

Request for Proposals
Trail West - Young Life Camp Restoration Project
Chaffee County, CO

Background and Statement of Work: In collaboration with the Colorado State Forest Service, the National Forest Foundation (NFF or Project Administrator) is seeking a contractor(s) to conduct service work, including forest thinning and mastication operations, across 155 acres of private land in Chaffee County, Colorado, to reduce dense forest fuels that have accumulated due to a century of fire suppression and human development in fire-dependent ecosystems. The Colorado State Forest Service (CSFS or Implementation Lead) identified and developed this project and will operate as the primary point of contact for the selected contractor during implementation. The Trail West - Young Life Camp Restoration Project will improve wildlife habitat and reduce the risk of severe wildfire through targeted treatments on private land in Chaffee County. The Contractor will also reduce forest densities by creating a mosaic of small openings and leaving un-thinned forested areas adjacent for wildlife cover.

Information Requested

If interested in submitting a bid for this project, please provide a proposal for the above statement of work by providing:

- technical approach, including slash management
- work experience (with at least three references)
- cost
- capacity for this project (including anticipated project completion date)
- experience in similar projects

Specific requirements are detailed below.

I. PROJECT OVERVIEW AND REQUIREMENTS

General Specifications

(a) Description of Work – This Request for Proposals is for restoration services related to mechanical treatments (thinning and mastication), including the following:

1. Trail West - Young Life Camp Restoration Project (155 acres)

The Contractor shall identify what they can supply in terms of materials, labor, equipment, supplies, supervision, quality control, and incidentals required to complete the work described. The Contractor shall perform all work in a safe and conscientious manner.

- (b) Project Location – The Project units are located in Chaffee County, CO, northwest of Buena Vista, CO. The treatment units and boundaries will be delineated on the ground with paint or flagging; project shapefiles are available on request. Boundaries around horse trails will not be flagged but digital maps will be provided. Specific project locations will be shared to those who RSVP to the contractor tour.
- (c) Work Schedule – Project implementation for the required private acres will begin as early as October 1, 2024, pending the awarding of a contract and must be completed no later than July 31, 2025. Units with a pinyon-juniper forest type must be completed prior to April 30, 2025 due to the pinyon Ips beetle forest work restriction. Preference will be given to bids that can complete project implementation by December 15, 2024.

Other Project Requirements and Specifications

- (a) Utilities – In many locations there will be no or limited sanitation, water, electrical or housing services available. The Contractor shall make its own arrangements for temporary facilities if needed. If needed, the NFF and CSFS can assist the Contractor in identifying potential camping locations near the project area on public land. Permits or authorization may be required for public lands camping.
- (b) Specifications – Project work shall be accomplished in accordance with the following:

APPENDIX A – Scope of Work

Insurance Requirements

Upon selection of the winning bid, the Contractor agrees that it has and shall maintain the following insurance coverage indicated below. The effective date of all coverage shall precede the start of any work.

- a. State minimum workers' compensation insurance coverage for its employees, if any.
- b. Broad form general liability, property damage, and automotive liability insurance in the minimum amount of \$1,000,000 for bodily injury, death, or damage to property of any person and \$2,000,000 for bodily injury, death, or damage to property of more than one person. The Contractor shall name NFF an Additional Named Insured and provide NFF with a certificate of insurance evidencing such coverages, prior to the initiation of the Scope of Services.
- c. If the Scope of Services includes professional services as identified herein, Contractor shall also provide professional errors and omissions liability insurance. Professional services for purposes of this section include, but are not limited to performing architecture, engineering, landscape architecture, land surveying or planning, preparation and signing or stamping of drawings, maps, surveys or construction specifications, or design and development of computer software, programs or websites by the Contractor or by subcontractors on behalf of the Contractor, for which professional liability insurance would typically be required. The minimum coverage limits required are \$1,000,000 for each claim and \$1,000,000

annual aggregate.

Payment/Performance Security

Contractor shall post cash, a letter of credit, bond, or other financial security that is easily convertible into cash in a form acceptable to the NFF, in its sole determination, to assure completion of the work required under any subsequent agreement and payment of all amounts lawfully due to all persons supplying or furnishing to the Contractor or Contractor's subcontractors with labor, laborers, materials, rental machinery, tools or equipment used or to perform the work. Contractor may incorporate required associated costs into mobilization costs or other approved expenses.

- a. Work that is classified as construction in accordance with the Miller Act or Little Miller Act or if required per conditions of the funding source, payment and performance bonding will be required in the full amount of any Agreement. For the purposes of this Request for Proposal, construction is defined as "any contract greater than \$100,000 for the construction, alteration, or repair of any public building or public work where the federal government is the owner", or
- b. If Contractor is not self-performing at least 85% of the total contract value or if the cost of materials is in excess of the larger of \$100,000 or 50% of the contract total, payment and performance bonding will be required in the full amount of the agreement, or
- c. If the value of the agreement is in excess of \$250,000, Contractor will be required to post financial security in a form acceptable to the NFF in the amount of 5% of the total agreement value up to \$250,000 in total financial security.

II. REQUIRED COMPONENTS

Technical Proposal

Please provide a detailed technical approach to the work. Technical proposal information that will be reviewed favorably includes but is not limited to mobilization timeframe, general timeframes for thinning/mastication operations, approach to slash management, any technical approaches or equipment necessary to address anticipated challenges, etc.

Contractor Qualifications

- (a) Past Experience – Please provide a brief explanation of previous work experience with land management agencies.
- (b) References – Please provide three professional references that can speak to past performance.

Pricing Schedule

Contractor shall price work according to the schedule below. Prevailing wages are required per conditions of funding sources.

	Task/Item	Units	Unit Cost	Extended Cost
(a)	Trail West - Young Life Camp Restoration Project – Private Acres	155 acres		
			Total Bid	

III. SUBMISSION, EVALUATION, AND CONTACTS

Contractor Selection Process

This is a request for proposals only and bids furnished are not offers from the National Forest Foundation. This request does not commit the National Forest Foundation to pay any costs incurred in the preparation or submission of the proposal or to contract for supplies or services.

