

# Animas City Mountain Rx

May 8 – 12, 2023

Treated 495 Acres



Presented by Deana Harms  
BLM Southwest District  
Fire Mitigation, Education &  
Prevention Specialist



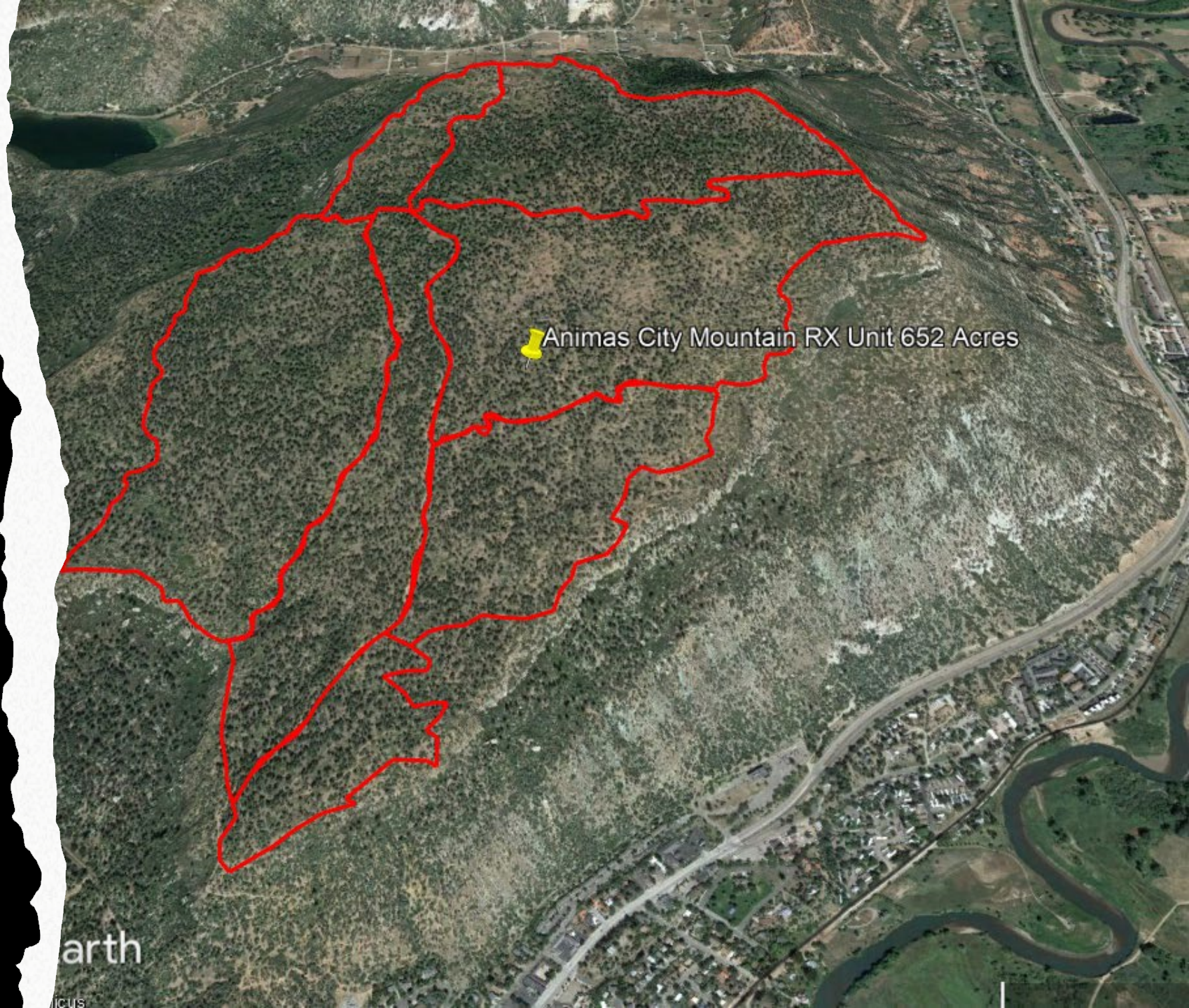
# Animas City Mountain RX

Divided into 7 ignition  
units.

