



Knowledge to Go Places

Boulder District
5625 Ute Highway
Longmont, Colorado 80503-9130
(303) 823-5774

September 25, 2001

Eric Philips
Boulder County Land Use Department
P.O. Box 471
Boulder, CO 80306

Hi Eric,

Enclosed is a copy of SPR # 00-193. This is one of the properties that we visited on the 12th. We marked additional trees across the river from the home site (Lefthand canyon). I have contacted Mr. Spect and informed him of the additional trees that we marked. I'm confident that he will complete the additional cutting. All other necessary components of the wildfire mitigation plan have been completed.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me. Let me know what the best method is for you to receive these plans, i.e. fax, email, hard copy? See you on October 2nd. Have a good one!

Sincerely,

Holly Asmus
Forester

WILDFIRE HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN - SPR # 00-193

Prepared for:

August Spect
2860 Kalmia Ave #301
Boulder, CO 80301

Prepared by:

Holly Asmus
Forester
Colorado State Forest Service
hasmus@lamar.colostate.edu

On August 29, 2001

SITE LOCATION AND DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY

The property is located approximately 7 miles up Lefthand canyon on the north side of Lefthand Canyon Drive, T2N R71W S32. **The address of the property is 7120 Lefthand Canyon.** Access to the home site is via a short driveway, after crossing Lefthand creek, approximately 50 long.

The dominant fuel type is litter and small shrubs. The dominant overstory is ponderosa pine. The homesite is approximately 50 ft. from Lefthand creek. Douglas fir, willow and cottonwood species exist within the riparian zone of Lefthand Creek. A light infestation of dwarf mistletoe was observed on the property. Old mountain pine beetle kill exist on the hillside east of the homesite, no new infestations where observed. It is recommended that the dead standing be removed as a good forest health management practice. The site has a south aspect and a slope that ranges from 10-40 %. The property is located within the Lefthand Fire Protection District.

The property is characterized by **Fuel Model 9**. Fuel Model 9 is represented by closed canopy stands of ponderosa pine, and mixed conifer. Under story consists of small trees and shrubs, grasses, and moderate concentrations of down, dead woody litter.

The initial property inspection for a wildfire hazard mitigation consultation occurred on July 10, 2001. The property was marked with blue tree marking paint for thinning and clearing recommendations. The boundary for zone 2 is marked with blue flagging. A final inspection was completed on August 21, 2001. Full payment was received on _____, 2001, for the amount of \$195.

RECOMMENDATIONS

As detailed in fact sheet 6.302, *Creating Wildfire Defensible Zones*, an important factor that determines a structure's ability to survive wildfire is defensible space. Defensible space is a maintained area around a structure where fuels (flammable materials) are modified to slow the possible spread of wildfire to the structure, as well as from the structure to the surrounding areas. Defensible space provides a place where structure protection and fire suppression operations may occur. Wildfire hazard mitigation work breaks up fuel continuity, potentially decreasing a wildfire's intensity, and for more effectiveness should be completed beyond a home's defensible space area.

It is recommended that the homesite be marked with visible signage, which can be clearly seen from Lefthand Canyon Drive.

There are three zones of protection to be created around the homesite for defensible space. Zone 1 is the most critical and affords the most protection to the site. Zones 2 and 3 are extensions of this protection.

ZONE 1

Zone 1 is the area of maximum modification. It is a 15 feet wide area, measured from the outer edge of the structure (i.e. 15 ft. from the "footprint" of the homesite, which may include decks, balconies, and character trees accepted by the inspecting forester). In this area all flammable vegetation is removed. Trees kept for aesthetic characteristics are considered part of the structure, extending the defensible space accordingly.

As per Boulder County Land Use Department, create a 3-foot wide strip of nonflammable groundcover immediately adjacent to the structure. This can be accomplished by using decorative rock or gravel. This strip should surround the house and extend under any decks to 2 feet past the drip line of the decks. All grasses in zone 1 should be cut and maintained to be less than 6 inches in height. All shrubs should be pruned and maintained as well.

