APPENDICES

APPENDIX A

VISUAL ACCESSIBILITY

Executive Summary

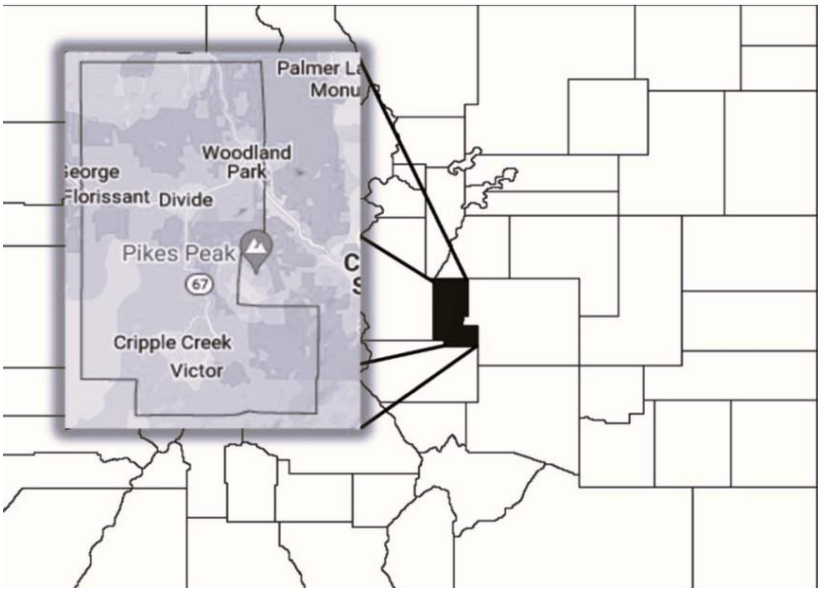


Figure 1: Teller County Location within the State

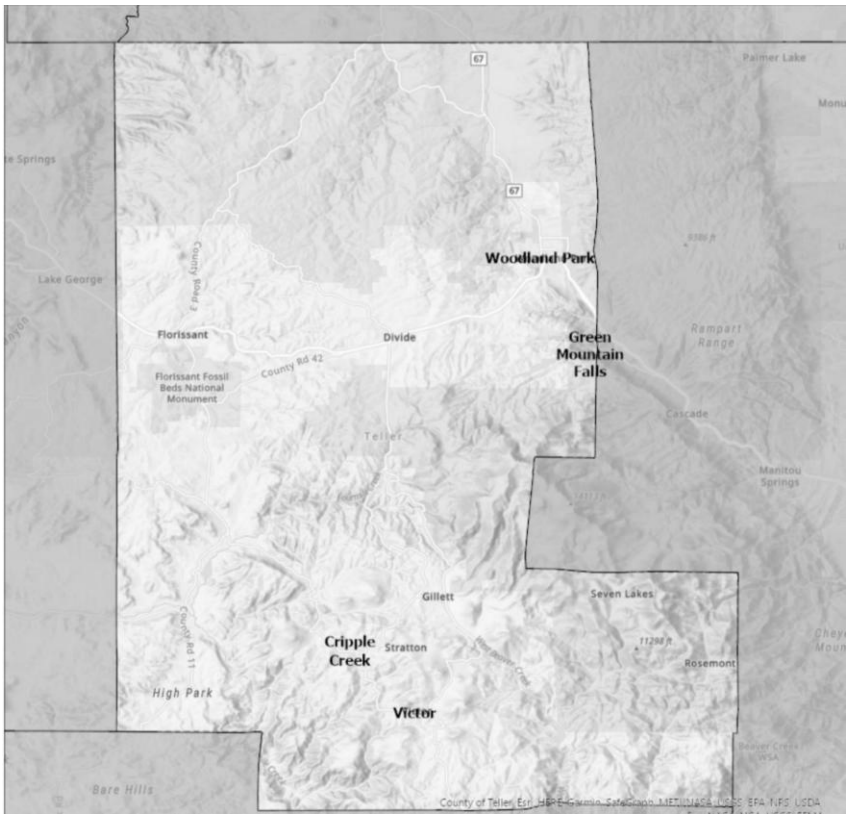


Figure 2: Teller County

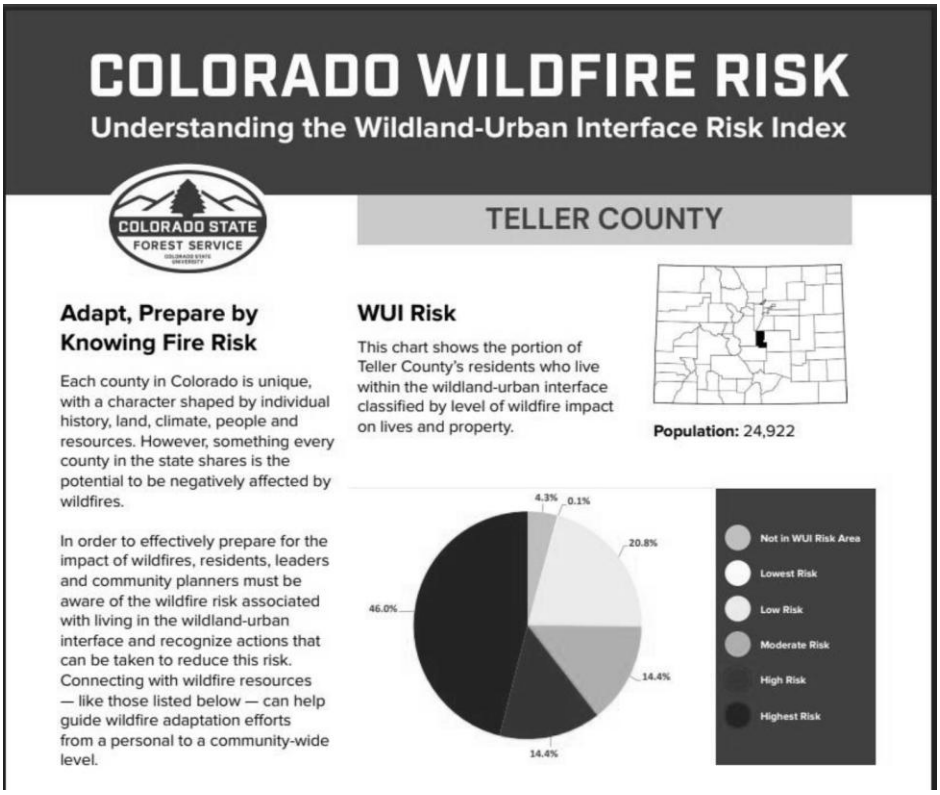


Figure 3: Teller County Wildfire Risk (COWRAP)

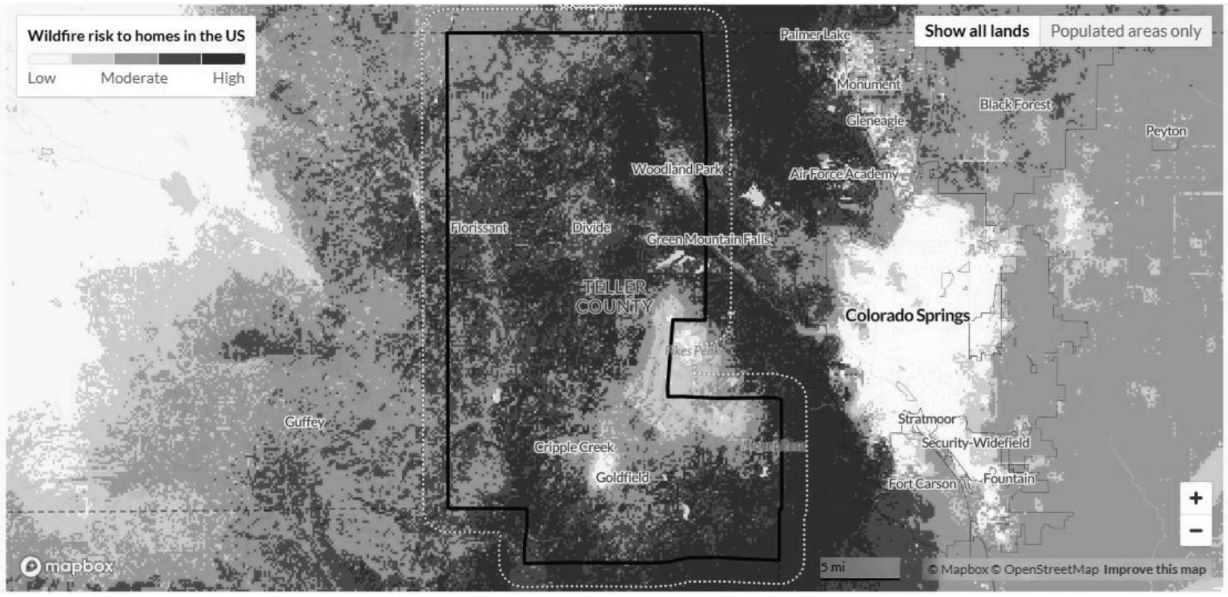


Figure 4: Teller County Risk to Homes(wildfirerisk.org)

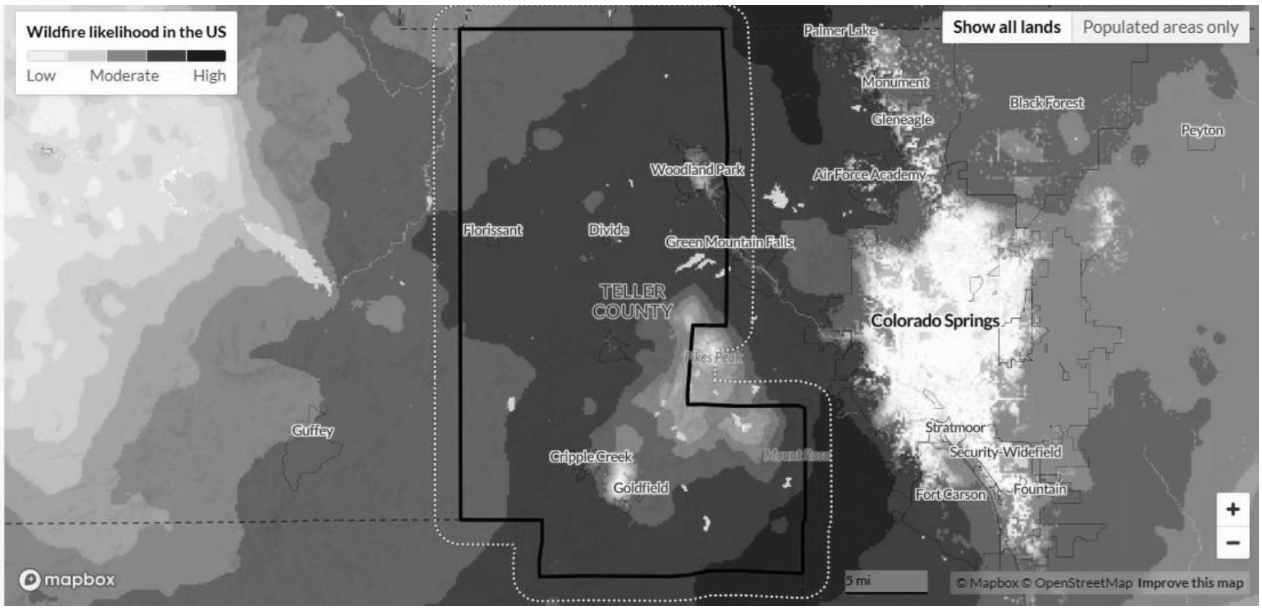


Figure 5: Teller County Wildfire Likelihood (wildfirerisk.org)

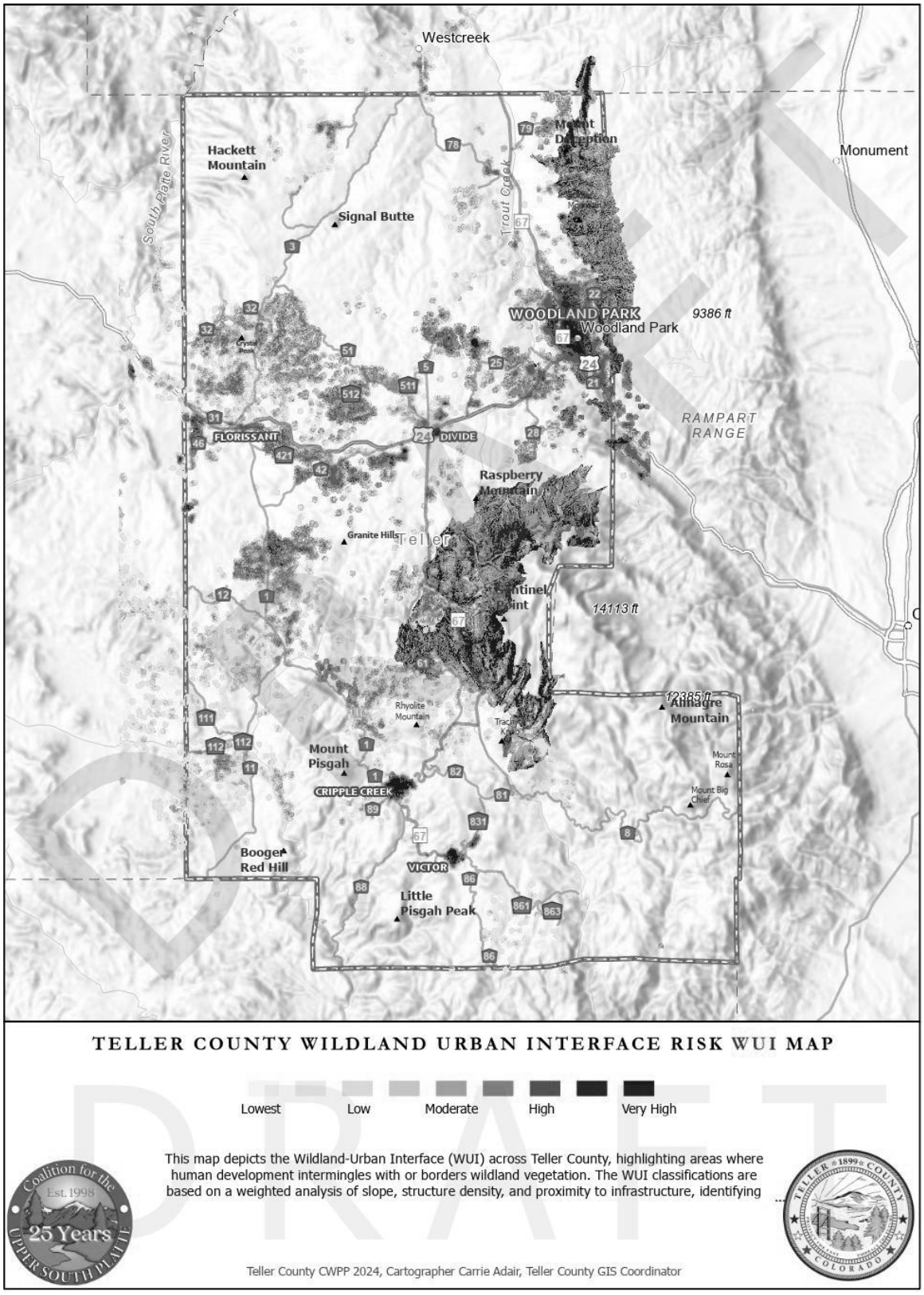


Figure 6: Teller County Wildland Urban Interface

Section 2: Teller County Profile

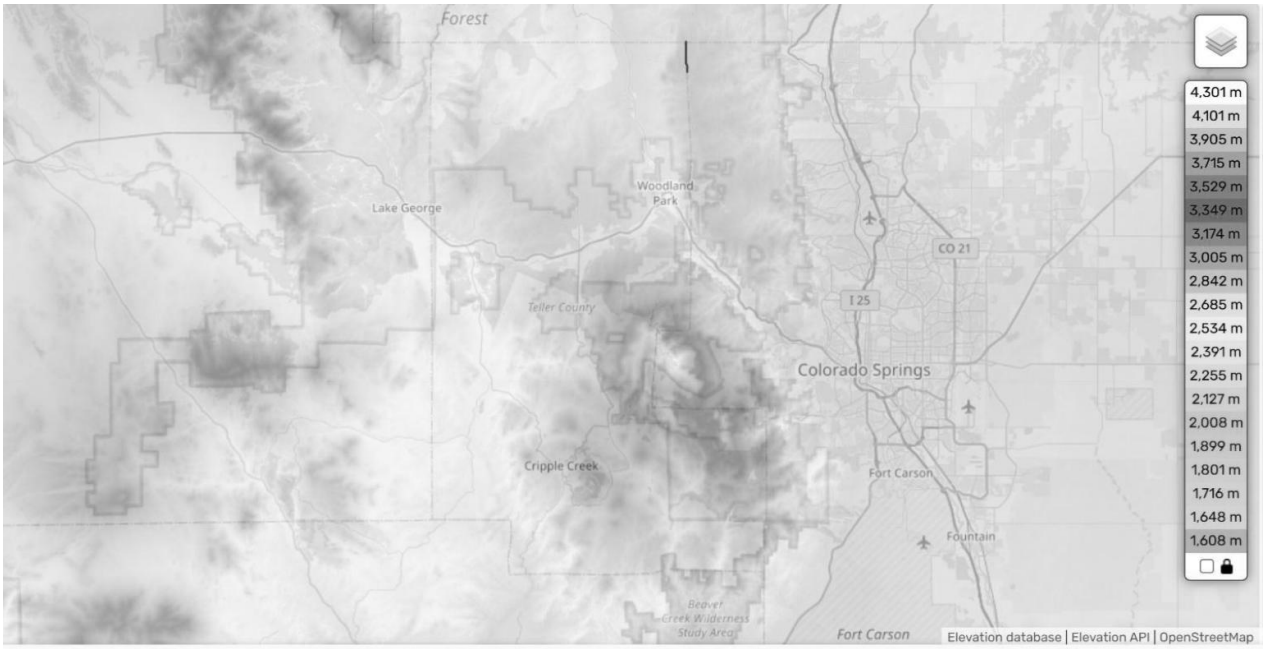


Figure 7: Teller County Elevation Map (topographicmaps.com)

