

Animas City Mountain Prescribed Fire



**Tres Rios Field Office
Colorado BLM**

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Durango Programmatic Hazardous Fuels Project

DOI-BLM_CO-S010-2020-0021-EA

Signed January 2021



Durango Programmatic Hazardous Fuels Project

Project Area: All BLM lands within La Plata County (22,027 acres)

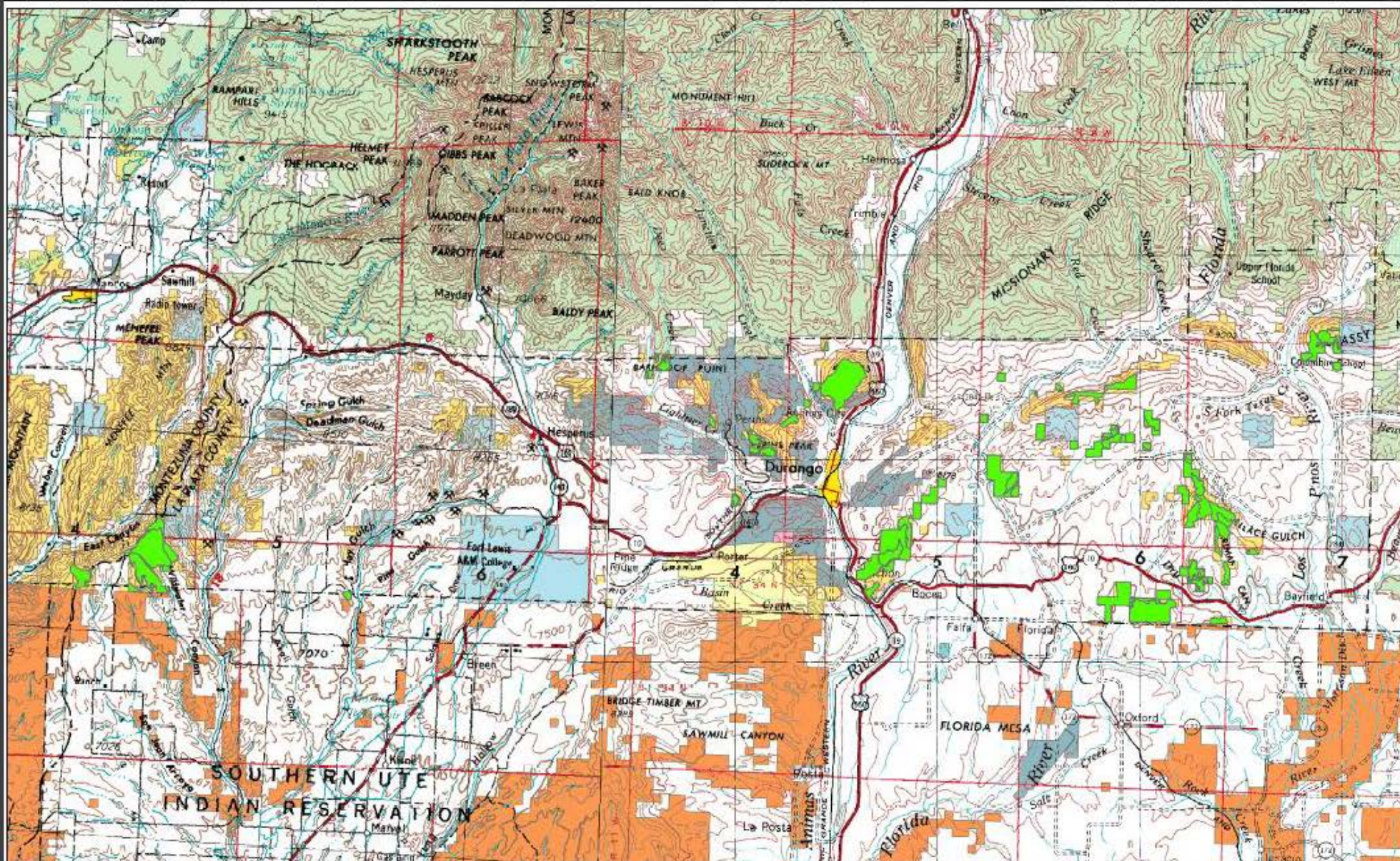
5,800 acres available for treatment

5,638 acres previously approved for treatment 2001-2012 (18 decisions)

