

Animas City Mountain Prescribed Fire



**BLM Southwest District
Tres Rios Field Office**



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)

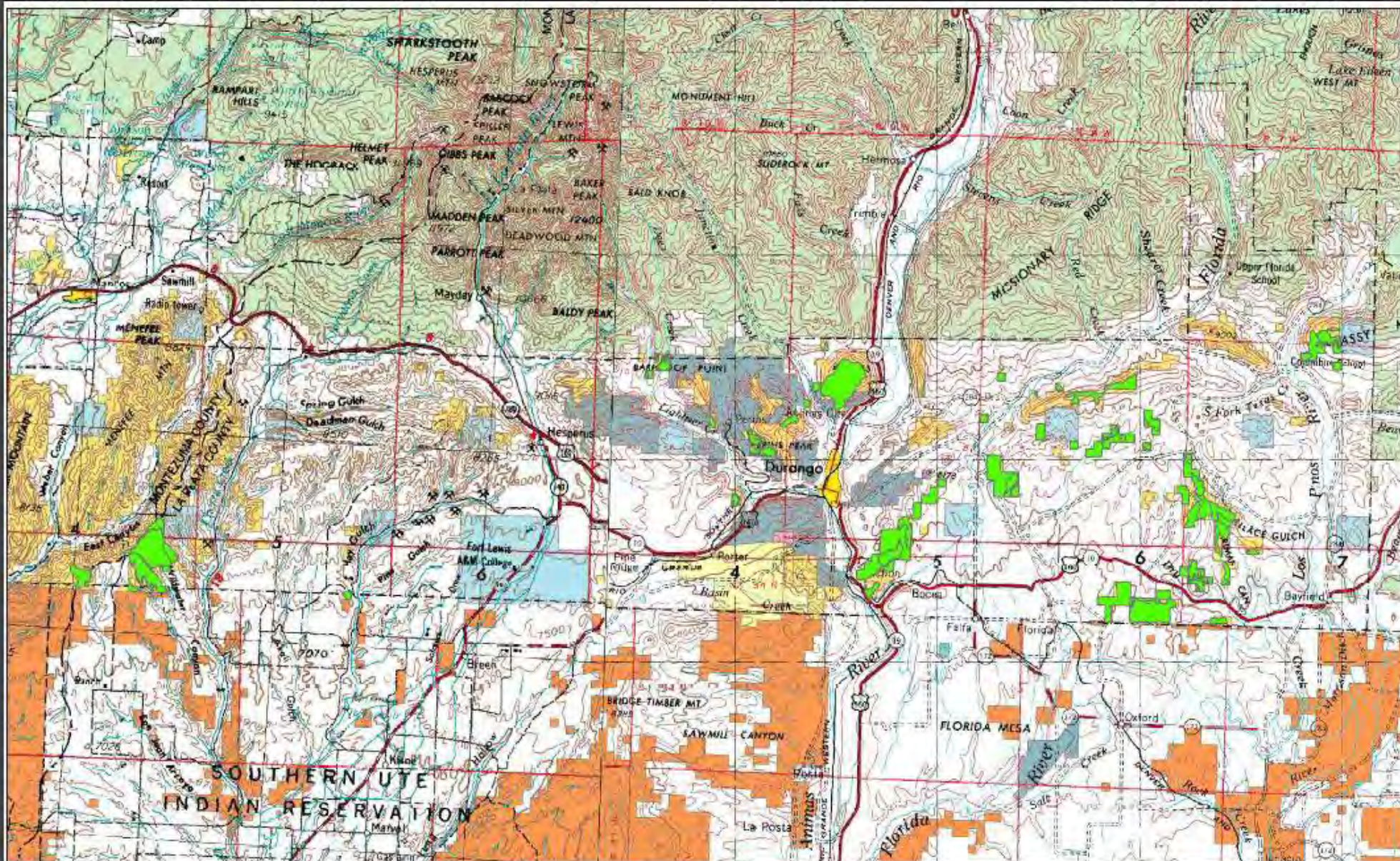
5,800 acres available for treatment