ZONE 2

Typically zone 2 is a transition zone between the heavily thinned areas near the house to a more traditional forest setting. In this zone, some clusters of trees are acceptable if there is adequate spacing between clusters.

Zone 2 may extend 40-90 feet from the structure depending on the slope and aspect of the site. On your property we have considered Zone 2 to be approximately **60 feet to the north of the structure and 35 feet from the south, east, and west sides of the structure**. Mitigation considerations were limited in riparian zone and to maintain screening from Lefthand Canyon Drive.

Thinning and pruning are necessary to create defensible space at this site. **All trees marked in blue should be removed.** Trees for removal were selected because of their poor form and/or lack of vigor in addition to their close spacing. Tree removal will improve the health of the remaining trees in addition to mitigating wildfire hazards.

Remove ladder fuels from beneath trees. Ladder fuels are small shrubs, trees, tree limbs, etc. that allow a fire to climb into a tree's crown. **Limb trees to a height of 6 to 10 feet** on the remaining trees in this zone. Branches of young, small trees in this zone should be pruned to 1/3 of the tree's height. **All slash generated during thinning operations should be removed completely** (either chipped or hauled away) from Zone 1 and 2.

ZONE 3

Typically zone 3 extends from zone 2 and is of no set shape or size. Zone 3 adds further protection, but mitigation focuses on forest health as well as fire protection purposes. Because dwarf mistletoe and mountain pine beetle have been observed in the area, it is highly recommended that you periodically **survey your property for signs of both dwarf mistletoe and mountain pine beetle**. It is recommended that all of zone 3 (the remainder of your property) be thinned for forest health. Please contact CSFS if you have questions concerning any of these issues.

Forested land in this zone would greatly benefit from thinning for increased overall forest health and wildfire hazard reduction. The following guidelines apply if you (and your neighbors) decide to work in these areas.

While not required through Site Plan Review, those who live in the wildland-urban interface are encouraged to implement consistent and good forest management practices. Such practices will increase both the health, vigor, and value of your mountain property for years to come. These practices include:

- Thin suppressed trees and trees with disease and insect infestations and retain the larger, healthier trees. Thin trees with aesthetic and wildlife considerations in mind.
- Some snags can be retained for wildlife.
- Some slash in this zone could be lopped and scattered and/or piled for wildlife.
- Large amounts of slash should be disposed of by chipping, hauling to an approved site, or burning.
- For burning permits, check with your local fire protection district.

All cutting, limbing and slash treatments must be completed prior to scheduling a wildfire hazard re-inspection. Contact the CSFS Boulder District office to set up an inspection date at least two weeks before you need the approval.

Implementing this wildfire mitigation plan and maintaining your defensible space will help reduce the threat of wildfire to your home, but does not guarantee its safety.

In addition to the above recommendations, several other measures can be taken to make your home and family more prepared and adapted to life in a fire prone ecosystem. These include:

1. Be aware of fire danger. Signs are posted at the entrances of most major canyons.
2. Clean roof and gutters at least twice a year.
3. Stack firewood uphill at least 15 feet from buildings.
4. Do not store combustibles under decks.
5. Screen off foundations, roof and attic openings.
6. Screen and maintain spark arresters on chimneys.
7. When possible, maintain an irrigated greenbelt around the home.
8. Connect and have available at least 50 feet of garden hose during fire season.
9. Post lot and house numbers so that they are clearly visible.
10. Maintain the site's defensible space annually. Contact the Colorado State Forest Service for a 5-year maintenance inspection.

DEFINITIONS

Aspect – Exposure. The direction a slope faces.

Canopy – The cover of branches and foliage formed collectively by crowns of adjacent trees.

Crown – Branches and foliage of a tree.

Dominant fuel type – Matter that would carry a fire, found on the ground.

Fuel continuity – The proximity of fuels to each other. Helps determine if a fire can sustain itself.