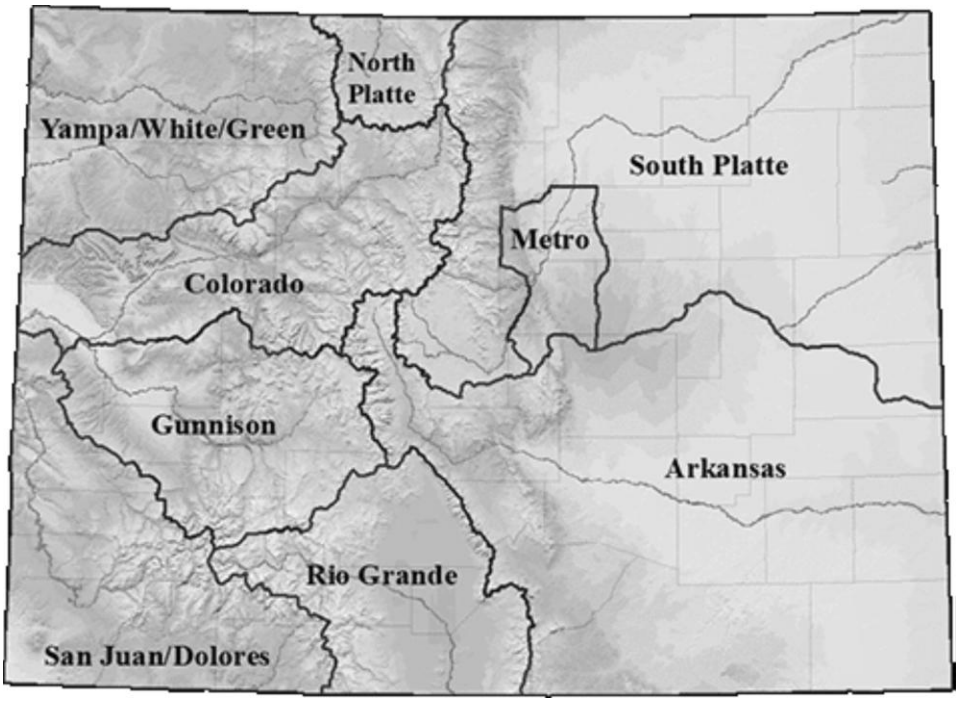


Figure 8: Colorado River Basins

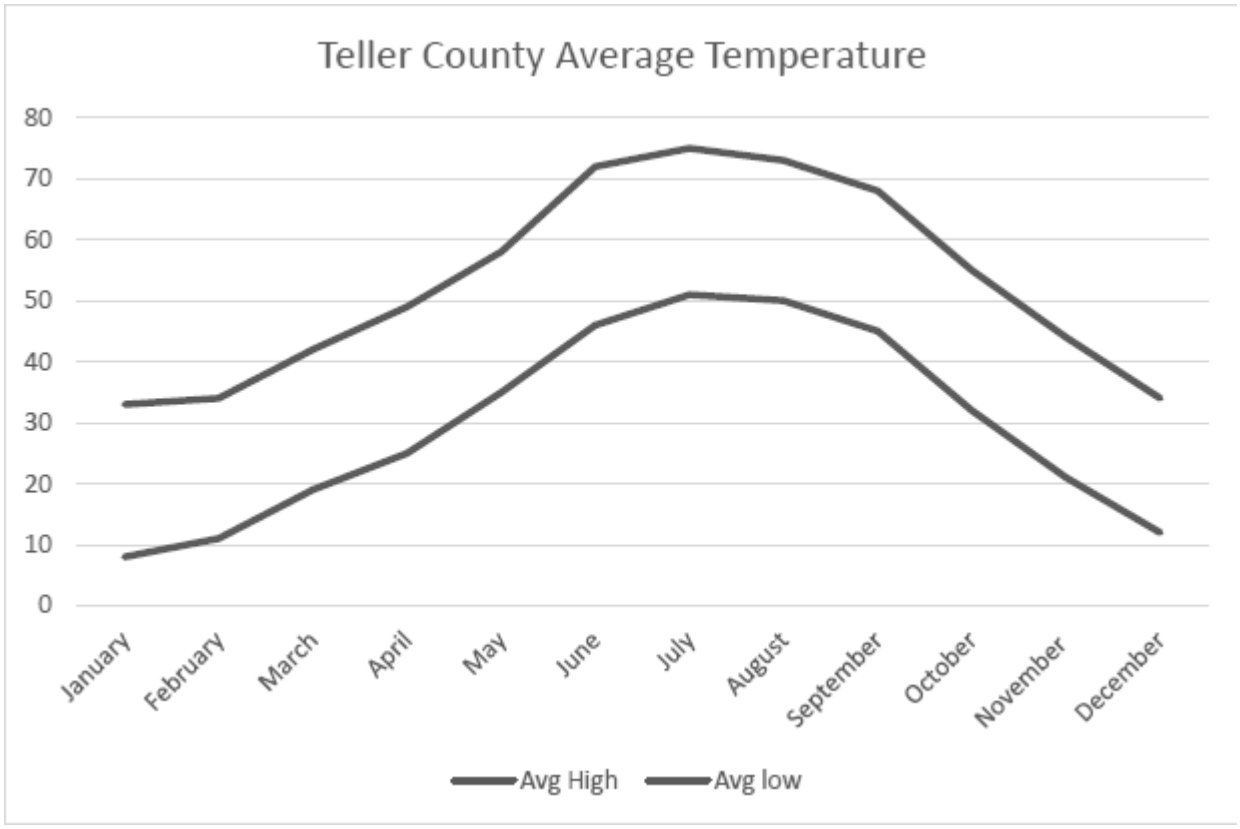


Figure 9: Graph of Average Temperatures

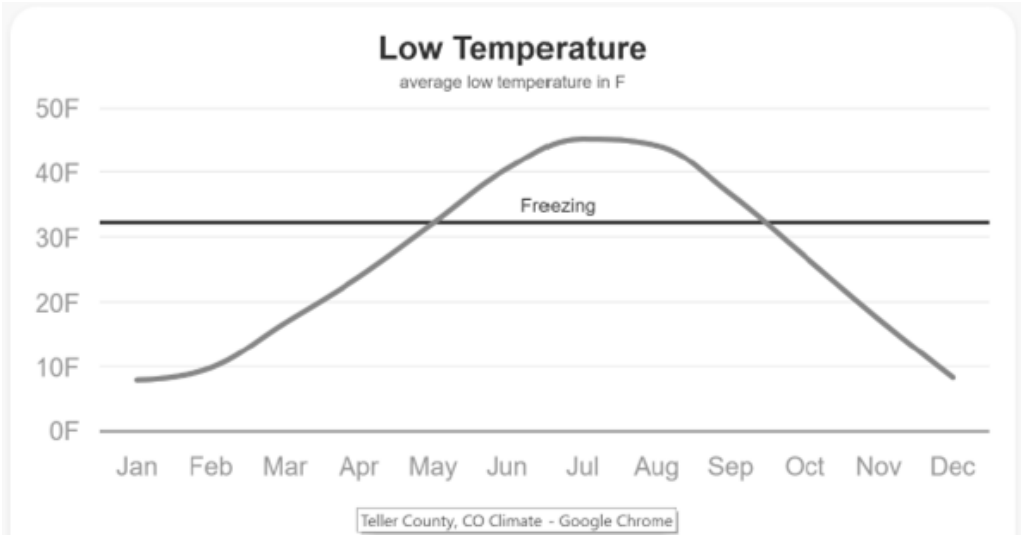


Figure 10: Teller County Low Temperature Graph

Figure 11: Teller County Humidity

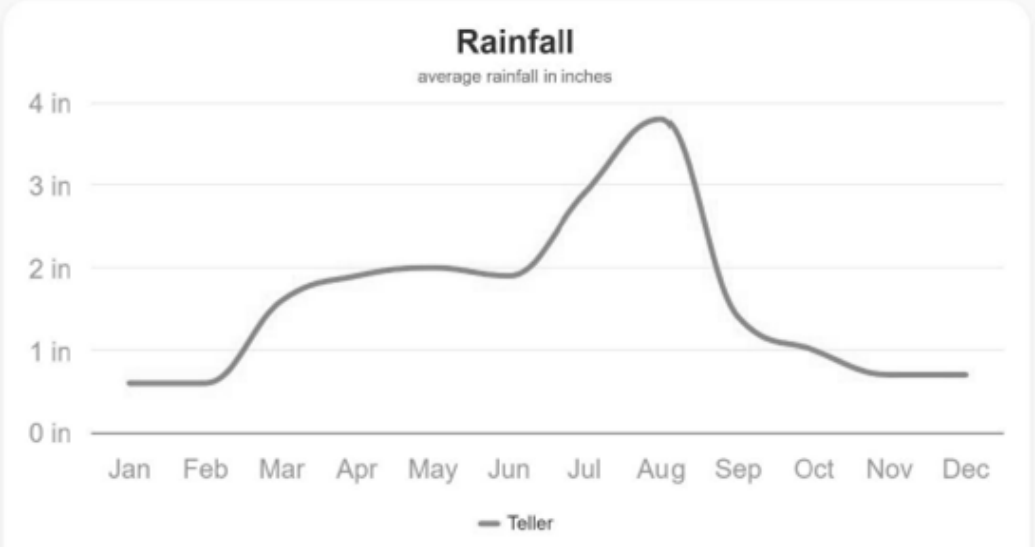


Figure 12: Teller County Rainfall

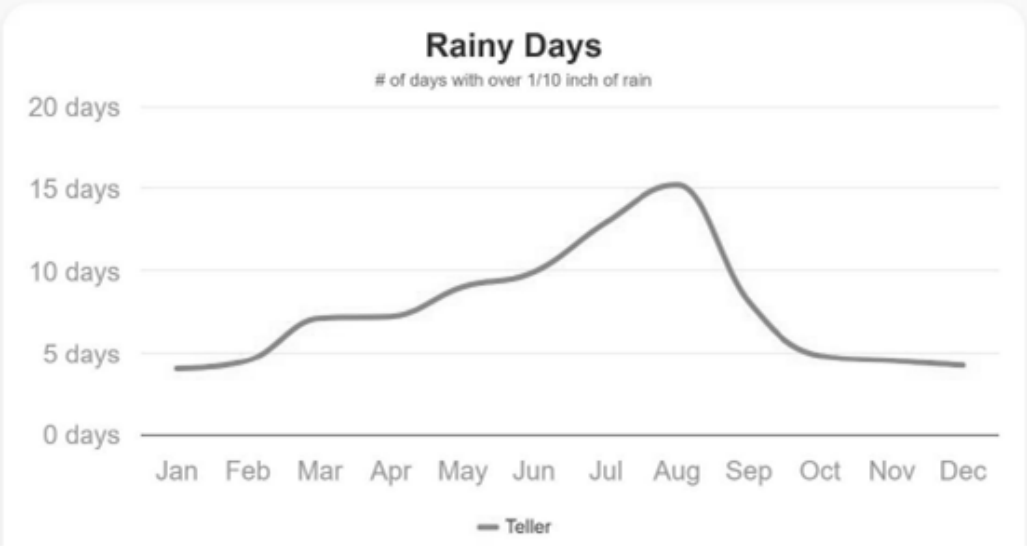


Figure 13: Teller County Rainy Days

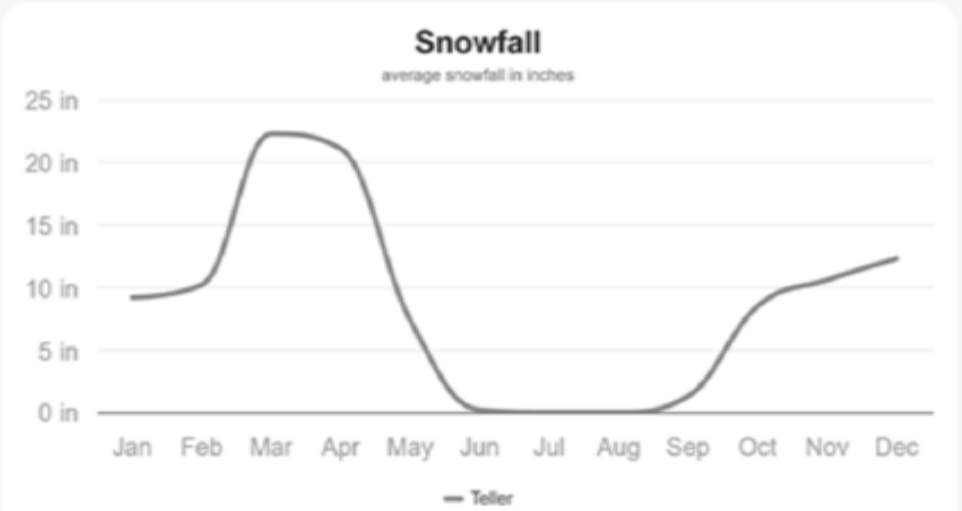


Figure 14: Teller County Snowfall

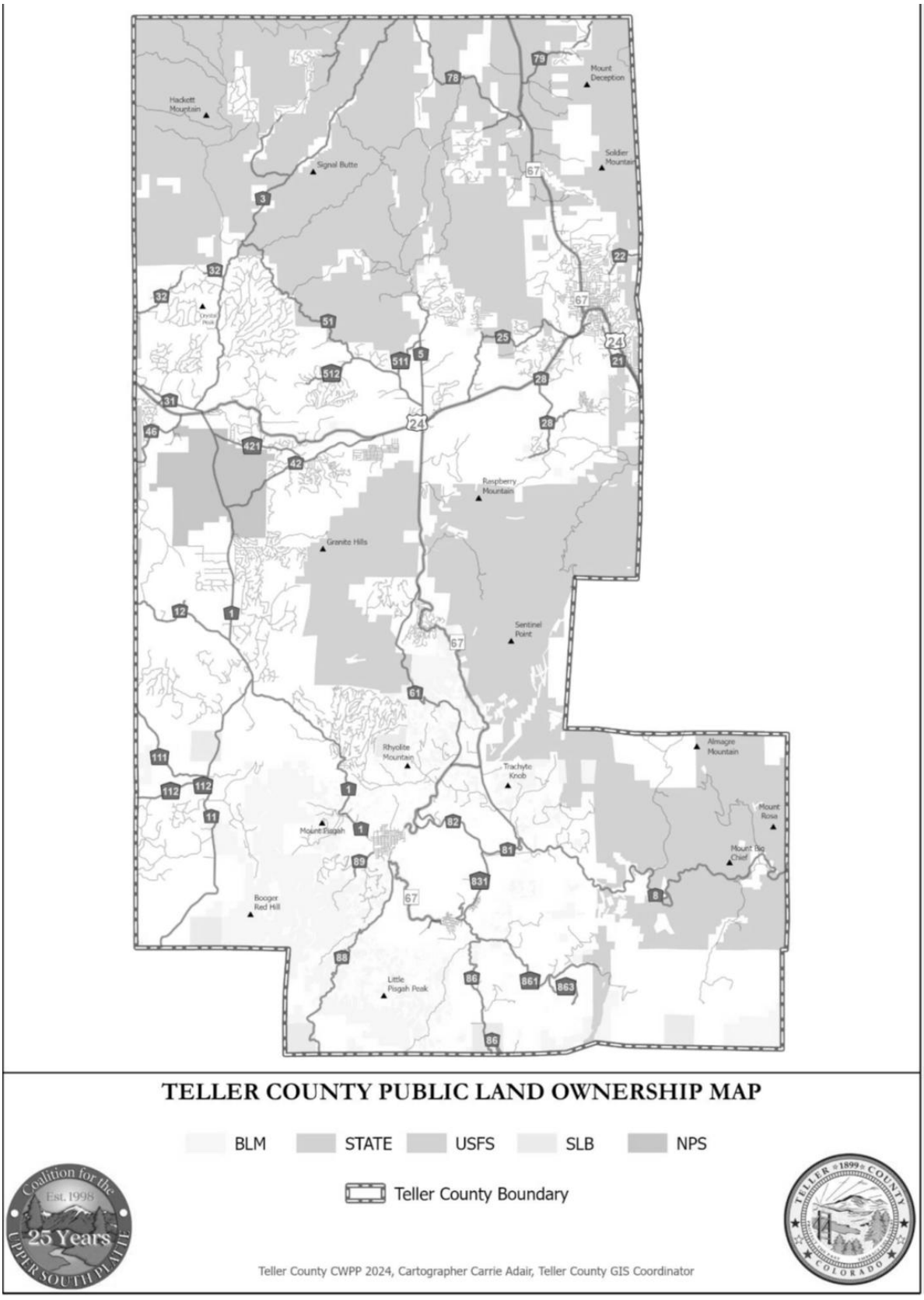


Figure 15: Teller County Public Land Ownership

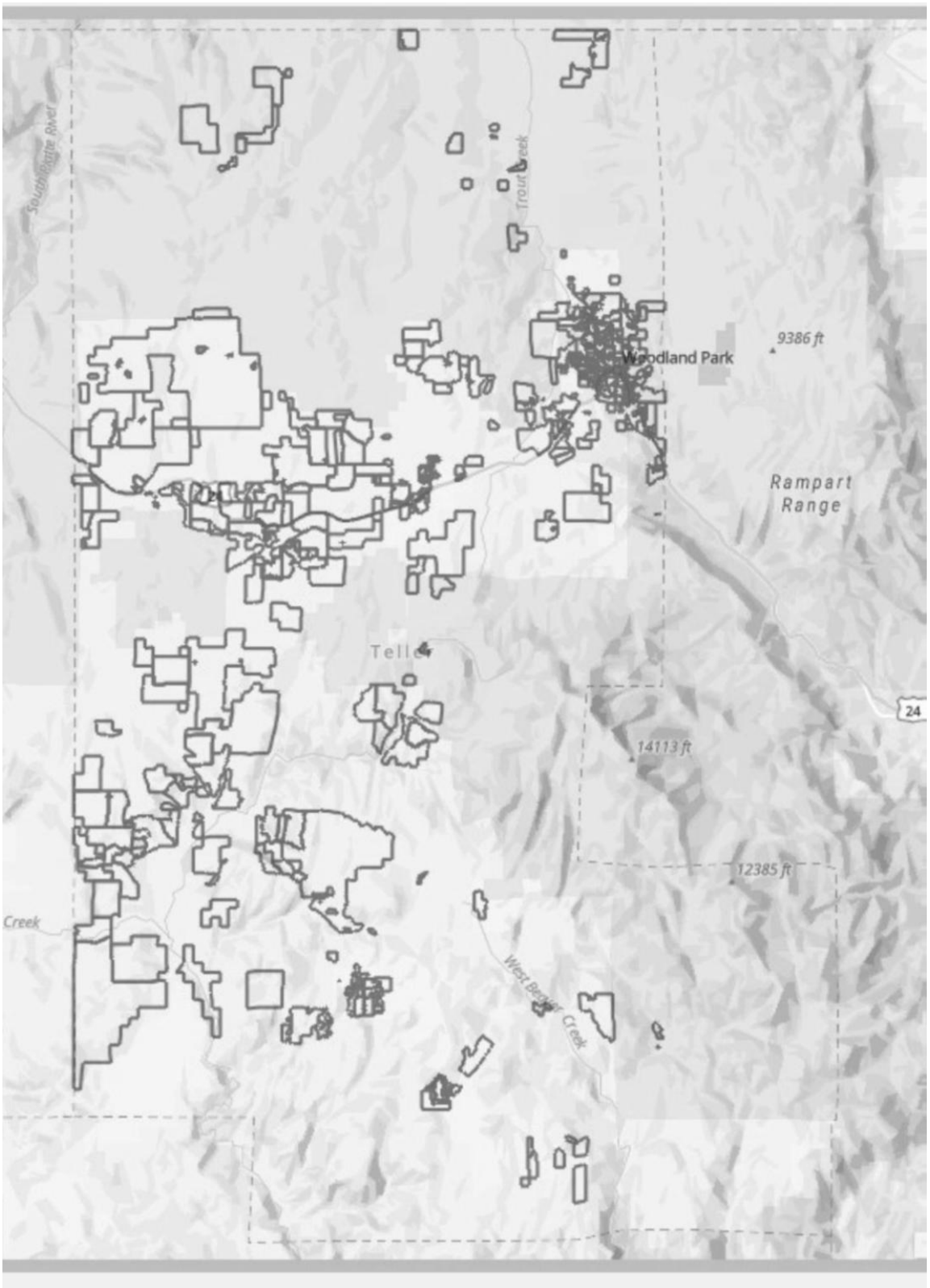


Figure 16: Teller County Subdivisions

Section 3 – Social Science

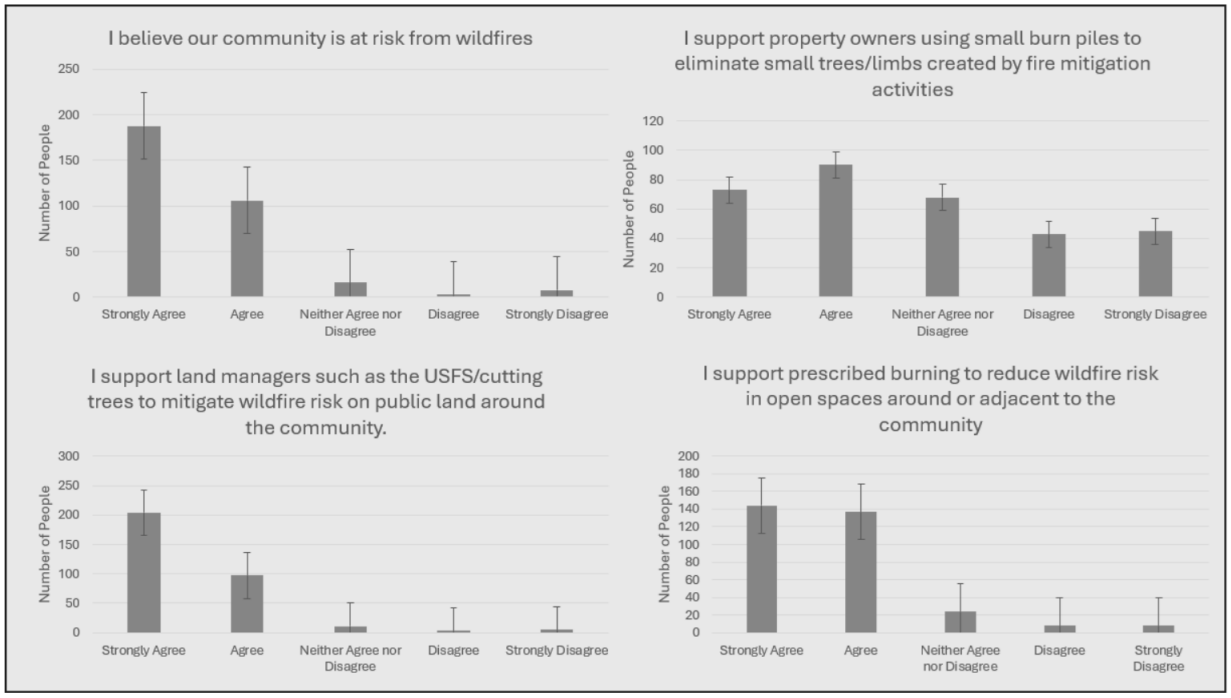


Figure 17: Participants rank their agreement with each community wildfire concern and treatment option

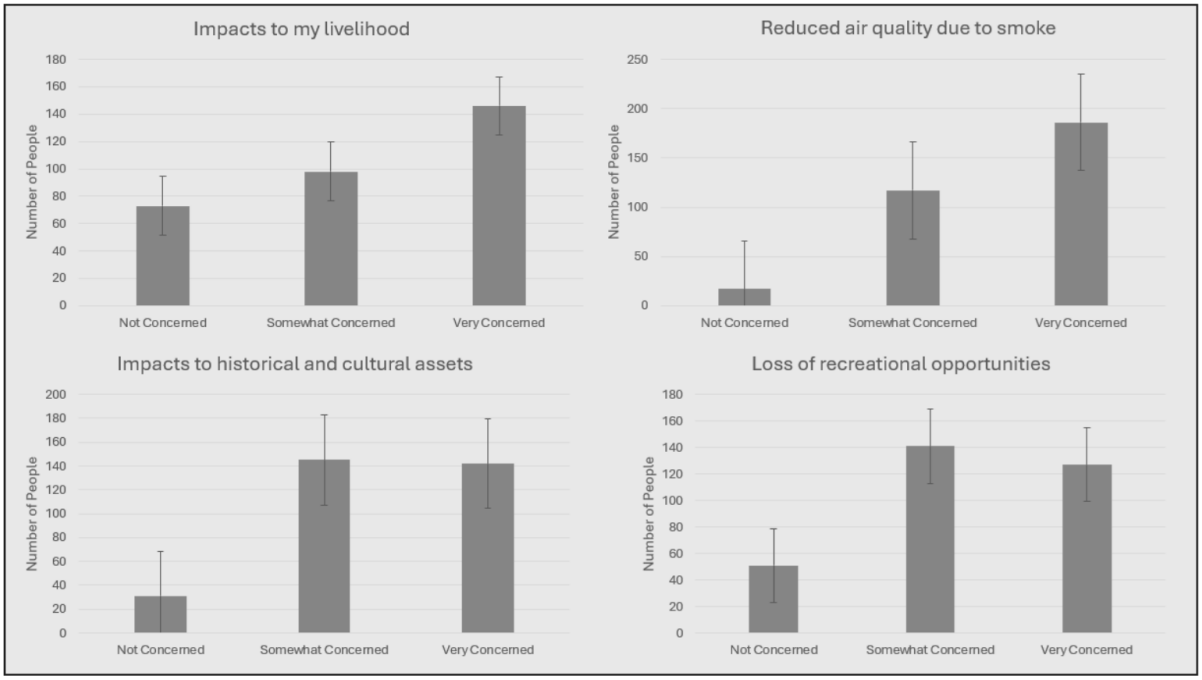


Figure 18: Participants rank how concerned they are about long-term wildfire impacts

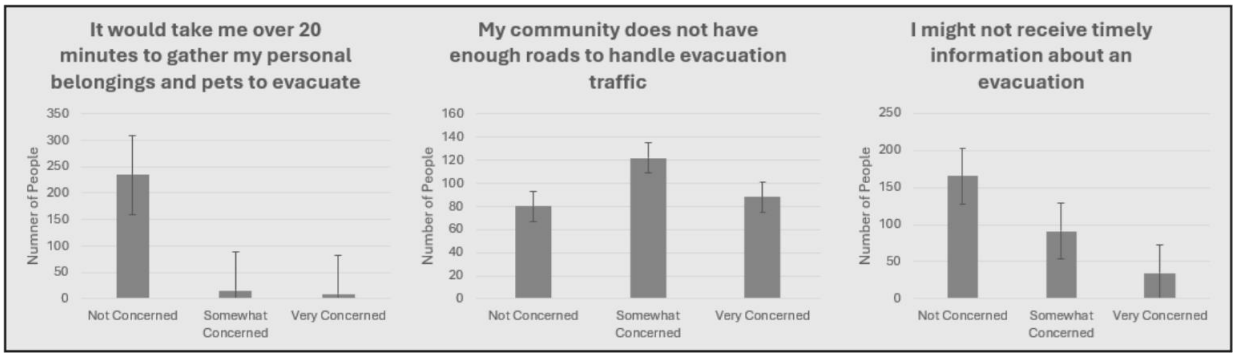


Figure 19: Participants ranking how concerned they are about what to do in the event of a wildfire

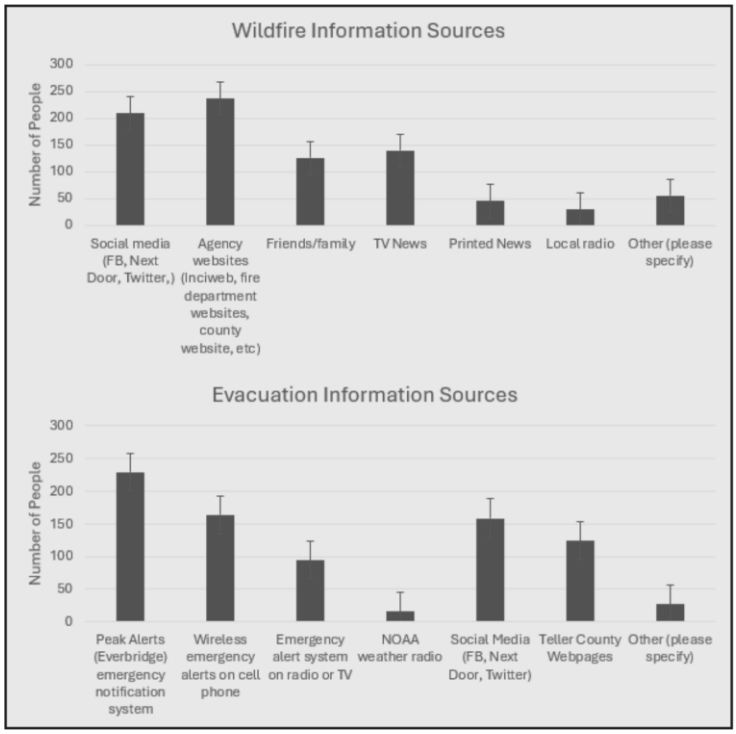


Figure 20: Participants response showing where they obtain wildfire and evacuation information

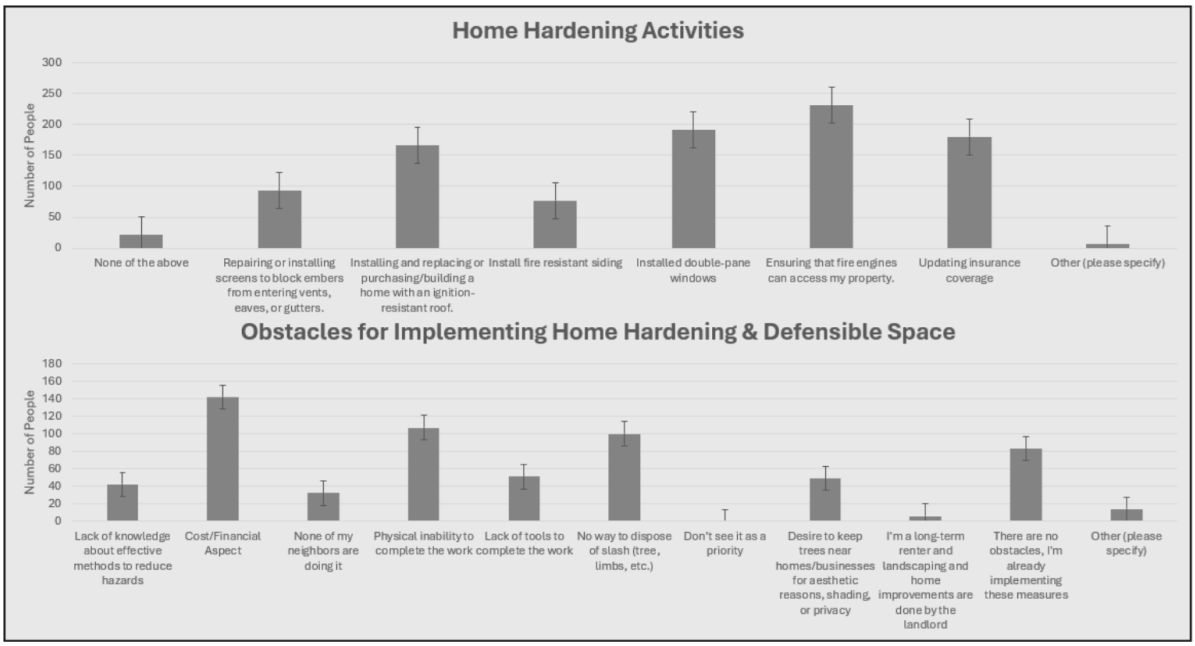


Figure 21: Participants responses showing what home hardening activities have been conducted and what obstacles prevent them from completing home hardening and defensible space

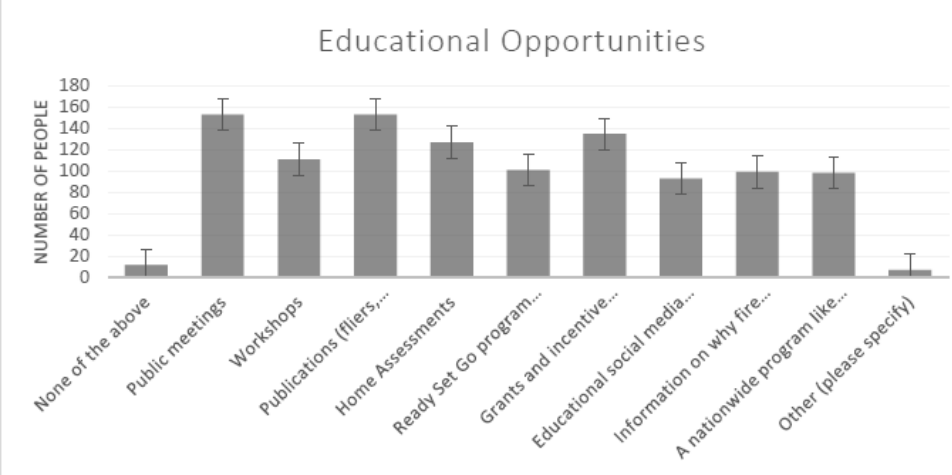


Figure 22: Current educational opportunities that participants attend

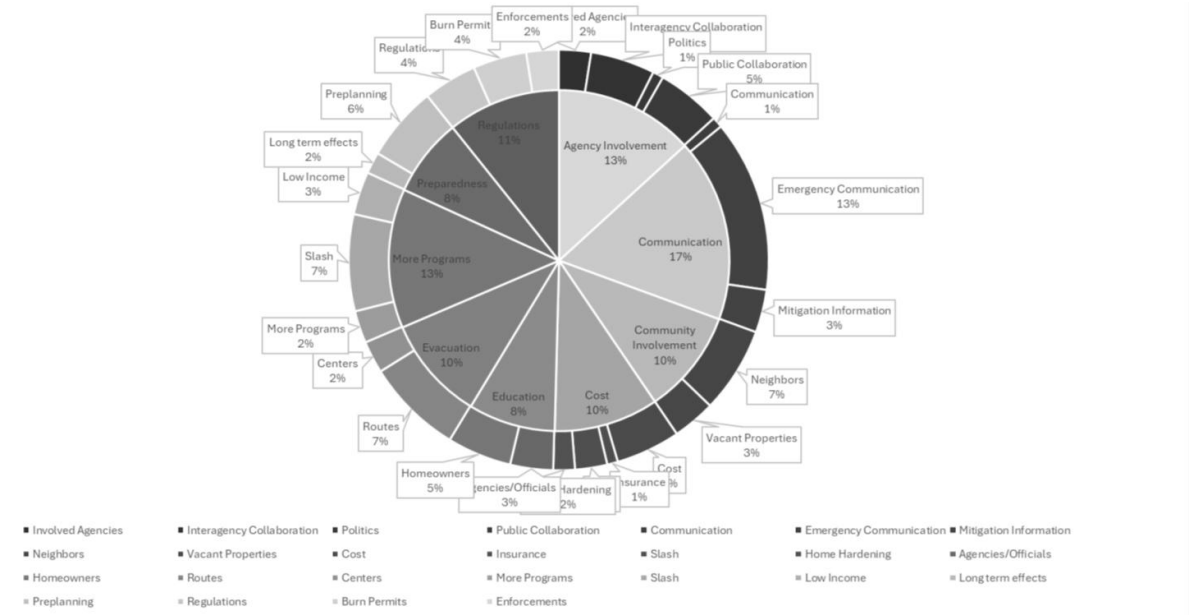


Figure 23: Themes and subthemes are broken down by frequency mentioned by participants. Themes are displayed in green and subthemes that make up the themes are displayed in blue around the edge.

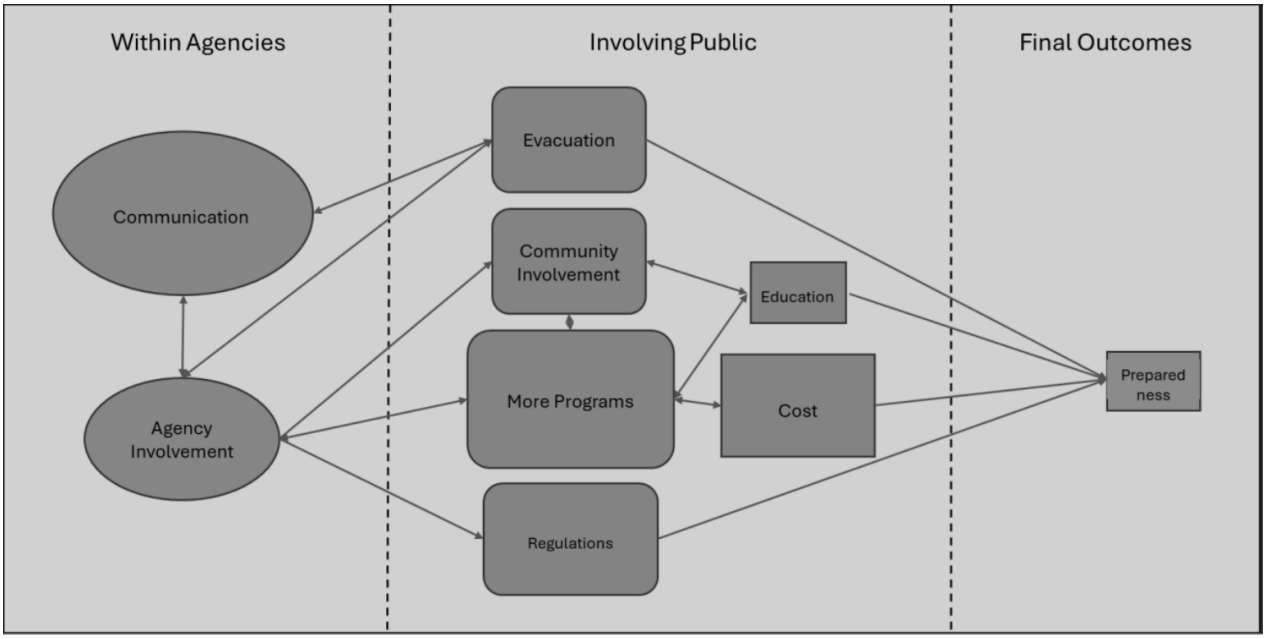


Figure 24: The Wildfire Community Needs Framework shows how each theme affects each other. Shapes are scaled to size based on frequency of participant mentions

Section 4 – Telle County Fire Environment

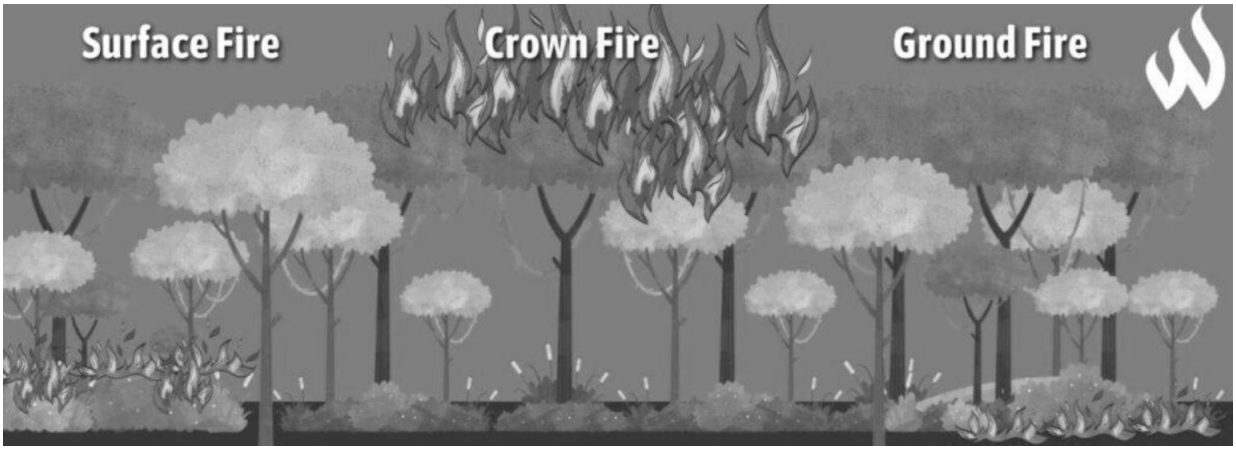
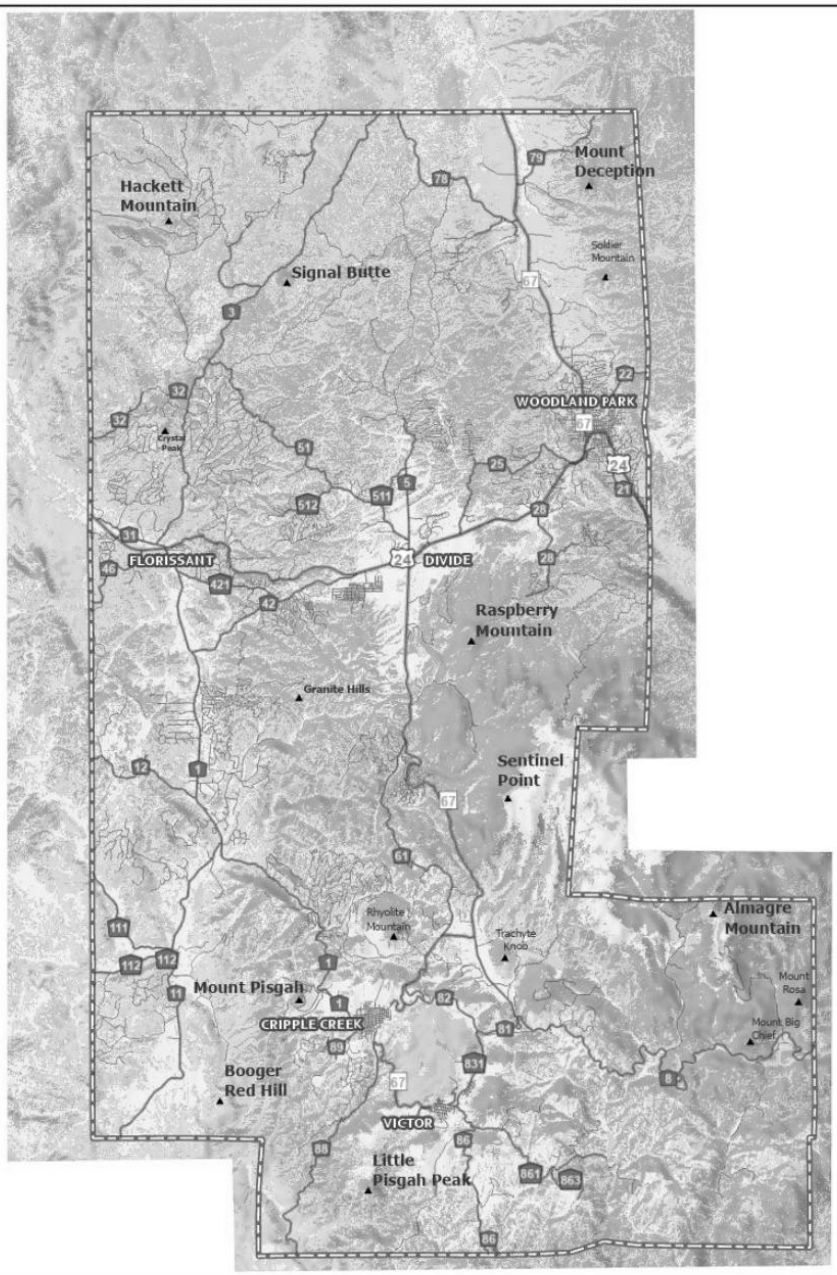


Figure 25: Type of Wildfires (Western Fire Chiefs Association)



TELLER COUNTY EXISTING LANDFIRE VEGETATION COVER MAP

Closed tree canopy | Open tree canopy | Shrub | Herbaceous & Grassland | Sparse

Teller County Boundary

LANDFIRE: LANDFIRE Existing Vegetation Type layer. (2023 - last update).
U.S. Department of Interior, Geological Survey, and U.S. Department of Agriculture. [Online].
Available: https://landfire.gov/viewer/ [2024,June 8].

Esri, NASA, NGA, USGS
Teller County CWPP 2024, Cartographer Carrie Adair, Teller County GIS Coordinator

Figure 26: Teller County Vegetation Cover

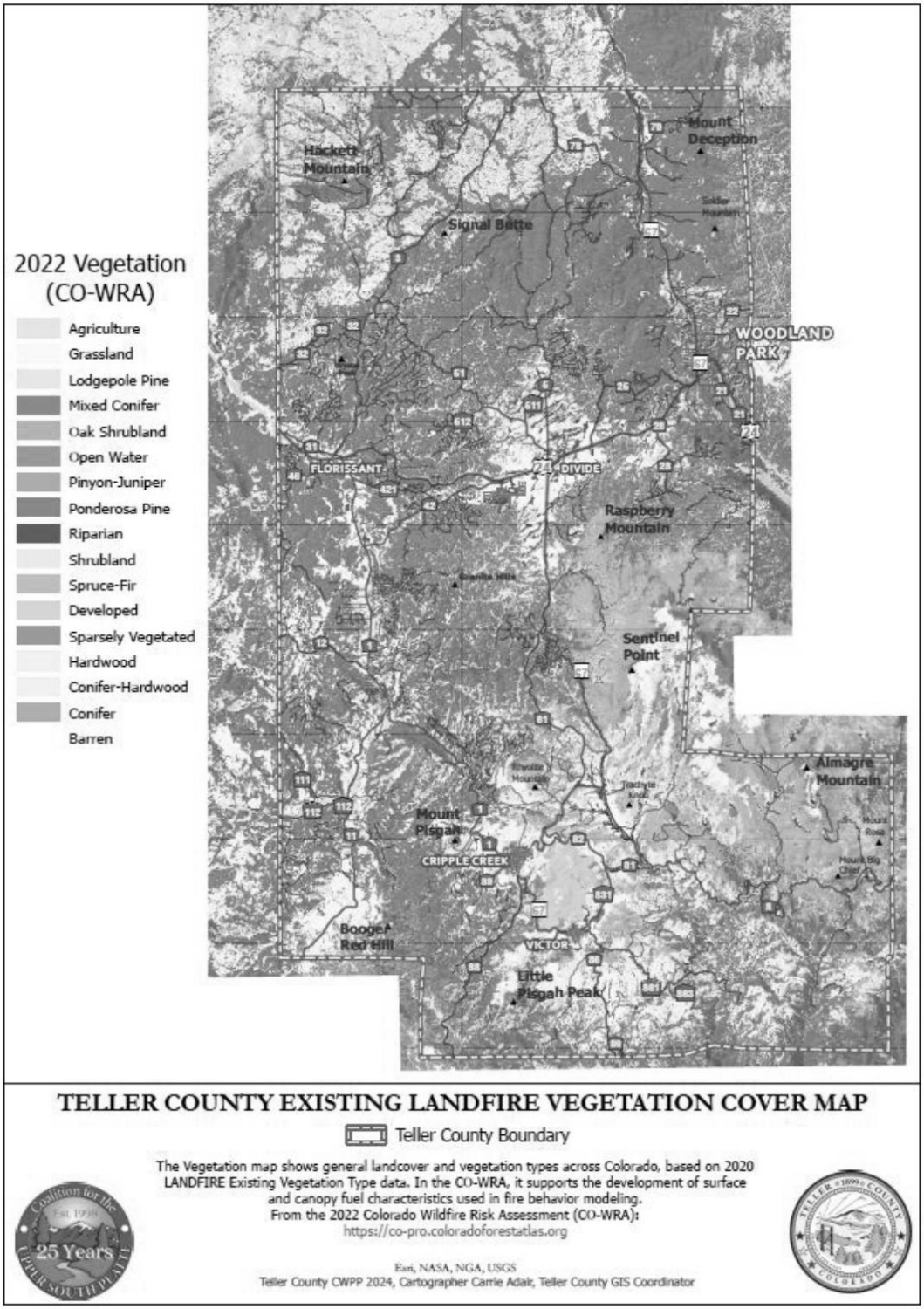


Figure 27: Teller County Vegetation Cover – Open vs Closed Canopy

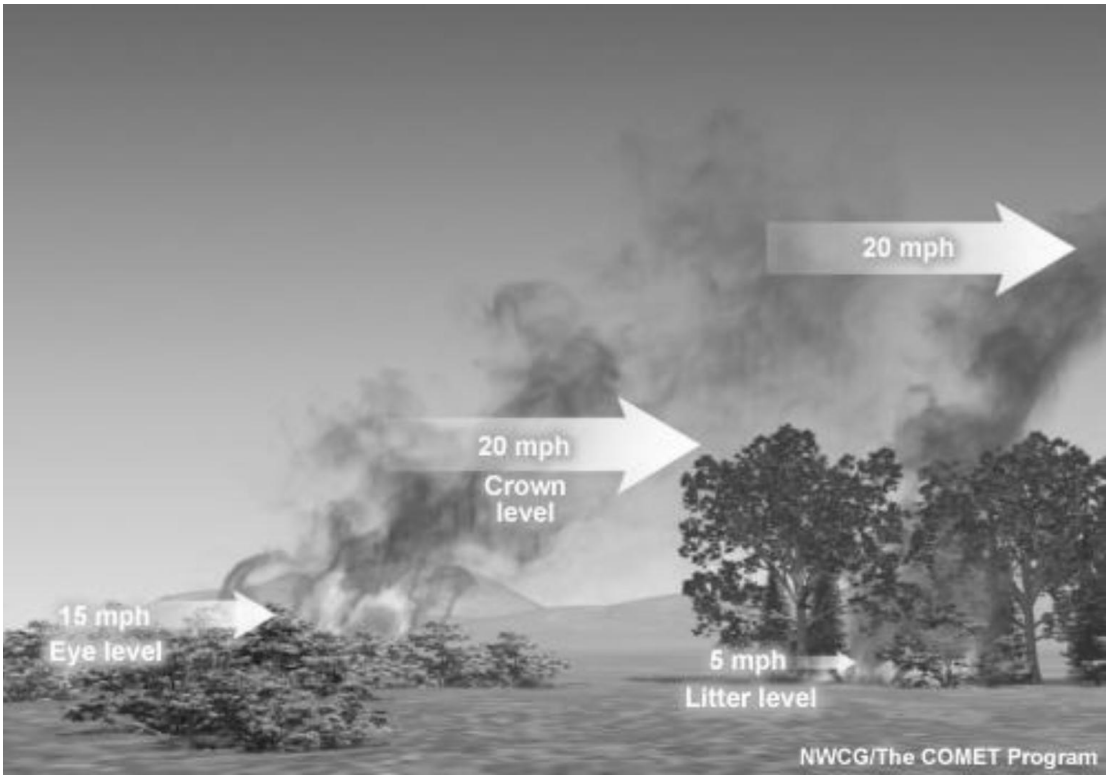


Figure 28: Various Wind Speed Levels (National Wildfire Coordinating Group)

Figure 29: Wind Spreads Fire Uphill Faster (Weather Fire Chiefs Association)