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

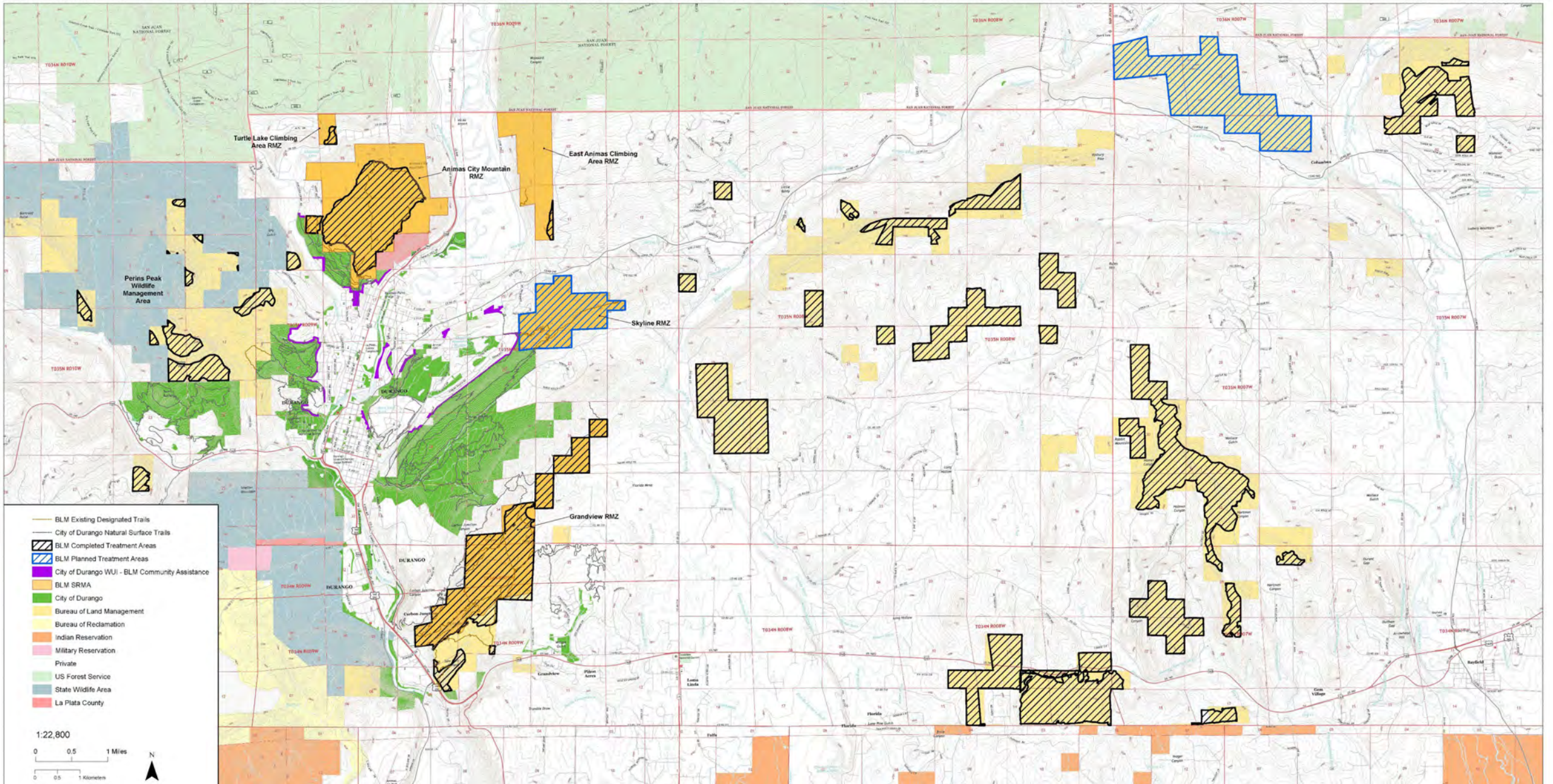


Legend

- 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



Durango Area Programmatic Fuels EA



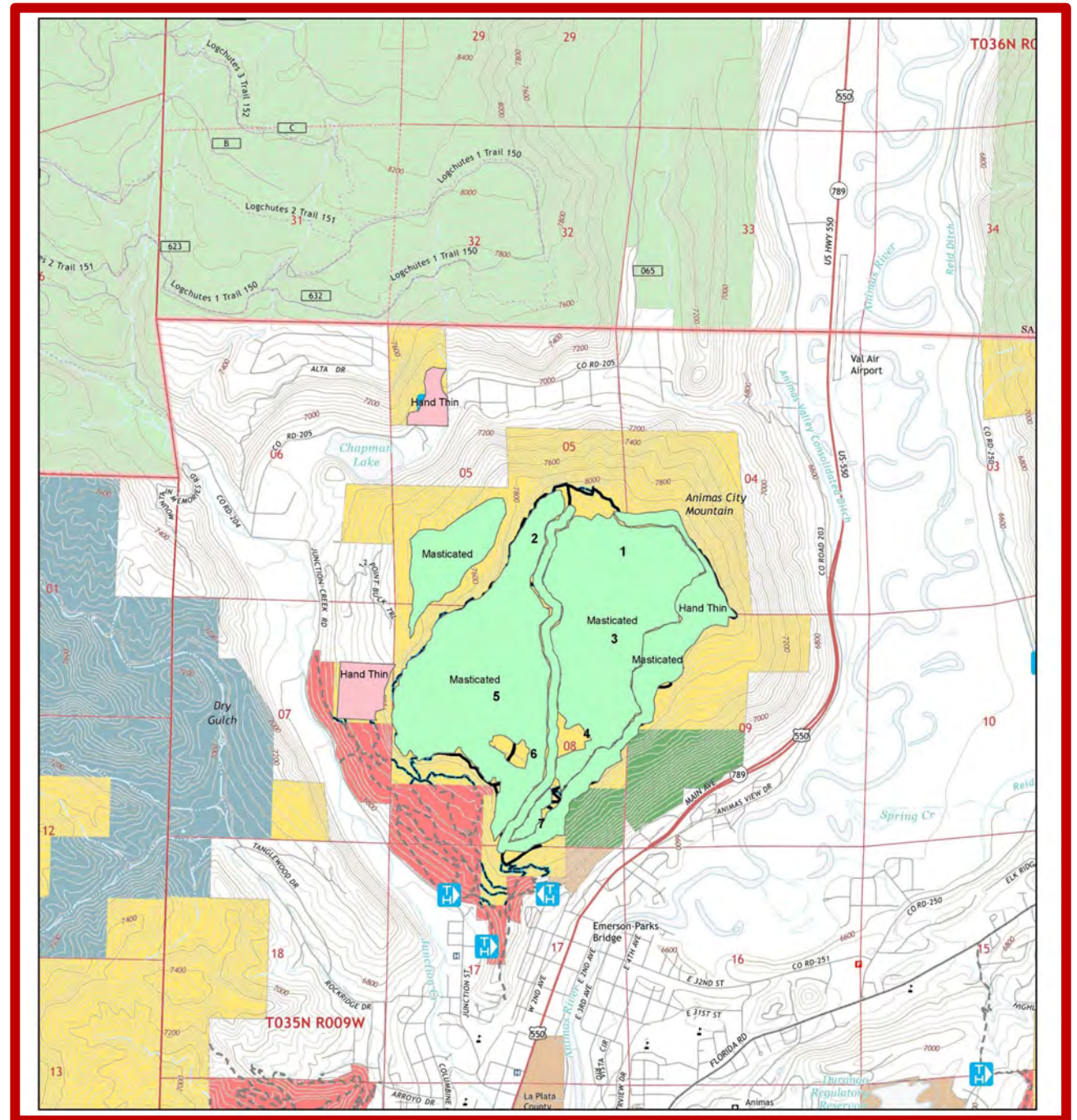


