



**Colorado Springs
Fire Department**

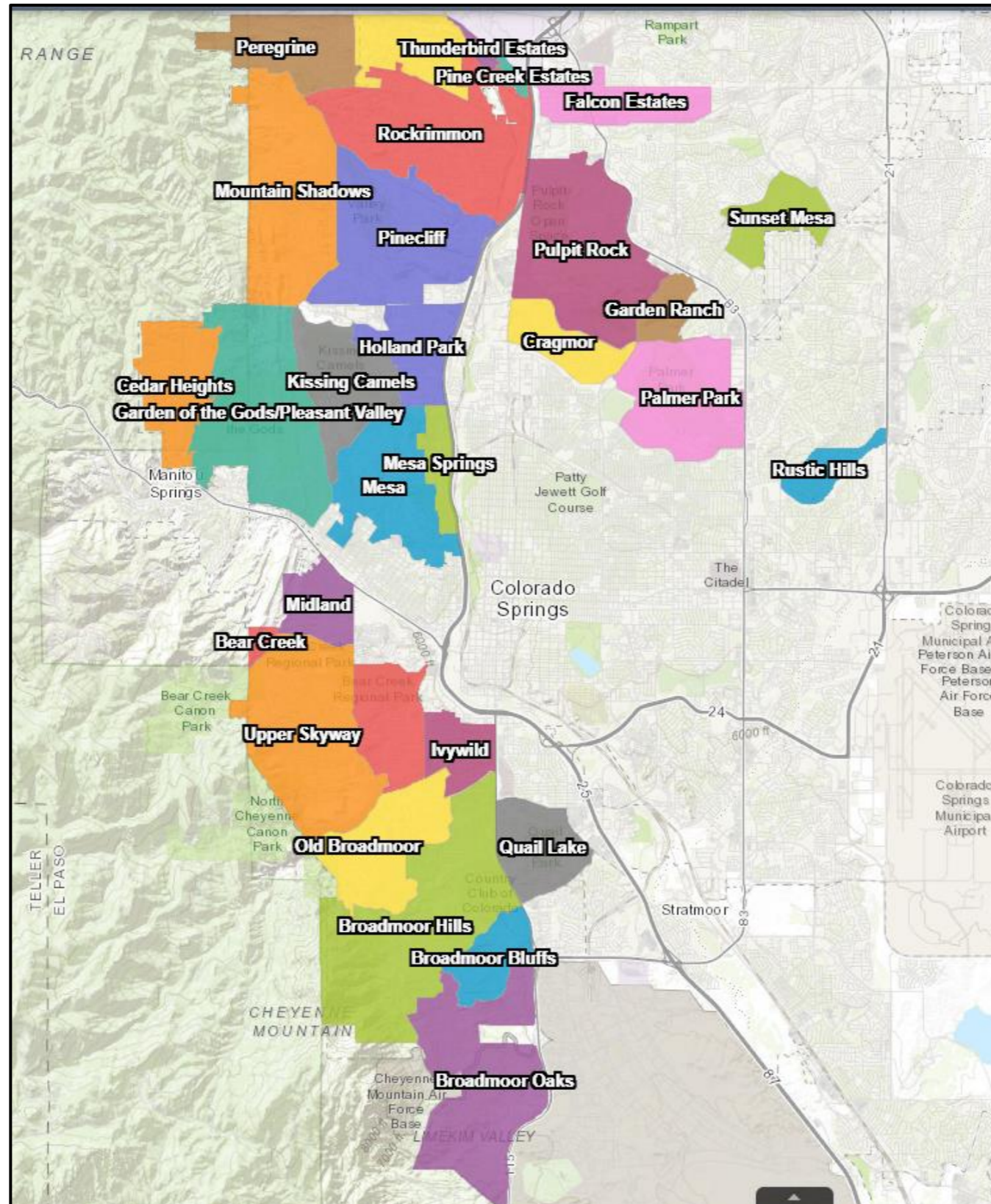
SHARING THE RESPONSIBILITY



Agenda

9:00-9:10 am	Welcome
9:10-9:20 am	2023 Chipping Season
9:20-9:25 am	Stipends
9:25-9:35 am	2023-2024 Fuels Projects
9:35-9:45 am	Budget and Code Updates
9:45-10:15 am	CSFD WUI Fencing / USFS Projects
10:15-10:30 am	Break
10:30-11:30 am	Exercise
11:30-11:45 am	Awards and Close-out

2023 Chipping Season



Neighborhood Chipping Statistics

	2021	2022	2023
Homes	4,140	7,301	5,409
Acres	1,865.18	2,976.84	1,784.97
Tons	658.69	2,127.38	1,386
Cubic yards	4,349.16	7,091.28	4,620
Loads	362.43	590.94	385
Homes Not Registered	165	107	251

2024 Chipping

2024 CHIPPING SCHEDULE		
REGION	1st ROUND DATES	2nd ROUND DATES
Cedar Heights	5/20	8/12
Garden of the Gods/Pleasant Valley Holland Park Kissing Camels Mesa Mesa Springs	5/27	8/19
Cragmor Garden Ranch Palmer Park Rustic Hills	6/3	8/26
Pulpit Rock Sunset Mesa	6/10	9/2
Mountain Shadows Peregrine Pinecliff	6/17	9/9
Pine Creek Estates Rockrimmon Thunderbird Estates	6/24	9/16
Falcon Estates Woodmen Valley	7/8	9/30
Broadmoor Hills Ivywild Old Broadmoor Quail Lake	7/15	10/7
Broadmoor Bluffs Broadmoor Oaks	7/22	10/14
Bear Creek Lower Skyway Midland Upper Skyway	7/29	10/21

Neighborhood Chipping Program: Chipping Guidelines

How Do I Become Eligible To Register?

Attend a Neighborhood Meeting
Attend a Wildfire Townhall Series Meeting
Schedule a FREE onsite consultation
(At least one or the other, once every five years)

How Do I Register?

Call 719-385-7493

Email: Jessica.McIntire@coloradosprings.gov

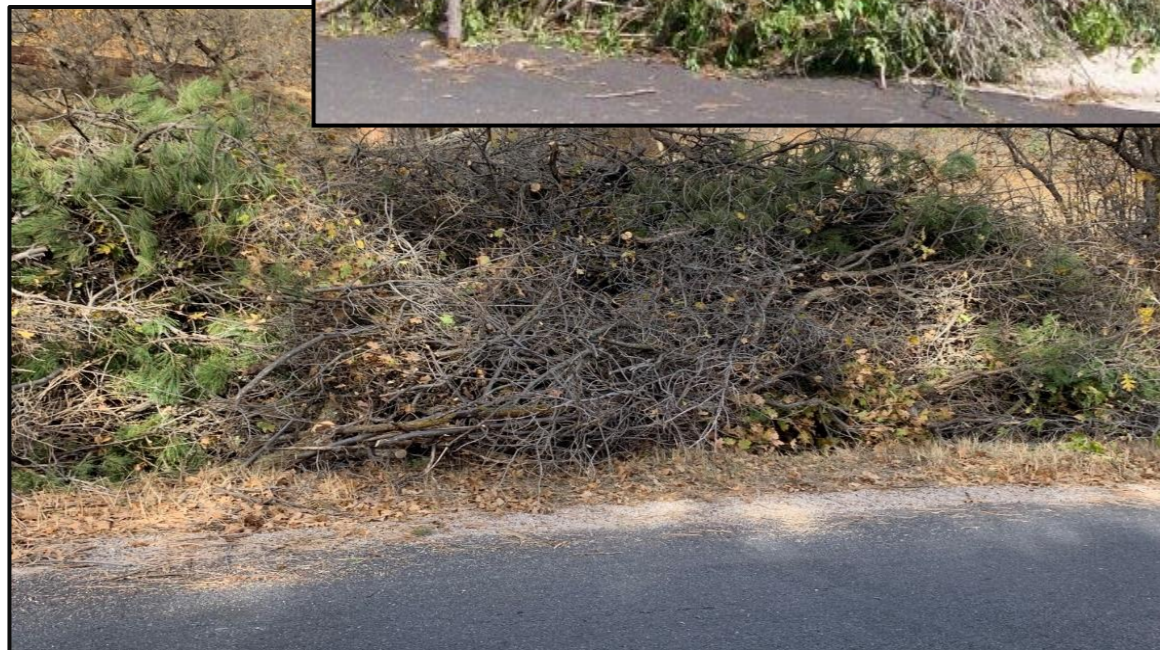
Visit our website: <https://www.coswildfireready.org/neighborhood-chipping-program>



Neighborhood Chipping Program: Chipping Guidelines

- **ONLY** woody limbs and branches up to 9" in diameter
- Piles must be stacked neatly with cut ends facing roadway
- Piles must be within 5 feet of roadway and be 5'x5'x5' in size

Bad Examples



Good Examples

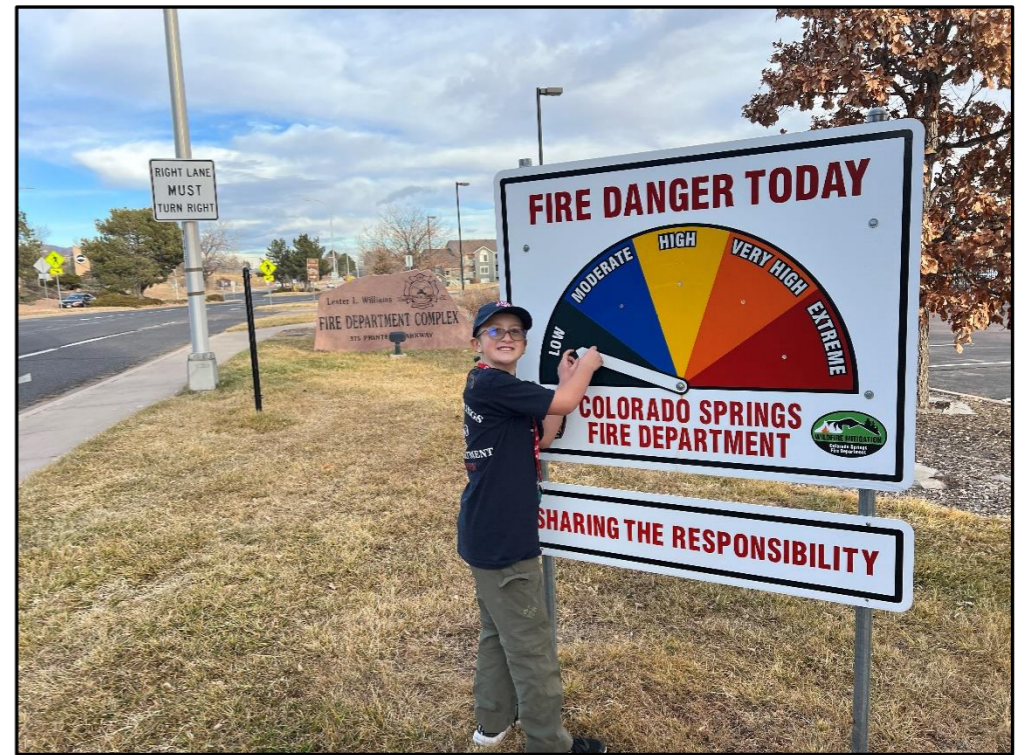


Neighborhood Chipping Program: Chipping Guidelines

- **DO NOT** include root balls/wads, dimensional lumber, or finished wood
- **ONLY** woody limbs and branches




Fire Danger Spotlight- Kayla S.




Cost Share Stipends

- Not a grant award but a dollar-for-dollar match
- First-come, first-served basis
- CSFD **MUST** be involved on the front end
- Address wildfire risk within first 30' of home
- Not intended to landscape or maintain a property
- Cannot reimburse for work already completed



COLORADO SPRINGS FIRE DEPARTMENT
WILDFIRE MITIGATION CONTRACTOR STIPEND



Homeowner _____	Neighborhood _____
Street Address _____	Email Address _____
Telephone _____	Contractor _____
Stipend Amount _____	

Site Notes

Acknowledgement: The owner/responsible party understands and has received a copy of these recommendations. Any work completed using CSFD stewardship funds will be as discussed and agreed upon with the contractor and a CSFD representative.

Contractor: _____	Homeowner: _____
Date: _____	Date: _____

Disclaimer: Wildfire mitigation is intended to reduce wildfire risk; not eliminate the risk of wildfire. It is important to note that wildfires are a dynamic event influenced by several factors including weather (winds, relative humidity, temperature, atmospheric pressure, lightning, etc.) topography, fuels, human activity, response times and seasonal trends (i.e. drought.) There will always be some risk of wildfire regardless of mitigation efforts and structural characteristics.

Completed Contracts

- Golden Hills HOA – 5.4 acres
 - Completed by Front Range Arborists.
- Highland Oaks HOA & Highland Terrace HOA - 2.5 acres.
 - Completed by Front Range Arborists.
- Sanctuary at Peregrine – 13.7 acres.
 - Completed by N&D Tree Service.
- University Park – 1.1 acres.
 - Completed by N&D Tree Service.



22.7 total acres treated

Completed Contracts



Sanctuary at Peregrine



University Park

In-House Projects

- Beacon Hill Way – 0.23 acres.
 - CSFD & El Paso County Parks
- Cheyenne Mountain Zoo – 12.6 acres.
 - CSFD & Cheyenne Mountain Zoo.
- Comstock – 1.3 acres.
 - CSFD & Comstock Village.
- Loganwood Court – 3.9 acres.
 - CSFD & Peregrine Master HOA.
- Lower Broadmoor Bluffs – 1.5 acres.
 - CSFD & Broadmoor Bluffs HOA.
- Mountain Oaks – 8 acres.
 - CSFD & Mountain Oaks HOA.



