Users in all states except Colorado may create a 2.5 x 2.5 km grid cell layer for your state, region, or UTM zone. Although you can choose from a variety or coordinate systems and projections, a standard UTM coordinate system for use within a single UTM zone is a good option across most of the Pinyon Jay range because it keeps areal distortions of grid cells to less than 1%. If you are working in an area that includes more than one UTM zone, you have three options:

1) If most of your area of interest is in one UTM zone, you can simply extend the layer created for the predominate UTM zone into the neighboring UTM zone. However, areal distortion of grid cells will progressively increase as the layer extends beyond its "home" UTM zone. A general rule of thumb is the extending a UTM layer into a neighboring UTM zone up to 40 km is acceptable for most applications.
2) If large parts of your area of interest are in different UTM zones, you will need to make a separate layer for each zone. These layers will show discontinuity at their intersection, however.
3) You can use a non-UTM coordinate system that emphasizes maintaining equal area representation of grid cells across your entire area of interest.

You may contact John Boone at boone@gbbo.org for more information or suggestions.