Animas City Mountain

Past fuel treatments

Animas City Mountain

Previous Fuel Treatments 2010-2012



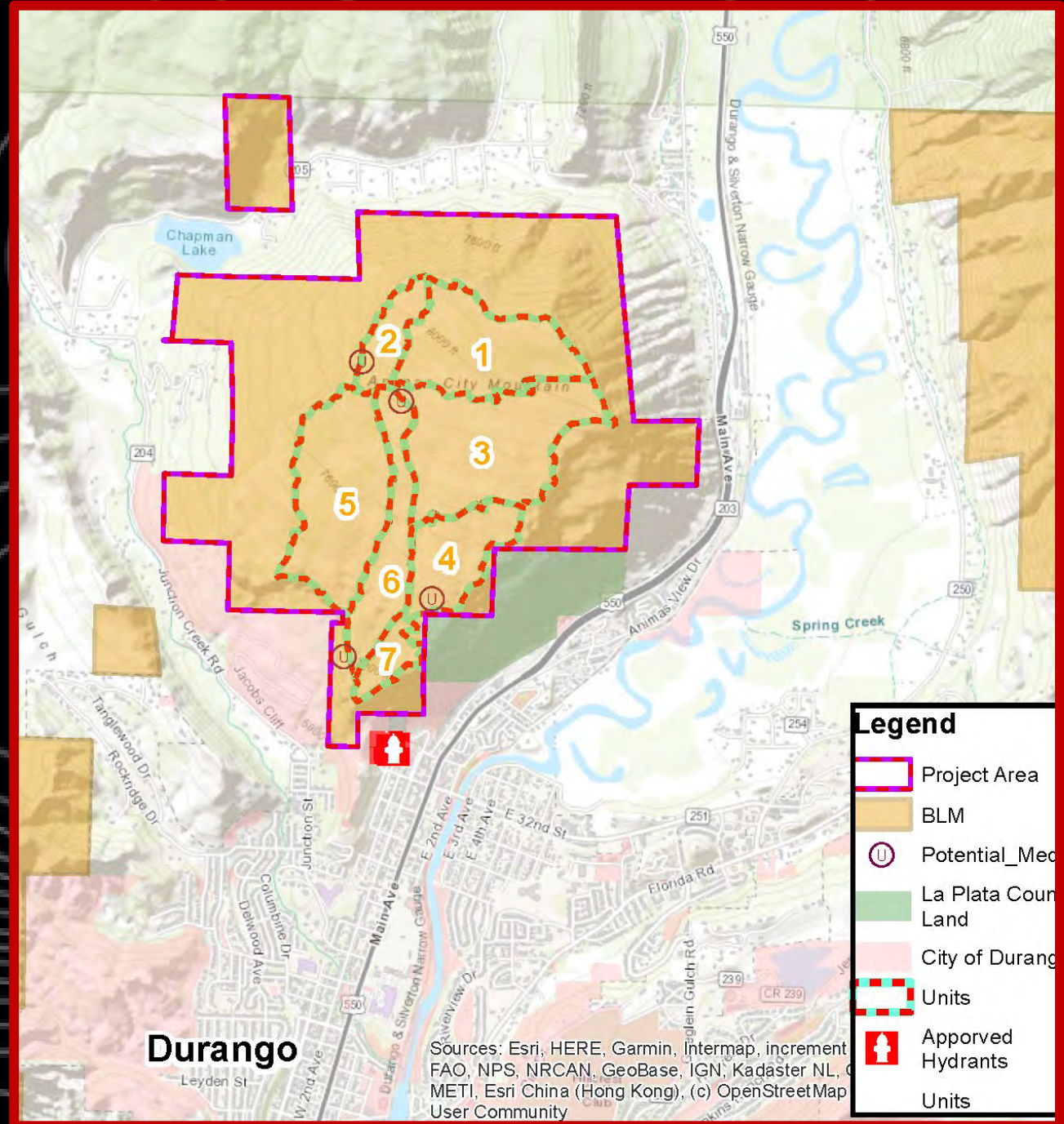
A wide-angle photograph of Animas City Mountain. The mountain is covered in dense green pine trees, with rocky outcrops visible near the top. The sky is bright blue with scattered white clouds. The mountain slopes down to the right, where more distant mountain ranges are visible in the haze.


Animas City Mountain

What is the project?