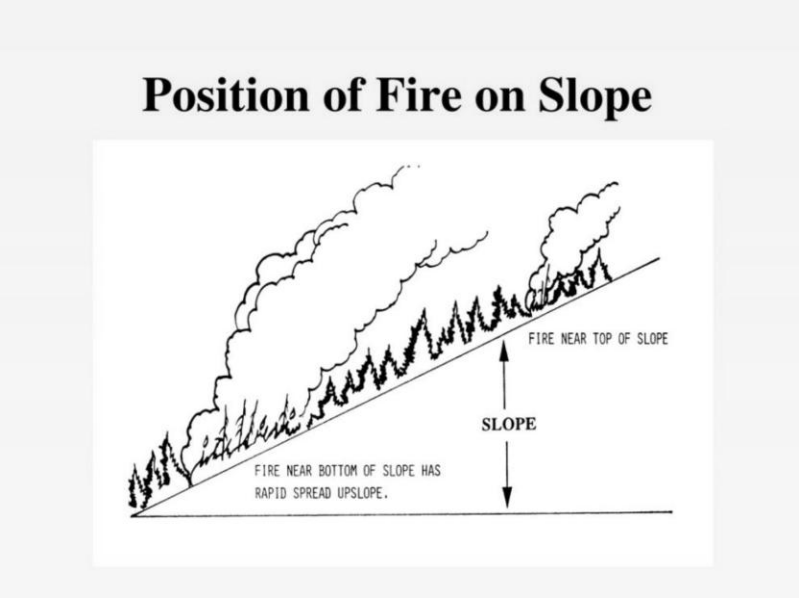


Figure 30: Position of Fire on a Slope

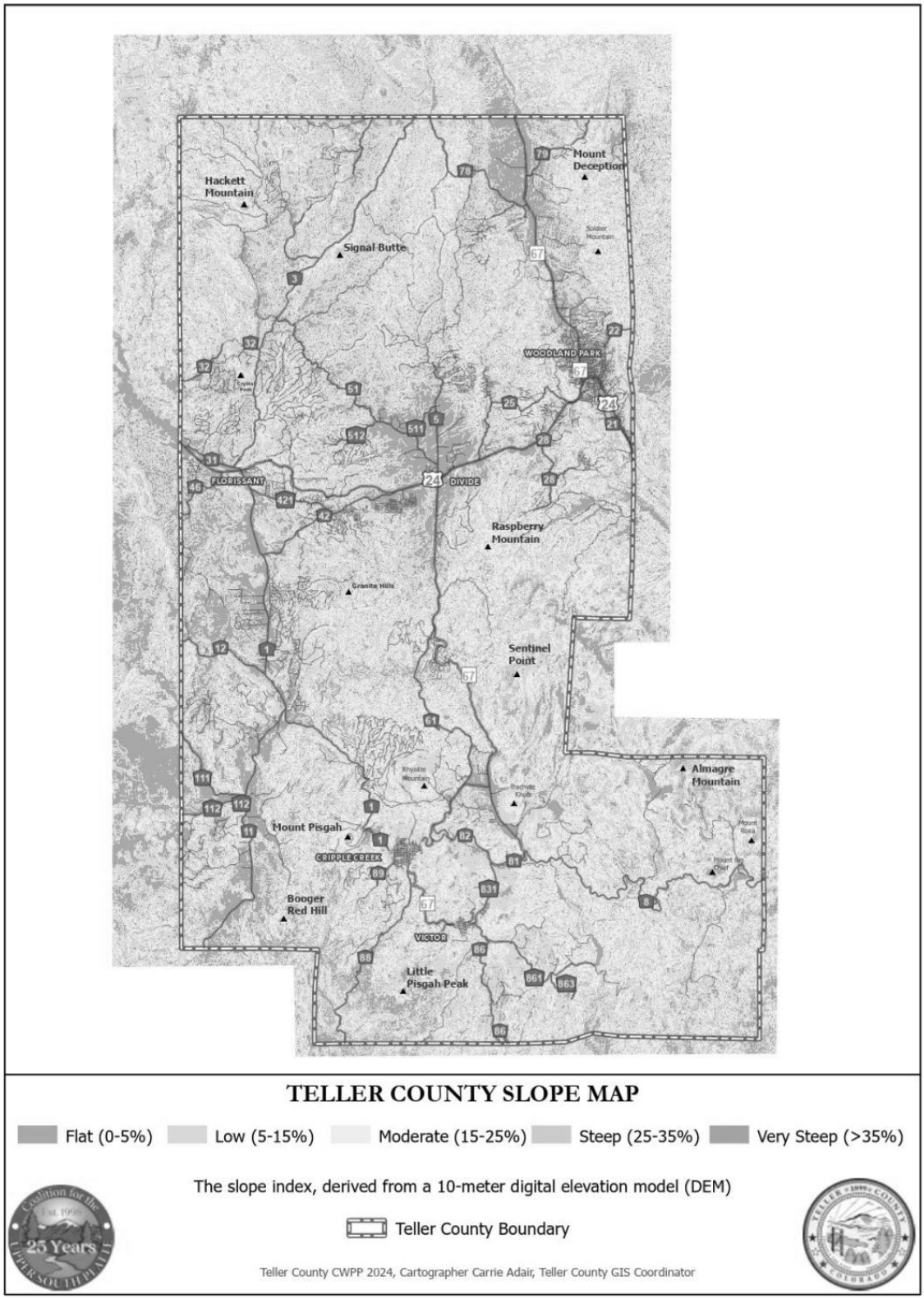


Figure 31: Teller County Slope Map

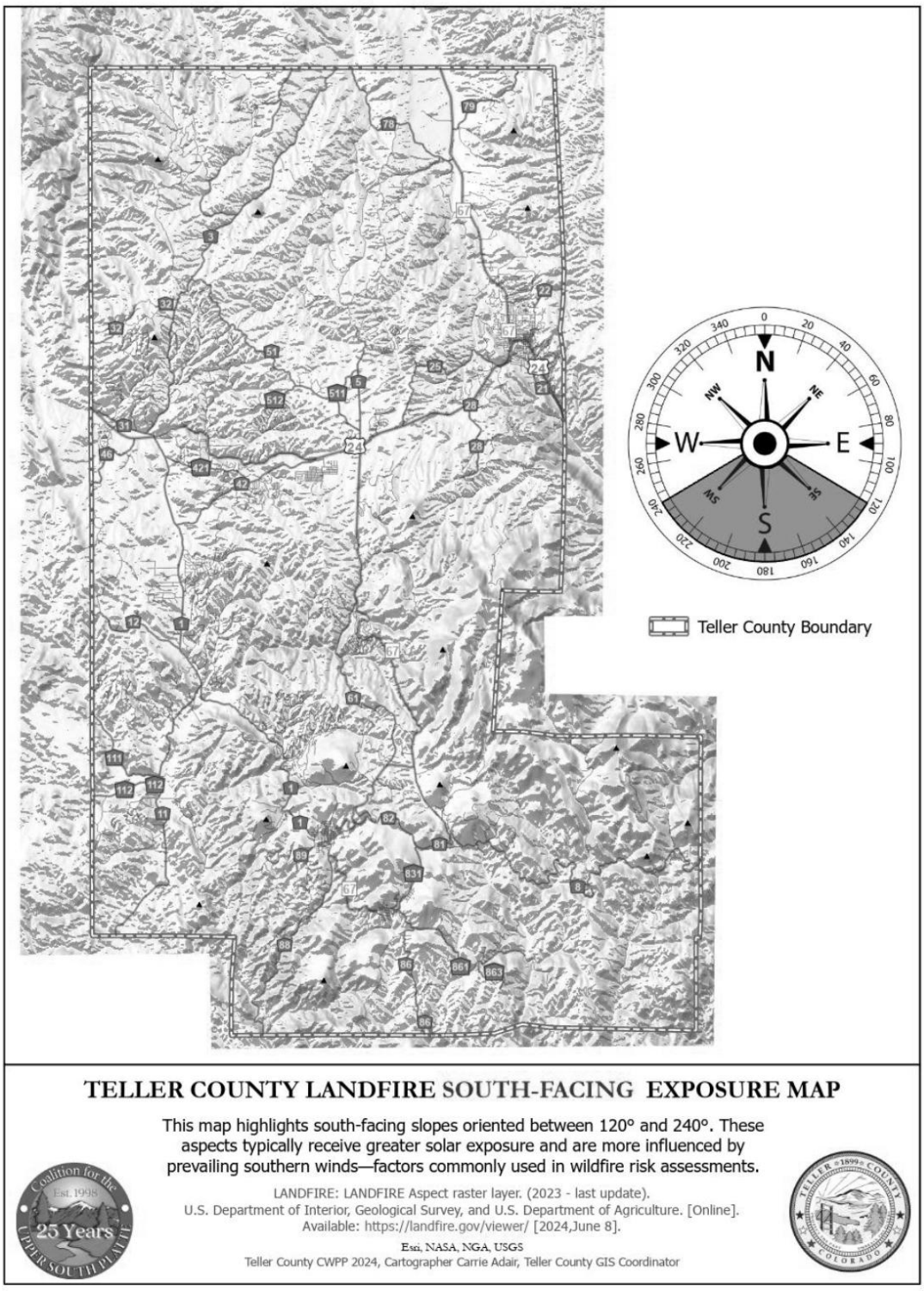


Figure 32: Teller County South Facing Slope Map

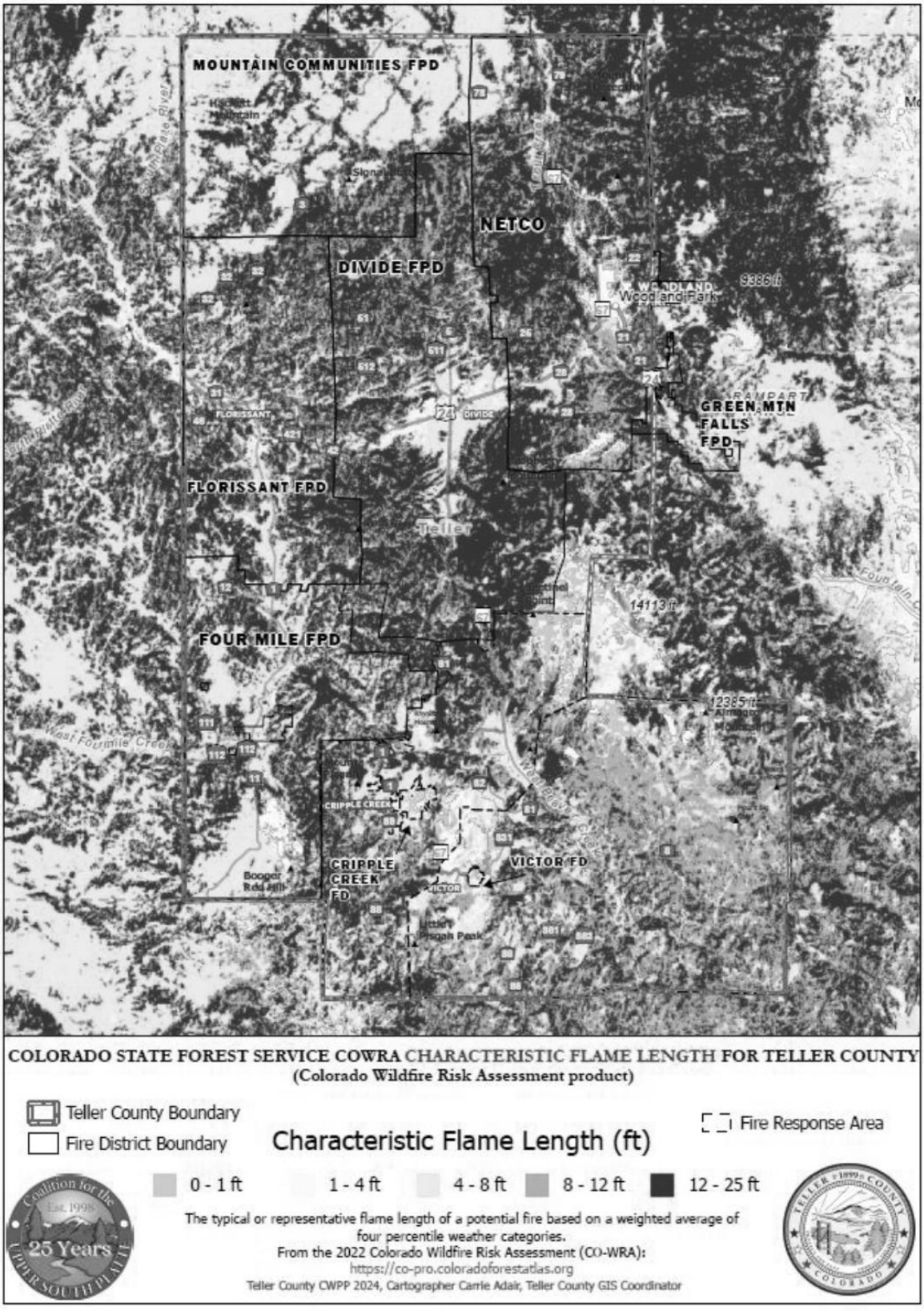


Figure 33: Teller County Characteristic Flame Length (COWRAP)

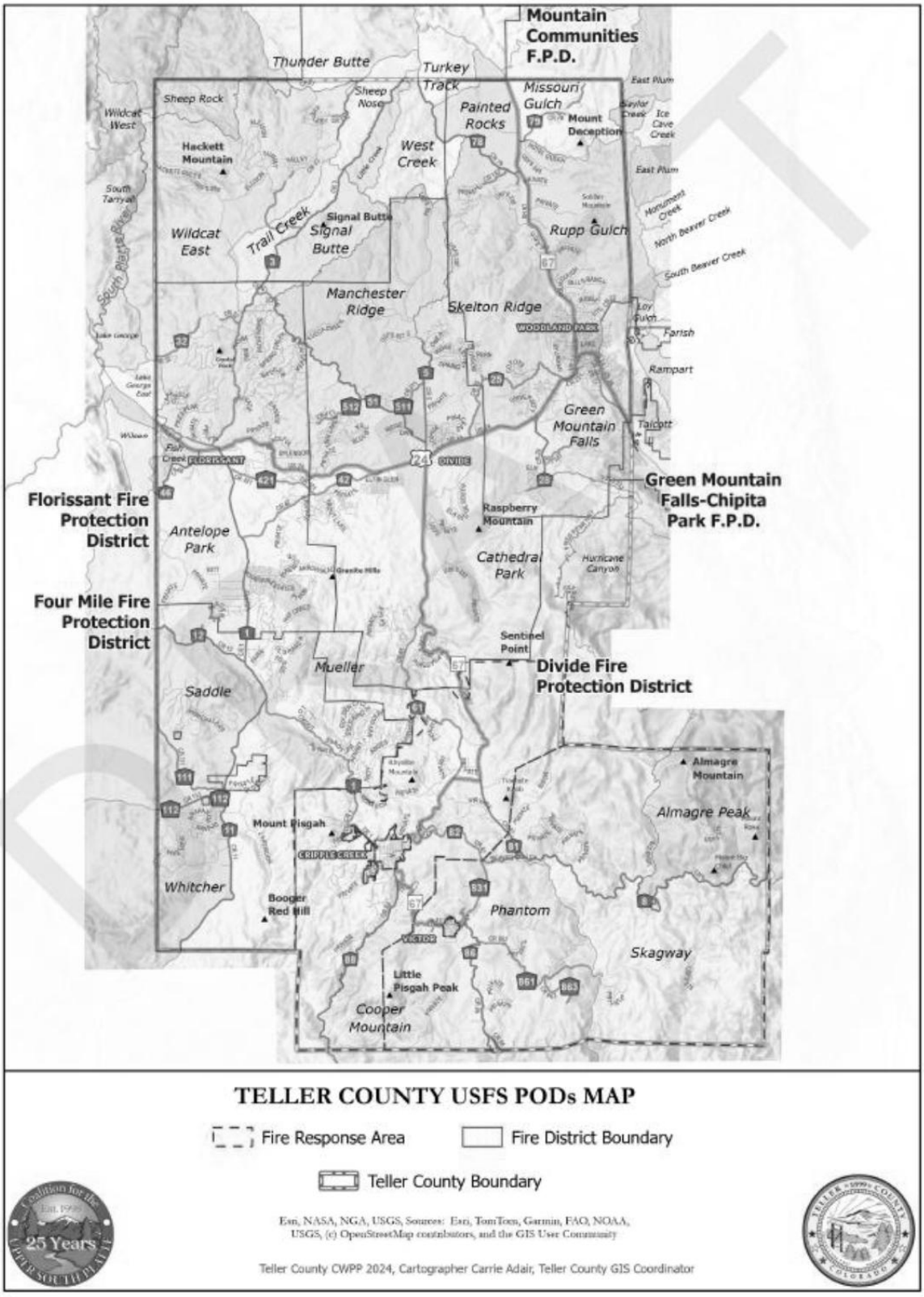


Figure 34: PODS in Teller County

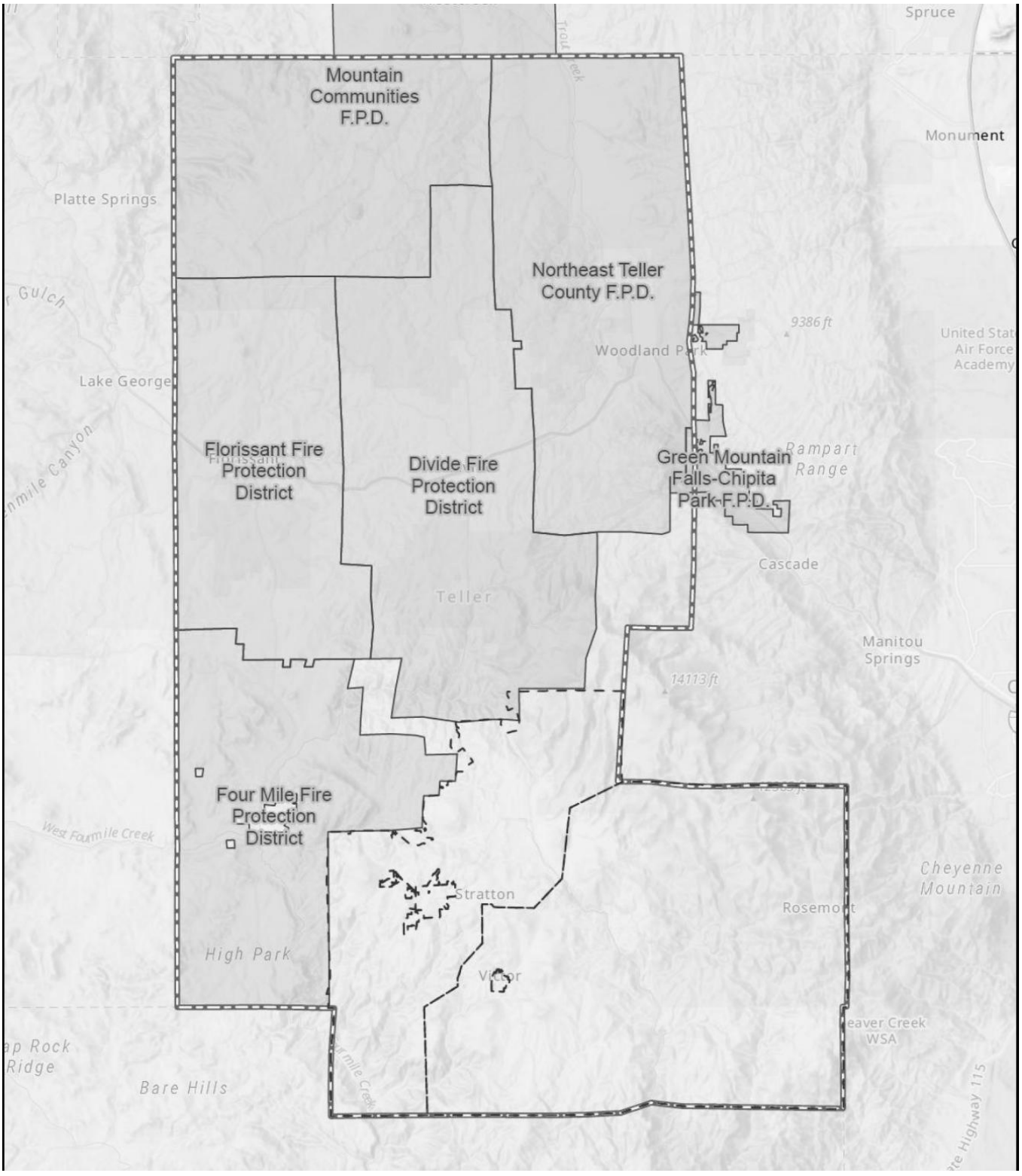


Figure 35: Teller County Fire Districts

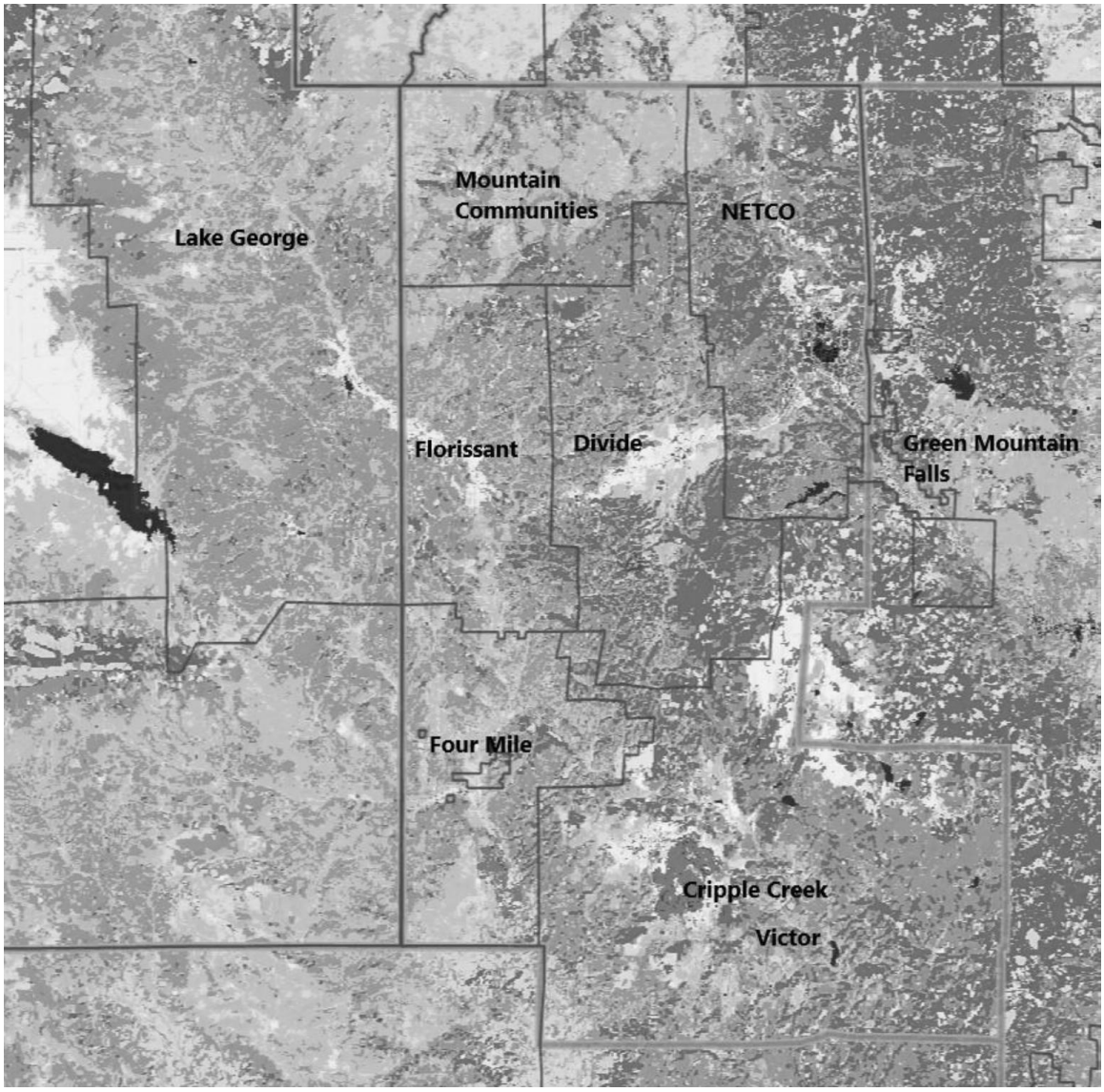


Figure 36: Teller County Wide Surface Fuel Models

Figure 37: Surface Fuels Models Legend (from COWRAP)

