

Colorado State University Fort Collins, Colorado 80523-5060 (970) 491-6303 FAX: (970) 491-7736

1 August 2013

Jack Ferguson Miramonte, LLC 400 S. Steele St., #38 Denver, CO 80209

RE: 2013 CAFA/Stevens Application - Miramonte, LLC Fuels Mitigation Project

Dear Mr. Ferguson,

This letter is to inform you that you were not successful in the US Forest Service – 2013 CAFA Stevens grant application process. Due to limited funds and competition amongst other states in the Rocky Mountain Region, Colorado only had 4 projects approved.

I would be happy to try and answer any questions that you have about your applications or the process. Again, funding limitations played a significant role in the number of projects that received approval.

I can be reached at (970) 491-8036 if you have questions. Thanks for your continued interest in reducing wildfire hazard and improving the health of Colorado's forests.

Sincerely,

Ridal M. Eduar

Richard M. Edwards, CF Assistant Staff Forester

cc: Allen Owen, District Forester, CSFS – Boulder District

2013 BO Stevens Miramonte LLC Unsuccessful



Colorado State University Fort Collins, Colorado 80523-5060 (970) 491-6303 FAX: (970) 491-7736

1 August 2013

Chris O'Brien Lefthand Fire Protection District 900 Lefthand Canyon Dr. Boulder, CO 80302

RE: 2013 CAFA/Stevens Application - Nugget Hill Fuels Mitigation Project

Dear Mr. O'Brien,

This letter is to inform you that you were not successful in the US Forest Service – 2013 CAFA Stevens grant application process. Due to limited funds and competition amongst other states in the Rocky Mountain Region, Colorado only had 4 projects approved.

I would be happy to try and answer any questions that you have about your applications or the process. Again, funding limitations played a significant role in the number of projects that received approval.

I can be reached at (970) 491-8036 if you have questions. Thanks for your continued interest in reducing wildfire hazard and improving the health of Colorado's forests.

Sincerely,

Richard M. Edwards, CF Assistant Staff Forester

cc: Allen Owen, District Forester, CSFS – Boulder District

2013 BO Stevens Nugget Hill Unsuccessful

Scanners HFILED UNDER 2013 STEVENS FOLDER 8/5/13



Colorado State University Fort Collins, Colorado 80523-5060 (970) 491-6303 FAX: (970) 491-7736

1 August 2013

Allen Owen CSFS – Boulder District 5625 Ute Hwy Longmont, CO 80503-9130

RE: 2013 CAFA/Stevens Applications – Miramonte & Nugget Hill Fuels Mitigation Projects

Dear Allen:

Please see the enclosed letters addressed to Jack Ferguson and Chris O'Brien. I will depend on your office to forward these letters to the grant applicants. I am employing this technique to ensure that you are informed about the information that is being distributed to your cooperators.

Please let me know if you have any questions or need additional information.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Richard h. Edward

Richard M. Edwards, CF Assistant Staff Forester



All proposals due to Rich Edwards via e-mail at <u>rich.edwards@colostate.edu</u> by Close of Business 23 April 2013.

# CALL FOR PROPOSALS

# 2013 Stevens Process – CAFA Community Assistance Grants for Lands Adjacent to National Forests.

**Background:** A portion of national hazardous fuels funding (WFHF) is available for fuels mitigation work on non-federal lands adjacent to national forest lands. This allocation has also been known as "Stevens" or "Adjacent-Lands projects" funding. The Intent of the program is to treat adjacent non-Federal lands to protect communities when hazard reduction activities (prescribed fire projects) are planned on NFS lands that have the potential to place such communities at risk. These are National Forest System (NFS) Hazardous Fuels (WFHF) funds authorized for use on non-federal lands.

**Official Budgetary Granting Direction:** To maximize benefits across the landscape, ensure proper sequencing of treatments, and leverage collaborative resources, regions will coordinate hazardous fuel reduction projects with federal, state, tribal, and local partners, including cost-shared projects funded through the Cooperative Fire – State Fire Assistance program and Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) activities.

Grants should be planned and implemented to complement hazardous fuel reduction on NFS lands in high-priority areas such as those identified in CWPPs or equivalent collaborative plans. These funds will not be granted to the States without Forest Service knowledge of project planning and implementation. The use of these funds will be monitored.

Timing between project initiation on NFS lands and non-federal lands should be planned to achieve benefits from proximity and leverage treatment effectiveness. Project costs may include all costs necessary to plan and implement the projects on non-federal land only. Projects will focus on the areas that are the highest risk to the community. Projects may use the grants and agreements instruments appropriate to the State and Private designated authority but will retain the hazardous fuel designation.

There will be no cost-share for Non-Federal hazardous fuels funds unless otherwise specified by Congress.

# Key 2013 Application Process Changes Compared To Previous Years.

- Requests for funding will be in standardized format using Colorado State Forest Service 2013 Stevens Application" similar to the "Western States WUI Application" process.
- All projects must be submitted within this enclosed five-page form; ONLY supplemental project-related maps may be electronically submitted.
  - Project maps are required and must identify the proposed non-federal project and its relative location to the local national forest associated project(s) and communities at risk.
  - Up to date letters of support from the local national forest unit (i.e. district) are required.
- Information requested in the 2013 format is similar to that requested in past years; use the following as a checklist. CAFA proposals must consider:
  - No other viable project "grant" fund sources available.
  - Relationship of proposed project(s) to other federal/non-federal projects and applicable Community Wildfire Protection Plans (CWPP) or equivalent collaborative plan.
  - Contact information of both federal/non-federal complementary project managers responsible for accomplishment reporting.
    - (Planned) Acres to be accomplished on non-federal lands must be provided in sufficient detail to enable local national forest unit to enter the treatments into the FACTS data base.
    - Project Description acres to be treated by each treatment in the treatment sequence to meet project objectives (i.e., thin, hand pile and burn hand piles; masticate and prescribed burn; or thin, lop/scatter and prescribed burn). To evaluate the cost effectiveness of the treatments we need to know the total treatments in the sequence to calculate the unit cost of treatment according to the business reporting rules utilized by the federal agencies for hazardous fuels accomplishment reporting.
    - o Relative risk value of community being protected by project(s) implemented.

# **Qualitative Considerations for Grant Request Proposals:**

- Project(s) promotes tribal and workforce diversity relationships.
- Project(s) promotes utilization of and collaboration with Veterans Green Corps and Youth Conservation Corp crews.
- Project(s) provides for mutual interagency federal/state/local benefits.
- Biomass utilization incorporated as project cost reduction.
- There is an expectation that for the hazard mitigation treatment to be effective the time between project initiation on NFS lands and non-Federal lands should not exceed three years.

# Decision DATE

- US Forest Service Project NEPA Status Completed or in-progress?
- Monitoring of the grant accomplishments will be through the Grants and Agreements Reimbursement reporting process.
- Project costs may include all costs necessary to plan and implement the projects on non-federal land only.



2013 "Stevens" - Community Wildfire Protection Program Grant Application

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY					
State Submitting Project:					
State Priority Number:					
Dollar Amount Requested:					
Matching Share:					

# **PROGRAM INFORMATION**

The Wildland/Urban Interface Grant Program provides funding for projects that reduce catastrophic fire effects on Colorado communities. Eligible projects for the *Community Wildfire Protection Program* are for hazardous fuels reduction on non-federal lands adjacent to federal lands with a planned fuels reduction project pending or in progress. Specifically, projects on non-federal land must be:

Adjacent to federal land (i.e. National Forests) where hazardous fuels reduction projects are occurring or are pending that may place the communities at risk; and

Federal treatment **must include** the application of prescribed fire to treat hazardous fuels but may include hand or mechanical treatment as well as prescribed fire. Prescribed fire includes broadcast, jackpot and pile burning.

An objective of the *Community Wildfire Protection Program* is to minimize damage to private property in the event a prescribed fire crosses onto private property from adjacent federal property. For this reason, funding is only available for on-the-ground fuels treatment of non-federal acreage. No match required by the applicant; however, because the focus is on treating as many acres as possible with available funding, any match that serves to lower the grant cost-per-acre is highly desirable and may make the proposal more competitive. Applicants are required to work with local Forest Service personnel in determining where federal treatments are planned for the wildland/urban interface and how to best coordinate a project on non-federal lands adjacent to the treatment area.

If a project from this application process is selected for funding and at a later date is determined unviable or unachievable for any reason, then those remaining funds from the project will be used to fund the next priority unfunded project meeting the criteria within the State. Furthermore, if a project will be completed under budget, its remaining funds will be used to increase/expand the original project or moved to another project for completion or expansion.

PLEASE NOTE: All information for the project must fit into the allotted spaces provided on the five page form. Applications that have been altered in any way will be disqualified. Attachments other than applicable maps will not be reviewed.

		Applicant Information
1	Applicant:	
	Contact Person:	
	Address:	
	City/Zip Code:	
	Phone (Work/Cell):	
	Email:	
	Fax:	
		Community At Risk Information
	Name of Project:	
2	Community Name:	
	County:	Congressional District:
	Latitude (decimal degrees):	Longitude (decimal degrees):

	Budget Detail (Provide additional information in Block 7)	Grant Share (\$ Amount Requested)	Leveraged funds		TOTAL
			Dollars	In-Kind	
3	Personnel / Labor:				
	Fringe Benefits:				
	Travel:				
	Equipment:				
	Supplies:				
Γ	Contractual:		-		
	Construction:				
F	Other:				
	Indirect Costs:	A second s			
	TOTAL:		N CONTRACTOR		Contraction and

	Project Sumr	nary (check all th	at apply a	and answer	related questions)		
	Name of the Forest Service Project a and NEPA Decision Date	Name of the Forest Service Project adjacent to this treatment and NEPA Decision Date					
	When is the Forest Service Project s implementation (year)?						
	Forest Service Contact Person:				Phone:		
4	What is the duration of this project? (check one) Or			e Year Two Years			
-		Hazard Fu	els Redu	iction		236-23	
	Number of acres to be treated <sup>1</sup> :			Estimat	Estimated cost per acre:		
	Number of communities directly aff						
	Number of citizens reached with inf	ion:					
	Number of residences affected:				100 C		

# **Project Timeline**

Provide a working timeline for project which includes milestones, timeframes, and critical steps for project completion.

