

Arapaho and Roosevelt National Forest, Sulphur Ranger District
Update to Town of Grand Lake; 04/22/2024
Eric Freels, Sulphur District Ranger

Overview of current staffing and ARP topics.

- ARP Leadership update
 - SRD has been hosting a bi-monthly open house on the 1st/3rd Thursday of the month. 1:30-4:30. Ranger and staff are available for questions or assistance. Plan to continue moving forward. 2-3 people on average have been coming in.
1. New CG Concessionaire; Vista Recreation
 - a. Will be overseeing all APR campgrounds.
 - b. Plans to open Willow Crk. Campground this summer
 - c. Moderate fee increases in 2025; campers will not be required to pay ANRA fee for camping. Will need to pay ANRA fee for day use.
 2. Winter Snowmobile Season
 - a. Issues or concerns?
 - b. Grand Lake Trail Groomers did an excellent job – as always.
 - c. SAR had many responses – did a great job. We are updating our MOU with the SAR team.
 3. ANRA
 - a. Will continue to work with GL on point park and hilltop day use areas. Thank you for the continued support!
 - i. Can we coordinate on fishing piers at Point Park?
 - ii. Does the town have the capacity to grade hilltop parking area a couple times a year?
 - iii. Buoys at point park – can install again if needed.
 - iv. Questions or concerns?
 - b. Having conversations with 3 lakes technical committee on macrophyte/weed issue in Shadow Mt. Reservoir.
 - i. Plan to monitor and assess this summer.
 - ii. “Floating Mats” on SMR – how are they forming. How to remove.
 - iii. USFS has a weed harvester, not suitable to address the need. Could possibly be used for “mat” removal.
 - iv. ANRA/USFS has capacity issues in recreation program. Cannot commit resources to address issue as may be needed. Working with BOR/NW and others to formulate a strategy.
 - v. NW does not believe this is causing any issues with GL clarity.
 4. Fire Recovery
 - a. We are continuing work to address recovery in the ET fire scar.
 - i. Plan to Plant ~250,000 trees in the ET and WF fire scar areas. 1,140 acres in ET scar; 210 acres in WF scar. (See attached map).
 1. Continue to work with partners – American Forests/CSU/NW – to assess high priority needs in the fire scar area.

- ii. Working on plans for grass/forbs regeneration
 - 1. Will be implementing a grass/forb nucleation project in the ET fire scar (see map #4).
 - iii. Trail assessment in WF and ET fire scar will be done this summer.
 - 1. Intent is to evaluate existing infrastructure/conditions. Contractor will provide a report on what is needed to re-open.
 - a. OHV work on SRD and the state. Unable to staff the state-wide OHV crew this year.
 - b. We have 3 of the 4 OHV funded positions vacant. Grand Lake OHV crew lead hopefully coming on board this summer.
 - c. We will continue to do work where we can and open trails.
 - iv. Have four projects planned in coordination with Northern Water in 2024 (see map)
 - 1. Kauffman Crk. Culvert replacement near HWY 125.
 - 2. Stillwater #2 and #3 repairs. Will close Stillwater road temporarily later in the summer.
 - 3. Willow Creek stream improvement
 - v. Assessing areas for 2025 projects this summer.
 - 1. North and South Supply Roads.
 - 2. Kauffman Crk. Road damage
 - 3. Upper Kinney Creek road blow-out
- 5. Fire Preparedness/Fuel mitigation.
 - a. Working on finalizing a decision document for work on the Blue Ridge/Bid Meadows area. (see map #5).
 - b. Will work with partners and internal staff to identify first steps and potential funding sources.
 - c. Working with GCWC to formulate an implementation plan across Grand County to assess areas of concern.
 - d. Working with County, Northern Water and other partners on a “Wildfire Ready Action Plan” (WRAP). This is being led by the county and will likely have overlap with the other efforts to address and mitigate fire concerns.
- 6. Questions – concerns???