27.5 total acres treated

In-House Projects

Mountain Oaks

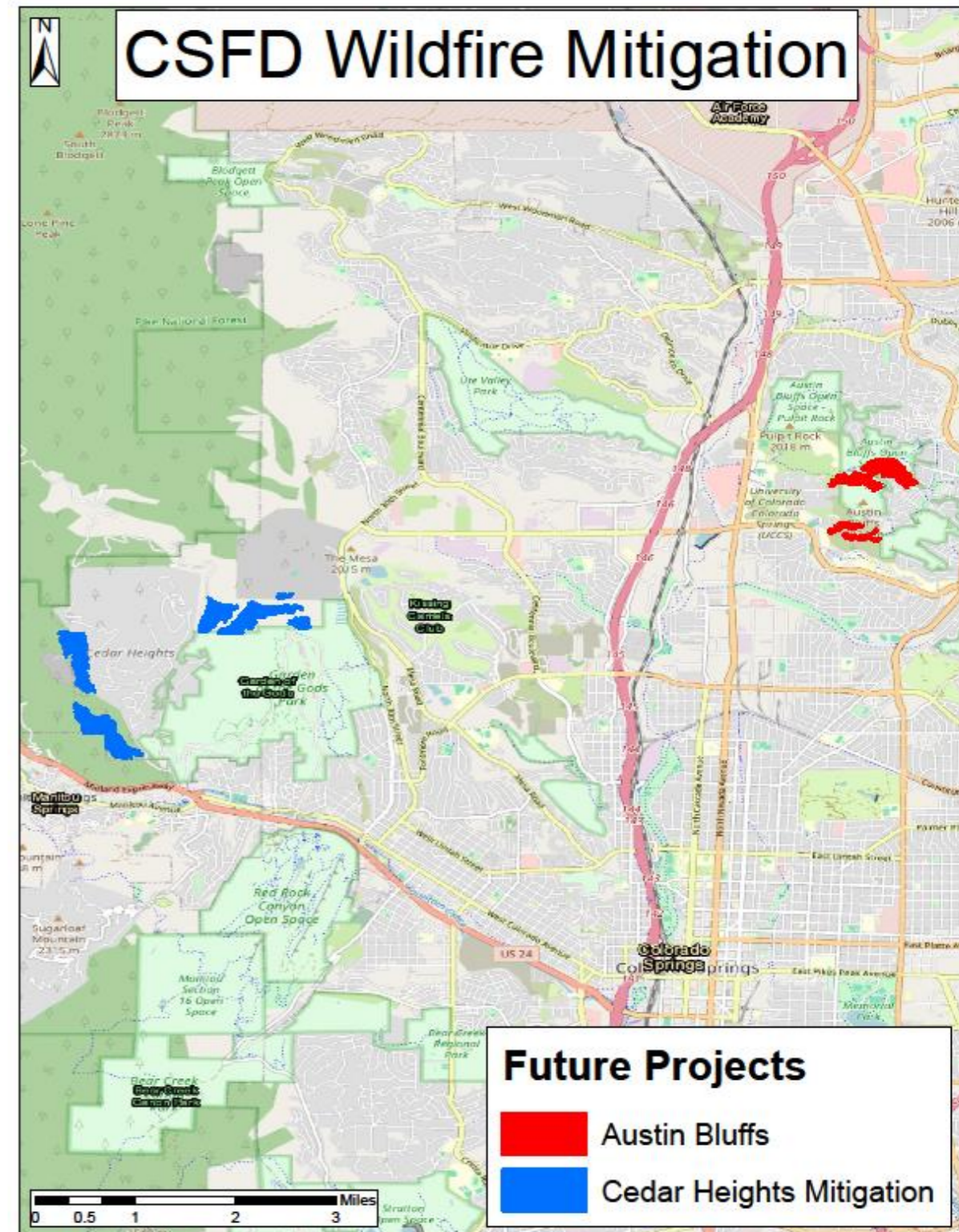


Beacon Hill Way



Current Projects

- Austin Bluffs – 73 acres.
 - Contracted to Deer Creek, to be completed by 12/31/24.
- Cedar Heights – 201.6 acres.
 - Contracted to N&D Tree, to be completed by 12/31/24.



274.6 total acres of potential treatment

Current Projects



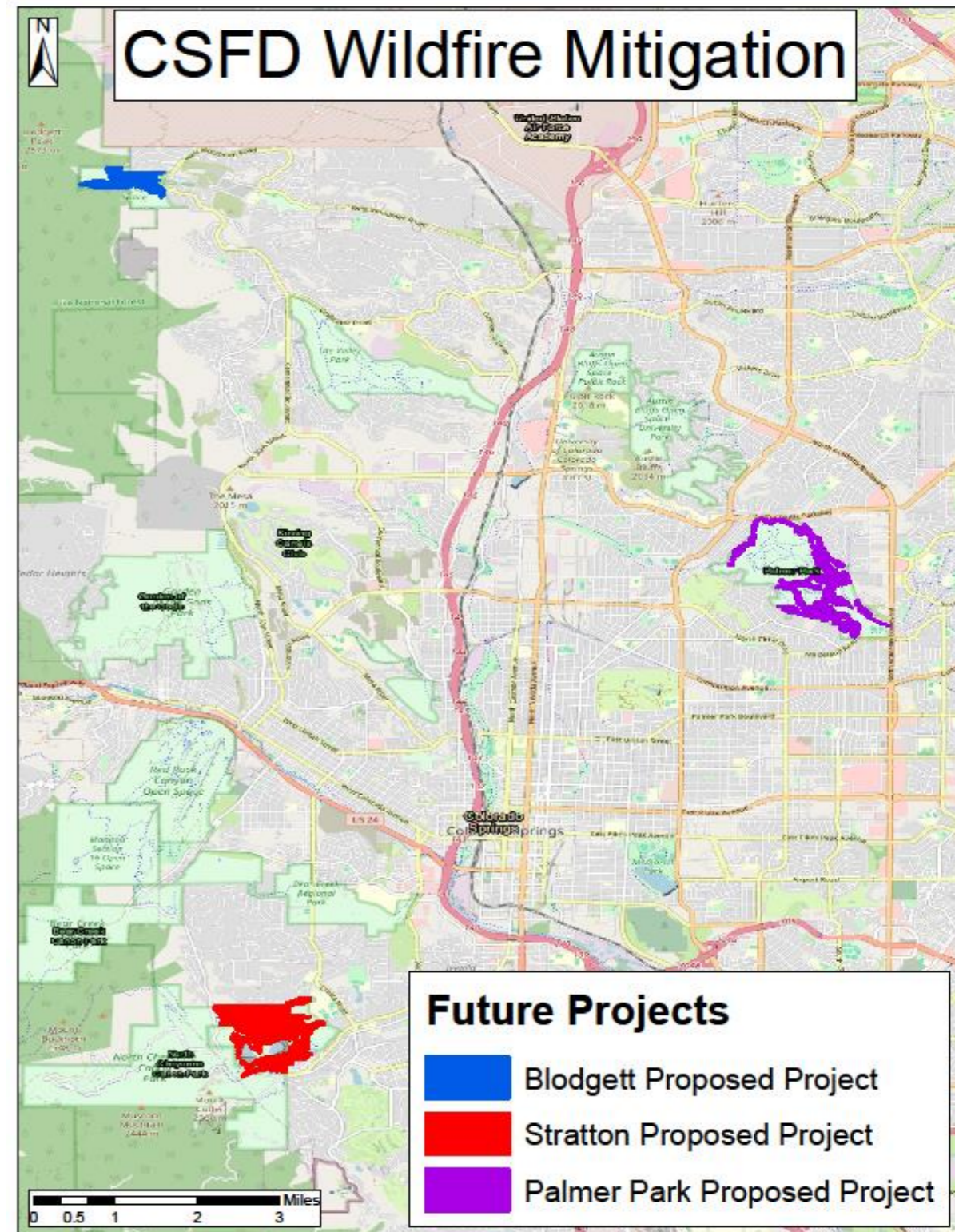
Before Treatment

Progress Photos at Cedar Heights
Fuel Reduction Project

After Treatment

Future Projects

- Stratton Open Space – 265 acres proposed.
 - 2D Tabor funding, El Pomar and Lyda Hill grant funding.
 - Expected in fall/winter 2024.
- Palmer Park – 134.5 acres proposed.
 - HMGP grant funding.
 - Pending FEMA consultation.
- Blodgett – 71.2 acres proposed
 - CSFS FRWRM funding.
 - Expected in 2025.



470.7 total acres of potential treatment

Future Projects



Stratton Open Space Vegetation



Future Projects



Palmer Park Vegetation



Future Projects



Blodgett Vegetation



Current Grant Funding

- **El Pomar** - \$133k over three years (October 2021-2024)
 - Projects and stipends in the southwest part of town
- **Lyda Hill** - \$133k over three years (December 2021-2024)
 - Projects and stipends in the southwest part of town
- **Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP)** – \$521k total (August 2020-2024)
 - Mitigate ~130 acres in Palmer Park
 - Local share is \$65k
- **Forest Restoration & Wildfire Risk Mitigation (FRWRM)** - \$630k total
 - Mitigate ~200 acres in Cedar Heights, Glen Eyrie/Navigators/City Forestry Property
 - Local share is \$315k
- **Forest Restoration & Wildfire Risk Mitigation (FRWRM)** – \$103k
 - New dump truck for chipping operations
 - CSFD match is \$51k
- **Forest Restoration & Wildfire Risk Mitigation (FRWRM)** - \$284,800 total
 - Mitigate ~71 acres in Blodgett Open Space
 - CSFD match is \$142,400
- **Forest Restoration & Wildfire Risk Mitigation (FRWRM)** - \$283k total
 - Purchase a masticator and trailer to continue mitigation work
 - CSFD match is \$141,500

Grant Funding

Pending Grants

- **CSFS Education Grant-** \$87,800 total
 - Education and outreach materials for the COS WUI.
 - CSFD match: \$13,170

Future Grants

- **Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP)** – \$1.7mil total
 - Mitigate ~350 acres in Garden of the Gods
 - Local share: \$218,750

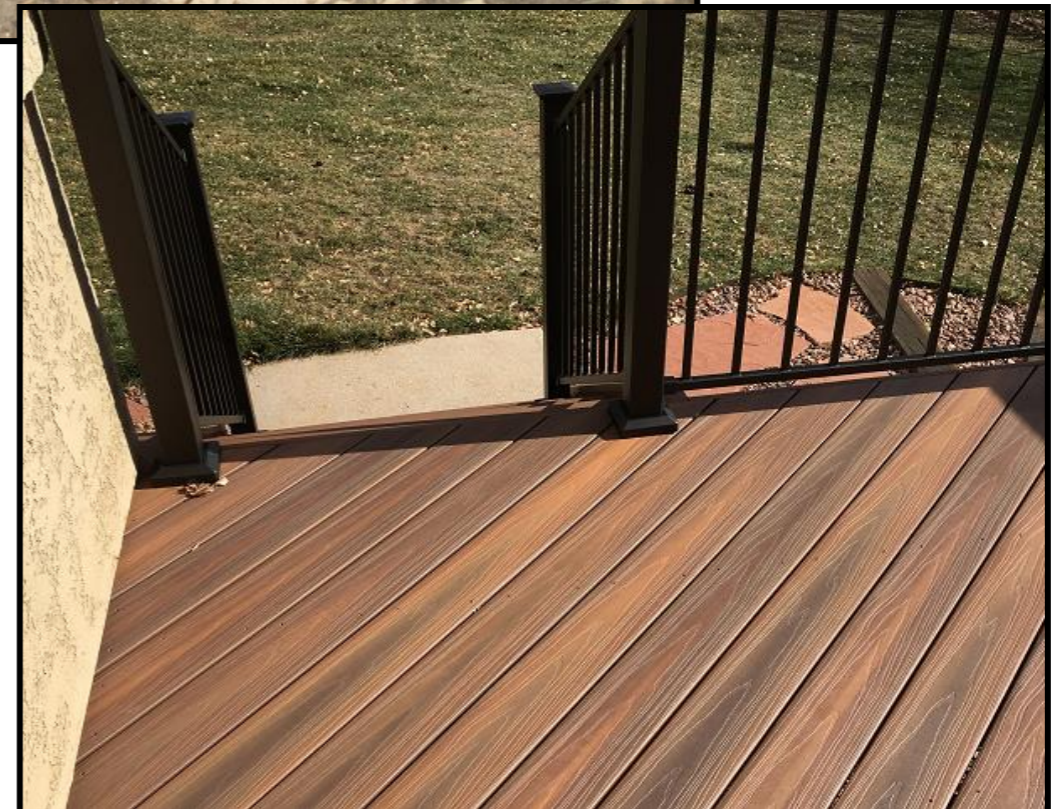
WUI Code Updates

- Exterior cladding, eaves, and soffits shall be constructed of ignition-resistant materials such as fiber-cement board, stucco, manufactured stone, masonry/brick, etc., and are approved by the fire code official.
- After June 30, 2023, all structures completely rebuilt or receive 50% net or more exterior siding, covering, or material replacement must be constructed with ignition-resistant materials.