Page 2 of 5

Community Wild	fire Prot	ection Pl	an (CWPP)
Does this community have a wildfire protection guidelines? (check one)	plan that f yes	ollows the no	Healthy Forest Restoration Act CWPP in development
Is this project part of the plan? (check one)	yes	no	
If not covered by a CWPP is the community covered by an equivalent collaborative plan?	yes	no	
Is this project part of the equivalent collaborative plan? (check one)	Yes	no	
Where would we obtain a copy of the CWPP or equivalent plan? (internet link)			

# **Project Area Description**

Provide a brief overview of the project and the project area. (Identify vegetation types, fuel types or hazard rating and the relative risk to the communities or structures in the vicinity of the project.)

5

## Scope of Work

Provide a brief scope of work which clearly describes how grant funds will be spent. (This should be more specific than the project description. Include how many treatments will be applied to the area and what kind will be used (i.e. removing vegetation (bull hogging, hand treatment, etc), burning slash, piling slash, chipping, reseeding, etc and the acreage for each of the treatments in the treatment sequence. Include any additional information regarding budget details in this section. Also explain how this project aligns with the active or proposed Forest Service Project named above.)

6

7

# Interagency Collaboration

Specify the private, local, tribal, county, state, federal and/or non-governmental (501c3) organizations that will contribute to or participate in the completion of this project. Describe briefly the contributions each partner will make (i.e. – donating time/equipment, funding, etc.).

# Maintenance / Sustainability

Clearly demonstrate how this project will remain effective over time by clearly outlining commitments, monitoring measures, future funding, environmental factors and outreach.

8

Colorado State Forest Service Page 5 of 5 STEVENSTUNDS 2013

1. Any planned Rx fire (PILES/ mustication) IN the Following areas. (3 yearst) A. Kelly DAHR (LumpGucch) AREA B. West MAGNOLIA (LUMP) AREA C. FORSY HE AREA 1. Specifically in DWB/GROSS PP7, PP15, GIO, PP10 Smiramonte 11. Speafically - LP25 LP3 D. Status of Pice Buening IN GOLD HILL? NED-FREEWISE E, St. URAN AREA

add

# **CSFS Proposal-Boulder District**

# 2011 CAFA "Stevens" Funding

The following is a list of information needed from CSFS districts to be included in the 2011 CSFS proposal to the USFS for "Stevens" funding. *This funding is only to be used for fuels mitigation on non-federal land adjacent/near areas on USFS National Forest System (NFS) lands where prescribed fire activities are planned*. Priority will be given to projects that have the greatest impact on communities at risk and are planned as part of a CWPP. There is an expectation that for hazard mitigation treatments to be effective the time between project initiation on NFS lands and non-federal lands should not exceed 3 years. This is a "no match" grant, but preference will be given to projects that leverage match opportunities.

CSFS Boulder District information:

1. Project Name-CO Hwy 119 Roadside Fuel Break

- 2. Project Location -T1s, R73W, S 24, and 25
- 3. Project Acres-113.3

4. Project Description – Hand fell-thin from below; Improvement/Sanitation; BA reduction 50%+, chip or pile and burn slash; ladder fuel removal; patch cut as appropriate

5. Cost per acre-\$1750.00 (\$198,275.00 total)

6. Local USFS contact -Dave Buchannan, USFS BRD, SZ AFMO

7. CWPP name-Nederland CWPP (Nederland and Timberline FPD jurisdiction)

8. Project Ranking-#1, Very High

1. Project Name-Big Springs Drainage Thinning

- 2. Project Location T1S, R72W, S18
- 3. Project Acres-10.7

4. Project Description –Hand fell-thin from below; Improvement/Sanitation; BA reduction 50%+, chip or pile and burn slash ladder fuel removal; patch cut as appropriate

5. Cost per acre-\$2000.00 \$21,400 total)

6. Local USFS contact -Dave Buchannan, USFS BRD, SZ AFMO

7. CWPP name-Nederland CWPP

8. Project Ranking-#1, Very High

1. Project Name-Bonanza/Hurricane Hill Drainage Thinning

- 2. Project Location T1S, R72W, S7
- 3. Project Acres-35.7

4. Project Description – Hand fell-thin from below; Improvement/Sanitation; BA reduction 50%+, chip or pile and burn slash; ladder fuel removal; patch cut as appropriate

5. Cost per acre-\$2000.00 (\$71,400 total)

6. Local USFS contact -Dave Buchannan, USFS BRD, SZ AFMO

7. CWPP name-Nederland CWPP

8. Project Ranking-#1, Very High

Total Nederland-\$291, 075.00; 159.7 acres (1823.00/ac)

1. Project Name-Conifer Hill

2. Project Location - T3N, R72W, S 35

3. Project Acres-150

4. Project Description – Hand fell-thin from below; Improvement/Sanitation; BA reduction 50%+, chip or pile and burn slash; ladder fuel removal; patch cut as appropriate

5. Cost per acre-\$2000.00 (\$300,000 total)

6. Local USFS contact -Dave Buchannan, USFS BRD, SZ AFMO

7. CWPP name-Lefthand CWPP

8. Project Ranking-#1, Extreme

1. Project Name-Nugget Hill

2. Project Location -T1N, R71W S 31

3. Project Acres-75

4. Project Description – Hand fell-thin from below; Improvement/Sanitation; BA reduction 50%+, chip or pile and burn slash; ladder fuel removal; patch cut as appropriate

5. Cost per acre-\$2000.00 (\$150,000)

6. Local USFS contact - Dave Buchannan, USFS BRD, SZ AFMO

7. CWPP name-Lefthand CWPP

8. Project Ranking-#1, High

Total Lefthand-\$450,000; 225 acres (2000.00/ac)

CSFS District/ Contact (last name)	NFS	Ranger District (RD)/ Contact (last name)	Prescribed Burn Name	Project Name	CWPP Name
FR/ Garríson	PSICC	SFRD/ Schweich	Sprucewood	Moonridge/Sprucewood	Douglas County
FR/ Garrison	PSICC	SFRD/ Schweich	Pine Creek	Pine Creek Road	Douglas County
WP/ Long	PSICC	SFRD/ Zonotto	South Fork	Woodland Park Hi Fi	WP Healthy Forest Initiative
GO/ Gallamore	AR	BRD/ Buchannan	Evergreen	West Jefferson County	Elk Creek FPD, Evergreen FPD
MO/ Rist	GMUG	GMUG/ Shutza	Bighorn	Coonskin Ridge	San Miguel County
WP/Long	PSICC	SFRD/ Zonotto	South Fork	Pikes Peak Watershed, South Slope	El Paso, Teller and Park County
GO/ Gallamore	AR	BRD & CCRD/ Buchanan	Evergreen	Berrian Mountain	Elk Creek FPD, Evergreen FPD
GO/ Gallamore	AR	BRD & CCRD/ Buchanan	Evergreen	Flying J	Elk Creek FPD, Evergreen FPD
GO/ Gallamore	AR	BRD & CCRD/ Buchanan	Evergreen	West Jefferson	Elk Creek FPD, Evergreen FPD
BO/ Owen	AR	BRD & CCRD/ Buchanan	Yankee Hill 26	Reverend's Ridge Fuel Break	Gilpin County
FC/ Lebeda	AR	CLRD/ Edwards	Sheep Creek	Crystal Mountain State Land	Rist Canyon
GJ/ Rogers	GMUG	Warren	Big Horn	Grand Mesa Resort Ass.	Delta County
WP/Long	PSICC	SPRD/ Hessler	Fish Creek	COEC Evacuation Route fuel break	Colo. Outdoor Ed. Center
AL/ Burns	SLVPLO	SLVPLO/ Hall	Big Moose	Blue Park	Mineral County FPD
GU/ Cudmore	RG	DRD/ Self	Black Mesa	S Lazy U	Hinsdale County
GU/ Cudmore	RG	DRD/ Self	Black Mesa	Hermit Lakes	Hinsdale County
GU/ Cudmore	RG	DRD/ Self	Black Mesa	Pearl Lakes	Hinsdale County
GU/ Cudmore	RG	DRD/ Self	Black Mesa	Ptarmigan Meadows	Hinsdale County
GU/ Cudmore	RG	DRD/ Self	Black Mesa	Wilderness Ranch	Hinsdale County
GU/ Cudmore	RG	DRD/ Self	Black Mesa	Black Mountain Ranch	Hinsdale County
GU/ Cudmore	RG	DRD/ Self	Thirty Mile CG	SLV Irrigation Company	Hinsdale County
SA/ Lange	PSICC	SF/White	South Fork	Mt.Elbert Forebay Fuelbreak	Lake County
BO/ Owen	AR	BRD/ Buchannan	Yankee Hill 24 ?	Big Springs Drainage Thinning	Nederland
BO/ Owen	AR	BRD/ Buchannan	Winiger Porter	Bonanza/Hurricane Hill Drainage	Nederland
BO/ Owen	AR	BRD/ Buchannan	James Creek	Conifer Hill	Lefthand
BO/ Owen	AR	BRD/ Buchannan	Sugarloaf	Nugget Hill	Lefthand
DU/ Grant	SJ	CRD/ Goodell	Junction Creek	Falls Creek Ranch	Falls Creek Ranch
DU/ Grant	SJ	DRD/ Goodell	Glade Ranch WUI	Glade Ranch	Dolores County
DU/ Grant	SJ	DRD/ Goodell	Chicken Creek	Joe Moore/ Millwood thinning	Montezuma County
DU/ Grant	SJ	DRD/ Goodell	North Jackson	Jackson Lake Community thinning	Montezuma County
AL/ Burns	SLVPLO	SLVPLO/ Hall	Conejos Canyon	Fox Creek	South Conejos County FPD
AL/ Burns	SLVPLO	SLVPLO/ Hall	Conejos Canyon	Sheep Creek	South Conejos County FPD
GO/ Gallamore	AR	BRD & CCRD/ Buchanan	Yankee Hill 24	Green Ranch rx. fire	Gilpin County
GO/ Gallamore	AR	BRD & CCRD/ Buchanan	Yankee Hill 25	Mountain Base Fuel Break Rx Burn	Gilpin County
AL/ Burns	RG	DRD/ Self	Big Moose	Trout Creek	Mineral County FPD
AL/ Burns	RG	DRD/ Self	Big Moose	Woodfern Creek	Mineral County FPD
DU/ Grant	SJ	CRD/ Goodell	Wickenson Mtn.	Forest Lakes	Forest Lakes
DU/ Grant	SJ	CRD/ Goodell	Sauls Creek	Deer Valley Estates	Deer Valleey Estates
DU/ Grant	SJ	PRD/ Goodell	Archuleta Creek	Aspen Springs	Archuleta County

## Exibit A: 2011 CAFA "Stevens" Proposal - Colorado State Forest Service

?

