



Collins Creek Prescribed fire: Information and Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

The U.S. Forest Service is planning to conduct a prescribed fire in the Collins Creek area this spring. The prescribed fire is part of the Aspen-Sopris Wildlife Habitat Improvement Project and seeks to improve habitat across the landscape for elk, mule deer, and other native wildlife.

Where, when and how long will the burn occur?

Where: See the attached map. Prescribed fire will be ignited across some 1,500 acres in targeted blocks of aspen and shrub vegetation that is decadent, of poor condition, and degraded forage value.

When: A prescribed fire is a planned event. The project will be implemented when conditions are ideal for a safe and effective prescribed fire. Conditions are considered suitable when the snow has sufficiently melted off the targeted area and all other surrounding areas still retain moisture and snow. These conditions typically occur in April or early May. Other environmental factors such as wind, temperature, and relative humidity are key elements to a successful controlled ignition. If conditions are not favorable, the project will be delayed.

Duration: Ignition will take place over a 1-3 day period. During this time, ignition operations typically last 6-8 hours per day. Once ignition operations cease, crews will remain to monitor and contain fire spread.

What to expect during the prescribed fire?

Signs will be posted prior to the event. On the days of the burn please do not call 911 if you see flames or smoke in this area. There may be large volumes of smoke visible at times and people may even see flames. You can expect to see fire engines and crews, and possibly a helicopter over the fire. Personnel will be posted for public safety. Little to no fire will be visible overnight.

Recreation and trail use: For your own safety, please refrain from recreating in the area until it is declared safe. Updates will be available at the White River National Forest Twitter account @WhiteRiverNews, the White River National Forest website: <http://www.fs.usda.gov/whiteriver>, or by calling the Aspen-Sopris Ranger District at (970) 963-2266.

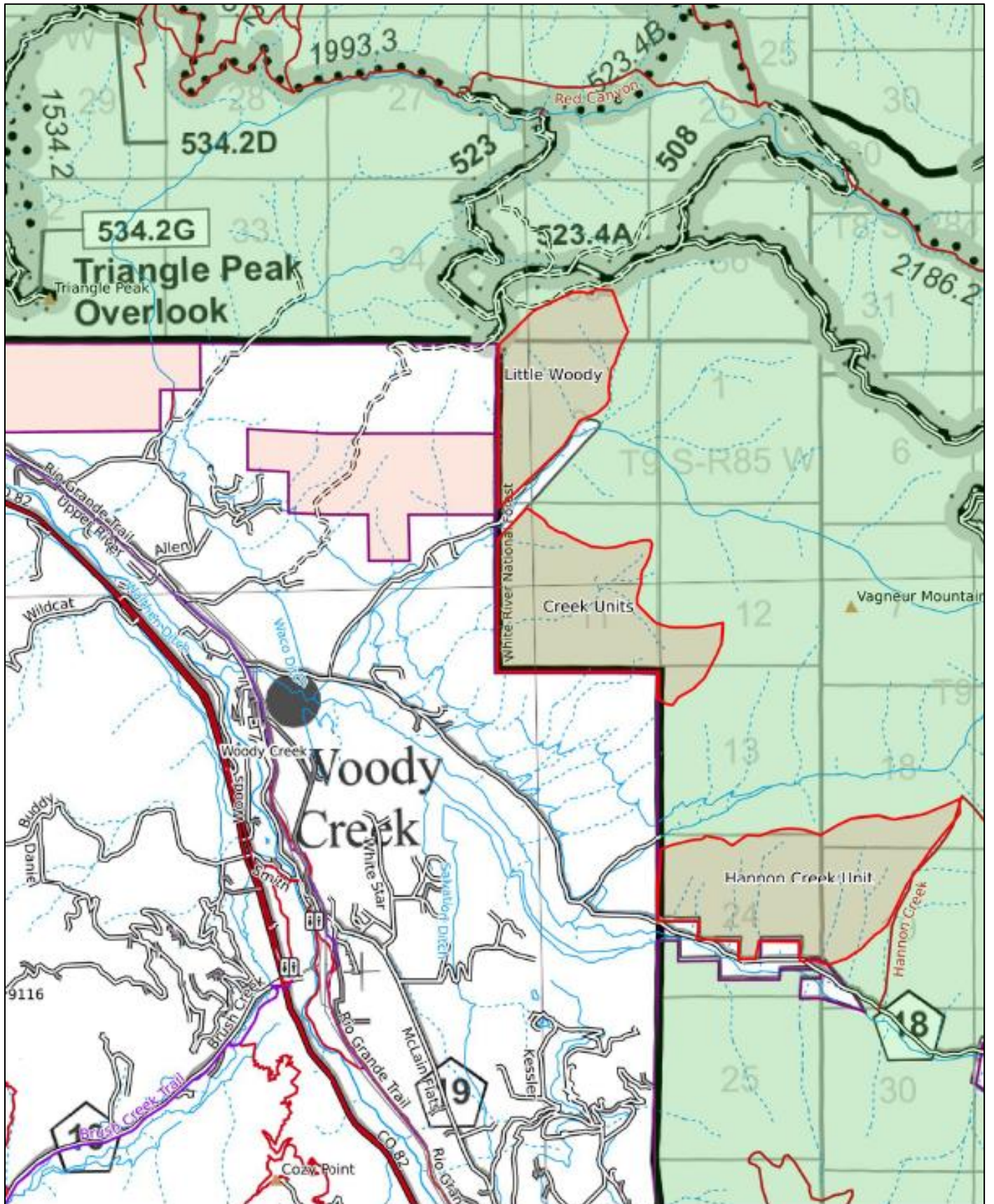
Smoke: Prior to burning, a smoke permit is obtained through the State of Colorado, Air Pollution Control Division. A project objective is to minimize smoke impacts on surrounding communities.

If you have a smoke sensitivity, please contact the District office at (970) 963-2266 so that we can keep you informed of smoke conditions. Prescribed fire smoke may affect your health. For more information, please visit: <https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/cdphe/wood-smoke-and-health>.

Drones: Are illegal around fire operations. They are a threat to firefighter and public safety. **NO Drone Zone.**

Where can I get more information and sign up for alerts?

- Real-time updates will be available on Twitter @WhiteRiverNews or @UCRFireCenter
- Aspen-Sopris Ranger District at (970) 963-2266,
- Aspen Fire Department at (970) 925-5532
- Pitkin County Alert System: Information will be disseminated via the Pitkin Alert system. To sign up for the alert system visit www.PitkinAlert.org.
- Garfield and Eagle County Alert Systems: The Garfield and Eagle County alerts systems will also provide information during the prescribed fire. Visit: Garfield County: <http://garco911.org/>.



Mercator Projection
 WGS84
 UTM Zone 13S
 CALTOPO



MN
 8.6°