Limb (verb) – To remove the branches from a tree.

Overstory – The tree species that forms the uppermost forest layer.

Snag – Standing dead tree, often used by wildlife such as woodpeckers, owls, and sometimes squirrels.

Wildfire mitigation plan – A plan to reduce wildfire hazards around a home or other structure through fuels reduction and landowner awareness.

wildfire
SPR MITIGATION PLAN FORM
Defensible Space Component

SPR-00-006

812
TODAY'S DATE: 7/10/01
LANDOWNER'S NAME: August Spect 303-402-0097 *812*
MAILING ADDRESS: _____

SITE ADDRESS: mile marker 7 Lefthand Canyon on (Rt) North

SPR# 00193 ~~010004~~ SECTION 32 TOWNSHIP 2N RANGE 71W

UNDERSTORY

DOMINANT FUEL TYPE (riparian) zone OVERSTORY PP/DF

ASPECT S SLOPE 10-40 % TOTAL ACERAGE 8.5 ?

FUEL MODEL _____

I&D/FOREST HEALTH DMT - old MPB

~~DMT~~
~~MPB~~
~~hits~~

SITE MAP INCLUDED? Y N

VISIBLE SIGNAGE? Y N

DRIVEWAY (length, width, location) 50 ft to creek ROAD ACCESS just off Lefthand Canyon

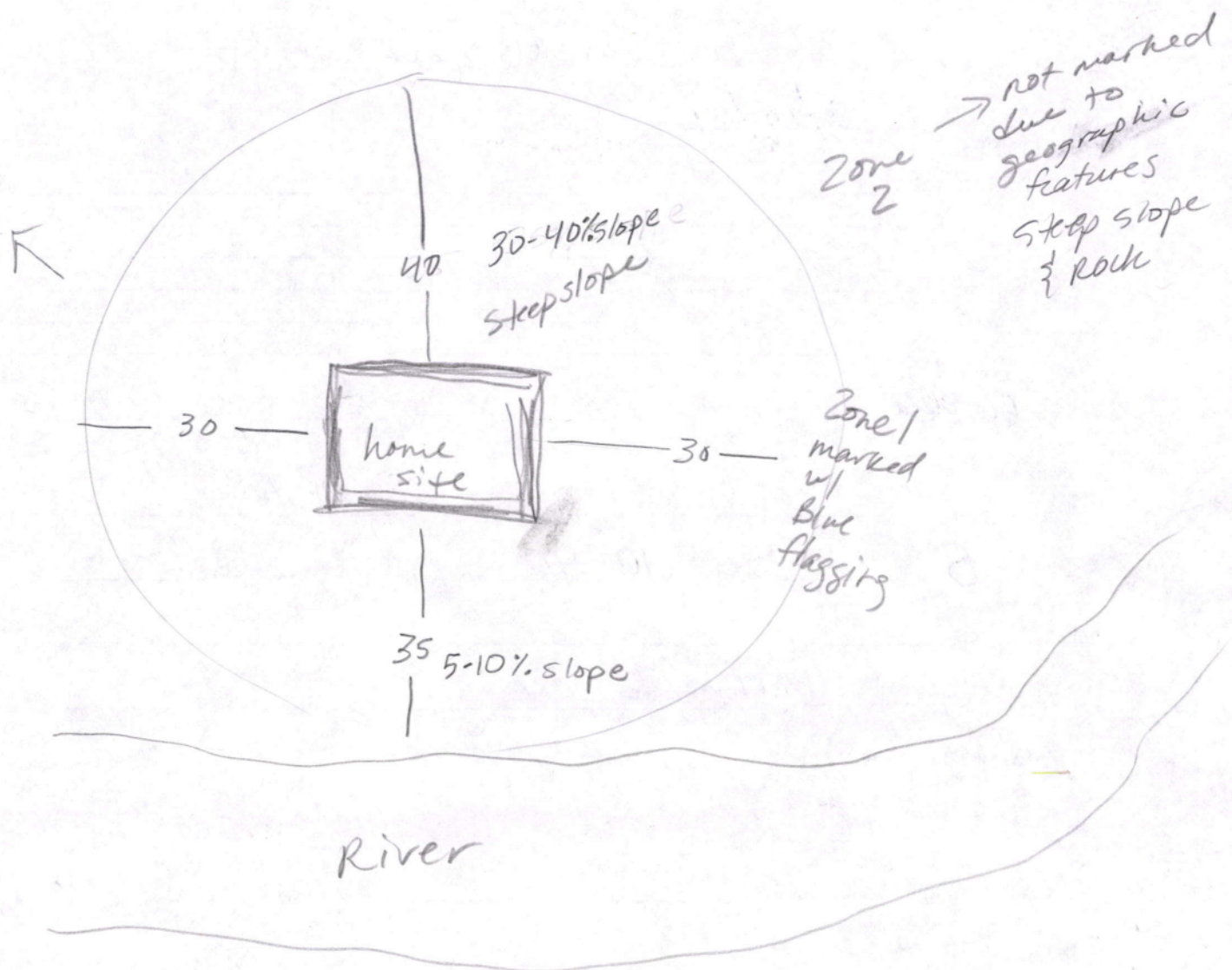
BUILDING/STRUCTURE: MATERIALS _____
SQ. FT. 3500
HEIGHT/STORIES _____
DECK _____
ROOFING _____ WINDOWS _____
LEECH FIELD _____
CISTERN (capacity) _____
PROPANE _____