AL/ Burns	SLVPLO	SLVPLO/Sid Hall	South Fork	Ponderosa Estates	Del Norte FPD
BO/ Owen	AR	BRD/ Buchannan	Winegar Stew	CO Hwy 119 Roadside Fuel Break	Nederland
FC/ Lebeda	AR	CLRD/ Edwards	Sheep Creek	East Red Feather Fuels Reduction	Magic Sky Ranch
DU/ Grant	SJ	PRD/ Goodell	Echo Canyon	Rito Blanco Ranch (1 & 2)	Archuleta County
MO/ Rist	GMUG	GMUG/ Huisjen	Bighorn	Horsefly II	Montrose County
SA/ Lange	PSICC	SF/White	South Fork	Mt. Shavano D-Space	Chaffee County
SA/ Lange	PSICC	SF/White	South Fork	Chubb Park Burn	Chaffee County

\*Thin = t, Handpile = h, Burn Handpile = bhp, Masticate = m, Lop & Scatter = Is, Broadcast Burn = bb

\*\*All projects are scalable and can be implemented with partial funding.

## Relative Risk Value of Community:

<b>Relative Ris</b>	k Value of Community:		Acres
	High		4416.7
A residence of the second	Mod		2445
	Low		496
		Total	7357.7

Project Description *	Project Acres**	Project Location (DDD.dddddd)	Total Cost
t,h,m,ls	200	39.3683739, -105.1169599	240,000
t,h,m,ls	100	39.3552437, -105.0451975	12,000
t,h,bhp	30	39.0858111, -105.1072308	18,000
t,h,m,ls	100	39.497948, -105.431628	48,000
t,h,m	80	37.942281, -107.853052	200,000
t,m	230	38.808819, -104.997126	184,000
t,h,m,ls	88	39.566111, -105.334167	88,000
t,h,m,ls	70	39.550278, -105.334167	70,000
t,h,m,ls	48	39.547222, -105.315	48,000
t,h,bhp,m,ls	10	39.874992, -105.452314	9,000
t,h,bhp,m	20	40.5268683, -105.4130998	40,000
t,h,bhp,m	20	39.0442, -107.962033	10,000
t,h,bhp,m	20	38.9060318, -105.3163004	15,000
t,h,bhp	75	37.813, -106.835	45,000
t,h,bhp	20	37.787, - 107.219	16,000
t,h,bhp	100	37.794, -107.241	70,000
t,h,bhp	53	37.822, - 107.265	31,800
t,h,bhp	77	37.806, -107.156	46,200
t,h,bhp	5	37.793, - 107.203	3,500
t,h,bhp	24	37.84, -107.184	16,800
t,h,bhp	60	37.722, - 107.265	48,000
t,h,bhp	40	39.1214376, -106.3583496	60,000
t,h,bhp,m	10.7	39.9627653, -105.4916326	21,400
t,h,bhp,m	35.7	39.9774173, -105.4920188	71,400
t,h,bhp,m	150	40.1789451, -105.4186219	300,000
t,h,bhp,m	75	40.0069385, -105.3831028	150,000
t,h,bhp,m	230	37.3433, -107.887	92,750
t,h,bhp,m	600	37.755556, -108.557222	230,000
t,h,bhp,m	250	37.421667, -108.311111	103,750
t,h,bhp	150	37.416667, -108.2575	63,750
m,bb	140	37.067, -106.261	126,000
m,bb	51	37.107, - 106.311	40,800
bb	130	39.812589, -105.455808	32,500
bb	186	39.864428, -105.446558	46,500
bb	30	37.687, -107.034	18,000
bb	50	37.72, - 107.062	30,000
t,h,bhp,bb	2387	37.3132, -107.501	601,290
t,h,bhp,bb	689	37.2459, -107.533	257,750
t,h,bhp,m	150	37.1676, -107.249	61,250

Total	7357.7	Total Cost \$	4,075,715
bb	100	38.8891324, -106.0095474	30,000
t,h,m	20	40.4176769, -106.2070393	20,000
t,h,bhp,m	40	38.233, -108.007	80,000
t,h,bhp,m	200	37.2421, -106.908	80,000
t,h,bhp	30	40.7734041, -105.4863203	36,000
t,h,bhp,m	133.3	39.9477417, -105.5094594	233,275
t,h,bhp	50	37.674, -106.659	30,000

# Project Name: 2011 South Zone Pile Burning Machine & Hand

Sugarloaf 165 a/b	T1N, R72W, Sec 21 & 22	Boulder	34	260	Hand (04/06)	39	Yes 29 ac.
(contract)	40° 02' 23.0"N 105° 26' 54.0"W				(04/00)		29 dC.
James Creek RFB 16 (contract)	T2N, R72W, Sec 12 40° 08' 46"N 105° 24' 32"W	Boulder	19ac	500	Hand (06/09)	85	
James Creek RFB 17 (contract)	T2N, R72W, Sec 1,11,12 40° 09' 15"N 105° 24' 14"W	Boulder	57ac	1450	Hand (06/09)	85	
James Creek RFB 18 (contract)	T2N, R72W, Sec 12 40° 08' 55"N 105° 24' 12"W	Boulder	24ac	600	Hand (06/09)	85	
James Creek RFB 20 (contract)	T2N, R72W, Sec 12 40° 08' 55"N 105° 24' 12"W	Boulder	29ac	700	Hand (06/09)	85	
Sugarloaf Sunset 166 (contract)	T1N, R72W, Sec 14, 15, 22, 23 40° 02' 32.0"N 105° 26' 03.0"W	Boulder	172	1,376	Hand &LS (07/06)	59	Yes
Evergreen 6B Group (FA)	T5S, R71W, Sec. 31 T6S, R72W, Sec 1 39° 34' 02."N 105° 23' 00"W	Jefferson	8ac	25	Hand (2008)	5830	Yes
Evergreen 6B Patch (contract)	T6S, R71W, Sec. 6 39° 33' 44.5"N 105° 22' 43.0"W	Jefferson	7ac	15	Machine (2008))	48000	
Evergreen 5a (contract)	T6S, R71W, Sec 5 39° 33' 46"N 105° 21' 45"W	Jefferson	6	15	Machine (2008)	400- 6,000	
Evergreen Unit 32b (contract)	T5S,R71W, Sec 32 39° 34' 6"N 105° 24' 27"W	Jefferson	11	165	Hand (2008)	500- 2,600	
Evergreen Unit 32a (contract)	T5S,R71W, Sec 32 39° 34' 6"N 105° 24' 27"W	Jefferson	5	15	Hand (2008)	700- 10,000	
Yankee Hill 24 (FA)	T1S, R72W, Sec. 16 39° 51' 5.0"N 105° 29' 12.0"W	Gilpin	19	75	Hand (7/09)	57	

# Unit Name: Boulder and Clear Creek Ranger Districts

## Project Name: 2011 South Zone Pile Burning Machine & Hand

## Unit Name: Boulder and Clear Creek Ranger Districts

	Available to Burn	Totals=	1,503 acres	19,289 piles			
James Creek M3401 (contract)	T2N,R72W, Sec 33 40°4'50"N 105°27'23"W	Boulder	69ac	25	Machine (2009/ 2010)	85/679	
James Creek O0403 (contract)	T1N,R72W, Sec 4 40°4'59"N 105°27'38"W	Boulder	60ac	10	Machine (2009/ 2010)	679	
James Creek O0402 (contract)	T1N,R72W, Sec 3,4 40°4'50''N 105°27'17''W	Boulder	73ac	50	Machine (2009/ 2010)	201/924	
James Creek O0401 (contract)	T1N,R72W, Sec 4 40°5'6"N 105°27'37"W	Boulder	62ac	9	Machine (06/09)	924	
Winiger Porter 4 (contract)	T1S, R72W, Sec 10, 11 39°58'43.0"N 105°25'35.0"	Boulder	бас	125	Hand (07/06)	59	
Project-Unit (Piled by)	TRS	County	<u>Est.</u> <u>Acres</u>	<u>Est. #</u> <u>Piles</u>	Pile Type Date Piled	<u>Avg. ft<sup>3</sup></u> per pile	2009 Priority Ac. left

 New CY2011

 Incomplete 2010 rollover into 2011

 2010 rollover into 2011

## **B.** Vegetation/Fuels Description:

- 1. On-site fuels data
  - Limbs and boles from fuels reduction activity and timber harvest operations, existing dead and down woody debris
- 2. Adjacent fuels data
  - Adjacent to piles within unit: lopped and scattered material including bole wood created by timber harvest and fuels reduction activity in addition to existing dead and down woody debris typically characterized by FM-2, FM-8, and FM-10
  - Areas outside treatment units: may be a mix of federal, state, county and private ownership that may or may not have had fuels treatments, typically characterized by FM-2, FM-8, and FM-10.

USDA	United States Department of	Forest Service	Boulder Ranger District	2140 Yarmouth Avenue Boulder, CO 80301-1615	
	Agriculture			Voice: (303) 541-2500	
				Web: www.fs.fed.us/r2/arnf	
	IL J	hard and a second second		Fax: (303) 541-2515	

File Code: 1950 Date: March 15, 2006

Dear Neighbor,

On March 13, 2006 I signed the Decision Memo for the Gill Fuel Reduction Project. This decision authorizes a variety of manual forest thinning activities on approximately 84 acres of National Forest system lands near the town of Jamestown, Colorado. No ground-based equipment will be utilized and there will be no broadcast burning as part of this project; however, slash will be hand piled and burned or made available for firewood.

Nearby residents and other affected/interested people were sent a notice of the proposed project on December 7, 2005. This mailing included a letter outlining the proposed project and a map of the project area. The Boulder Ranger District has completed the required environmental analysis for the proposed treatments and the Decision Memo is based upon these findings. The Decision Memo includes project design criteria and mitigation measures to ensure that all fuels treatment work complies with Forest Service Standards and Guidelines, as well as other environmental regulations. The Decision Memo for the project is enclosed for your reference.

This Decision is subject to appeal pursuant to the regulations at 36 CFR, part 215. 7(a). Individuals and organizations that submitted comments during the 30-day comment period may appeal this decision. To appeal this decision a person must submit a written appeal to the USDA Forest Service, Appeals Office, P. O. Box 25127, Lakewood, CO 80225, by Fax: ATTN: Appeal Deciding Officer (303) 275-5134, or by E-mail to: appeals-rocky-mountain-regional-office@fs.fed.us. Appeals must be postmarked or received within 45 days after the publication of a legal notice in the Daily Camera newspaper, Boulder, Colorado. The legal notice should appear on March 18, 2006.

