



Zuni Mountains CFLR  
All Hands Meeting  
April 11<sup>th</sup>, 2023

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# Collaborative Meeting Overview

## ZUNI MOUNTAINS COLLABORATIVE GOVERNANCE

- HISTORY & FUTURE OF ZUNI MOUNTAINS CFLRP GOVERNANCE
- COLLABORATIVE GOVERNANCE SURVEY RESULTS

## 2022 ANNUAL REPORT OVERVIEW:

- 2022 ACCOMPLISHMENTS
- 2023 PLANNED ACCOMPLISHMENTS

## BREAK OUT SESSIONS

## SHARED STEWARDSHIP PORTAL

## 2023 EVENTS, TRAININGS, ETC.

## WRAP-UP / CLOSING REMARKS

## LUNCH

## ADJOURN – THANK YOU!!!



# Annual Report Economics

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## Jobs Comparison:

	<u>2022</u>	<u>Income</u>
Direct	96	\$3,639,225
Indirect	<u>47</u>	<u>\$2,356,501</u>
	<b>143</b>	<b>\$5,995,726</b>

- According to 2022 employment numbers for Cibola County, (June 2022) there were 8,362 people employed and the CFLR employs about 1.7% of them. This is equivalent to 11,500 people in Bernalillo County (pop. 678,701).



# 2022 Annual Report Accomplishments

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- *There were 768 acres logged by Forest Fitness providing wood to Mt Taylor Manufacturing mill.*
- *Prescribed burning in the Copperton Burn Unit was completed in the fall of 2021 and spring 2022, totaling 198 acres.*
- *A seasonal forestry crew (supported jointly by CFRP and CFLRP funds), overseen by the Forest Stewards Guild, marked 720 acres of timber in the Puerco Project*
- *They also cut 1 mile of fireline, removed fuels along the boundary, and improved fire access roads on the Mt. Taylor side of the Mount Taylor RD in preparation for prescribed burning.*





# 2022 Annual Report Accomplishments

Completed workplan covering planned work through the CFLRP extension period (2022 - 2031)

✓ Details the what, when, and how...

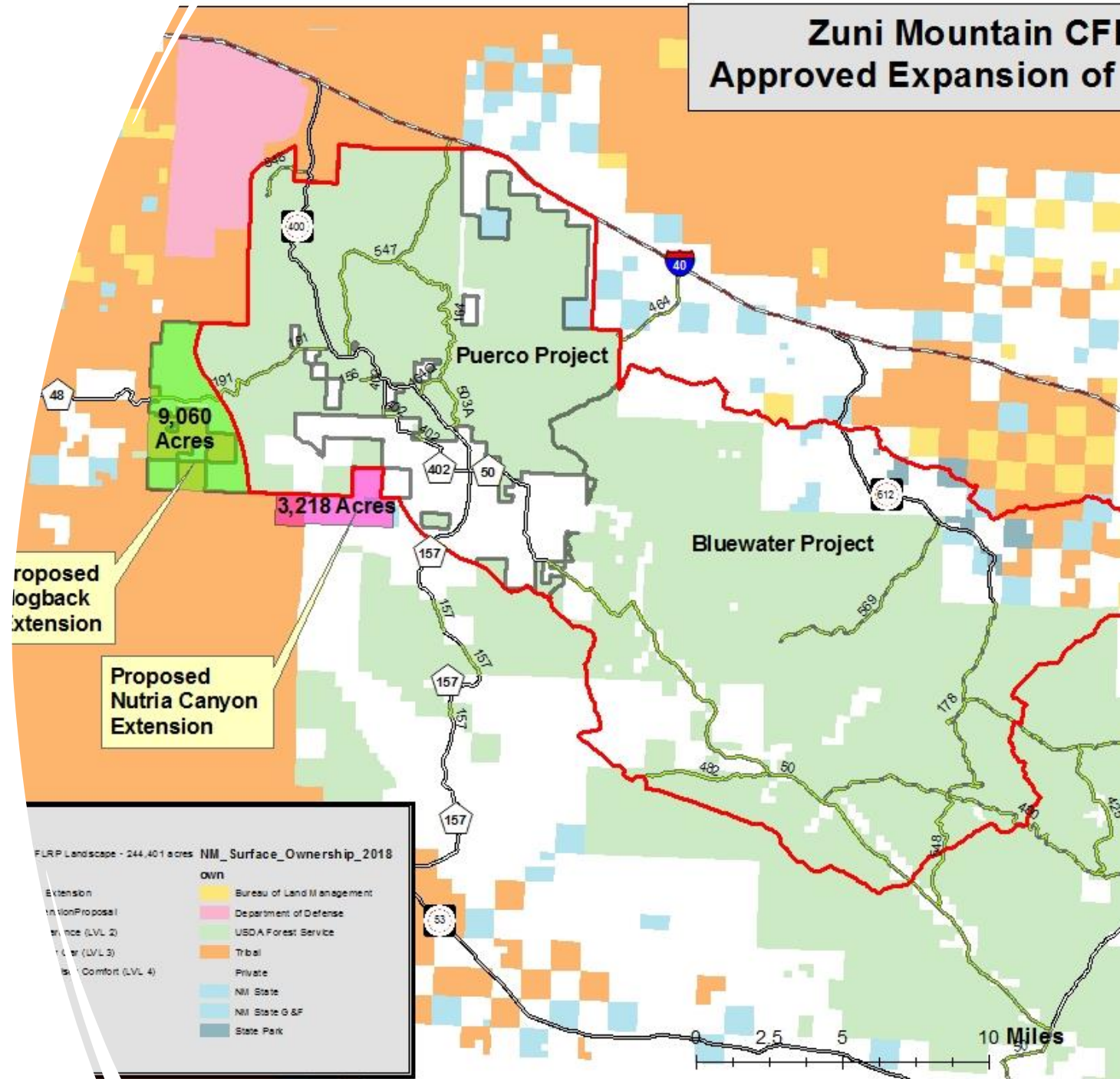
Zuni Mtn CFLRP Footprint expansions approved (5%), allowing for CFLRP funds to be spent on these areas.