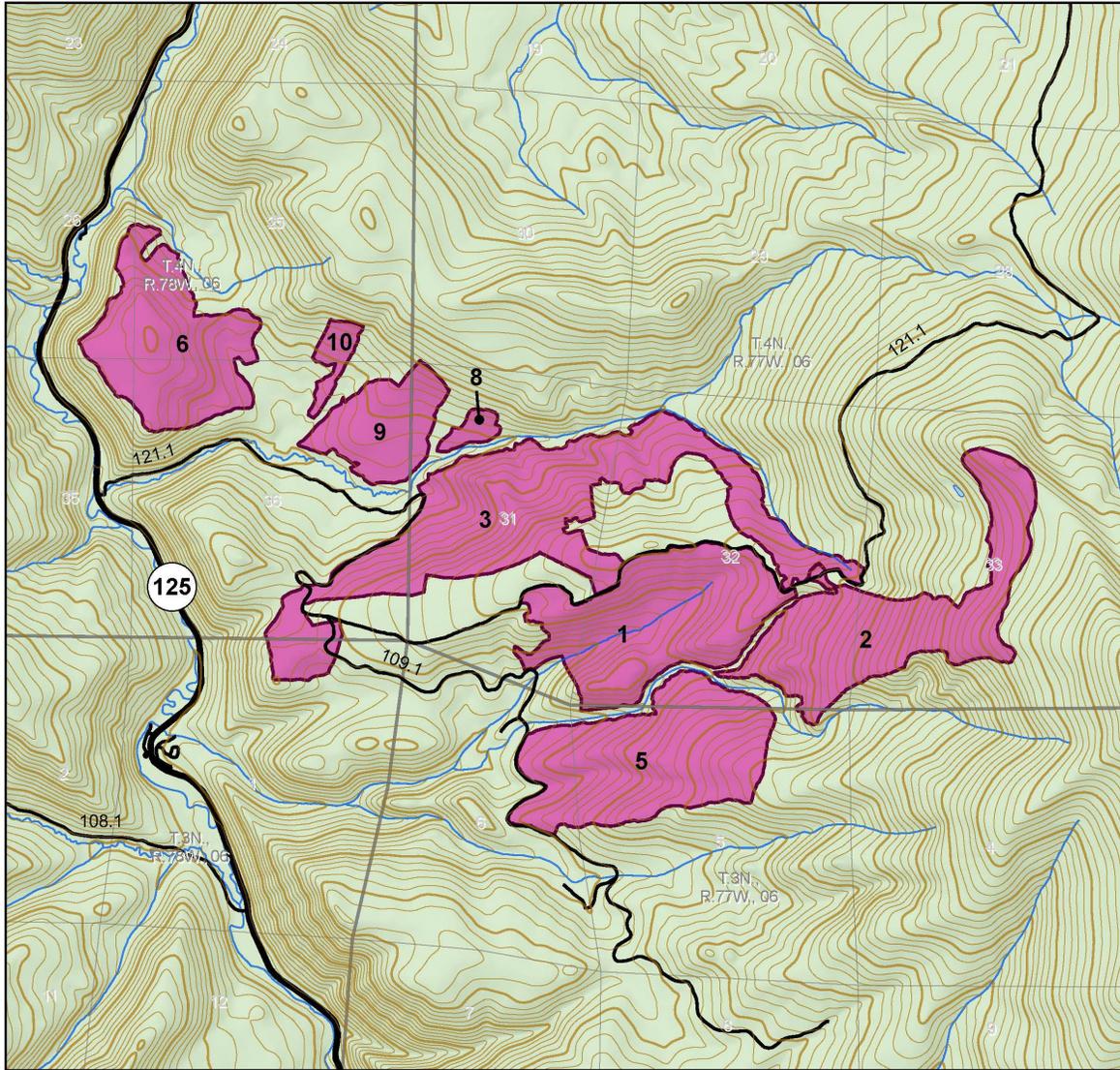
Map 1.