WUI Code Updates

- Decks and other habitable spaces shall be ignition-resistant or non-combustible materials, such as composite or metal decking.
- Wood is not permitted to be used for the decking surface but can be used for all large structural components and railings.
- All structures where decks are added, modified, altered, or reconstructed on or after June 30, 2023, must be constructed with ignition-resistant materials. Do not store combustible materials underneath or around decks



WUI Code Reminder

Conifers cannot be within 15 feet of the structure



Colorado Springs Fire Department

WUI Fencing Recommendations



Chip Taylor, Sr. Fire Protection Engineer

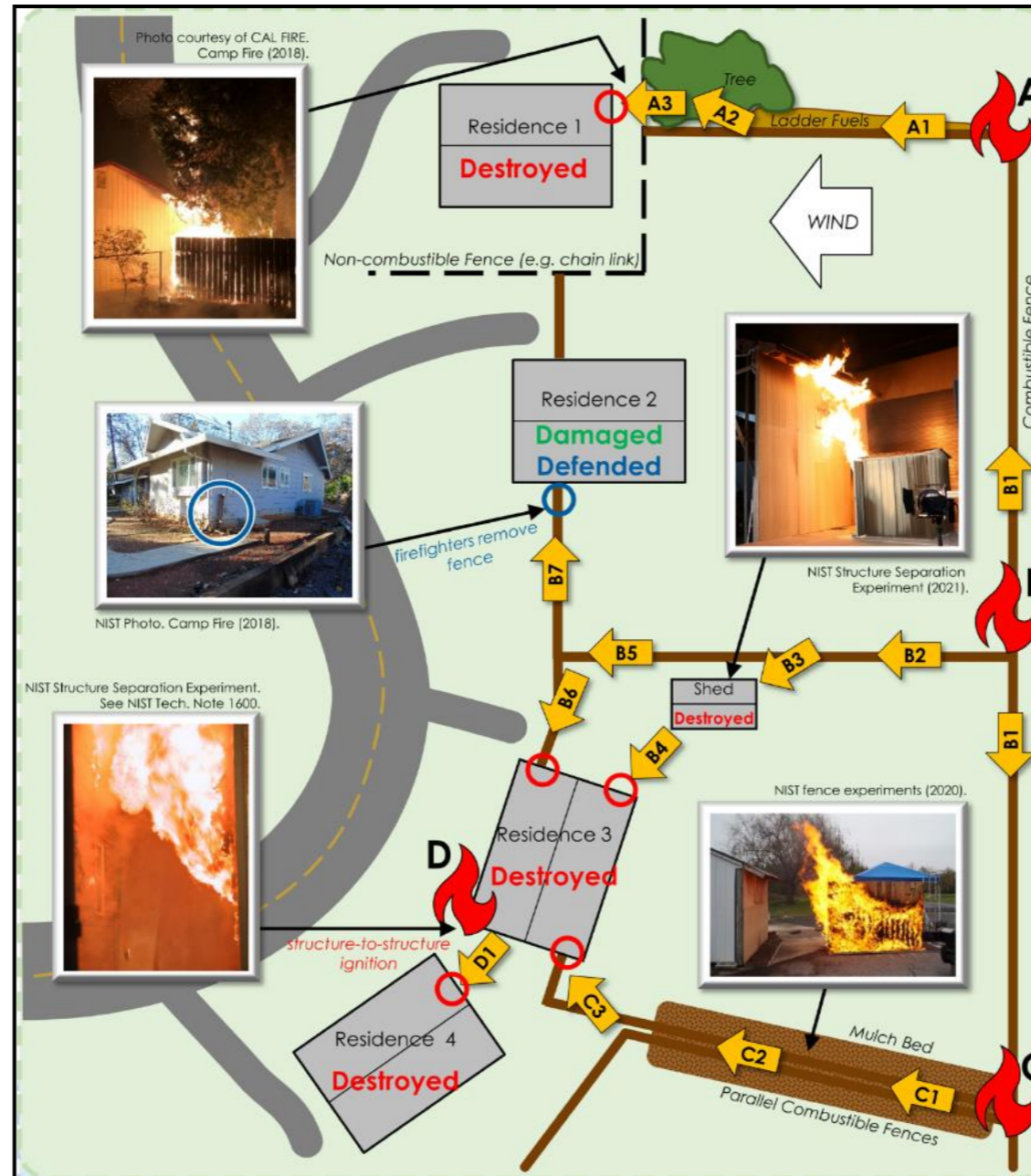




Thank you to Housing and Building Association members and HOA champions who collaborated with CSFD on developing these recommendations

Why is WUI Fencing a Concern?





Embers can bring fire into communities. Once fire has started, fire spreads along multiple pathways:

- A:** Spot fire ignites fence, burning along ladder fuels (A1) to larger vegetation (A2), and ignites Residence 1 on adjacent parcel (A3).
- B:** Fence ignition propagates fire on multiple parcels (B1, B2). Fence ignites shed (B3). Exposures from shed and fence ignite Residence 3 (B4, B6).
 Fence ignites Residence 2 (B7). Defensive actions save Residence 2.
- C:** Parallel fences on adjacent parcels exponentially intensify fire exposure (C1, C2) which ignites Residence 3 (C3).
- D:** The exposure from burning Residence 3 ignites Residence 4 (D1).

Why is WUI Fencing a Concern?

- Accumulation of wind born debris
- Ladder fuel for horizontal fire spread
- Fuel load of adjacent wood piles, mulch beds...
- Dam for capturing wind born embers
- Spread of fire between properties – direct & indirect impingement

CSFD Recommendations

- For larger lots with adequate separation between homes
- Five feet section of ignition resistant fencing for WUI homes with hardened structure
- Ten feet section of ignition resistant fencing for WUI homes without hardened structure

Larger Lots

Fence along property line is outside of the 5- or 10-foot safety zone



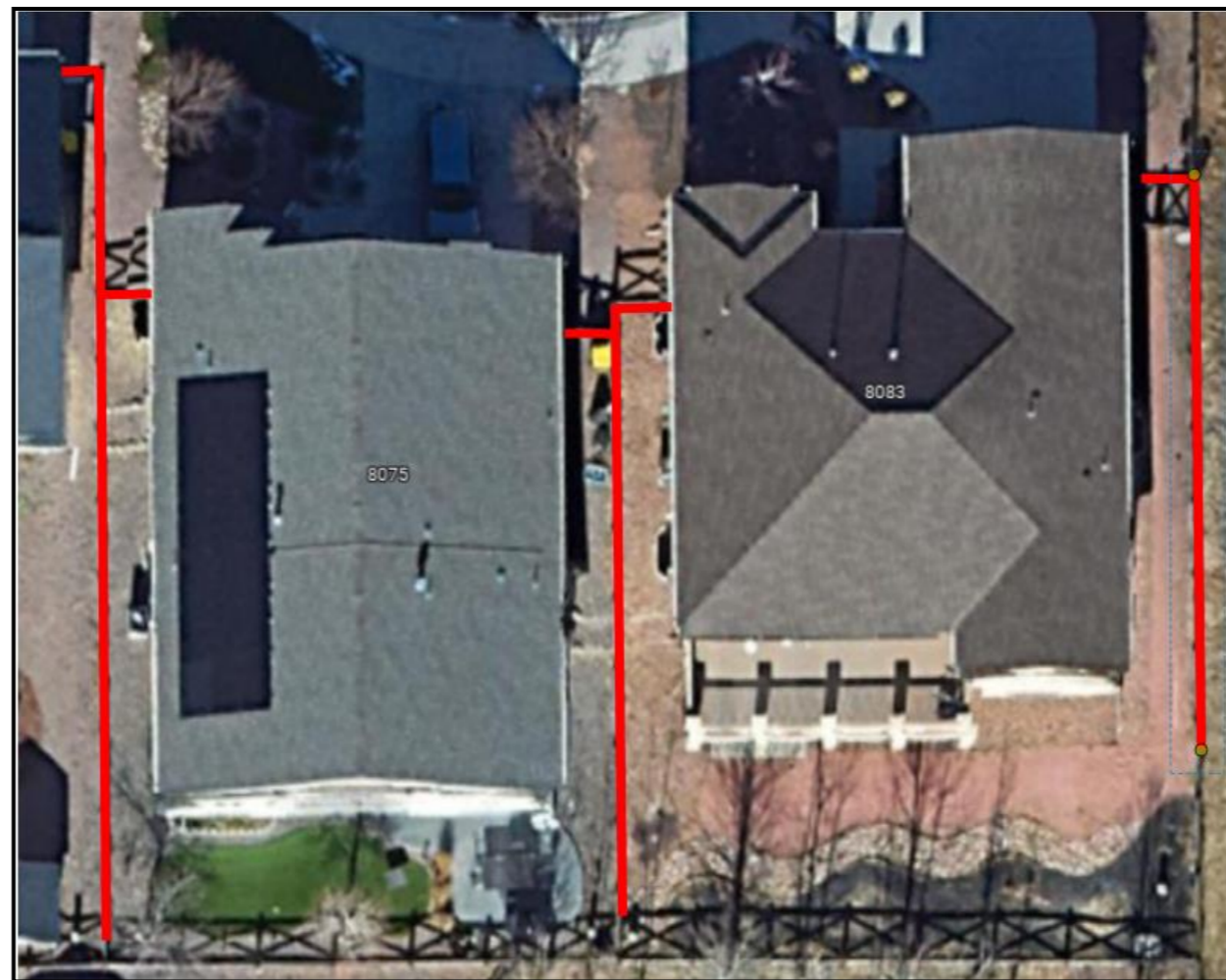
Only section of fence next to home be ignition resistant

CSFD Recommendations

- Smaller lots - fence may not be able to meet adequate distance
- WUI homes with hardened structure – all fencing within 5 feet safety zone
- WUI homes without hardened structure – all fencing within 10 feet safety zone

