

## **WILDFIRE HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN - SPR # 01-019**

**Prepared for:**

Thomas Thomas  
P.O. Box 643  
Estes Park, CO 80517

On October 2, 2001

**Prepared by:**

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Forester  
Colorado State Forest Service  
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### **SITE LOCATION AND DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY**

The property is located in Allenspark, off of Highway 7, in Boulder County, S11, T3N, R73W. The address of the property is **8465 Highway 7**.

The dominant fuel type is litter and small shrubs. The dominant overstory is ponderosa pine, with occasional Douglas fir throughout the stand. Dwarf mistletoe was observed throughout the property. Two new mountain pine beetle infested trees were identified on the property. The home site has a north, northeast aspect and a slope of 5-10%. The property is located within the Allenspark 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 October 2, 2001. The property was marked with blue tree marking paint for thinning and clearing recommendations. A final inspection will be completed when implementation is completed. Payment for marking and written plan was received on October 2, 2001, for the amount of \$150. Payment for the final inspection was received on October 2, 2001, for the amount of \$45.

### **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 access driveway, as well as the property address, be marked with visible signage.

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 starts at the foundation or outer edge of the structure (i.e. from the “footprint” of the home site, which may include decks, balconies, and character trees accepted by the inspecting forester) and extends out 15 feet in all directions. All flammable vegetation should be removed in this zone. 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 out past the drip line of the decks.

Thinning and pruning are necessary to create defensible space at the 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 ten feet on the remaining trees in this zone.** For young, small trees in this zone, limb the lower third of the tree’s height.

### ZONE 2

Zone 2 extends out from zone 1; it 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 1 and 2 to extend approximately 45 feet each, from all sides of the structure. In zone 2, **limb remaining trees to a height of eight feet.** As you approach the outer edge of zone 2, reduce limbing height to six feet. Lower branches of young, small trees in this zone should be limbed to one third of the tree’s height.

### ZONE 3

Zone 3 extends out from zone 2, and is of no set shape or size. Forested land in this zone could be thinned for increased overall forest health and wildfire hazard reduction. The following guidelines apply if you (and your neighbors) decide to work in these areas.

- Thin suppressed trees and trees with disease and insect infestations and retain the larger, healthier trees.
- Snags should be retained for wildlife.
- Some slash in this zone can be lopped and scattered and/or piled for wildlife enhancement and shelter.
- 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 an inspection. Contact me 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 for and adapted to life in a fire prone ecosystem. While not required through Site Plan Review, other measures are recommended for those who live in the wildland-urban interface. 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.

5648  
249 305



# SPR MITIGATION PLAN FORM

Eric  
Will fax  
map

TODAY'S DATE: 10/2/01  
 LANDOWNER'S NAME: Thomas Muench  
 MAILING ADDRESS: PO Box 642  
Estes Park 80517  
 SITE ADDRESS: 8465 Hwy 7  
Allenspark 8