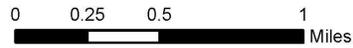
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East Troublesome FY2024 Planting Unit Areas



- East Troublesome Reforestation Unit
- National Forest System Land
- State Highway
- National Forest System Road



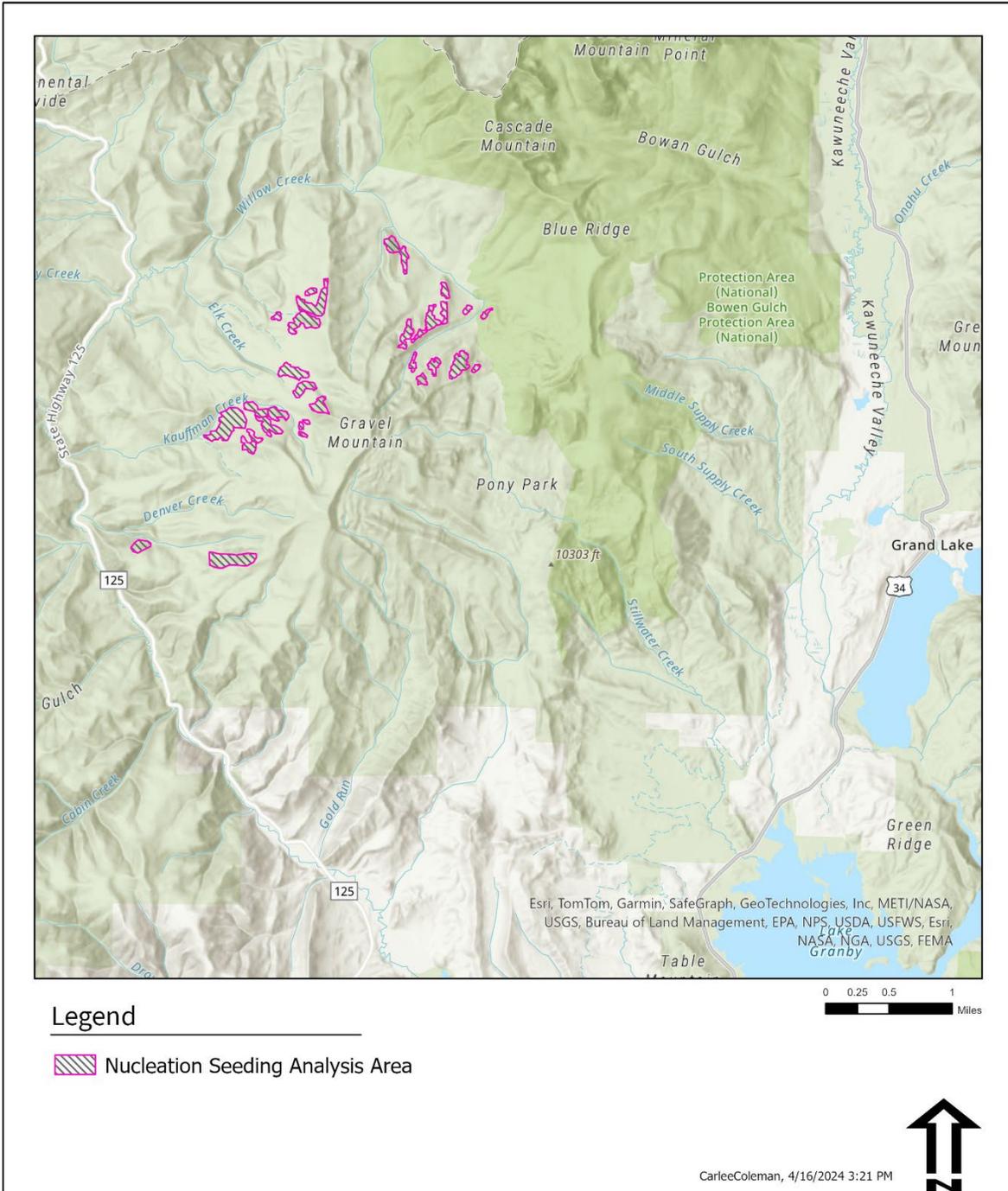
Map 2.