Total of 652 Acres

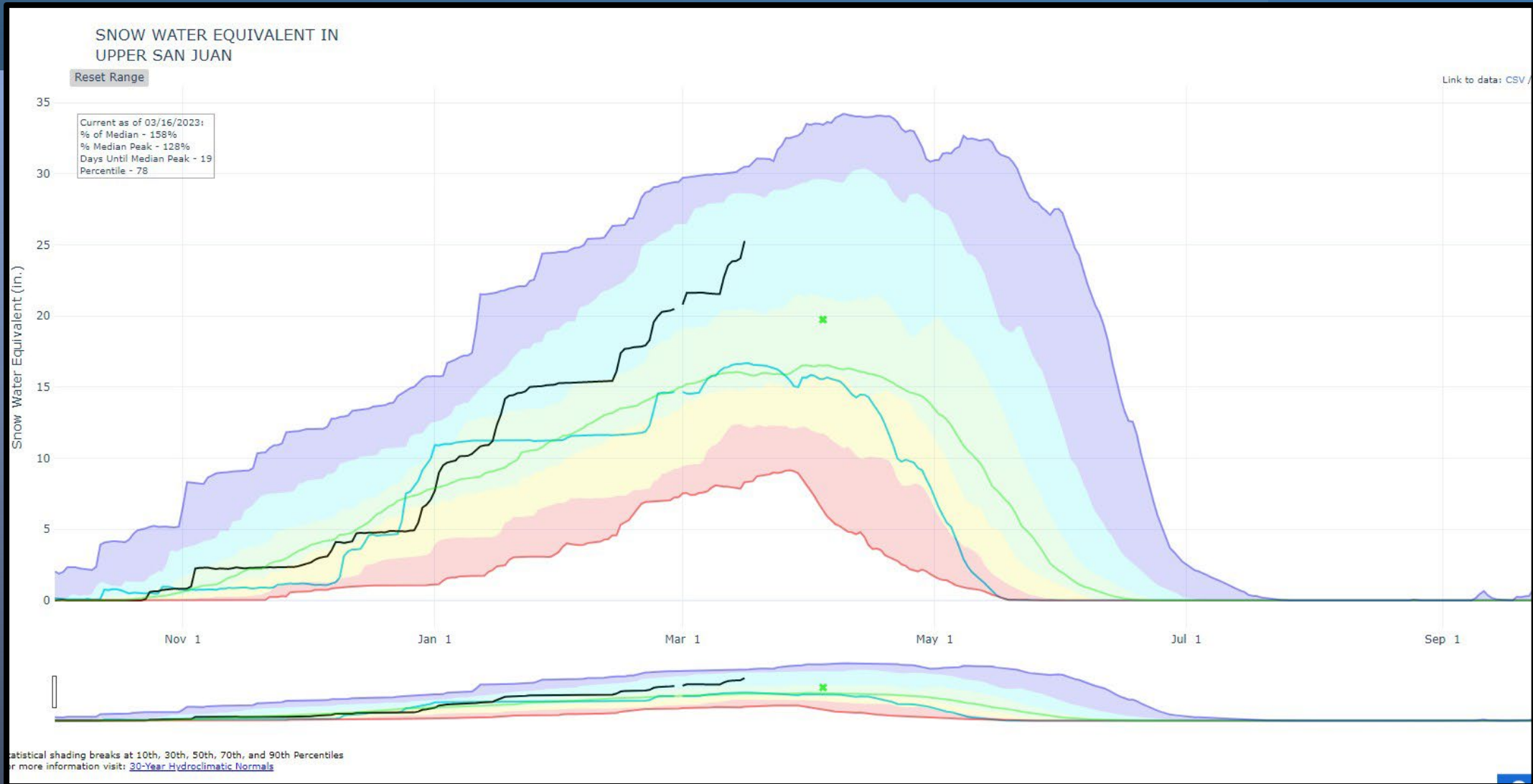
Mountain is a slightly  
tilted mesa

Elevation is 7,088 feet  
to 8,177 feet with an  
average of 13% slope



# Winter Snowpack Assisted in Good Conditions

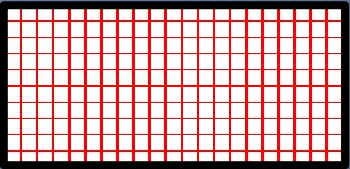
25.3" of snow water equivalent versus 16.6 in 2022 for San Juan river basin, but in 2022 we were too dry by April 15