FPD Lefthand

→ COMMENTS/RECOMMENDATIONS: Avoid Mitigation near Riparian Areas

* remove standing dead (old MPB hits)
did not mark w/ blue paint





Zone 2
 - high riparian
 (riparian zone)

GOV'T
LOT
90

APPROXIMATE
FOOTPRINT OF
PROPOSED 3
BEDROOM RESIDENCE

PROPOSED
DRAIN FIELD

Cut soil away from
bedrock. Bedrock to
make vertical transition.

Drain Inlet

Retaining
wall (ctyp)

Retaining
wall (ctyp)

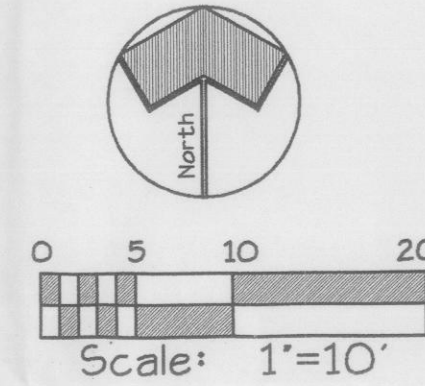
Retaining
wall (ctyp)

bedrock

GRAVEL DRIVE WAY

GRAVEL DRIVE WAY
BRIDGE

PROPOSED
500-GALLON
PUMP SYSTEM
TANK



PRC
1.5
PRE
CON
SEF

N89°23'34"W
62.50'

04'34"W

GOV'T
LOT
90

NOTES: 1) SITE PLAN PROVIDED BY COX
& ASSOCIATES, INC. 2) NO OTHER WELLS
/ FIELDS KNOWN TO EXIST WITHIN 200
FEET OF THE PROPOSED FIELD / WELLS

48" CMP INV=6763.33
48" CMP INV=6763.40
48" CMP INV=6763.18

48" CMP INV=6761.91
48" CMP INV=6762.16
48" CMP INV=6761.91

N50°17'34"W
261.20'

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 Silverthorne, CO 80498
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 Fax 970-468-8865
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Land Planning * Site Planning * Landscape Design/Build

SPECHT RESIDENCE
 7120 LEFTHAND CANYON
 BOULDER, COLORADO
 SITE PLAN

PROJECT NUMBER:
 PROJECT MANAGER:
 CHAD GUINN
 RELEASE DATES:
 6/15/01
 6/25/01

L1
 SHEET
 OF