Animas City Mountain Prescribed Fire

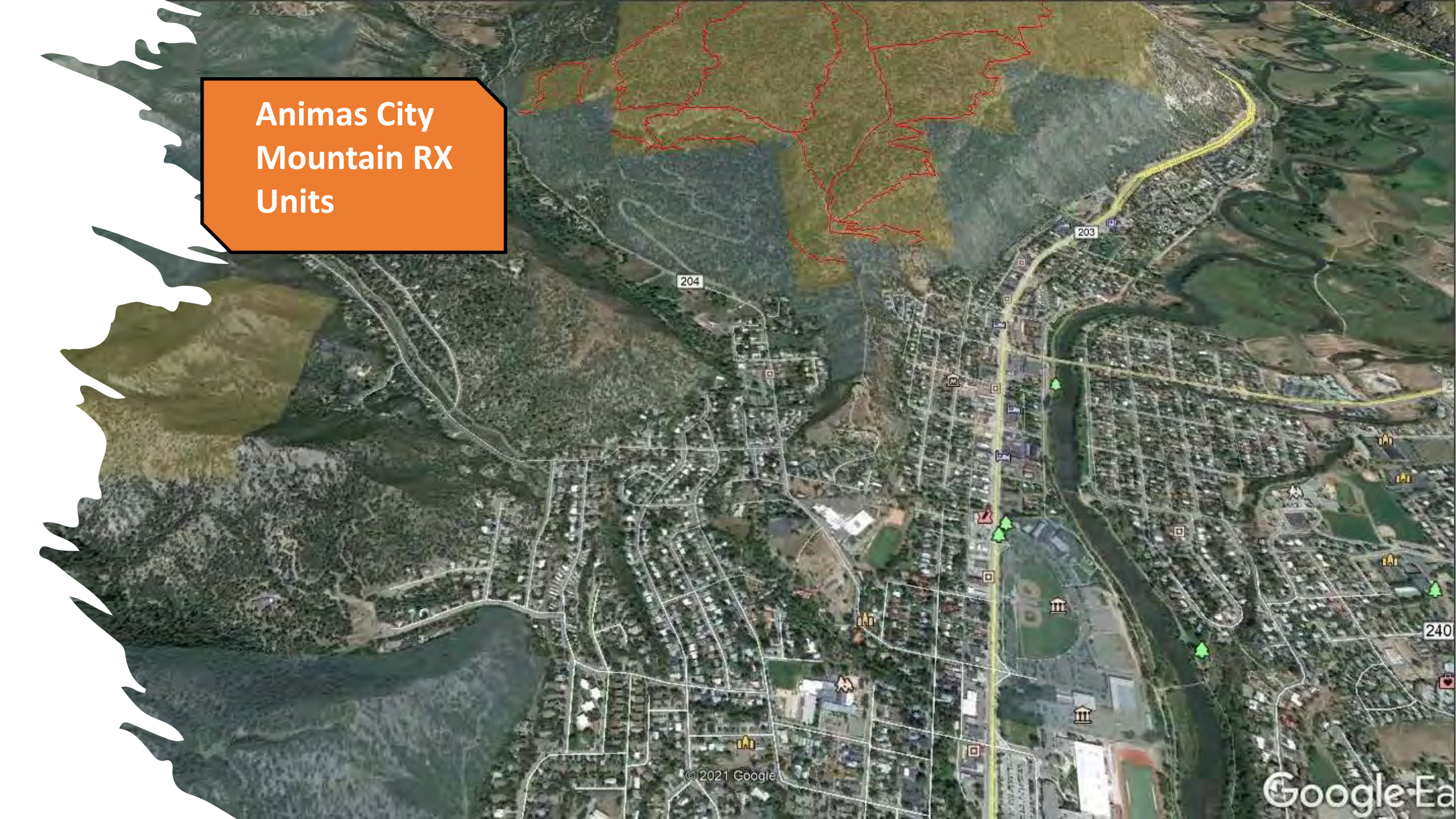
Unit	Acres
1	121
2	37
3	171
4	72
5	149
6	78
7	24
Total	652



An aerial photograph of Animas City, Colorado, showing a grid of streets and various commercial and residential buildings. In the background, there are green mountains. A red outline highlights a specific area on a mountain slope in the upper center of the image. A yellow outline highlights a smaller area on a mountain slope to the right. An orange rounded rectangle in the lower-left corner contains the text 'Animas City Mountain Burn Units Durango View'.

