



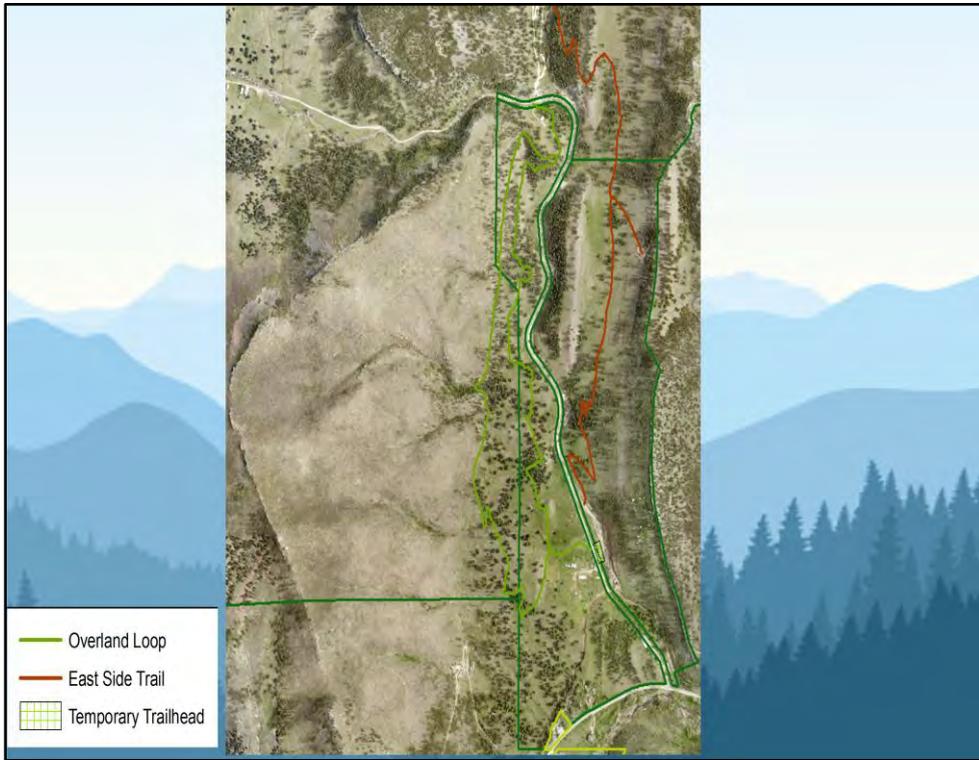
Heil 2 Management Updates

Heil 2 Small Area Plan Update

August 24, 2017

Existing Trail Management

- West Side Loop:
 - No closures proposed
- East Side Trail:
 - Proposal to limit access to cultural resources



Management Intent

- West side:
 - Protect ecologically sensitive areas
 - Develop trails to minimize disturbance
- East Side:
 - Minimize disturbance at cultural sites
 - Minimize trail impact in ecologically sensitive areas

East Side:

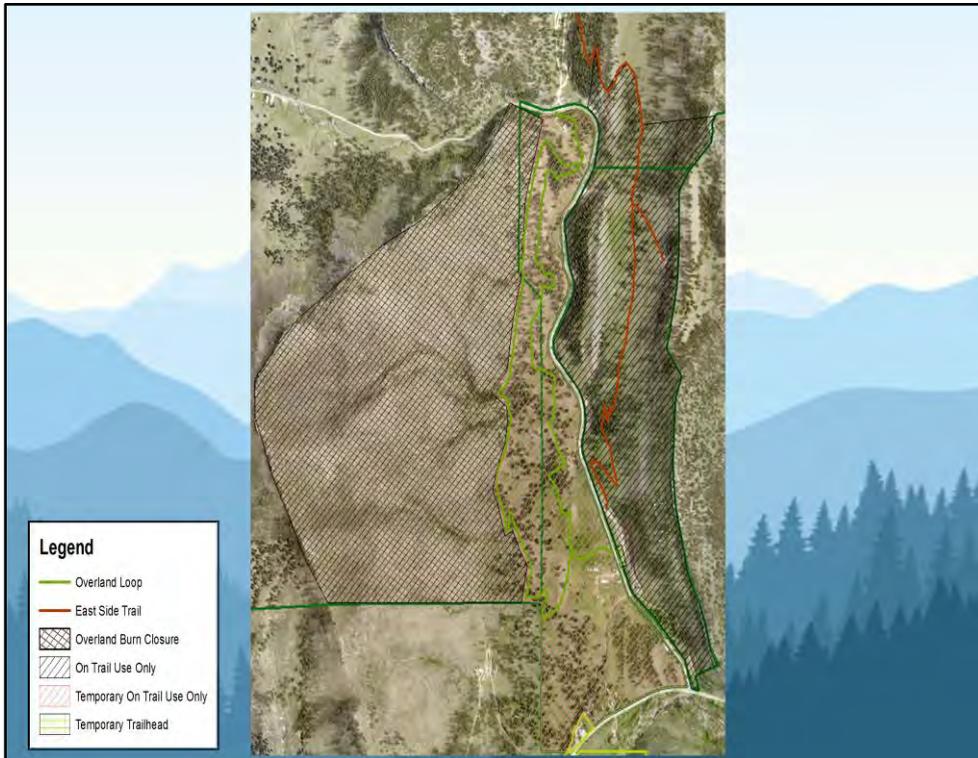
- Management Plan text: In the Plant Alliances Section plants on the east side of the property, the plan references the need to discourage off-trail use. This was meant to link up with text that stated that the east side trail was on-trail only.
- Public meeting statements: At both the POSAC and Public Hearings, I stated the desire to make the area on-trail use only





Proposed Management

- West side:
 - Temporarily close west side of Heil 2 during trail and facility construction.
 - Reopen to off-trail use.
 - Permanently close Overland Burn area on Heil Valley Ranch.
- East side:
 - On-trail use only to protect resources



Boulder County Area Multi-Agency Mobile Trails Application



Here to give you an update on mobile trails application project and ask for your support

Boulder County Current Mobile App



- Currently, only BCPOS trail data in apps
- Android & iOS version
- Can't update because both versions the code is deprecated and don't have skills in house – have to redevelop
- Don't have all of the current 356 trail line segments (78 missing)
- Many comments that request an app that included not just bcpos trails (on app sites, emailed comments, verbal)
- Since we had to redevelop our applications we decided to reach out to other agencies to see if they had interest in partnering in developing a multi agency mobile application
- The answer was yes

Project Vision

“Create a multi-agency, county-wide, interactive Boulder County mobile trail map application for the public”