The NFF will use the Evaluation Factors below to review each submitted bid. Based on the outcomes of that selection process, the NFF will notify successful and unsuccessful bidders by August 1, 2024 and will prepare a separate contract document.

Evaluation Factors and Relative Importance

The following criteria will be used in the evaluation of submitted proposals, ordered from highest weighting (level 3) to lowest weighting (level 1).

Level 3 Criteria

- Price / cost
- Equipment and contractor capability
- Timing of when contractor can begin and/or finish the project
- Past performance, references, and USFS feedback

Level 2 Criteria

- Technical proposal / proposed approach to project
- Overall strategic benefits to meeting NFF goals and grant needs, requirements, and timelines

Level 1 Criteria

- Benefits to the local community
- Relationship to local community

Point of Contact

Please submit any questions about the project in writing to the Point of Contact.

Matt Nykiel
National Forest Foundation, Central Colorado Project Coordinator
mnykiel@nationalforests.org

Responses will be shared with known interested parties by email or otherwise posted at <https://www.nationalforests.org/rfp>.

Pre-Bid Questions and Pre-Bid Contractor Tour

Please direct questions to the NFF point of contact listed above. The NFF will host a pre-bid contractor tour on Friday, July 12, 2024, to visit the project site in person with project foresters and the NFF. If the tour results in any changes to the RFP or specifications, the NFF will share those changes in writing with all contractors who have expressed interest in attending the tour.

Please RSVP to Matt Nykiel at mnykiel@nationalforests.org or 720.880.0045 if you are interested in attending the pre-bid contractor tour, or if you are unable to attend the tour but still wish to receive any updates to the RFP or specifications. **Please RSVP by COB, July 9, 2024.** Details for the pre-bid contractor tour will be shared with those who RSVP.

Bid Submission

Submit bids via email to mnykiel@nationalforests.org by COB, July 19, 2024.

Equal Opportunity Provider

In accordance with Federal law and U.S. Department of Agriculture policy, the National Forest Foundation is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, religion, political beliefs, or disability.

APPENDIX A

Scope of Work

Trail West - Young Life Camp Restoration Project

Project Description

The project at Trail West- Young Life Camp (henceforth referred to as Trail West) will deliver 155 acres of forest health improvement and fire mitigation to the property and nearby communities. Treatment will be conducted as a traditional timber harvest, mastication, and handwork project through the removal of large diameter marked trees, small diameter unmarked trees, woody debris, shrubs, and slash mitigation. The work to be completed for this project will reduce hazardous fuel loading within the treatment units, address forest health concerns (i.e. spruce budworm, Douglas-fir beetle, and dwarf mistletoe impacts) and improve wildlife habitat by opening the canopy to allow for increased growth of grasses and forbs. The Trail West units are located in central Colorado on Trail West Drive, west of US Highway 24 and the town of Buena Vista. The forest composition within the treatment units is variable but consists of dry mixed conifer, piñon/juniper, and ponderosa pine stands with moderate piñon/juniper encroachment. The Douglas-fir has been heavily impacted by western spruce budworm, dwarf mistletoe and the Douglas-fir beetle. The ponderosa pine has moderate to heavy dwarf mistletoe infection and is overstocked in areas. The piñon/juniper is overstocked and will benefit from reducing the stand density to remove potential ladder fuels and increase the safety of the community. There are small pockets of aspen, which should be opened up to encourage regeneration and growth.

The prescriptions will vary depending on the unit being worked on, which will be outlined in detail in the Unit Descriptions and Prescription for Treatment sections below. A general description of the work is as follows: The mixed conifer unit has steep slopes and will likely occur as mostly handwork with mastication. For the ponderosa pine, the units will undergo a timber harvest in addition to mastication of encroached piñon and juniper. Within both the mixed conifer and ponderosa units, mastication will include removal of non-merchantable trees and shrubs and potential slash mitigation resulting from harvest operations. The treatment on the piñon/juniper stands will include handwork (one unit), mastication, shrub removal and slash mitigation. Handwork may be added where necessary to any of the units.

Project Administration

CSFS Forester Kellie Solis will serve as the primary Project Administrator. Additional project administration will be conducted by other CSFS Salida FO staff. Contact information is listed below:

Kellie Solis
7980 W. HWY 50
Salida, CO. 81201
719-839-5748
kellie.solis@colostate.edu

The Project Administrator reserves the right to suspend operations at any time and to require specific on-the-spot work on a case-by-case basis that may override the prescription listed below. For example, **the Project Administrator may require the removal of specific trees that fall outside of the “Prescription for Treatment Units” listed below.**

The **CONTRACTOR** shall notify the Project Administrator when they are within 2 days of completion of each unit. The Project Administrator will notify the **CONTRACTOR** of a date and time for a final inspection. Payment to the **CONTRACTOR** will be processed upon successful completion of the project after the final inspection. The operator must be present at the time of final inspection.

Project Locations

Driving north into Buena Vista, take a left at the light onto W. Main Street (HWY 306). Drive for 1.7 miles before taking a right onto CR 361. After half a mile, continue straight onto CR 340, which turns into CR 340-B, for a little under a mile before reaching the Trail West and HOA entrance.

- Southern parcels 3 and 4 (see the attached Map #4): From the Trail West entrance:
 - A left onto Trail West Drive will lead to a gate and parcels 3 and 4, with access to MUs 8-10.
 - Continuing straight onto Trail West Drive will lead to MUs 4-8 in parcels 3 and 4.
 - MU-3- access from the Trail West HOA.
- Northern parcels 1 and 2: From the Trail West entrance, keep straight onto Trail West Drive for half a mile. Turn left to stay on Trail West Drive for 1.3 miles until the mixed conifer unit (MU-1) crosses the road. There is a gate to reach the Trail West Lodge and the PJ unit (MU-2).