For more information on the Forest Service appeal process or this project please contact Kevin Zimlinghaus at 303-245-6415 or Laura Pramuk at 303-245-6429. Thank you for your participation in the project.

Sincerely,

Mustine Willelse

CHRISTINE M. WALSH District Ranger

# Decision Memo Gill Fuel Reduction Project

# USDA Forest Service Boulder Ranger District, Arapaho-Roosevelt National Forests and the Pawnee National Grassland Boulder County, Colorado

#### **Project Location**

The project is located on the Arapaho-Roosevelt National Forests and Pawnee National Grassland, Boulder Ranger District and includes the National Forest System (NFS) lands. The project boundary is located along the interface between private and county properties and NFS lands southwest of Jamestown, Colorado. The legal location is the N ½ sec. 30, T2N, R71W and the NE ¼ sec. 25, T2N, R72W.

#### **Decision to Be Implemented**

The Boulder Ranger District of the Arapaho-Roosevelt National Forests will implement a fuel reduction project on approximately 84 acres of publicly owned lands that are mixed with private and county lands in the wildland urban interface (WUI). The fuels that will be treated include varying densities of mixed conifer stands of ponderosa pine, Douglas-fir, and Rocky Mountain juniper.

All treatments will be completed utilizing manual labor with chainsaws. Ground-based equipment (i.e. skidders and tractors) will not be utilized. There will be no broadcast burning as part of this project; however, slash will be hand piled and burned or made available for firewood. Roads will not be constructed for this project. The decision also includes the design criteria and mitigations described in Appendix A of this document.

The fuel reduction treatments will reduce the density of stands and remove ladder fuels by cutting trees, generally, less than 10" in diameter at breast height (DBH). Residual trees will be left in clumps or as individuals spaced 15' to 30' between tree crowns. Ponderosa pine will be favored as the leave tree species. Douglas-fir and Rocky Mountain juniper will be targeted to be cut. Aspen will not be cut.

Young ponderosa pine trees may be left to promote overall stand structure diversity when they do not constitute a ladder fuel problem. Conifer trees growing within meadows will be cut to maintain the meadow integrity where appropriate.

All snags within 25' of residential private land will be cut and piled or made available as firewood. In areas where there are large snags, up to 10 snags will be left per acre, and in areas where the snags are small, up to three will be left per acre.

The Gill Fuel Reduction Project will tie past treatments on nearby NFS lands with proposed and current treatments on adjacent lands. Fuel reduction treatments have been completed on neighboring Boulder County lands and private land.

1

## **Reasons for Categorically Excluding this Project**

Decisions may be categorically excluded from documentation in an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) or Environmental Assessment (EA) when they are within one of the categories identified by the Chief of the Forest Service in the Forest Service Handbook (FSH) 1909.15, Sections 31.1b or 31.2, and there are no adverse impacts to any extraordinary circumstances related to the decision that may result in a significant individual or cumulative effect on the quality of the human environment.

I have concluded that this decision is appropriately categorically excluded from documentation in an EIS or EA as it is an activity within the category of exclusion and there are no extraordinary circumstances or impacts related to the decision that may result in a significant individual or cumulative effect on the quality of the human environment. My conclusion is based on information presented in this document and the entirety of the Project File and Record.

The decision is within FSH 1909.15 Section 31.2, Category 10 that states the following: <u>Hazardous fuels reduction activities using prescribed fire, not to exceed 4,500</u> <u>acres, and mechanical methods for crushing, piling, thinning, pruning, cutting,</u> <u>chipping, mulching, and mowing, not to exceed 1,000 acres.</u>

#### **Extraordinary Circumstances**

In determining the appropriateness of using the categorical exclusion, a determination of the potential impact to the identified resources conditions identified in FSH 1901.15 Section 30.3(2) must be made. The following is a list of the potential effects to the resource conditions from project activities:

1. Federally listed threatened or endangered species or designated critical habitat, species proposed for Federal listing or proposed critical habitat, or Forest Service sensitive species.

There is one federally listed threatened wildlife species, Preble's meadow jumping mouse (Zapus hudsonius preblei), that has potential habitat in the project area. The Proposed Action for the Gill project area is estimated to have **no effect** to the Preble's meadow jumping mouse due to activities only occurring during Preble's meadow jumping mouse hibernation; design criteria that precludes impacts to water resources that could affect potential habitat; and the habitat remaining functional and connected during and after implementation.

2. Flood plains, wetlands, or municipal watersheds.

<u>Flood plains</u>: Flood plains in the project area will not be impacted by ground based equipment. The combination of manual treatment (cutting by hand crews with chainsaws) and slash treatment (hand piling and burning) outside the 100 foot buffer along the stream channels will not cause any direct, indirect, or cumulative impacts to the floodplains. Existing road use on the private and Forest Service roads will be allowed to continue and designated crossings already exist to minimize impacts. There will not be an adverse impact. <u>Wetlands</u>: There are no jurisdictional wetlands in the units or along existing roads; therefore, there will not be an adverse impact to wetlands.

<u>Municipal Watersheds</u>: There are no municipal watersheds in this project area. The designated uses do include domestic and municipal drinking water. This activity will not reduce water quality or adversely impact water quality for the designated uses.

- Congressionally designated areas, such as wilderness, wilderness study areas, or national recreation areas. The project is outside all wilderness, wilderness study areas, or national recreation areas; therefore, there will not be adverse impacts.
- 4. Inventoried roadless areas. The project is outside inventoried roadless areas; therefore, there will not be adverse impacts.
- 5. Research Natural Areas. The project is outside Research Natural Area; therefore, there will not be adverse impacts.
- 6. American Indians and Alaska Native Religious or cultural sites, archaeological sites, or historic properties or areas.

This decision complies with all applicable laws and regulations. Surveys were conducted in the treatment units for Native American religious or cultural sites, archaeological sites, and historic properties or areas that may be affected by this decision. The determination of no significant impact to cultural resources is contingent upon consultation with the Colorado State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO).

# **Public Involvement**

A presentation about the Gill Fuel Reduction Project was made to the Jamestown Town Council on December 5, 2005 to introduce the project and answer questions. Approximately 350 scoping letters were mailed on December 7, 2005 to individuals residing in the town of Jamestown, local governmental and fire fighting agencies, and groups interested in fuels reduction. The official comment period was initiated on December 9, 2005 and the legal notice was published in the Boulder Daily Camera. Four comment letters were received during the official comment period. A field trip involving members from the South Zone Fuels Planning Team, members of the Jamestown Town Council, and interested individuals from Jamestown occurred on January 25, 2006.

#### Findings Required by Other Laws

This decision is consistent with the 1997 Revision of the Land and Resource Management Plan for the Arapaho and Roosevelt National Forests and Pawnee National Grassland as required by the National Forest Management Act.

#### **Implementation Date**

Implementation of this project will not occur for a minimum of 50 days following publication of the legal notice in the *Boulder Daily Camera* newspaper, Boulder, Colorado. If an appeal is filed, implementation will not occur for a minimum of 15 days following disposition of the appeal. If multiple appeals are filed, the disposition date of the last appeal will control the implementation date.

## Administrative Review or Appeal Opportunities

My decision to implement the Gill Fuel Reduction Project is subject to appeal pursuant to 36 CFR 215.7(a). Any written notice of appeal must be submitted in accordance with 36 CFR 215.13 and must be consistent with 36 CFR 215.14, content of an appeal, including the reasons for the appeal. Any appeal must be filed with the:

USDA, Forest Service, Region 2 Attn: Appeal Deciding Officer P.O. Box 25127 Lakewood, CO 80225-25127

If you fax an appeal, please include a cover page stating how many pages you are faxing. Fax: 303-275-5134

Email: appeals-rocky-mountain-regional-office@fs.fed.us

It is an appellant's responsibility to provide sufficient activity-specific evidence and rationale, focusing on the decision, to show why the Responsible Official's decision should be reversed. An appeal submitted to the Appeal Deciding Officer becomes part of the appeal record. At a minimum, an appeal must include the following (§ 215.14):

(1) Appellant's name and address (§ 215.2), with a telephone number, if available;

(2) Signature or other verification of authorship upon request (a scanned signature for electronic mail may be filed with the appeal);

(3) When multiple names are listed on an appeal, identification of the lead appellant (§ 215.2) and verification of the identity of the lead appellant upon request;

(4) The name of the project or activity for which the decision was made, the name and title of the Responsible Official, and the date of the decision;

(5) The regulation under which the appeal is being filed, when there is an option to appeal under either this part or part 251, subpart C ( $\S$  215.11(d));

(6) Any specific change(s) in the decision that the appellant seeks and rationale for those changes;

(7) Any portion(s) of the decision with which the appellant disagrees, and explanation for the disagreement;

(8) Why the appellant believes the Responsible Official's decision failed to consider the substantive comments; and

(9) How the appellant believes the decision specifically violates law, regulation, or policy.

Notices of Appeal that do not meet the requirements of 36 CFR 215.14 will be dismissed.

Pursuant to 36 CFR 215.9(a), if no appeal is filed, implementation of this decision may occur on, but not before, the fifth day from the close of the appeal filing period.

All appeals must be filed within 45 days of the date that the legal notice appears in the *Boulder Daily Camera* newspaper in Boulder, Colorado.

## **Contact Person**

For additional information concerning this decision or the Forest Service Appeal process, contact Kevin Zimlinghaus, Project Leader, at (303) 245-6415 or Laura Pramuk, Public Affairs Specialist, at (303) 245-6429.

Untere MWalk

<u>3-13-06</u> DATE

CHRISTINE M. WALSH District Ranger

# Appendix A

# Project Design

The following were incorporated as part of the project design:

#### Hydrology

Implement the appropriate design criteria from the Watershed Conservation Practices Handbook – 2509.25-2001-1. For the Gill Fuel Reduction Project the appropriate Design Criteria is: 12.1 Standard (3) – In the water influence zone next to perennial and intermittent streams, lakes, and wetlands, allow only those actions that maintain or improve long-term stream health and riparian ecosystem condition.

#### Soils

A 50' buffer of no treatment or ground disturbance will be left extending from the top of the excavated bank in units 1a and 2a. The treatment intensity above the buffer and to the ridge above the lot located at 85 12<sup>th</sup> Street; Jamestown, Colorado 80455 (the S 300 Feet of the Poorman Lode 16107) will be reduced to minimize the potential for soil movement. Additionally, the following will be applied in this location:

- Treatment intensity will be reduced by 50% (50% of trees smaller than 6 inches DBH will be left) in the portion of treatment unit directly upslope from the house.
- Effective ground cover would be maintained at 80 to 100% in the portion of treatment unit directly upslope from the house.
- A Soil Scientist or Hydrologist shall be involved to monitor during implementation and ensure the measures, described above, are implemented correctly.