Full toolbox: Prescribed Fire, mechanical, manual, chemical and seeding

10-year plan with positive scoping comments

Durango Area Programmatic Fuels EA



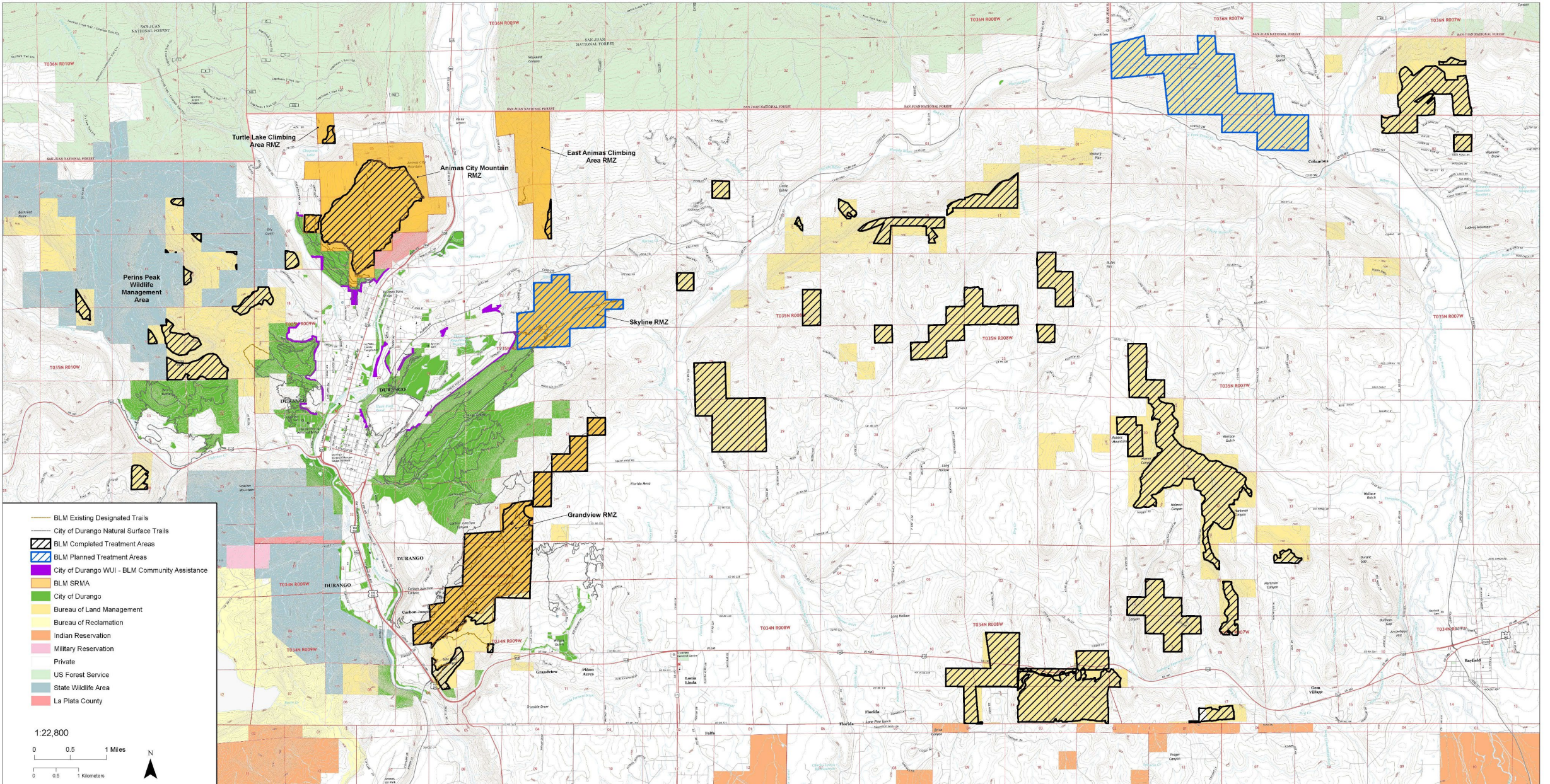
Legend

- EA_Treatment_Areas_expanded
- Bureau of Land Management
- Bureau of Reclamation
- Indian Reservation
- Military Reservation
- National Grasslands
- National Park Service
- Other Federal
- Private
- State
- State, County, City: Recreation Areas
- Bankhead-Jones Land Use Lands
- US Fish and Wildlife Service
- US Forest Service

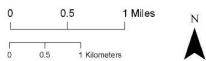
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Durango Area Programmatic Fuels EA



