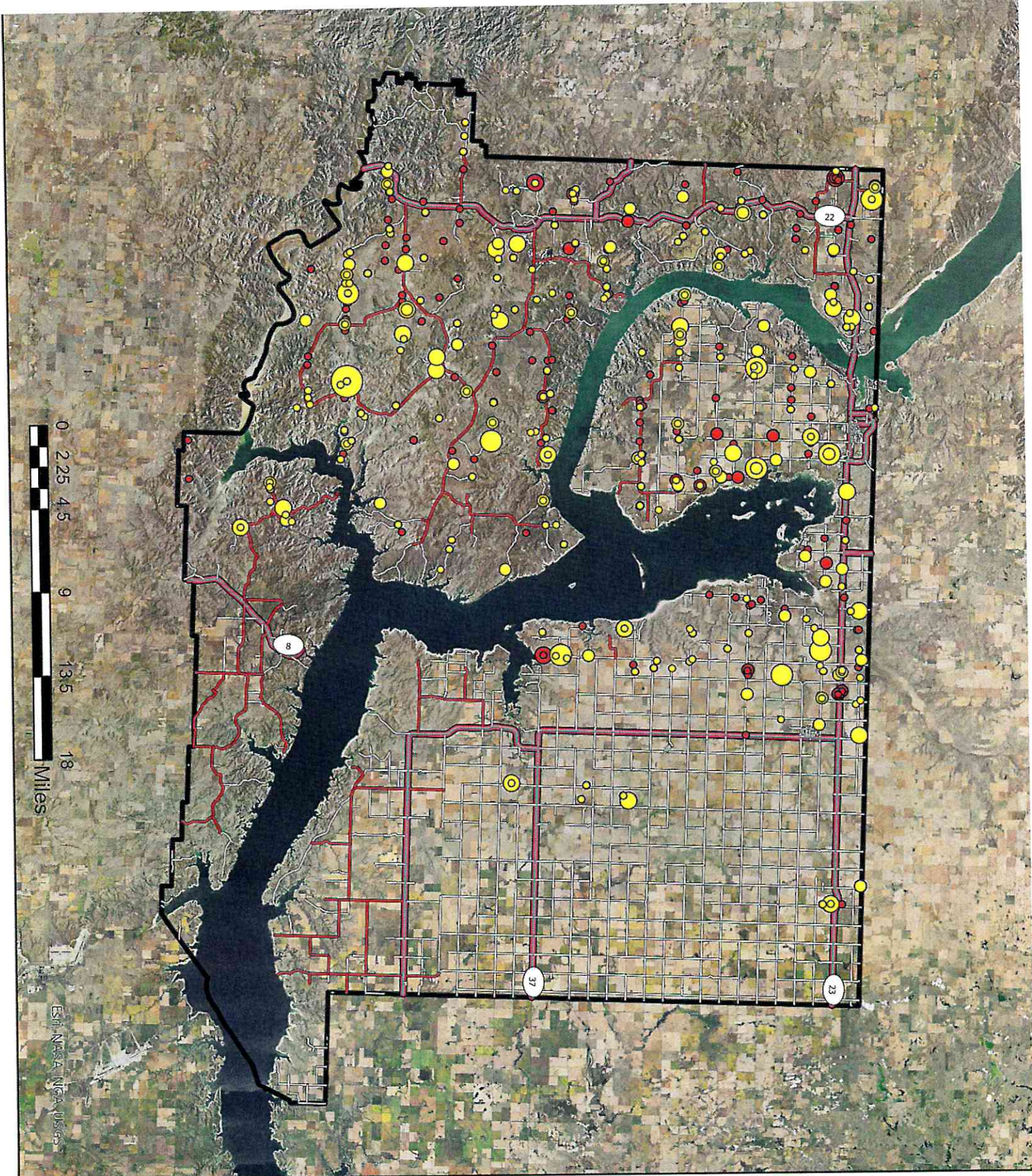


- BIA Roads
- Roads
- State/Federal Roads
- Reservation Boundary

2014-2019



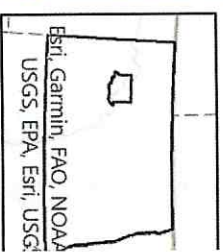
This map (or data product) is for assessment and planning purposes only. It is not intended to be used for description, conveyance, authoritative definition of legal boundary, or property title. This is not a survey product. Users are encouraged to examine the documentation or metadata associated with the data on which this map is based for information related to its accuracy, currency, and limitations.