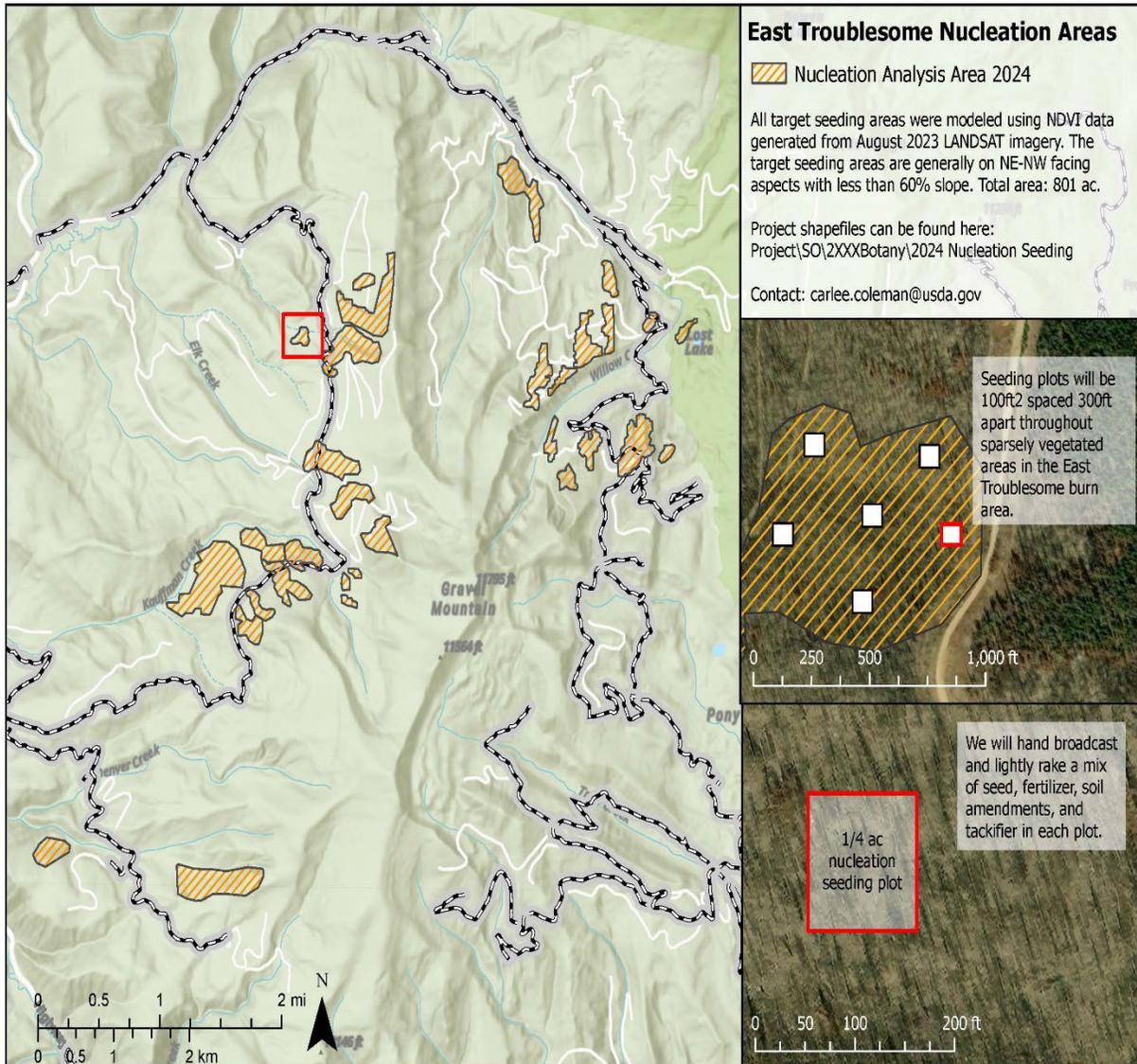
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East Troublesome Nucleation Seeding Areas

