

September 17, 2024
Email Transmission: Fema-Hermits-Peak@fema.dhs.gov

From: William Brown
15 Snow Peak Road
Placitas, NM 87043
(bill@brownenviro.com)

**ATTENTION: FEMA HERMIT'S PEAK/CALF CANYON CLAIMS OFFICE
P.O. BOX 1329
SANTA FE, NM 87504**

RE: CLAIM #24970 - LOSS AND DAMAGE CLAIM FOR WILLIAM BROWN/ELIZABETH GIBBONS PARCEL @2 TRACT "A" OF THE H.E.S. NO. 445 SITUATED IN SECTION 7 T17N; R14E NMPM, (former DEARTH Property) CALF CANYON, SAN MIGUEL COUNTY, NM

Dear Ms. Gutierrez:

INTRODUCTION

We own a 5.448-acre tract of property located in upper Calf Canyon in San Miguel County, NM at the location highlighted in Figure 1. The attached Figures and photographs highlight the damages to our property as a direct result of the recent Hermit's Peak/Calf Canyon fire and subsequent flooding. Prior to the fire ~95% of our property was native woodlands surrounded by the USFS on two sides and private property on two sides. The pre-burn forest mix consisted of roughly equal amounts of large pine/fir and aspen. The perennial stream Calf Creek runs the entire length of the property.

PROPERTY DAMAGES

- Pre-fire vegetation and stream conditions are highlighted in Figure 2 (June 2017 aerial photograph) and the photographic log shown in Figure 5.
- Figures 3 and 4 present post-burn aerial photographs (June 2023) highlighting the extent of the burn and the location of post burn/flooding ground photographs which are shown in Figures 6, 7, and 8.
- Approximately 64% of the property was burned by the fire based on air photo data confirmed by ground inspection.
- Extensive erosion occurred along Calf Creek during post fire flash flooding combined with deposition of large gravel bars and wood debris piles. Hydrologic evaluation of flood depositional characteristics indicate water flows on the order of 10^2 greater than normal.
- A small structure on the property was burned and destroyed.

- Latitude/Longitude coordinates for the property are N35deg 42min 51.6 seconds/W105deg 30min 28.4 seconds.

RESTORATION EFFORTS

To date our personal restoration efforts have included several weeks of chain sawing and burning dead trees and downfall which has allowed us to access the property. However, hundreds of dead trees need removed and the riparian habitat along our section and surrounding portions of Calf Creek need rehabilitated. Our burned and collapsed storage shed still needs removed and hauled off and replaced. Needless to say, the overall property value is significantly less based on the above documented damage and on the damage done to adjacent properties. This is especially true on the Brewer property along our southern border (Figure 4) which has almost 100% burn damage and the USFS properties to the west and north which had previously been thinned by the USFS but were burned anyway.

Access to our property is also limited as the main USFS access road 263 has a washed-out bridge over the Gallinas River that needs replaced/repared.

We are requesting a Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Reforestation Plan and evaluation of the property followed by compensation for losses as a result of the Hermits Peak/Calf Canyon fires and flooding.