Smaller Lots

Fence along property line is within the 5- or 10-foot safety zone



All fencing within 5- or 10-foot safety zone would need to be ignition resistant

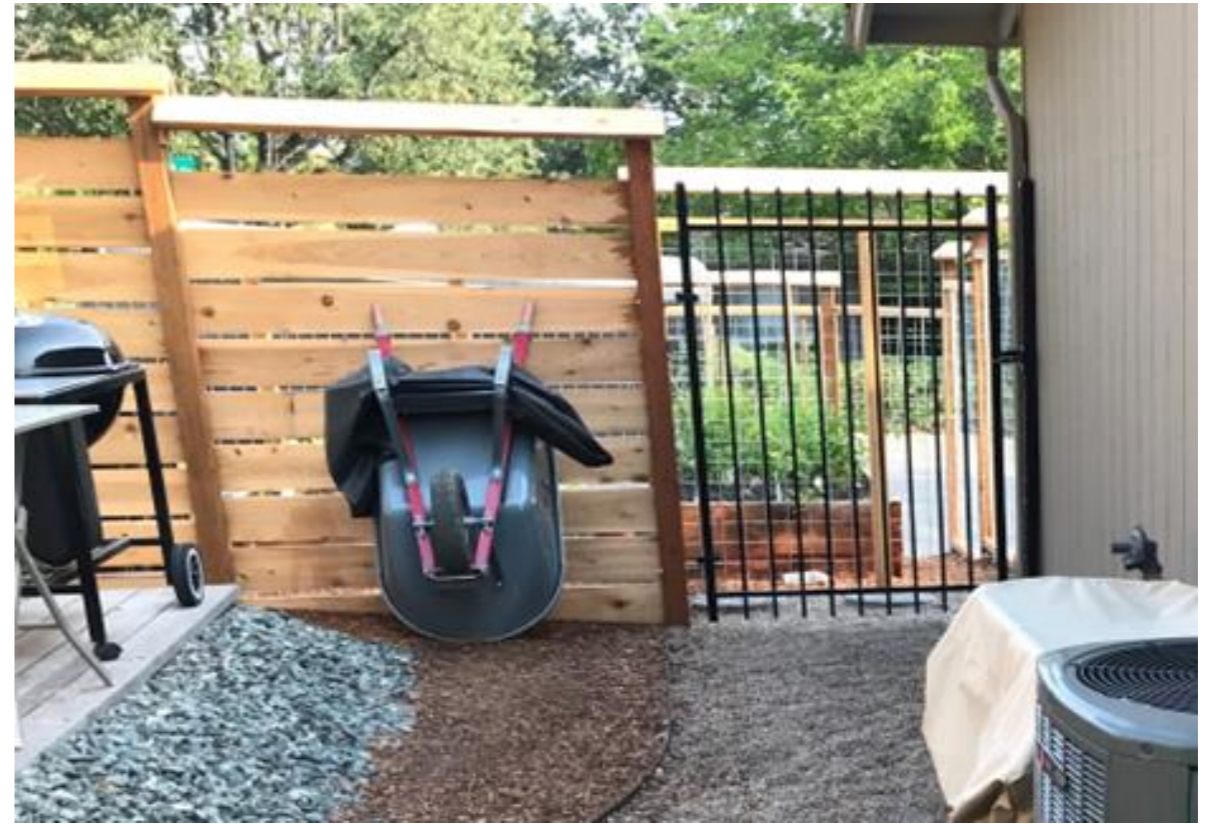
Fencing Types



Fencing Types



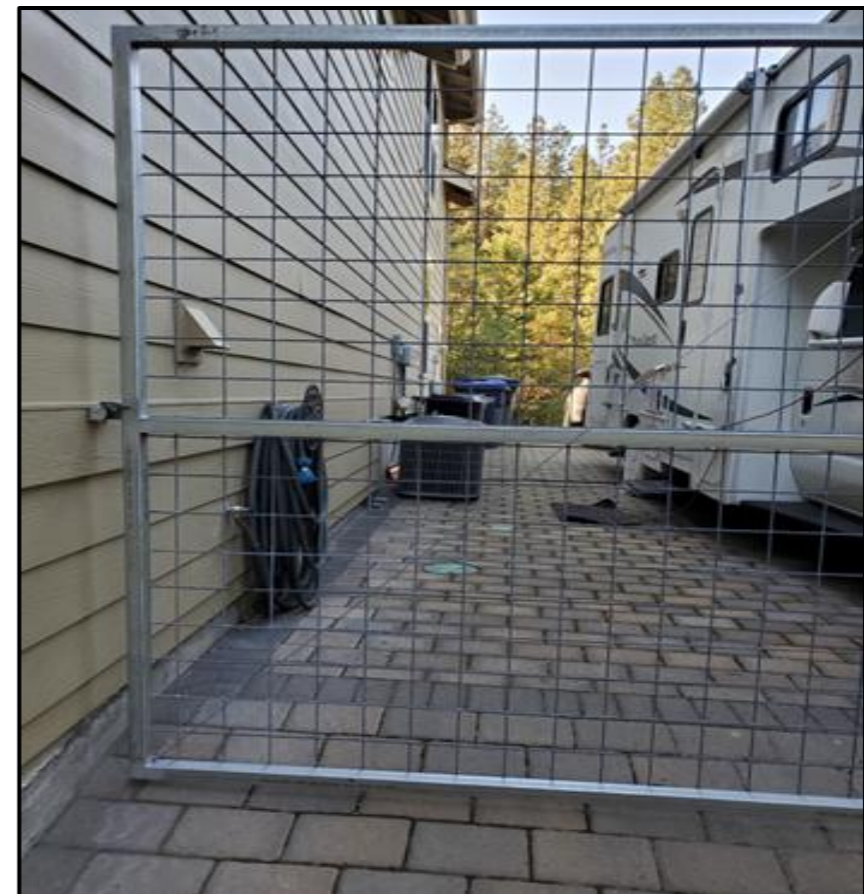
Fencing Types



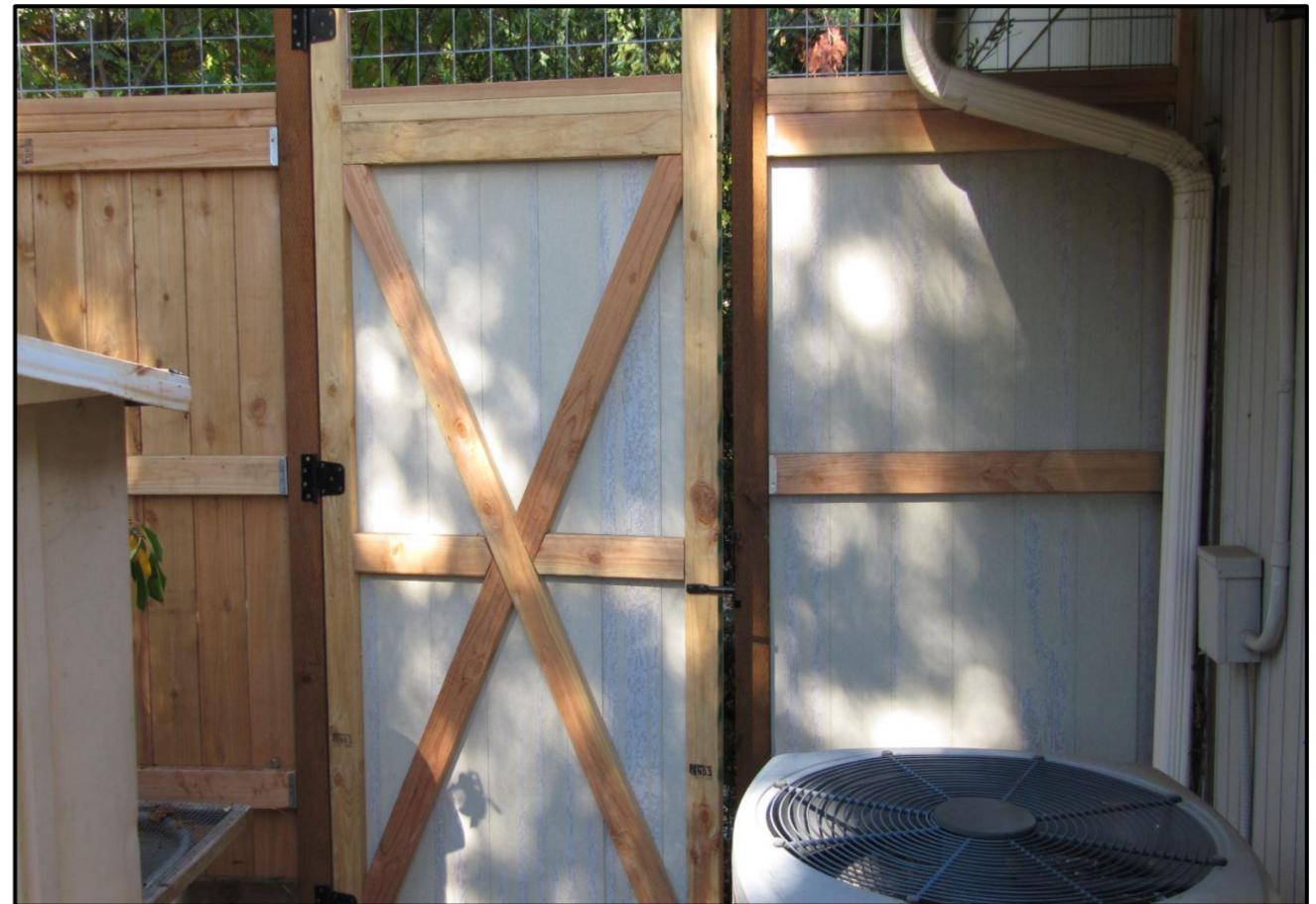
Fencing Types



Fencing Types for Consideration

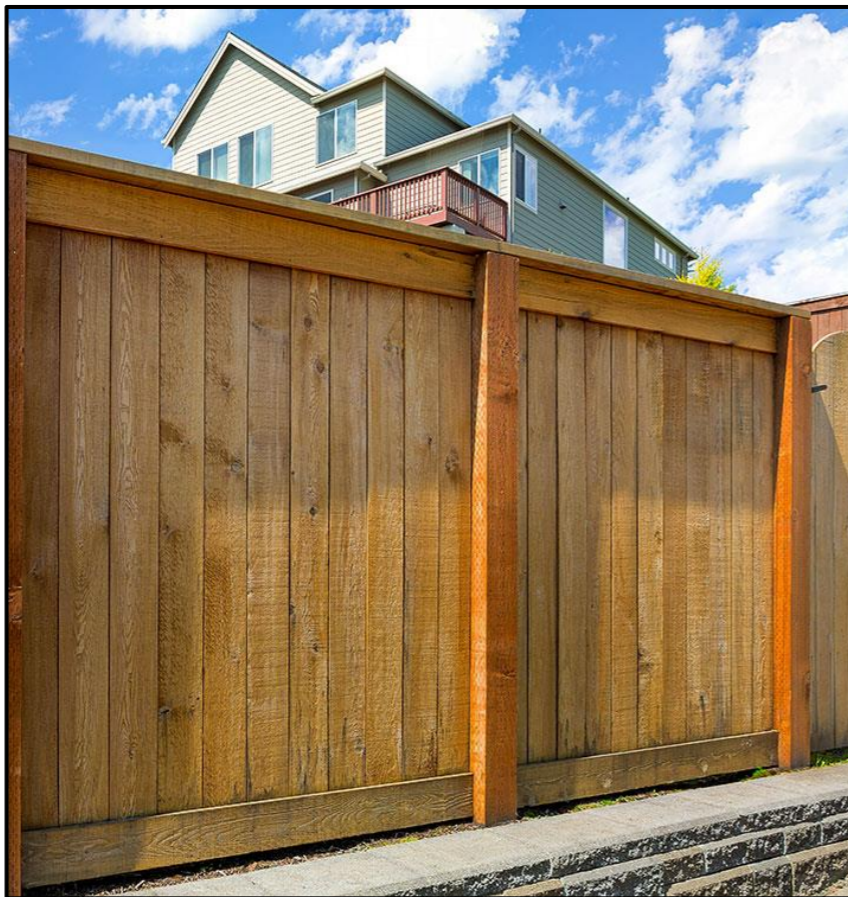


Fencing Types



Fencing Types

- Wood with Fire Retardant Treatment



Fence Framing Members

- Non-combustible/ignition resistant posts, supports, and bracing
- Only fire-rated wood listed/tested for outdoor use

Maintaining Fencing Safety Zone

- Combustibles should not be stored in vicinity of ignition resistant fencing
- Windblown debris should not be allowed to accumulate next to the section of ignition resistant fencing
- Mulch beds should not be installed next to the section of ignition resistant fencing
- If not already required for the home, Fuels Management section of CSFD's Ignition Resistant Design Manual should be followed for vegetation management adjacent to the section of ignition resistant fencing

Next Steps

- CSFD will compose a list of written recommendations for WUI fencing
- HBA members and HOA Champions will perform final review of recommendation list
- Recommendations will be added into CSFD's Ignition Resistant Design Manual



Questions?

Wyman.taylor@coloradosprings.com

719-385-7303

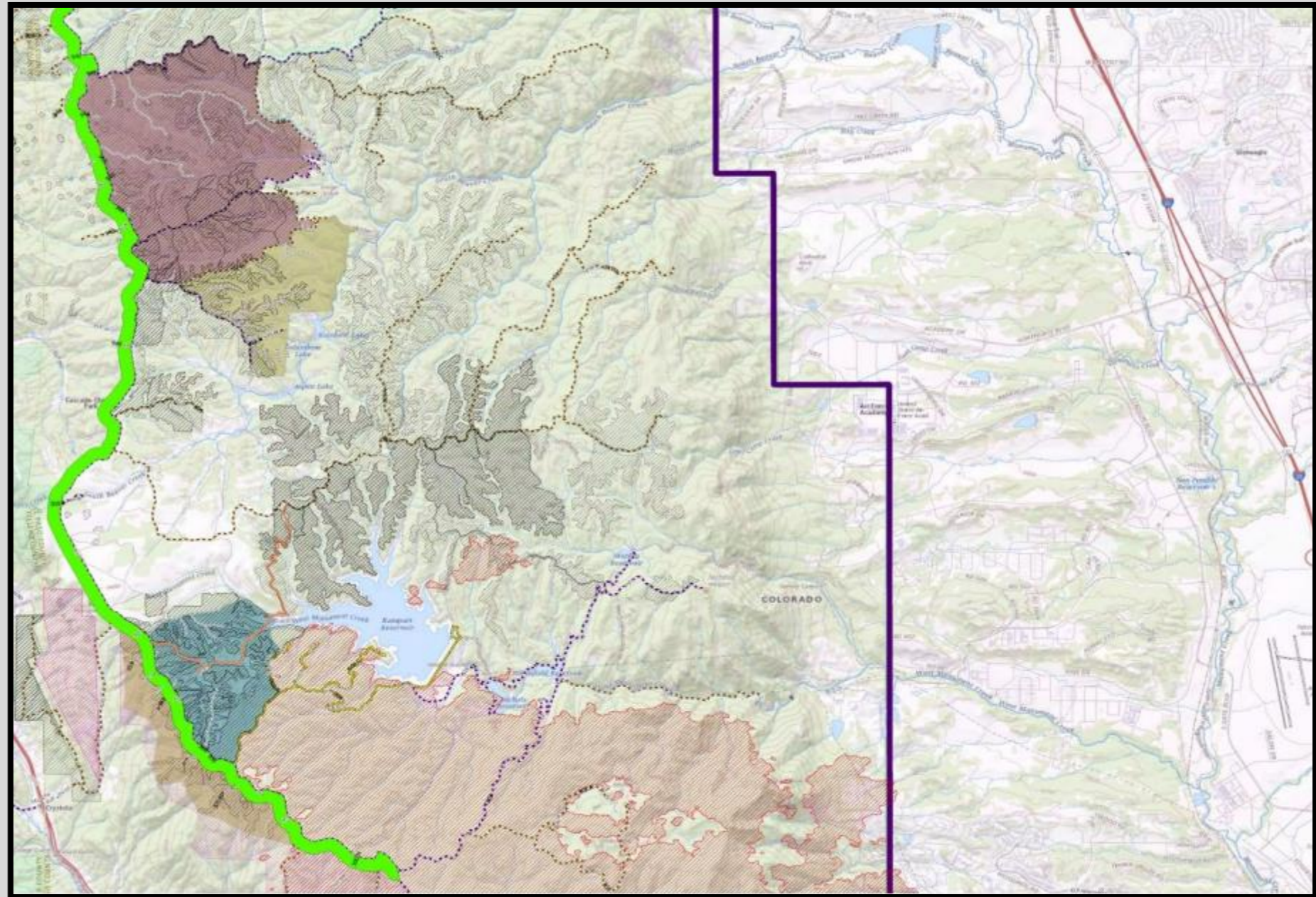
Pike's Peak Ranger District

Fuels/Veg treatments 2024



Suppression Strategy – Rampart Range

Reinforce N-S road from Waldo Canyon fire to District Boundary



Thinning Treatments

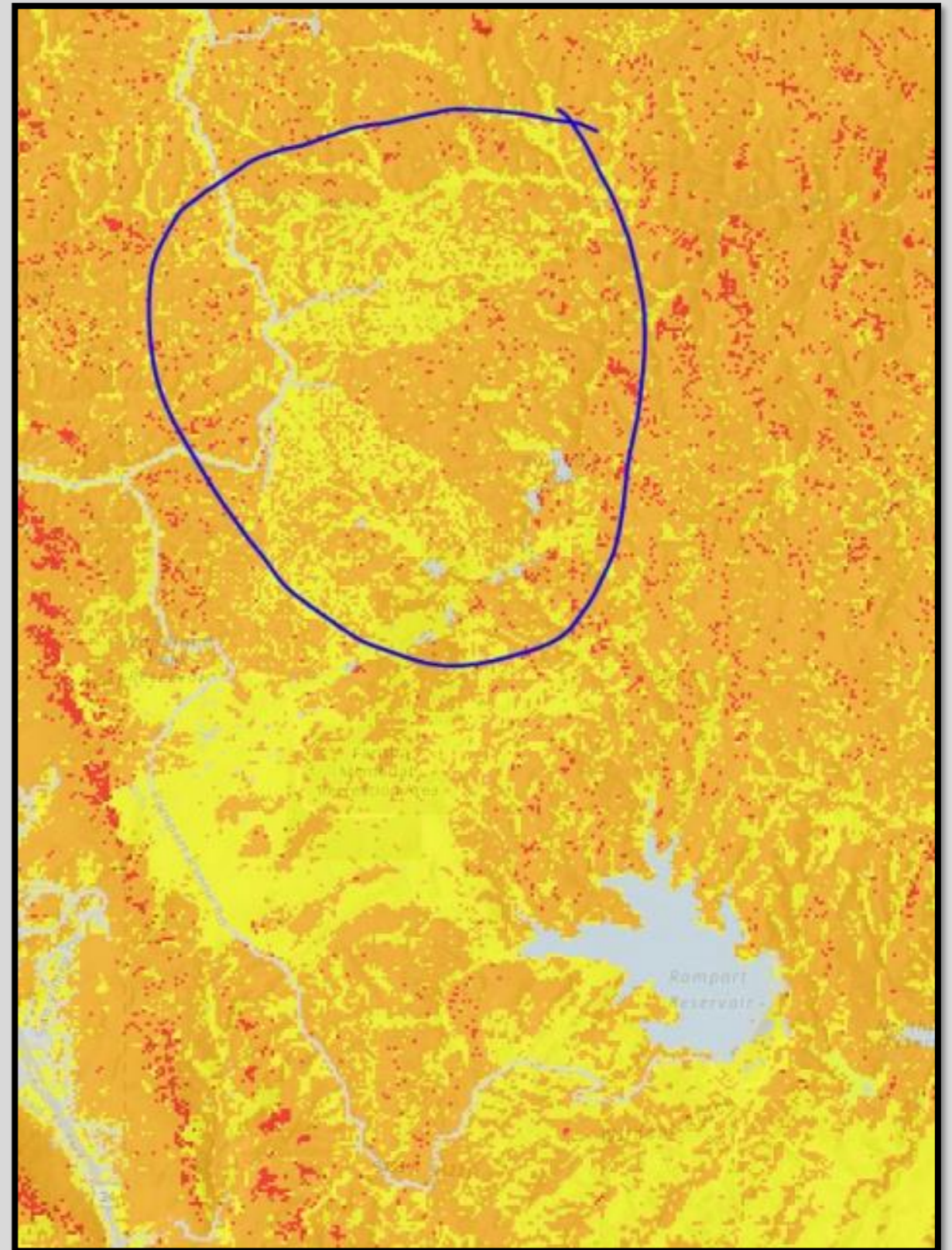
- Reduce continuity of canopy fuels and crown fire potential
- Increase base height to reduce torching potential
- Restore composition and structure of forest
- Reduces potential fire severity



Thinning - Effectiveness

Treatments as shown by the spatial fire modeling application Landfire – Shows reduction in canopy bulk density, crown cover, and fuel shift.