# Mitigations

#### Hydrology

Slash will be hand piled and burned or made available for firewood. Hand piles / burn piles will be a minimum of 100 ft from the stream channels (Gillespie and McCorkle Gulches).

#### Botany

If populations of any Forest Service sensitive species are found, they will be documented and, where feasible, avoided by project activities. If populations are found for which anticipated project impacts would change the determination of impacts made, the determination will be revisited and appropriate additional documentation will be prepared and/or project activities will be adjusted. Because surveying one time for sensitive plants does not guarantee they will be found even if present, implementation of these mitigations whether or not the plants are found during surveys does not change the determination of impacts for any of the sensitive plant species analyzed above. However, with a reasonable survey effort, the likelihood of impacting populations and habitats will be minimized, because there is an opportunity to adjust project activities.

#### Lands

<u>Roads:</u> Protect roads being used by local residents; keep roads open and do not degrade lower than pre-use condition.

<u>Private Land/Improvements:</u> Keep logging slash off private land. Protect utility lines. <u>Landlines:</u> Protect survey markers, bearing trees, brass caps, and survey monuments.

#### Weeds

Treatment units will be inventoried for invasive plants before project implementation.

- Where areas are determined to be at high risk for weed establishment or spread due to project activities, minimize risks by:
  - designating high priority infestations for avoidance on the ground.
  - treating high priority weed infestations prior to vegetation treatments, especially where ground-disturbing activities may occur, and
  - emphasizing areas of heavy disturbance such as parking and staging areas, firewood and burn pile areas.
  - working with botanist or weed coordinator, flag and avoid any areas of weed infestation that should not be used for slash or firewood piles and parking areas.

#### Scenery

A landscape architect will be involved in unit layout to maintain visual screening between houses.

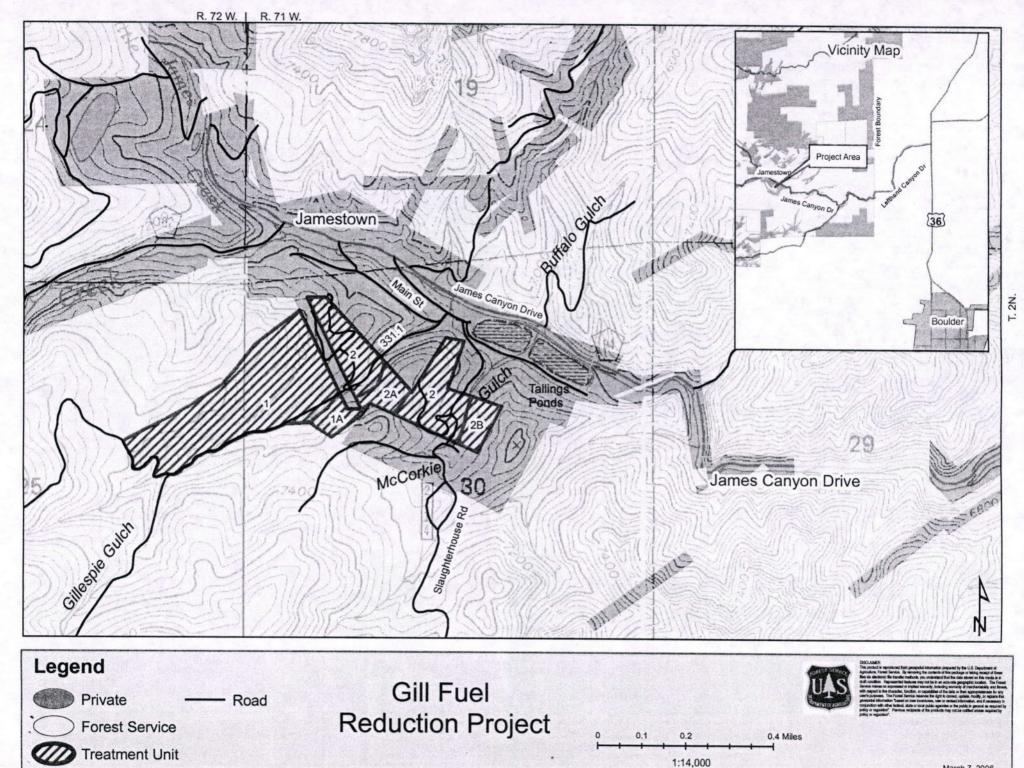
## Wildlife

There will be no treatment from May 15 to October 15 for prebles.

There are no known Northern goshawk nest sites within the proposed treatment area. However:

- Treatment areas will be resurveyed for new nest locations prior to implementation.
- If a new nest is detected, appropriate mitigations to allow for successful nesting and fledgling will be applied in consultation with the FS biologist, fuels specialist and silviculturist.

If threatened, endangered, or sensitive wildlife and plant species are found during implementation, it will be required that immediate measures be taken to protect identified species as directed by the Forest Service.



March 7, 2006

United States Department of Agriculture	Forest Service	Boulder Ranger District	2140 Yarmouth Avenue Boulder, CO 80301-1615 Voice: (303) 541-2500 Web: <u>www.fs.fed.us/r2/arnf</u> Fax: (303) 541-2515
		File Code	: 1950
		Date	: December 7, 2005

Dear Neighbor,

The Boulder Ranger District proposes to apply fuel reduction treatments on 75 acres south of the town of Jamestown. The proposed treatments would thin the existing vegetation and make the area more fire resistant.

The proposed project consists of two treatment units. The Western-most parcel is the location of the 1998 prescribed fire near Owen's Flat, while the Eastern-most portion is near the Blue Jay mine. The project is being called the Gill Fuel Reduction Project in reference to Gillepsie Gulch Rd., which runs roughly between the two units.

The Western-most parcel, or Unit 1 would be accessed via Forest Service Road 331.1, better known as Gillepsie Gulch Road. Hand crews would reach Unit 2, to the East, via Slaughterhouse Road, or Forest Service Road 510.1.

Due to the steepness of the terrain, both units would be treated by hand crews with chainsaws. Slash and thinned material would be hand piled and burned or made available for use as firewood. In general, clumps of trees or individual trees would be spaced up to 15 feet and trees would be pruned to six feet above the ground. Juniper, Douglas-Fir and other under-story vegetation would be removed. The removal of excess trees and ladder fuels would reduce fire danger and would provide added protection to the town in the event of a wildfire.

Boulder County Open Space recently completed a fuels reduction project on property that connects to Unit 2 to the south. In addition, a fuel break is planned on the other side of the Open Space property that is part of the James Creek Fuel Reduction Project. When completed, these three projects will connect to provide a continuous treatment area that should be effective in altering fire behavior.

For additional information regarding this proposal please contact Kevin Zimlinghaus, Team Silviculturist, at phone: 303-245-6415, or e-mail: kzimlinghaus@fs.fed.us. Once the Decision is signed by the District Ranger it is hoped that implementation could begin next summer or fall.

The purpose of this letter is to inform you about the proposal and to give you the opportunity to submit comments regarding the proposed project. You have 30 days to submit comments in order to have appeal status according to 36 CFR, part 215 of the regulations. The legal notice announcing the beginning of the official comment period is expected to appear in Boulder's *Daily Camera* newspaper on December 9.

Those wishing to submit written comments may do so to:

Gill Fuel Reduction Project Christine Walsh, District Ranger 2140 Yarmouth Avenue Boulder, CO 80301

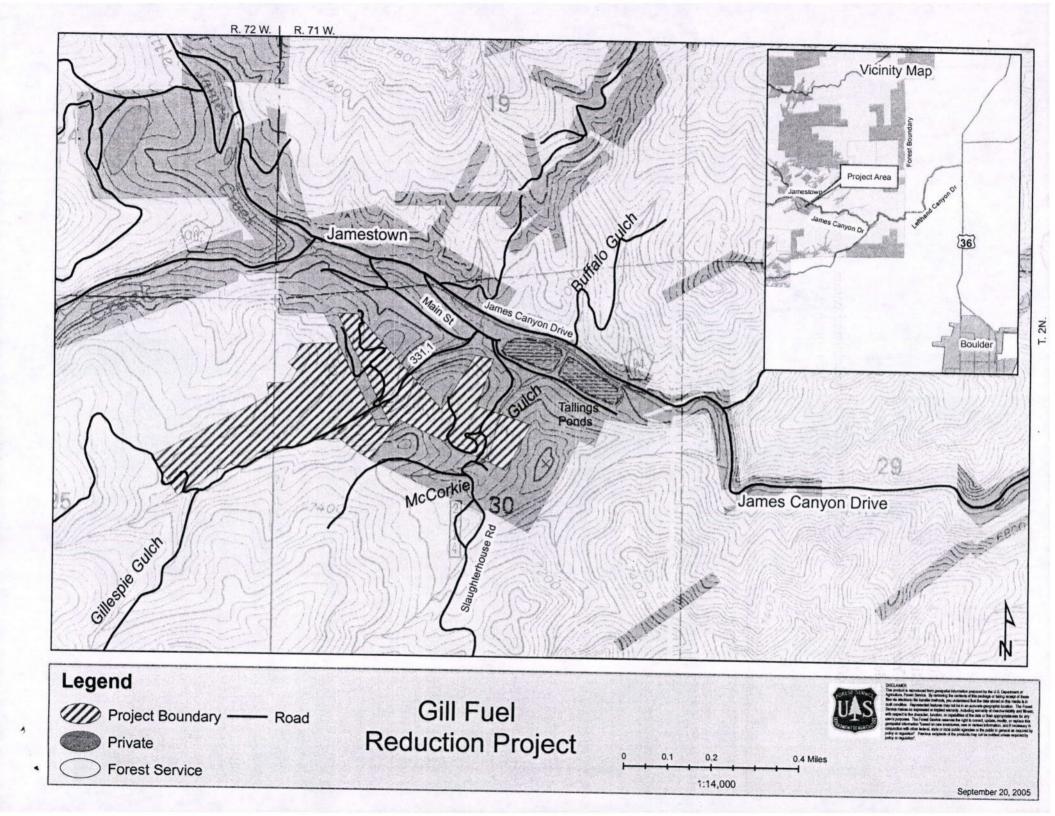
The office business hours for those submitting hand-delivered comments are: 8:00 AM-4:30 PM, Monday through Friday, excluding holidays. Electronic comments may be submitted to comments-rocky-mountain-arapaho-roosevelt-boulder@fs.fed.us.

Thank you for your participation.