✓ Hogback Extension – 9,060 acres

- Heritage IDIQ Task Order
- Fuelwood, Workforce Development, and Youth Engagement Opportunities

✓ Nutria Canyon Extension – 3,218 acres

- Help leverage other funds for restoration activities, ZBS habitat.





# 2021-22 Annual Report Accomplishments

- *With major assistance from the Forest Steward's Guild and the youth crew, we collected baseline data for quaking aspen stands in the Bluewater portion of CFLRP footprint. Quaking aspen occurs in small stands located in isolated drainages across the landscape, most of which are in decline due to lack of disturbance and browsing.*
- *Aspen has been declining for decades due to lack of disturbance and encroachment of conifers. This data will be used to compare the effects of installing protection fences in some areas.*
- *Tiers off of the Northern New Mexico Riparian, Aquatic, and Wetland Restoration Project*
  - *This was the first project submitted through NNM RAWR*





# Accomplishments 2021 & 2022 – Timber:

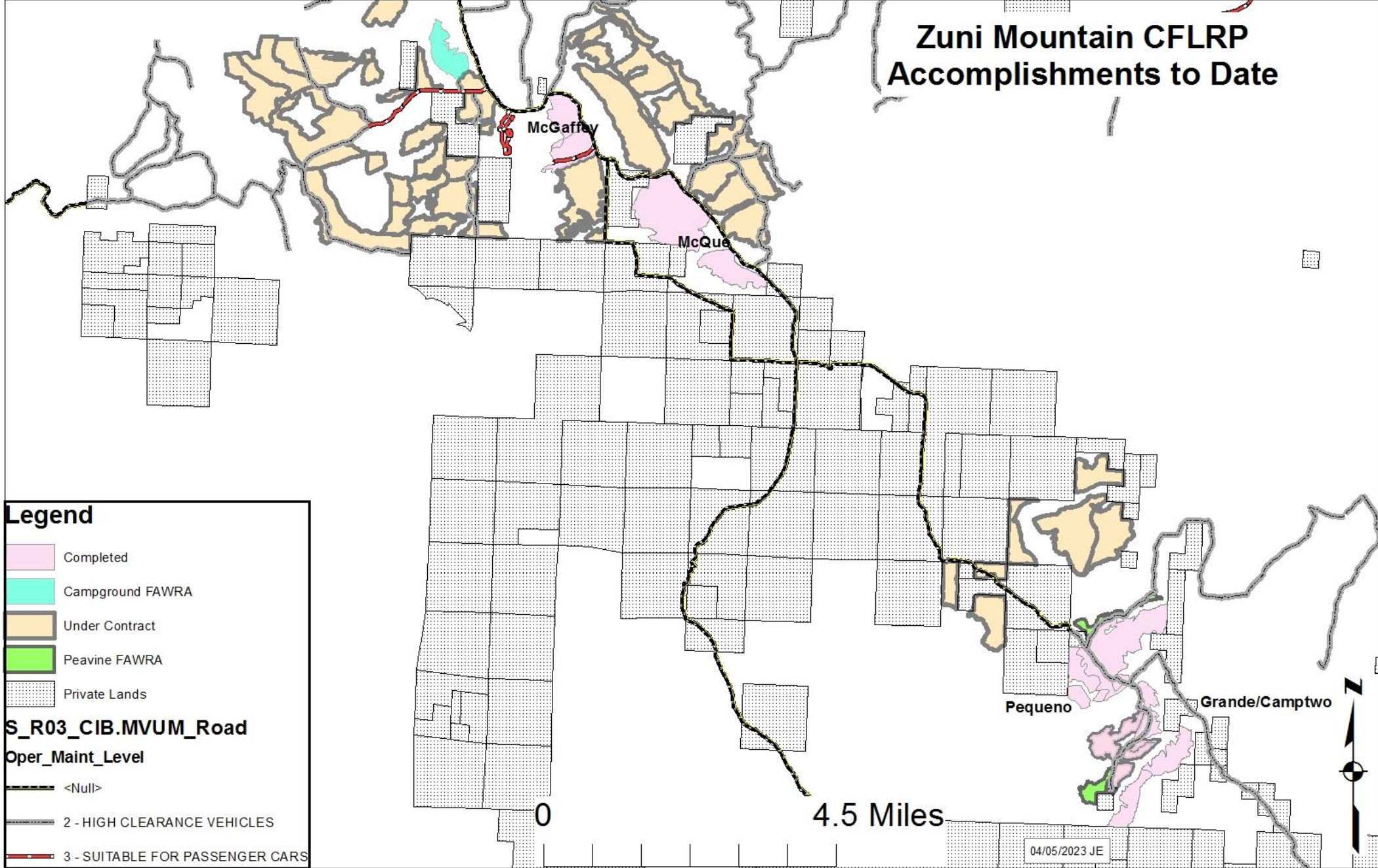
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- McGaffey 1 & 2 - 360 Acres
  - Grande - 242 Acres
  - Camptwo - 145 Acres
  - Pequeno - 259 Acres
  - McQue - 770 Acres
  - Campground - 150 Acres
- 1,926 Acres