This image represents crown fire potential under hot, dry conditions. The untreated areas (orange and red) demonstrate potential for torching and crown fire.



Rampart Reservoir – mechanical treatments

- Important water source for Colorado Springs. Delicious water from Leadville.

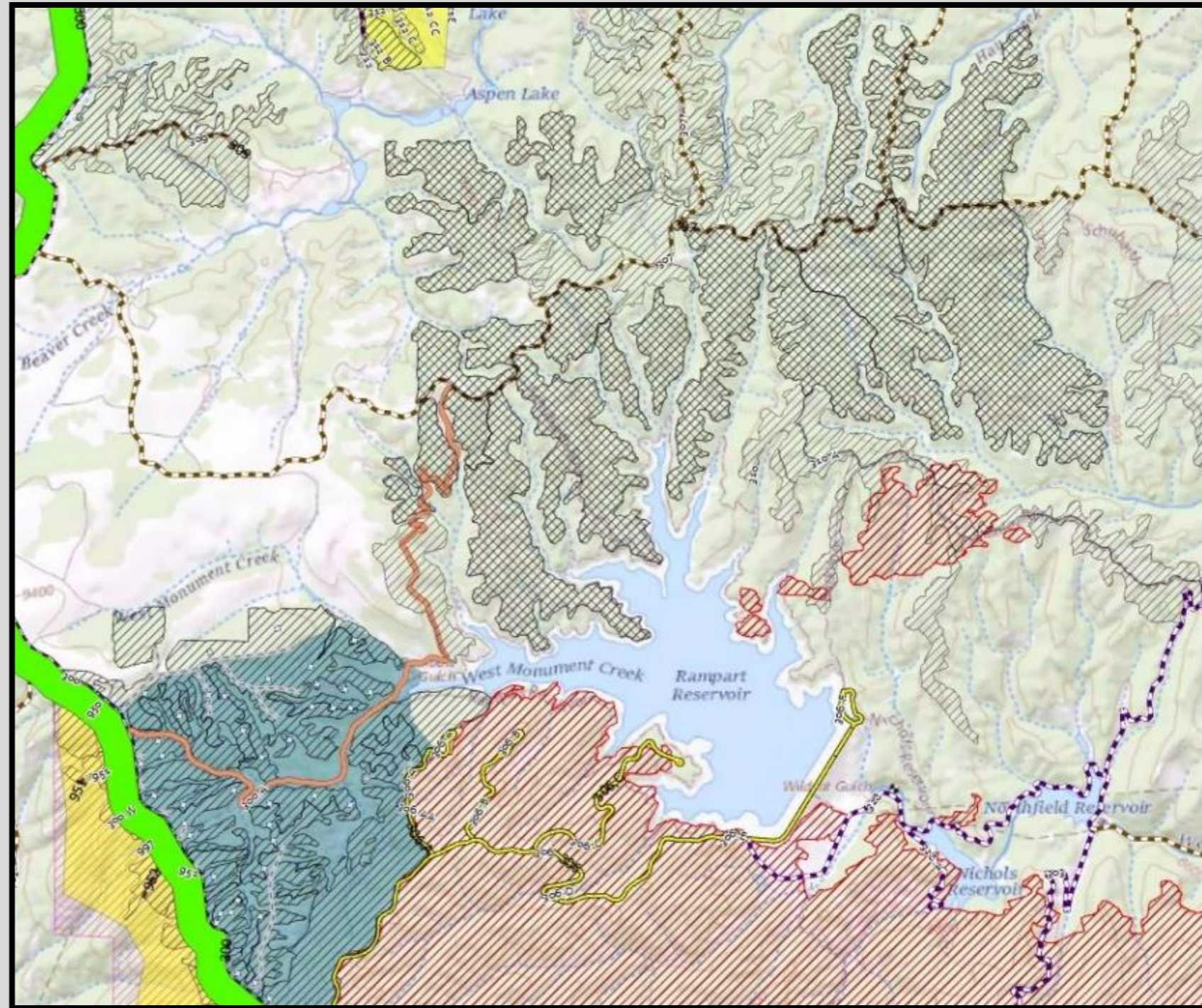




Photo of thinning at Rampart Reservoir.

Shows reduction in canopy continuity

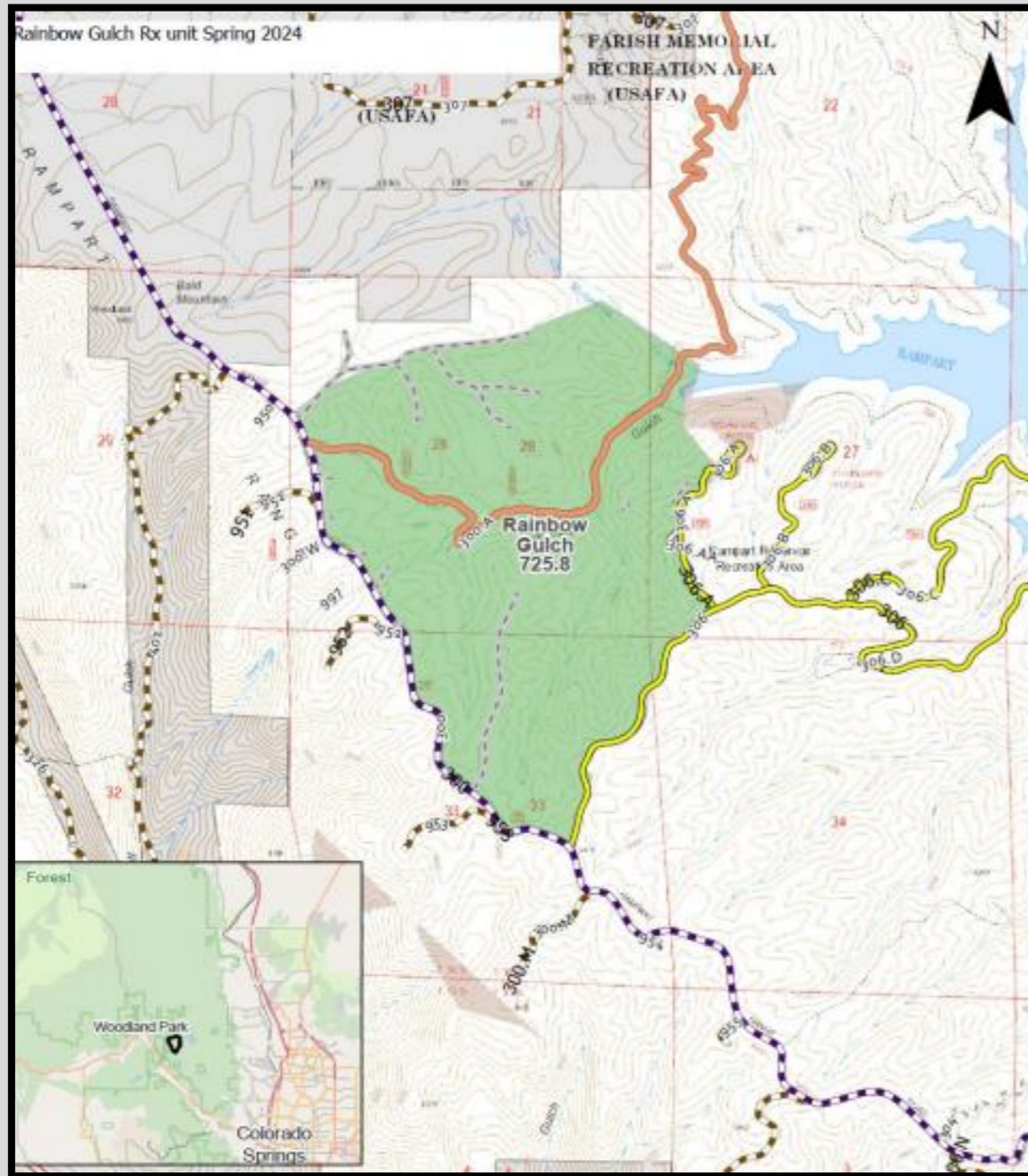
Open canopy facilitates aspen regeneration

Historic ponderosa pine structure with low density and clump/gap arrangement

After / Before Mastication



Rampart area prescribed burning



Woodland Park Fire staff with assistance from CSU, burned over 6,000 piles at Rainbow Gulch in 2024.

This sets us up to broadcast burn 725 acres this spring, weather permitting.

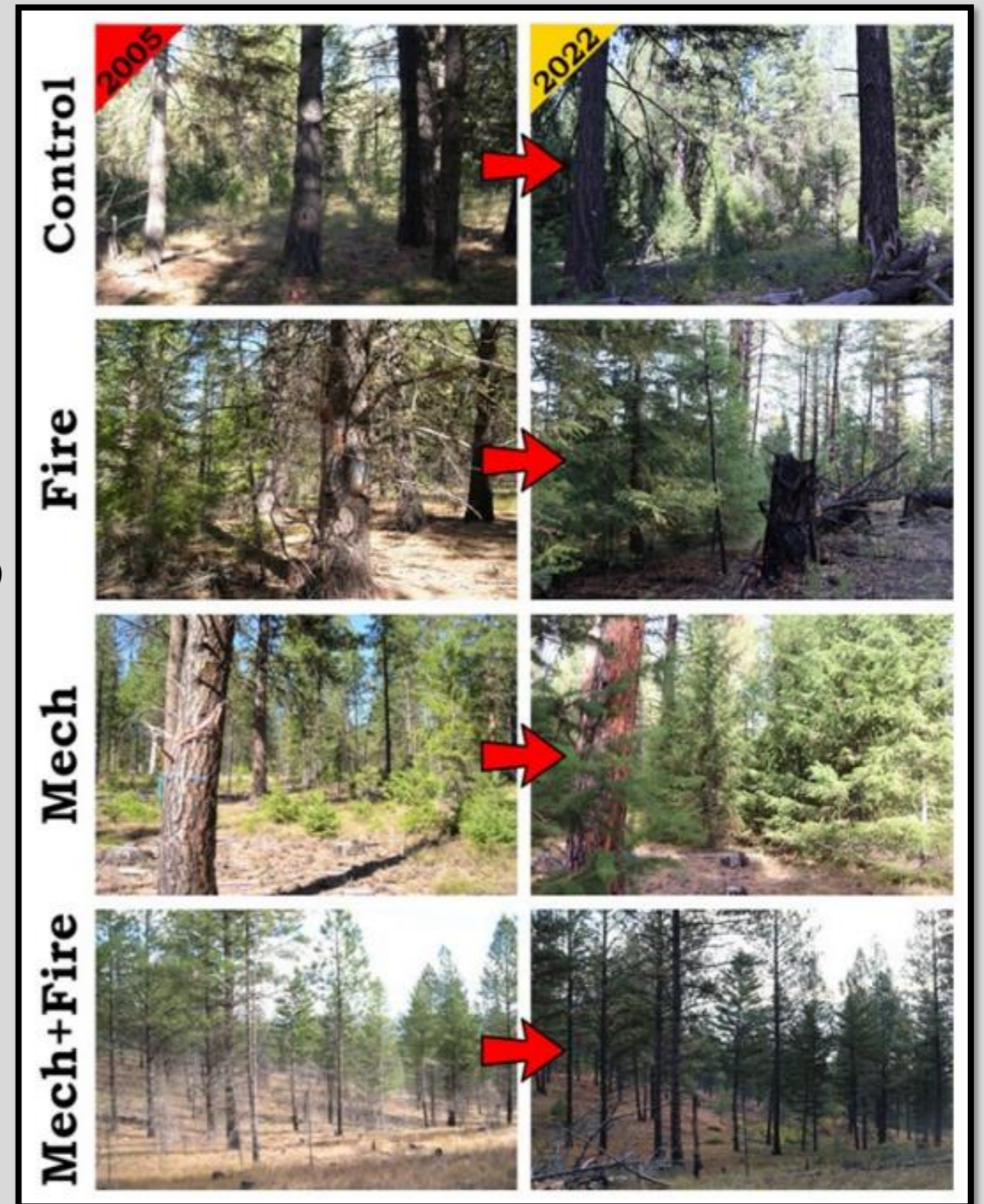
Why are you burning?

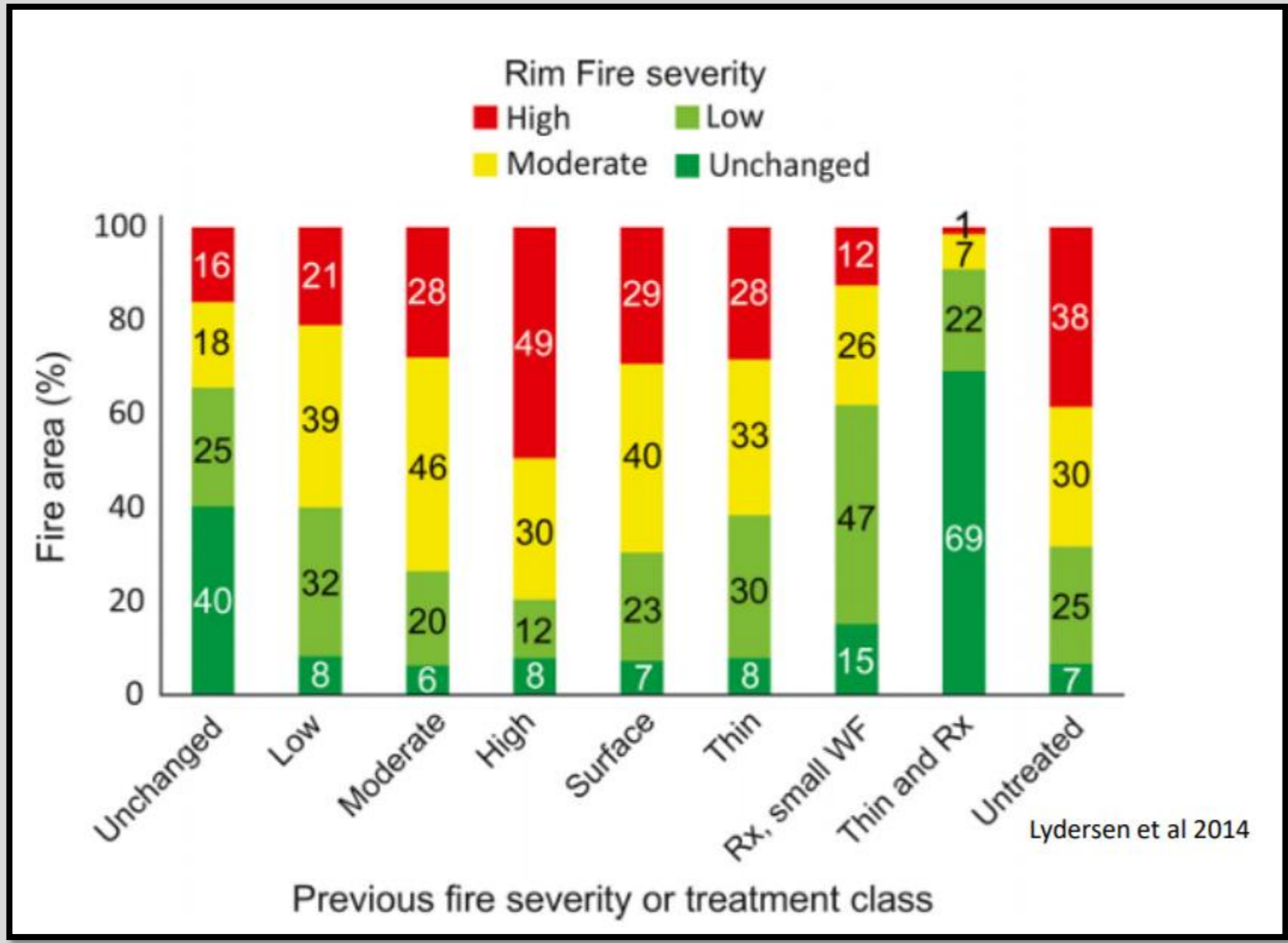
Thinning + rx fire is the most effective, and has the longest lasting effects