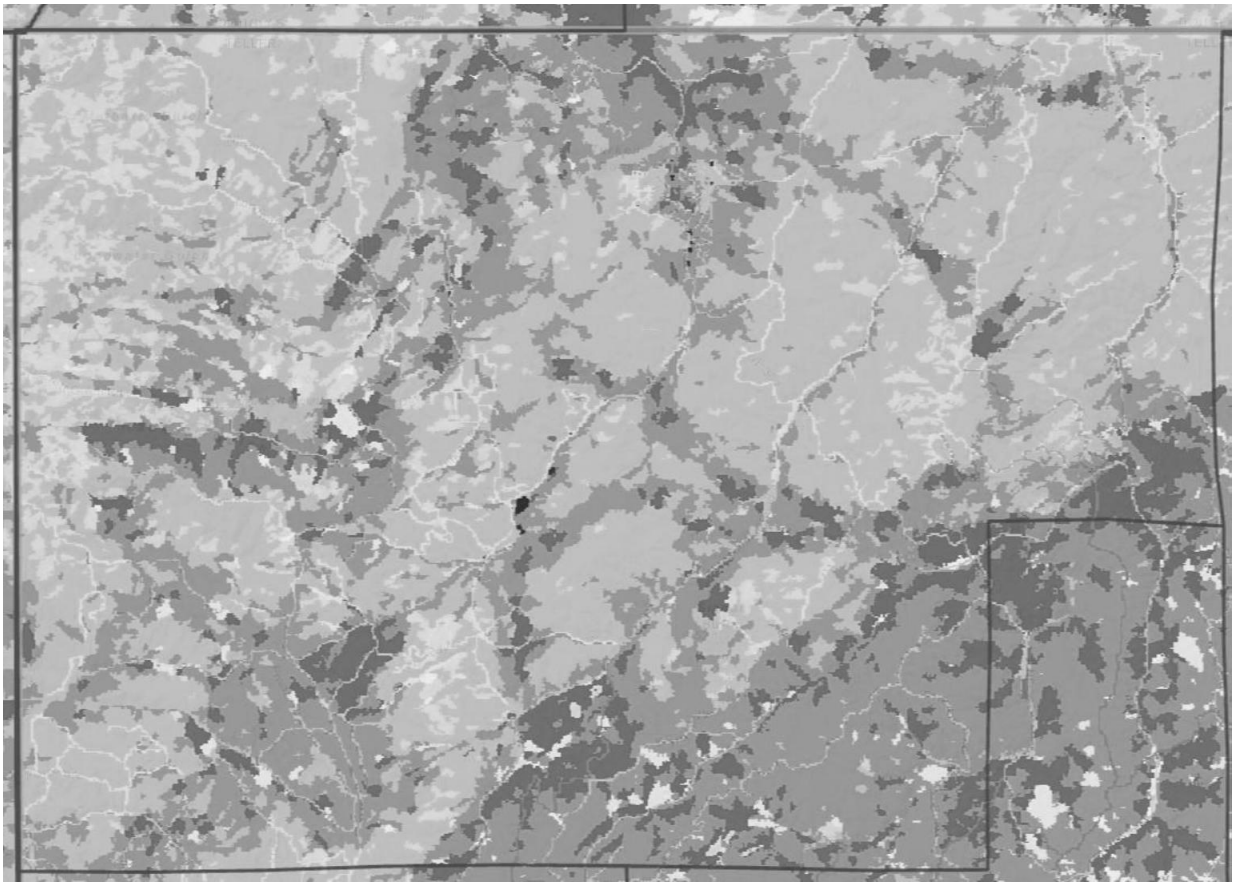


Figure 38: Mountain Communities Surface Fuel Models

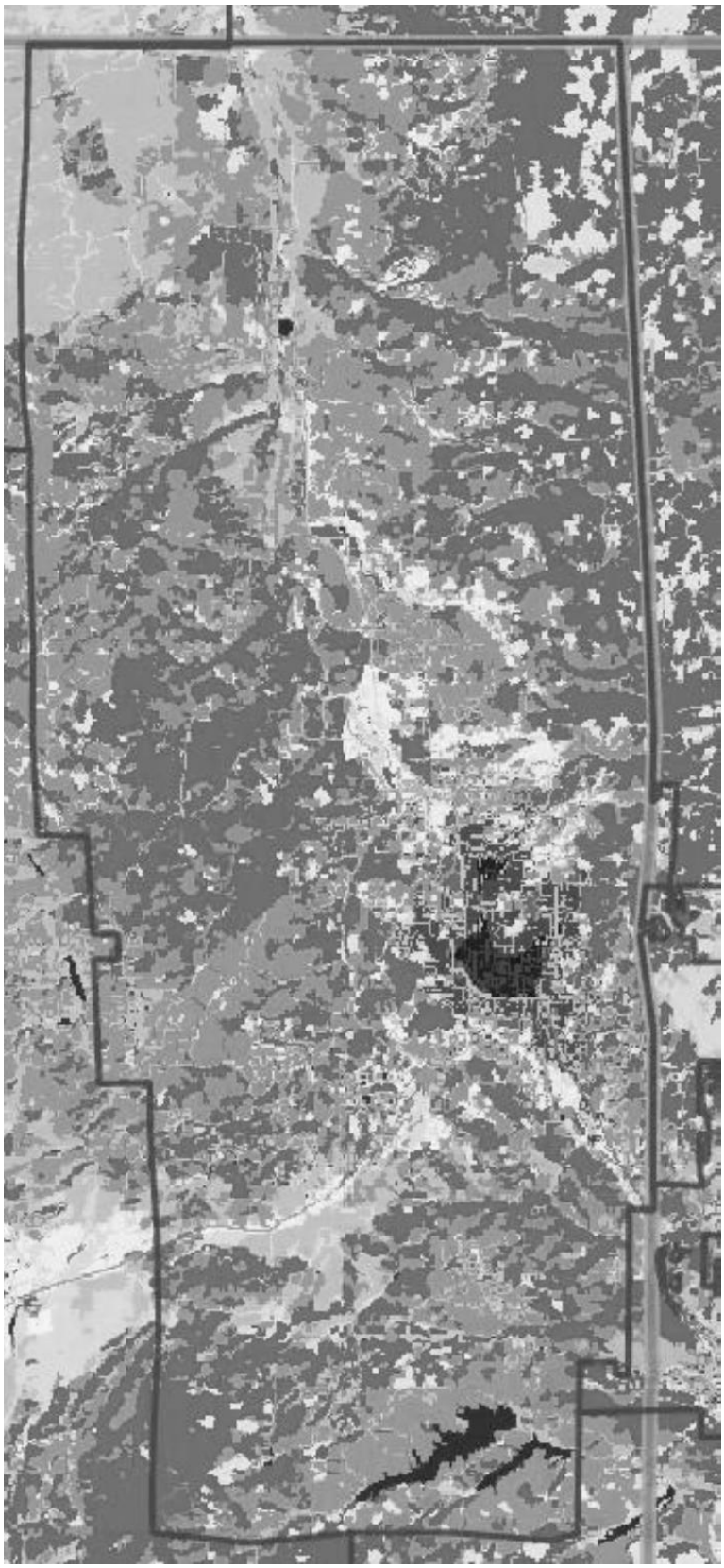


Figure 39: NETCO Surface Fuel Models

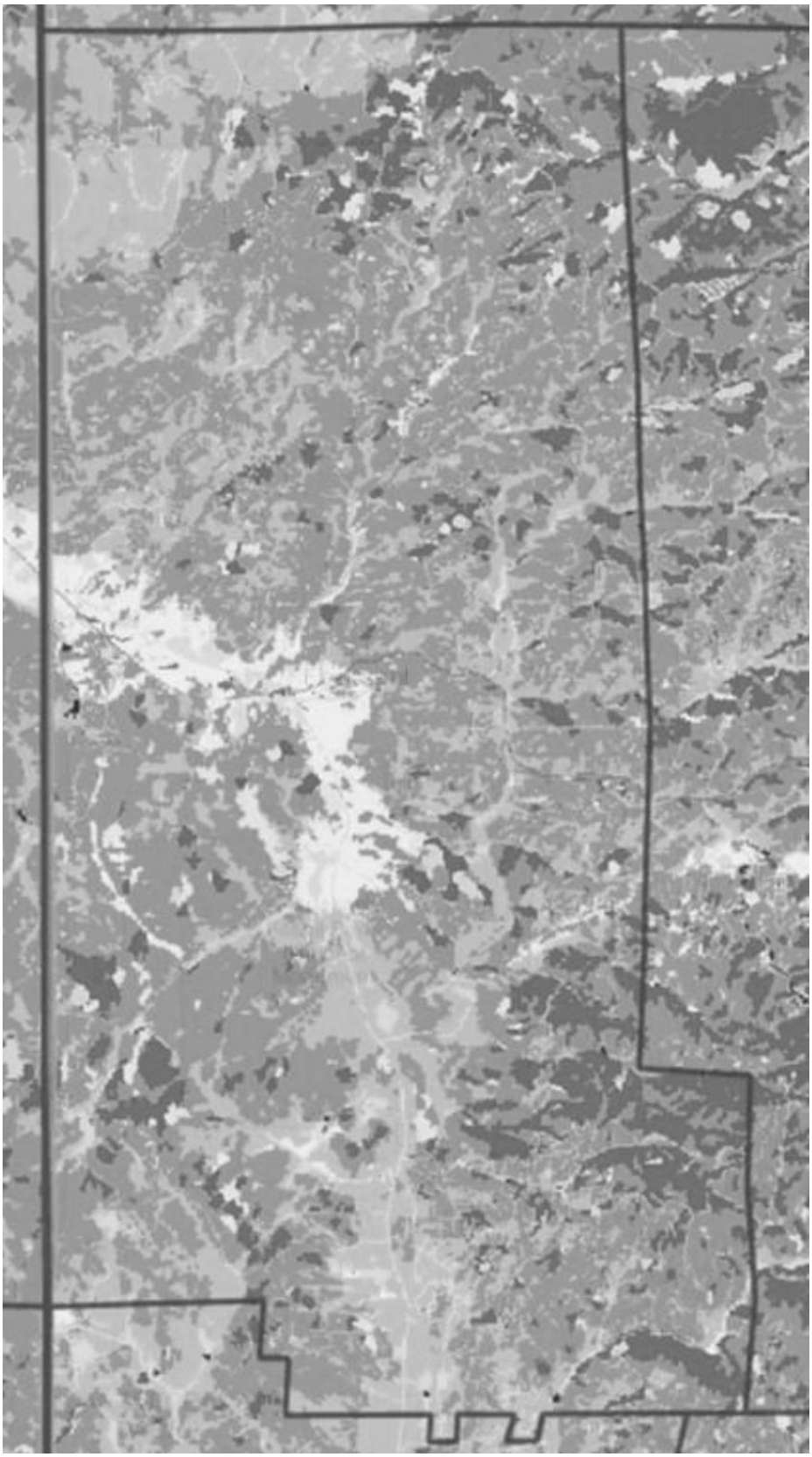


Figure 40: Florissant FPD Surface Fuel Models

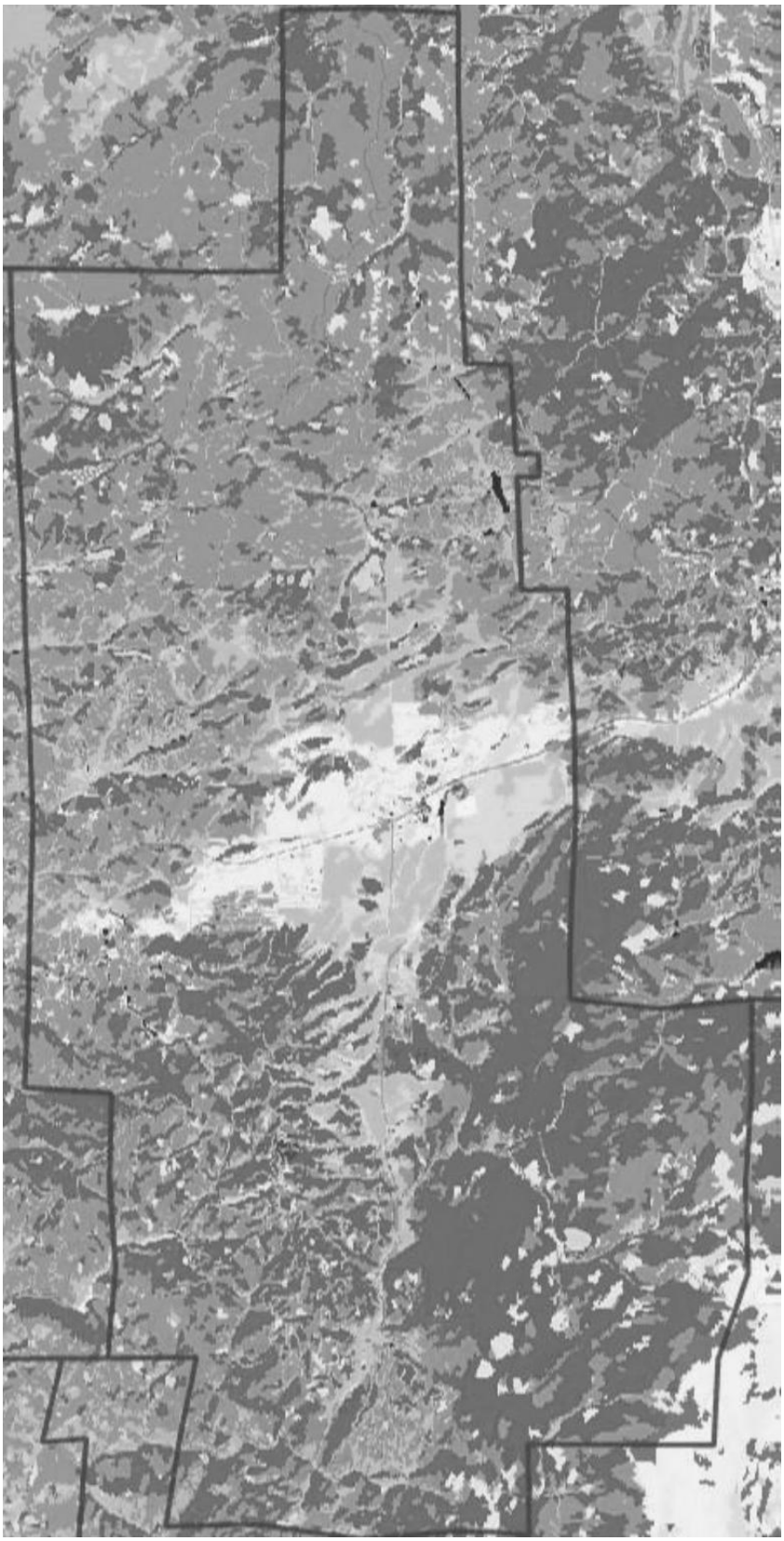


Figure 41: Divide FPD Surface Fuel Models

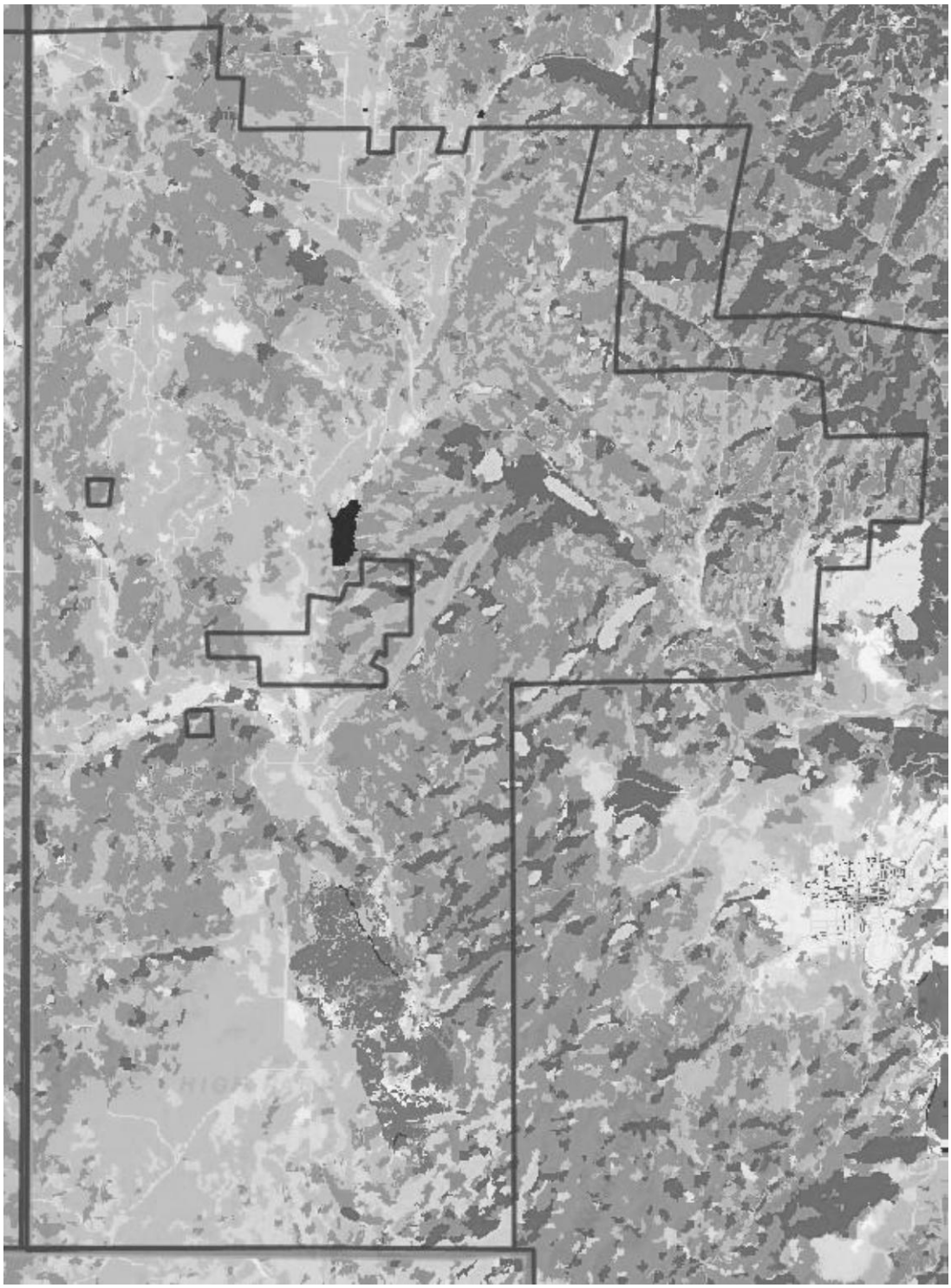


Figure 42: Four Mile FPD Surface Models

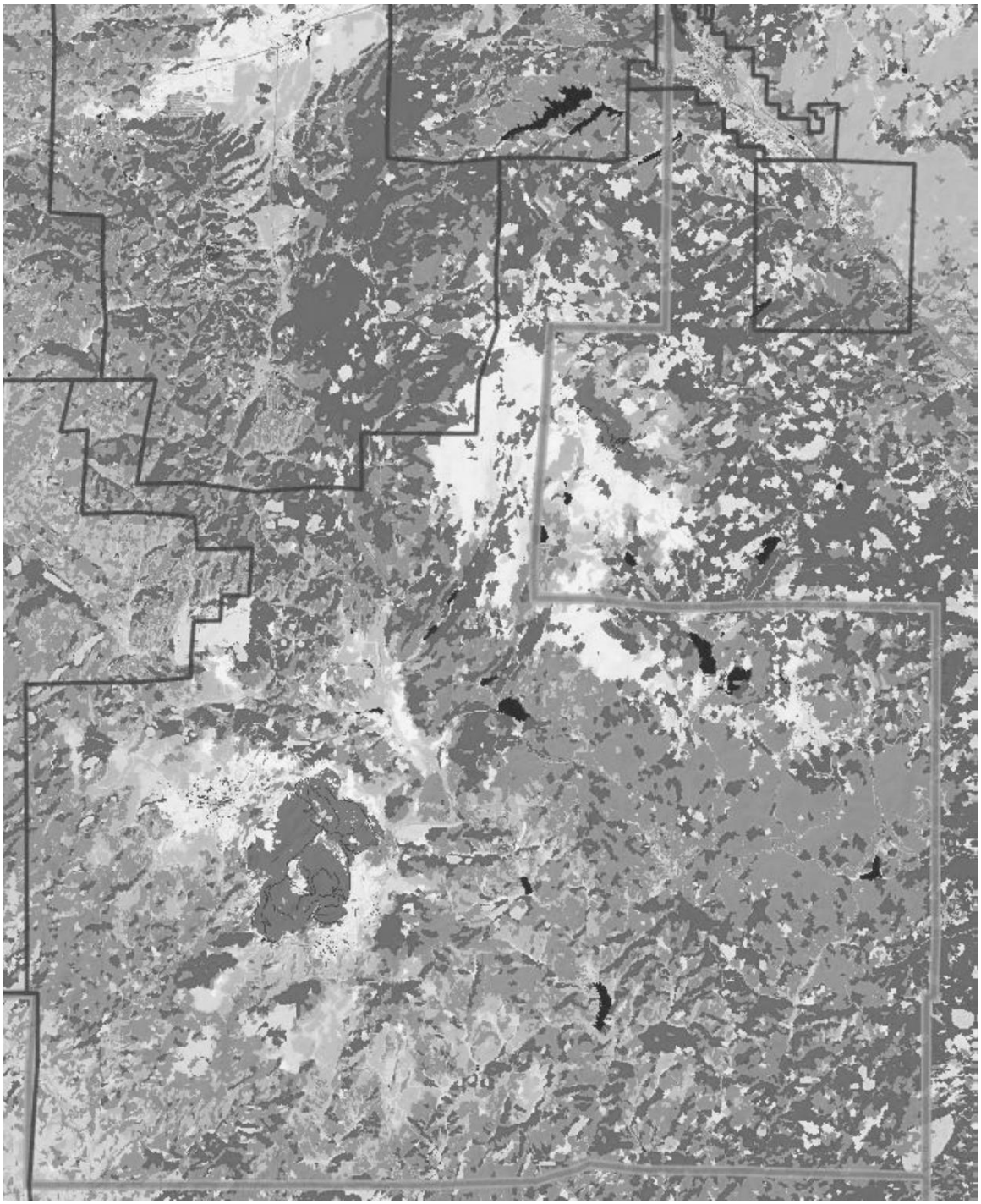


Figure 43: No Fire District Surface Fuel Models – includes Cripple Creek FD and Victor FD

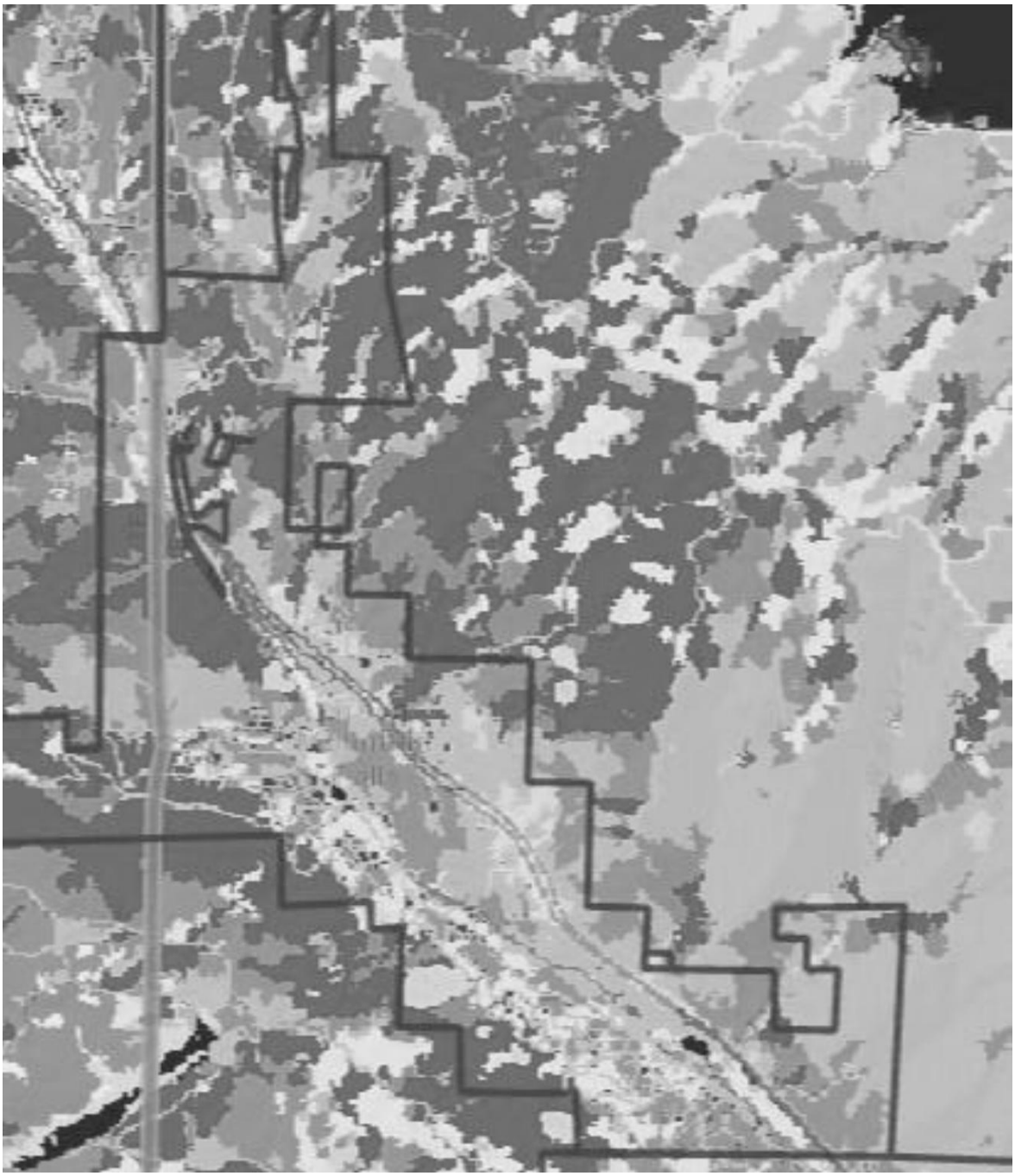


Figure 44: Green Mountain Falls-Chipita Park FPD Surface Fuel Models (El Paso and Teller Counties) – Teller County Eastern Boarder

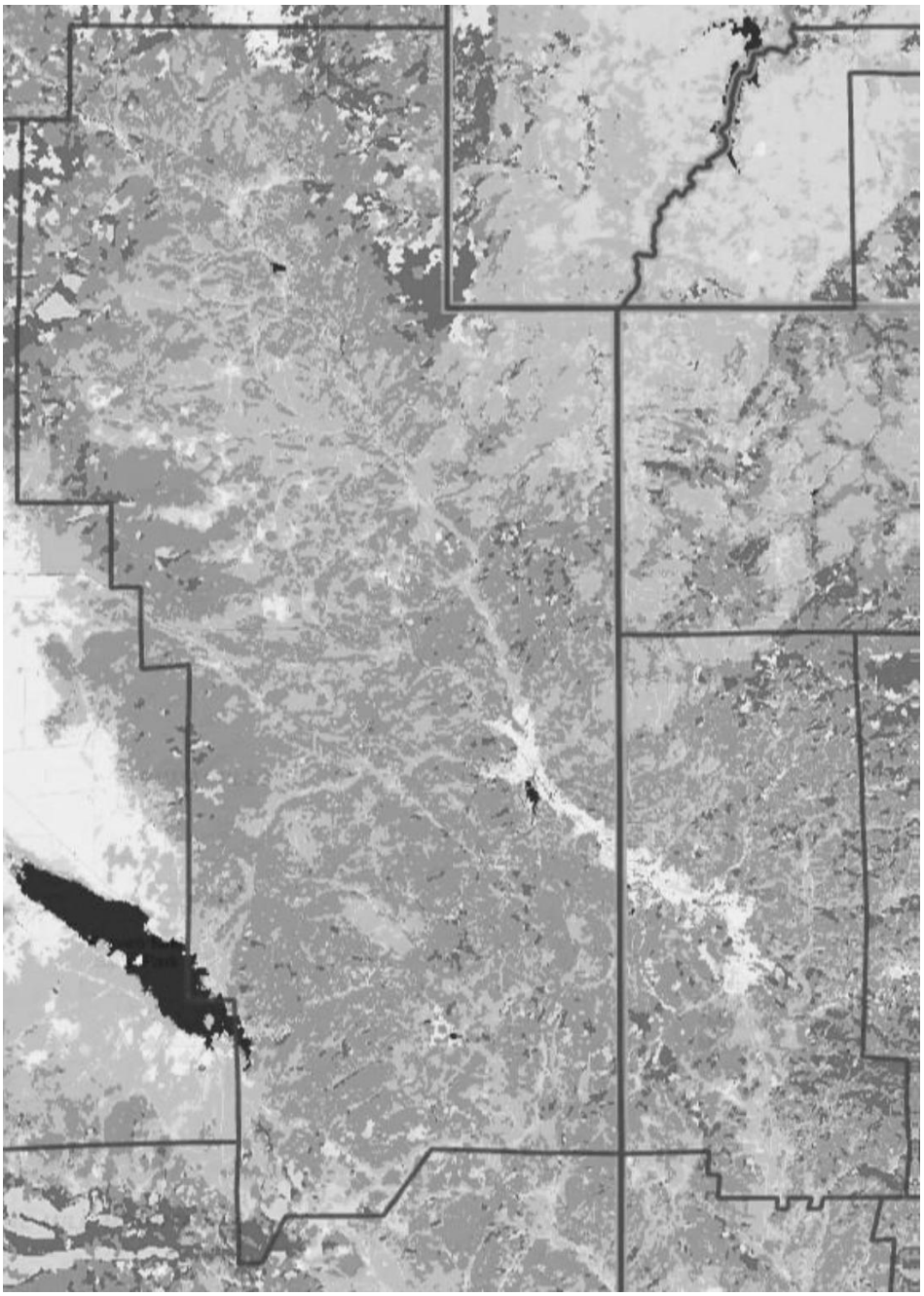


Figure 45: Lake George FPD Surface Fuel Models (Park County) – Teller County Western Boundary)

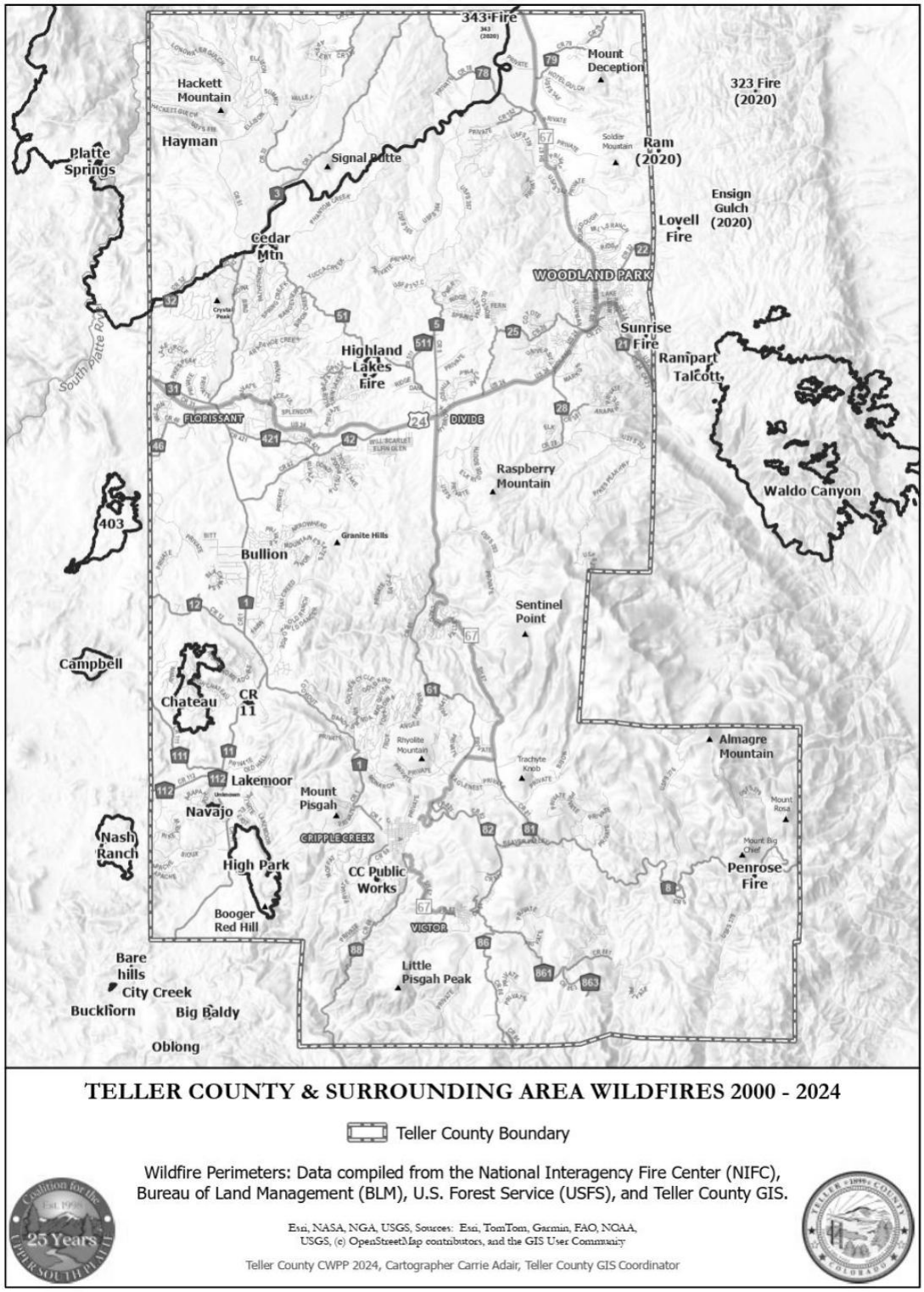


Figure 46: Teller County Historical Fires

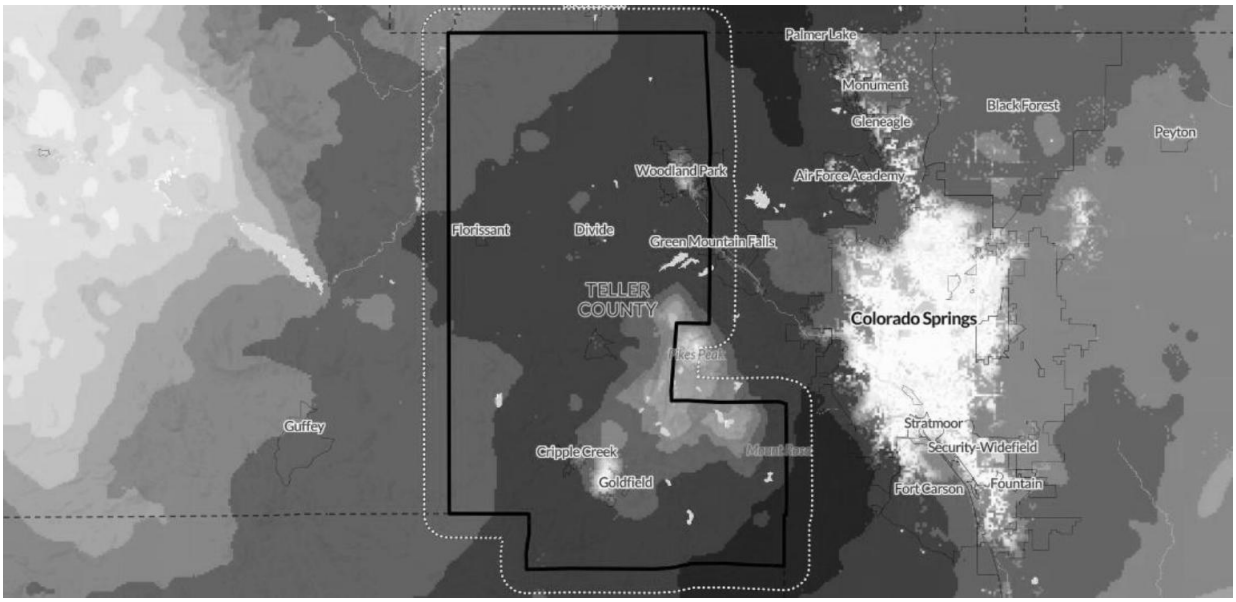


Figure 47: Wildfire Likelihood

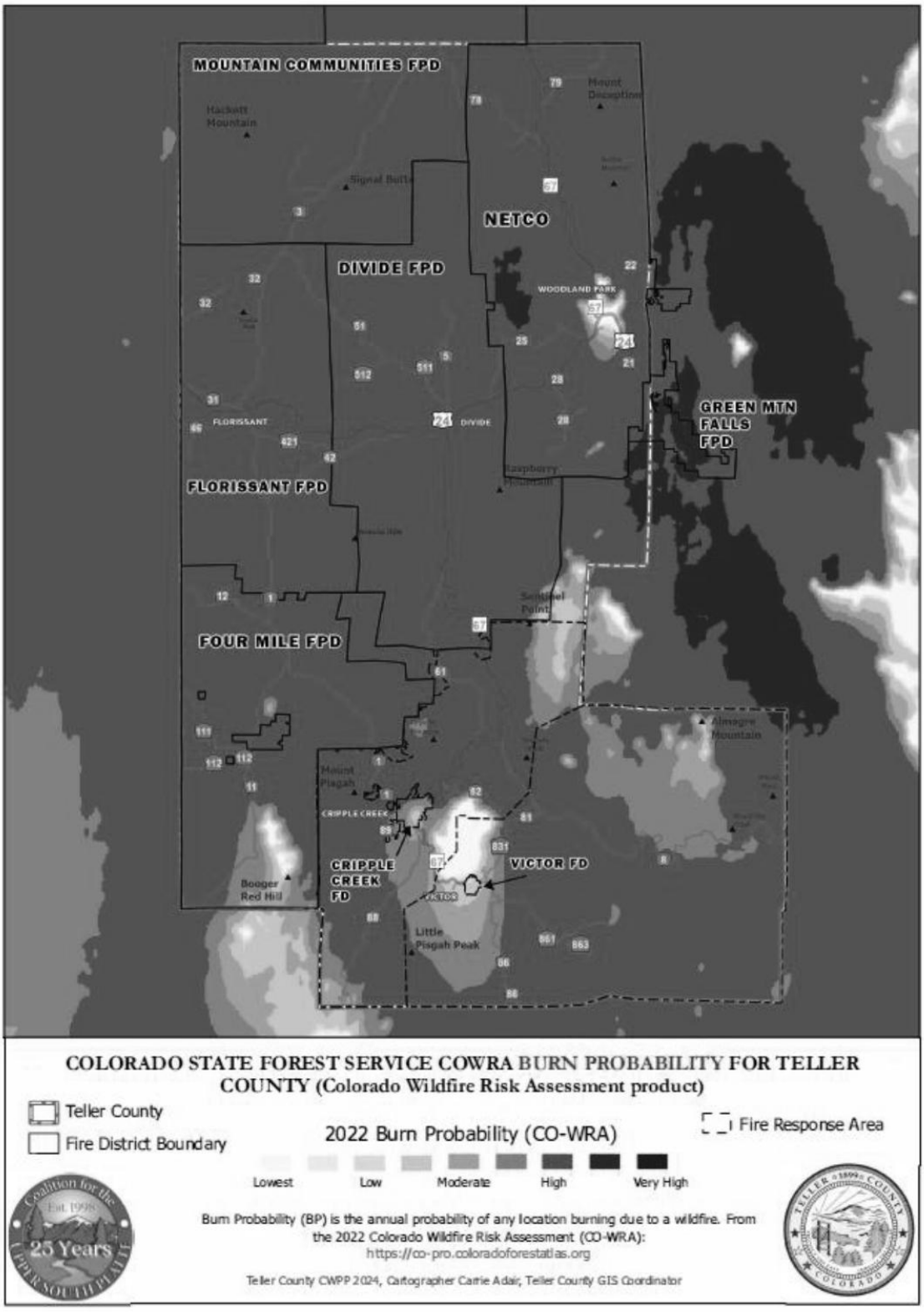


Figure 48: Teller County Burn Probability

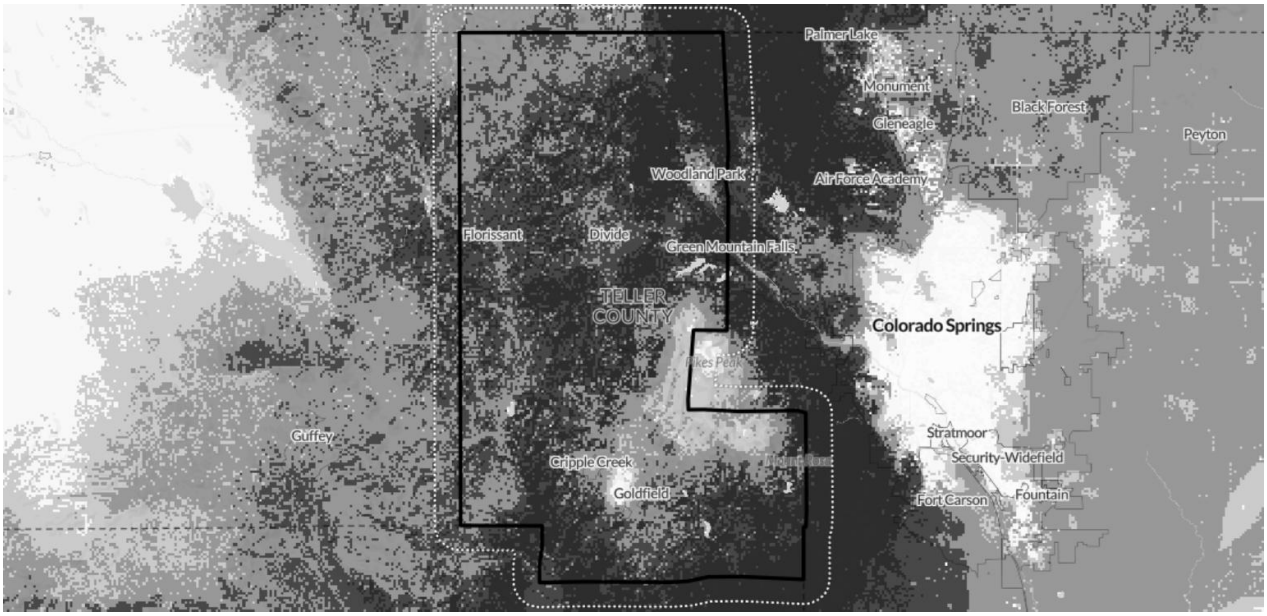


Figure 49: Risk to Homes

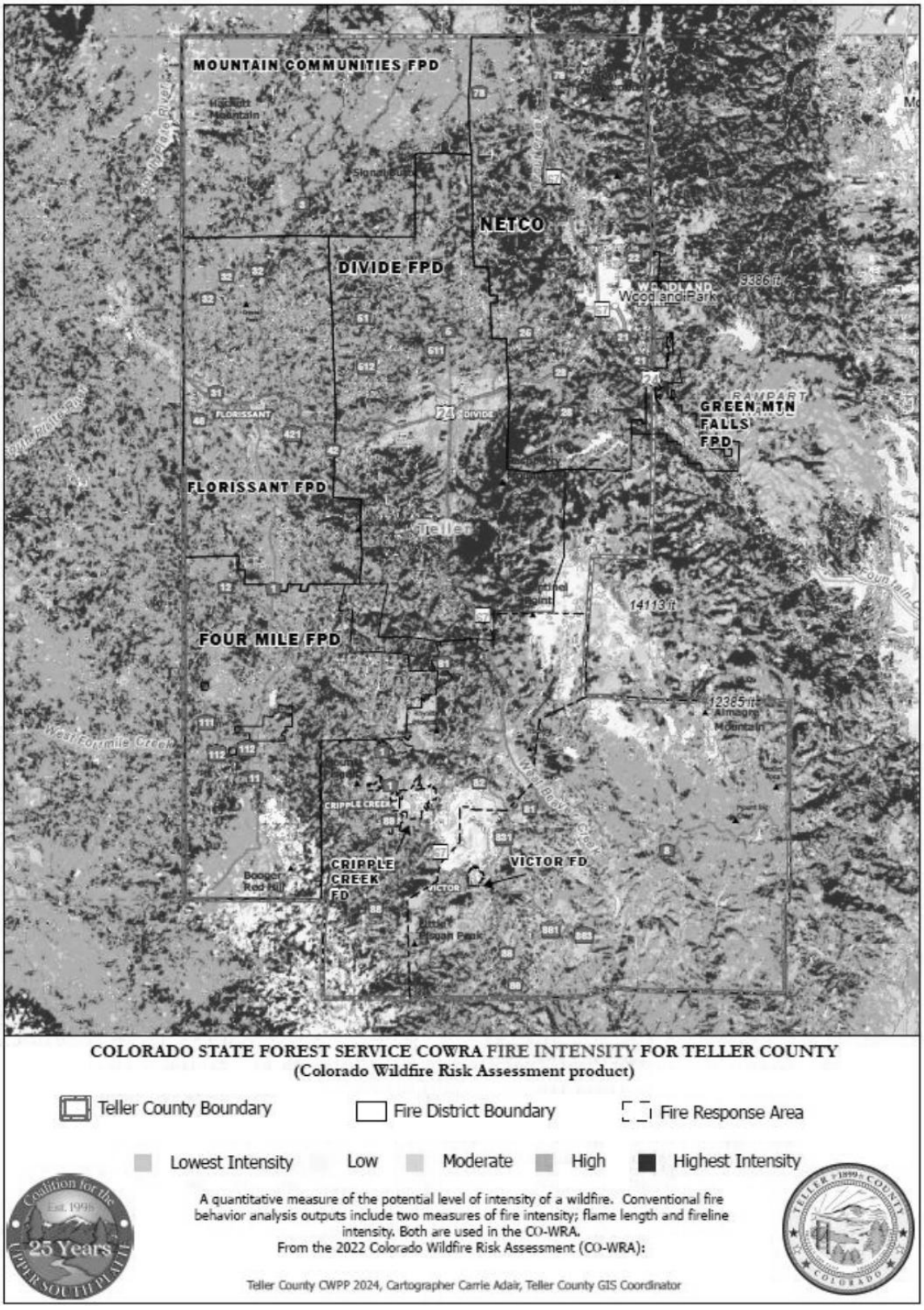


Figure 50: Teller County Fire Intensity

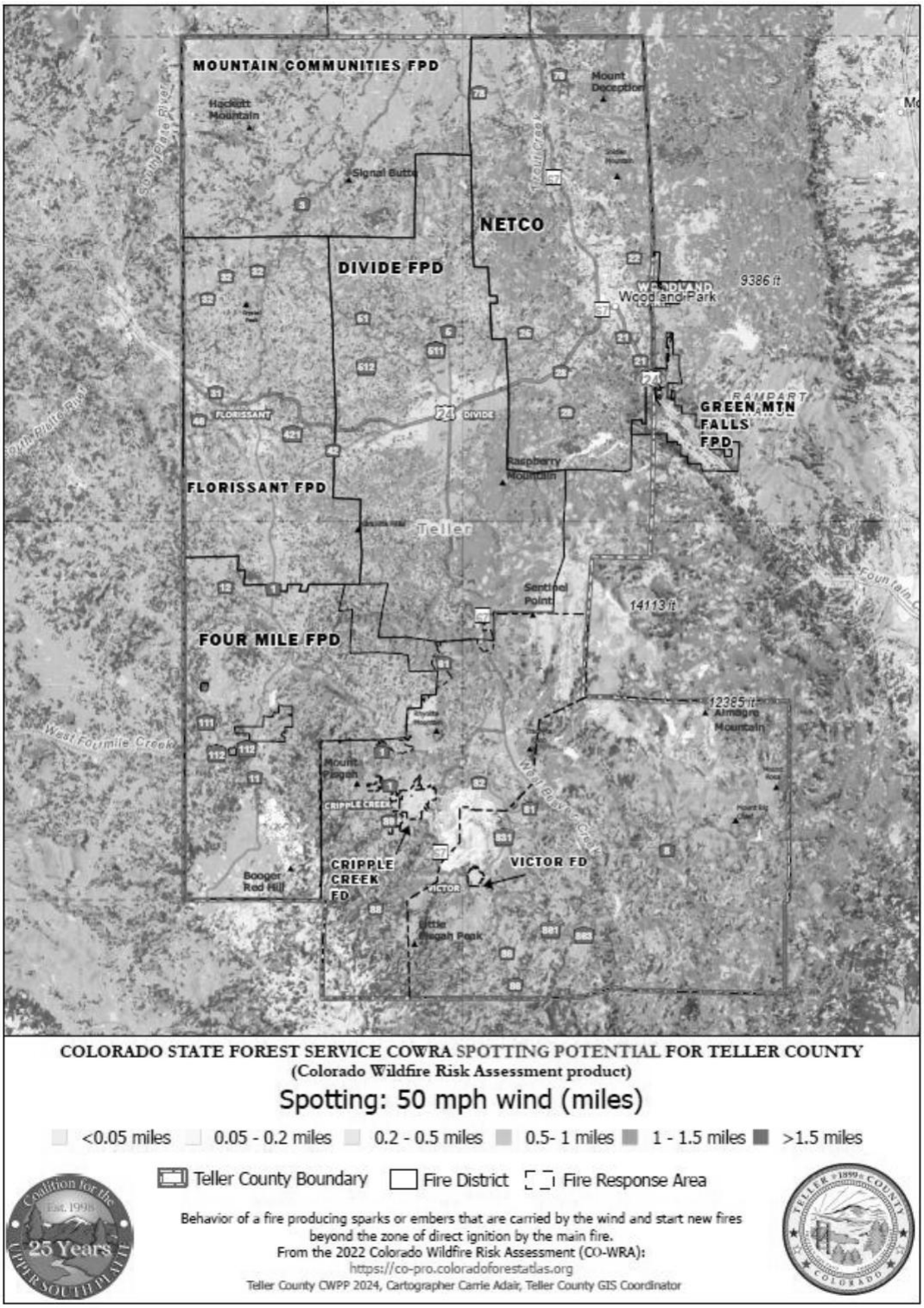


Figure 51: Teller County Spotting Potential (with 50mph winds)