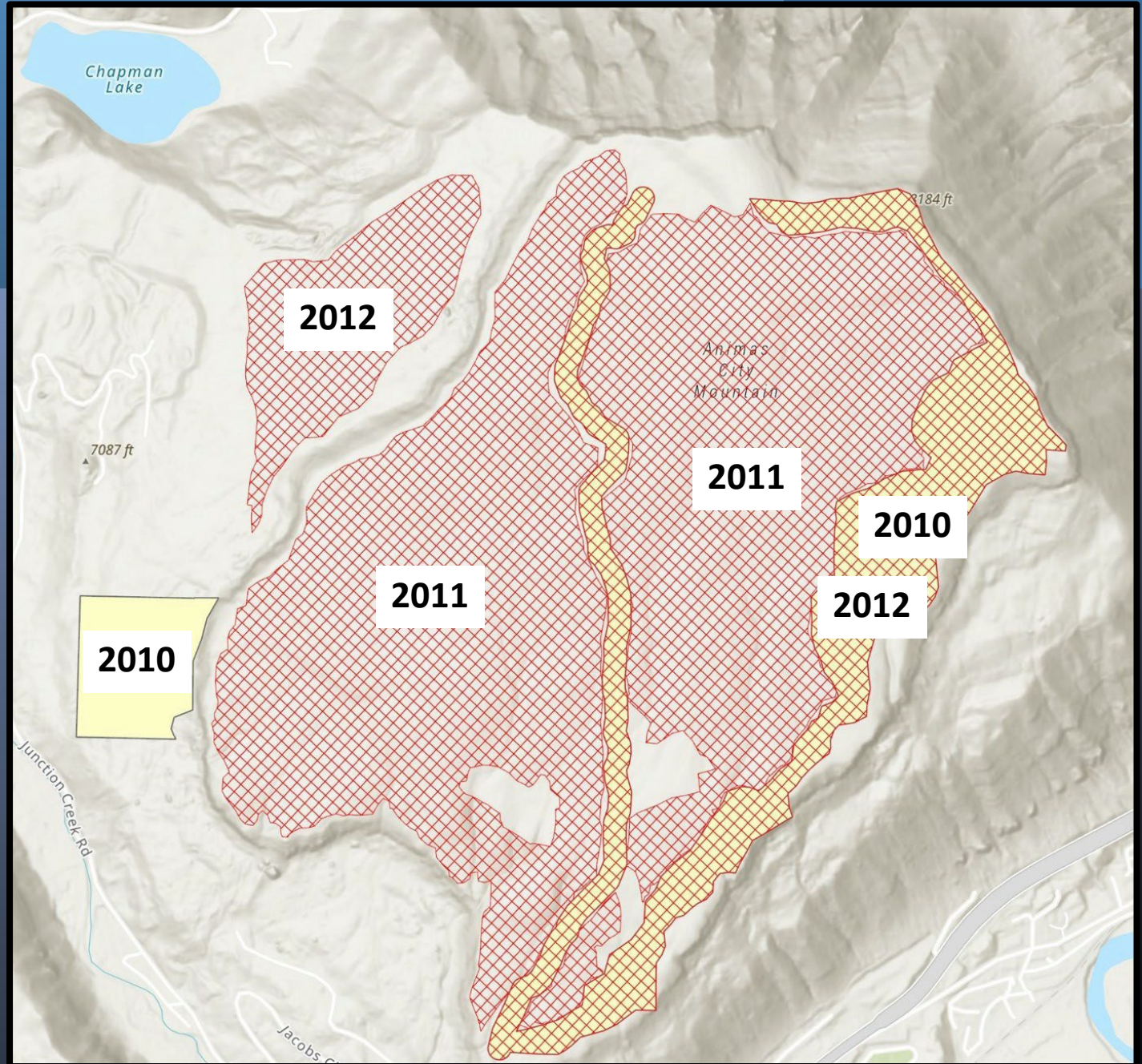
# Animas City Mountain Previous Treatments