Sincerely,

Muster MWalar

CHRISTINE M. WALSH District Ranger



# St. Vrain Fuel Reduction Project Decision Notice & Finding of No Significant Impact

USDA Forest Service Arapaho-Roosevelt National Forests And Pawnee National Grassland Boulder Ranger District Boulder, Colorado

# **Background and Need**

The St. Vrain Fuels Reduction Project is designed to support the goals and objectives of the 1997 Revised Land and Resource Management Plan for the Arapaho and Roosevelt National Forests and Pawnee National Grasslands (Forest Plan), as well as the National Fire Plan (NFP) and Healthy Forest Restoration Act (HFRA). Generally, HFRA is in place to reduce wildfire hazard to communities, municipal water supplies and other at-risk Federal land. With the NFP and HFRA, the Forest Service aims to move the St. Vrain Project Area towards the desired future conditions identified in the Forest Plan, and the North St. Vrain Landscape Assessment (2004).

Comparisons of current forest conditions in the Project Area against the desired future conditions outlined in the Forest Plan indicate a need to implement projects that will reduce wildfire risk and alter fuel conditions. Historically, wildfire has played an important role as a disturbance regime in the development of stand and landscape composition and structure within the St. Vrain Project Area. However, organized fire suppression efforts through the 1900s have shifted historical patterns and resulted in higher levels of hazard and unwelcome fuel conditions. The number of residents in the St. Vrain Area and the ever-increasing numbers of recreational users who visit National Forest System lands compound the potential for wildfire.

The project area is located east and west of the Peak-to-Peak Highway (State Highway 7.) The western portions of the project are bounded by Rocky Mountain National Park and private land. The Johnny Park Road (FSR 118.0) and FSR 118.3 provide the northern boundary and State highway 7 along the South St. Vrain canyon is the southern boundary. The Project Area lies primarily within the North Saint Vrain Geographic Area, with small portions in the Middle St. Vrain Geographic Area as defined in the Forest Plan. It includes a mixture of private and public lands covering approximately 36,590 acres.

## Decision

Based on the analysis documented in the project Environmental Assessment completed in July 2005, I have decided to select Alternative B, the Proposed Action, for implementation. The selected action includes a combination of mechanical treatments, hand treatments, and patch cuts to reduce forest fuels on approximately 2,609 acres of the Boulder Ranger District and 48 acres on the Canyon Lakes Ranger District.

My decision to implement Alternative B is based on information contained in the project record including, but not limited to, the EA and the effects analysis described in Chapter 3, the

Resource Specialist Reports, the management requirements of the applicable laws and policies, the mitigation measures and design criteria described in Appendix A, and comments received during the public involvement process for this project.

## **Fuel Treatment Activities**

Under Alternative B mechanical and manual thinning fuel reduction treatments will occur on 2,657 acres of National Forest in the St. Vrain Project Area. These treatments will be followed by slash treatments including piling and burning, chipping, mastication, and/or lop and scatter. My decision also includes the Mitigation Measures found in Appendix A of this document.

To accomplish the project objectives National Forest System lands would be treated in the following ways:

- Cutting and removing trees that create ladder fuels and to break up overstory canopy continuity using thinning and patch cut prescriptions.
- Cutting or girdling trees to create favorable conditions that maintain natural fuel breaks in meadow and aspen stand types.
- Slash material resulting from treatment would be disposed of by removal from the stand, piling and burning, or chipping. Slash burning of debris and piles in previously treated stands.

Unit Acres		Treatment	Slash Treatment		
1	242	Manual Thin	Hand Pile/Burn/Lop and Scatter		
3	36	Mechanical/Manual Thin	Machine Pile/Hand Pile/Burn		
4	64	Mechanical/Manual Thin	Machine Pile/Hand Pile/Burn		
5d	23	Mechanical/Manual Thin	Machine Pile/Hand Pile/Burn		
5h	140	Mechanical/Manual Thin	Machine Pile/Hand Pile/Burn		
5i	19	Mechanical Thin/ Inventoried Old Growth	Machine Pile/Hand Pile/Burn		
6a	105	Manual Thin	Hand Pile/Burn/Lop and Scatter		
6b	31	Manual Thin	Hand Pile/Burn/Lop and Scatter		
6c	221	Manual Thin	Hand Pile/Burn		
6e	53	Mechanical Thin/ Inventoried Old Growth	Machine Pile/Hand Pile/Burn		
6f	9	Aspen Enhancement	Hand Pile/Burn/Lop and Scatter		
6g	19	Mechanical/Manual Thin	Machine Pile/Hand Pile/Burn		
6h	17	Mechanical/Manual Thin	Machine Pile/Hand Pile/Burn		
6i	32	Mechanical/Manual Thin	Machine Pile/Hand Pile/Burn		
7	72	Manual Thin	Hand Pile/Burn/Lop and Scatter		
10a	51	Mechanical/Manual Thin	Machine Pile/Chip/Burn/Lop and Scatter		
10b	15	Aspen Enhancement	Hand Pile/Burn/Lop and Scatter		
11a	230	Mechanical/Manual Thin	Machine Pile/Hand Pile/Burn		
11b	50	Mechanical/Manual Thin	Machine Pile/Hand Pile/Burn		
12a	146	Mechanical/Manual Thin	Machine Pile/Hand Pile/Burn		

Table 2.1: Units and Treatments (Acres are approximate).

20	Mechanical Thin/Patch Cut	Machine Pile/Hand Pile/Burn
52	Manual Thin	Hand Pile/Burn/Lop and Scatter
91	Mechanical/Manual Thin	Machine Pile/Hand Pile/Burn
42	Manual Thin	Machine Pile/Hand Pile/Burn
135	Mechanical Thin/Old Growth Development	Machine Pile/Hand Pile/Burn
76	Mechanical Thin/Old Growth Inventoried	Machine Pile/Hand Pile/Burn
1	Manual Thin	Hand Pile/Burn
9	Mechanical/Manual Thin	Machine Pile/Hand Pile/Burn
13	Manual Thin	Hand Pile/Burn
11	Mechanical/Manual Thin	Machine Pile/Hand Pile/Burn
296	Manual Thin	Hand Pile/Burn
151	Manual Thin/Patch Cut	Hand Pile/Burn
45	Mechanical/Manual Thin	Machine Pile/Hand Pile/Burn
140	Manual Thin	Hand Pile/Burn
2657		
	$     \begin{array}{r}       52 \\       91 \\       42 \\       135 \\       76 \\       \hline       1 \\       9 \\       13 \\       11 \\       296 \\       151 \\       45 \\       140 \\       \end{array} $	52Manual Thin52Manual Thin91Mechanical/Manual Thin42Manual Thin135Mechanical Thin/Old Growth Development76Mechanical Thin/Old Growth Inventoried1Manual Thin9Mechanical/Manual Thin13Manual Thin14Mechanical/Manual Thin15Manual Thin151Manual Thin140Manual Thin

#### Roads & Access

#### Road Improvements

Road improvements will occur along portions of approximately 15 miles of Forest Service System roads in the St. Vrain Project Area. Improvements will involve regrading and reconstruction of several sections of Forest Service System roads. Drainage improvements such as waterbars and culverts will be installed or upgraded as needed. Temporary spur roads may be created to access landing areas. They will be closed and rehabilitated after use.

## **Road Closures and Decommissioning**

Several road closures will occur on existing non-system roads within the project area. Roads used for project implementation will be closed through ripping and re-contouring the existing road surface to restore the road to near-natural conditions. Closures will be made with the use of boulders, logs, trenches, ditches, fences, gates or other tools depending on the need and surrounding conditions. Road and trail decommissioning will take place on approximately 8.8 miles of Forest Service system roads and 2.5 miles of Forest Service system trails.

#### Access

Two right-of-way acquisitions will be pursued to access treatment units through private land and on to National Forest System Lands. Table 2.2 lists the roads needed to access fuel treatment units across private lands. These roads will require the acquisition of a right-of-way through private land prior to project implementation. If a right-of-way cannot be obtained from the landowner the treatment unit will likely be eliminated from the project.

Road Name & Number	Legal Location	General Area	Road Improvement Needed?	Treatment Unit	Forest Plan Mgt. Area
Lazy H, 204.1	T3N, R73W, Sec 25 & 26	Allenspark	Yes	11A, 11B	3.5
Olive Lake, 521	T3N, R73W, Sec 24.	Olive Ridge	No	7	3.5

Table 2.2: Rights-of-Way	(ROW)	Acquisition	Needs	within	the Project Area	a
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## **Public Involvement**

The HFRA encourages meaningful public participation early in the project planning process of hazardous fuel reduction projects. Working with adjacent communities, interested individuals and State and local governments is essential to setting priorities designing effective treatment areas for this project. Public involvement included public meetings, scoping, and field trips beginning in April, 2005. Using the information provided by the public, the Forest Service designed the project to best meet the goals of hazardous fuel reduction.

Because the St.Vrain Fuel Reduction Project is authorized under the HFRA, the EA was made available for a 30-day objection period. During this time one objection was received. The objection focused on a concern with slash pile burning in Unit 10 and the effects of smoke on nearby residents. Regulations listed at 36 CFR Part 218.10 require the Forest Service to review and respond to objections within 30 days following the objection period. After reviewing the objections, a response was mailed to the objector on September 23, 2005. Resolution of the objection did not require any modification to the proposed action described in the EA.