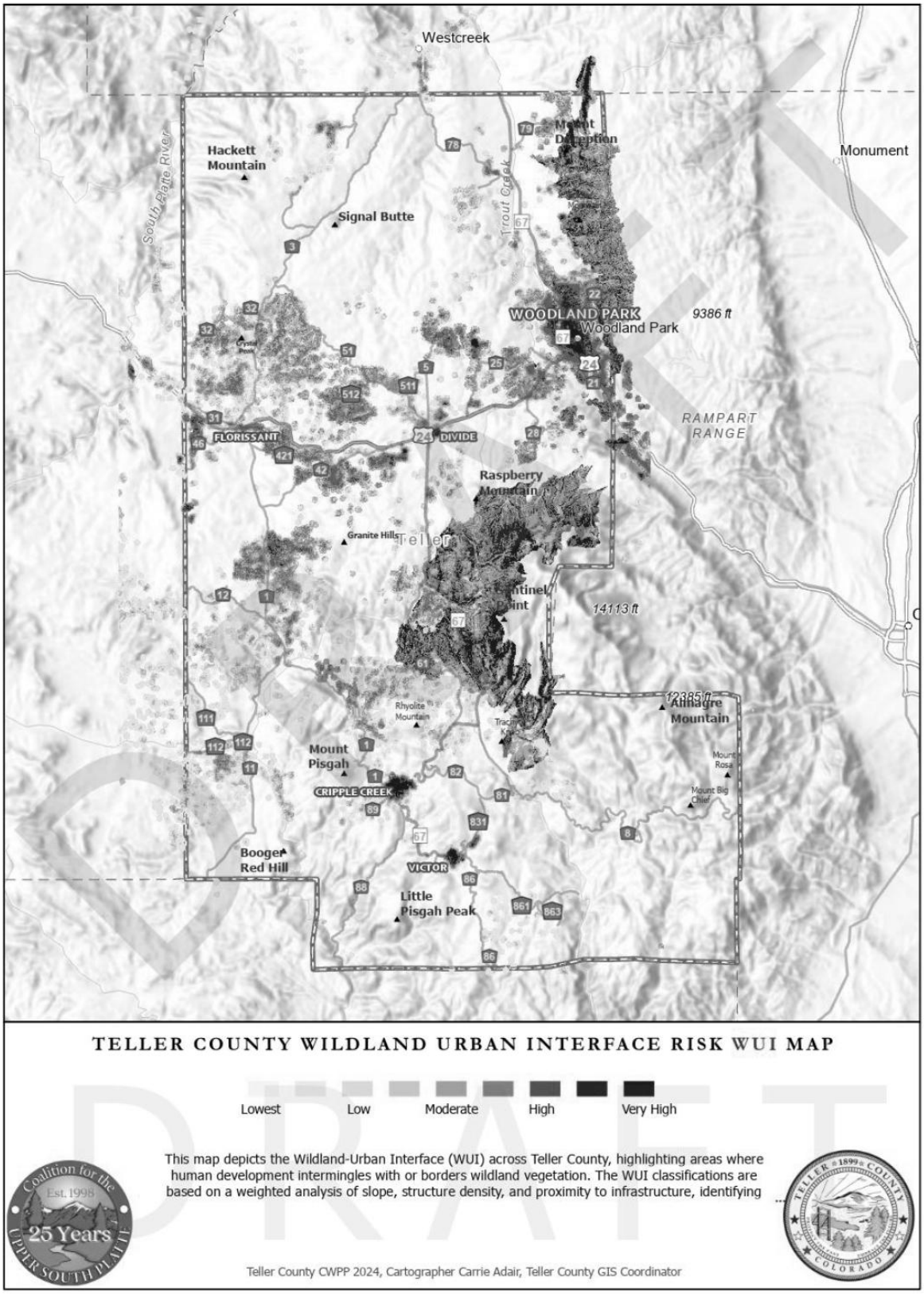


Figure 52: Teller County WUI Map

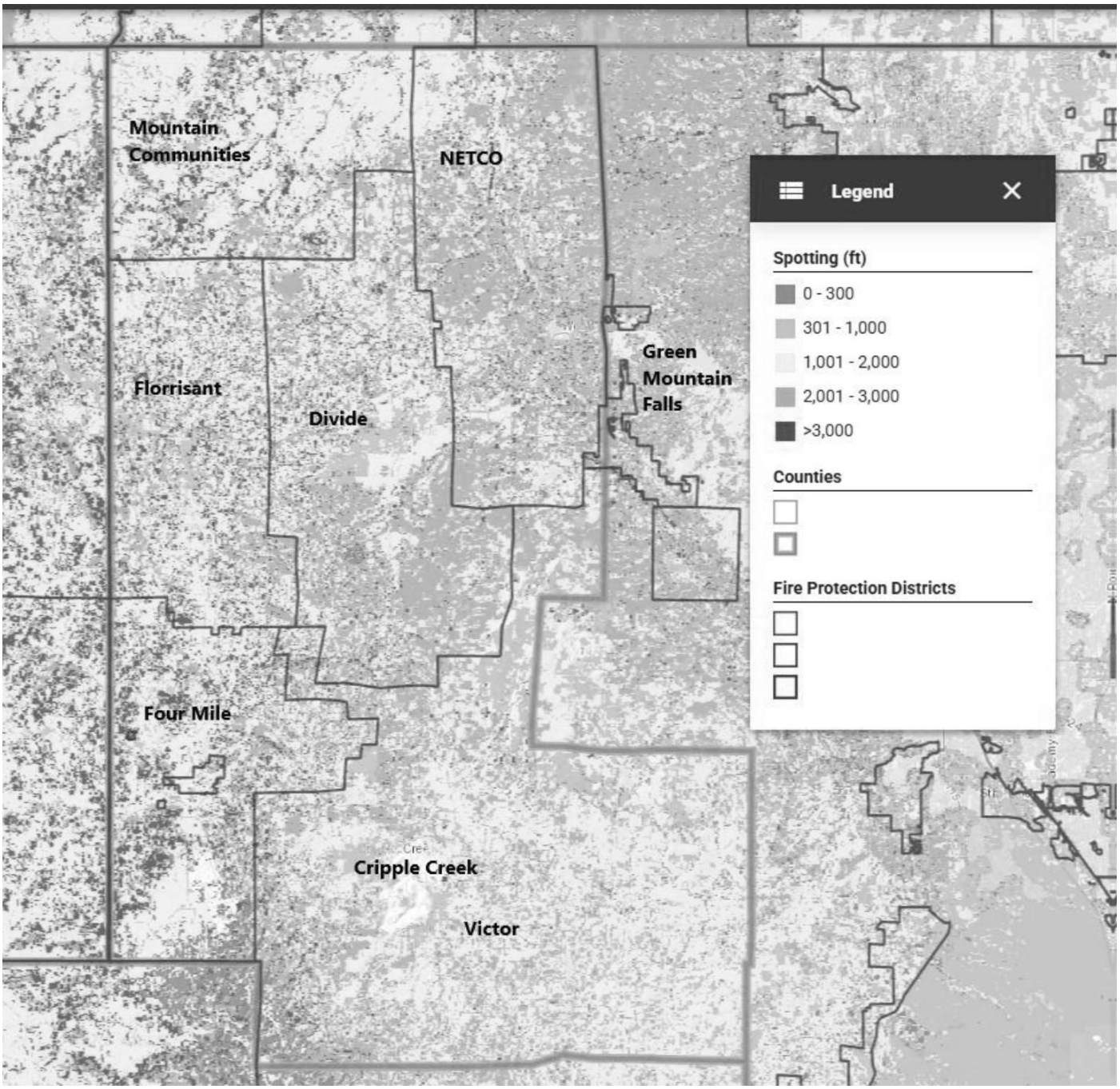


Figure 53: Spotting Potential in feet

Figure 54: Examples of Non-survivable escape routes – heavy fuels on either side of the roads – can be mitigated to create survivable routes