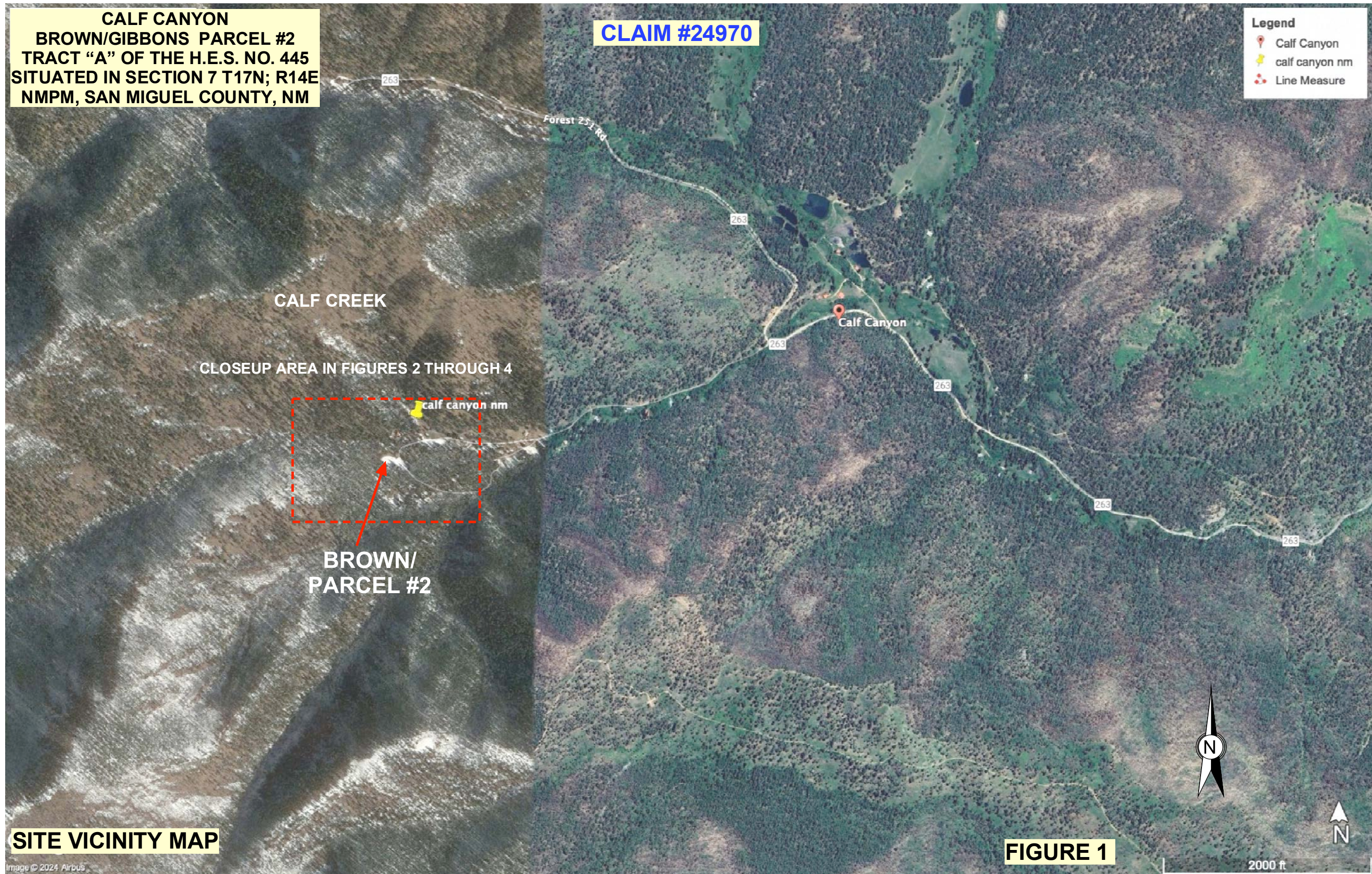
We appreciate your assistance in the matter. If you have any questions regarding the material contained herein, please contact us at (505) 934-7707.