**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



Ignition Crew

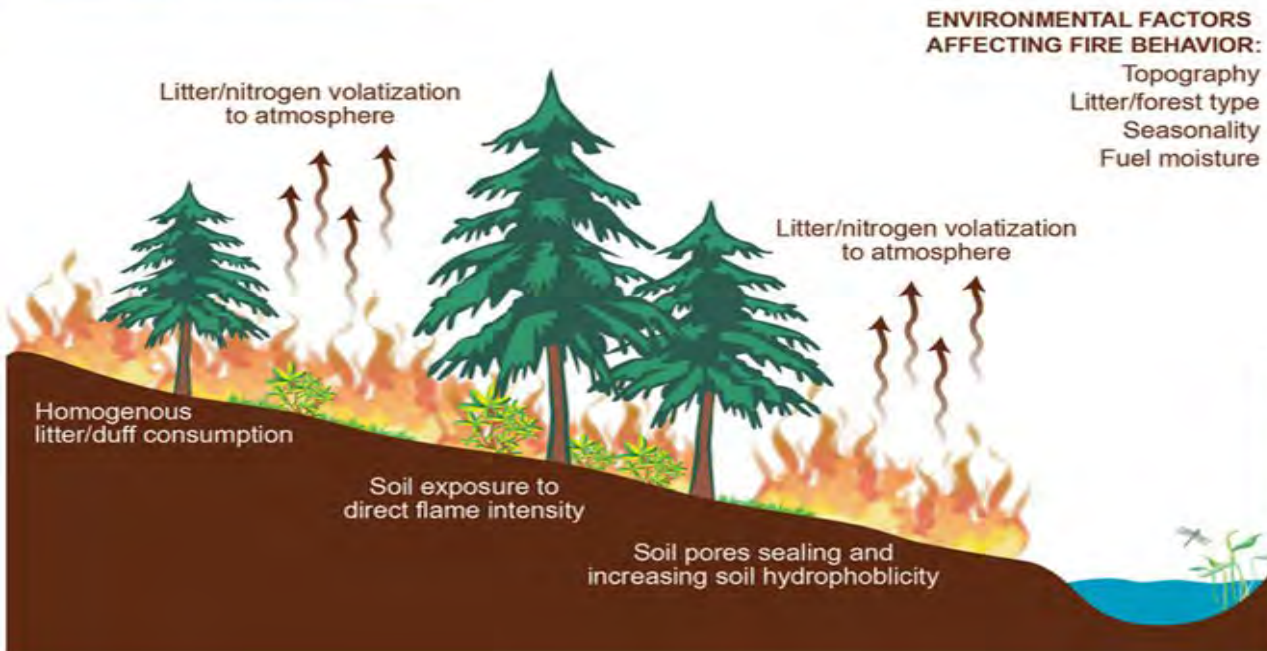


Burning Ground Litter

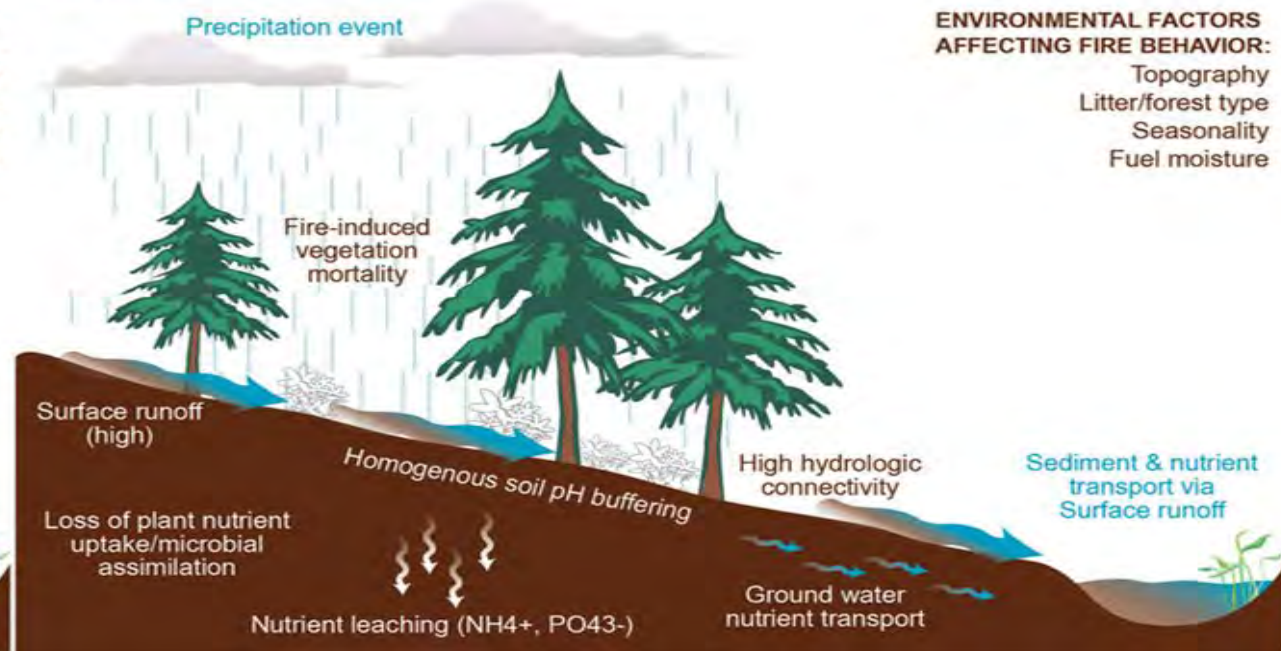


Results: Before, During and After Prescribed Burning

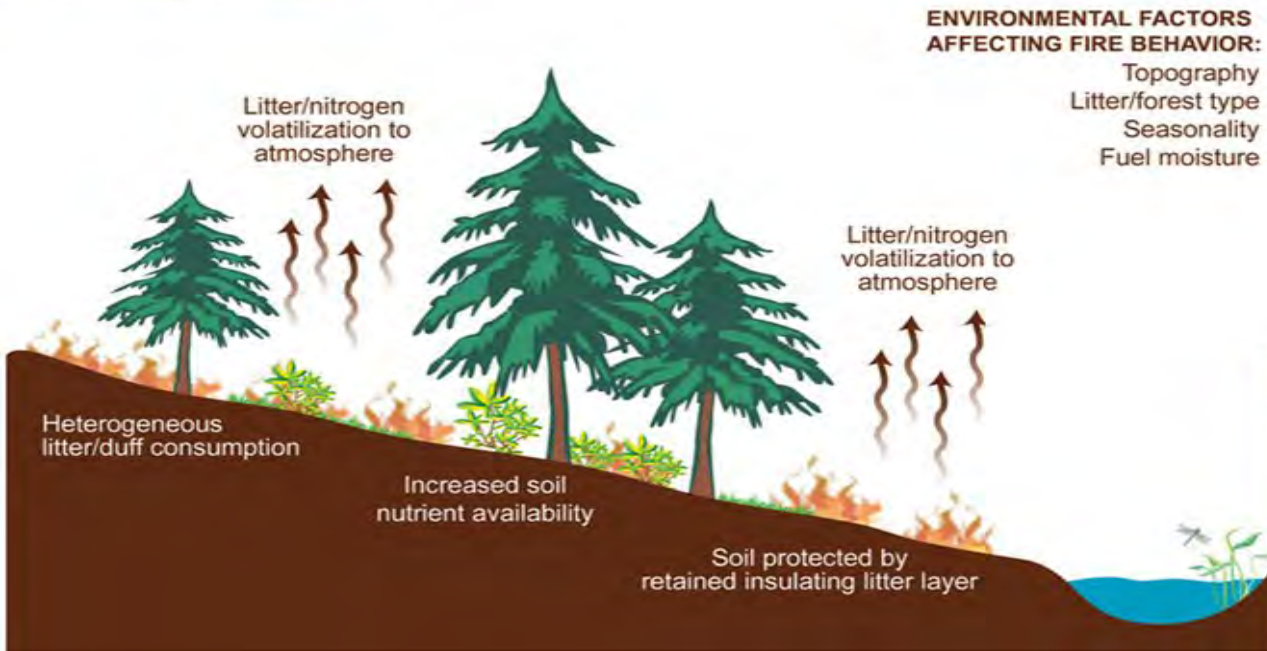
HIGH SEVERITY FIRE