Figure 55: Examples of survivable escape routes

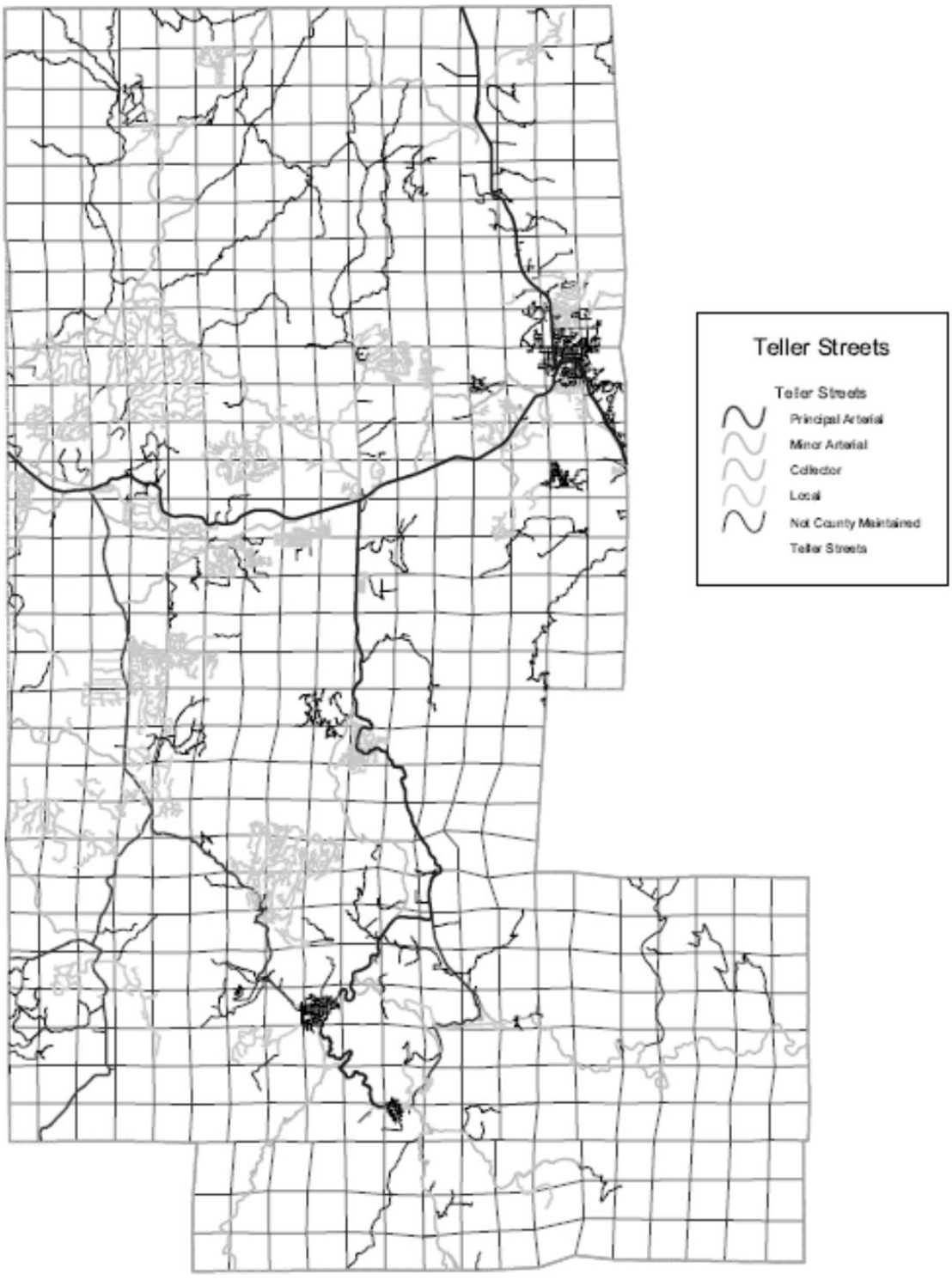


Figure 56: Teller County Roads

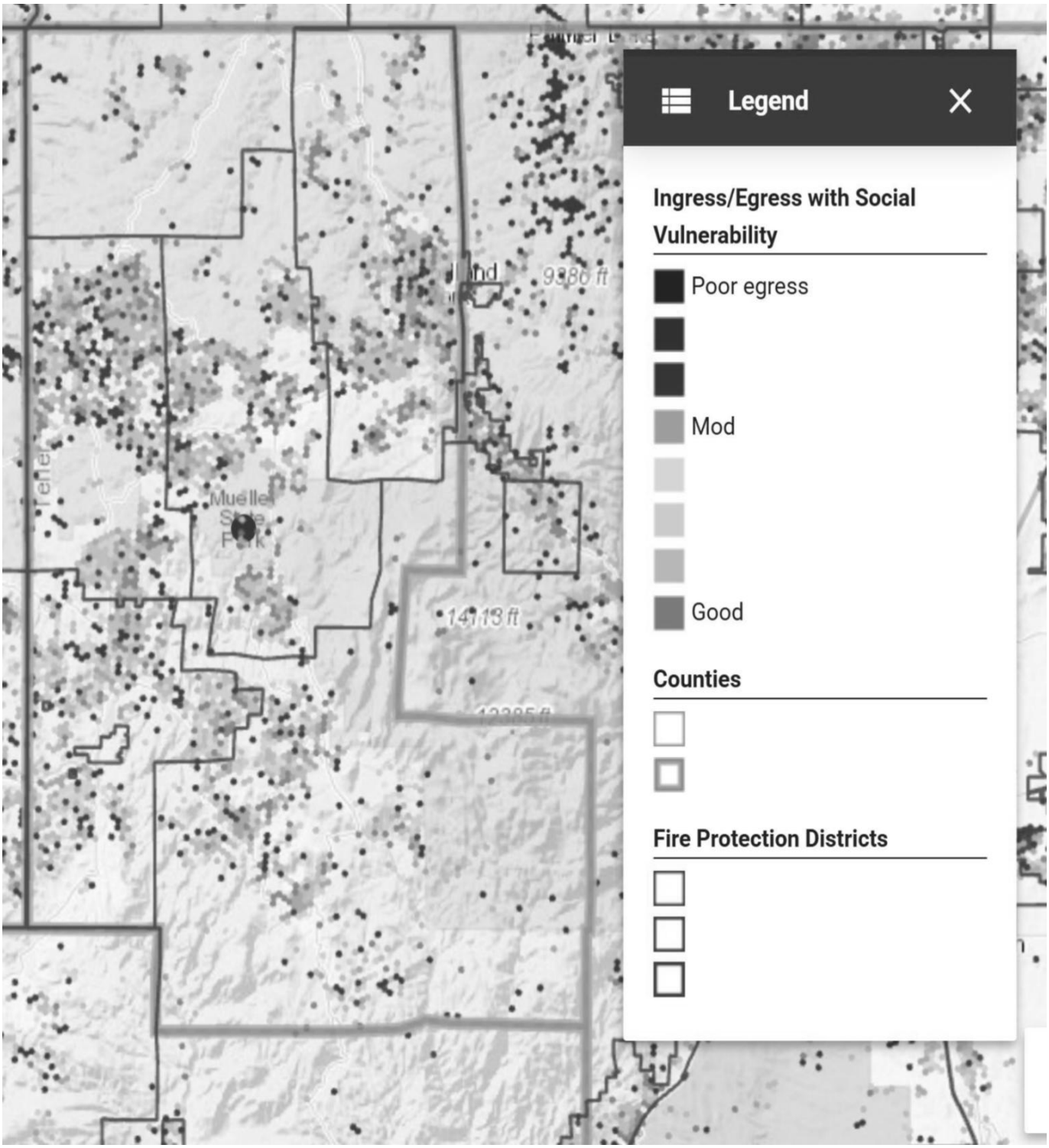


Figure 57: Egress with Social Vulnerability

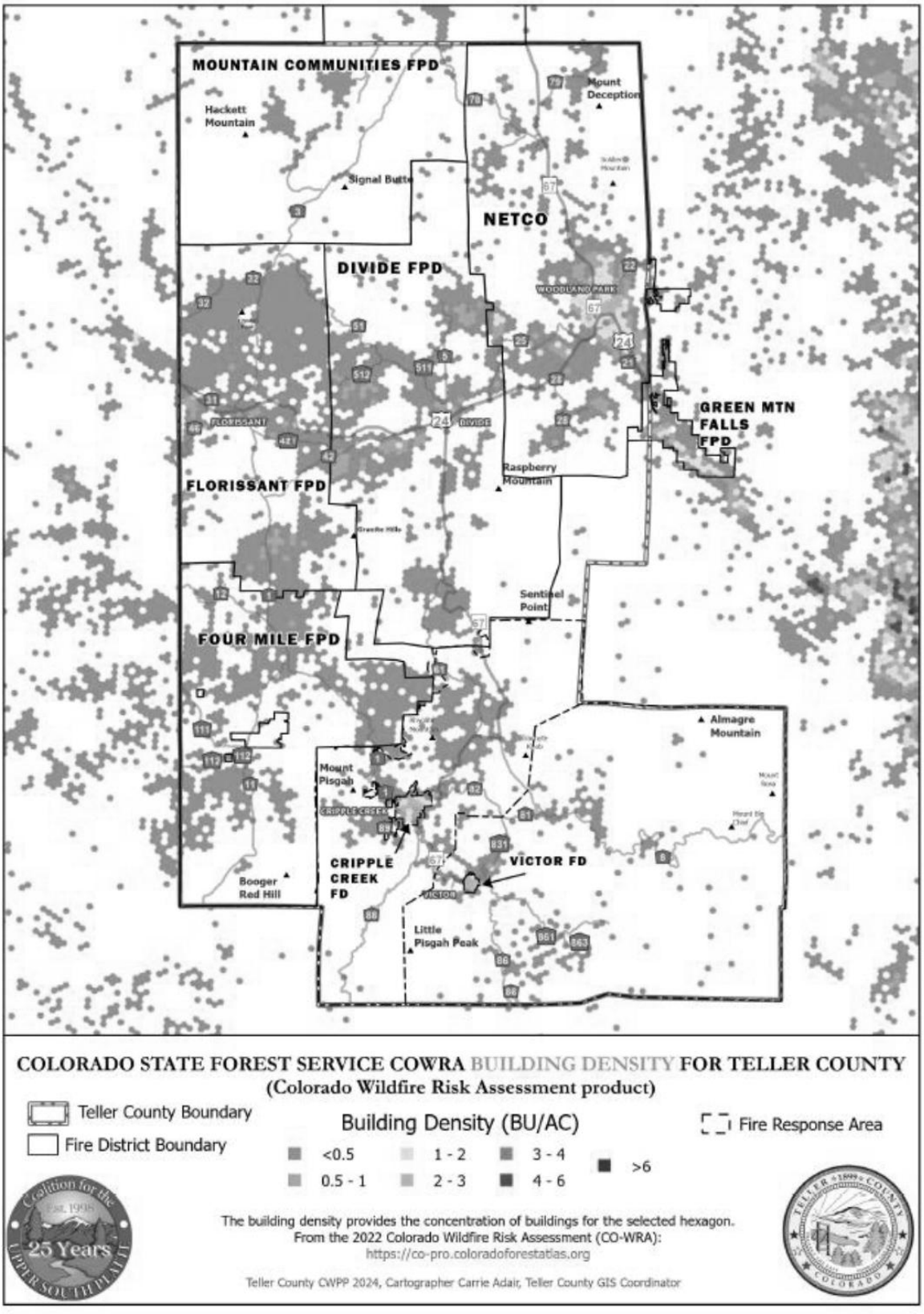


Figure 60: Teller County Building Density

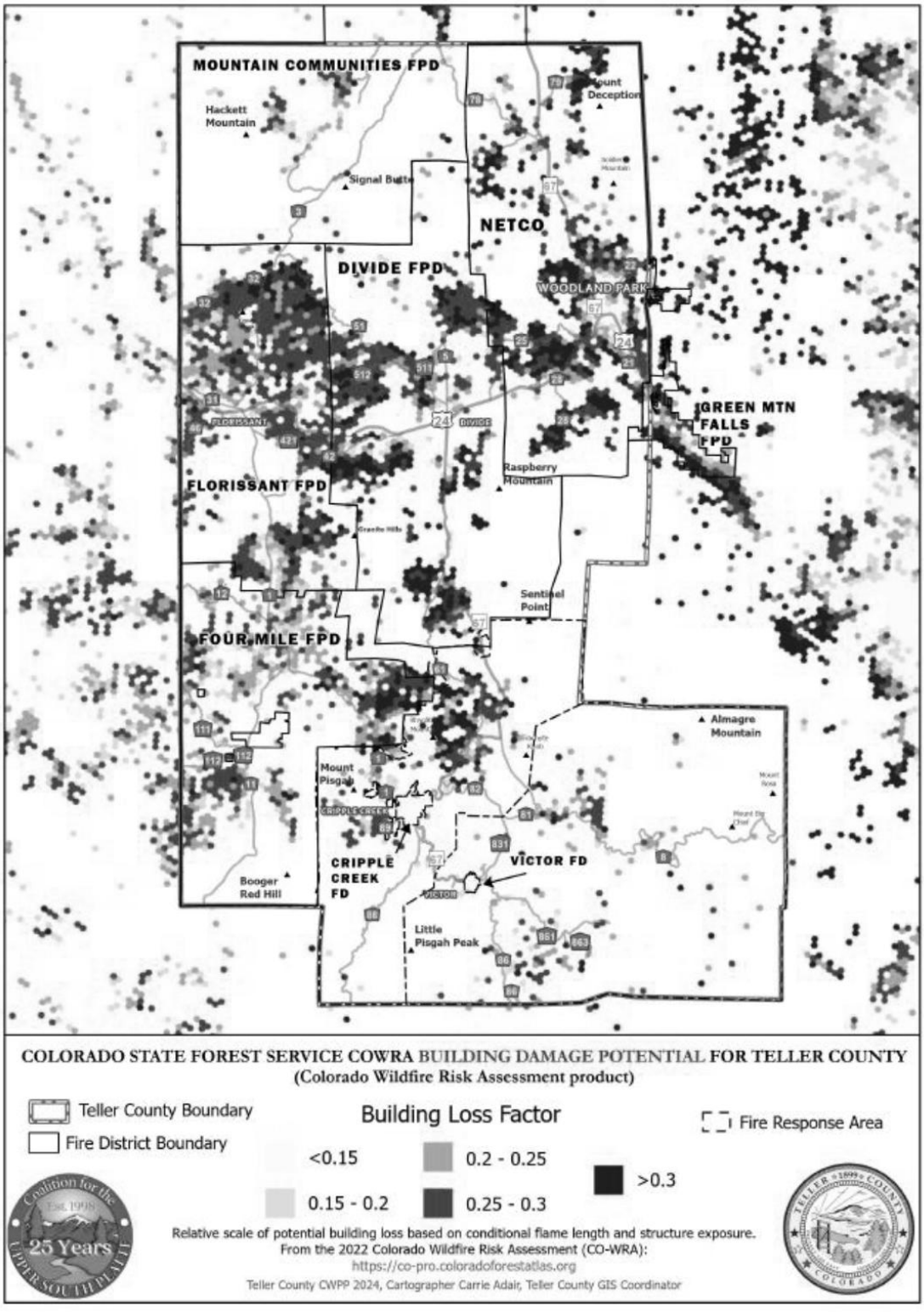


Figure 61: Teller County Building Damage Potential

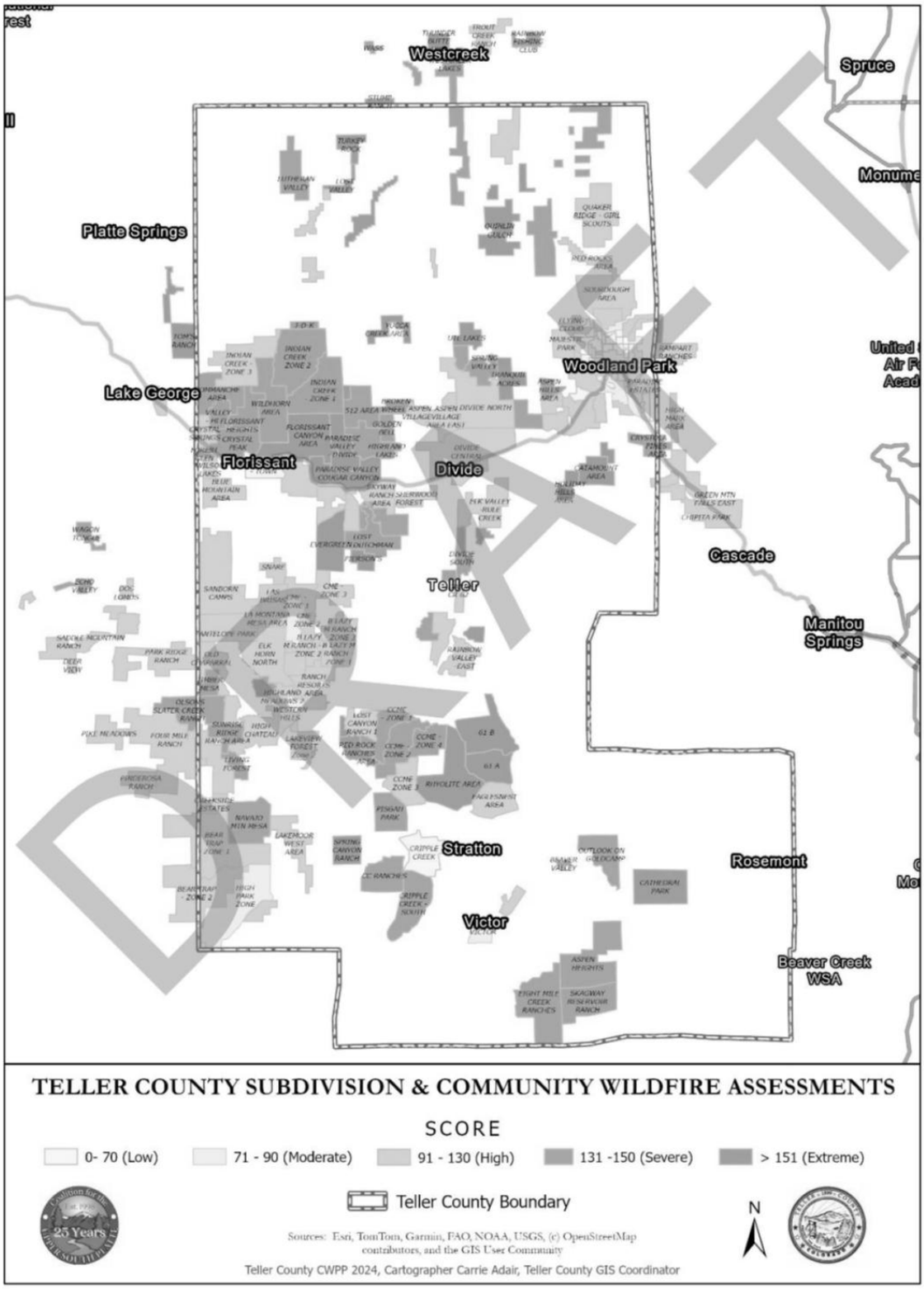


Figure 62: Teller County Sub-Division and Community Assessments

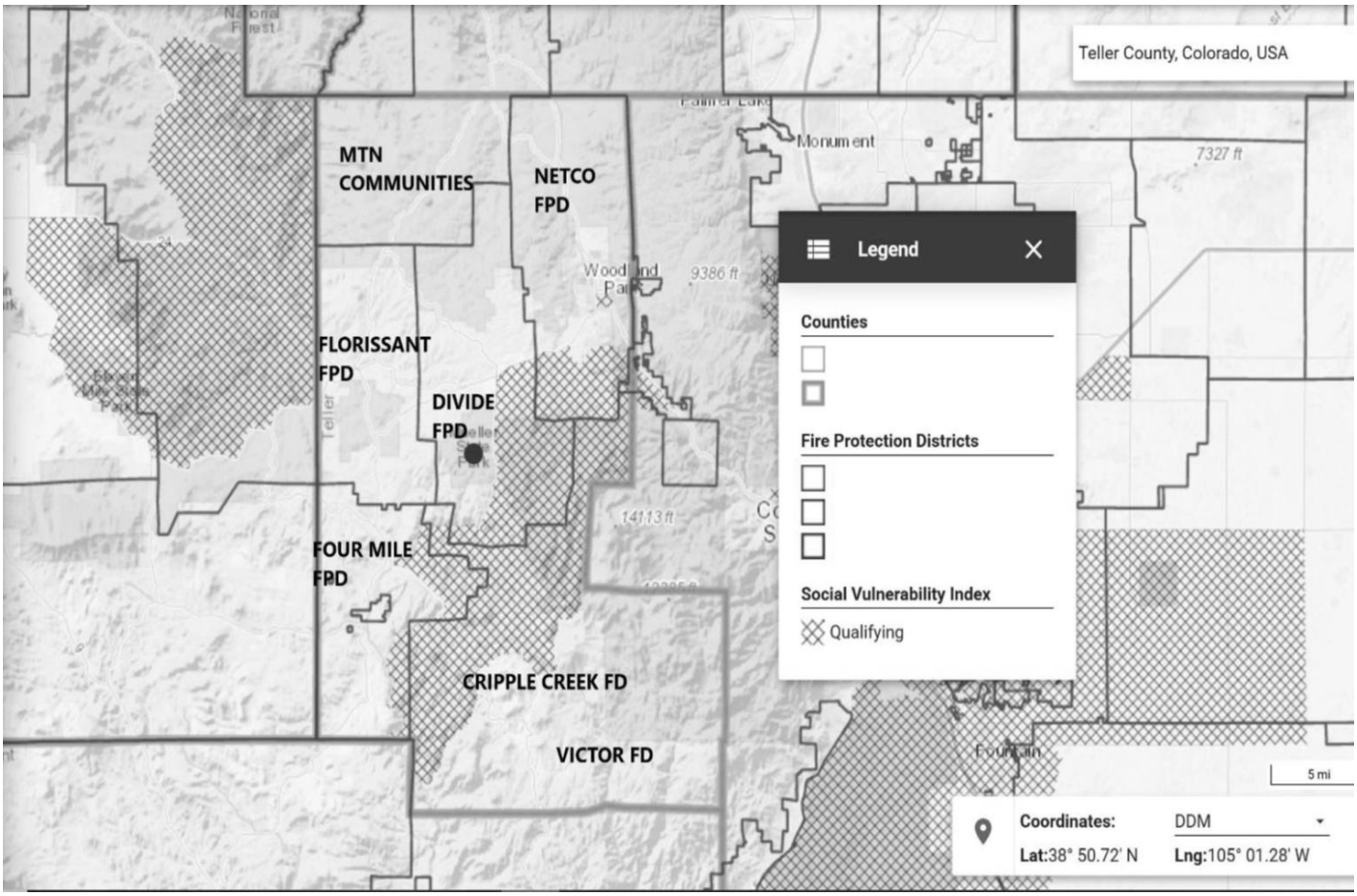


Figure 63: Socially Vulnerable Populations

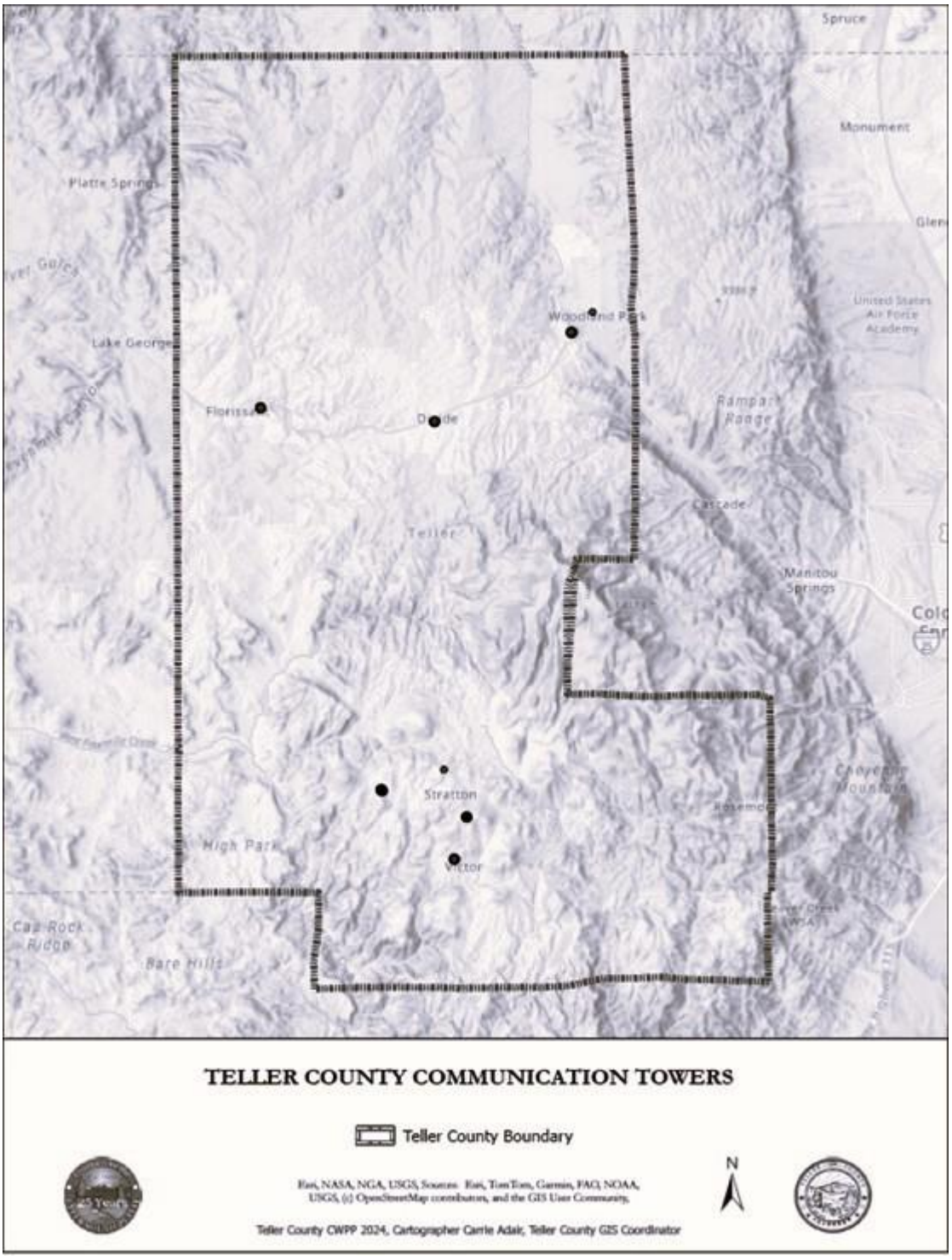


Figure 64: Teller County Communication Towers

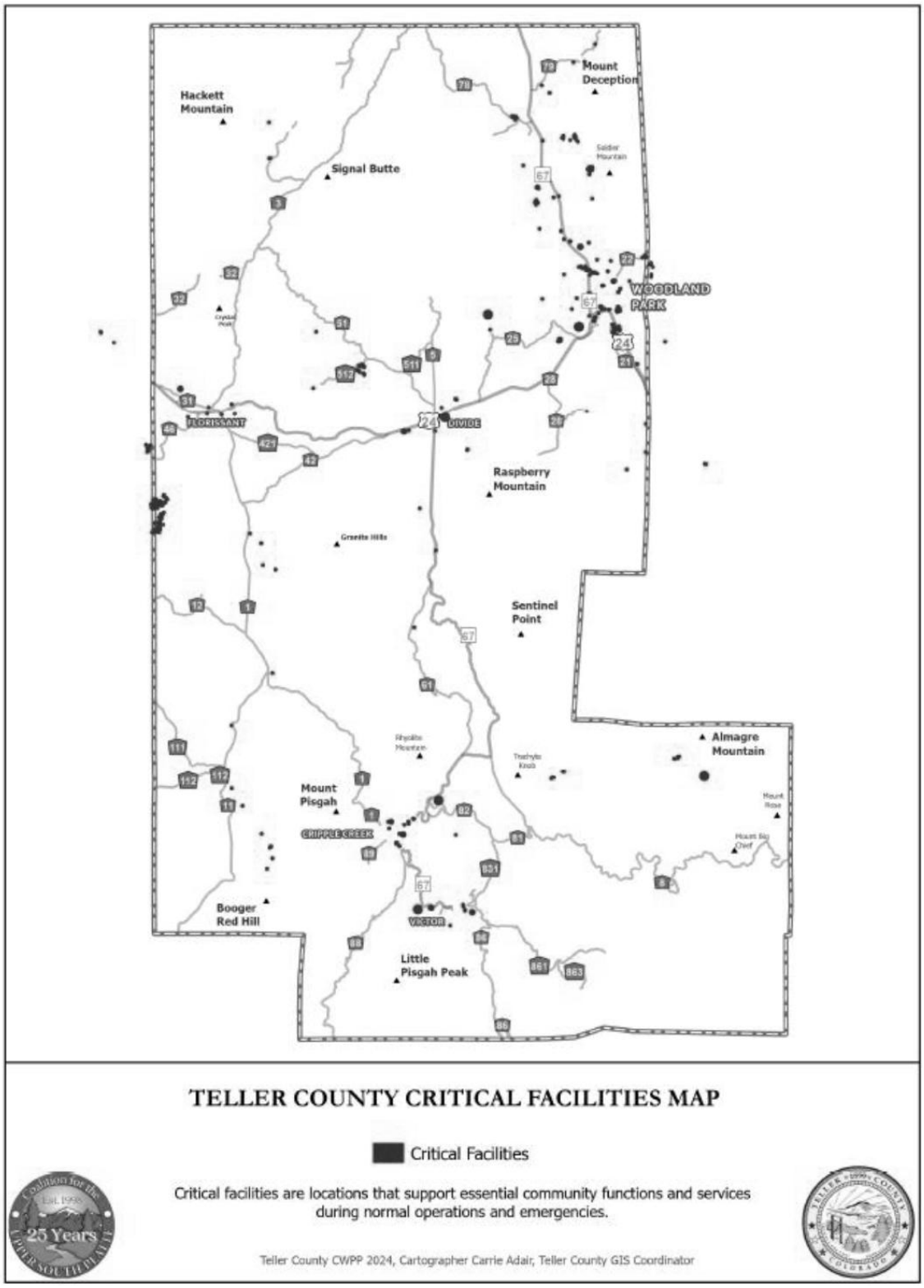


Figure 65: Teller County Critical Facilities

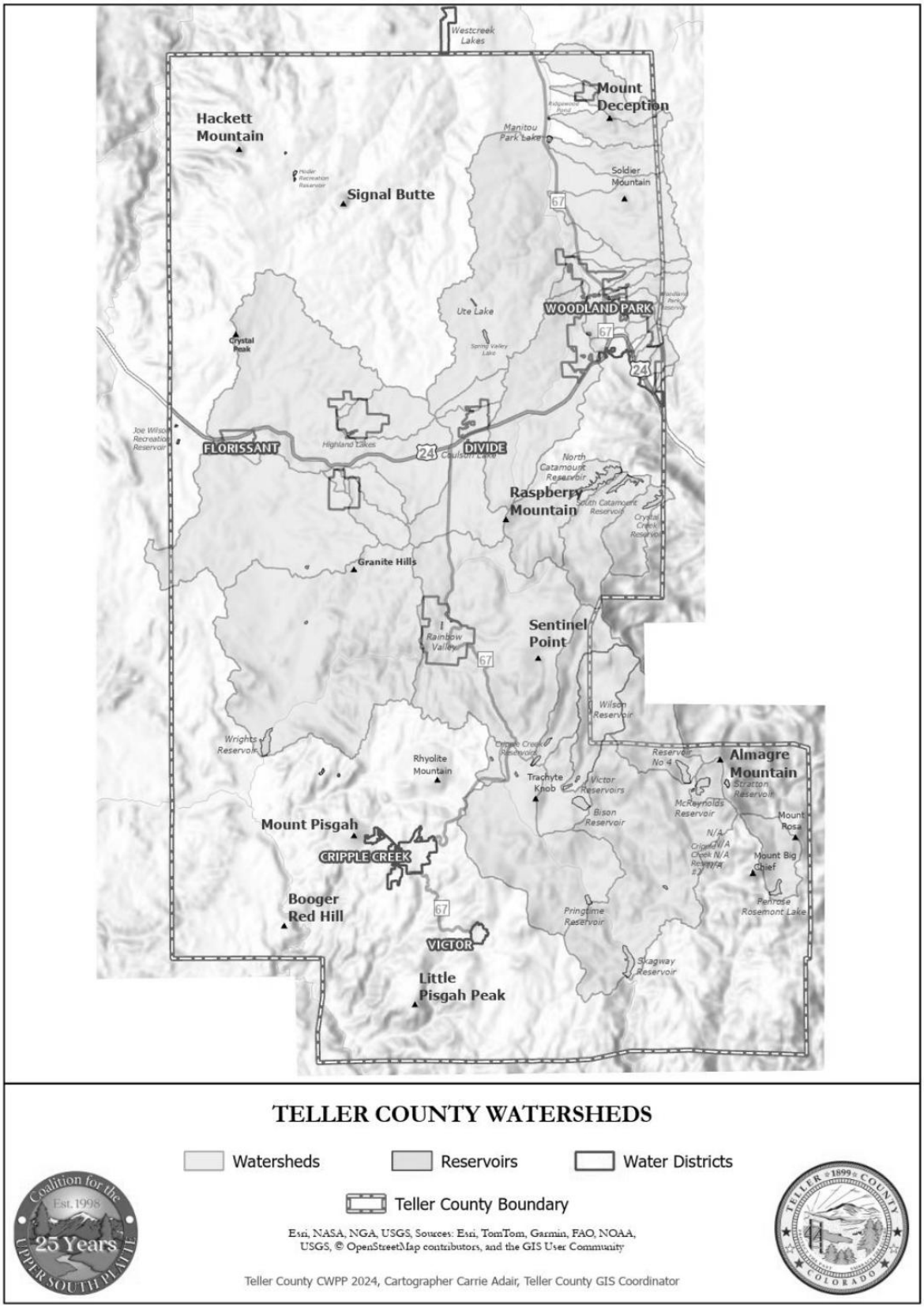


Figure 66: Teller County Water Resources Values at Risk

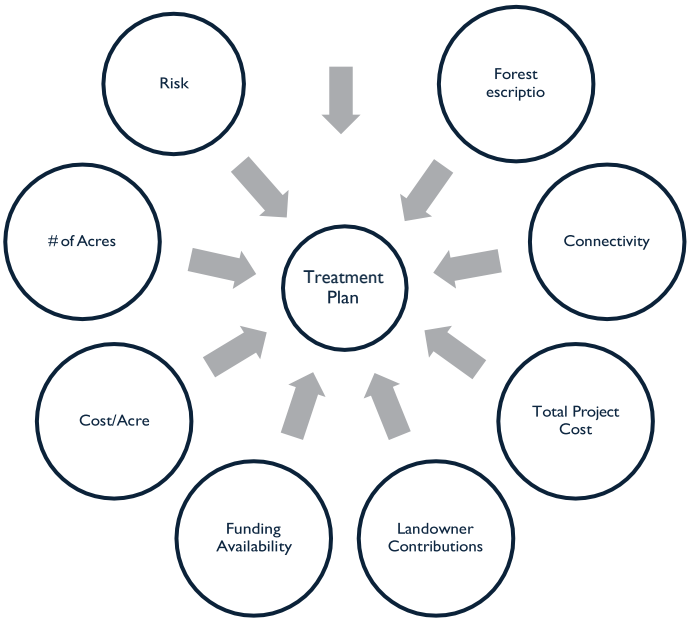


Figure 67: Treatment Factors

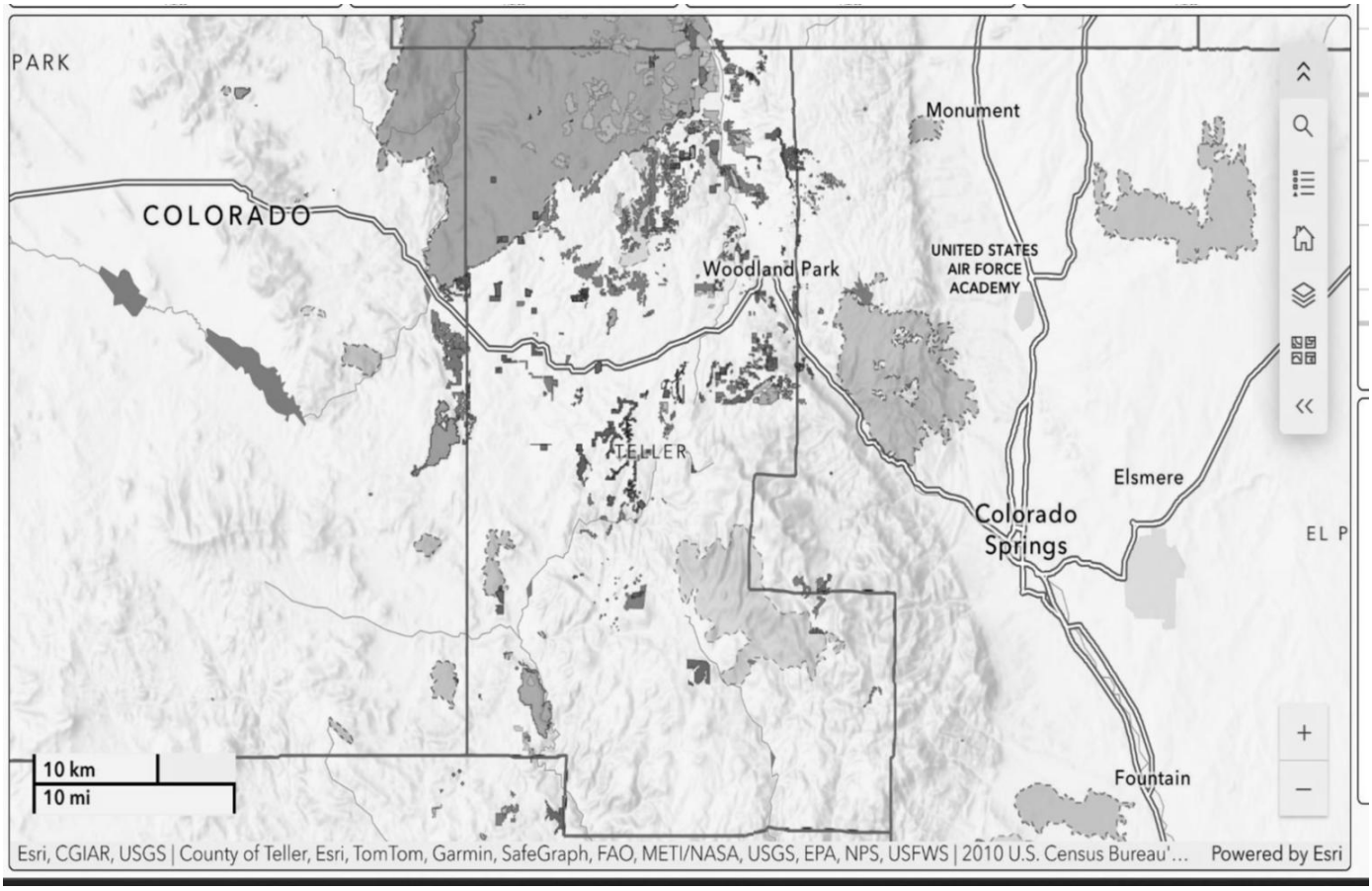


Figure 68: Completed Fuel Treatments (from Forest Tracker)