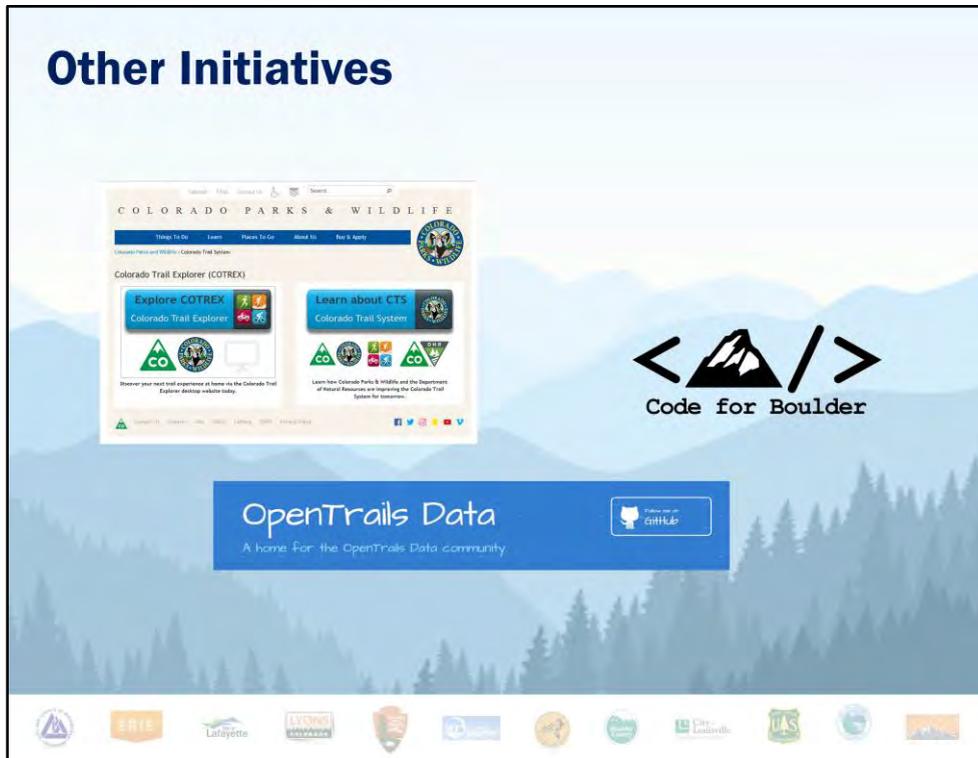
- Kicked off project in November 2015
- multi-agency
- Initially 11 agencies involved (currently 12 as Lyons joined a couple months ago)
- Because this project has been in process for so long Eric sent out letters of recommitment to each agency in April 2017 – all agencies responded favorably

Why?

- Connect local communities
- Provide access to all trail information in and around Boulder County
- Provide “one-stop shopping” for users
- Enable users to find trails by use or type
- Allow users to plan routes
- Link users to agency websites for more info
- Allow for offline mobile use
- Pool our resources

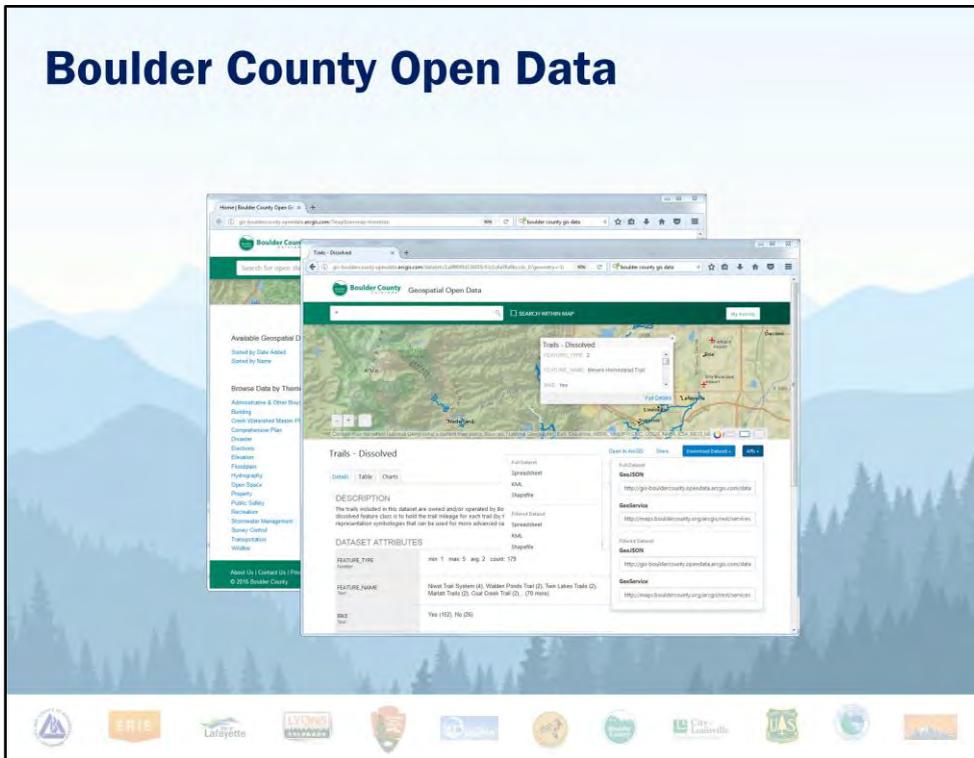


Other Initiatives



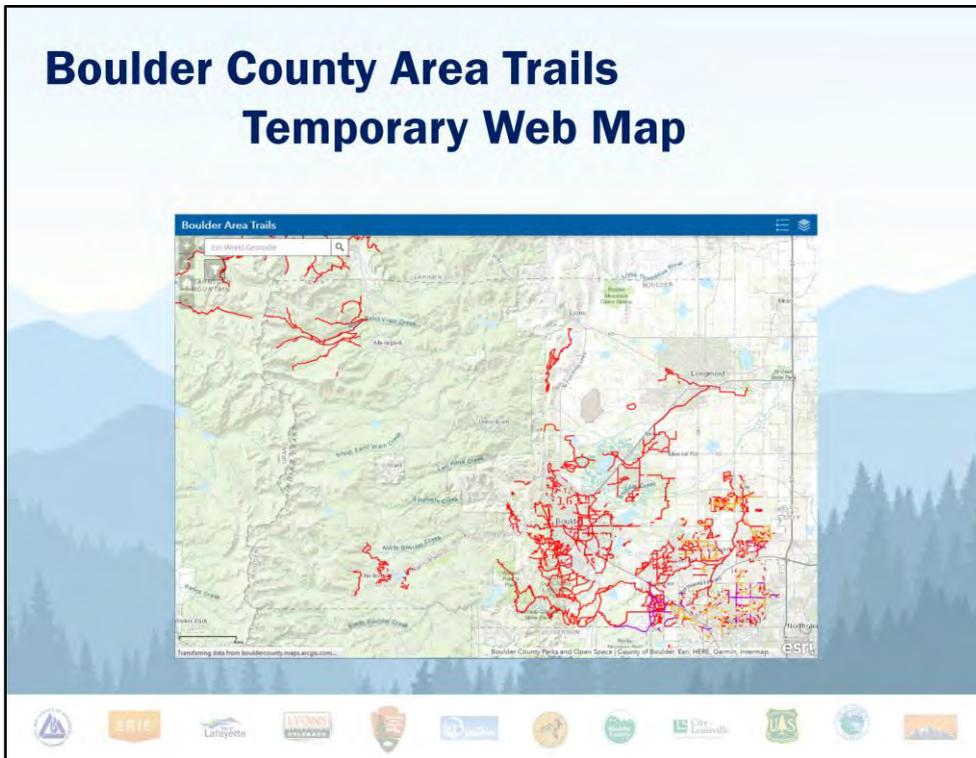
- We continue to stay involve in these projects, as well as others that may come along
- But we don't feel that they meet our long term needs
- As a bit of an aside, next slide

Boulder County Open Data



- The data that we are using in this project, as well as other data, both GIS data and non GIS data is available to the public
- The county is committed to providing open data, open data is:
 - released and available for the general public;
 - easy to locate;
 - in formats that are modifiable, non-proprietary and machine-readable;
 - licensed to enable reuse and redistribution, without restriction; and
 - available at no cost to users.