Existing Conditions

The forest conditions included in the treatment units are variable. There are three different forest types that will be included in this treatment:

1. Dry mixed conifer stands consisting of Douglas-fir and ponderosa pine with marginal aspen and a handful of lodgepole pine. Many of the Douglas-fir throughout the area have been heavily impacted by western spruce budworm and dwarf mistletoe throughout its age classes. Additionally, there are pockets of Douglas-fir beetle activity impacting the larger Douglas-firs. The ponderosa pine is moderately impacted by dwarf mistletoe. The aspen will be retained, and growth encouraged through site disturbance. The forest will benefit from an overall thinning to reduce basal area and a removal of understory vegetation serving as ladder fuels.
2. Ponderosa pine stands are largely comprised of ponderosa pine, encroaching piñon pine and juniper, and a few scattered Douglas-fir and lodgepole pine. The ponderosa pine has a moderate to severe dwarf mistletoe infection throughout the units. Piñon pine and juniper will be removed from the stand to reduce ladder fuels. The ponderosa pine will benefit from an overall thinning to reduce basal area in sections with heavy dwarf mistletoe and in 'doghair stands' that are overly dense.
3. Piñon-juniper stands with the occasional ponderosa pine and Douglas-fir. The piñon-juniper components will benefit from thinning to reduce canopy cover and to remove understory vegetation that is serving as ladder fuels, especially around pockets of ponderosa pine and Douglas-fir.

Unit Descriptions

The Trail West project includes **10 Management Units (155 acres)** with varying prescriptions. There is one mixed conifer stand (**15.5 handwork acres**), and four ponderosa stands (**78 machine acres**) that have **orange** flagging and trees marked in **blue** paint for removal. The five piñon-juniper stands (**19.3 handwork**

acres and 42.3 machine acres) have pink flagging and are not marked with blue paint. Trees marked with red paint are to be retained as wildlife or legacy trees.

Management Unit 1 is in parcels 1 and 2. The unit consists of 15.5 acres of mixed conifer, which includes Douglas-fir, ponderosa pine and scattered aspen. The slopes are steep and undulating, averaging >30%.

Management Unit 2 is in parcels 1 and 2 with slopes consistently >30%. The unit is 19.3 acres of piñon-juniper treatment. Any healthy ponderosa pine and Douglas-fir will be retained.

Management Units 5, 6, 8 and 10 comprise 42.3 acres of piñon-juniper with mild to moderate slopes <30%. The overstory is comprised of piñon pine and juniper, with scattered ponderosa pine and Douglas-fir throughout. Mastication is expected for these stands. Any healthy ponderosa pine or Douglas-fir will be retained.

Management Units 3, 4, 7 and 9 make up 78 acres of ponderosa pine that is mostly flat with some steeper toe slopes <30% mixed in. The stand is expected to be completed as a timber harvest and mastication unit due to the large quantity of encroached piñon pine and juniper in the understory that needs to be removed.

If needed, the CONTRACTOR will work with the Project Administrator to modify buffers around buildings in parcels 1 and 2.

Horse Trails: Please note the horse trails that are shown in Map #5 within MU-4, MU-6, MU-7, and MU-10.

- For MU-6, MU-7, and MU-10, where horse trails go through the piñon-juniper units:
 - Trees will be marked in blue for removal within 10 feet of the horse trails. Outside of this area in the units, follow the prescription below.
- For MU-4, where horse trails go through the ponderosa units:
 - No special action is required since trees in the unit are marked in blue for removal.

MU	Acres	Parcels (see Map #4)	Forest Type	Treatment
1	15.5	1, 2	Douglas-Fir/Ponderosa	Handwork
2	19.3	1, 2	Piñon/Juniper	Handwork
3	13.6	4	Ponderosa Pine	Timber Harvest/Mastication
4	41.4	3, 4	Ponderosa Pine	Timber Harvest/Mastication
5	3.9	4	Piñon/Juniper	Mastication
6	11	3, 4	Piñon/Juniper	Mastication
7	21.2	3, 4	Ponderosa Pine	Timber Harvest/Mastication
8	8.7	4	Piñon/Juniper	Mastication
9	1.8	4	Ponderosa Pine	Timber Harvest/Mastication
10	18.7	4	Piñon/Juniper	Mastication

Prescription for Treatment

The following prescriptions have been grouped together first by forest type and second by the relevant treatment units. There are numerous hazards to be avoided throughout these units, including a power

line, ditches and creeks, and manmade props for camp activities. These can be found in Map #5.

Douglas-Fir/Ponderosa

Handwork Unit 1 (15.5 acres): This management unit is expected to be completed as handwork due to steep slopes. The treatment will focus on forest health with the reduction of mistletoe, budworm, and Douglas-fir beetle infested trees. There are large quantities of standing dead trees and coarse woody debris that will need to be masticated. The decrease in ladder fuels will diminish the potential fire behavior and torching of mature trees. Trees $\geq 8''$ DBH have been marked with a **blue** slash for removal, while trees $< 8''$ DBH have largely not been marked.

- Trees $\geq 8''$ DBH:
 - Harvest all trees $\geq 8''$ DBH that are marked with **blue** painted slashes to a 6" top.
 - Remove dead trees unless they are marked with **red** paint.
 - **Beetle infested trees may be added during the operation by the Project Administrator as necessary to achieve treatment goals.**
 - Remove all piñon pine and juniper that comprise the understory component to the Douglas-fir/ponderosa stand.
- Trees 5-8" DBH (most have NOT been marked in **blue** paint for removal):
 - Retain individuals or groups of 3-8 trees of good health.
 - Masticate Douglas-fir and ponderosa pine that are marked with **blue** painted slashes, display signs of poor health or that densely populate an area. Examples of trees to **remove** include:
 - $< 30\%$ live crown (i.e. western spruce budworm defoliation).
 - Suppressed trees that are growing abnormally to receive sunlight.
 - Trees growing underneath the dripline of larger retained trees.
 - Standing dead trees.
 - $> 20\%$ of live crown has evidence of dwarf mistletoe.
- Seedlings and Saplings $< 5''$ DBH:
 - Remove seedlings and saplings with a spacing of 8-12' between those retained. Seedlings and saplings selected for **removal** should exhibit:
 - Dead, forked, or broken tops.
 - Live crown ratio is $< 30\%$.
 - Visible presence of dwarf mistletoe (i.e. shoots or witches' brooms).
 - Suppression by larger diameter classes.
 - Underneath the dripline of larger trees.