We utilize thinning to alter structure and composition, but fire is needed to recycle nutrients and provide regeneration potential to recruit species that need mineral soil

Fire reduces surface fuels which directly reduces flame length and fuel continuity

Photo taken from Hood et al (2024)



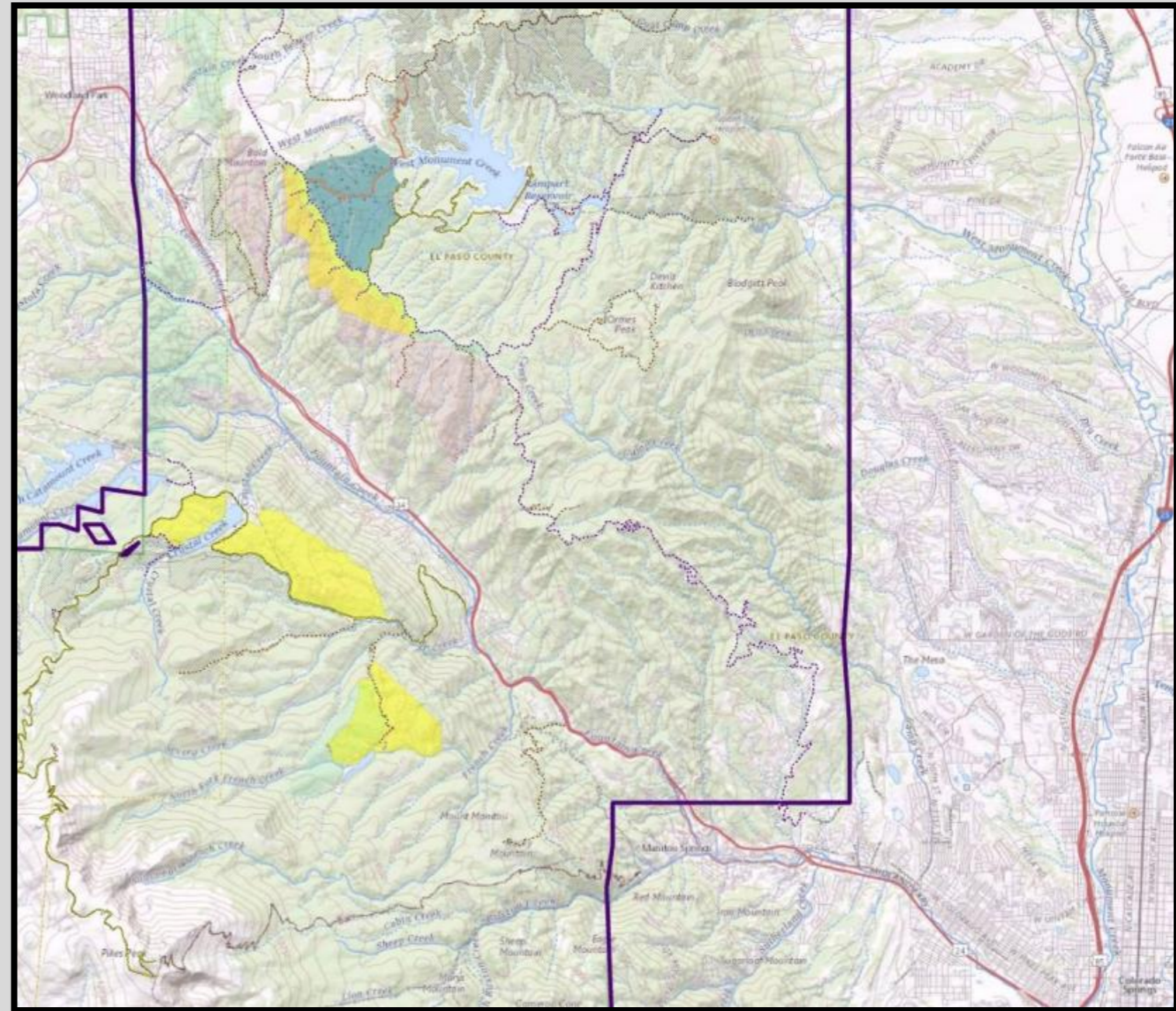


Thin and burn shows the greatest efficacy in reducing mortality when fire occurs

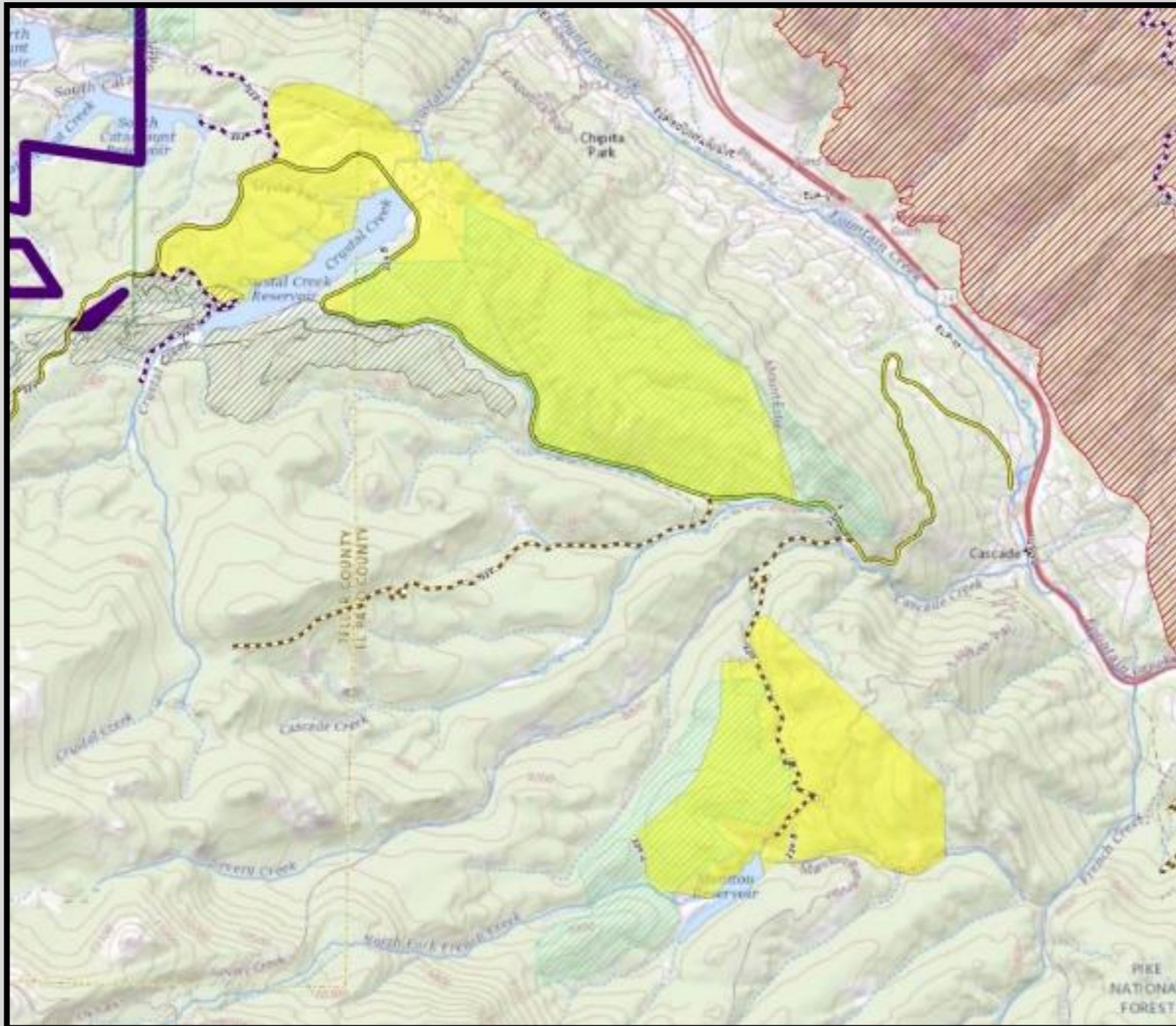
Reservoir reinforcement 2024

Includes mechanical treatments around Rampart Reservoir and Manitou Reservoir

Prescribed fire treatments adjacent to Rampart Reservoir, Crystal Reservoir and Manitou Reservoir



Crow Gulch / Manitou Reservoir Rx



Builds on mechanical treatments completed in 2016

Piles burned 2018 – 2019

Boundaries need updating

Rx planned around mechanical work at Manitou Reservoir

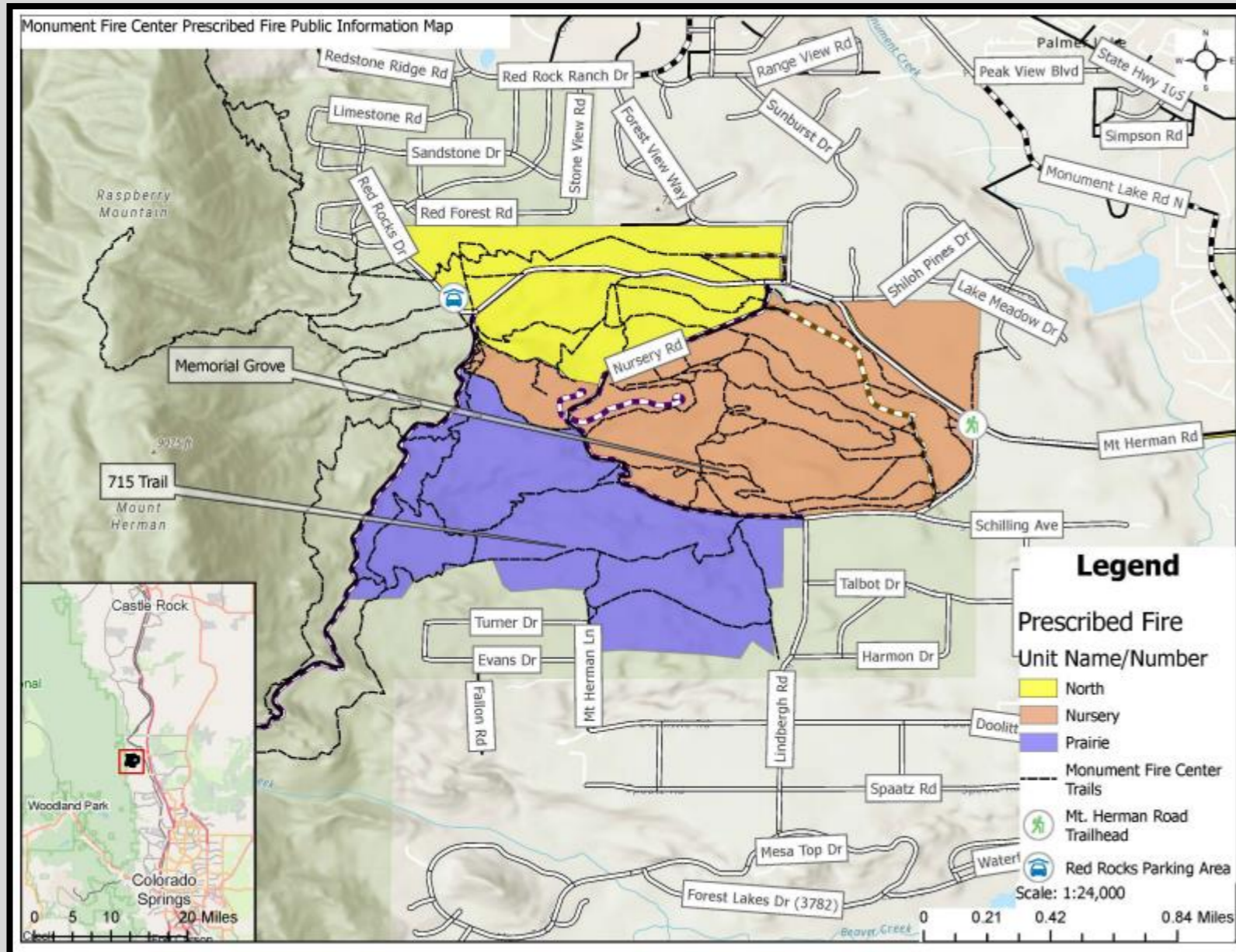
Planned Rx fall of 2024

Monument Fire Center

- Mastication treatments from 2021-2023
- Goal to reduce oak brush continuity and prevent another Berry fire