Boulder County Area Trails Temporary Web Map



- Over the last 2 years we have worked on bringing all agencies' data together into a common data schema/structure. We are still working on this, but have made great progress.
- Still to work on: integrating dog regulations, USFS, Switzerland Trail, finalizing Nederland and Broomfield data, closure data
- Sounds like a lot still to do – but very close
- Brought it into an online web map – very stripped down, no bells and whistles, but allows us to view the data in a web browser and easily assess the status of the data

How Do We Get To A Single Multi-Agency Mobile App?

Obtain letters of support from partners for grant

Apply for grant

Rally support from POSAC, other agency boards, user groups, community

Send out RFP for development of application

Move forward as a team



- Grants not guaranteed
- Letter of request – for support for grant or money if we do not receive the grant
- Also need support from partners for time & energy from partners (attend meetings, drum up public support, etc)

Elk and Vegetation Management Plan

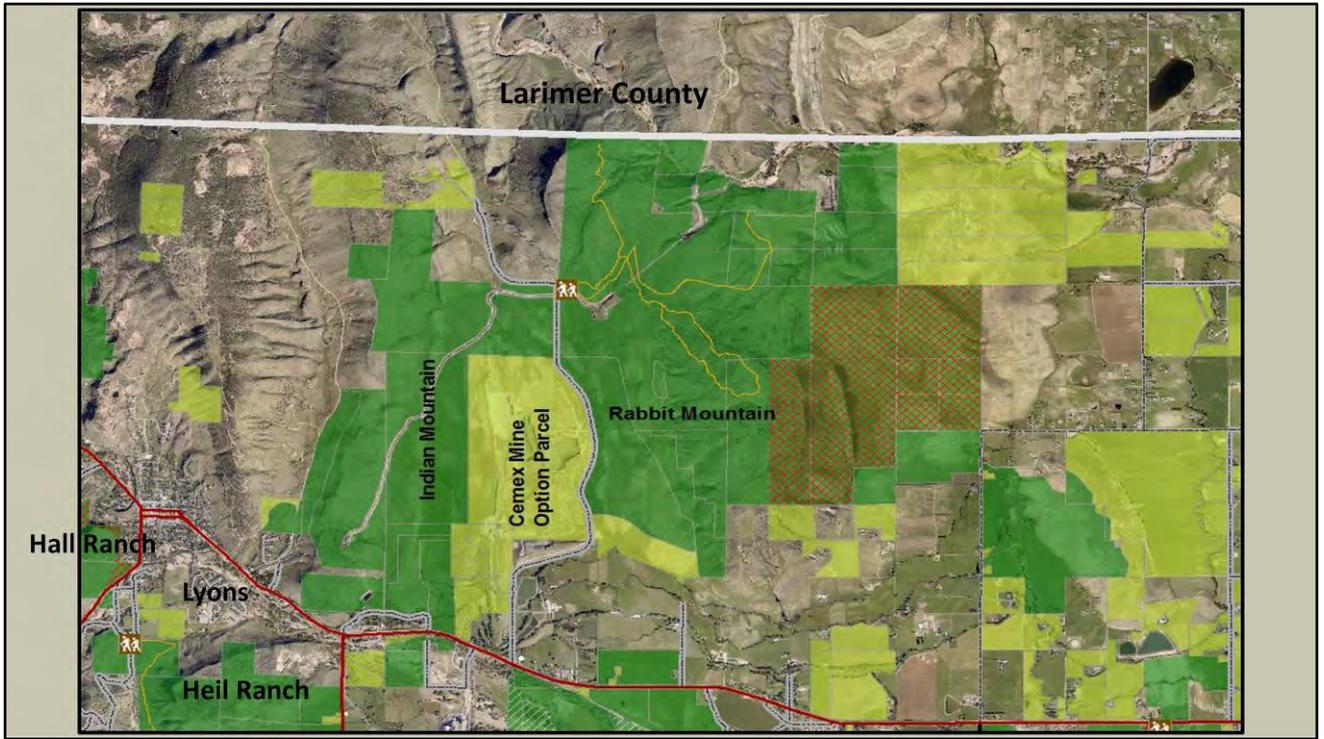
**Ron Stewart Preserve at
Rabbit Mountain Open Space**



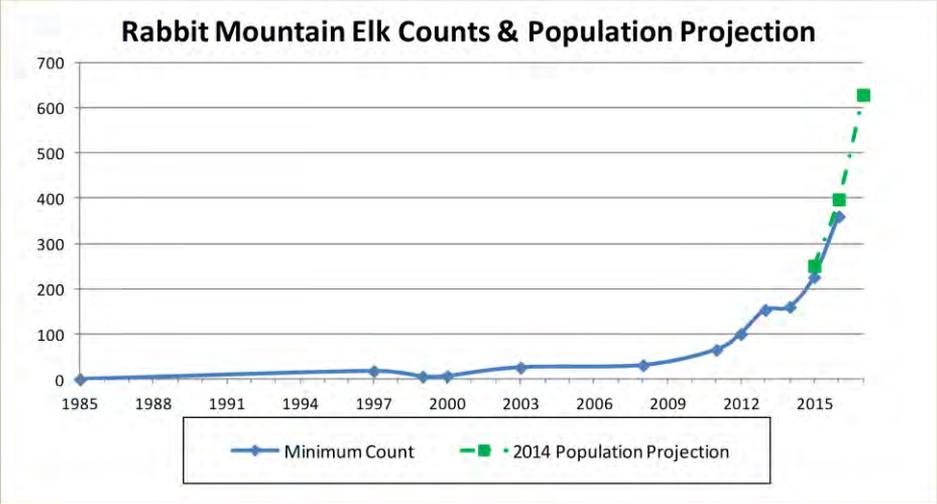
Goal of Elk and Vegetation Management Plan

- **Reduce Resource Impacts**
- **Reestablish migration**
- **Reduce long-term population to 30-70**
- **Reduce private land impacts**