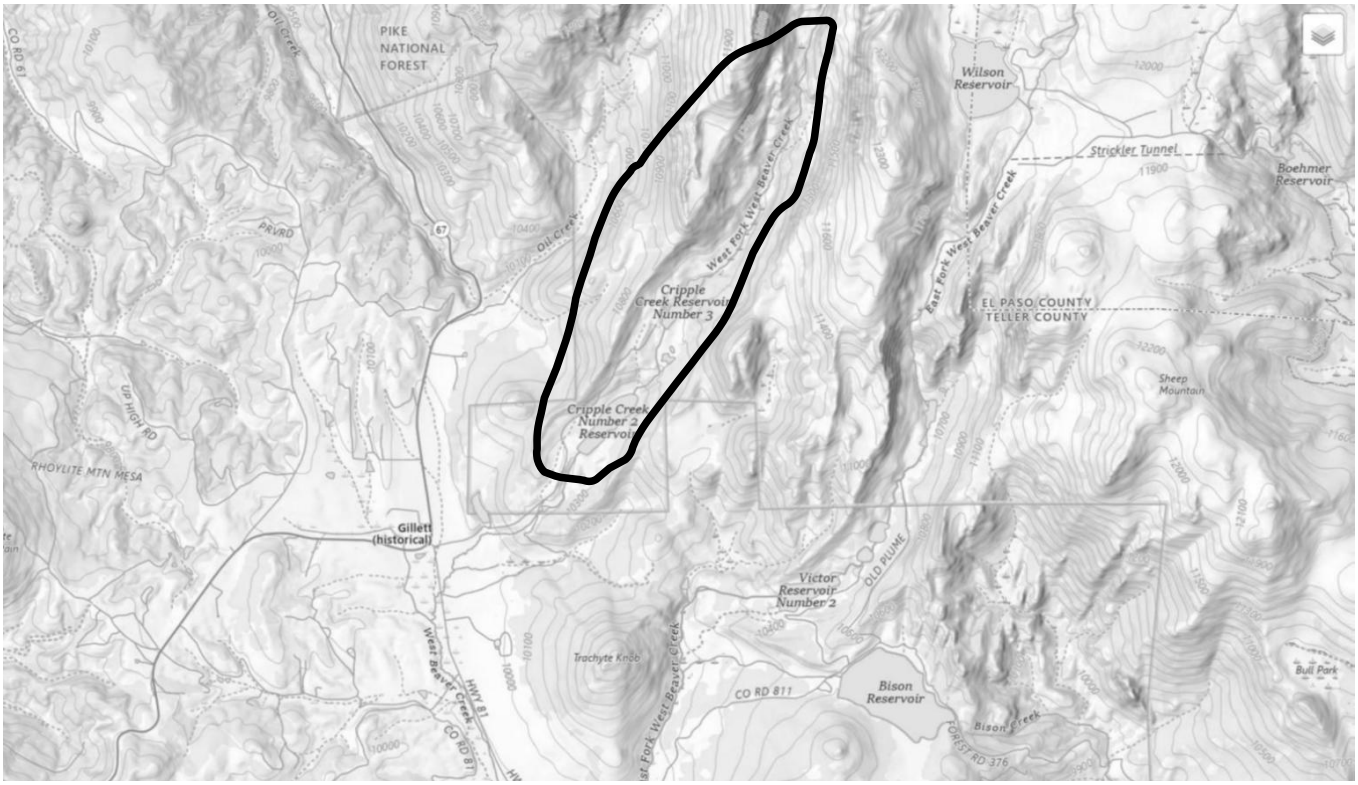


Figure 69: Cripple Creek Reservoirs 2 and 3

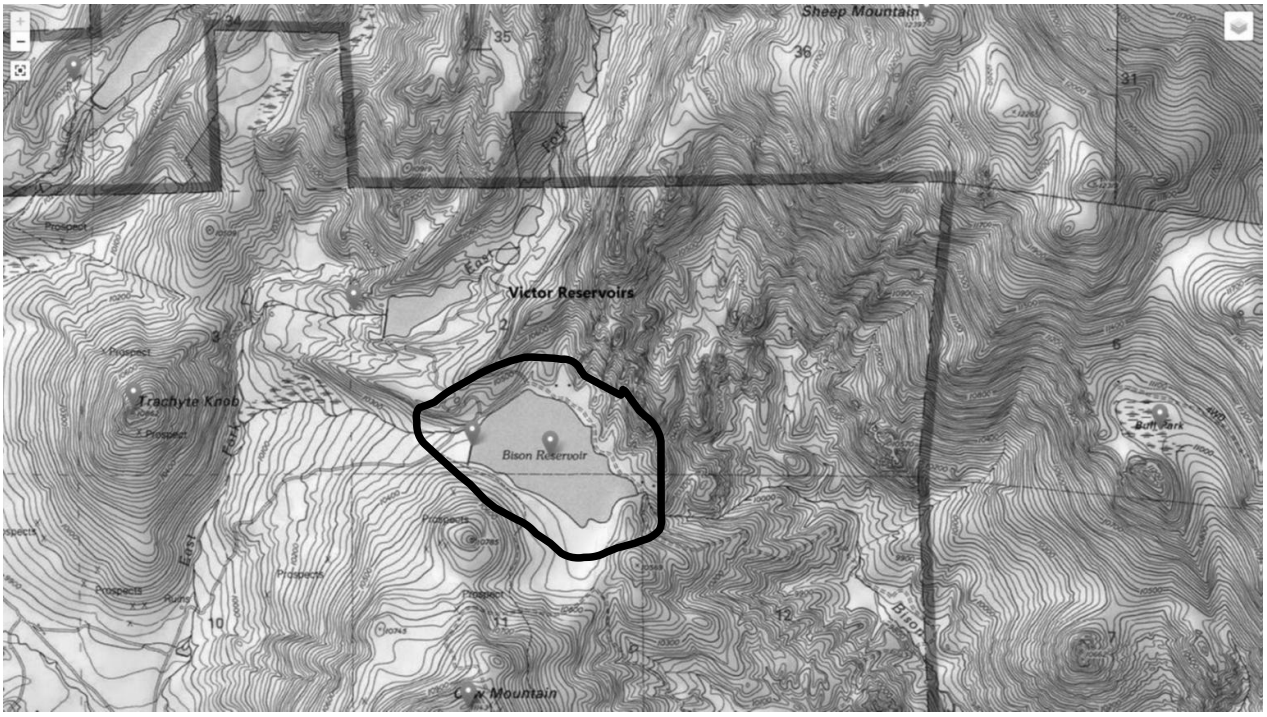


Figure 70: Bison Reservoir

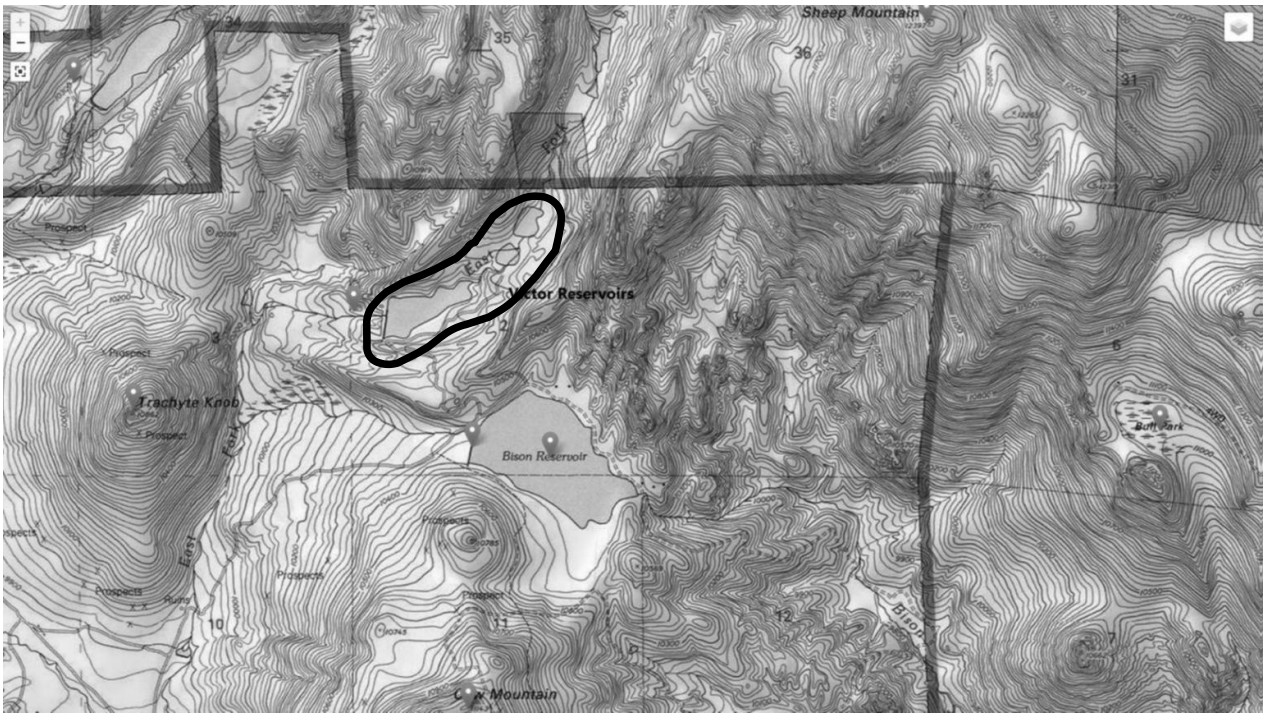


Figure 71: Victor Reservoir

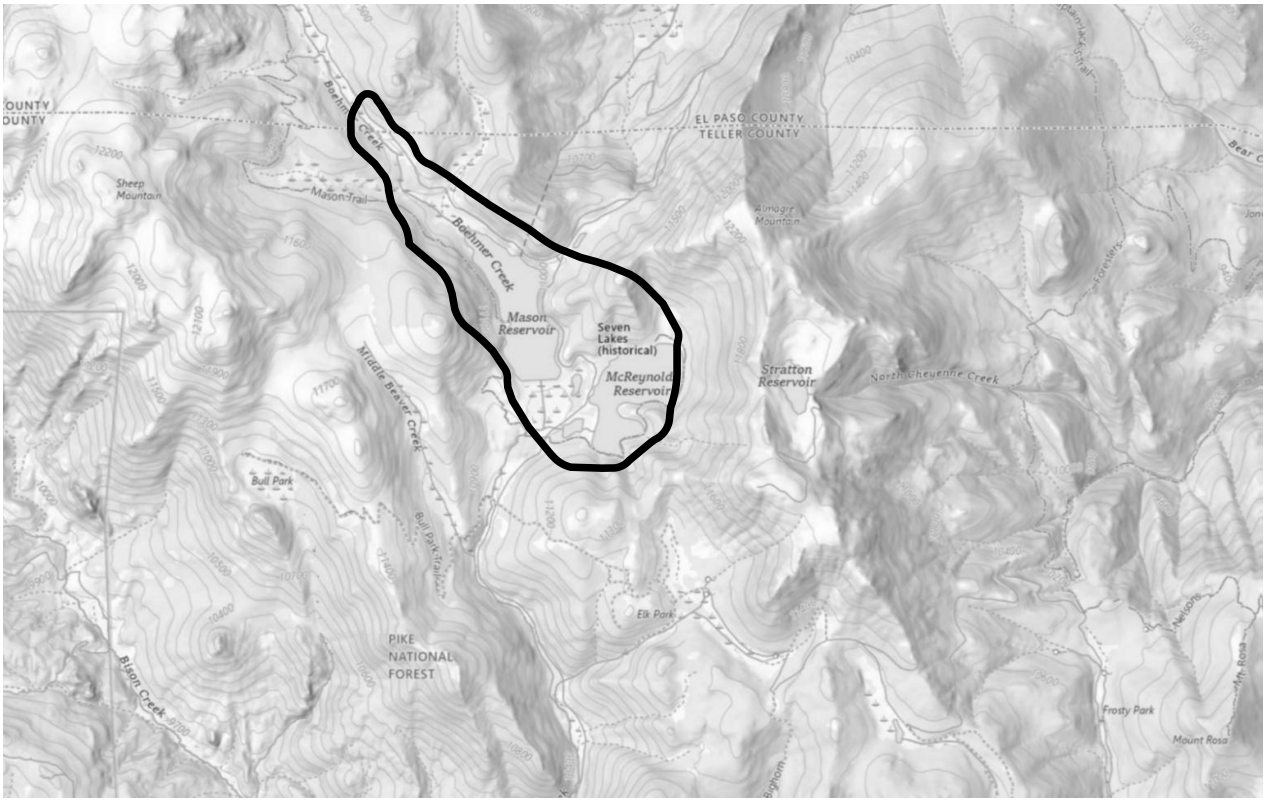


Figure 72: Mason and McReynolds Reservoirs

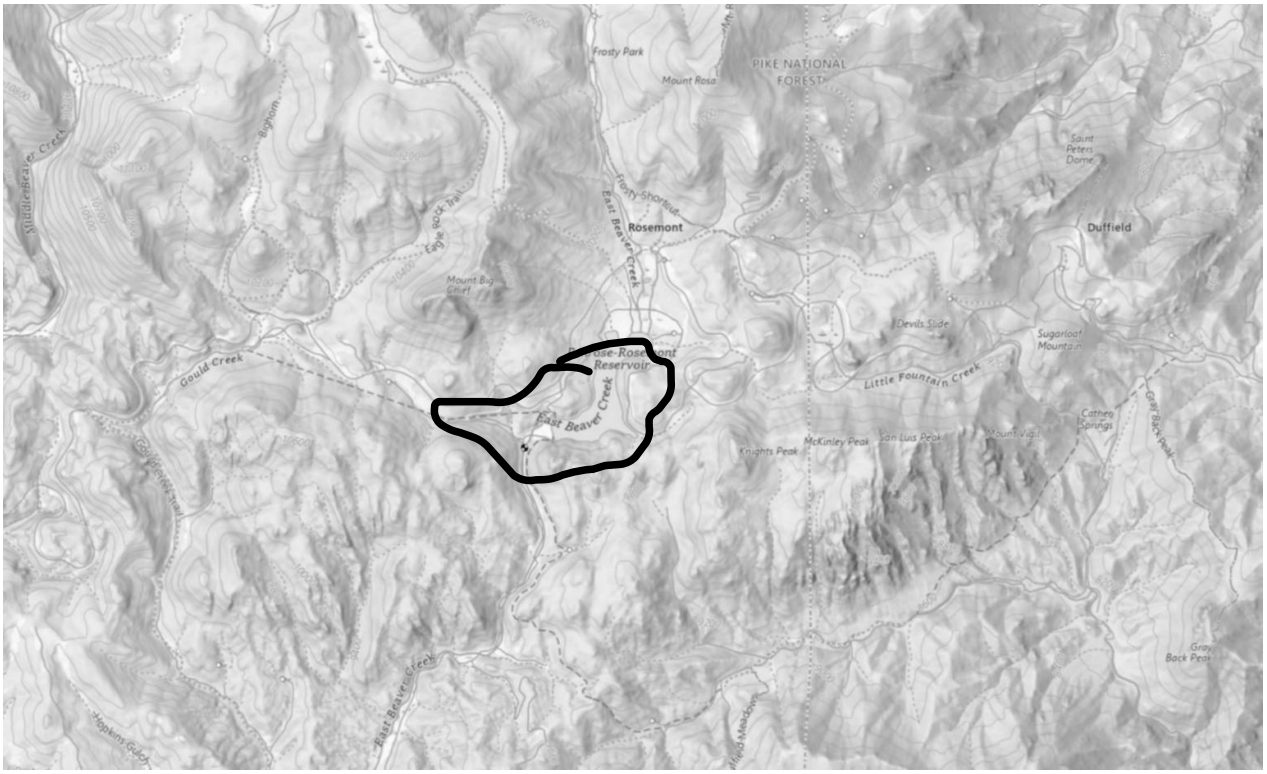


Figure 73: Penrose - Rosemont Reservoir

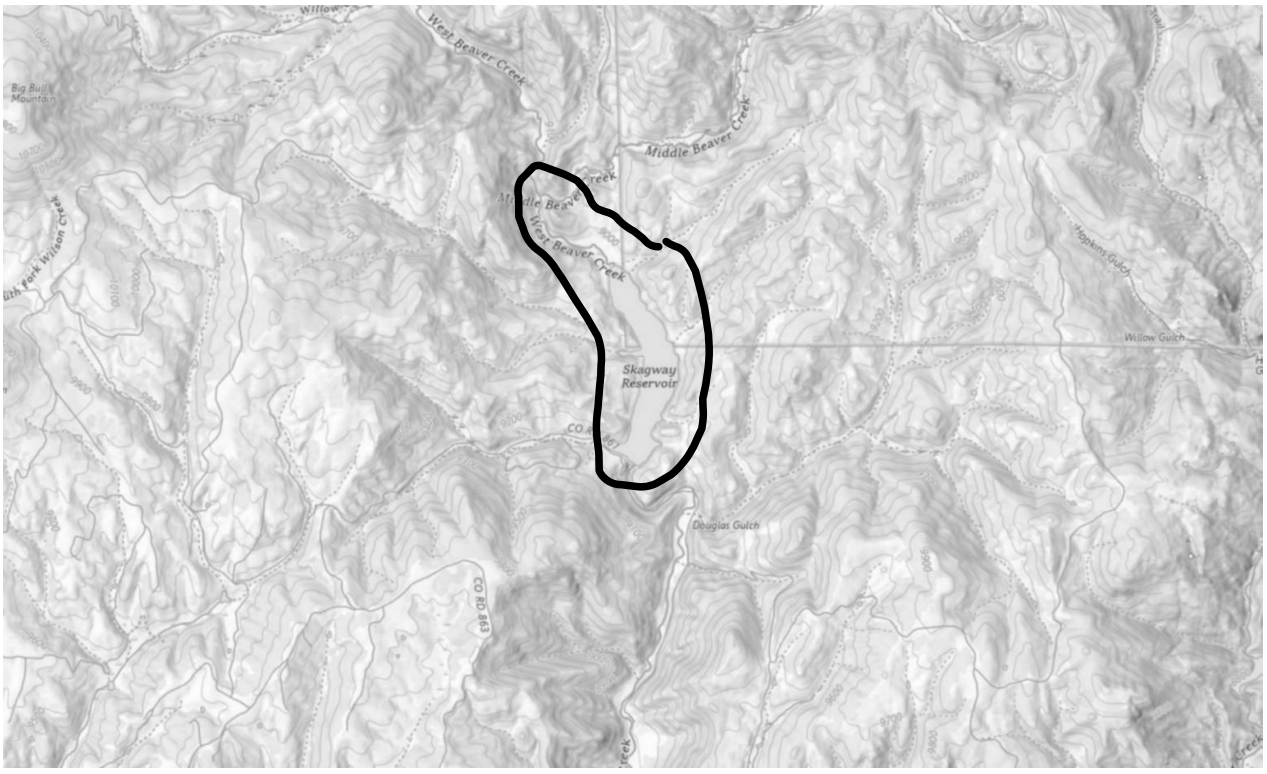


Figure 74: Skaguay Reservoir

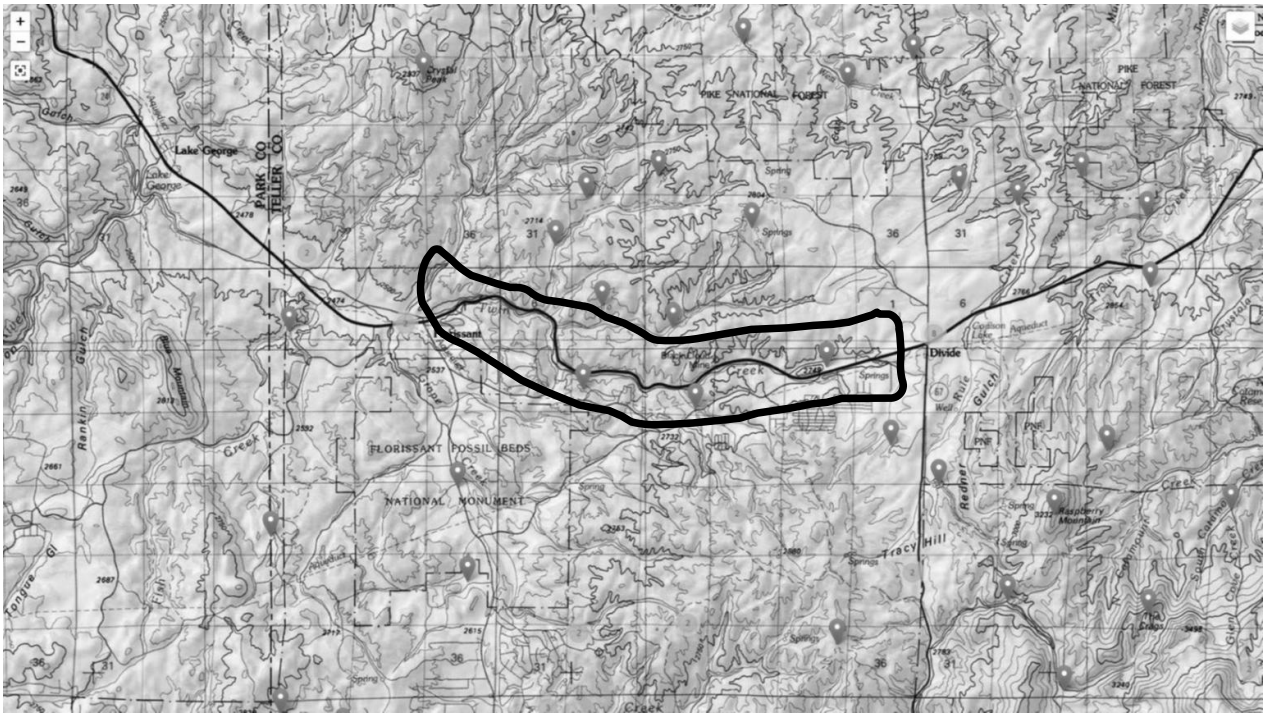


Figure 75: Florissant Canyon

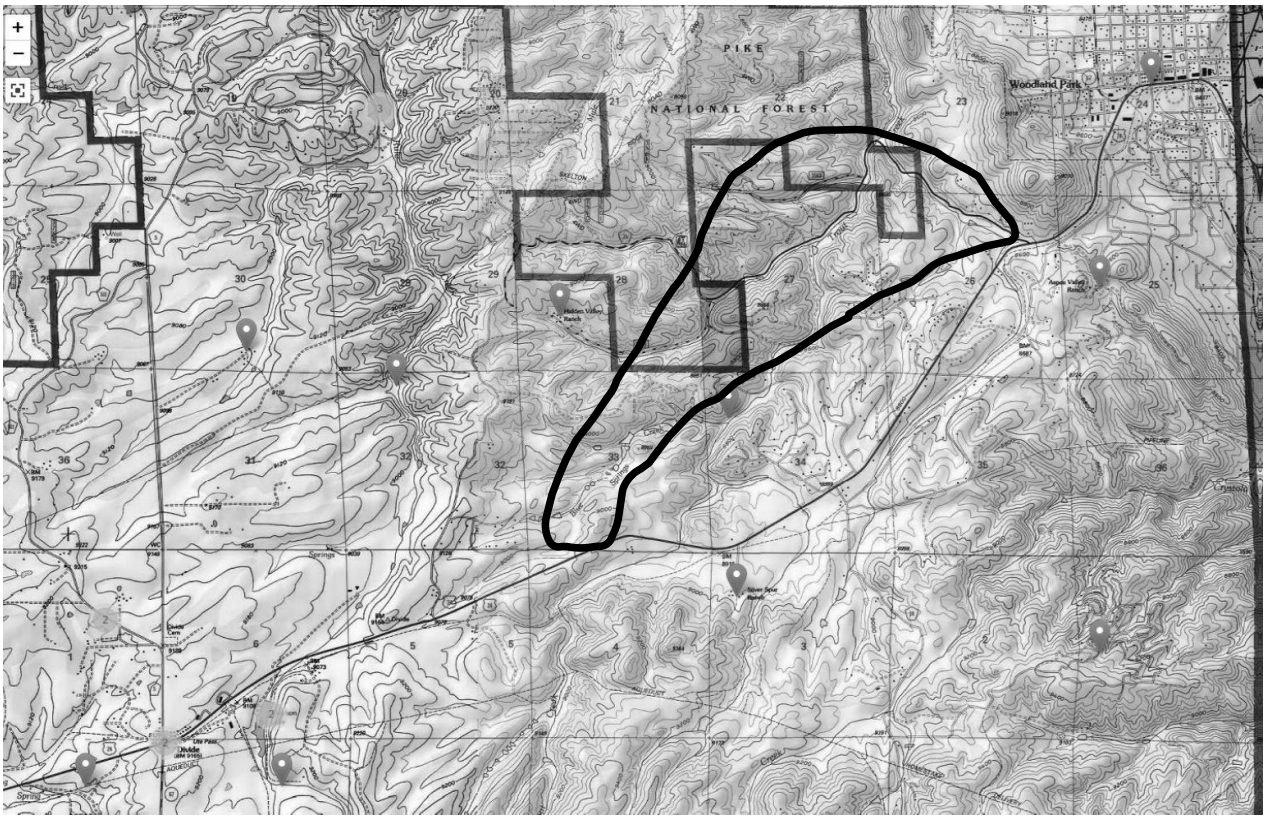


Figure 76: County Road 25 Mitigation

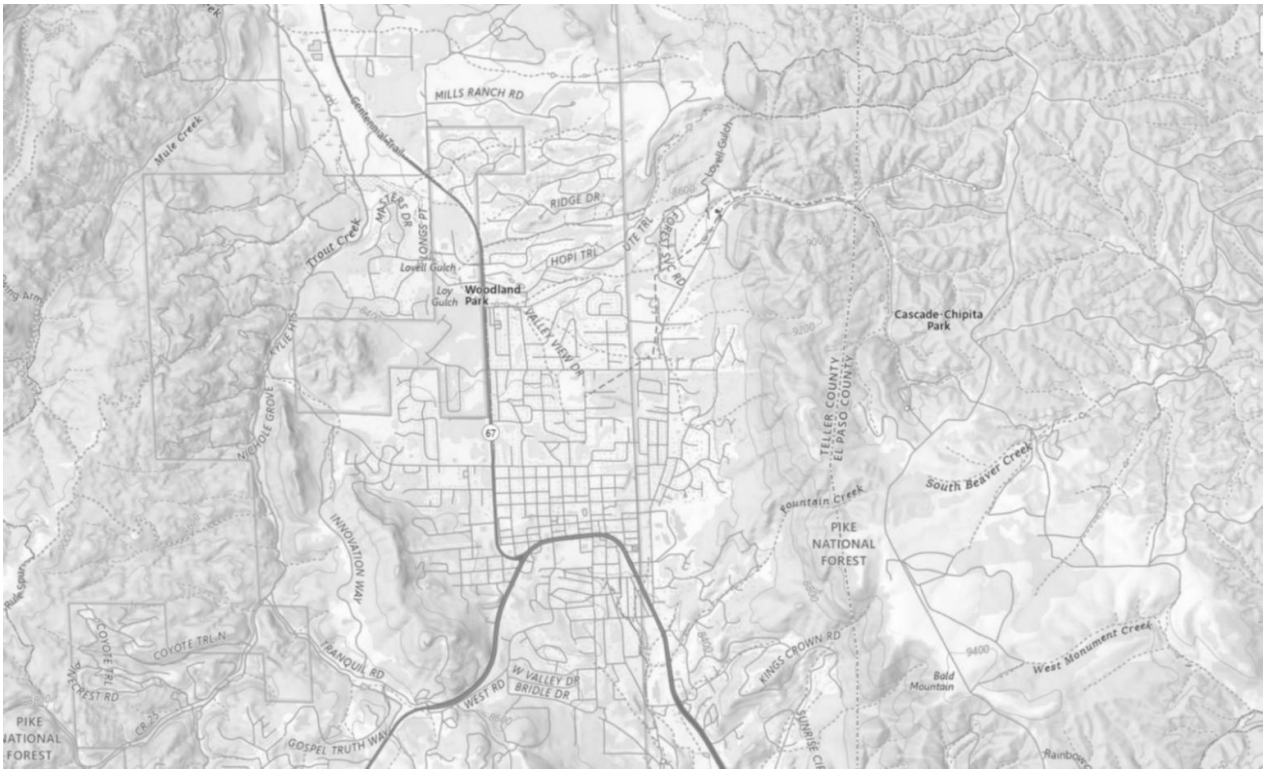


Figure 77: Woodland Park Fuel Break

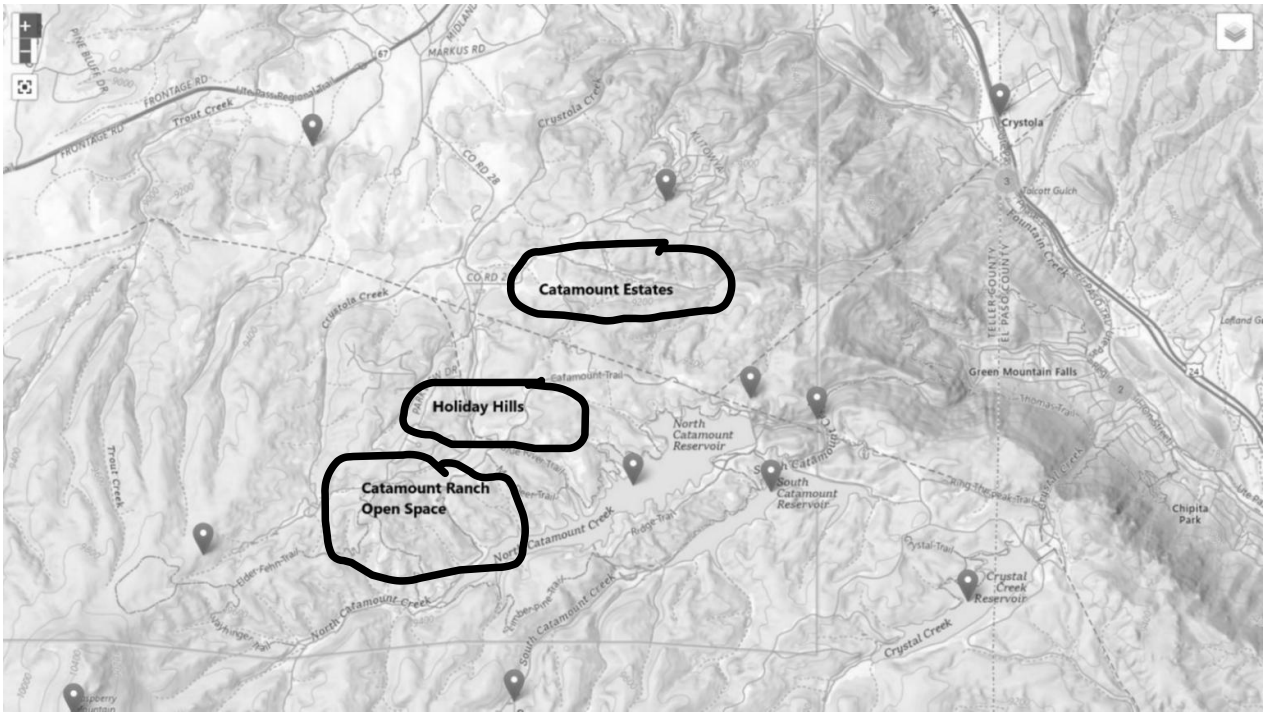


Figure 78: Catamount Area

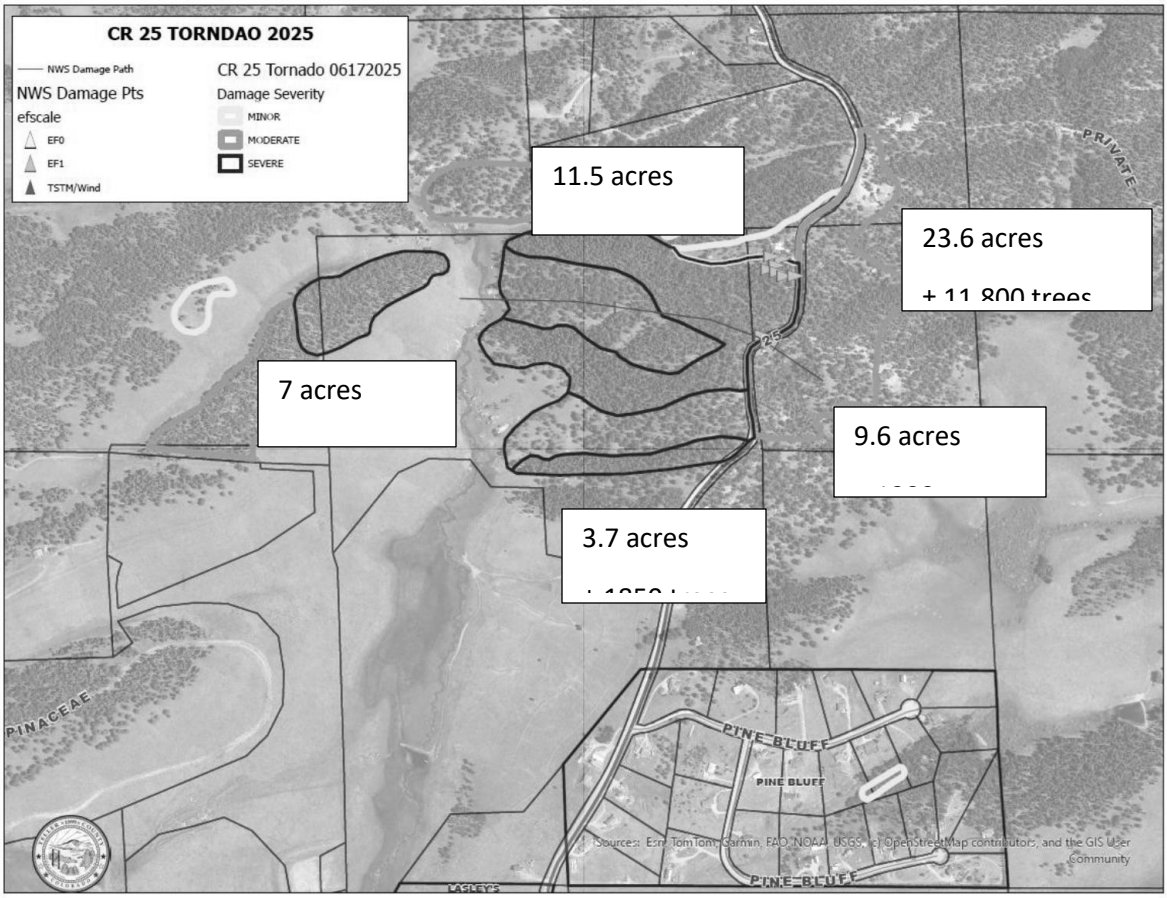


Figure 79: County Road 25 Storm Damage

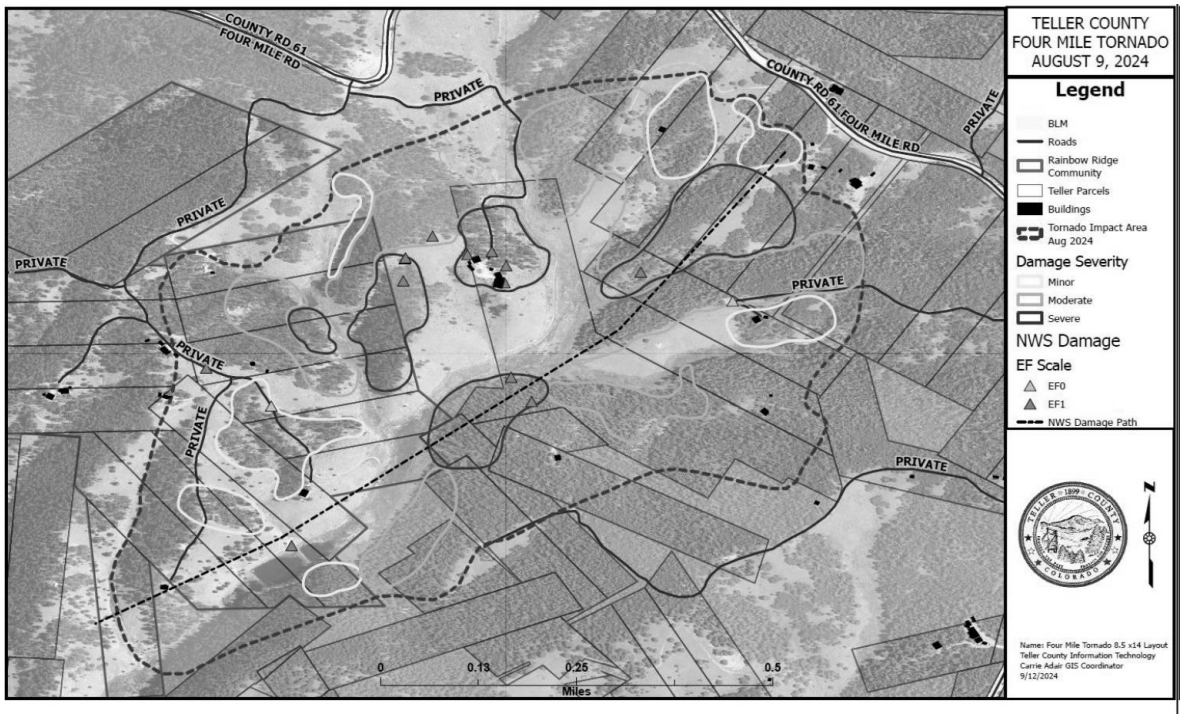


Figure 80: Cunty Road 61 Storm Damage

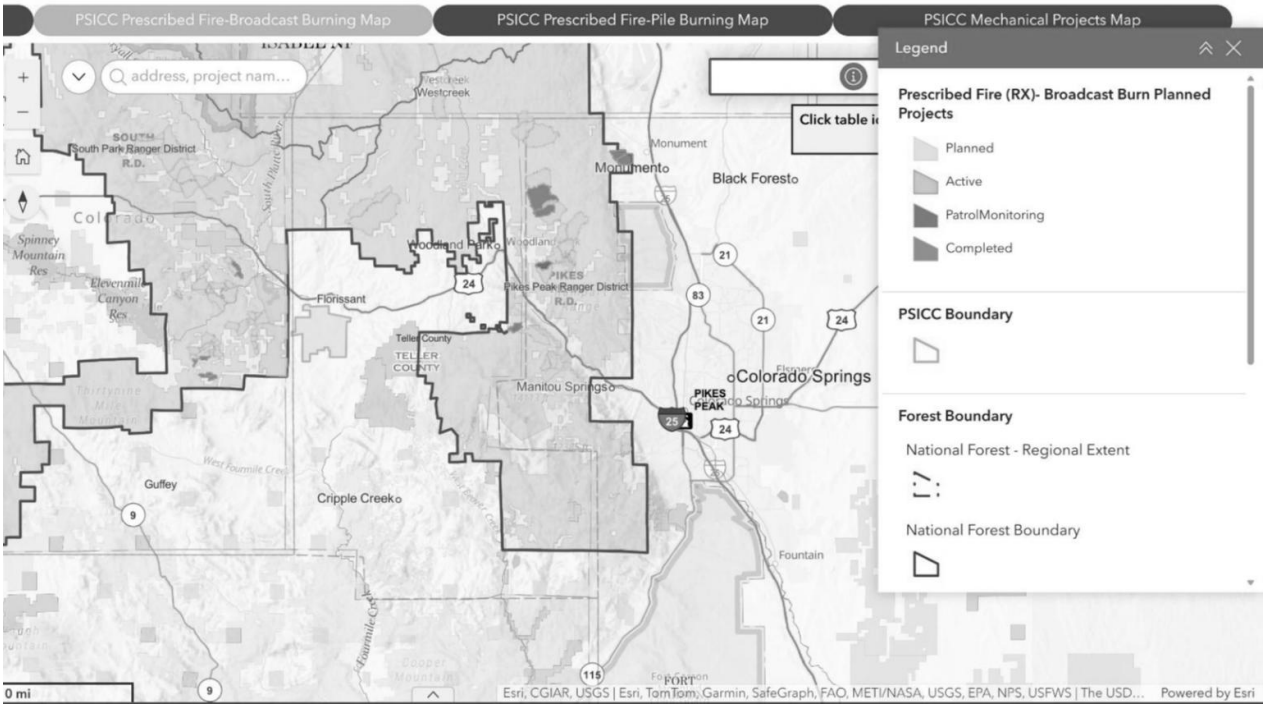


Figure 81: USFS Planned Prescribed Fire Treatments

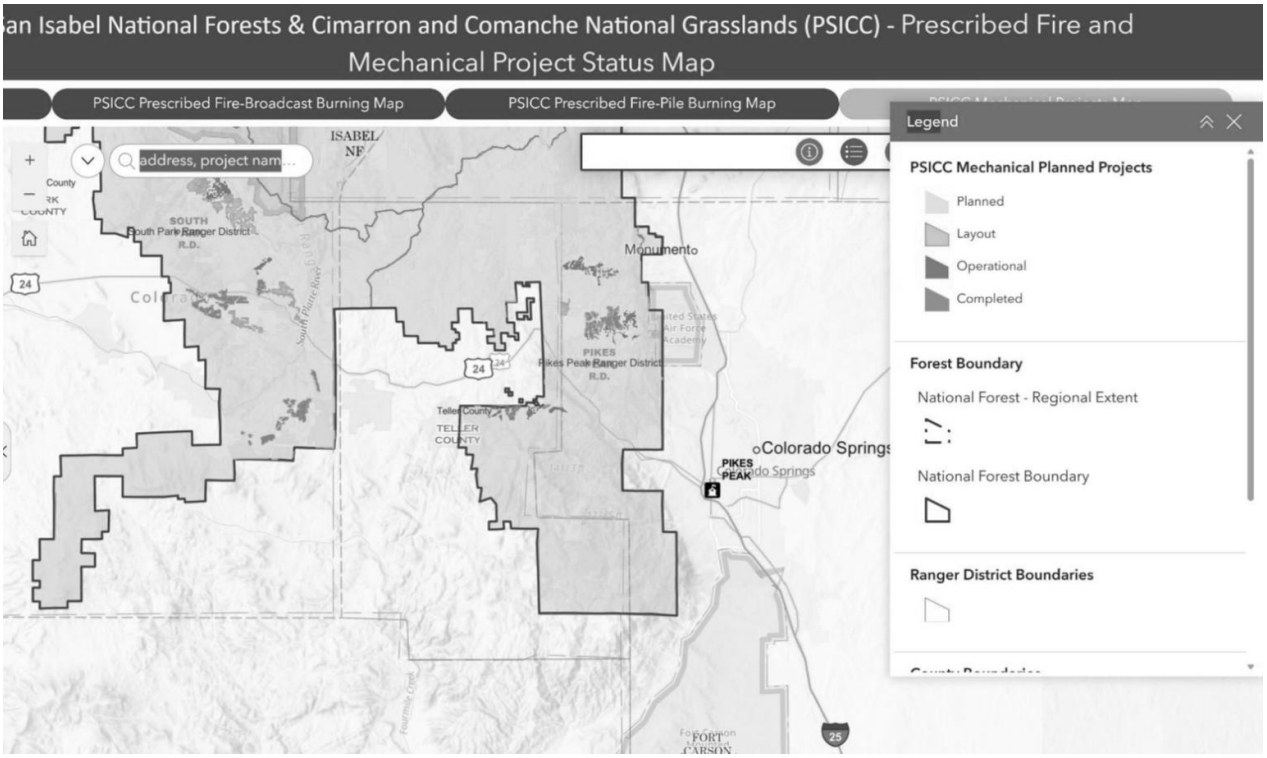
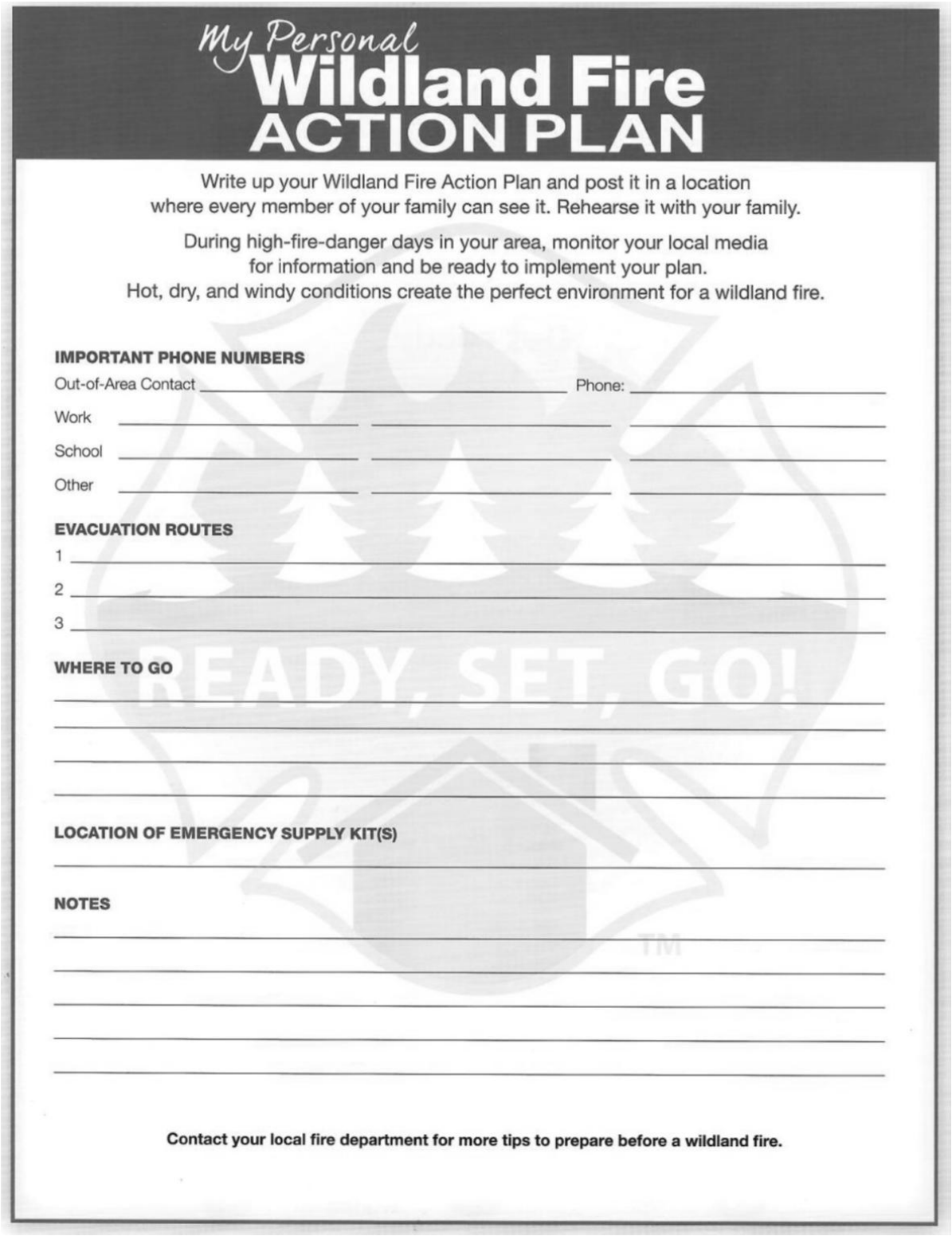


Figure 82: USFS Planned Mechanical Treatments

Section 7 – Homeowner Preparedness



My Personal Wildland Fire ACTION PLAN

Write up your Wildland Fire Action Plan and post it in a location where every member of your family can see it. Rehearse it with your family.

During high-fire-danger days in your area, monitor your local media for information and be ready to implement your plan.
Hot, dry, and windy conditions create the perfect environment for a wildland fire.

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

Out-of-Area Contact _____ Phone: _____

Work _____ _____ _____

School _____ _____ _____

Other _____ _____ _____

EVACUATION ROUTES

1 _____

2 _____

3 _____

WHERE TO GO

_____

_____

_____

_____

LOCATION OF EMERGENCY SUPPLY KIT(S)

_____

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

Contact your local fire department for more tips to prepare before a wildland fire.

READY, SET, GO!™

Figure 83: Wildfire Action Plan

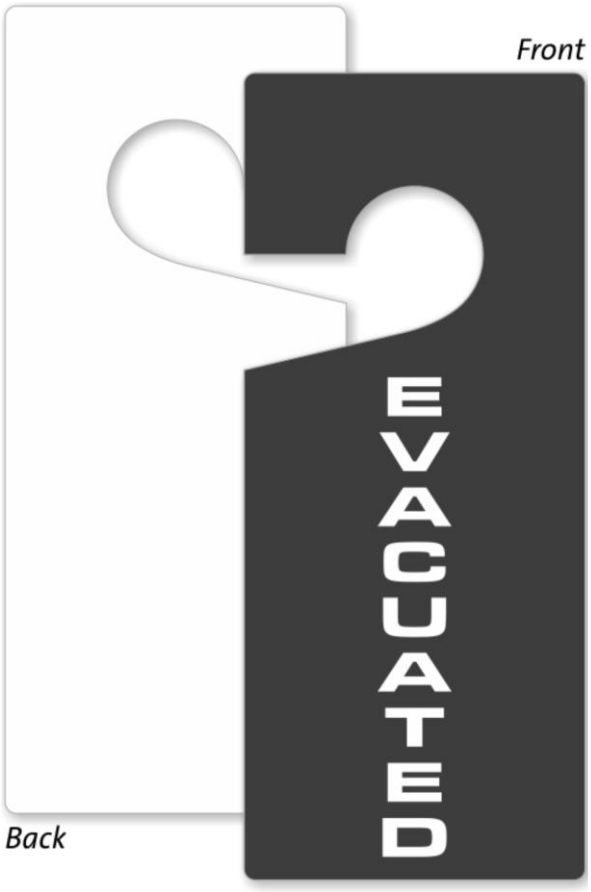


Figure 85: Reflective Metal Address Sign

Figure 84: Evacuation Tag

Figure 86: Three Reasons Burn During a Wildfire

Figure 87: Zone 1

ZONE 2 = 5-30 FEET FROM THE HOME – Lean, Clean and Green Zone

Goal: fuels reduced to minimize a fire's intensity and its ability to spread while significantly reducing the likelihood a structure ignites because of radiant heat

Mow grass to 4 inches or less

Remove woody fuel on the ground

Thin canopy so there is 10 feet of space between crowns

Trim ladder fuels 6-10 feet

Remove any dead or infected trees (mistletoe)

Remove common juniper – highly flammable

Can keep isolated bushes – keep 10 feet away from trees

Figure 88: Zone 2

ZONE 3 = 30-100 FEET FROM THE HOME - Reduce Fuels Zone

GOAL - keep fire on the ground, improve forest health

Suggest tree crown spacing be 6-10+ feet apart

Don't need to mow grasses

Consider trimming ladder fuels – haul off biomass

Remove any slash piles

Leave occasional snag

Remove diseased trees

Figure 89: Zone 3

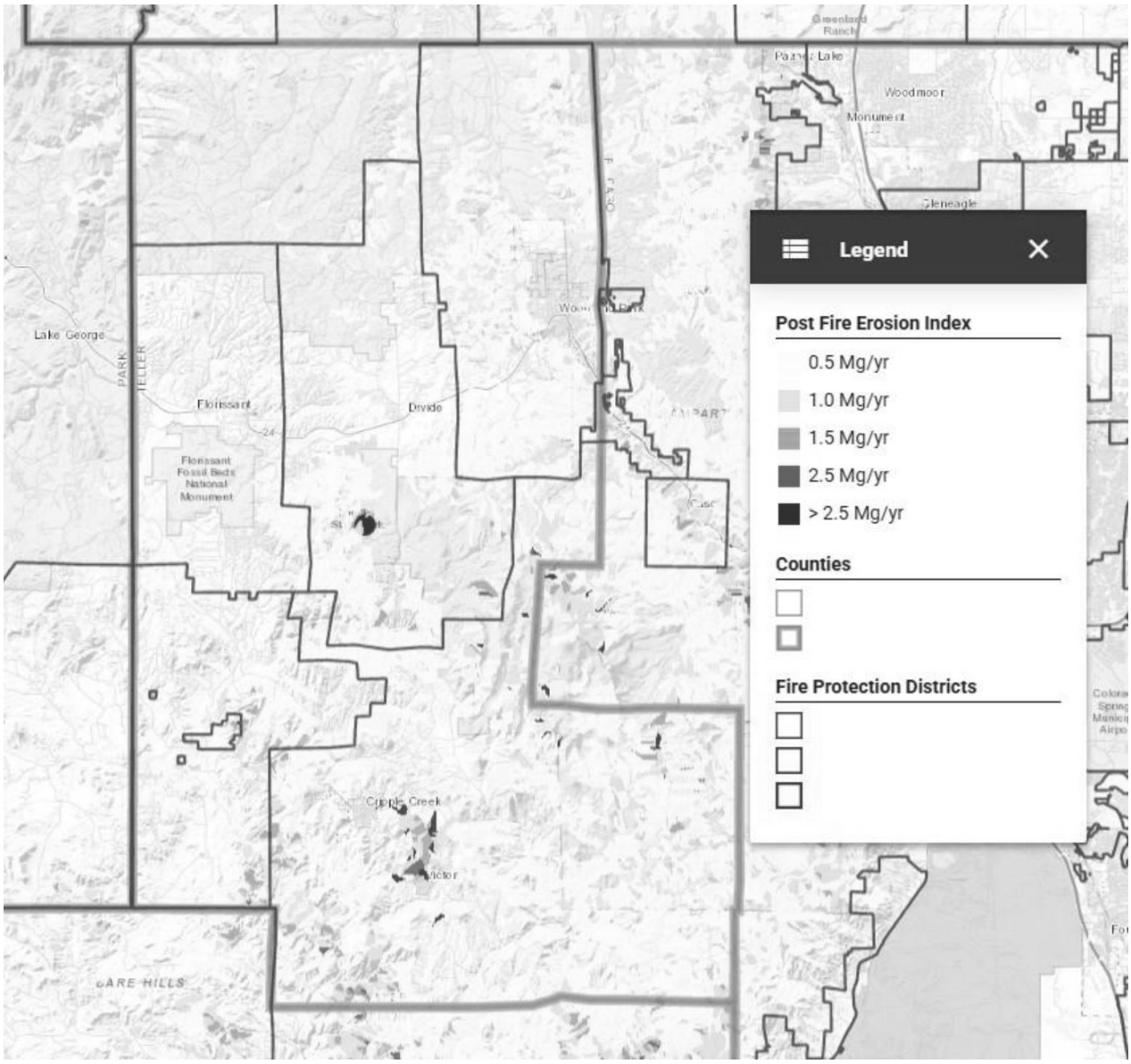


Figure 90: Post Fire Erosion Index

APPENDIX B

COLORADO STATE FOREST SERVICE
COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY

Minimum Standards for Developing Community Wildfire Protection Plans

The following are updated minimum standards and guidelines for developing Community Wildfire Protection Plans (CWPPs), as originally directed per Colorado Senate Bill 09-001.