# Zuni Mountain CFLRP Accomplishments to Date



**Legend**


- Completed
- Campground FAWRA
- Under Contract
- Peavine FAWRA
- Private Lands

**S\_R03\_CIB.MVUM\_Road**

**Oper\_Maint\_Level**

- <Null>
- 2 - HIGH CLEARANCE VEHICLES
- 3 - SUITABLE FOR PASSENGER CARS





Planned Restoration  
Work in the Zuni  
Mountain CFLRP-  
Bluewater/Puerco  
2023-2024

Zuni Mountain NWTf Stewardship Agreement continues to treat acres. Available (funded) Restoration blocks include:

**Bluewater:**

- Northwest (827 acres)

**Puerco:**

- McGaffey (1,122 acres remaining)
- Continental Divide (215 acres)
- Zuni Mountain (300 acres)

**FAWRA:**

- Peavine (61 acres)
- Grande 3 – (77 acres) Includes Aspen thinning and eventual fencing

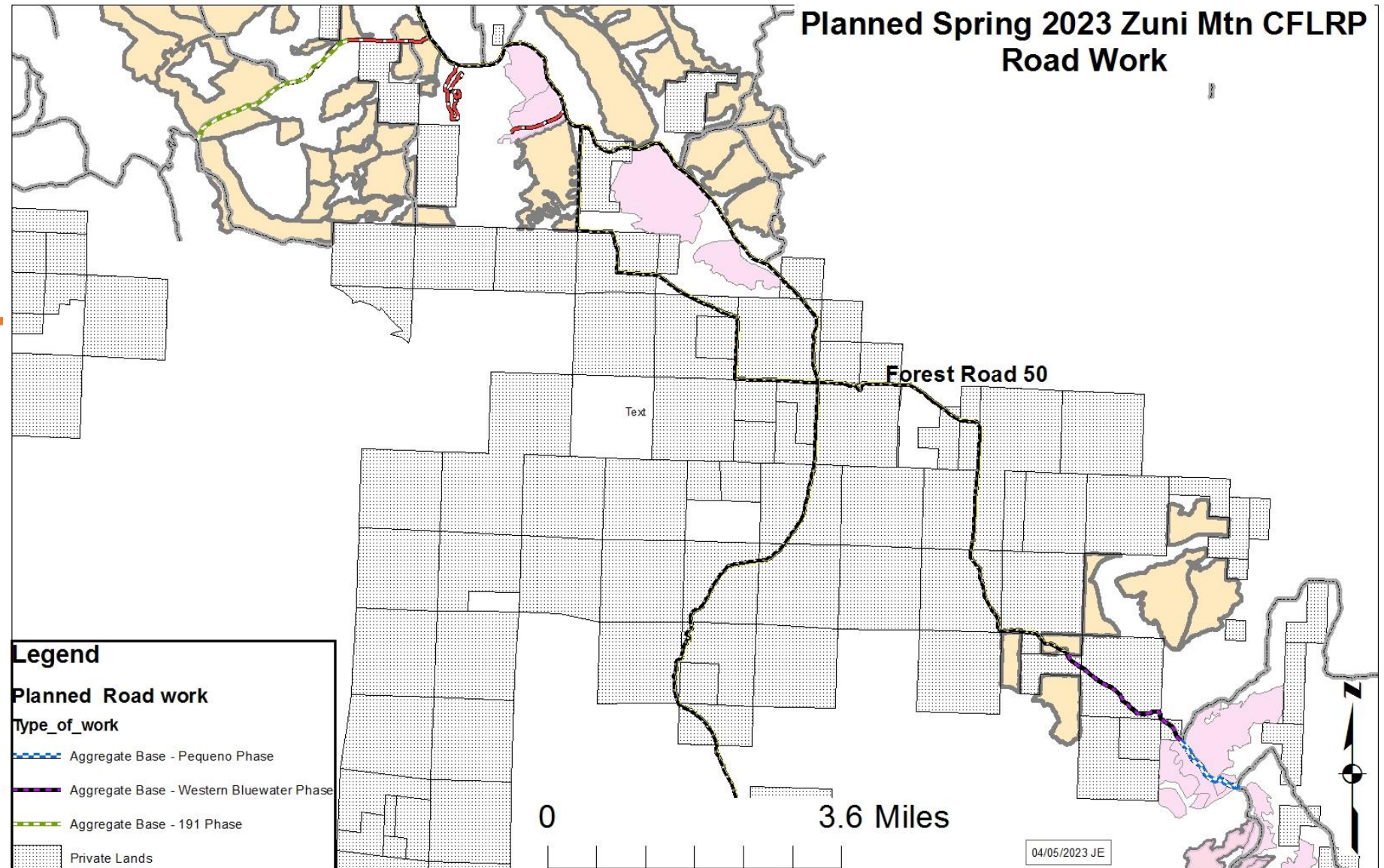
**TOTAL ACRES = 2,602**





# Planned Road Work

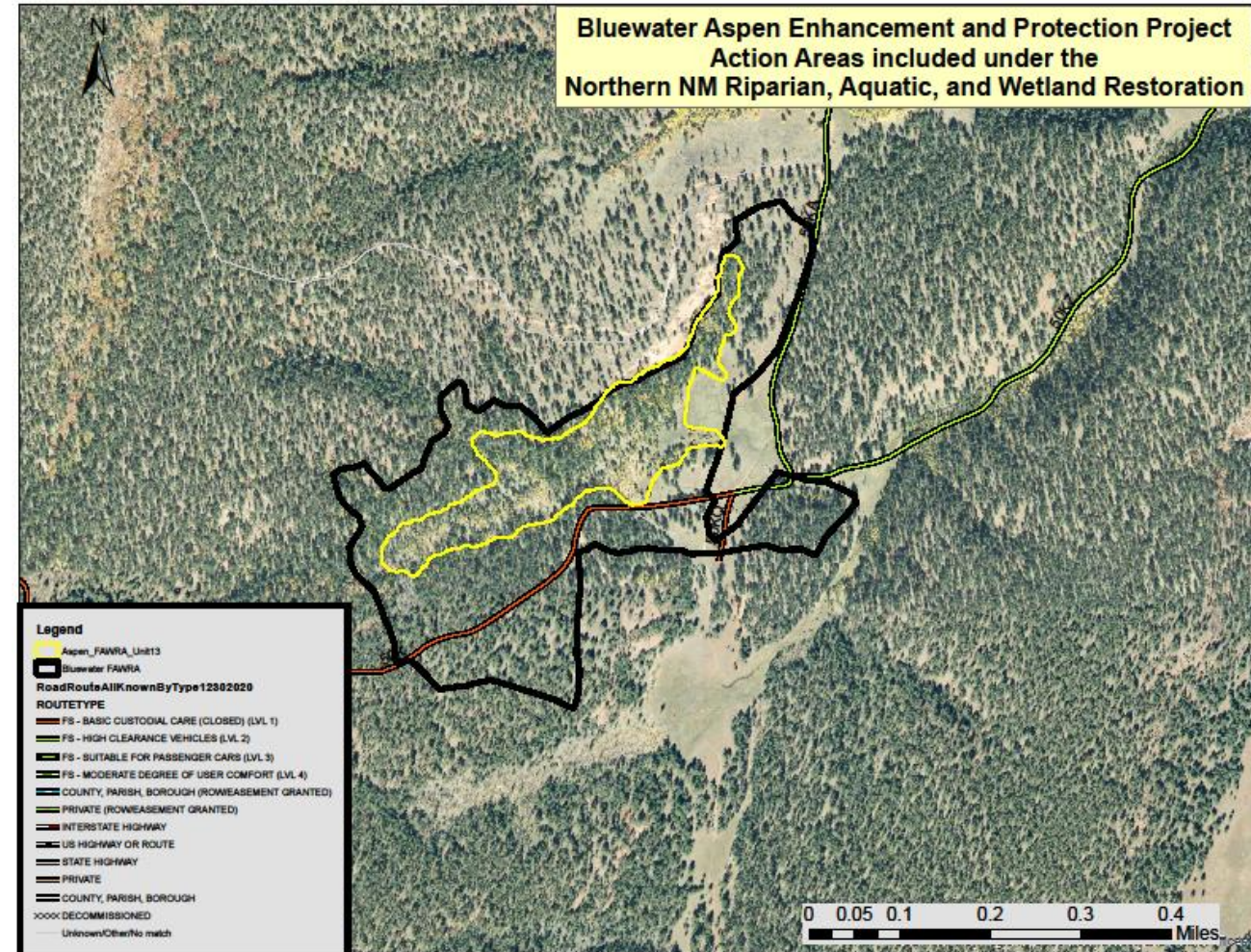
- Pequeno Phase
  - ~ 1 Mile
- Bluewater West Phase
  - ~ 1.9 Miles
- 191 Phase
  - ~ 2.25 Miles
- Repair to RD 178
  - Various Spots





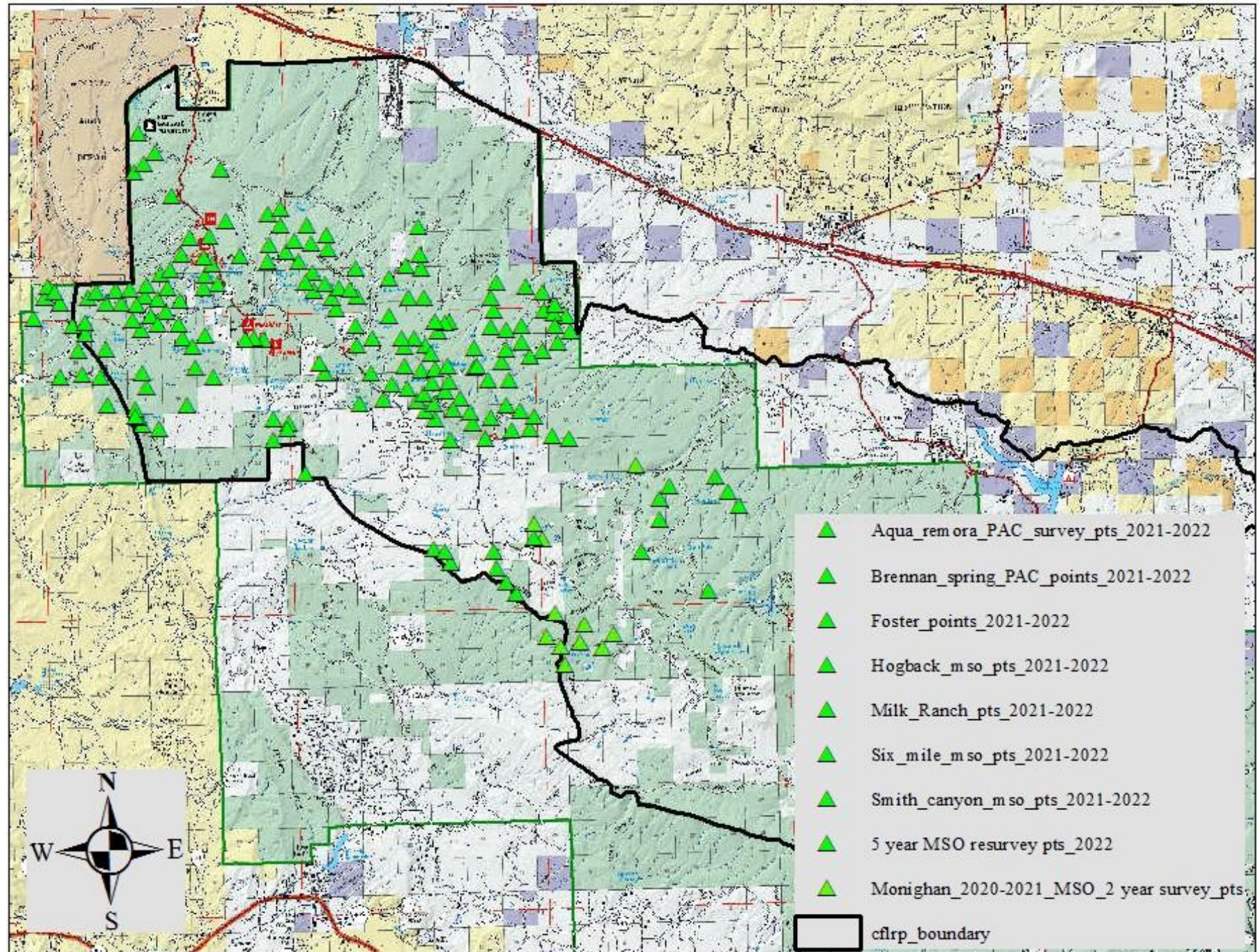
# NM Forest and Watershed Restoration Act (FAWRA) Project Update