Piñon/Juniper

Mastication within piñon-juniper stands will increase canopy separation between retained trees and tree groups to both reduce potential fire behavior and improve wildlife habitat. The resulting treatment will include clumps of trees left untreated displaying good health, and areas with increased crown spacing between single retained trees. No trees were marked for removal in any of the piñon-juniper units.

Handwork Unit 2 (19.3 acres): Handwork due to steepness of terrain and landowner objectives to reduce fire danger around existing structures.

Mastication Units 5, 6, 8 and 10 (42.3 acres): Mastication within units due to mild slopes <30% that are not near buildings or camp activities other than potential hazards shown in Map #5.

- Remove piñon and juniper along the edges of treatment units that transition into meadows, apart from the horse trails. See the Unit Descriptions: Horse Trails section for more information. Ask the Project Administrator if in doubt where these areas are.
- Select healthy trees displaying good form and full crowns to be retained. Retain a diversity of size/age classes throughout treatment area. Characteristics for trees to **retain** include:
 - Free of disease damage: Trees shall not have diseases such as dwarf mistletoe, western gall rust, or piñon blister rust, etc.
 - Free of insect damage: Trees shall not have damage resulting from infestations of piñon ips beetle, piñon needle scale, or other insects affecting piñon pines.
 - Dominant or co-dominant trees: Trees have well developed crowns that either form or extend above the general level of the forest stand canopy, which are receiving full sunlight from the top and partly from the sides.
 - Stem quality: The bole or stem of the tree shall be relatively straight. Trees shall have a single live terminal leader (no dead or broken tops).
- Retain legacy piñon and juniper $\geq 14''$ DBH.
- Individuals/Groups
 - Remove piñon and juniper to create 20' of crown spacing between retained single trees.
 - Clumps of 3-6 trees growing well together and displaying good health shall be retained, with at least 30' of spacing surrounding each group.
 - Remove ponderosa pine and Douglas-fir that are unhealthy or are causing a fire risk. Examples of trees to **remove** include:
 - <30% live crown (i.e. western spruce budworm defoliation).
 - Suppressed trees that are growing abnormally to receive sunlight.
 - Standing dead.
 - >20% of live crown has evidence of dwarf mistletoe.
 - Remove ponderosa and Douglas-fir beneath drip line and within 20' of the canopy.
 - If ponderosa pine and Douglas-fir make up the overstory in a section of the piñon/juniper stand, remove trees according to the examples directly above, and include the following:
 - Retain individuals or groups of 3-8 trees of good health.
 - Create 15' of spacing between individuals and groups of trees.
 - Remove all piñon pine and juniper in the understory.

Ponderosa Pine

Timber Harvest/Mastication Units 3, 4, 7 and 9 (78 acres): The ponderosa stands include an overstory of ponderosa pine with the occasional Douglas-fir and lodgepole pine. The understory consists of encroaching piñon pine and juniper, which should be removed from the stand. The units will undergo a timber harvest in addition to mastication. Mastication will include removal of non-merchantable trees and shrubs and slash mitigation resulting from harvest operations. All merchantable trees will be cut and removed off site. Trees $\geq 8''$ DBH have been marked with a **blue** slash for removal, while trees <8'' DBH have largely not been marked.

- Trees $\geq 8''$ DBH:
 - Harvest all trees $\geq 8''$ DBH that are marked with **blue** painted slashes to a 6" top.
 - **Beetle infested trees may be added during the operation by the Project Administrator as necessary to achieve treatment goals (i.e. MU 3 has a small outbreak of mountain pine beetle).**
 - Remove all piñon pine and juniper that are within 20' of the driplines of ponderosa pine.
 - In the case that piñon pine and juniper make up the overstory species in an area of the ponderosa stand, adhere to the following guidelines:
 - Interior of the stand: thin piñon pine and juniper to have a spacing of 20' between canopies of individuals and 30' around groups of 3-6 trees.
 - Perimeter of the stand and edges of meadows: All piñon pine and juniper that are encroaching into open meadows will be removed. Refer to the Unit Descriptions: Horse Trails section for more information.
 - Do not remove trees that are marked with **red** paint.
 - *If unsure of the transition between forest types, please ask the Project Administrator.
- Trees 5-8" DBH (most have NOT been marked in **blue** paint for removal):
 - Retain individuals or groups of 3-8 trees of good health.
 - Masticate ponderosa pine that are marked with **blue** painted slashes, display signs of poor health or that densely populate an area. Examples of trees to remove include:
 - Suppressed trees that are growing abnormally to receive sunlight.
 - Trees growing underneath the dripline of larger retained trees.
 - Standing dead trees.
 - >20% of the live crown has evidence of dwarf mistletoe.
- Seedlings and Saplings <5" DBH:
 - Remove seedlings and saplings with a spacing of 8-12' between those retained. Seedlings and saplings selected for removal should exhibit:
 - Dead, forked, or broken tops.
 - Live crown ratio is <30%.
 - Any visible presence of dwarf mistletoe (i.e. shoots or witches' brooms).
 - Suppression by larger diameter classes.
 - Underneath the dripline of larger trees.