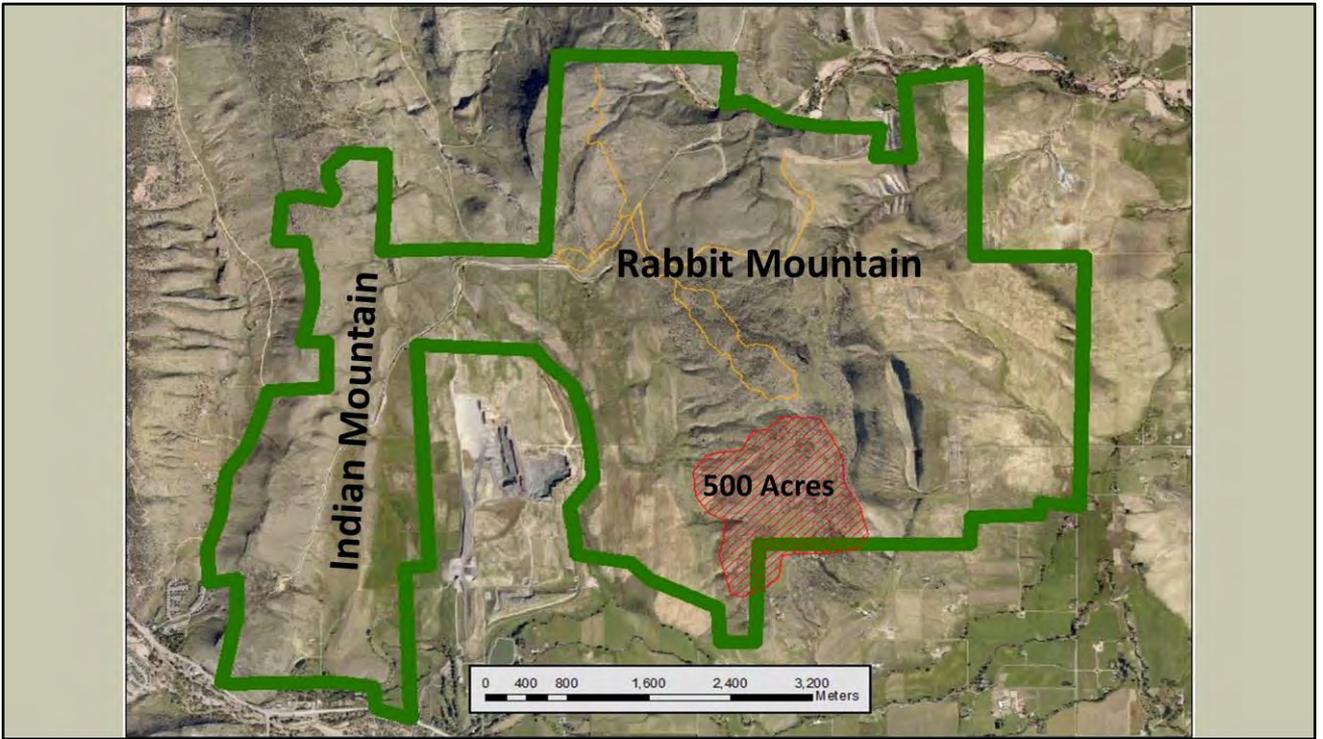


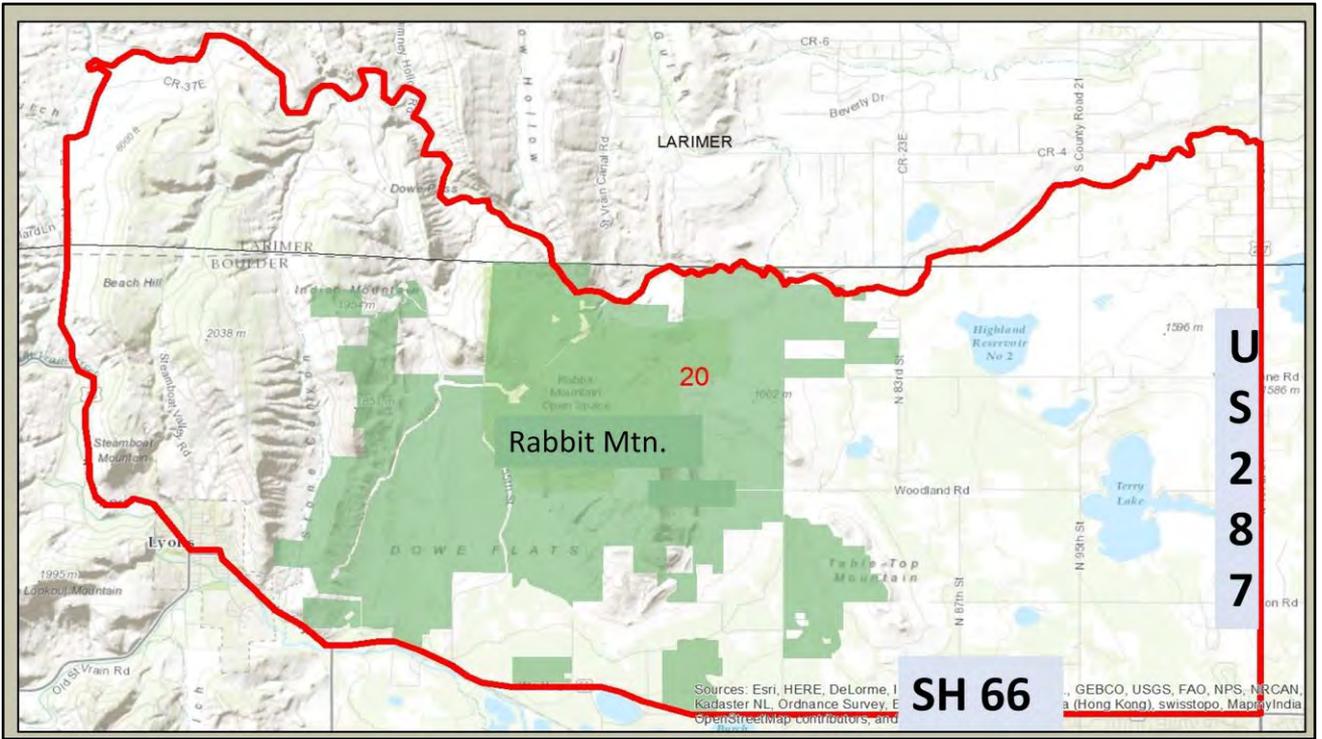


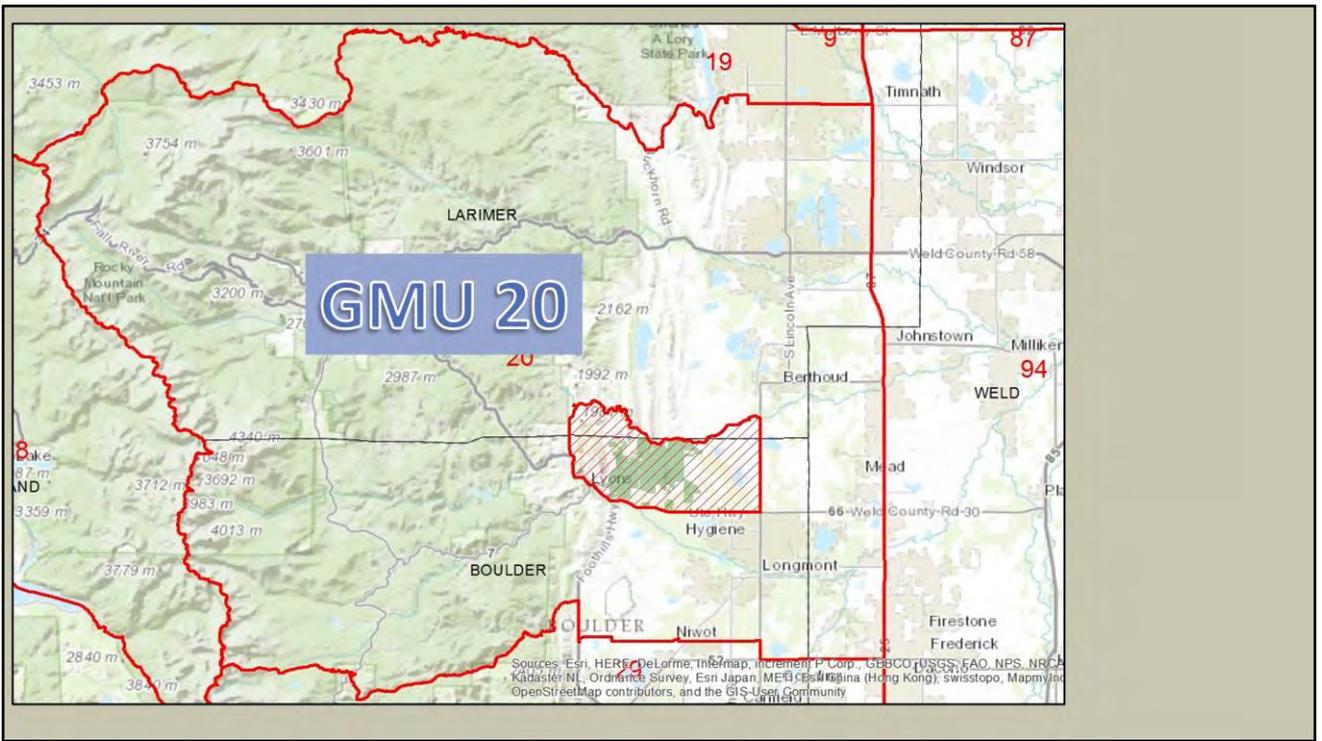
Elk Population Growth and Projections











Modifications of Plan

- Length of plan – 3 Years
- Fencing
- Hazing
- Data Collection
- Adaptive Management
- Communications
- Current Hunting Updates



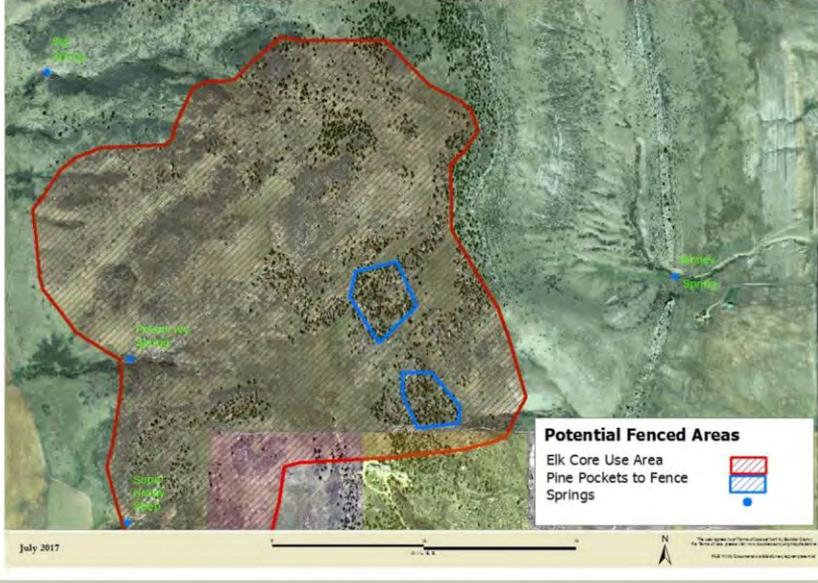
Fencing

- Use fence for vegetation protection
- Two areas – 6 acres and 3.5 acres
- Install after hunting season – spring 2018



Ron Stewart Preserve Potential Fencing Areas

Parks & Open Space



Vegetation Fencing



Hazing

- Purpose is to create disturbance
- Encourage elk to move north and west off Ron Stewart Preserve and Indian Mountain
- First use people, then cracker shells or blanks



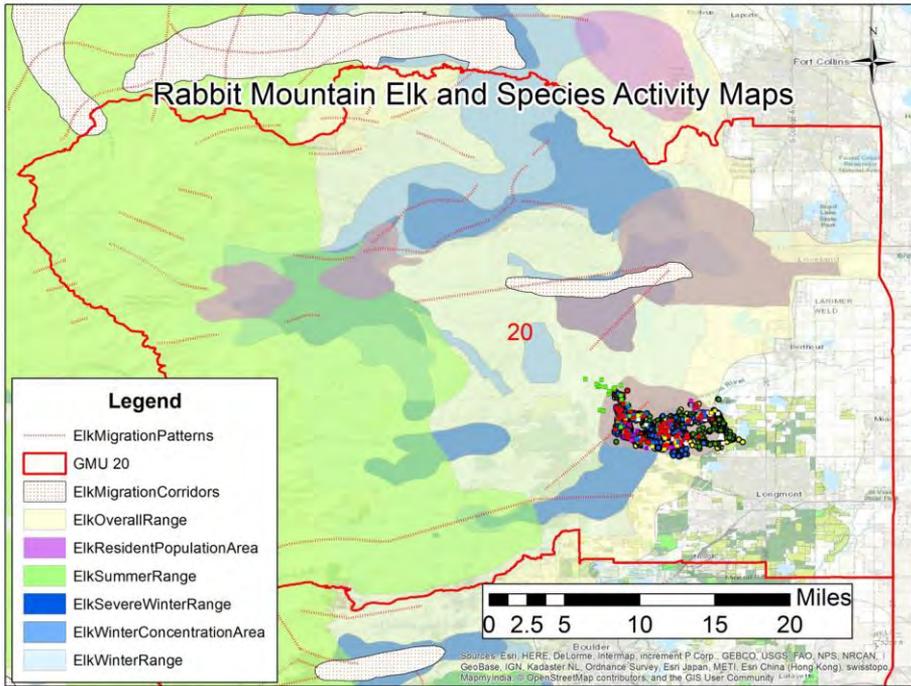
Hazing



- Will use it during the hunting season unless it is not necessary