1:22,800



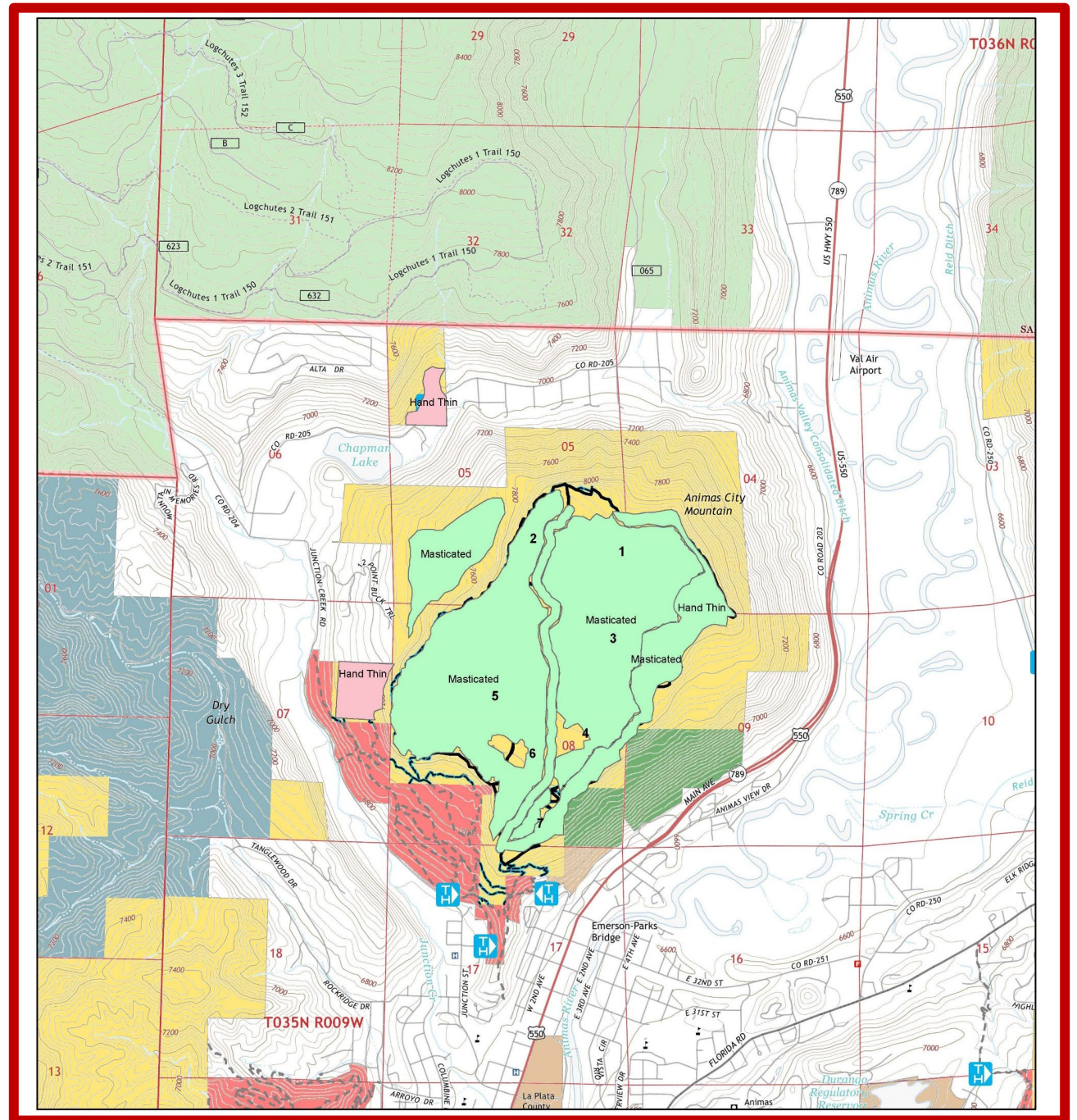


Animas City Mountain

Past fuel treatments

Animas City Mountain

Previous Fuel Treatments 2010-2012



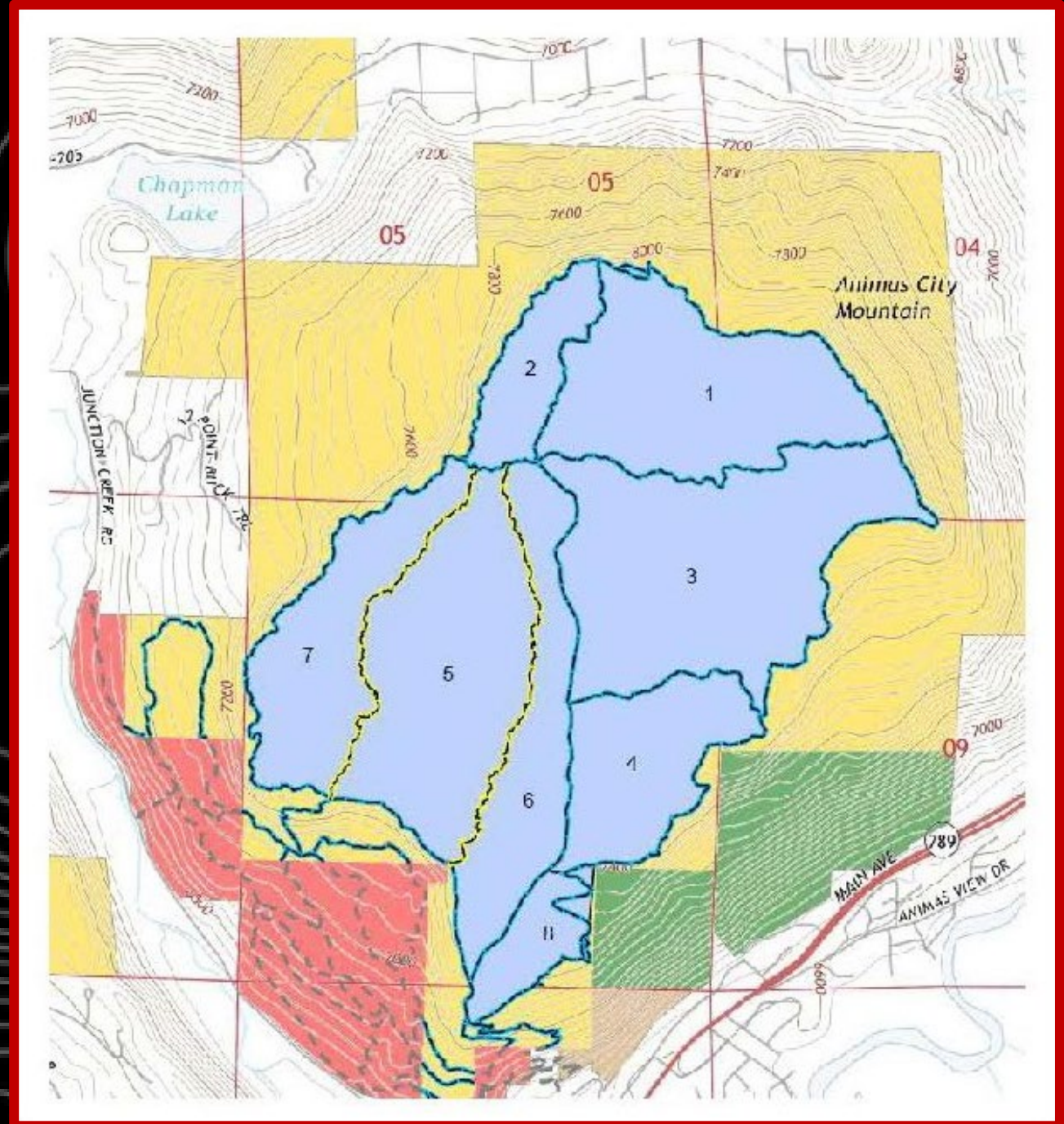
A wide-angle photograph of Animas City Mountain. The mountain is covered in a dense forest of evergreen trees, with rocky outcrops visible on its slopes. The sky is bright blue with scattered white clouds. The mountain's peak is visible in the upper left, and the slope descends towards the right.


Animas City Mountain

What is the project?

Animas City Mountain Prescribed Fire

Unit	Acres
1	123
2	37
3	172
4	68
5	129
6	78
7	81
8	28
Total	717



An aerial photograph of Animas City, Colorado, showing a dense urban area with numerous buildings and parking lots. The city is situated in a valley with mountains in the background. A red outline highlights a large area on the northern mountain slope, and a yellow highlight is visible on a smaller area to the right. An orange callout box is overlaid on the left side of the image.

