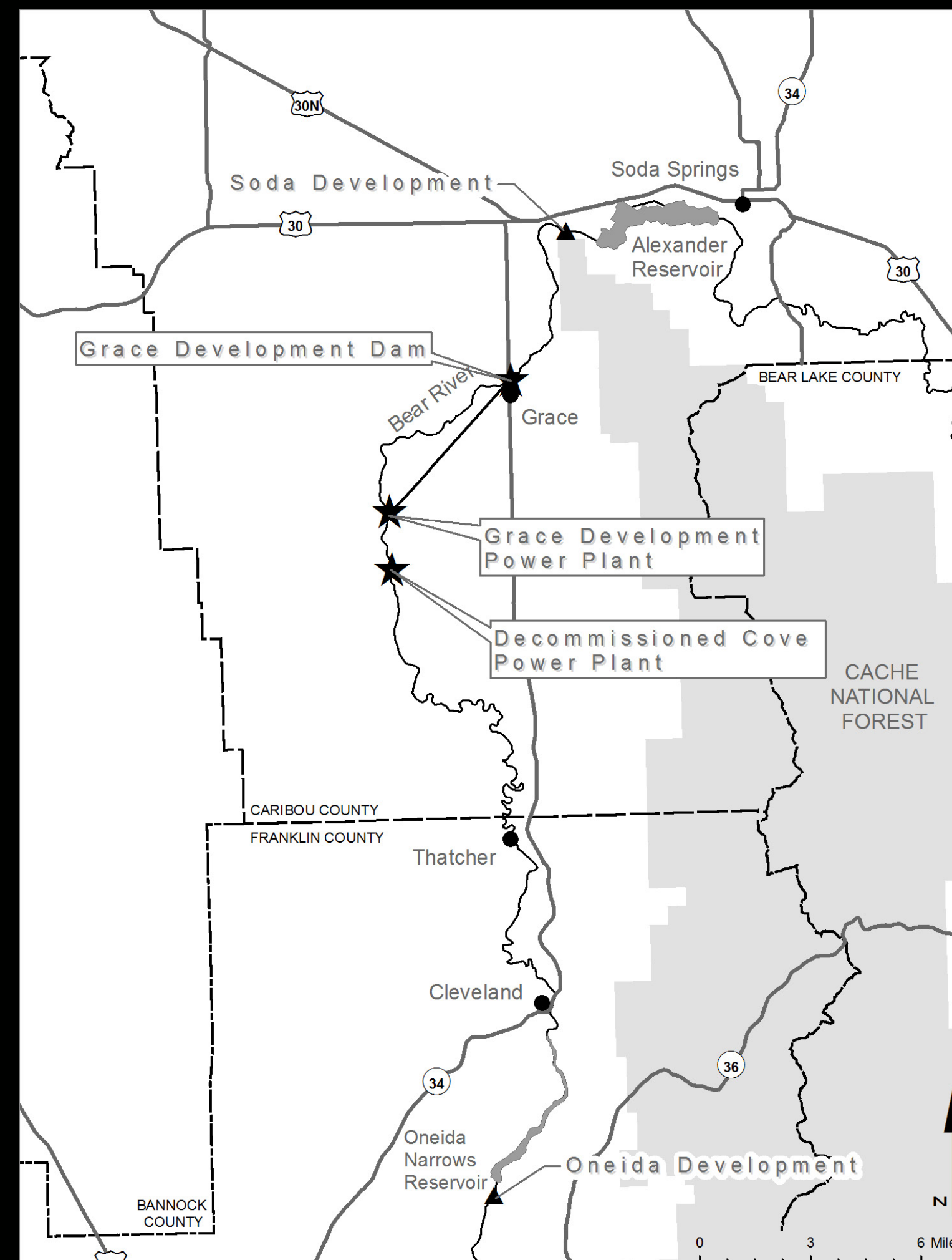


THE GRACE-COVE HYDROELECTRIC DEVELOPMENTS

Just up the river from this site are the generation facilities of the Utah Power & Light Company's historic Grace hydroelectric development. Now operated by PacifiCorp, the development joins the company's Soda and Oneida developments to form the Bear River Project.

Built in phases between 1906 and 1908, the Grace hydroelectric complex was the first of four Utah Power & Light hydroelectric plants on the Bear River in Idaho. The dam you see today just east of State Highway 34 is the second dam built. The first dam, built in 1908, is still in place and submerged behind the later dam that was built in 1951. The original catwalk structure from the first dam has been repurposed for use as a pedestrian bridge at the Black Canyon Take-Out recreation site a short distance from here.

The Grace Dam diverts water from the Bear River into a 5-mile-long flowline that ends at the top of the hill above the powerhouse. This 12-foot-diameter flowline is one of two originally built. The second flowline was removed in 1985, and the remaining line—originally made completely of wood stave construction—was partially replaced with steel in the 1990s.



The Grace-Cove developments in relation to other regional PacifiCorp facilities.

If you look up the hill you will see the large round tower called a surge tank. Once the water reaches the surge tank through the flowline it then can enter two penstocks where the water pressure increases as it flows downhill. Inside the powerhouse the pressurized water turns turbine generator sets before returning to the river.

The Grace powerhouse, originally built between 1906 and 1908, was upgraded with a new powerhouse by Utah Power & Light in 1913. The new powerhouse received additional equipment in 1923 to add generation capacity. Once these upgrades were complete, the Grace power plant could generate up to 44,000 kilowatts of power.

The Grace complex included a residential community east of the powerhouses. It contained 13 bungalows, two warehouses, and a training center. The cottages housed company employees and their families. The two-story building called the training center built in 1914 was originally employee living quarters and was later converted into a training center and overnight accommodations for Utah Power & Light workers. In 2011, this building was repurposed again to house administration offices for the Bear River Hydroelectric Project staff.



Work crew and temporary construction camp.

This sign was erected by PacifiCorp to recognize the importance of preserving the history of hydroelectricity and the communities we serve.