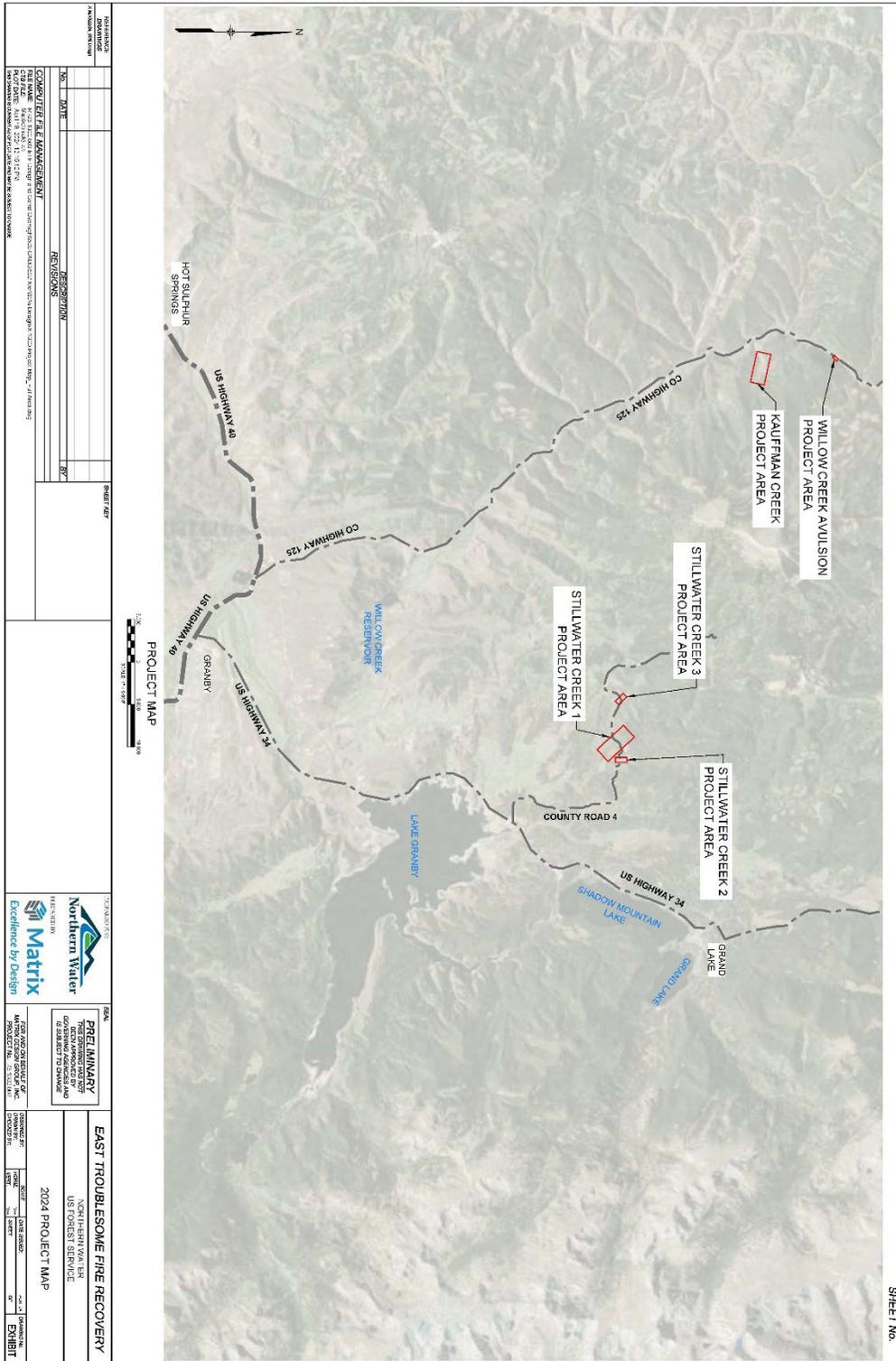
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Map 3.



Map 4.



SHEET NO.