All Unit Guidelines

- **Although units are designated for specific types of treatments within this document, contractors may treat acres according to their best judgment. With Management Units 1 and 2, specific types of treatment should be discussed with the Project Administrator due to the proximity to camp buildings and the complexity of the units.**
- Stump height will be $\leq 6''$ on uphill side unless disallowed by terrain.
- Dead Trees:
 - Remove dead standing trees and downed woody debris unless marked with **red** paint in the ponderosa and Douglas-fir/ponderosa units or with the following characteristics in all units:
 - Rotting stems or trees where the bark has/is sloughing off may be left.
 - Tops, branches, woody debris, etc., must be left $\leq 6''$ height from the ground.
 - Dead standing snags $\geq 12''$ DBH will be retained at a rate of 1-3 per acre.

- Preserve obvious wildlife trees. Characteristics include the presence of nests, holes/cavities, or broken tops.
- Downed logs ≥ 12 " DBH shall be retained at a rate of 1-3 per acre.
- Slash:
 - Leave resulting masticated material on site.
 - Chip depth throughout each individual unit must average ≤ 4 " over $\leq 40\%$ of the treatment area.
 - Chip size must not exceed 5" in diameter and 24" in length.
 - Resulting chips must not accumulate in irrigation ditches. There are numerous ditches across the Trail West property, the locations of which can be seen on Map #5.

Equipment Requirement

The minimum requirement for this project is a large wheeled or tracked masticator with either a vertical or horizontal mulching head. The equipment to be utilized must be able to achieve the prescription outlined above. The equipment and operator must be capable of operating on slopes greater than 20%.

- Skid-steer based mastication equipment will not be sufficient for this project.
- The CSFS publication *Best Management Practices Guide and Mastication Operational Guidelines* will be followed to prevent resource degradation.
 - Copies of these publications will be provided at the time of contract finalization.

Operational Period

- Daily Operational Period: Daily hours
 - Due to proximity to residential communities, machinery will not be started before 8 am.

Plan of Operations

The **CONTRACTOR** will submit a Plan of Operation to the Project Administrator within 30 days of contract execution. The **CONTRACTOR** will not begin any work until the Project Administrator has reviewed and approved the plan. The Plan of Operation is to be considered a dynamic document and will be updated as conditions change.

The Plan of Operation will include the projected start and end date for the project, proposed area to begin work, equipment used and crew member roles.

Environmental and Other Concerns

- Known Hazard: The CSFS is informing the **CONTRACTOR** that the following physical hazards are located within the project area and may not be obvious. See Map #5 for the locations of these items (barbed wire fence is not on the map).
 - Various barbed wire fences in and along borders of several treatment units.
 - Irrigation ditches and creeks.
 - Powerline through the southern portion of MU-10.
 - Abandoned leach field and sewer line south of MU-3 in the meadow.
- Mastication activity will only be allowed within the boundaries identified on the maps. Cutting outside of the boundary is prohibited, and if it occurs, must be reported to the Project Administrator immediately.

- The undercarriage and tires of all trucks and equipment must be washed offsite before entering the project area to reduce the spread of noxious weeds from other projects. A CSFS representative must be present to inspect the vehicles and machinery before they are brought onto the project site.
- Any soil contaminated by loss of fuel, oil, grease, hydraulic fluid, coolant, or other fluids shall be removed and placed in covered drums or other acceptable containers for proper disposal by the **CONTRACTOR**.
- The **CONTRACTOR** is required to comply with all Endangered Species Act (ESA) and other relevant state and federal species protection laws or regulations.
 - At this time, CSFS personnel have not identified any species, flora or fauna, included in the ESA within the project area.
 - If the **CONTRACTOR** should find evidence of threatened or endangered species, immediately notify the Project Administrator.
 - The Project Administrator can cease the project at any time if there are any issues with the ESA or other laws/regulations.
- Archaeological or Cultural Discoveries
 - If in connection with operations under this contract, the **CONTRACTOR**, his/her subcontractors, or the employees of any of them, discovers, encounters, or becomes aware of any objects or sites of cultural value on the contract area such as historical or prehistorical ruins, human remains, graves or grave markers, fossils, or artifacts, the **CONTRACTOR** shall immediately suspend all operations in the vicinity of the cultural value and shall notify the Project Administrator of the findings. Operations may resume at the discovery site upon receipt of written instructions and authorization by the Project Administrator.
- Surface Conditions: Wheeled/tracked motorized equipment shall not be operated when conditions are muddy, or the soil moisture is high enough for the vehicles to leave ruts over 4.0 inches in depth for 10 ft. or longer. When/if such conditions are encountered, the **CONTRACTOR** shall stop work and immediately notify the Project Administrator.
- Neither trash nor litter will be left by the **CONTRACTOR** anywhere on the property, access route, or vicinity. Daily hauling of any trash generated by the **CONTRACTOR** is the **CONTRACTOR'S** responsibility.
- All access roads will always be kept passable. Any significant accumulations of mulch on the access roads and trails will be removed by the **CONTRACTOR** at the end of the project.
- Under no circumstance will new roads/routes/access points be created by the **CONTRACTOR**. All travel will occur on current and existing BLM and or County Roads, or through travel points established by the Project Administrator. If a need for alternative travel route/road/access point arises, it must be mapped and approved by the Project Administrator in writing prior to its creation.
- All gates shall always be left closed.
- Smoking will only be allowed in vehicles. Each vehicle must have a properly serviced Class A, 10-pound fire extinguisher and a minimum of one fire tool per cutting crew member. All vehicles and motorized equipment must utilize effective manufacturer-certified spark arresters and muffler systems.
- Boundary fences needing alterations for operation must be repaired by the **CONTRACTOR** and excessive mastication debris must not be propelled onto the adjoining private land. No woody material may be left on or piled up against boundary fences. Work may need to be

completed by hand near property boundaries to meet this standard.

- The **CONTRACTOR** shall maintain a drug and alcohol free work environment on the subject property.
- The **CONTRACTOR** shall abide by Colorado State University's non-discrimination policy (<https://oeo.colostate.edu/non-discrimination-statement/>).