- Continue February > mid-May by staff
- Monitor elk movements – get them to mix with GMU 20 elk
 - Team: CPW Wildlife Biologist, DWM, Hunt Coordinator, BCPOS Wildlife Biologist and Ranger



Rabbit Mountain Elk and Species Activity Maps



Data Collection

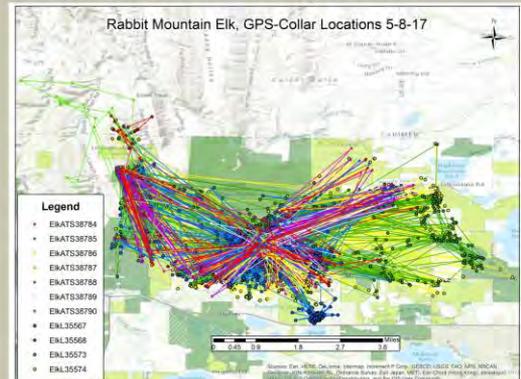
Monitor elk use and vegetation related to management
Inform adaptive management of elk and vegetation



The purpose of data collection is to monitor elk use and vegetation in the area and understanding how management actions affect the elk and vegetation. The intent is to use this information to inform managers how to improve elk management and vegetation recovery. This ties into the adaptive management component of the elk and vegetation plan in that data collection will help inform managers of the most appropriate actions, while management actions will drive the information needs of the data collection process.