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EAST TROUBLESPOT FIRE RECOVERY

2024 PROJECT MAP

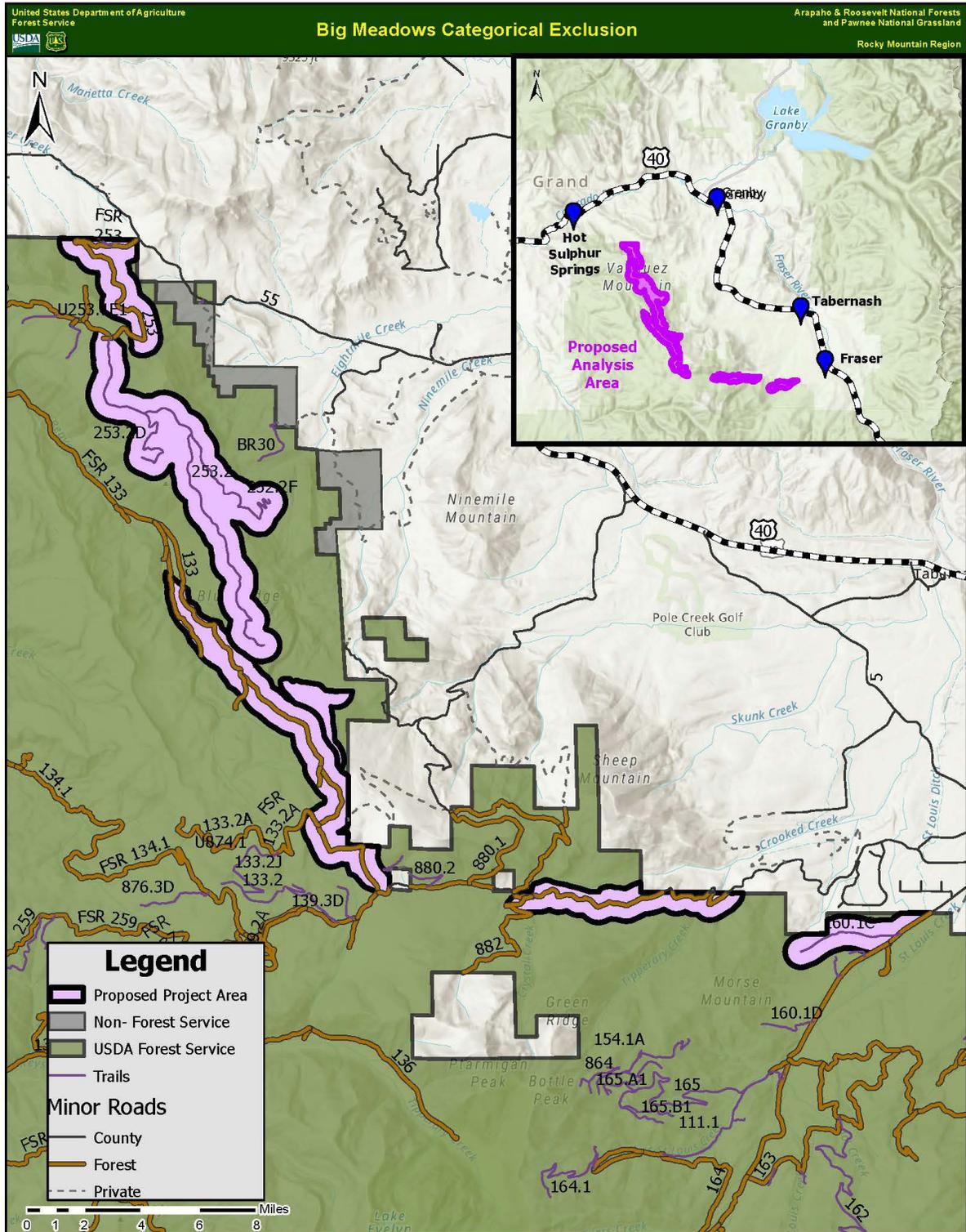
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PROJECT MAP

Map 5.



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