### **Finding of No Significant Impact**

After considering the environmental effects described in the EA, I have determined that these actions will not have a significant effect on the quality of the human environment considering the context and intensity of impacts (40 CFR 1508.27). The disclosure of effects in the EA found the actions limited in context. The context of this project is local. Local issues were identified through an extensive scoping process and considered in project development and analysis. The project area is limited in size and the activities are limited in duration. Effects are not likely to significantly affect regional or national resources. Thus, an environmental impact statement will not be prepared. Based on the documentation in the St. Vrain Fuel Reduction Project Environmental Assessment and the project record, I have determined the following with regard to the intensity of this project:

 Impacts associated with the project are discussed in Chapter 3 of the EA. The impacts are within the range of those identified in the Forest Plan. The actions described in Alternative B will not have significant impacts on other resources identified and described in Chapter 3 of the EA. (40 CFR 1508.27)

- 2. Proposed activities will not significantly affect public health and safety. The purpose of the project is to reduce risks posed by forest fires to firefighter and public health and safety in the project area. Thinning activities will be conducted in a safe manner to protect the public. Similar actions have not significantly affected public health and safety. A minor impact for a short period may occur to local air quality from the burning of slash. However, burning will be done in accordance to State air quality standards and within burning periods approved by the State of Colorado (EA, pages 3-8). Pile burning can present a risk of escaped fire. Extensive agency experience with similar local projects and conditions show these risks to be low. The use of experienced crews and the presence of the necessary fire suppression resources also reduce the risk of escaped fire. Warning signs and public announcements will be used to notify recreationists and residents of thinning and burning activities. In addition, trails will be signed or closed to hikers and others when equipment is in use, and during pile burning. (EA, page 2-15). The environmental analysis indicates no degradation of water quality that will constitute a public health threat (EA, pages 3-13, Hydrology and Fisheries Specialists Report, Admin. Record).
- 3. The activities described in Alternative B will not significantly affect any unique characteristics of the project area such as historic or cultural resources, park lands, prime farmlands, wetlands, wild and scenic rivers, or ecologically critical areas. My determination is based on the discussion of effects found in the EA, Chapter 3. There are no park lands, prime farmlands, or wild and scenic rivers within the affected area. There are no adverse effects to wetlands within the affected area (EA page 3-62). A variety of historic or cultural resources are present within the project area and known cultural or historic resources and the qualities which make them eligible to the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) will be protected or avoided by all proposed activities. (EA page 3-90). If subsequent surveys uncover eligible sites or if an Indian Tribe identifies sites that are of cultural significance, these sites will also be avoided by project activities. No sites eligible for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) would be affected by Alternative B.
- 4. The activities described in Alternative B do not involve effects on the human environment that are likely to be highly controversial (40 CFR 1508.27). Public comment regarding this project focused primarily on road construction, scenery, thinning intensity, smoke management and risk of escaped fire. Chapter 3 of the EA includes a discussion of the effects of the proposed treatments on access and road construction (EA pages 3-77). A discussion of the effects of pile burning can be found on pages 3-8 in the EA. Wildlife will benefit from a diversification of habitat structural stages across the landscape as a result of the proposed treatments, which will create openings and gaps that encourage seedlings and forage opportunities to numerous species that depend on grasses and forbs or the prey they support (EA page 3-54). Effects to scenery as a result of patch cuts and fuel break treatments will result in small changes in landscape character. Edges will create irregular lines and utilize natural features if available and thinning treatments will leave individual trees more dominate in the foreground views (EA page 3-68).

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- 5. The activities described in Alternative B will not involve effects that are highly uncertain or involve unique or unknown risks (40 CFR 1580.27). Pertinent scientific literature has been reviewed and incorporated into the analysis process and the technical analyses conducted for determinations on the impacts to the resources are supportable with use of accepted techniques, reliable data, and professional judgment. Impacts are within limits that are considered thresholds of concern. Issues of public concern and possible environmental effects of the proposed action have been adequately addressed in the analysis and mitigations listed in Appendix A. Therefore, I conclude that there are no highly uncertain, unique, or unknown risks.
- 6. My decision to implement the activities included in Alternative B does not establish a precedent for future actions with significant effects or represent a decision in principle about a future consideration. I have made this decision based on the overall consistency of the proposed activities with Forest Plan standards, guidelines and management practices, and the capabilities of the land.
- 7. The EA includes all connected, cumulative, and similar actions in the scope of the analysis (page 3-91). The cumulative effects of past, present, and reasonably foreseeable actions are considered and disclosed in the EA, Chapter 3.
- 8. The activities described in Alternative B will not adversely effect or cause the loss or destruction of significant districts, sites, highways, structures, or objects listed in or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (EA page 3-88). Design criteria that avoid and /or protect these sites and the qualities that make them eligible to the National Register of Historic Places will be applied (EA, page 2-14). There will be no adverse effect to known historic properties. There will be no effect to scientific resources.
- 9. The activities described in Alternative B are not likely to adversely affect any endangered or threatened species or its habitat that has been determined to be critical under the Endangered Species Act. The list of endangeded and threatened, and sensitive species analyzed for this project can be found in the EA on page 3-51. Biological Evaluations for threatened, endangered, and sensitive plants, wildlife, and fish were conducted and concluded that implementation of Alternative B will have little or no effect/impact to these species (EA Chapter 3). Interagency cooperation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service was conducted. (EA, page 3-95). The Biological Evaluations have been summarized in the EA and are located in the project file. Mitigation measures for the protection of wildlife habitats are presented in Appendix A.
- 10. The action will not violate Federal, or applicable State and local laws or requirements for the protection of the environment. Applicable laws and regulations were considered in the EA (EA page 3-92). The action is consistent with the revised Arapaho and Roosevelt National Forests and Pawnee National Grassland Land and Resource Management Plan (EA page 1-3).

# Findings Required by Other Laws and Regulations

*National Forest Management Act:* In accordance with the National Forest Management Act (NFMA) and other applicable laws, I find that all actions meet NFMA requirements, including those for resource protection, silvicultural practices, even-aged management, soil and water protection and species diversity.

A requirement of the NFMA (as described in the implementing regulations at 36 CFR 219.19) is that fish and wildlife habitats on National Forest Systems lands be management to maintain viable populations of existing native and desired non-native vertebrate species in the planning area. These species, called Management Indicator Species, are listed in Appendix G of the Final Environmental Impact Statement of the Forest Plan (FSM 2634.1) as amended on July 8, 2005. MIS for the St. Vrain Fuel Reduction Project were identified and considered in the Biological Reports for this project. Project analysis shows that no change in the Forest-wide population trends of the selected MIS species is expected. The viability of MIS species is not expected to become a concern through the implementation of this project.

*Clean Water Act:* The Clean Water Act requires Federal Agencies to comply with all Federal, State, interstate and local requirements, administrative authority, and process and sanctions with respect to the control and abatement of water pollution. Executive Order 12088 also requires the Forest Service to meet the requirements of the Act. Alternative B complies with the Clean Water Act and Colorado State Water Quality Control Commission standards (EA page 3-93). This project incorporates reasonable Soil and Water Conservation Practices, avoid channel degradation, and complies with the Forest Plan.

Invasive Species Executive Order 13112 of February 3, 1999: This project may promote the introduction and spread of invasive species (EA page 3-67). Feasible and prudent measures (EA, page 2-12) have been taken to minimize that risk of spread from activities associated with the selected actions. The purpose of this project is to lower fuel loads to reduce the risk of catastrophic wildfire. With the risk of wildfire comes the potential of large-scale spread of invasive species over a greater area. Compared with this potential, the benefits of the project outweigh the potential harm of invasive species. The Boulder Ranger District has an ongoing program to control and reduce the spread of invasive species in the project area.

*Irreversible and Irretrievable Commitments of Resources:* The physical and biological effects are limited to the project area and/or immediate adjacent areas. There are no known significantly irreversible resource commitments or any significant irretrievable losses of vegetation resources, wildlife habitats, soil productivity, water quality, or other renewable resources (EA, page 3-95).

*Environmental Justice:* In accordance with Executive Order 12898, I have determined this project will not have a disproportionately adverse health or environmental effect on low income or minority populations (EA, page 3-96).

*Effects on Floodplains and Wetlands:* The project activities will not impact the functional values of any floodplain as defined by Executive Order 11988 and will not have negative impacts on wetlands as defined by Executive Order 11990. There is no Wild and Scenic River or no adverse impact to any ecologically critical area in the project area (EA, page 3-94).

*Energy Requirements and Conservation Potential of Alternatives:* The energy required to implement the alternatives in terms of petroleum products will be insignificant when viewed in light of the production costs and effects of the national and worldwide petroleum reserves (EA, page 3-96).

### **Appeal and Implementation**

This project was subject to the objection process prior to this decision according to 36 CFR Part 218 Subpart A and is not subject to appeal pursuant to 36 CFR Part 215.12(i), (218.3). Implementation of this decision may occur immediately.

For further information on this decision, contact Mark Martin Planning Team Leader, Boulder Ranger District, 2140 Yarmouth Ave., Boulder, CO 80301 or call 303-245-6409.

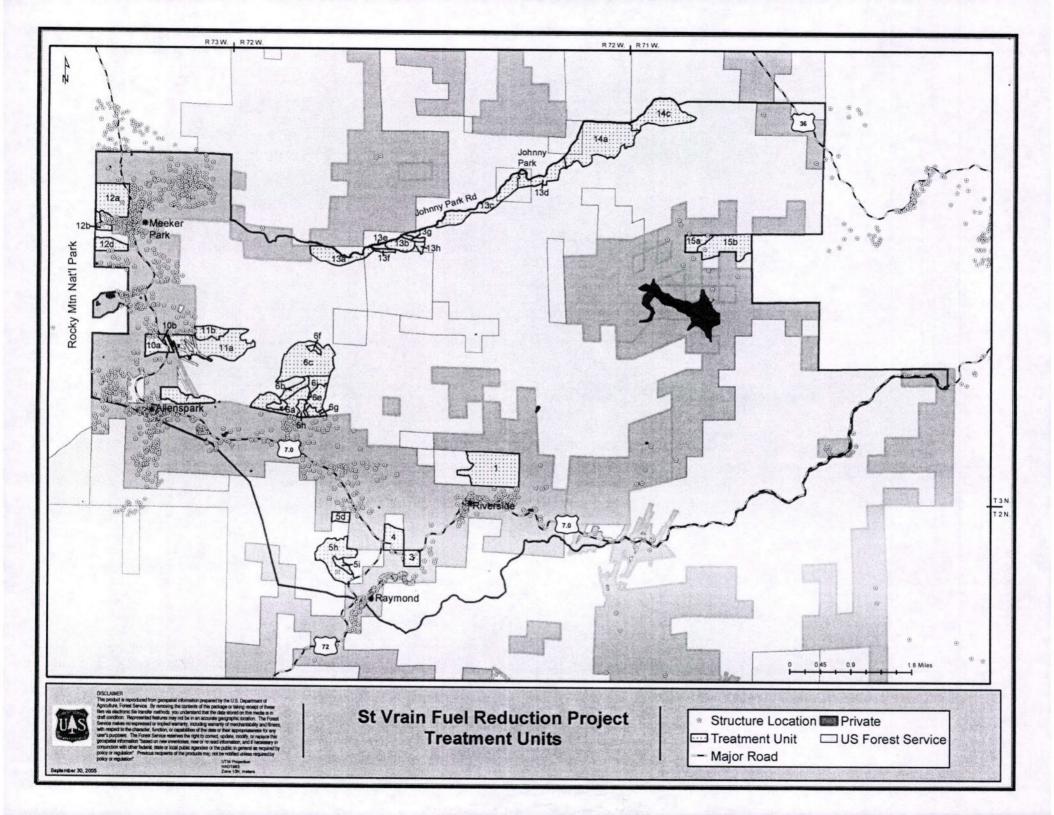
CHRISTINE M. WALSH

District Ranger Boulder Ranger District

9-30-05

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# St. Vrain Fuel Reduction Project