- ✓ Work Plan in place to thin 138 acres of ponderosa pine in the Bluewater Project Area in 2023.
  - ✓ Cut, skid & deck for public fuelwood
- ✓ Within the Grande Unit, competing conifers will be thinned from inside and around of the aspen stand.
- ✓ Have enlisted the help of the Friends of Northern Arizona Forests fence crew to assess and build a protection fence to prevent browsing.
  - ✓ Volunteer opportunity to gain skills, with the goal of creating our own local “fence crew”

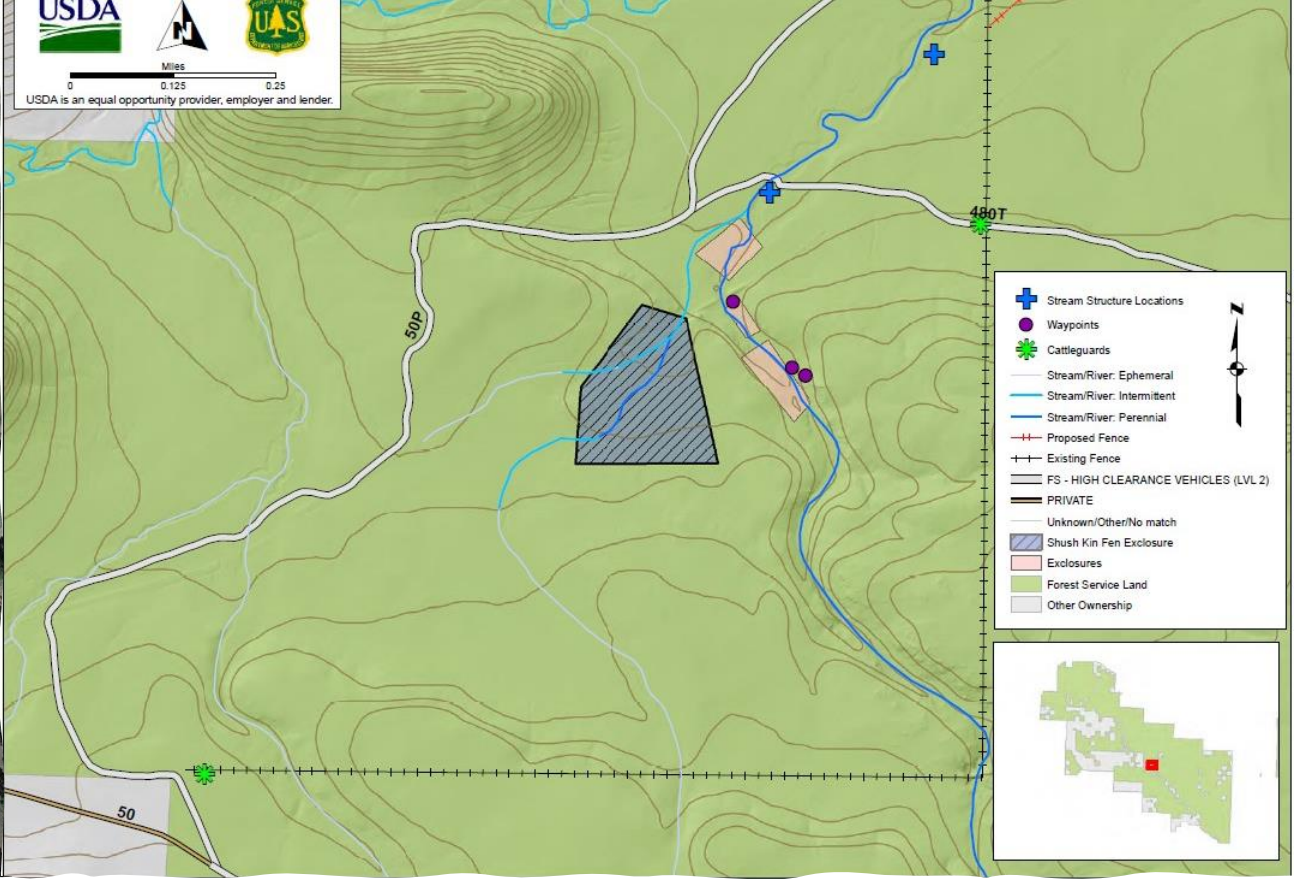
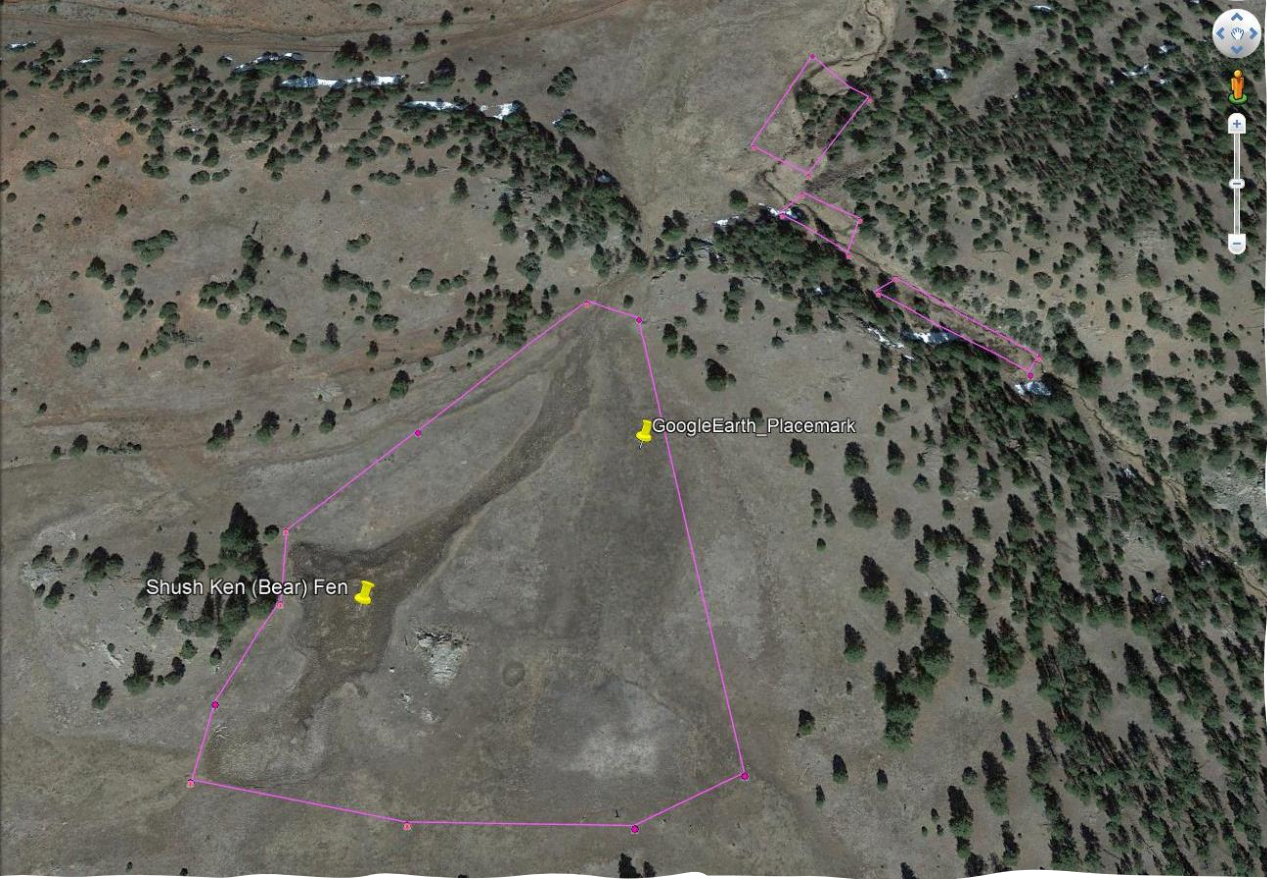




# Mexican Spotted Owl Inventory and Monitoring 2021-2022 field seasons.







# Shush Kin Fen Project

Includes Fen (wet meadow) & Spring Fenced Enclosures, In-stream structures such as rock dams, beaver dam analogs, log structures, or other similar structures within the stream channel.



## Restoration of Hummocks in the Fen

- Frost or hydrologic heaving occurs when soil pores contain free water that freezes . Removal of vegetation and compaction exaggerate the effects of freezing resulting in hummocks or small mounds that become isolated. As impacts increase, these hummocks can detach and the fen dries out





# Hummock Restoration

- Grant with NMED to try different methods to restore hummocks
  - Filling in between hummocks with native soil
  - ‘Smashing’ hummocks to fill in spaces in between
  - Other methods





# Heritage Updates

McGaffey: Clearance Complete

Tampico Draw: Clearance Complete

Puerco Southeast: Clearance Complete

Bread Springs: Survey and Clearance In Progress with IDIQ Contractors

Drew/Perea: In Progress: Clearance anticipated 01 JULY

State/Lost Lake/6-Mile/Turkey Springs: Survey Complete, Will begin writing clearance after Drew/Perea

## Remaining Puerco Units:

NE Canyons – Survey Complete

Lop and Scatter Only – Exempt  
(can be written when needed)