Hand Thinned



Masticated



# Animas City Mountain Rx Acres Treated Daily

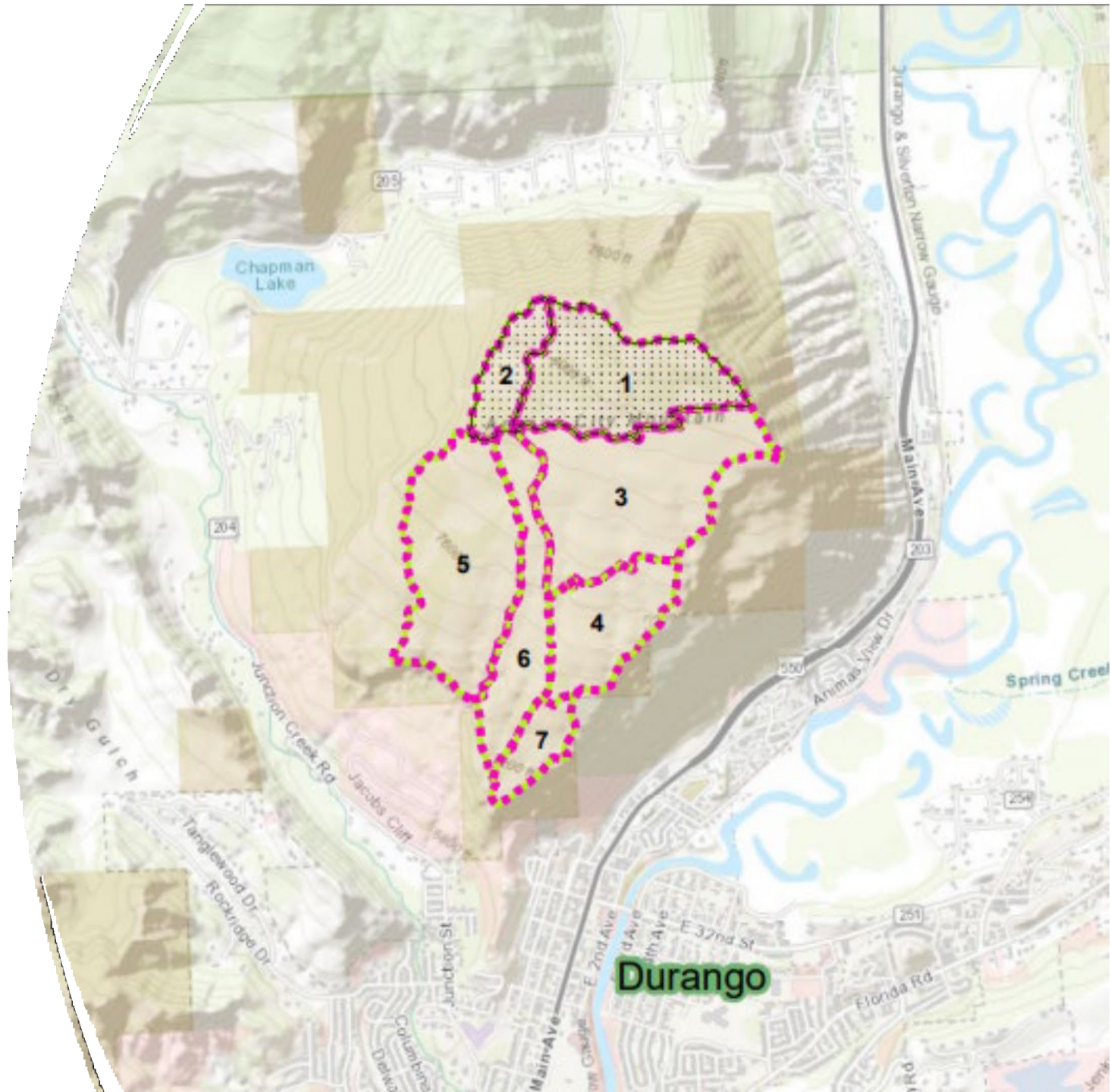
May 8 – Units 3 burned ~ **171 acres**

May 9 – Units 4 & 7 burned ~ **96 acres**

May 10 & 11 – No acres burned.  
Firefighters patrolled and secured

May 12 – Units 5 & 6 burned ~ **228 acres**

**Total acres ~ 495 acres**

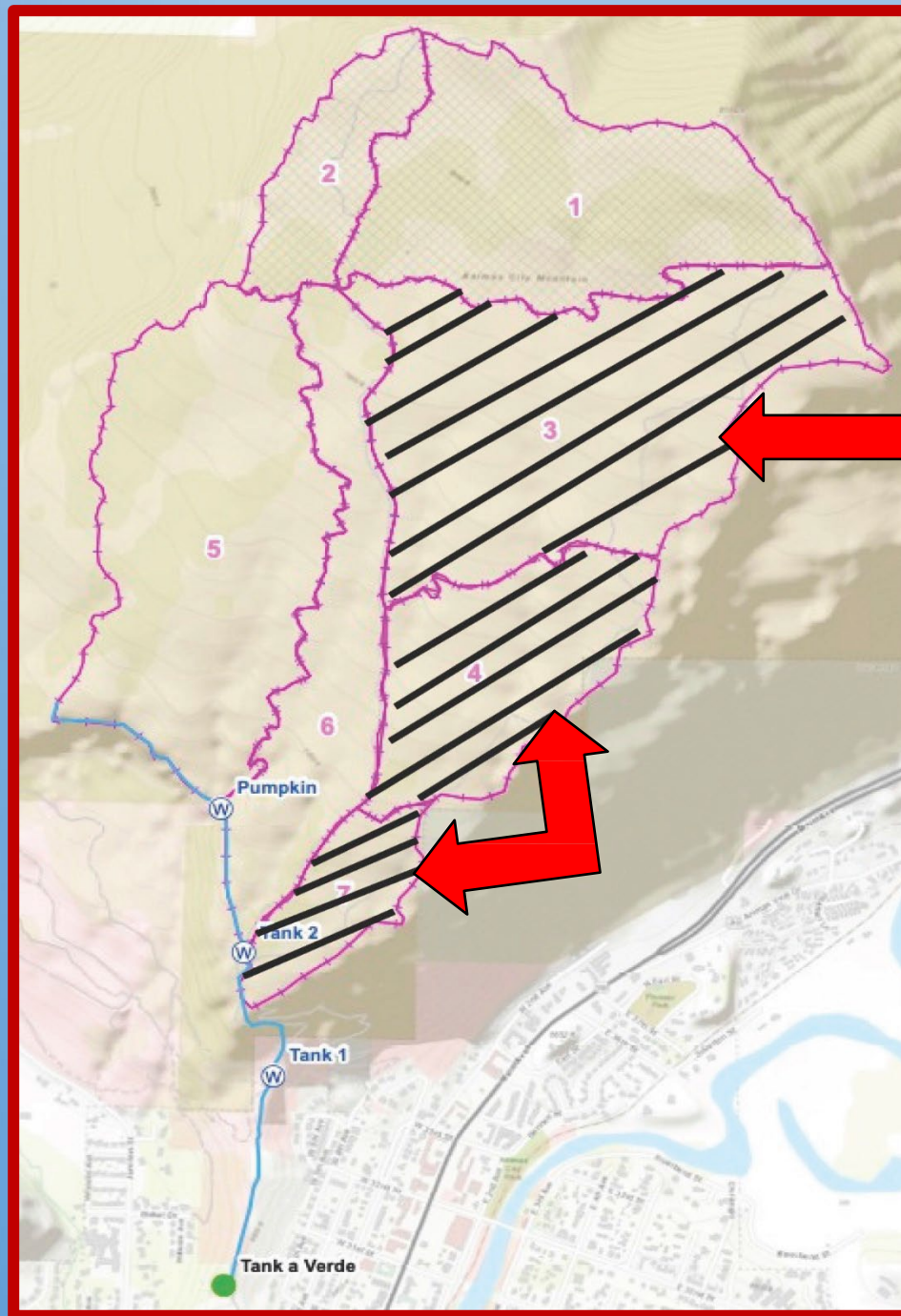


## Prescribed Fire Units

Unit 1 & 2 unavailable in Spring for Peregrine Falcon nest wildlife closure


Boundaries are trails that were pre-treated using chainsaws to remove brush adjacent to trails.

Unit 3 was the first unit to be burned.



**RX Burned  
Unit 3  
on May 8th**

**RX Burned  
Unit 4 & 7  
on May 9th**

A circular photograph showing a forest fire scene. In the foreground, a firefighter in a yellow jacket and helmet stands on a grassy slope, holding a red fire helmet and a black tool. In the background, another firefighter is visible, and the air is filled with thick white smoke. Tall pine trees are scattered throughout the scene, some with green needles and others appearing charred or bare. The sky is a pale, hazy blue.

