

Colorado Front Range Collaborative Restoration Initiative

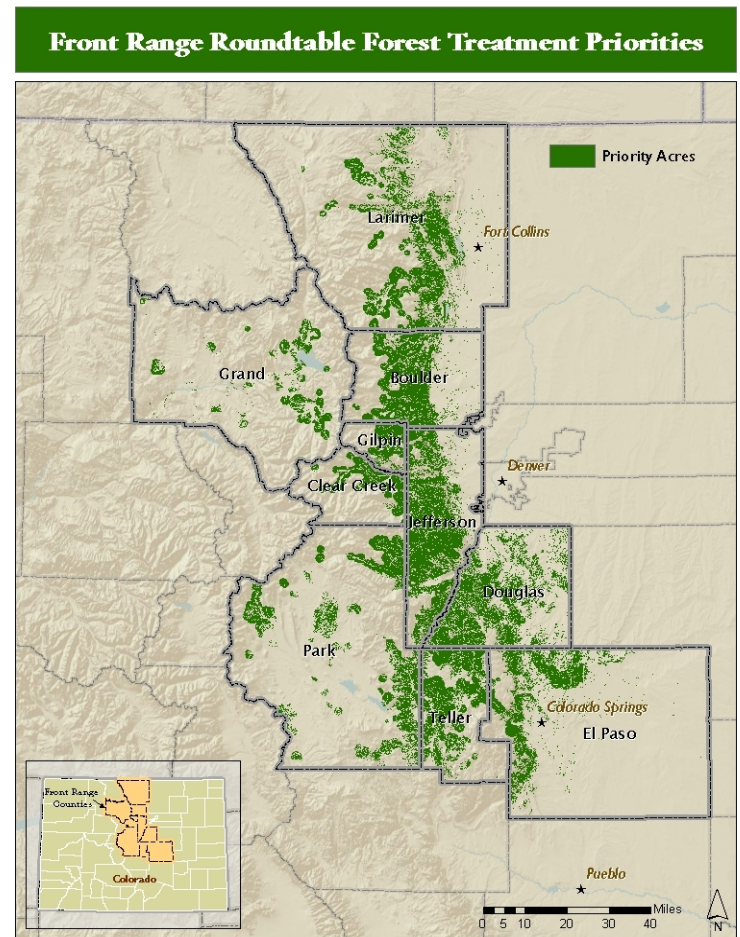


**PRESENTATION TO
R2/R3 CFLRP WORKSHOP
OCTOBER 29, 2013**

Overview



- Restore approx. 32,000 acres on NFS lands within the Roundtable's consensus restoration zone
- Leverage and build on past restoration and fuels reduction treatments.
- Maximize utilization and job creation
- Monitor results and adapt management strategies



Restoration Objectives



- Establish complex **mosaic** of forest density, size and age
- Substantially decrease **density** of ponderosa pine and Douglas-fir in lower montane, favoring ponderosa pine.
- Remove ladder **fuels** and reduce continuous tree canopy.
- Increase use and effectiveness of **prescribed fire**.
- Increase meadows, patchiness and **understory**.
- Protect and enhance **old growth** conditions.
- Strategically place treatments to maximize **size and effectiveness** on the landscape.



Collaboration



- **Front Range Roundtable**

- Established in 2004 to increase pace and scale of management.
- Identified 1.5 million acres in need of treatment.
- Emphasis on restoration, community protection and economics and utilization.

- **Landscape Restoration Working Group**

- Focus on CFLR implementation, monitoring and adaptive management.
- Ongoing efforts on wildlife, understory vegetation, fire history reconstruction.