RX Burns - TBD



N E W M E X I C O



Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department







# Mt. Taylor Fire





# Larger Organization for 2023

- Mt. Taylor IHC

- 25 personnel
- 2 Captain system
- 3 Squad Bosses
- 3 Leads
- 7 seniors
- 9 Temps
- 16 PFT's total

- District Fire

- 1-Operations AFMO
- 1- Fuels AFMO
- 1-Prevention Tech
- 2 -Type 6 Engines 3 personnel all PFT
- 1- Wildland Fire Module 5 PFT 5 TEMP
- 3 –lookouts + 1 relief
- 1-type 2 I/A or Type 2 AD program Acoma



# 2022 Stats

- Mt. Taylor Hotshots

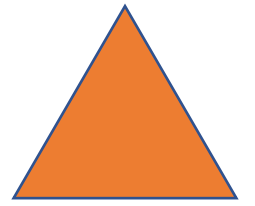
- 108 days assigned to incidents
- Six 14 day assignments
- 6 task books initiated
- 4 task books completed
- 56,100 miles driven
- Non-injury accidents 3
- Injury accidents 4 (no lost time)
- 6 days out of service due to COVID

- District Fire

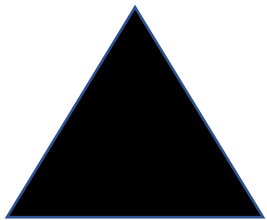
- 15 initial attack fires
- Bandera fire extended attack 1000 + acres
- E-622 two out of region assignments
- E-623 Three out of region assignments
- Crew 32 two out of region assignments
- Prevention 32 Stage 3 restrictions full district closure



# 2022 Fuels stats current and planned



- 2022 Rx implementation 150 acres Copperton block 5. windy spring then a national RX pause
- planned for 2023  
Copperton/Sawyer-2,395 acres



- 2024-East La Jara-989 acres  
Black Mesa Block one-3529 acres
- 2025-Monighan-3732 acres
- 2026-Black Mesa Block two-3535 acres
- 2027-Puerco-2000 acres Black Mesa block three-1783 acres



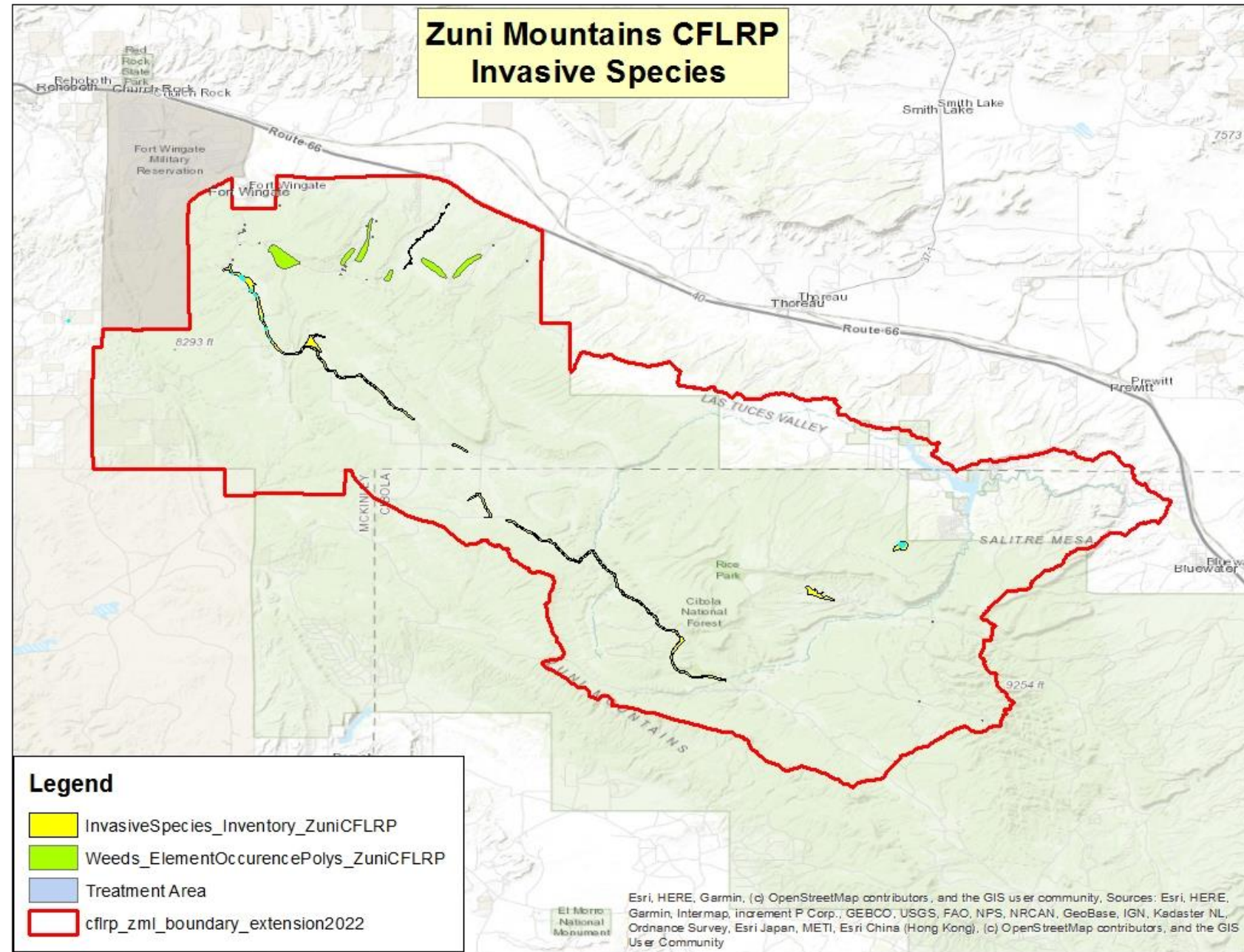
# Recreation / Trails

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- Completed the Milk Ranch Trailhead at no cost to FS working with trail partners and McKinley County Road Department under the ZMPT partnership agreement.
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- Completed 16 miles of the McKenzie Ridge trail to standard utilizing New Mexico Recreation Trail Program funds.
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- McKinley County has scheduled 17 miles of trail construction this summer to finish the McKenzie Ridge connector trail.