Damage Penalty

- A Damage Deposit in the amount of \$5,000.00 shall be deposited by the **CONTRACTOR** upon signing of this contract. The deposit shall be in the form of cash or certified check. Any damage penalties and charges for damages to trees, soils, improvements, or other elements of the forest stand not repaired or corrected by the **CONTRACTOR** shall be deducted from the Damage Deposit. If at any time during the performance of this agreement the Damage Deposit balance falls below \$1,000.00, the **CONTRACTOR** shall bring it back to the original full amount through additional payments.
- Any remaining deposit balances will be released to **CONTRACTOR** promptly upon satisfactory completion of this agreement.

Attached Maps

- 1) **All Management Units:**
 - Comprehensive map of all the management units.
- 2) **Management Units- Northern Parcels:**
 - Shows only MU-1 and MU-2.
 - Both are handwork units- 35 acres.
- 3) **Management Units- Southern Parcels:**
 - Displays MU-3 through MU-10.
 - All machine units- 120 acres.
- 4) **Parcels with Private Inholdings:**
 - Parcels: the parcel numbers on the map correspond with the table of management units on page 3.
 - Inholdings: there are four private inholdings within the boundaries of the Trail West property that will be excluded from treatment. **No equipment or contractor is allowed on the inholdings.**
- 5) **Potential Hazards:**
 - Shows the locations of:
 - Powerline
 - Ditches/Creek
 - Abandoned leach field/sewer line
 - Props for camp use
 - Horse trails: Must work around, as outlined in the Prescription for Treatment section.