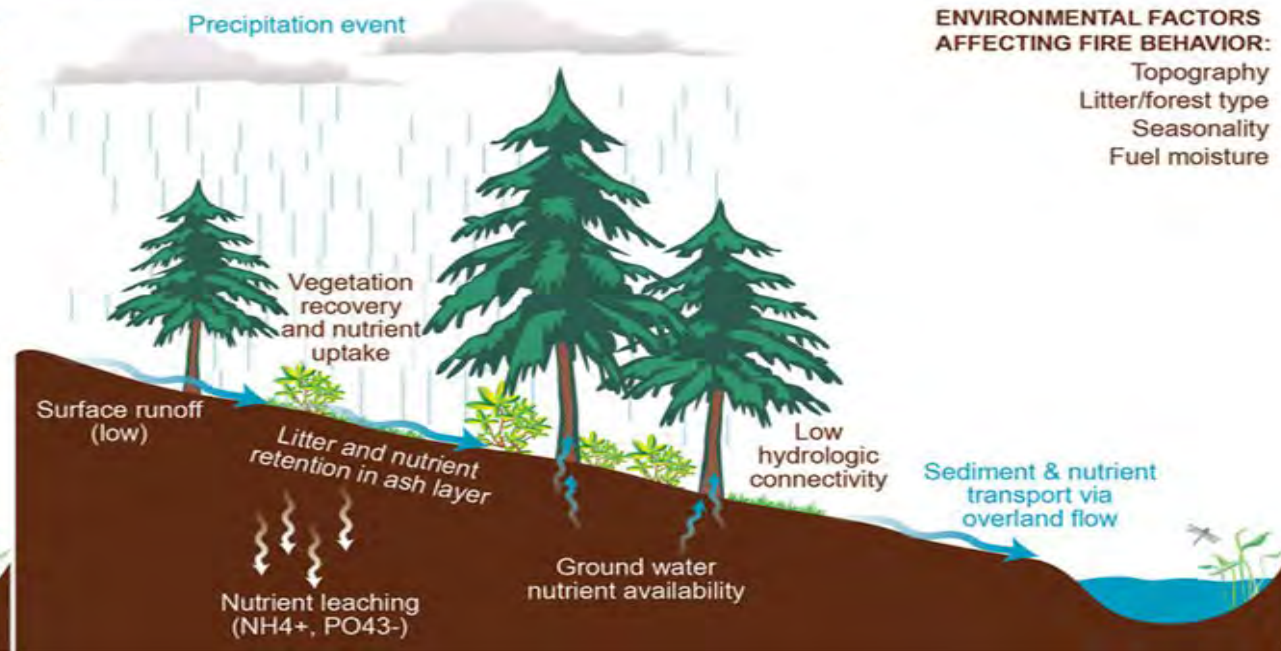
POST HIGH SEVERITY FIRE



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

Open wildlife corridors and improve habitat; resprout Gambel oak to be more palatable for wildlife; regeneration of native grasses and forbs; breaking down vegetation litter to add more nutrients to the soil