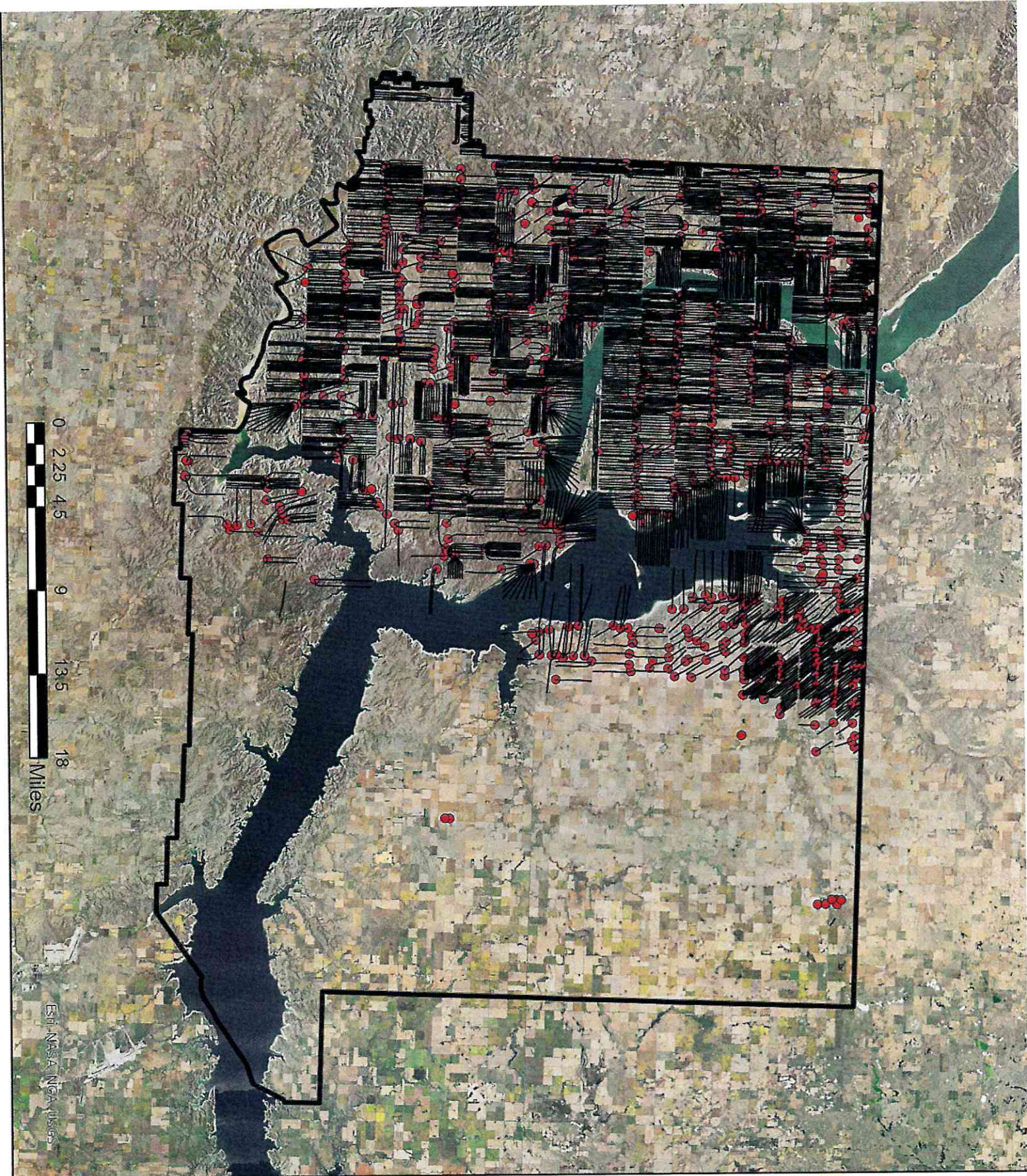
Fort Berthold Oil and Gas Wells and Horizontals



- Oil and Gas Horizontals
- Oil and Gas Wells
- ▭ Reservation Boundary



This map (or data product) is for use in planning purposes only. It is not intended to be used for description, conveyance, authoritative definition of legal boundary, or property title. This is not a survey or map. Users are encouraged to examine the documentation or metadata associated with the data on which this map is based for information related to its accuracy, currentness, and limitations.



Esr1, NASA, NGA, USGS