# Invasive Species Inventory Planned for 2023

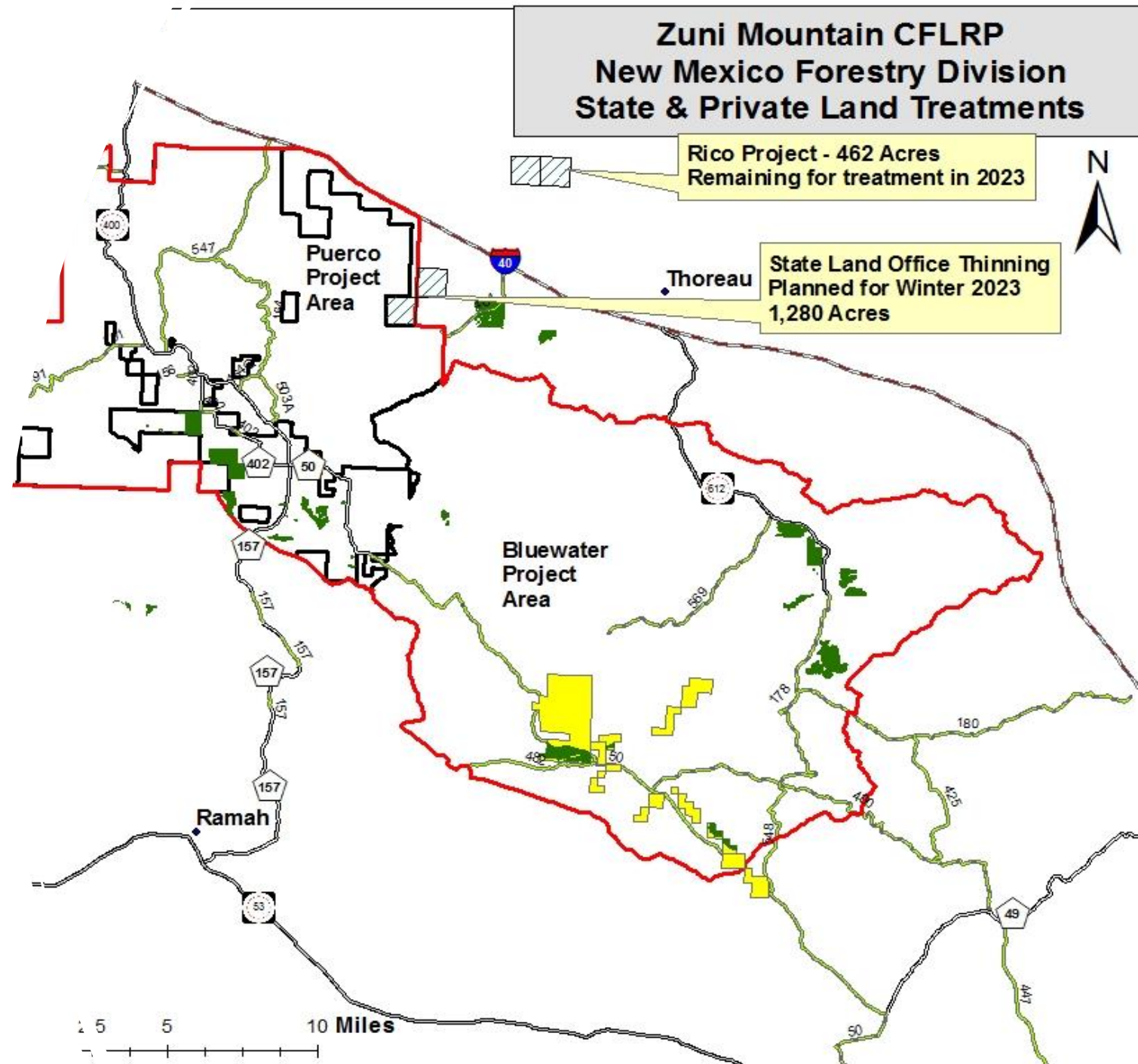
- ✓ Current Inventory includes mostly thistles with some field bindweed, yellow sweetclover, mullein, and Russian olive.
- ✓ Revisit and update affected areas
- ✓ Map new areas
- ✓ Hand treatments?





# On-going, Planned & Historical Work

- Phase one of the Zuni Mountains Landscape Restoration takes place within the Bluewater Stewardship portion of the Forest Service CFLRP
- Bernalillo District has identified nine landowners over approximately 4500 acres to connect Forest Service treatments with private lands
- Approximately 500 acres have been treated with a goal of an additional 500 acres+/year





# Forest Steward's Guild Agreement Update

## Two Agreements:

1. Zuni Mountain CFLRP Monitoring & Collaboration (expires 9/30/2023)
2. Building Capacity for Prescribed Fire in the Zuni Mountains (expired 9/30/2021)

Working to combine both of these into one, more comprehensive agreement by June 2023.