SPR# \_\_\_\_\_ SECTION 11 TOWNSHIP 3 RANGE 73W

DOMINANT FUEL TYPE \_\_\_\_\_ OVERSTORY LP

ASPECT \_\_\_\_\_ SLOPE \_\_\_\_\_ % TOTAL ACERAGE 2.6

FUEL MODEL \_\_\_\_\_

I&D/FOREST HEALTH MPB & DMT

SITE MAP INCLUDED? Y N

VISIBLE SIGNAGE? Y N

DRIVEWAY (length, width, location) \_\_\_\_\_ ROAD ACCESS \_\_\_\_\_

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

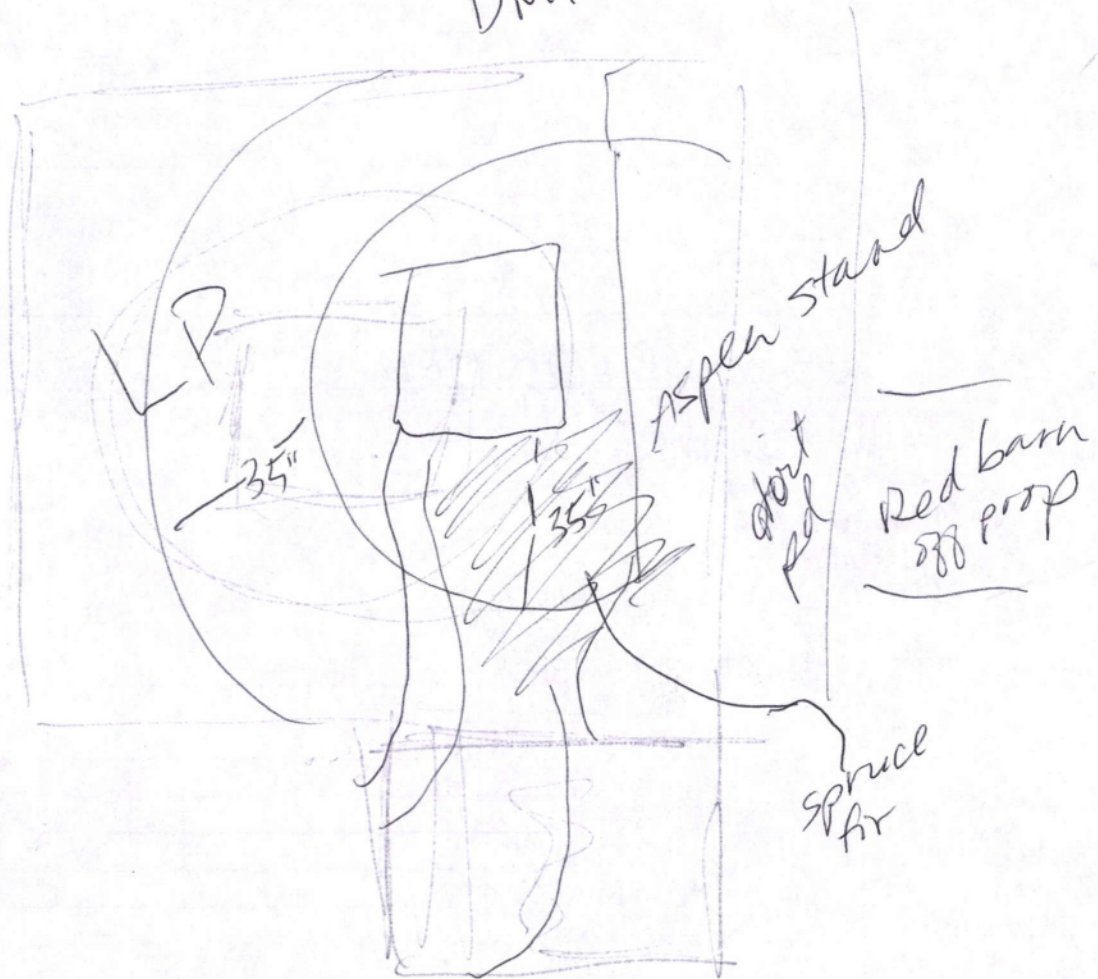
FPD Allenspark

COMMENTS/RECOMMENDATIONS:





2 MPB HITS  
DMT throughout!





# Thomas Site Plan

2.6 acres

New Residence

2/1/01

9980 Peak to Peak

1 inch = 100 ft

LSFS

(303) 823-5774

FAX (303) 823-5768

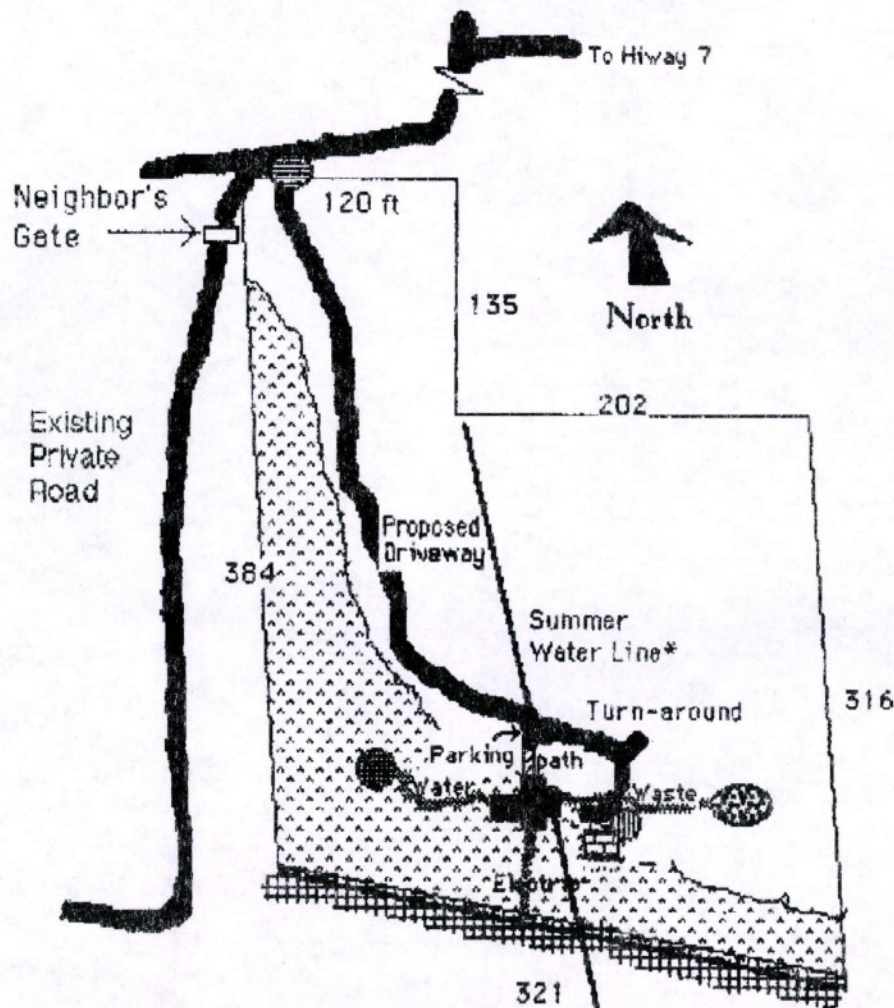
FROM: ERIC PHILIPS

BL LAND USE

WILDFIRE MIT

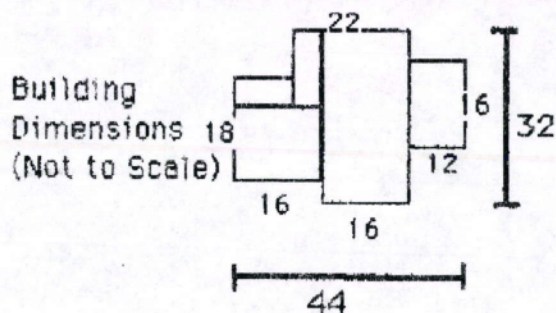
(303) 441-3930

FAX (303) 441-4856

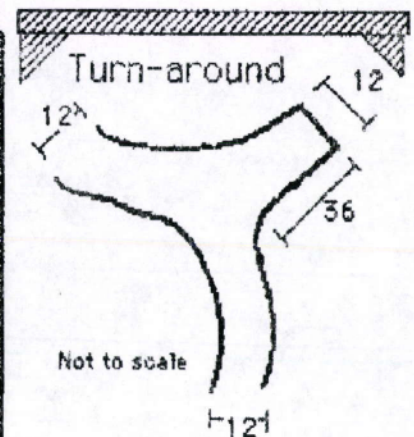
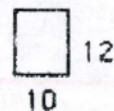


- Pine-Spruce Mix
- Aspen-Meadow Mix
- Septic
- Well
- Cistern
- Power Line
- Shed
- Proposed Utilities
- Easement

\*Right-of-way  
Will be re-routed



Shed





To:

Thomas / Muench  
PO Box 643  
Estes Park, CO 80517

Invoice No. 56211

**Colorado  
State**  
FOREST  
SERVICE

Date:

10/2/01

Item	Unit Cost	Total
1 SPR - written plan		
2 tree marking		150-
3		
4 inspection		45-
5		
6		
7		
8		
9		
Tax Exempt No. _____		Sales Tax _____

CSFS Originator

Payment Due By

Remit to:

COLORADO STATE FOREST SERVICE  
BOULDER DISTRICT  
936 LEFTHAND CANYON DRIVE  
BOULDER CO 80302-9341

Total		195-
CK CA-MO Amount Paid:		195-
Amount Due		0
Ck# 1909-1910	Dated	10/02/01
Rcv'd By JHA	F.Y.	01-02
\$	Funding	Amount
194030	0615	195-

Deposit No.

Date

White-Customer copy; Yellow-State Office copy; Pink-Project copy