Map #1- All Management Units

Trail West Management Units

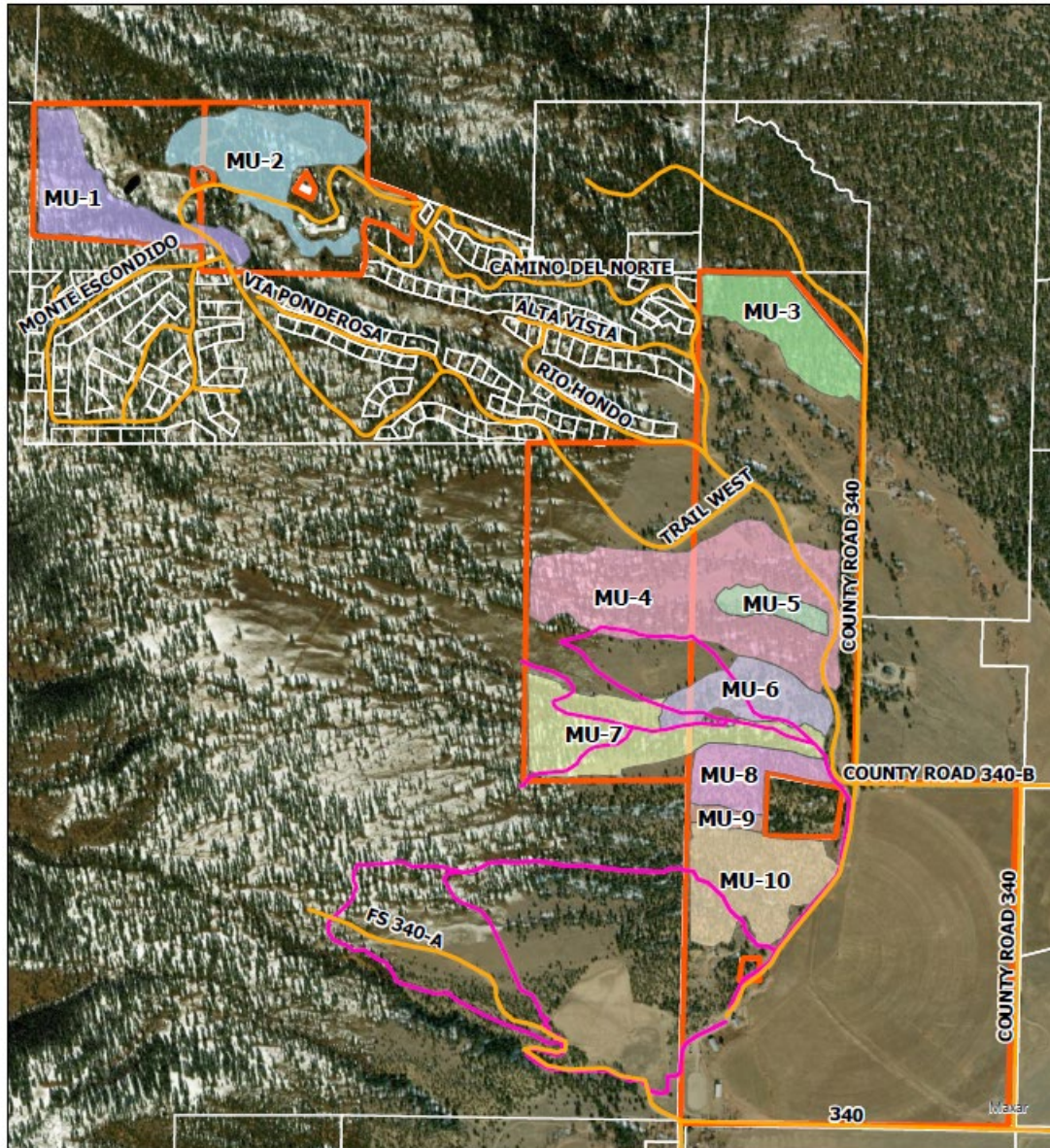


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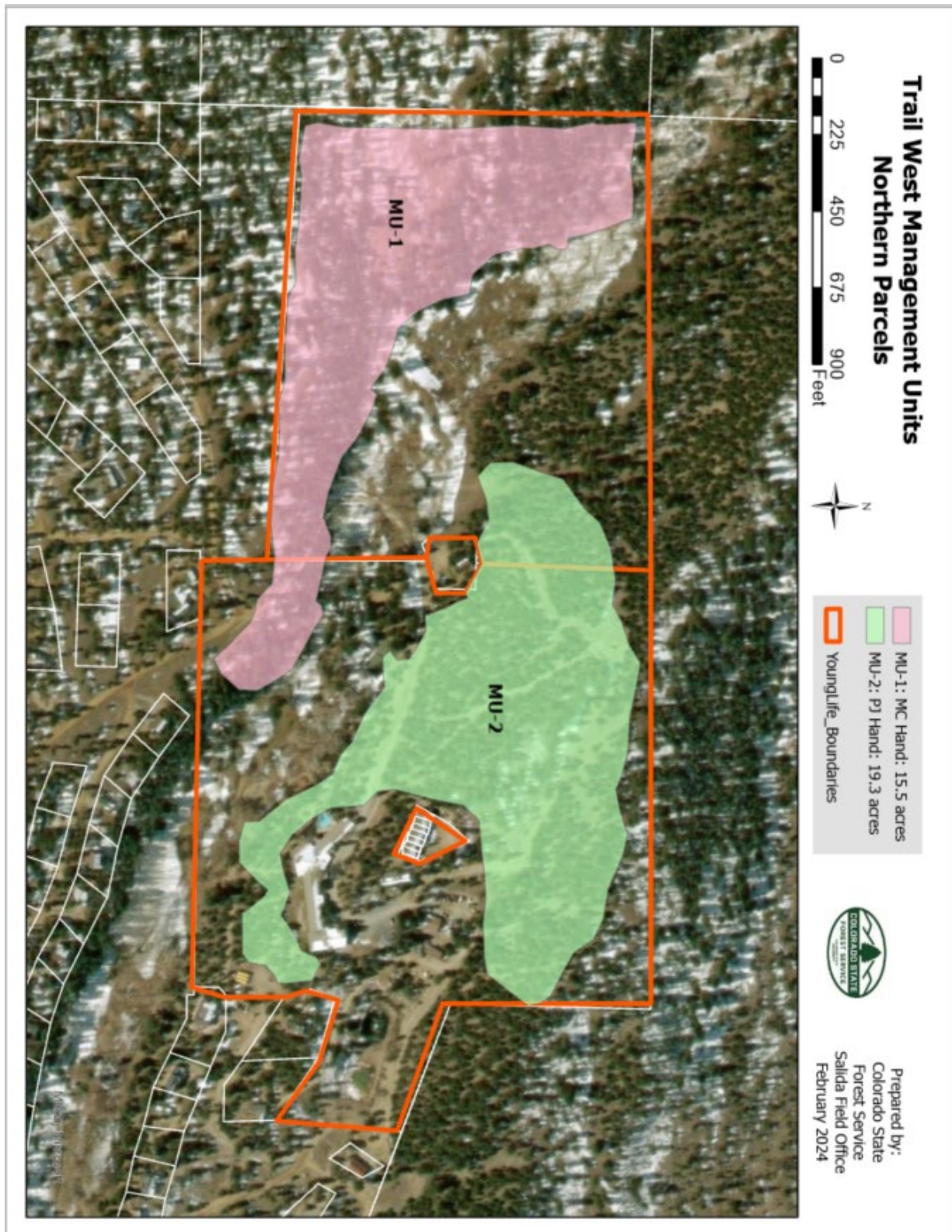


0 0.1 0.2 0.3 0.4
Miles

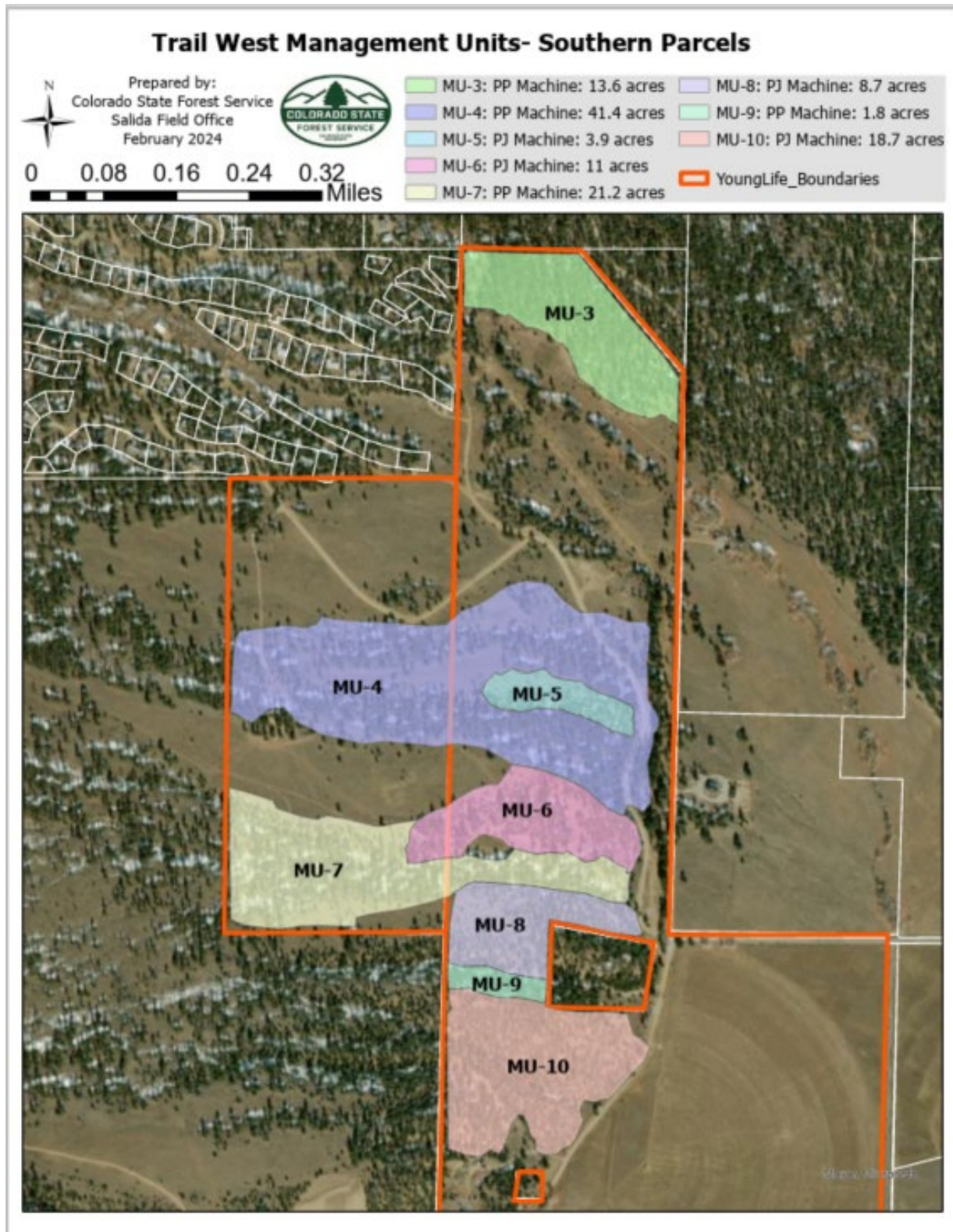
MU-1: MC Hand: 15.5 acres	MU-9: PP Machine: 1.8 acres
MU-2: PJ Hand: 19.3 acres	MU-10: PJ Machine: 18.7 acres
MU-3: PP Machine: 13.6 acres	YoungLife_Boundaries
MU-4: PP Machine: 41.4 acres	Private_Parcels
MU-5: PJ Machine: 3.9 acres	TrailWest_HorseTrails
MU-6: PJ Machine: 11 acres	Chaffee_Street_Segments
MU-7: PP Machine: 21.2 acres	
MU-8: PJ Machine: 8.7 acres	