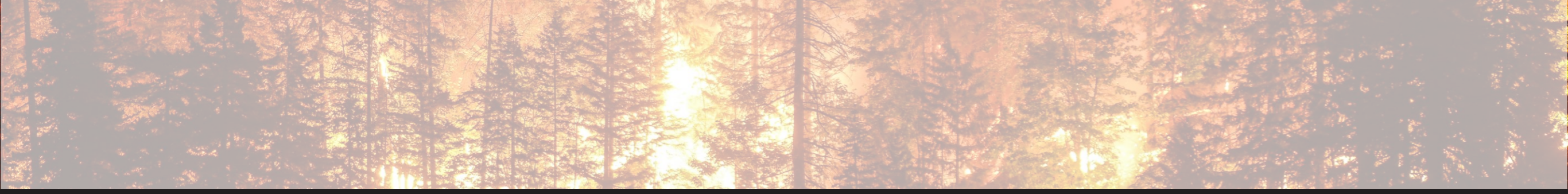
Monument Rx – June 2024



Builds on mastication work by further reducing surface fuel loading

Reduce oak brush regeneration

Restore fire to ecosystem

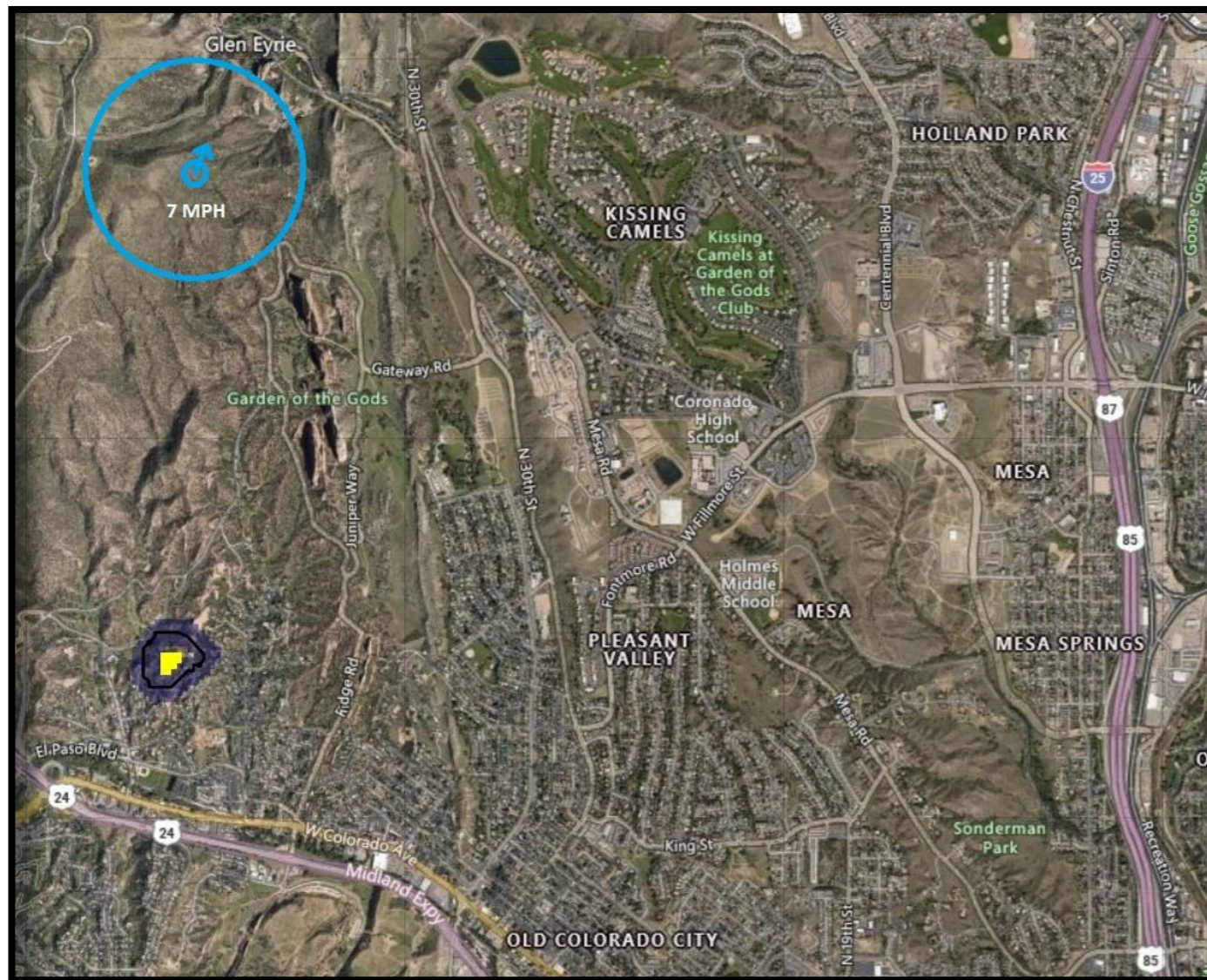


Break TIME

15 minutes

Phase 1: Pre-Evacuation

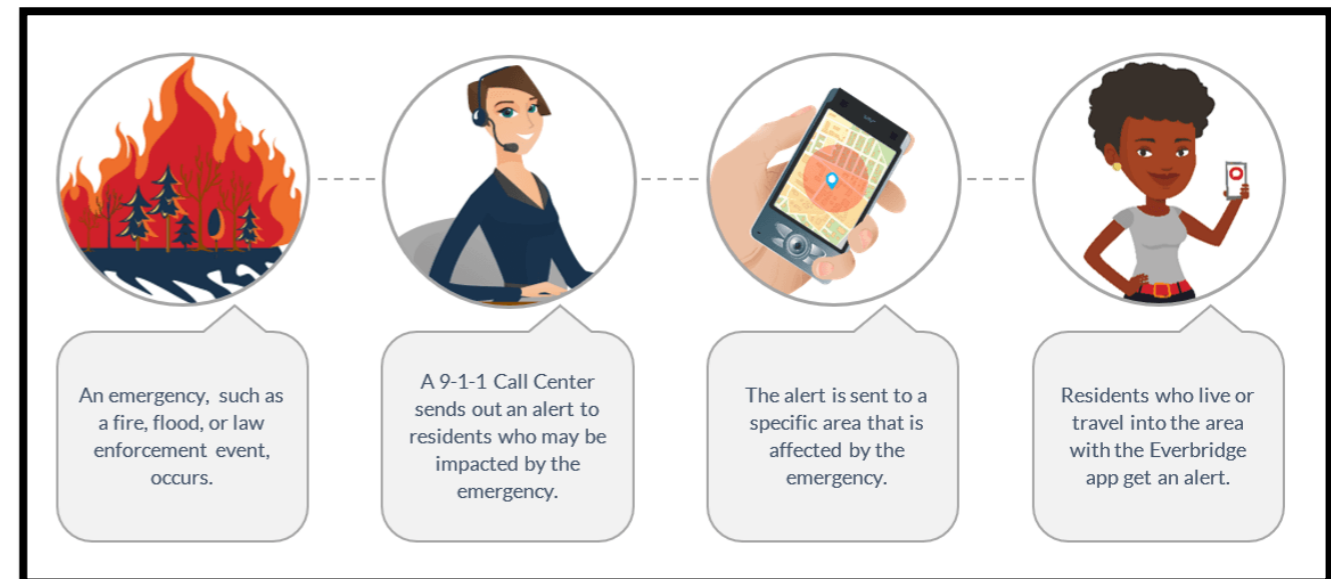
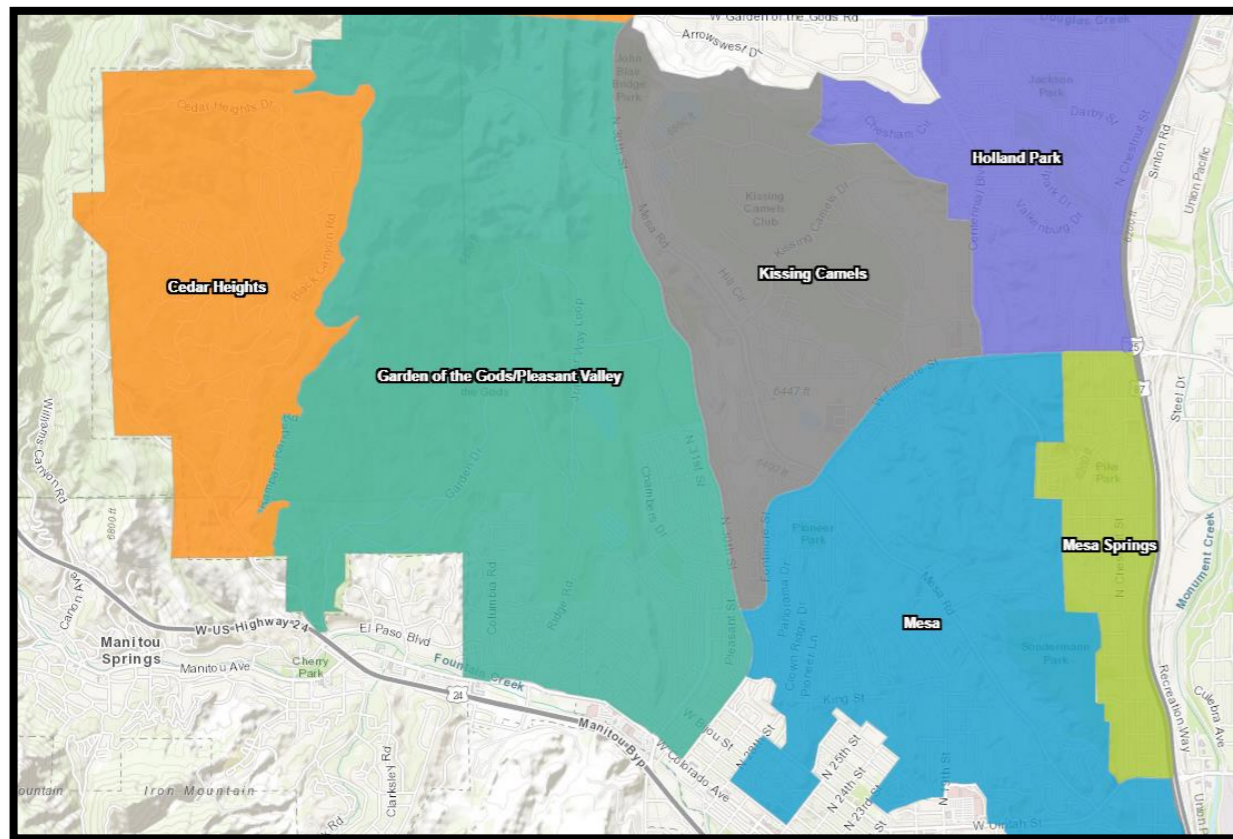
At 1 pm, a fire of unknown origin has been reported near Manitou Springs.



- The fire danger rating is listed as High
- Humidity 5-10%
- Wind Speed 7 mph
- Wind Direction Northeast
- Chance of Precipitation 0%
- Currently in Drought Conditions

Phase 1: Pre-Evacuation

At 2 pm, the City of Colorado Springs has issued a pre-evacuation order for Cedar Heights, Garden of the Gods/Pleasant Valley, Kissing Camels, Mesa, and Mesa Springs.



Disclaimer: These are based on chipping regions. Real evacuation messages will differ based on determination by local Emergency Management.

Phase 1: Discussion

What would you be doing?

Would you be aware of this ongoing situation?

Are you signed up for peak alerts?

Do you have a go kit?

What is in your go kit?

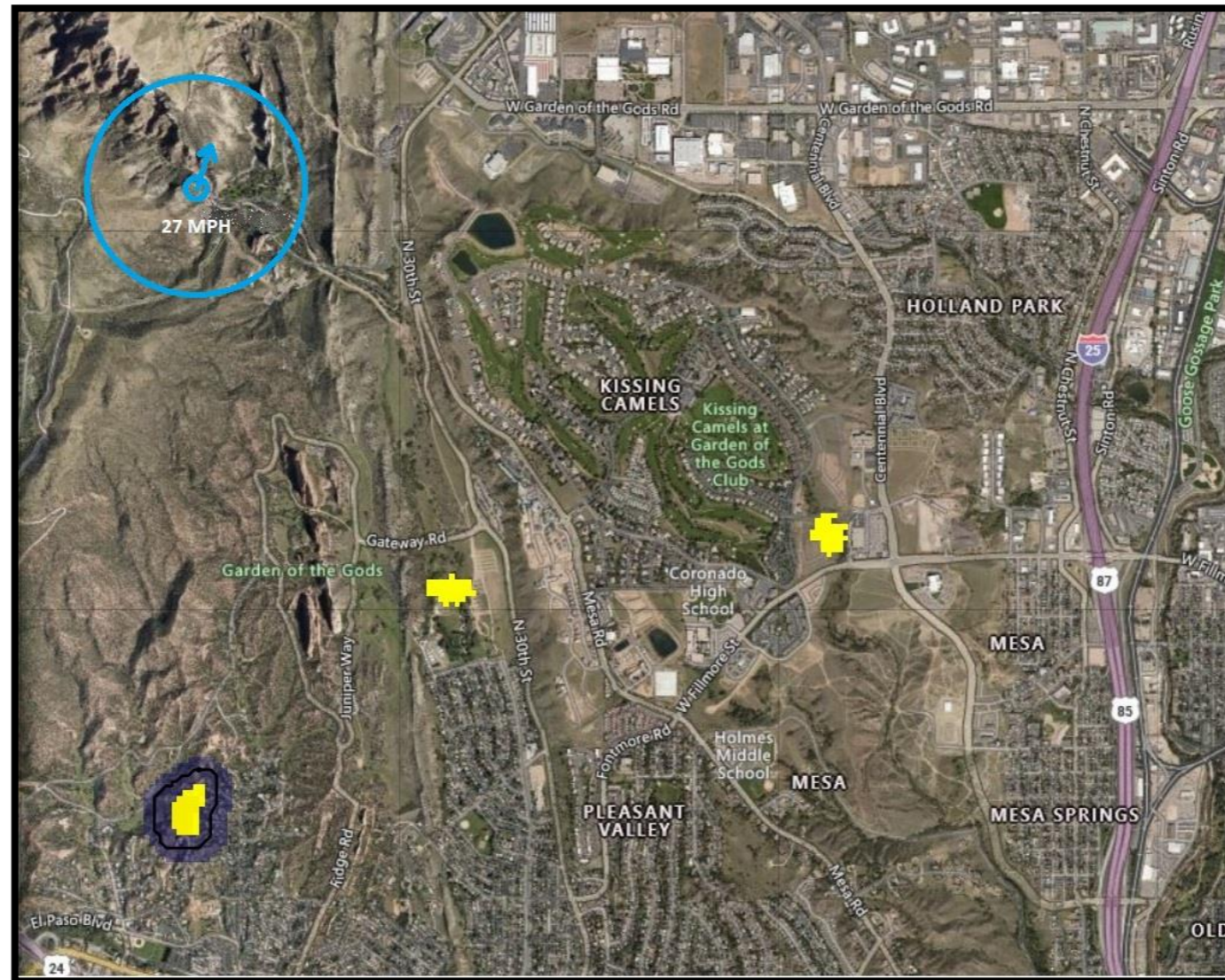
Do you have a wildfire action plan?