Data Collection

- Elk use
- Elk distribution and movements
- Effects of hazing, fencing, hunting and the public harvest program
- Vegetation monitoring



Information gathered during data collection includes the following:

Data Collection

Coordinated ground surveys

- Goal of 30 – 70 elk



One of the primary tools of data collection will be coordinated ground surveys. For three years, coordinated grounds survey will be conducted to estimate elk use. Monthly surveys will begin around August and run through April. Surveys will provide a minimum count of elk using the area. The highest survey count during the December – March surveys will be used to evaluate progress towards the 30 – 70 elk target. Surveys will also provide estimates of the herd's productivity, through the observed calf: cow ratio. Surveys will help to investigate the effects hazing, fencing, hunting and the public harvest program.

Data Collection



GPS collars

For three years, distribution and movements of elk will be monitored with GPS collars. Collars will also aid in the monthly surveys. Similar to the monthly surveys, monitoring the GGPS collars will also help evaluate the effects hazing, fencing, hunting and the public harvest program.

Data Collection

year	spec	DA	season	Gf	r	mhun	fhun	thun	mal	femal	myou	fyou	stfemal	tanim	tda
2016	E	9	COWELK2	020	R	0	19	19	0	0	0	0	0	0	70
2016	E	9	COWELK3	020	N	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	1	1	1
2016	E	9	COWELK3	020	R	0	16	16	0	0	0	0	0	0	94
2016	E	9	COWELK4	020	N	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	5
2016	E	9	COWELK4	020	R	0	10	10	0	2	0	0	2	2	29
2016	E	9	DAMELK	020	R	0	7	7	0	4	0	0	4	4	7
2016	E	9	ELIMBOW	020	N	0	0	20	5	1	0	0	1	6	151
2016	E	9	ELIMBOW	020	R	5	9	88	11	3	0	0	3	14	821
2016	E	9	ELIMMLR	020	N	12	0	12	3	0	0	0	0	3	69
2016	E	9	ELIMMLR	020	R	20	13	33	3	3	0	0	0	0	164
2016	E	9	LELKL4	020	N	20	0	20	14	0	0	0	0	0	104
2016	E	9	LELKL4	020	R	35	28	63	9	7	0	0	0	0	164
2016	E	9	LELKL5	020	N	19	0	19	11	0	0	0	0	0	104
2016	E	9	LELKL5	020	R	33	0	33	25	0	0	0	0	0	164
2016	E	9	LELKL6	020	R	0	54	54	0	4	0	0	0	0	164
2016	E	9	LIMELK1	020	N	6	0	6	6	0	0	0	0	0	164
2016	E	9	LIMELK1	020	R	13	0	13	7	0	0	0	0	0	164
2016	E	9	LIMELK2	020	N	7	0	7	5	0	0	0	0	0	164
2016	E	9	LIMELK2	020	R	13	0	13	4	0	0	0	0	0	164
2016	E	9	LIMELK3	020	N	7	0	7	7	0	0	0	0	0	164
2016	E	9	LIMELK3	020	R	13	0	13	4	0	0	0	0	0	164
2016	E	9	LIMELK4	020	N	6	0	6	5	0	0	0	0	0	164
2016	E	9	LIMELK4	020	R	11	0	11	6	0	0	0	0	0	164
2016	E	9	PLOELKE1	020	N	0	16	16	0	8	0	0	0	0	164
2016	E	9	PLOELKE1	020	R	0	433	433	0	149	13	0	0	0	164



Public harvest program and hunting

Mandatory reporting for hunter participating in the public harvest program will provide information on hunting effort and harvest on the County's property.

In addition, CPW will survey all hunters with a subunit licenses to gain a better understanding of hunting effort and harvest in the greater area.

Data Collection

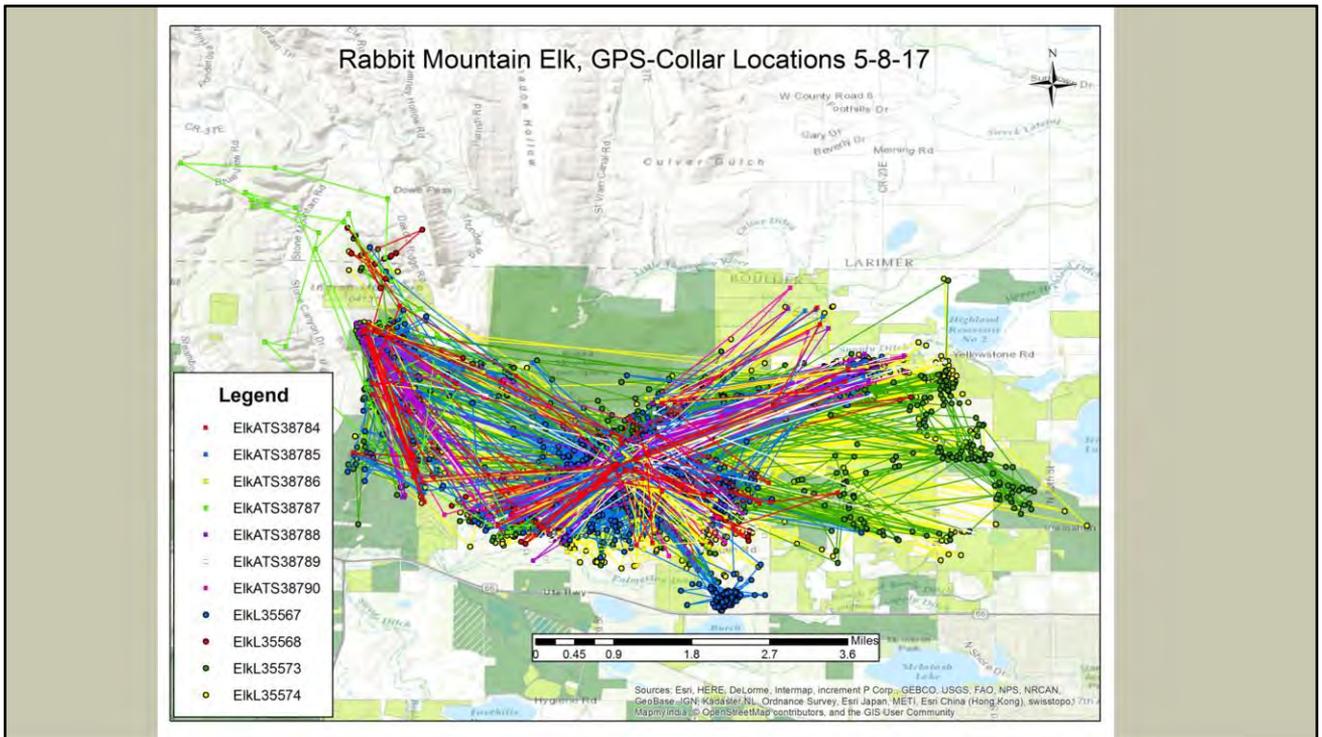


Vegetation Monitoring

Monitoring vegetation and shrub plots to compare the core use area, peripheries and control areas. Also, monitoring restoration efforts in pine pockets.

Monitoring every other year.