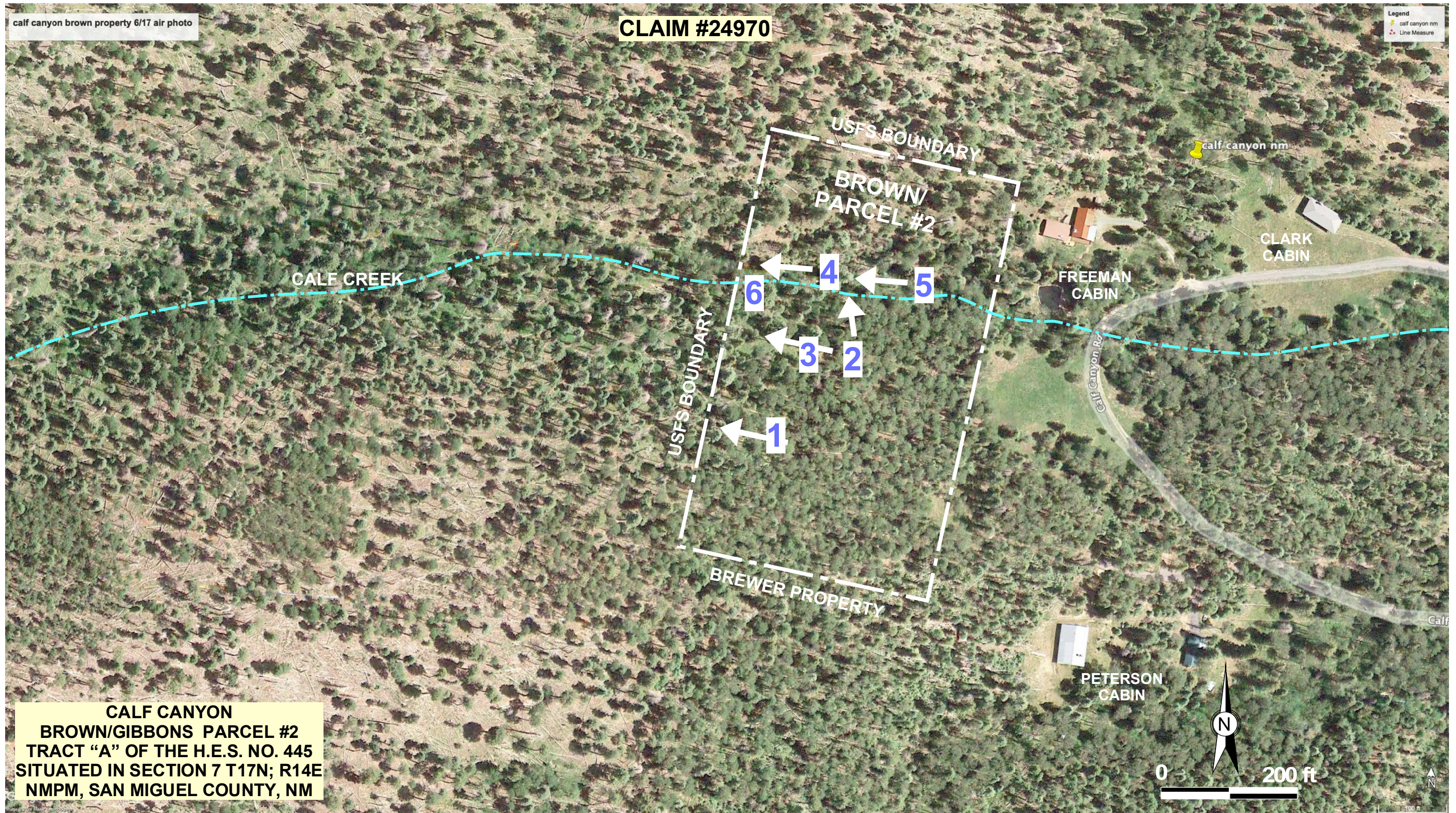
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bill Brown", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

William Brown, PG
(505) 934-7707

cc: w/ attachments: Calf Canyon Lot #2 Brown/Gibbons Figures, Photographs, Legal Documentation