Animas City
Mountain
Burn Units
Durango View

**Animas City
Mountain RX
Units**





Prepping trails
for burn
holding lines



Elements of Prescribed Burning to Create Low Severity Fire



Planning & Briefings



Holding Crews



Burning Ground Litter

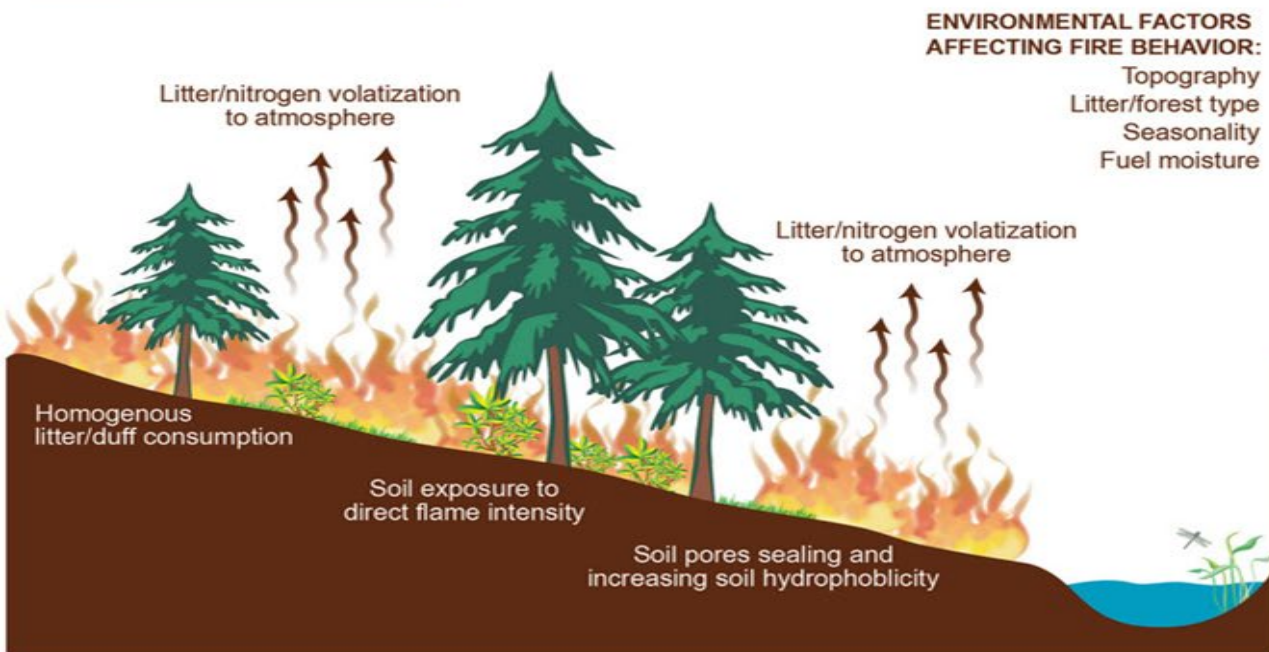


Ignition Crew

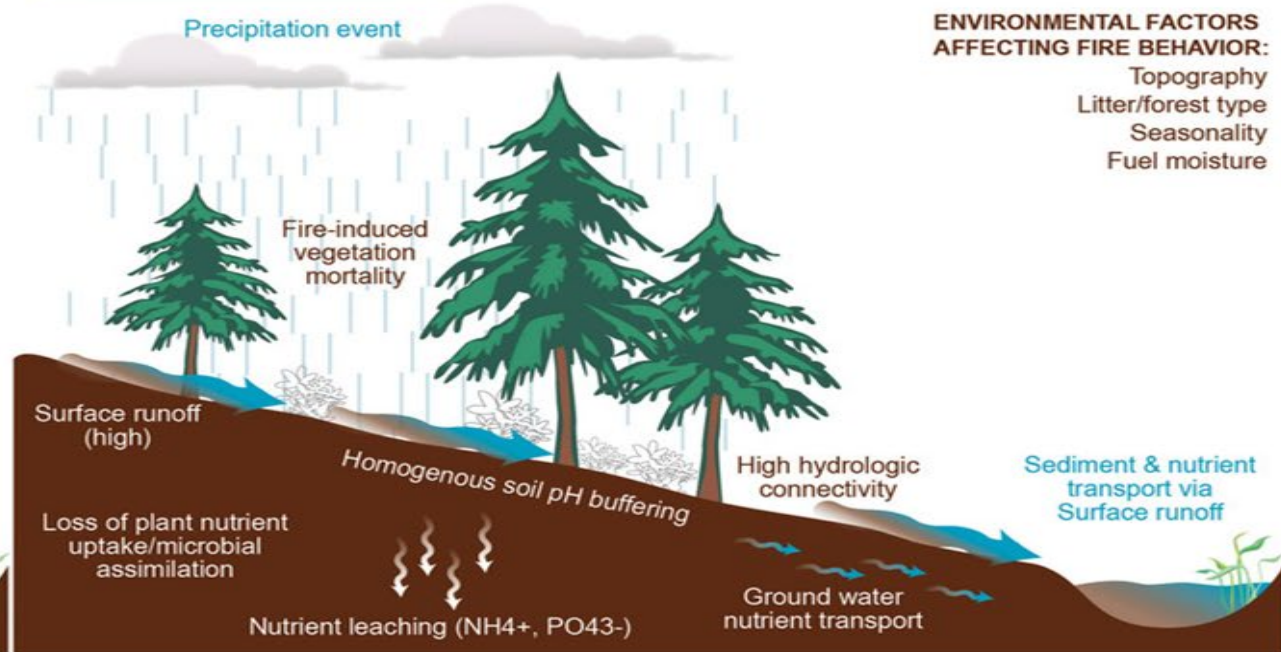


Results: Before, During and After Prescribed Burning

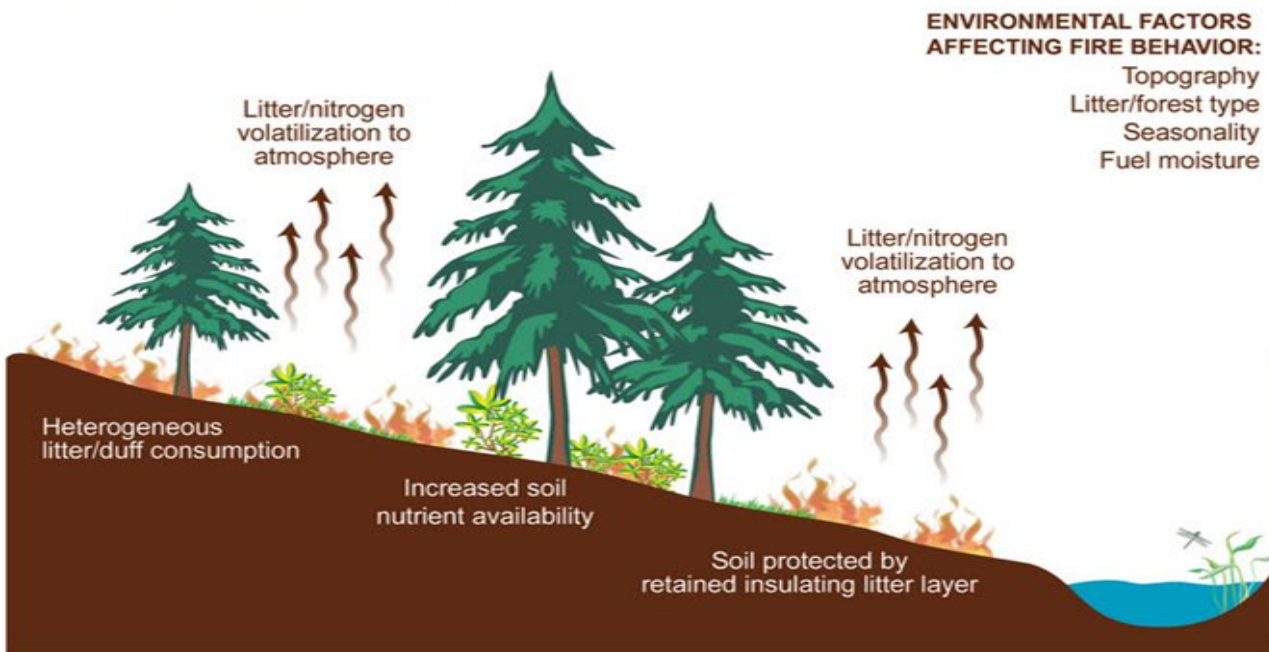
HIGH SEVERITY FIRE