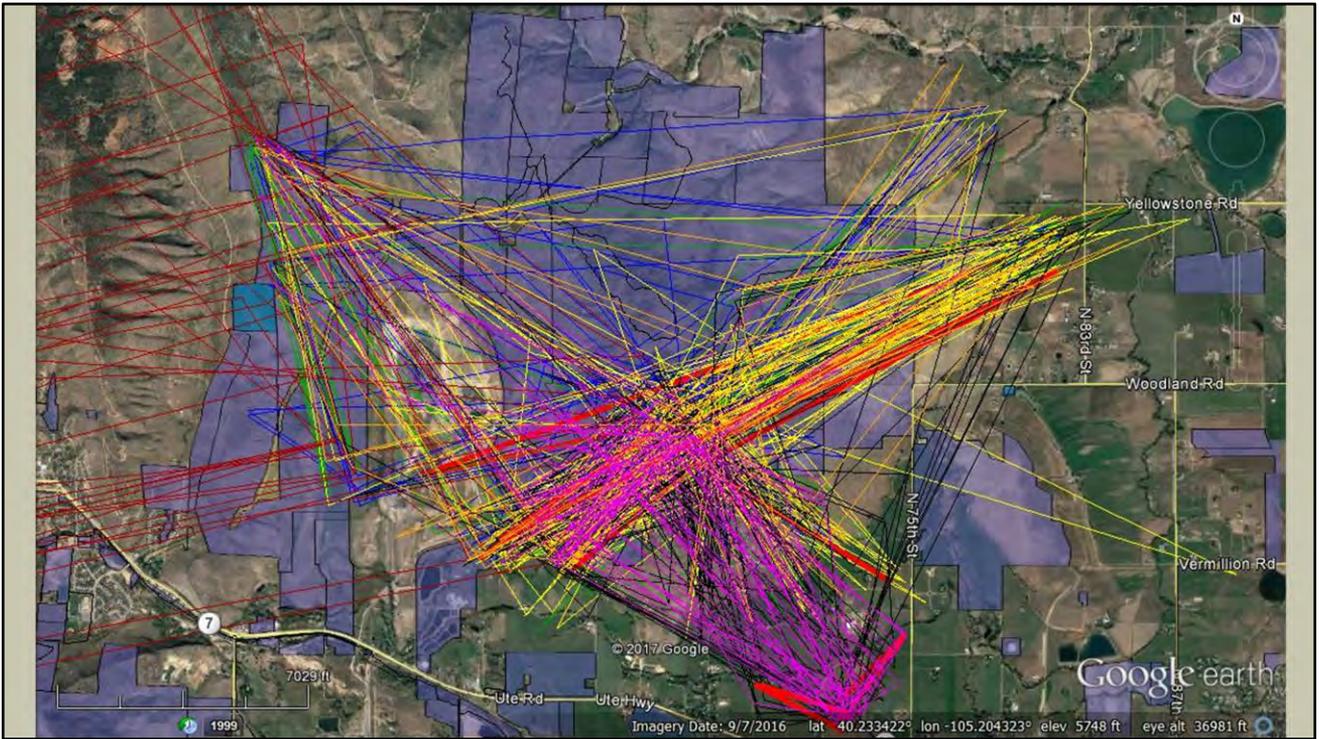
Adaptively adjust monitoring as/if elk use changes. Perhaps start monitoring on Indian Mountain.



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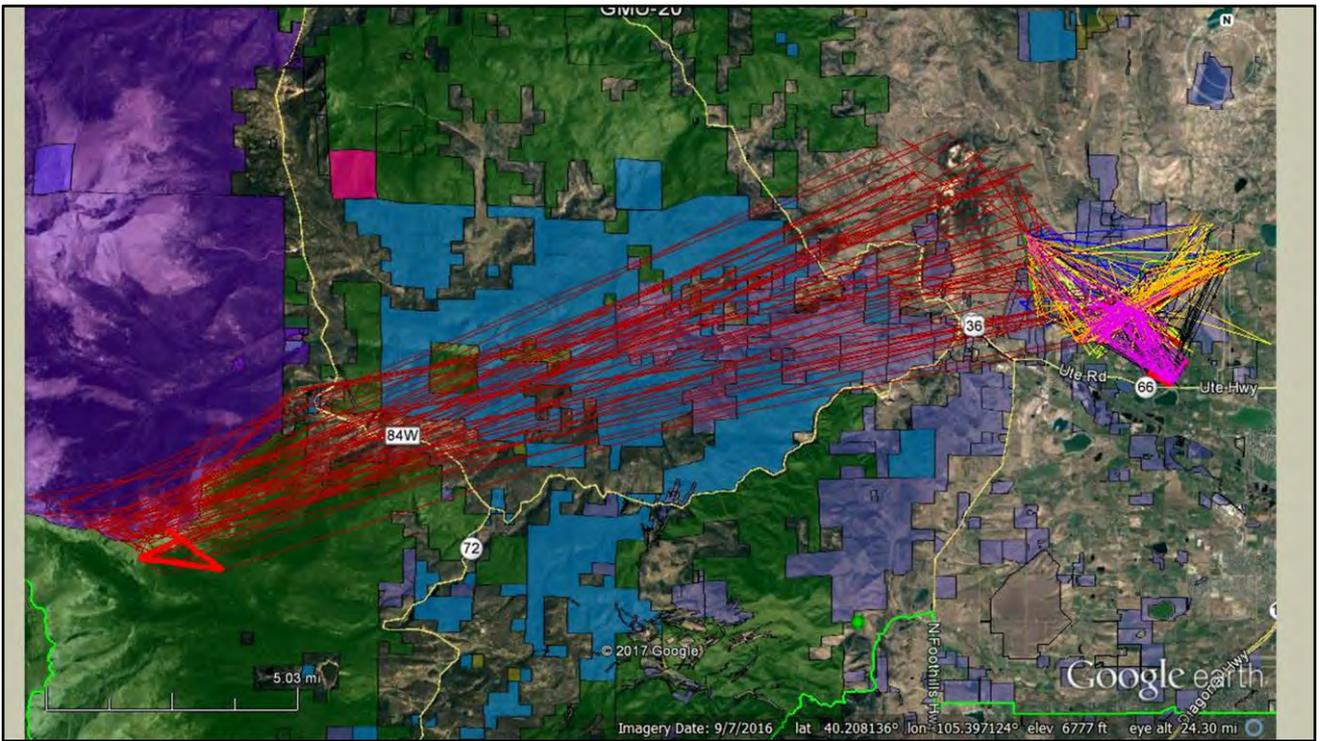
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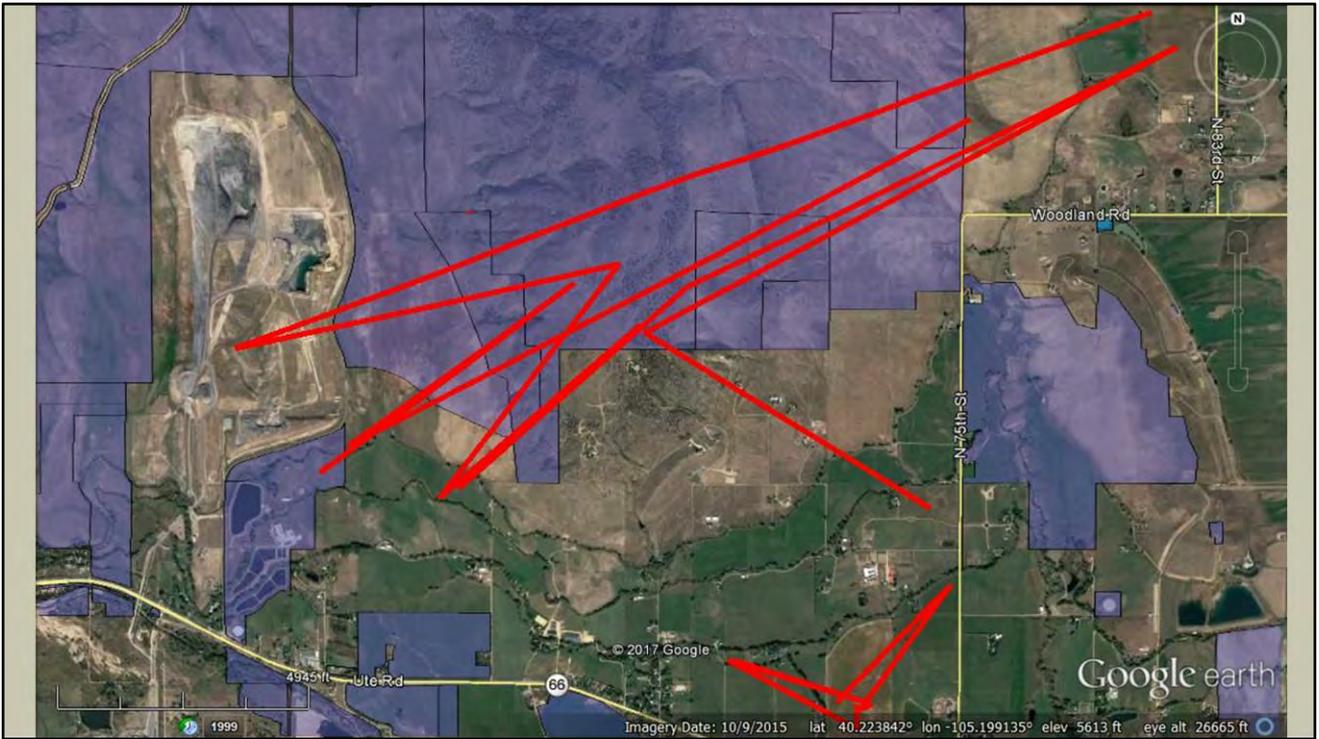
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Adaptive Management