# Appendix A

# Mitigation Measures and Design Criteria

# Hydrology & Fisheries

- No ground based equipment operation shall occur in the riparian buffer zones except at designated locations (approved by the hydrologist or fish biologist or soils scientist) for crossings.
- If wetlands (including seeps and springs), lakes, or ponds are located within a harvest unit a minimum 100 ft. buffer would be provided that would exclude ground based equipment operation. If water levels are low during lay out or implementation the buffer would be measured from the edge of the hydrophytic vegetation. The botanist or hydrologist would work with the implementation crew for modifications and marking.
- Incorporate FSH 2509.25, Region 2 Amendment 2509.25-2001-1, Watershed Conservation Practices Handbook (WCPs), and effective December 18, 2001

#### Soils

- Meet Soil Quality Standards and Regional Watershed Conservation Practices, FSH 2509.18-92-1, effective August 15, 1992.
- If detrimental impacts exceed 15% of any unit, mitigate by de-compacting landings and the primary skids-trails within 100 feet of the landing. The preferred equipment is a winged sub-soiler although rock ripper shanks with winged teeth would be sufficient. Apply this treatment only where necessary to alleviate compaction. On some landings and skid-trails, compaction may be shallow so deep de-compaction may not be necessary. Follow de-compaction treatment with erosion control measures such as installing water bars, covering the area with slash or revegetation as needed.
- Scatter slash and large downed logs on burn pile sites to provide organic material for decomposition if needed.
- Skid-trails and landings should be designated prior to treatment, reuse existing skid-trails as much as practicable to minimize new disturbance.
- Operate heavy equipment only when soil moisture in the upper 6 inches is below the plastic limit (a ball can be formed in the fist that holds together on gentle tossing or shaking) OR protected by at least one foot of packed snow or 2 inches of frozen soil. This may mean temporary restrictions on equipment operation in periods of heavy rains. Watershed Conservation Practices Handbook (FSH 2509-25) Section 14.1, Standard 12).
- If needed, mitigate hand pile burns by scarifying the surface with a hand tool to break up the hydrophobic layer and rake in "live" topsoil, litter/duff and slash to provide erosion control and material for decomposition.

### Lands

- All USGS corner monuments and accessories (brass caps, witness and bearing trees, etc.) must be protected. If damage occurs, notify the Lands Staff as soon as possible.
- Do not block roads used for access by private landowners or permittees.

## Fuels

- Allowable slash: up to 5 tons per acre of residual plus existing slash in aspen enhancement and expansion treatment units.
- Allowable slash: up to 10 tons per acre of residual plus existing slash in all other units.
- Chipped and masticated material would be distributed to avoid continuous ground coverage. The desired pattern is patchy, mosaic, and discontinuous. Chips and masticated material would cover no more than 25% of the treatment area for any given acre of land. Chip depths would typically not exceed 3 inches and chunk depths would not exceed 6-8 inches. Their will be no excessive piling of chips or chunks against residual trees as determined by the contract administrator.
- Slash that is lopped and scattered would be distributed to avoid continuous ground cover. The desired pattern is patchy, mosaic and discontinuous. Slash in these units would cover no more than 25% of the area for any given acre of land. Slash depth would not exceed 12 inches.
- Chipped or masticated material or slash that is lopped and scattered may be distributed on skid roads and landings.
- Follow Clean Air Act, EPA, State of Colorado, USDA Forest Service policies and regulations regarding pm10 and pm2.5 smoke emissions during prescribed fire operations.

## **Noxious Weeds**

- Spray or pull known populations of orange hawkweed, knapweed, leafy spurge, and myrtle spurge within proposed treatment units prior to implementation. Flag and avoid any occurrences found before or during project implementation, unless treatment occurs over snow.
- Coordinate with District Weed Coordinator or Botanist to locate landings, staging areas, and other areas of severe soil disturbance to best reduce risk of spread of invasive plants.
- Require contractor, cooperator, and Forest Service equipment (not including service trucks that remain on roadways) to be clean (i.e. free of mud, dirt, and plant parts) prior to entering National Forest System lands.
- Comply with FS Rocky Mountain Region Order No. 02-97-01 requiring the use of certified weed-free hay, straw, or mulch in activity areas, if needed.

## Botany

- If populations of any Forest Service sensitive species are found, they would be documented and, where feasible, avoided by project activities.
- In mechanically treated areas, avoid areas with presence of any species of moonworts (*Botrychium* spp.). If located during project implementation, avoid impacts to undetected potentially occurring slender moonwort (*Botrychium lineare*), unless above-ground absence of slender moonwort is confirmed by the botanist.

## Wildlife

- No administrative (layout, marking, or cruising) or implementation (equipment staging, mechanical or manual cutting, and piling) activities would occur within a distance of up to ¼ mile of any known or discovered raptor (hawks, eagles, falcons and owls) nest(s) while the site is occupied and active. The restricted distance may be determined to be less by a FS biologist, if terrain or other factors adequately buffer nesting raptors from disturbance.
- Treatment areas would also be resurveyed for new nest locations prior to implementation. If a new active nest is detected, appropriate mitigations would be applied in consultation with the FS biologist, fuels specialist and silviculturist.
- Outside the breeding season (March August) treatment may be allowed if the FS biologist determines that impacts and disturbance would be minimal.
- Protection for alternate nests sites in an active territory would be determined on a case by case basis by the FS biologist.
- Meet the minimum Forest Plan standards and guides for snags and woody debris retention.
- No administrative (layout, marking, or cruising) or implementation (mechanical or manual cutting, and piling) activities would occur from May 15th to June 30th within the portion of Unit 15 that is located in key elk calving areas.
- No administrative (layout, marking, or cruising) or implementation (mechanical or manual cutting, and piling) activities would occur from December 1st to March 30th within Unit 15.
- No mechanical or manual cutting activities would occur from December 1st to March 30th within the portions of Units 1, 6, and 13 that are located in key winter range.
- No administrative (layout, marking, or cruising) or implementation (mechanical or manual cutting, and piling) activities would occur from May 1 to July 15 in the upper portions of Unit 6 and 11 that are located adjacent to bighorn lambing areas.
- If wetlands below 7,600 feet in elevation are identified within treatment units during project layout, they would be buffered by 300 feet to protect Prebles Meadow Jumping Mouse habitat
- For treatments occurring in interior forest areas, a minimum canopy cover of 40% would be maintained after interior forest areas are validated by the FS biologist.
- If threatened, endangered, or sensitive (as defined in the Forest Service manual) wildlife and plant species are found during implementation, it would be required

that the Forest Service be notified and that immediate measures be taken to protect identified species as directed by the Forest Service.

#### Roads

- When a contractor's operations are in progress adjacent to or on Forest Service controlled roads and trails open to public travel, the contractor shall furnish, install, and maintain all temporary traffic controls that provide the user with adequate warnings of hazardous or potentially hazardous conditions associated with the operations.
- Remove limbs, chunks, and debris within the roadway in excess of 1-ft. in length or 3-in. in diameter, or in concentrations that may plug ditches or culverts, from the traveled way, shoulders, ditches and watercourses.

#### **Heritage Resources**

- The Jacobson (San Souci)- Melton Dowling cabin, 5BL7894, is within a proposed treatment unit. The use of heavy equipment used in mechanical thinning would be excluded from a 50-foot buffer zone around the cabin. Only manual thinning should be used within the 50-foot buffer. Directional felling should be used in order to avoid the possibility of timber impact to the structure.
- If additional prehistoric or historic materials are found during the course of this project, work in that area would cease until the District Ranger has been notified. Work in the area of the cultural resource may not resume until the cultural materials have been surveyed and a professional archaeologist has evaluated the potential effects of implementation.
- If, prior to or during excavation work, items of potential cultural, historical, archeological, or paleontological value are reported or discovered, or a known deposit of such items is disturbed, all excavation would cease in the area so affected. The Forest Service would be immediately notified and shall not resume excavation until written approval is received from the authorized officer.

#### Scenery

- In mechanical thinning treatment units, achieve a natural appearing shape and prevent the appearance of uniform tree spacing as viewed from Forest Service roads, trails and recreation sites. Treatment units shall be reviewed by the landscape architect or their representative.
- In lodgepole pine treatment areas, transitional thin up to 50 feet from the unit edge (within the unit boundary), as determined by landscape architect in consultation with silviculturist, fuels specialist and recreation specialist as needed to visually blend unit with surrounding forest.
- Treatment units within Retention VQO areas shall be reviewed by the landscape architect or their representative prior to unit layout to determine specific areas in need of the following design measures:
  - stumps shall be cut as low as possible but not to exceed a height of six inches and cut level or angled away from viewer in areas visible from road/trail;

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- adjacent to campgrounds, stumps will be reviewed by a recreation specialist to determine the need to flush cut stumps for safety concerns;
- slash would not be scattered or piled within 75 feet of the treatment unit boundary adjacent to the Olive Ridge and Meeker Park Overflow Campgrounds;
- slash piles visible in foreground areas should be burned within one year following pile creation.
- In Partial Retention VQO areas, slash piles and landings shall be screened from view as best as possible from the Johnny Park Road (FSR 118.0). Slash piles up to 15 feet in diameter are acceptable in visible foreground if disposal occurs within three years, where feasible. Stumps within 33 feet of view of Johnny Park Road (FSR 118.0) shall be cut as low as possible with a maximum height of six inches and cut level or angled away from view.
- In units located adjacent to Forest Service road and trails or private residences, trees will be marked on the back side or away from view (except for unit boundary trees).

## Recreation

- Protect recreational infrastructure (Olive Ridge Campground, Meeker Park Overflow Campground and trailheads) by keeping machinery at an appropriate distance to prevent damage to the facilities.
- Treatments adjacent to or within developed recreational facilities (campgrounds and picnic areas) shall not occur during the summer use season.
- In treatment units 5(d, h, i), 6(a-i), 7, 10(a, b), 12(a, b, d), 13(a-h), and 14a, operations will not be conducted on holiday weekends or Sundays and will be limited to the hours of 7:00 am to 7:00 pm.
- Hauling operations will not be conducted on Saturdays and Sundays or extended holiday weekends on the Johnny Park Road (FSR 118.0).
- Thinning units along system trails will receive a 50-foot lighter treatment buffer on each side of the trail leaving the largest trees to minimize the impact to the visual quality along the trail.