# **Smoke Management & Air Quality**



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**May 8, 2023**

**Burned Unit 3**

**Begin Ignitions 10:23 AM**

**End Ignitions ~ 4:00 PM**

**Photo taken at 4:00 PM**





**May 8, 2023**

**Post burn  
Unit 3**

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**Photo taken at 8:00 PM**





**May 9, 2023 - 5:55 AM**

**May 9, 2023**

**Burned Unit 4 & 7**

**Begin Ignitions 9:45 AM**

**End Ignitions ~ 5:00 PM**

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**Photo taken at 4:30 PM**





**May 9, 2023 - Post Burn Units 4 & 7 - Photo taken at 7:45 PM**



**May 10, 2023**

**7:25 AM**

**33<sup>rd</sup> Street  
Smoke Sensor Read**

**839 mg/m<sup>3</sup> at 7:00 AM**

**629 mg/m<sup>3</sup> at 8:00 AM**

**No Burning Occurred on  
May 10 & 11**

**Due to smoke and weather  
conditions not in prescription**

**May 12, 2023**

**Burned Units 5 & 6**

**Begin Ignitions 10:00 AM**

**End Ignitions ~ 3:30 PM**



**Photo taken at 3:00 PM**





**May 12, 2023 – Post Burn Units 5 & 6 – Photo Taken at 8:00 PM**

**May 13, 2023**

**Post RX  
Patrol & Secure Units**

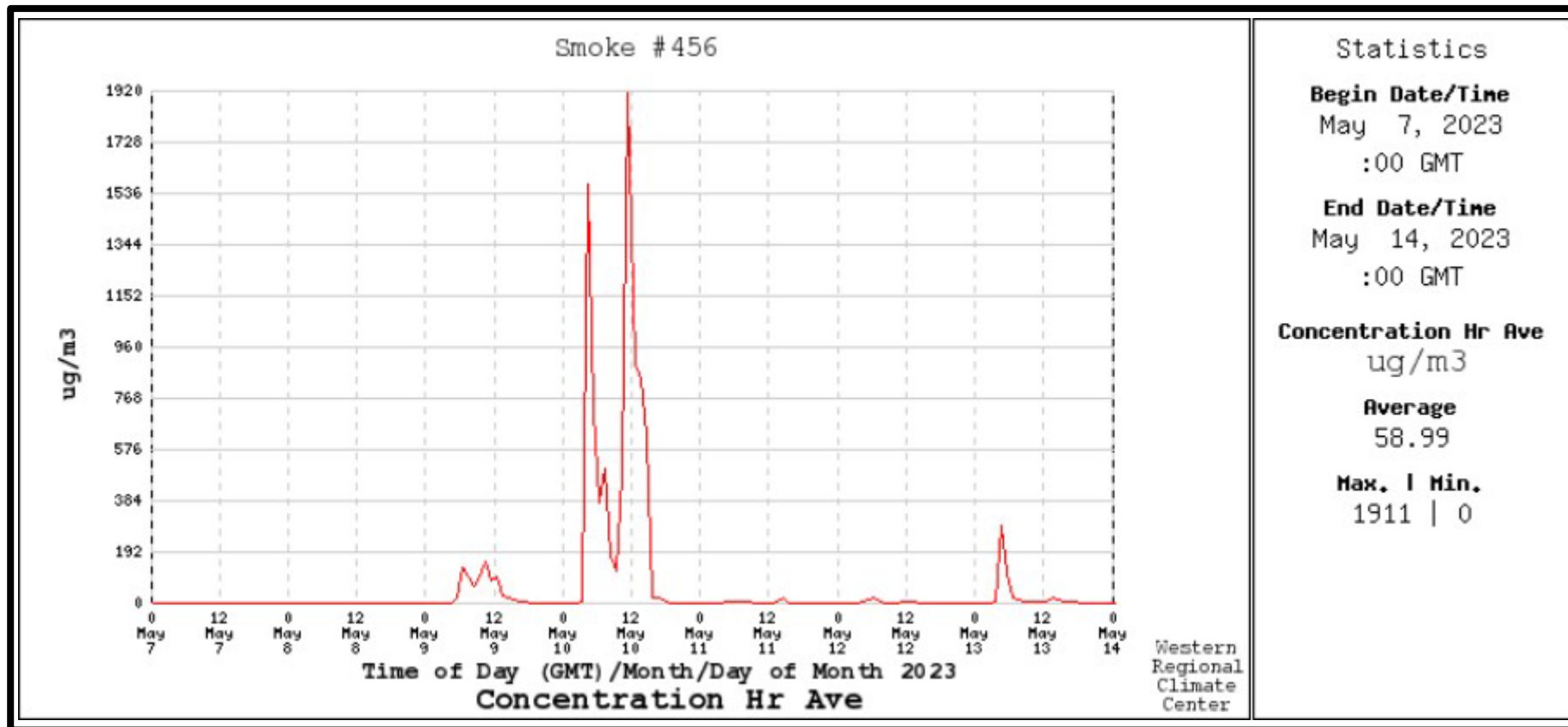
**Photo taken at 7:15 AM**



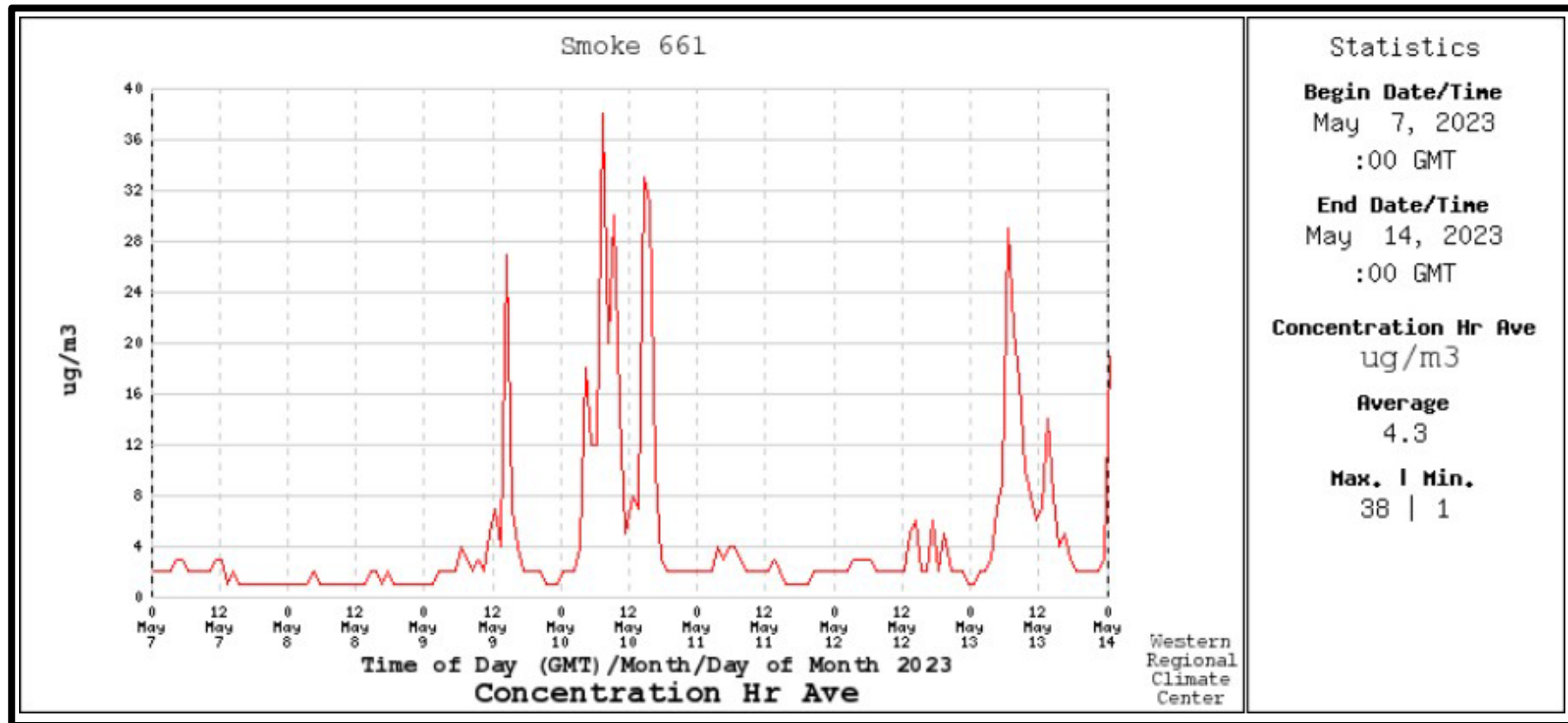


# 33<sup>rd</sup> Street – Smoke sensor showed exceedance of 24-hour ug/m<sup>3</sup> on morning of May 10

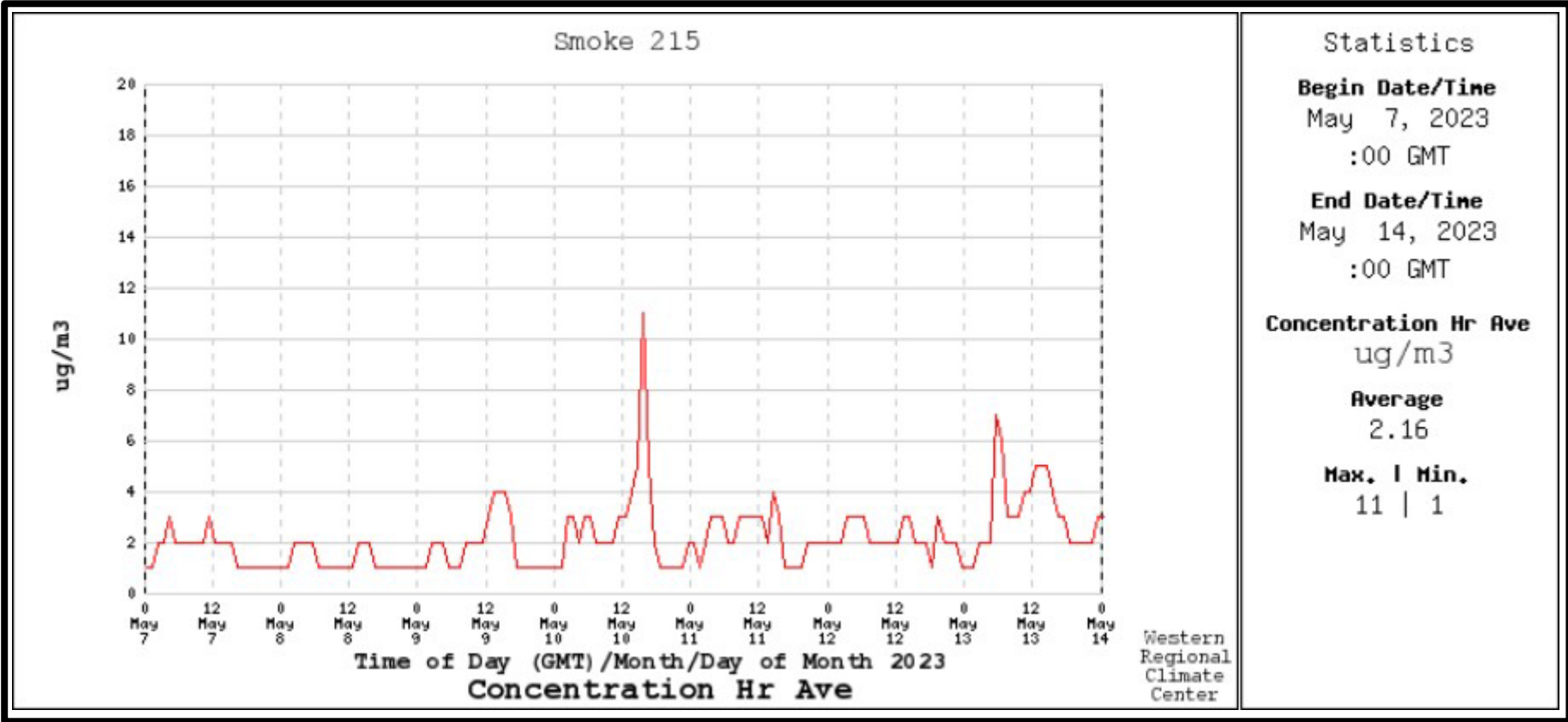
No prescribed burning occurred on May 10 & 11



# Junction Creek – apparently no exceedance of 35 ug/m3 during burning



# Downtown Durango – apparently no impact to this sensor from ACM Rx



# Animas City Mountain Prescribed Fire

## Public Information:

- BLM Public Communication Strategy written for project
- Animas City Mountain RX InciWeb page created in 2021 along with information phone line
- Southwest District Social Media sites Facebook and Twitter were used. Updates including on scene video during operations were posted throughout the RX. Local agencies and organizations were tagged with every post.
- La Plata County Office of Emergency Management committed to using emergency messaging system CODERED if needed. Road signs on highways in Durango and outside of city.
- La Plata county SAR assisted staffing call center
- Two Information boards were posted, along with trailhead signage
- Spanish interpreter was used to translate daily updates and available at information boards
- Media distribution list received daily email updates and media contact person



# Animas City Prescribed Fire



**Project completed May 12, 2023**

**495 treated acres**

**Cost per an acre \$650**

**132 Fire Resources Assigned**