- Implement
 - Hunting, fencing, hazing
- Monitor
 - Elk populations and movements
 - Hunting success
 - Vegetation recovery
 - Game damage claims
- Evaluate the results
- Modify plan accordingly

Adapt

- During first hunting season
 - Status quo
 - If elk become adapted to M-W, change days
 - Never more than 3 days/week
 - Haze during off weeks if necessary
- After first season
 - Use high winter counts to compare to objective
 - Determine if hunters/week is safe and effective
 - Use hazing during the off season
 - Reduce hunting times if possible
 - Minimize property closure

Adapt

- Annually
 - If elk numbers decreasing = Keep status quo until we meet objective
 - Maintain fences, add as necessary
 - If elk avoid hunting days = Modify days and numbers of hunters, never more than 3 days/week
 - Add radio collars to keep at 7
 - Invite other experts to review

Adapt



- Once at objective
 - What combination of hunting, fencing, hazing, and birth control will maintain the objectives
 - Minimize the impact to recreational users
- After 3 years – Update the Plan

Communications Plan



Key Stakeholders

- BOCC & POSAC
- General Public
- Park Users
- Neighbors
- Hunters



BOCC & POSAC

- Weekly Emails and Monthly PMIs to BOCC
 - Progress updates
 - Monthly hunting success reports
 - Public feedback
- Annual BOCC & POSAC Meetings
 - Reports on progress towards objectives: migration, elk population, vegetation health, and private land impacts
 - Adaptations to plan moving forward

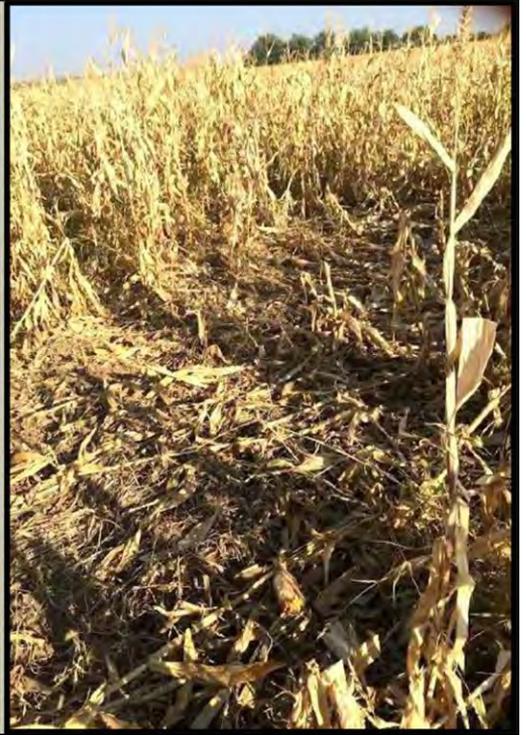
General Public & Park Users

- Public Open House
- Local News
- Website
 - Plan history and updates
 - Public feedback form
- Closure Announcements
 - Roadside electronic sign
 - Onsite signs and education tables
 - Website, social media, and local news



Neighbors

- Open House
- Direct Mail
- Hunt Coordinator
 - Report elk activity
 - Request hunters on their private land
- Website
 - Public feedback form
- Closure Announcements



Hunting Access Program Update

- Frequent communications with hunters
- Clear hunting guidelines and regulations
- Designated access points and safety zones
- Coordinated hunting team and unified enforcement plan



Hunter Communications

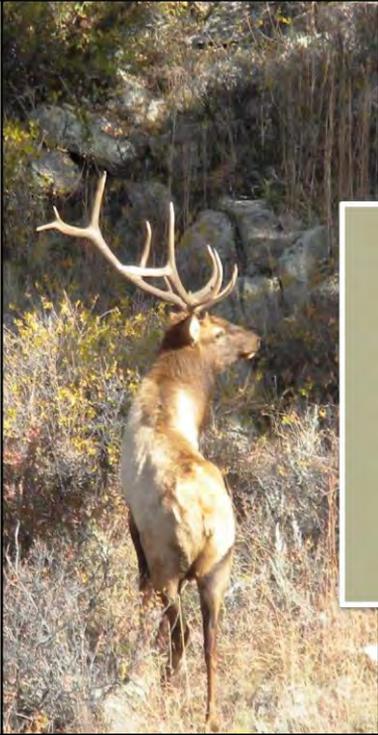
- Email, direct mail, and phone calls to hunters
- Onsite hunter orientations
- Required shooting proficiency test
- Daily communication during permitted access
- Private land coordination
- Mandatory post hunt survey



Regulations & Guidelines

- All hunters must be 18 years of age or older.
- Rifle only. Antlerless elk only. No lead ammunition.
- Firearms must be unloaded in the safety zone.
- Permitted hunters may be accompanied by two guests.
Guest may not hunt or carry a firearm.
- Harvested animals must be field dressed.
- No pets are allowed.
- Leave no trace. Hunters must pack out all waste.





Goal is to Reduce Resource Impacts

BOCC Approved the Plan on
August 22, 2017