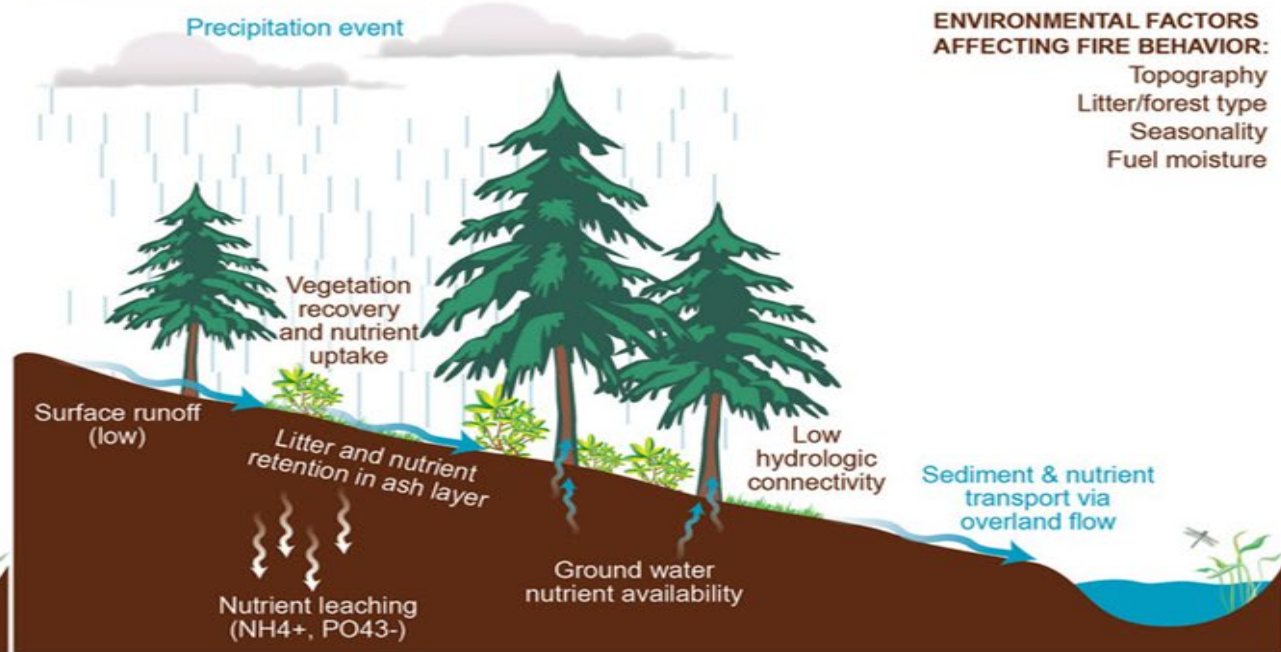
POST HIGH SEVERITY FIRE



LOW SEVERITY FIRE



POST LOW SEVERITY FIRE





Low Severity Fire Stimulates New Growth



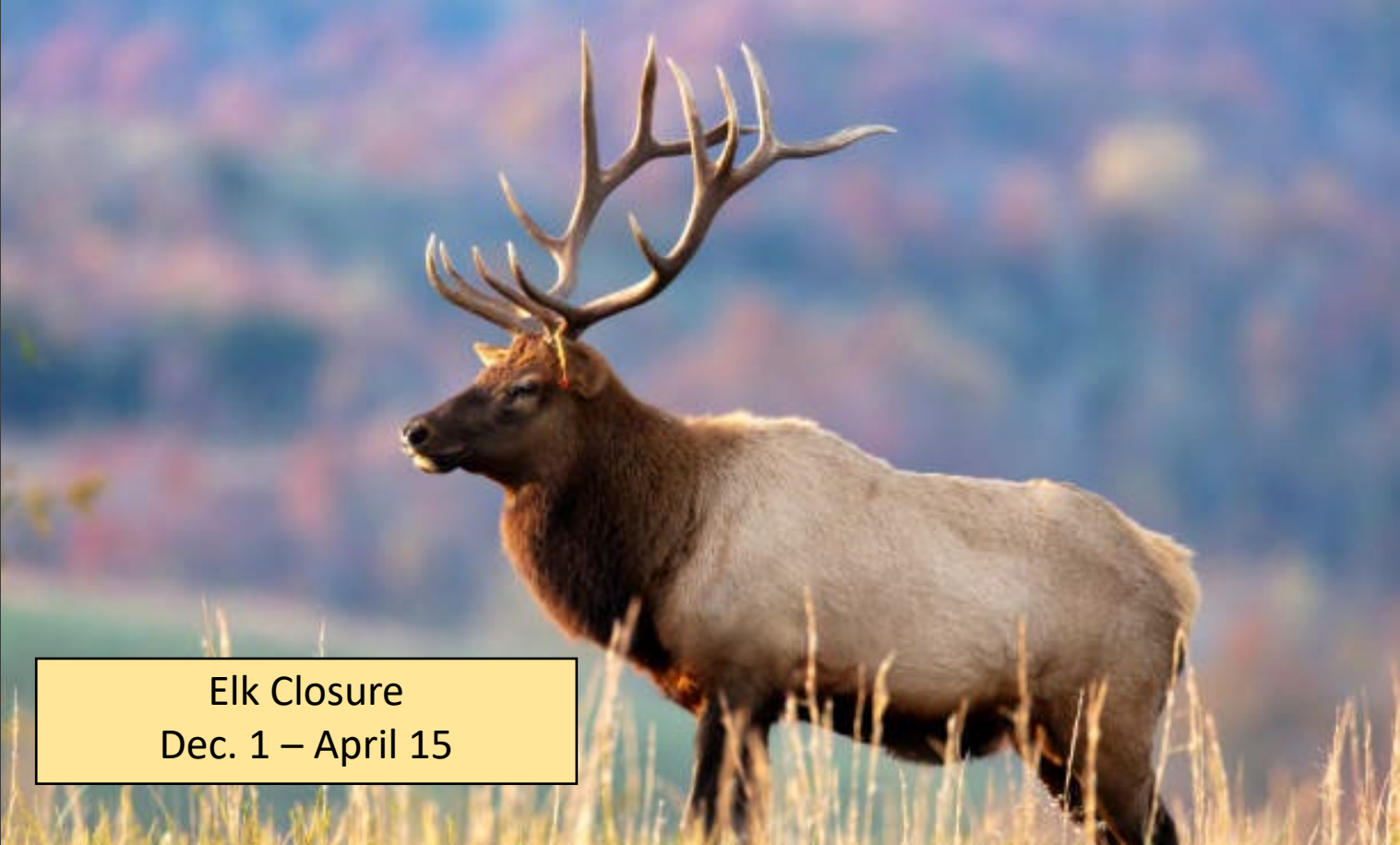
R4 8/9/2017 @ 180° (left)
R4 7/9/2020 @ 180° (right)