SUCSESSES



- **On-the-Ground Accomplishments 2010-2013**
 - 23,297 acres of fuels reduction in the WUI
 - 8,022 acres of wildlife habitat improved
 - 24,742 CCF of timber sold
 - 7,101 green tons of woody biomass for bio-energy
 - 113 miles of trail improved or maintained
 - 1,831 acres of invasive weed treatments



Photo: USFS



Photo: USFS

SUCSESSES



- **Increased collaborative engagement**
 - Field Trips
 - Transition from “fuels” to “restoration” / groupy-clumpy
 - Continuous improvement to monitoring plan
 - Development of adaptive management plan



SUCSESSES



- Leveraged funding and partnerships

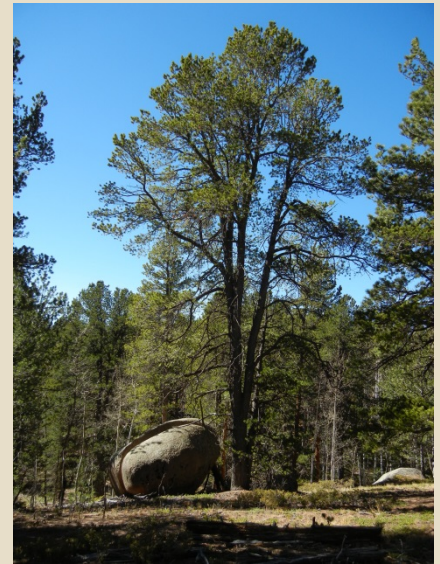
- Denver Water
- Hayman Restoration
 - ✦ NFF, Vail Resorts, CUSP, Gates, Lowe's, Coca Cola, TNC, Aurora Water, Arbor Day Foundation
- Colorado Springs Utilities



SUCCESSSES



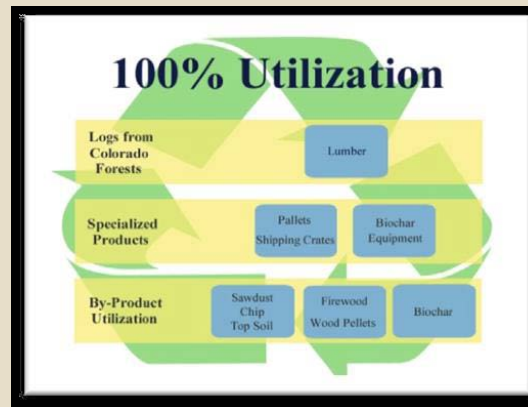
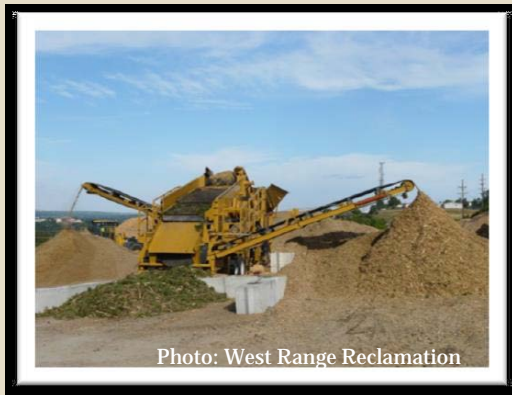
- **Upper Monument Creek Initiative**
 - Collaborative recommendations for 67,000 acre landscape
 - Addressed both landscape and treatment scale
 - Informed adaptive management and adaptive NEPA



SUCSESSES



- **Front Range Long-Term Stewardship Contract**
 - Consistent implementation partner
 - Generation of new markets for material
 - Long-term employment opportunities
 - Progress toward building a restoration economy



CHALLENGES

A background image of a pine forest with several teal-colored text boxes overlaid on it. The text boxes contain the following challenges: Monitoring and Adaptive Management, Limitations on Use of Fire, Big Wildfires, Funding not Additive, and Collaboration Fatigue. The forest scene shows tall pine trees and a rocky ground surface.

Monitoring and Adaptive Management

Limitations on Use of Fire

Big Wildfires

Funding not Additive

Collaboration Fatigue

EMERGING ISSUES / OPPORTUNITIES



- Landscape planning on northern Front Range
- Proliferation of smaller collaboratives
- Incorporation of climate adaptation.
- Research
- Funding



QUESTIONS???