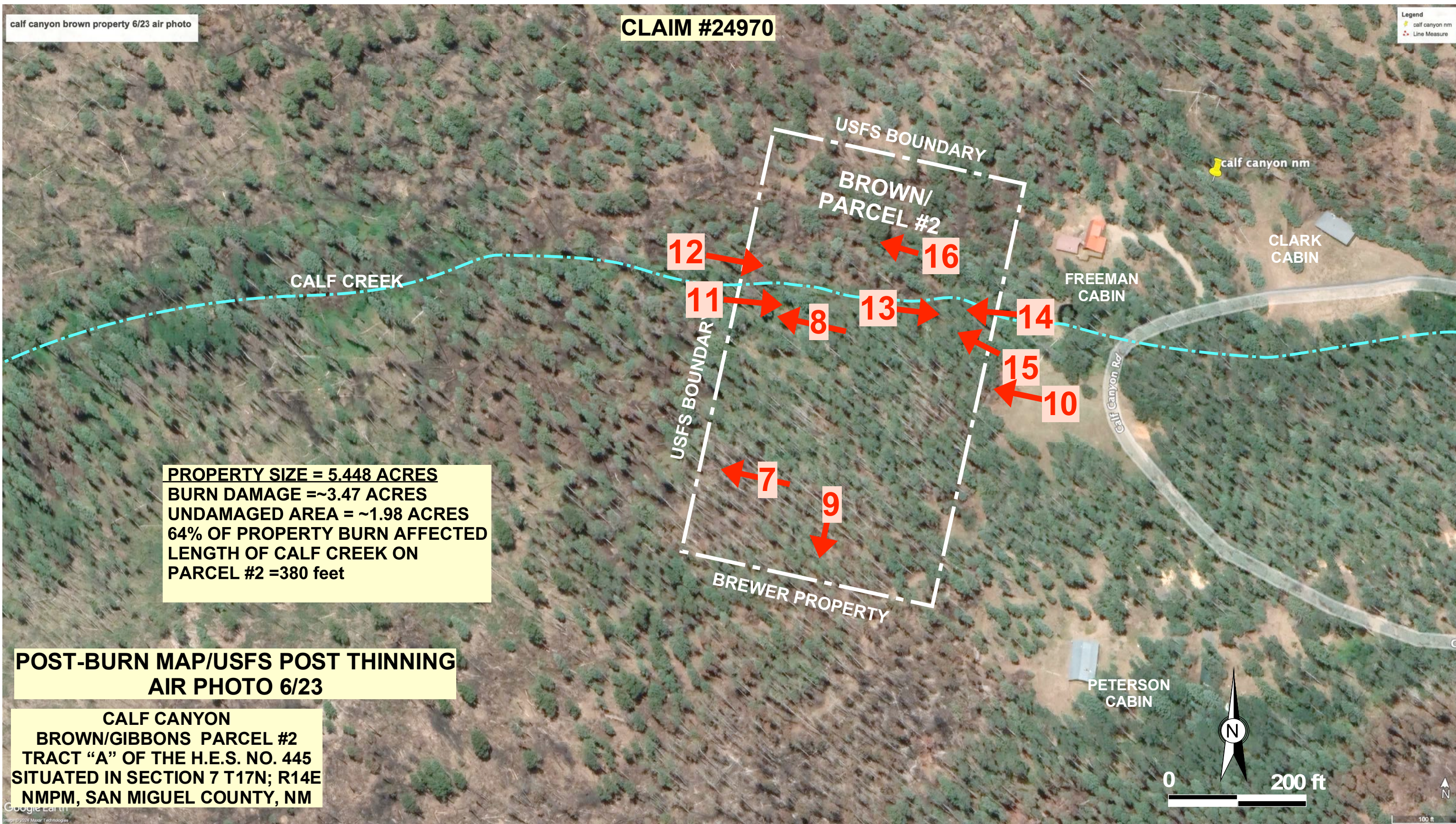




**CALF CANYON
BROWN/GIBBONS PARCEL #2
TRACT "A" OF THE H.E.S. NO. 445
SITUATED IN SECTION 7 T17N; R14E
NMPM, SAN MIGUEL COUNTY, NM**