ACM RX Burning Benefits



Peregrine Falcon/Raptor Nesting
takes out Units 1 & 2 in Spring



Elk Closure
Dec. 1 – April 15



Goshawk Closure
May 15 - July

Wildlife Closures



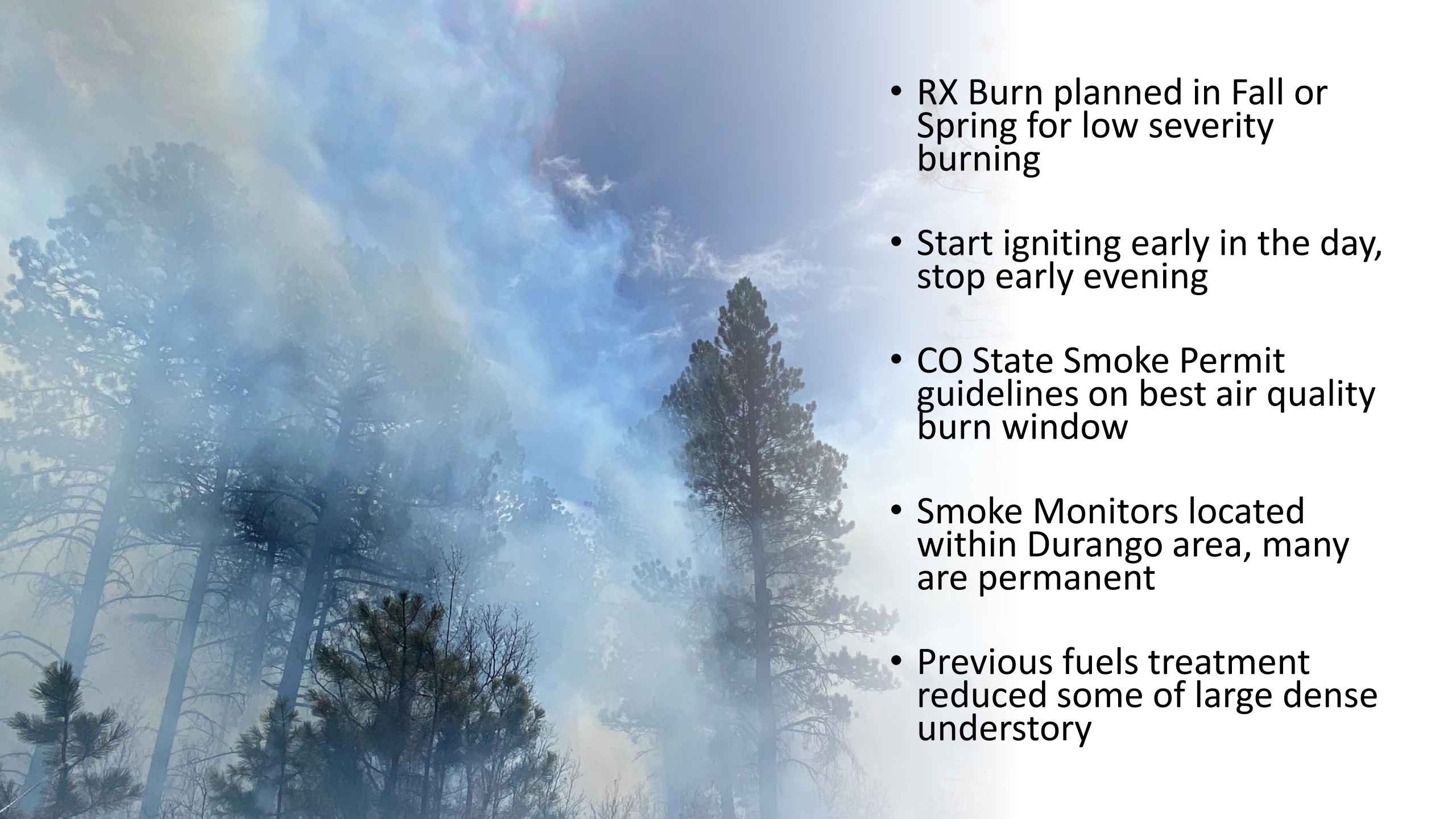
ACM RX
Spring Burn
Window

April 15 – May 15

Smoke Permit & Monitoring

**Colorado
Dept. of Public
Health &
Environment
Air Quality**





- RX Burn planned in Fall or Spring for low severity burning
- Start igniting early in the day, stop early evening
- CO State Smoke Permit guidelines on best air quality burn window
- Smoke Monitors located within Durango area, many are permanent
- Previous fuels treatment reduced some of large dense understory



PRESCRIBED BURN PLANNED ON ANIMAS CITY MOUNTAIN



**OPEN HOUSE AT THE DURANGO
RECREATION CENTER**
WEDNESDAY 10/6/21 FROM 5:00 PM TO 7:00 PM



Public Outreach

- Scoping/Public Comment Durango Hazardous Fuels Project EA
- InciWeb page – Animas City Mountain Prescribed Burn
- Facebook & Twitter - BLM Colorado and Southwest District
- News Releases
- Open House, Presentations, RMRI & Four Rivers Collaborations

Next Steps



- Complete fireline preparation- Trails designated in TAP1
- Install interpretive material at new Kiosks located at trailheads
- Outreach ongoing: Complex and varied- social media, open house on 10/6 was successful, 3,000 postcards went out to neighbors, and inciweb site active
- Robust partner coordination: collaborative groups (RMRI, 4 Rivers), Federal, County and City
- Burn ACM Spring 2022 if conditions allow

Animas City Mountain Prescribed Burn



FOR BURN INFORMATION VISIT:

InciWeb:

<https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/7688/>



*Animas City Mountain
Prescribed Burn InciWeb*

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