Animas City Mountain Wildlife Closures



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



Elk Closure
Dec. 1 – April 15



ACM RX Spring Burn Window

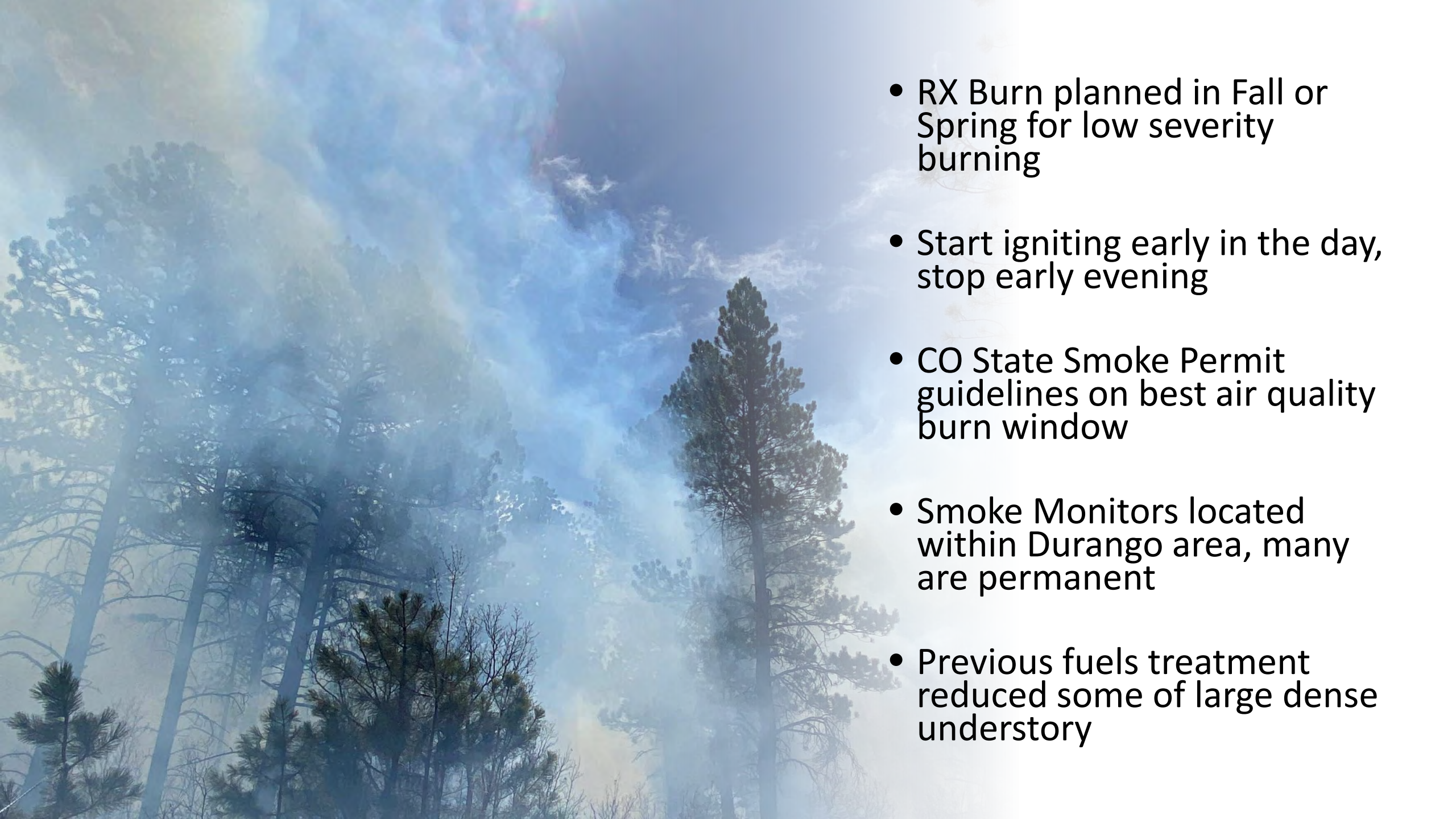
April 16 – May 15

Units 1 & 2 will not be burned in the Spring,
due to Peregrine Falcon/Raptor Nesting.

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



Past 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

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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