Who is included in this plan?

Time: 15 Minutes

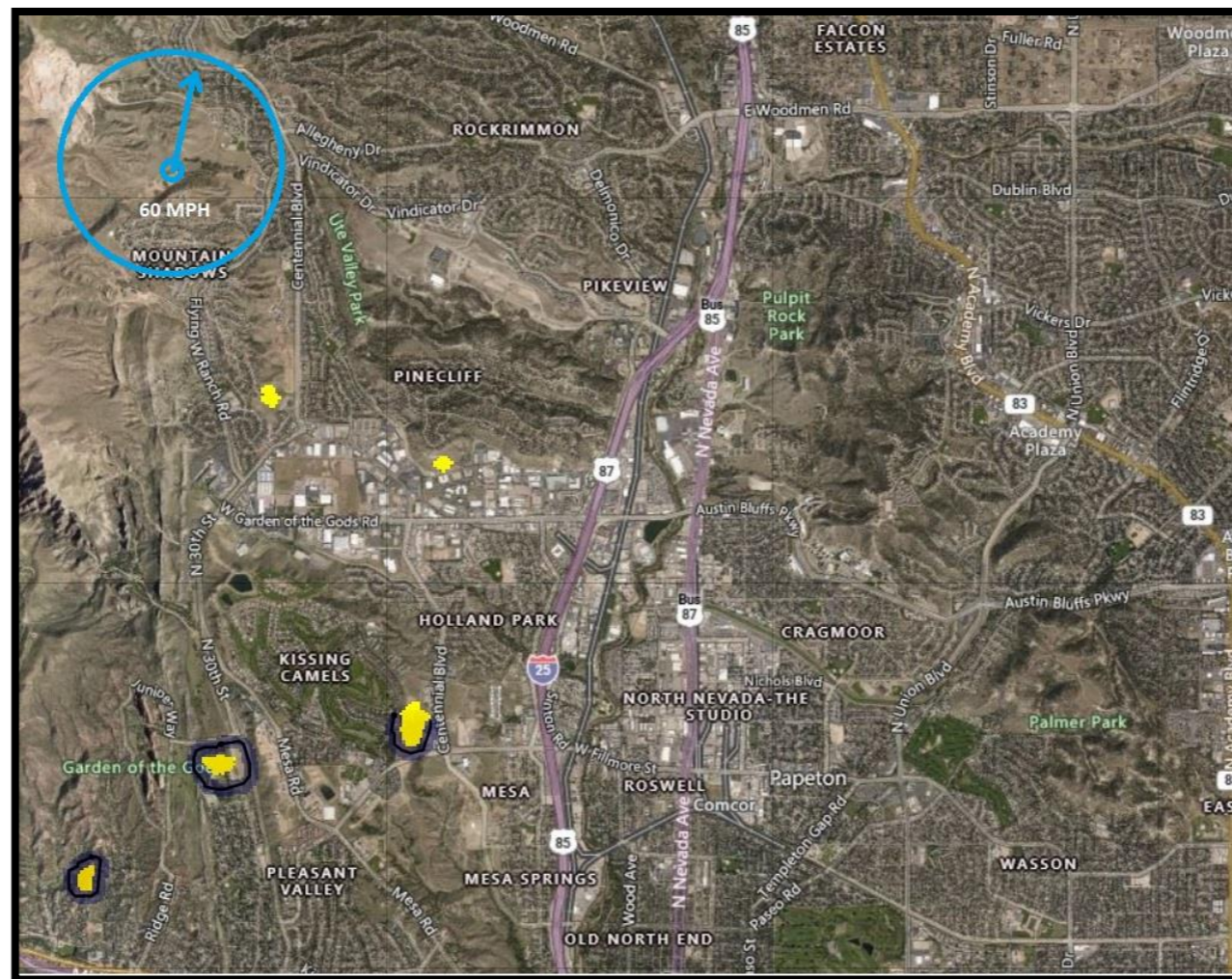
Phase 2: Evacuation

At 3 pm, wind speed increases to 27 mph causing embers to travel and ignite two spot fires nearby. The communities that were originally issued a pre-evacuation order have been notified to evacuate.



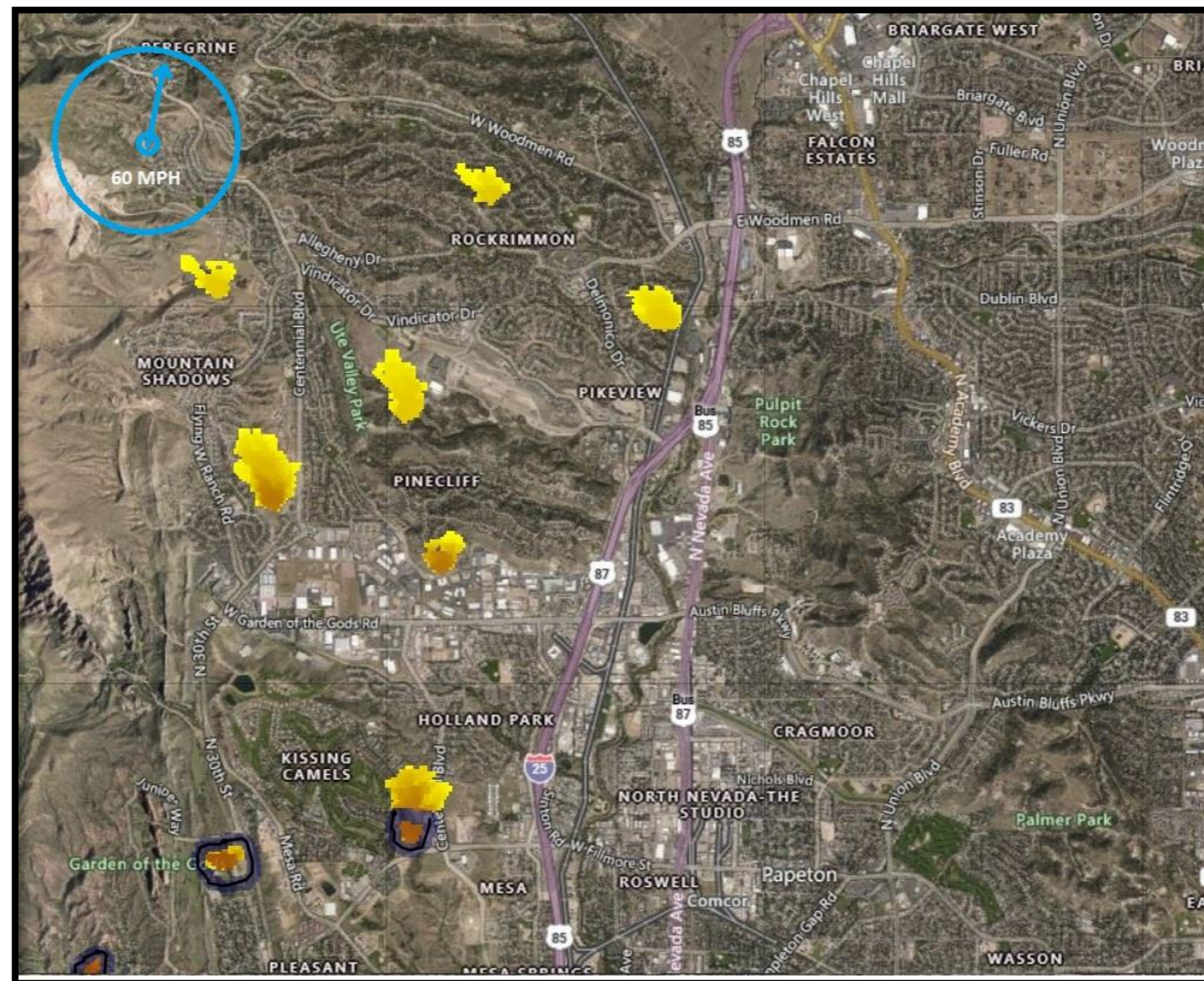
Phase 2: Evacuation

Responders have contained one of the original spot fires and 60% containment of the second. Wind speed has increased to 60 mph, causing even more spot fires in additional communities. These additional communities have received an evacuation order to include Mountain Shadows, Holland Park, and Pinecliff.



Phase 2: Evacuation

Spot fires have continued to ignite throughout the WUI. Most communities west of I-25 are being evacuated.



Phase 2: Discussion

How quickly should you be prepared to leave?

How many cars would you take?

What would you bring with you?

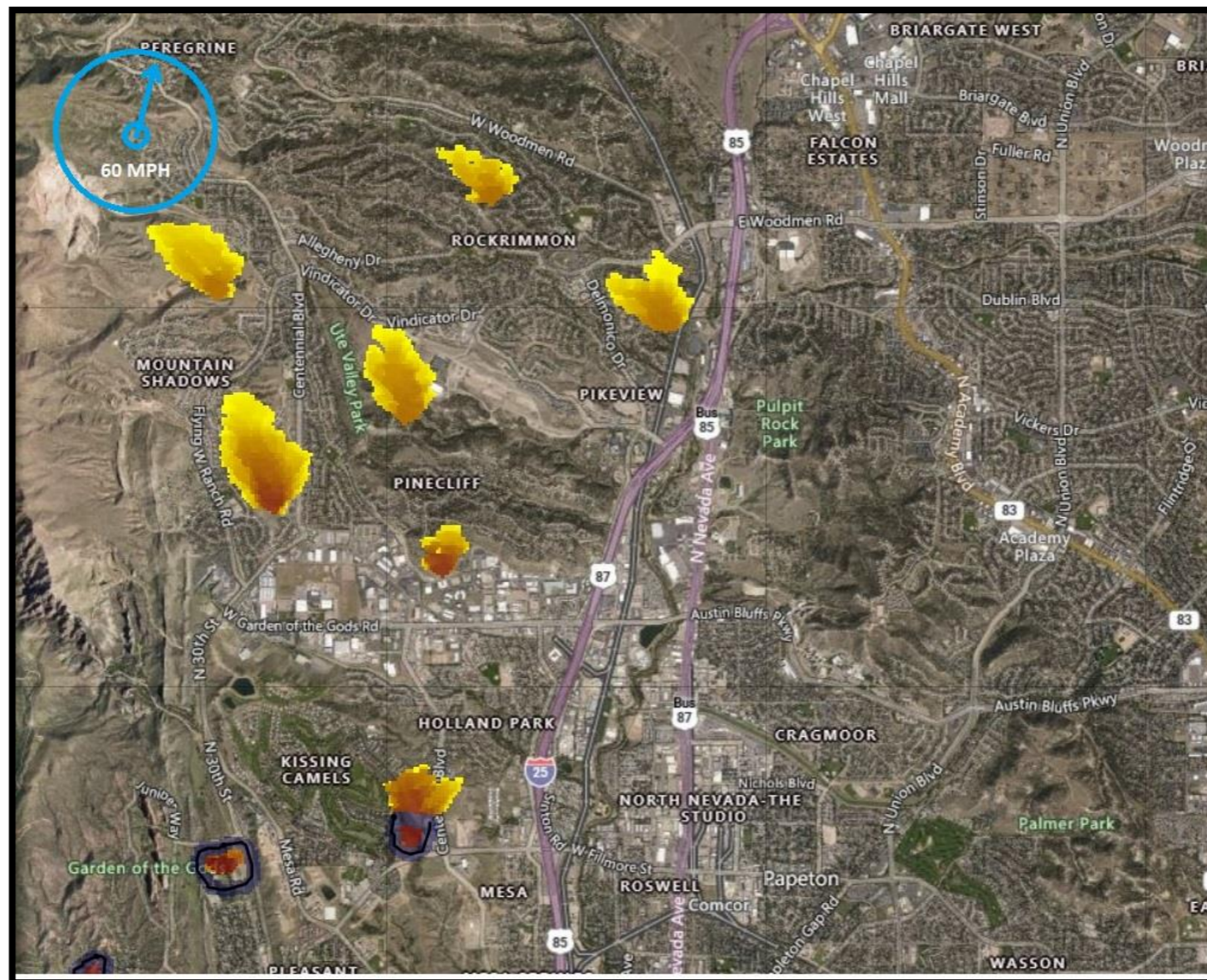
Where would you go?

Who would you contact?

Time: 15 Minutes

Phase 3: Triage

Fires are overtaking most of the WUI in Colorado Springs and it is now too late to mitigate. Who has the best stand-alone survivability?



Phase 3: Triage

Your group will be presented with 4 photos of homes in the Colorado Springs Wildland Urban Interface. You are to rank the homes in order of most to least likely to survive a wildfire.

Photos are available with each facilitator and one person from each group will place the photos in order at the front of the room to compare results.

Time: 30 Minutes

Photo 1



Photo 2



Photo 3



Photo 4



Expectations of You

- Educate your neighbors
- Connect people that need assistance to those willing and able to help
- Stay up to date with our program
- Utilize available resources
- Invite our team to come to HOA Meetings
- Living with Wildfire Town Hall Series
- Fall Champions Workshop
- Let us know what we can do to better serve you



**LIVING WITH WILDFIRE
2024 TOWN HALL SERIES**

SAVE THE DATE

April 23
6:30 pm – 8:00 pm
Colorado Springs Masonic Center

May 14
6:30 pm – 8:00 pm
Heart of the Springs Church

June 25
6:30 pm – 8:00 pm
Broadmoor Community Church

Firewise USA

Organize — Create a board or committee of volunteers to represent your community. Identify a resident leader who will be the program point of contact.

Plan — complete a community wildfire risk assessment and a multi-year action plan to identify and prioritize actions to reduce ignition risk to homes.

Do — Work together to complete risk reduction actions identified in the plan.

Tell — Apply for recognition and renew your status through the Firewise® Portal



FIREWISE USA®

Residents reducing wildfire risks

Currently 31 communities



Red Boundary = Immediate Zone
Orange Boundary = Intermediate Zone
Green Boundary = Extended Zone

Awards & Giveaways!!

David J Collas Award & Patrick Niedringhaus Award



Wildfire Mitigation: Contact Information

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