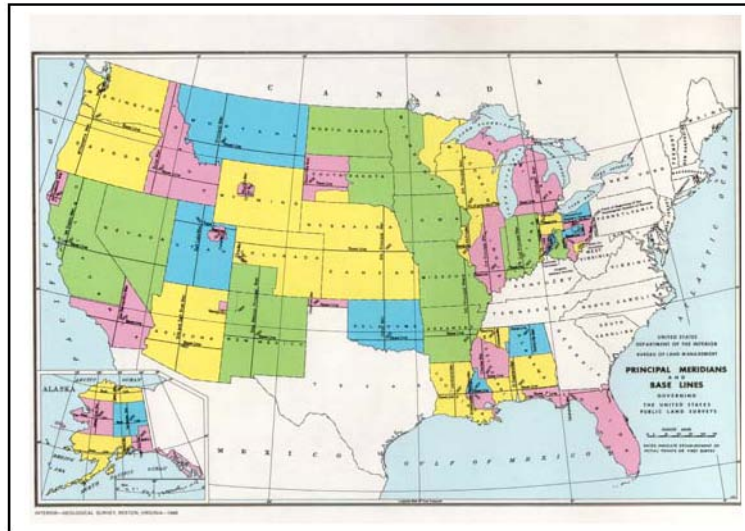


Understanding Different Grid Systems

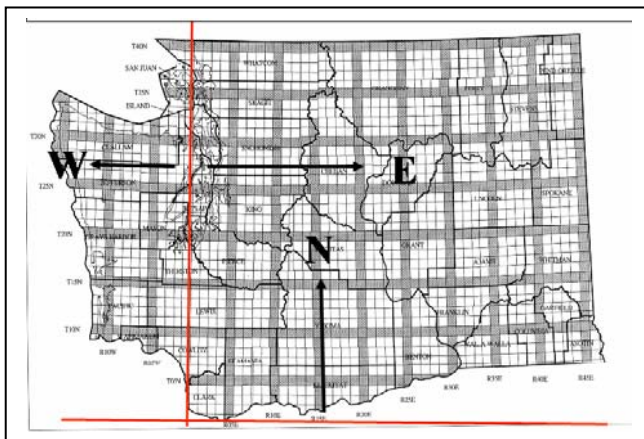
Township/Range/Section (TRS)

Determining Township/Range and Section

The United States Public Land Survey System divides most of the states into meridians. Washington State shares a north/south meridian with Oregon.



Township numbers begin from the bottom of Washington and increase going north. Range numbers increase going east and west of the meridian splitting Puget Sound.



Land surveyors plotted out the west by dragging “40 chains” a mile long and marked a section. They would find the closest tree or rock to mark the section. Each section is 1 square mile and very noticeable when looking out of a plane flying over western states because roads and housing developments are developed within sections.

Go to TRS Practice in Activity #8 to learn how to find your Township, Range, and Section.