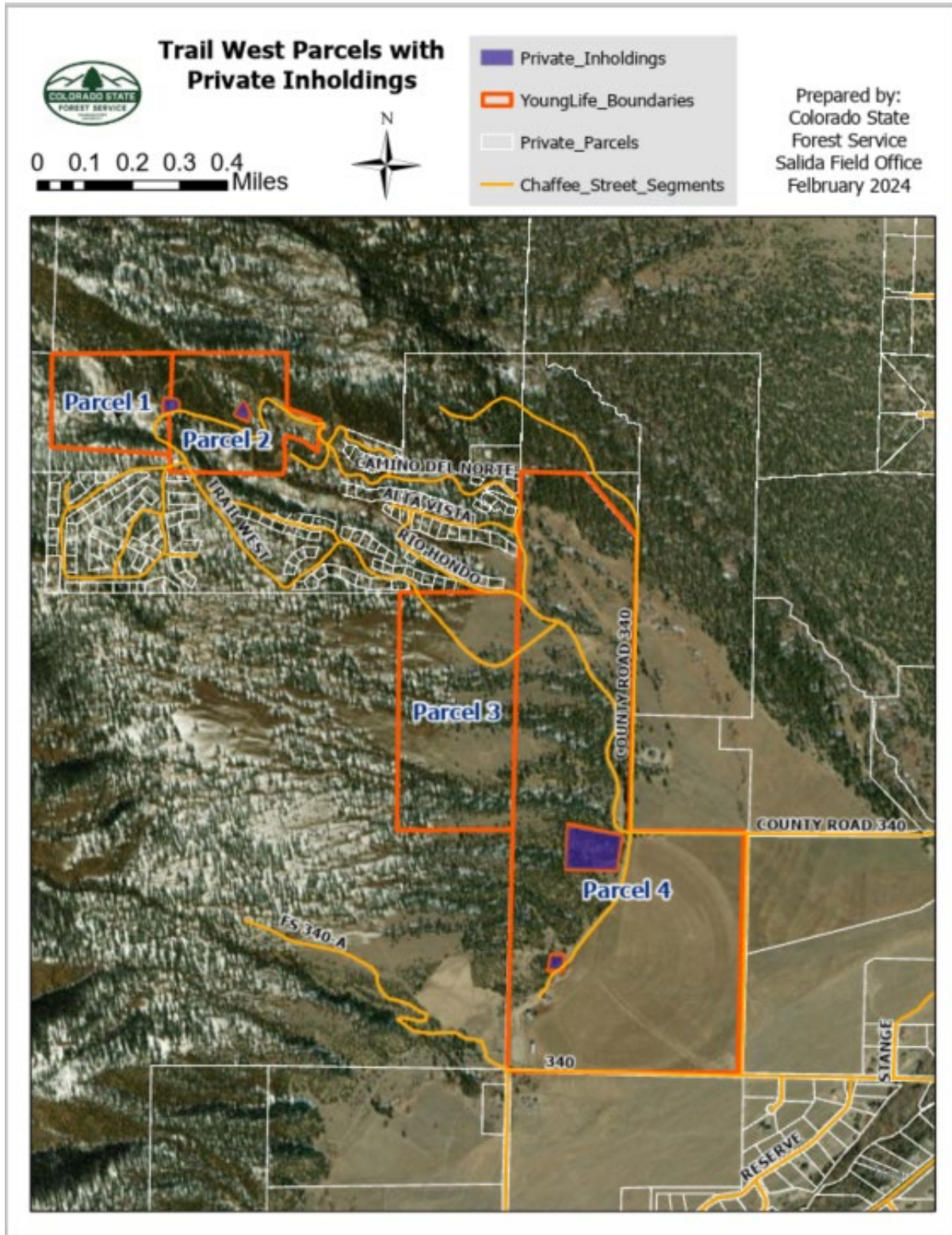
Map #2- Management Units- Northern Parcels



Map #3- Management Units- Southern Parcels




Map #4- Parcels with Private Inholdings



Map #5- Potential Hazards

Trail West Potential Hazards

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0 0.1 0.2 0.3 0.4 Miles

- Ditches
- Creeks
- ElectricLine
- PotentialHazards
- TrailWest_HorseTrails
- YoungLife_Boundaries