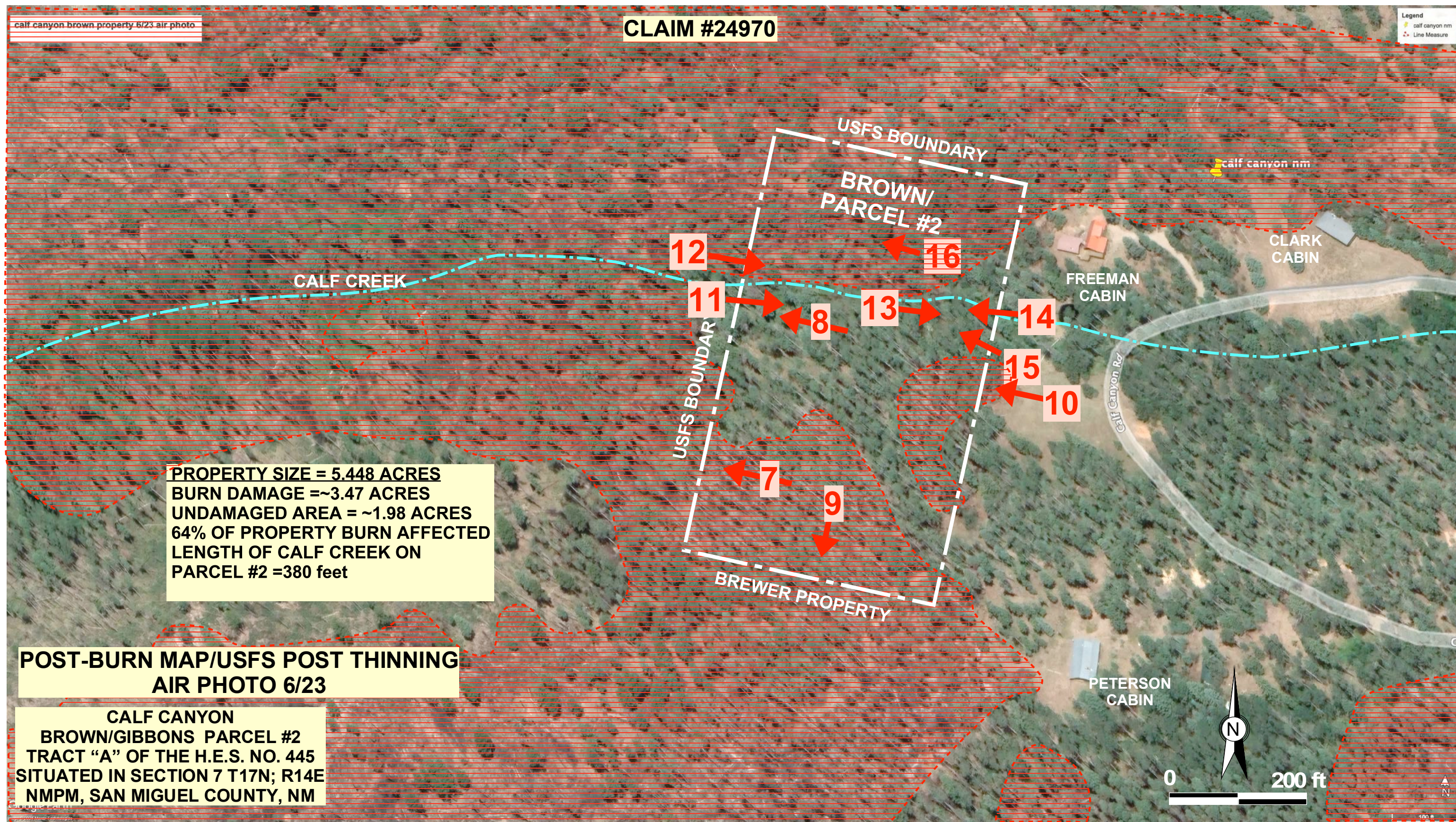
**←3- LOCATION AND VIEW DIRECTION
OF PRE-BURN PHOTOGRAPH**

FIGURE 2



LOCATION AND VIEW DIRECTION
OF POST-BURN PHOTOGRAPH

FIGURE 3



Burn affected area



LOCATION AND VIEW DIRECTION
OF POST-BURN PHOTOGRAPH

FIGURE 4