I. Plan Participants

A. Planning involves a core team that includes a representative from the local government, the local fire authority, and the Colorado State Forest Service (CSFS). These representatives must agree that the CWPP is viable, complete, and realistic in terms of risk reduction and implementation. Each of these representatives possesses signatory authority for the plan.

B. Additional participants should include community members and local, state, and federal organizations and land management agencies, or their chosen representatives.

C. The plan must exhibit diverse collaboration with emphasis on involvement of community members/representatives.

- Community involvement and participation can be documented through meeting minutes, meeting rosters, or community surveys that clearly document meeting results including participant's name and affiliation. Tracking techniques vary, but providing evidence of a collaborative process is essential.

II. Plan Components

A. CWPPs must include:

- A definition of the selected planning area outlined on a map with an accompanying narrative. Delineate wildland-urban interface (WUI) areas within the chosen boundary.
- Identification of adjacent landowners (land that touches the community's external boundary)
- A community wildfire risk analysis that considers (at minimum) fuel hazards, fire history, common structure vulnerability characteristics, and community values to be protected (e.g., watershed, infrastructure, recreation features, wildlife habitat). Consider recent wildfire impacts in this discussion.
- Recommended methods to reduce structural ignitability

- An implementation plan that includes:
    - Identification of wildfire risk reduction projects and activities (e.g., fuels reduction treatments, education campaigns, community demonstration site development)
        - Hazardous fuels reduction treatment projects must include treatment types (e.g., thinning, fuel break, prescribed burning) and methods (mastication, hand crew thin and pile, timber harvest) on federal and non-federal land as applicable within the planning area.
    - A project area map that illustrates all proposed treatments
    - A narrative and table that details the relative priority of each project and recommends an agency, group, or other entity as an implementation leader

B. CWPPs should include:
- Locally appropriate emergency notification resources
- Evacuation information
- Socially vulnerable population considerations (e.g., elderly, disabled, or alternate language)
- Commitment for revision, preferably 5 years

C. CWPPs may include:
- Post-fire considerations (e.g., flood hazard analysis, infrastructure concerns)
- Integrated Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Hazard Mitigation Plan elements

III. Level of Specificity

A. A CWPP may be developed for any level of community (e.g., homeowners' association, mountain town, fire protection district, or county). Large-scale plans (e.g., county or fire protection district) must contain an appendix listing all communities within the planning area.

B. In order to qualify as an approved CWPP, large-scale plans must identify landscape-scale fuels treatment projects (e.g., fuel breaks and cross-boundary treatment opportunities) for the highest risk communities within the project area. Include a map(s) that details project locations and approximates project boundaries.

C. While county-level plans may be used as umbrella plans for smaller communities, each community should develop an effectively scaled CWPP that supports their needs.

D. Communities represented in a large-scale plan that wish to receive credit for having an approved CWPP must:
- Identify and prioritize risk reduction activities unique to their subset community boundary
    - Treatments should be supported by stakeholders, including representatives from the community (e.g., homeowners' association board, Firewise USA® Committee, city council).
- Develop an implementation plan specific to that community
- Include information in the plan at a level of specificity appropriate for the size of the community being addressed

E. The resulting document must be implementable, which means adequate detail about project-level design, layout, and execution is provided to allow work to begin, and the plan is supported by those who will put it into action.

IV. Approved CWPP

A. The Colorado State Forest Service will only accept CWPPs that contain the signatures of all core team members, including local fire department(s), local government(s), and a CSFS Supervisory Forester. Please note that CSFS personnel are ***not*** permitted to sign plans that do not clearly meet CWPP minimum standards.

B. After an approved CWPP has been submitted to the CSFS State Office, it will be posted on the CSFS website unless otherwise instructed.

V. Plan Lifetime & Update Process

A. In order to serve their intended purpose and remain useful, CWPPs must be updated on a regular basis. Plans should be updated every 5 years, at minimum. CWPPs greater than 10 years old are outdated and will not be prioritized when considered for competitive funding opportunities.

B. Updates may either be a preface to a previously approved plan or a new document with updates integrated into an existing plan.

C. CWPP updates must:

- Describe progress made and list all accomplishments since plan creation or last revision
- Address demographic changes (e.g., population flux, new housing development, infrastructure)
- Identify new risks that may have developed
    - An updated community risk analysis is encouraged, at least for plans aged 5 years or more.
- List new risk reduction projects in a prioritized fashion
    - Maps must accompany proposed fuels treatments.

D. Suggested update process:

- Review existing CWPP
- Engage stakeholders that have a vested interest in the plan (e.g., federal, state, tribal, emergency management, political subdivision)
- Host collaborative meetings
- Document completed projects and demographic and landscape changes
- Develop updated wildfire risk reduction priorities
- Update maps
- Distribute updated drafts to key stakeholders for review and input prior to final approval
- Finalize with core team signatures and submit to CSFS State Office

APPENDIX C

SOCIAL SCIENCE FOLLOW UP

Introduction

Results from the CWPP relating to themes of communication and agency involvement were shared at an LEPC meeting to encourage agencies and the public to brainstorm solutions within their own departments. In this report, all who attended the LEPC meeting will be called participants, sometimes broken groups called agency participants and public participants. Participant-suggested solutions ranged from overarching ideas to agency specific implementation and could be sorted into the following categories: interagency collaboration, interagency communication, communication with the public, and other wildfire preparedness strategies. Participants shared suggestions through discussion, and through writing down ideas on paper and handing them in afterward.

Interagency Collaboration

Participants were hesitant to discuss the theme of Interagency Collaboration generated from the survey, but when pushed, stated that collaboration could be helped through better communication. Participants from agencies also agreed that they collaborate well but stated that the public may not be aware of how that collaboration sometimes works. To help with maintaining a consistent message across agencies, advertising collaboration processes, and communicating best practices from the CWPP, participants discussed bringing back the Public Information Officer Academy. Rephrasing public messaging could also help. For instance, instead of just saying that a project was completed collaboratively, efforts should be made to publicize who was involved and what the goal was. One participant also suggested better implemented checks and balances, but this idea was not elaborated on.

Interagency Communication:

Most of the discussion about interagency communication centered around improving radio communications. Per the office of emergency management (OEM), the radio system is currently getting upgraded, and a suggestion was made to advertise this. A request was also made to move away from 1-800 and VHS radios as there are frequent dead zones across Teller County that these do not cover. The OEM stated that this is outside their current capability, but that they could order systems to cover the dead zones and expand capacity alerted to where more radios would be needed ahead of time.

More participant suggestions focused on syncing internal information and providing support to first responders. A public participant stated that a social media page could be created on Facebook to facilitate communications, clarify misunderstandings, and provide informal support between departments. A 1st responder newsletter was also suggested stating that it could also be developed to enhance interdepartmental communication at a lower seniority level.

Communication with the Public

Most of the participant ideas and considerations were given to communicating with the public. There was an overwhelming sentiment that the public should take responsibility for their own safety, but acknowledgment that different communication and outreach strategies might help to better inform them about resources. Frustration was also expressed about the lack of new audience turnout, specifically with re-occurring wildfire related events. The discussion about potential solutions centered around three main points: new places to post information, ideas to make information easily accessible, and what information needs to be made more transparent.

Locations

Discussion about expanding places to put information was balanced with discussions about costs of outreach. Suggestions about specific locations to post included grocery stores, post offices, libraries, and mailboxes at the end of subdivisions. One participant recommended that all postings contain QR codes and web addresses with links to more information, which was met with heavy agreement. Other ideas included collaborating with new and larger entities to offset costs. One suggestion was to partner with CDOT to put signs along highways about where to obtain wildfire information, although participants agreed that these messages would have to be short and not overly distracting. Another idea was to ask utility companies to include wildfire information with bills, potentially on homeowner comparison charts to mitigate junk mail and ensure the public sees it. Combining this set of information would also reduce printing costs.

Participants also discussed how to make in person events more accessible based on location. One idea was to rotate public meetings and events through different locations across town to ensure different demographics of people can attend no matter where they live, although more advertising might be needed with this approach. Another idea was to include options to attend online in addition to in person. To make this feasible, lower the workload, and reduce costs, some participants suggested that agencies could partner to host these meetings and events. For instance, one agency could offer space and run the meeting, while another could manage the online component. Doing so could also make the different locations approach more feasible.

If agencies do not have the capacity to rotate locations, or this idea proves to be ineffective, one public participant suggested better advertising resources they already provide for public use. This idea was brought on when a fire agency participant stated that their meeting rooms were free for the public to use, and most public participants said that they were unaware. The suggestion was then made to advertise the meeting rooms or similar resources, with the stipulation that hosting agencies could pass out wildfire information at these events.

Access

Much of the conversation was focused on how to access people who currently do not show up. The discussion particularly focused on leveraging entities outside of first responder circles. For instance, once the new community emergency response team (CERT) is finished getting established, they could go directly into subdivisions to educate and assist the neighbors. A public participant suggested that perfect times for this might be during HOA clean up days. The OEM also offered to help fund and supplement manpower for these events if made aware of them in

advance. On a similar topic, it was suggested that expanding Emergency Assistance and Response Planning (EARP) communications and distributing them to the HOAs could be beneficial. Another suggested idea was to ask real estate agencies and Chamber of Commerce to start sending welcome baskets with information relating to wildfire and mitigation when new residents move to the county.

A topic that yielded a lot of discussion was how to make information accessible to different demographics and age groups in an enticing format. Several suggestions led to the idea to create fun educational videos that may engage new demographics and reach further than an in person event. These could be designed for websites or social media about a variety of wildfire related topics, although agency participants were concerned about their capacity to regularly upkeep a social media account. Other suggestions for reaching the next generation included partnering with schools and youth groups or bringing back youth programs like the teenage search and rescue. Most participants were enthused about reaching this demographic, but some participants questioned whether it would be effective for the long term. Concerns included the possible lack of communication between kids and their parents due to technology, and schools being unable to pass out wildfire information beyond the classroom due to district policy.

Peak Alerts was a short but important topic in the discussion of access. The OEM summarized why the system functions the way it does, both because of capacity limitations and public comment. However, they also suggested that an app called ReachWell covers most of what the public described in the survey as missing from Peak Alerts. Most participants said they had not heard of this app before, and the suggestion was made to both advertise ReachWell and make how to videos for Peak Alerts. Suggestions were made to include both how to sign up to Peak Alerts, and how it functions to mitigate public frustration. When addressing technology dead zones, one participant stated that all weather radios work in these areas. However, results from the survey show that most of the public does not use them. That participant then stated that education about their coverage could help increase their usage.

Transparency

Transparency was brought up during the meeting in relation to most communication topics. The CWPP social science results show that it is one of the biggest factors that affect trust. If something were to go wrong or cannot be known to the public, the survey results show that it helps to know why. This topic led to a discussion about what to prioritize when advertising to the public. The biggest one was emphasizing personal responsibility for their own safety, and why it is important. Briefly mentioned ideas included making collaborative wording more obvious when advertising meetings, releasing event schedules in advance, creating transparency around controlled burn liability, and creating more transparency around the way Peak Alerts functions and why. Participants also highlighted the importance of being genuine when interacting with the public, suggesting that it could help with trust building especially if transparency is limited or not possible.

Other Wildfire Preparedness Strategies:

Other ideas suggested at various times throughout the discussion related to mitigation strategies, rather than communication. The need for community slash disposal was highlighted in the survey results and reiterated during the LEPC meeting by public participants. Roving slash sites were suggested as a possible solution. The suggestion was that a slash site could be set up in a firehouse parking lot and move to the next town every two weeks.

Other ideas related to preparedness. One participant suggested implementing yearly disaster training for households and holding practice evacuations with HOAs. While many participants agreed with this idea, details and logistics were not expanded upon. Another participant recommended using tornado sirens to signal the public that a situation might be occurring and to check alerts. This option has already been investigated for Green Mountain Falls, Cripple Creek Mountain Estates, and the City of Cripple Creek, but was determined not feasible due to current capacity of infrastructure, labor, and financial constraints.

A separate topic of conversation revolved around burn permits. Public participants from the public requested information about getting help with supervised burns. Agency participants stated that they do not have the resources to take on the liability themselves or purchase an insurance policy that will. Public participants also suggested potentially putting together a civilian mitigation burn task force.

Conclusion:
The discussions held between agencies and members of the public in the LEPC meeting generated many ideas to address challenges with wildfire preparedness, identified by the public in the social science report. These will be used to inform the Teller County CWPP. It should be noted that each solution is highly situational and has not yet been refined. Local agencies should start by implementing those likely to be most successful for their area first, then experiment with others using remaining resources. However, this does not mean that new possibilities should be avoided. If they are likely to be successful, then it is worth putting in more resources initially.

Teller County Wildfire Preparedness

2023 Community Survey

Teller County and Coalition for the Upper South Platte are updating the 2011 county-wide Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP). Up-to-date information and fire modeling will be used to assess local hazards and identify strategic investments to mitigate risk and promote preparedness. A CWPP will improve the ability of the fire protection district, landowners, and residents to prepare for, respond to, and adapt to wildfires. Your input as a community member is a vital aspect of CWPP development and implementation.

Please take this anonymous survey to share your insights and thoughts about your wildfire risk and community preparedness. Your information will be kept confidential. Please return this survey to cusp@cusp.ws or a hard copy to CUSP, PO Box 726, Lake George, CO 80827 - no later than December 15, 2023.

Section 1: About you

What is your residency status in Teller County? Check all that apply.

- — Full time resident
- — Seasonal resident
- — Owner of undeveloped lots
- — Business owner
- — Owner of rental property
- — Water Utility

Other: _____

2. In what subdivision or region of Teller County do you reside?

_____

3. What is your age?

- — 18-24
- — 25-34
- — 35-44
- — 45-54
- — 55-64
- — 65 and over

SECTION 2 WILDFIRE CONCERNS

	Not concerned	**Slightly concerned**	**Moderately concerned**	**Very concerned**
Receiving timely and accurate information about the incident				
Evacuating safely and promptly				
Damage to my home/ business/property				
Loss of life				
Impacts to my livelihood				
Impacts to water resources				
Impacts to historical and cultural assets				
Impacts to the economy and home values				
Damage to wildlife habitat				
Loss of recreational opportunities				
I believe our community is at risk from wildfires				
I support land managers mitigating wildfire risk on public land around the community				
I support prescribed burning to reduce wildfire risk in open spaces around or adjacent to the community.				
Reduced air quality due to smoke				
Post-fire erosion and flooding				
Decreased scenery due to wildfire damage				

Section 3: Reducing Wildfire Hazards

4. I have completed the following work to my home/business/property: to lessen the risk of wildfire: Check all that apply.

- — Removing trees or cutting tree branches near my home/business
- — Annually removing debris (e.g., dead vegetation, pine needles) from my gutter, roof, under my deck or porch
- — Removing all burnable fuel (e.g., mulch, grass, flammable furniture) from within 5 ft around the base of my home
- — Moving firewood at least 30 feet away from my home or business
- — Repairing or installing screens to block embers from entering vents, eaves, or gutters
- — Installing and replacing or purchasing/building a home with an ignition-resistant roof

— Ensuring that fire engines can access my property
— Planted fire break vegetation such as aspen
— Staying on top of deck maintenance and/or replacing my deck with ignition- resistant material
— Keeping a Go Bag with important documents, survival gear, medications, etc. at the ready in case of an evacuation
— Signing up for Teller County Peak Alerts to receive emergency notifications during wildfire incidents
— Creating an evacuation plan for my family, pets, and livestock.
— Updating insurance coverage
— Other: _____

5. What are the obstacles that have stopped you from doing wildfire mitigation? Check all that apply.

— Lack of knowledge about effective methods to reduce hazards
— Cost/Financial Aspect
— None of my neighbors are doing it
— Physical inability to complete the work
— Lack of tools to complete the work
— No way to dispose of slash (tree, limbs, etc.)
— Don't see it as a priority
— Desire to keep trees near homes/businesses for aesthetic reasons, shading, or privacy
— Local ordinances and regulations that prohibit certain modifications to homes/ businesses and surrounding property
— Other: _____

6. How much are you willing to spend annually on wildfire mitigation to your property or home?

— Nothing
— $1-2000
— $2000-10,000
— $10,000-20,000

— Over $20,000

Section 4: Evacuation Preparedness

7. Does your evacuation route (or subdivision plan) have

— Only one egress route
— Access to multiple egress routes
— A clearly defined plan for which egress route you are supposed to use
— I am not sure how many evacuation routes I have access to

8. Have you and your family practiced evacuating your home within 15 minutes or less?

— Yes, for people in my household
— Yes, for people and pets in my household
— Yes, for people, pets, and livestock in my household and on my property
— No

9. Do you have a plan for evacuating your pets/livestock if you are not at home?

— Yes
— No
— Not applicable

10. If you are renting out your house (short-term or long-term) do you have a method of communicating a mandatory evacuation order to renters?

— Yes
— No
— Not applicable

11. If there were an evacuation in the community because of wildfire, how concerned are you about the following issues?

	Not concerned	**Slightly concerned**	**Moderately concerned**	**Very concerned**	**Not applicable**
I or my family members have physical limitations					
I have children that might be home alone					
My community does not have enough roads to handle evacuation traffic					
I do not know where to go if asked to evacuate					
I am not aware of primary and secondary evacuation routes in my neighborhood					
I might not receive timely information about an evacuation					
It would take me over 20 minutes to gather my personal belongings and pets to evacuate					

Section 5: Resources and Educational Opportunities

12. Where have you found or received wildfire information? Check all that apply.

- — Colorado State Forest Service (CSFS)
- — US Forest Service (USFS)
- — Teller County Sheriff's Office
- — Local Fire Department (list dept name)_____
- — Your HOA _____
- — Your insurance agency _____
- — Your neighbors (add more info if needed) _____
- — Social club or community organization: _____
- — I have never received information about wildfire issues in this area
- — Other: _____

13. Which of the following educational opportunities would you participate in to learn about wildfire risk mitigation and emergency preparedness? Check all that apply.

- — Neighborhood programs about wildfire risk
- — In-person workshops
- — A nationwide program like Firewise or other local program
- — Wildfire mitigation assessment on my property
- — Ready Set Go program (help residents prepare for fires)
- — Online articles or videos on wildfire preparedness
- — How to organize neighbor to neighbor engagement in HOAs or communities
- — Information on why fire mitigation is necessary/ important for residents living in Teller
- — County from the perspectives of multiple county partners
- — Written documents explaining home ignition zone and mitigation steps for my property
- — Other: _____

Thank you for your time and providing insights on your values and needs as we are completing the Community Wildfire Protection Plan.

Four ways to return your survey and have your input documented:

Submit electronically

Scan and email to: cusp@cusp.ws

Mail a paper copy to:
CUSP
PO Box 726
Lake George, CO 80827

Drop off in person at the CUSP Office (behind Crippen's Processing)
40 Cherokee Ave
Lake George, CO

APPENDIX D

TELLER COUNTY FIRE BAN GUIDE

Teller County Fire Ban Guide

The Teller County Sheriff serves as the County Fire Warden and is tasked with monitoring fire danger levels and enforcing Fire Bans adopted by the County Commissioners to prevent wildfires that endanger life & property. Fire Bans are posted on the County website www.tellercounty.gov and www.tellercounty.gov/fire-information. Also check with United States Forest Service (USFS), Bureau of Land Management (BLM), City of Woodland Park, and City of Cripple Creek for their current burn status and/or restrictions.

Activity	Orange Flag	Red Flag	Stage I Ban	Stage II Ban	Stage III Ban
Burn Permits/ Slash Burning	NOT ALLOWED				
Outdoor Fires (Developed campgrounds, picnic areas, and private lands)	ALLOWED WITH CAUTION		*ALLOWED *In a permanent fire ring, with water supply or approved fire extinguisher readily available, and 25' away from combustibles.	*NOT ALLOWED *Restriction includes Gas Fire Pits.	
Outdoor Cooking	ALLOWED WITH CAUTION		*ALLOWED *In all BBQ grills or smokers and 10' away from combustibles.	*ALLOWED *Only BBQ grills fueled by propane, natural gas, or liquid fuel and 10' away from combustibles.	NOT ALLOWED
Outdoor Smoking	ALLOWED WITH CAUTION		*NOT ALLOWED *No smoking outside except in an enclosed building, vehicle, in an area cleared of all flammable materials.		
Outdoor Welding and Torching	ALLOWED WITH CAUTION		*ALLOWED *An approved fire extinguisher readily available.	*NOT ALLOWED *Unless approved by the county or the city.	
Fireworks	*NOT ALLOWED *Except commercial fireworks approved by the county or the city.				
Model Rockets	NOT ALLOWED				
Explosives	*NOT ALLOWED *Except for permitted mining/construction operations.				
Chainsaws	ALLOWED WITH CAUTION		*ALLOWED *An approved fire extinguisher readily available. For Stage III, spark arrester and a shovel also needs to be readily available .		
Recreational Shooting	*ALLOWED WITH CAUTION		*ALLOWED		*NOT ALLOWED
	*Explosive targets, tracer, and incendiary rounds are illegal and never allowed.				

*-denotes exception or rule For more information visit www.tellercountysheriff.com or www.co.teller.co.us/OEM

APPENDIX E

FURTHER WUI CONSIDERATIONS

With Teller County having much different types of wildfire risk areas, break it into 2 different types of areas. And especially if we're going to look at some home hardening and mitigation type codes in the near future.

WILDFIRE RISK CLASSIFICATION. The level of fire intensity identified for areas where significant fuel hazards and associated dangerous fire behavior may exist, based upon vegetative fuels, topography, weather conditions, and flame length value. These areas shall fall under the following categories in accordance. the wildfire risk classification is determined by expected wildfire behavior, including flame length and suppression difficulty and is separated into two levels. The identified wildfire risk classification establishes code requirements for construction and mitigation.

Wildfire Risk Area, Class I

Wildfire Risk Area, Class II

Wildfire Risk Area, Class I.
Wildfire Risk Area, Class I is identified as areas with light to medium surface fuels, such as grasses, shrubs, and scattered low density vegetation. These fuels are often discontinuous, which limits flame propagation but can sustain burning under moderate weather conditions. Fires in this class may occur on gentle to moderate slopes, where topography begins to influence the rate of spread. Although flame lengths remain relatively small—typically less than two feet limited spotting may occur, especially with wind. Trained firefighters with protective equipment and standard hand tools can usually suppress these fires through direct attack, particularly on slopes under 30 percent. Mechanized equipment is typically unnecessary. Key Characteristics Include:

1. Fuels: Light to medium surface fuels, including grasses, shrubs, and scattered vegetation.

2. Flame Length: Less than 2 feet.

3. Rate of Spread: Low, increasing with slopes over 20 percent.

4. Spotting: Very short-range spotting is possible under windy conditions.

5. Terrain Influence: More active fire behavior on moderate slopes (20 to 30 percent).

6. Suppression Difficulty: Easily suppressed by trained firefighters using basic protective gear and hand tools. Direct attack is effective, and mechanized support is rarely needed.

Wildfire Risk Area, Class II.
Wildfire Risk Area, Class II occurs in areas with moderate to heavy fuel loads, such as dense shrubs, small trees, and accumulated ground fuels, where continuous horizontal and vertical fuel arrangements allow flames to reach up to 8 feet. Fire behavior is influenced by moderate to steep

slopes, which can accelerate spread and increase the likelihood of short-range spotting, complicating suppression efforts. Ground crews often require mechanized support like engines and dozers, and aircraft may be necessary in inaccessible terrain, especially in wildfire risk areas where the risk to life and property is significant. Wildfire Risk Area, Class II, on the other hand, is found in areas with heavy, continuous fuel loads such as dense forest canopies, thick understory, and heavy dead or downed material often on slopes exceeding 30 percent (30%), where topography dramatically increases fire spread and severity. Flame lengths can exceed 30 feet, and both short- and medium-range spotting are common, particularly under windy conditions. Direct suppression is typically ineffective, requiring indirect strategies like backburns and aerial retardant drops, as these fires pose extreme risks to life, property, and firefighter safety, especially in rugged or remote areas. Key Characteristics Include:

1. Fuels: Moderate to heavy fuels, including but not limited to dense shrublands, small trees, dense forests, urban core areas with heavy fuel loads, and canopy-dominated regions.

2. Flame Length: Up to 30 feet or more.

3. Rate of Spread: Moderate to Rapid, especially on slopes greater than 40 percent.

4. Spotting: Short-range spotting is common; medium-range spotting is possible under windy conditions.

5. Terrain Influence: Steep slopes (30 percent or greater) increase fire spread and intensity which create dangerous conditions for suppression.

6. Suppression Difficulty: Ranges from challenging for ground crews without support from engines, dozers, or aircraft. Dozers and plows are generally effective on moderate Terrain to direct attack by ground forces and dozers is generally ineffective. Indirect strategies (backburning, aerial support) are often

APPENDIX F

NFPA COMMUNITY ASSESSMENT FORM

FPD Name:
Community Name:

Street Signs		
Street Signs	Posted and reflective (0)	
	Posted, NOT reflective (2)	
	Not present (5)	
Means of Access		
Ingress/Egress	One Road in and out (20)	
	Two or more roads in & out (0)	
Primary Road		
Condition	Improved-Paved(0)	
	Not Paved -County Maintained (5)	
	Unimproved - Not County Maintained (10)	
Road Width	> 24ft (0)	
	≥ 20 - 24 ft (2)	
	< 20ft (4)	
Surface Condition	Surfaced Road, grade <5% (0)	
	Surfaced Road, grade >5% (2)	
	Non-Surfaced Road, grade <5% (2)	
	Non-Surfaced Road, grade >5% (5)	
	Other than all-season (7)	
Secondary Road		
Condition	Improved-Paved(0)	
	Not Paved -County Maintained (5)	
	Unimproved - Not County Maintained (10)	
Road Width	> 24ft (0)	
	≥ 20 - 24 ft (2)	
	< 20ft (4)	
Surface Condition	Surfaced Road, grade <5% (0)	
	Surfaced Road, grade >5% (2)	
	Non-Surfaced Road, grade <5% (2)	
	Non-Surfaced Road, grade >5%(5)	
	Other than all-season (7)	
Topography		
Predominant Slope	Less than 15% (7)	
	16 to 25% (15)	15
	26 - 35% (23)	
	Greater than 35% (30)	

Emergency Exit Road Condition		
Road Width	> 24ft	
	≥ 20 - 24 ft	
	< 20ft	
	Single Footpath	
	2 Track	
Surface Condition	Extensive Vegetation	
	Rocks	
	Ruts	
	Gravel	
Road Obstructions	Gate	
	Boulders	
	Pylons	
Ownership	Private	
	County	
	USFS	
	BLM	
	Other	

Notes:

Describe where the exit is:

(Take a photo of the exit)

Vegetation		
Fuel Type	Grassland - Meadow (1)	
	Shrubland (2)	
	Pinon Juniper (4)	
	Ponderosa (3)	
	Spruce - Douglas Fir (3)	
	Mixed Conifer (3)	
	Aspen Dominated (1)	
	Mixed Forest Type (2)	
	Slash Piles (4)	
Characteristics	Light (5)	
	Moderate (10)	
	Heavy (20)	
Defensible Space Completed	Most (5)	
	Half (10)	
	Some (15)	
	None (20)	
Fire Protection		
Response Time	Within 15 minutes (0)	
	Within 16-30 minutes (3)	
	Greater than 31 minutes (5)	
Hydrants	Within 1,000 ft (0)	
	Within 1-5 miles (5)	
	Unavailable (10)	
Draft Source needed?	Yes (10)	
(for this area being assessed)	No (0)	
Draft Sources Info	Lake/Reservoir	
(separate repeat)	Lake/Seasonal Dependent	
	River/Seasonal Dependent	
	River	
	Pond	
	Get one within 20 minutes	
	Water Tank < 30,000	
	Water Tank > 30,000	
	Water Shuttling	
Draft Source Name:		
Draft Source Notes:		

Structure Hazard		
Materials	Roof & Siding Materials non-wood (0)	
	Flammable siding/non-flammable roof (15)	
	Flammable roof (30)	

Utilities (Gas and Electric)		
Placement	All underground (0)	
	One underground, One aboveground (15)	
	All aboveground (30)	

Utilities Notes:

APPENDIX G

HOMEOWNER ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Are You Ready – An In Depth Guide to Citizen Preparedness
https://www.ready.gov/sites/default/files/2021-11/are-you-ready-guide.pdf

Colorado Department of Public Safety
https://dhsem.colorado.gov/info-center/readycolorado/colorado-hazard-information/wildfire

Colorado State Forest Service – Wildfire Mitigation
https://csfs.colostate.edu/wildfire-mitigation/

Colorado Property and Insurance Wildfire Preparedness guide
https://csfs.colostate.edu/wp-content/uploads/2023/05/Wildfire_22x8.5_2021.pdf

FEMA
https://www.usfa.fema.gov/wui/outreach/

Fire Adapted Colorado (FACO)
https://fireadaptedco.org/

Fire Resistant Landscaping
https://csfs.colostate.edu/wp-content/uploads/2024/11/CSFS_CSU-Ext_Fact-Sheets_FRL_FINAL_Web_accessible.pdf

Forest Home Fire Safety
https://csfs.colostate.edu/wp-content/uploads/2024/01/Forest-Home-Fire-Safety-Fact-Sheet-6.304.pdf

How to Prepare for Wildfire
https://www.dnr.wa.gov/publications/rp_fire_how_to_prepare_wildfire.pdf

Peak Alerts
https://elpasoteller911.org/304/Peak-Alerts

Ready.gov
https://www.ready.gov/wildfires

Ready, Set, go
https://www.iafc.org/topics-and-tools/resources/resource/ready-set-go-program

Red Cross
https://www.redcross.org/get-help/how-to-prepare-for-emergencies/types-of-emergencies/wildfire.html

Teller County Office of Emergency Management
https://www.tellercounty.gov/197/Office-of-Emergency-Management

The home Ignition Zone
https://csfs.colostate.edu/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/2021_CSFS_HIZGuide_Web.pdf

Wildfire Action Plan
https://readyforwildfire.org/prepare-for-wildfire/wildfire-action-plan/

Wildfire Safety Tips for Visitors
https://www.colorado.com/articles/colorado-wildfire-prevention-tips-resources

APPENDIX H

POST-WILDFIRE RESOURCES

Colorado Post Fire Playbook - https://cdphe.colorado.gov/Wildfire-Playbook

Colorado State Forest Service -http://colostate.edu/forest-managment/restoration-rehabilitation/

After the Flames -http://aftertheflames.com/resources/

Debris flow - Colorado geological survey - https://coloradogeologicalsurvey.org/hazards/debris-flows/

USFS BAER Program (Burned Area Emergency Response)
https://www.fs.usda.gov/naturalresources/watershed/burnedareas-background.shtml

NRCS (Natural Resources Conservation Service) – Emergency Watershed Protection Program (EWP)
https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs-initiatives/emergency-watershed-protection

NRCS (Natural Resources Conservation Service) – Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)
https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs-initiatives/environmental-quality-incentives-program

Mitigating Source Water Risks with Improved Wildfire Containment
https://cfri.colostate.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/22/2020/08/Gannon-et-al_mitigating-source-water-risks.pdf

Estimating Upland Watersheds Risk to Increased Sediment Due to Wildfires in the Forests lands of Colorado.
https://help.coloradoforestatlas.org/__attachments/11059200261/COSFS_Wildfire_Watershed_risk.pdf?inst-v=7d1edf26-2f34-407d-a8a5-13b29262fc6f

Colorado Water Conservation Board (CWCB) – Post-Fire Mitigation Strategies
https://static1.squarespace.com/static/6192d196413fee2066d13575/t/68cc2993fec6825611a39f01/1758210451131/02P_WRW+Quick+Start+-+Hazard+Mitigation.pdf

CWCB – Debris Flows After a Wildfire
https://static1.squarespace.com/static/6192d196413fee2066d13575/t/68cc29ba63a0be35e374b357/1758210490562/02H_WRW+Fact+Sheet+-+Debris+Flow.pdf

CWCB – Wildfire Ready Action Plan
https://static1.squarespace.com/static/6192d196413fee2066d13575/t/68cc281a6a935b6641d66592/1758210074580/01P_WRW+Quick+Start+-+WRAP.pdf

CWCB – Identifying Actions to Mitigate Post-Wildfire Risk
https://static1.squarespace.com/static/6192d196413fee2066d13575/t/68e442611b352153ba494db8/1759789665846/04G_WRW+Fact+Sheet+-+Action+Identification+.pdf

APPENDIX I

IMPORTANT REFERENCE LINKS

2020 POST FIRE WATERSHED RESTORATION PROCESS – LESSONS LEARNED
https://www.northernwater.org/getmedia/881fe12d-3e8d-4f53-b355-a2bd26742a37/2020-Post-Fire-Watershed-Restoration-Process-Improvement-Report

COLORADO DIVISION OF FIRE PREVENTION AND CONTOL WILDFIRE PREPAREDNESS PLANN
https://dfpc.colorado.gov/coloradowildfireprepplan

COLORADO FOREST RESILIENCY PLANNING GUIDE
https://csfs.colostate.edu/forest-management/forest-resilience-planning-guide/

COLORADO WILDFIRE PLANNING AND RECOVERY PLAYBOOK
https://cdphe.colorado.gov/Wildfire-Playbook

ESTIMATING UPLAND WATERSHED RISK TO INCREASED SEDIMENT DUE TO WILDFIRES IN THE FORESTS LAND OF COLORADO
https://help.coloradoforestatlas.org/__attachments/11059200261/COSFS_Wildfire_Watershed_risk.pdf?inst-v=7d1edf26-2f34-407d-a8a5-13b29262fc6f

TELLER COUNTY CMAT REPORT (COMMUNITY MITIGATION ASSISTANCE TEAM)
https://www.tellercounty.gov/DocumentCenter/View/1806/TellerCounty-CMAT-Report-Oct2020

TELLER COUNTY COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM (CERT)
https://www.tellercounty.gov/Community-Emergency-Response-Team-CERT

TELLER COUNTY EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLAN
https://www.tellercounty.gov/200/Teller-County-Emergency-Operations-Plan

TELLER COUNTY GROWTH MANAGEMENT PLAN
https://tellercounty.gov/DocumentCenter/View/251/Teller-County-Growth-Management-Plan-PDF?bidId=

TELLER COUNTY HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN
https://www.tellercounty.gov/DocumentCenter/View/1405/Teller-County-Hazard-Mitigation-Plan-2021-PDF

USFS WILDIFRE CRISIS IMPLEMENTATION PLAN
HTTPS://WWW.FS.USDA.GOV/SITES/DEFAULT/FILES/WILDFIRE-CRISIS-IMPLEMENTATION-PLAN.PDF

APPENDIX J

LIST OF ACRONYMS

BLM - Bureau of Land Management

CSFS – Colorado State Forest Service

CWPP – Community Wildfire Protection Plan

DFPC – Division of Fire Prevention and Control

FD – Fire Department

FEMA – Federal Emergency Management Agency

FPD – Fire Protection District

GIS – Geographic Information System

GPS – Global Positioning System

HFRA – Healthy Forests Restoration Act

HMP – Hazard Mitigation Plan

HOA – Home Owner's Association

NFPA – National Fire Protection Association

NRCS – Natural Resources Conservation Service

NWCG – National Wildfire Coordinating Group

POA – Property Owner's Association

USFS – United States Forest Service

WUI – Wildland Urban Interface

APPENDIX K

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