

Alternative B

Mechanical Treatment (Mowing)

Ongoing treatment to remove hazardous fuels would be by mechanical mowing using equipment such as: Dixie harrow, rotary mower or other mastication equipment.

Location of Treatments

The areas to be treated with mechanical mowing would be linear strips adjacent to existing roads (i.e. Scenic Drive), hiking trails, terrain features (i.e. along outer perimeter of washes) that provide natural barriers to fire spread, Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area infrastructure (i.e. visitor center, fire station, and the campground and extension on Moenkopi Road) and existing fire scars (i.e. Loop Fire). Treatments adjacent to infrastructure would create 300-foot buffers around buildings. Mechanical mowing treatments along roads, trails, and natural features would be 150 feet on both sides of the feature creating a 300-foot fuel break. However, all washes with potential penstemon habitat would be avoided. In accordance, State Route 159 from just north of Blue Diamond to the intersection of State Route 160 would be mechanically mowed 300 feet in from just the east side of the road to avoid washes/penstemon habitat on the west side.

Total Area Treated

The linear area to be mechanically mowed would create 2,114 acres along approximately 65 miles. Mechanical mowing locations would be in the same areas as the proposed action, excluding fire scar interiors.

Alternative C

Mechanical Treatment (Blading)

Ongoing treatment to remove hazardous fuels would be by mechanical blading using equipment such as: bulldozer, bobcat or grader.

Location of Treatments

The areas to be treated with mechanical blading would be linear strips adjacent to existing roads (i.e. Scenic Drive), hiking trails, terrain features (i.e. along outer perimeter of washes) that provide natural barriers to fire spread, Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area infrastructure (i.e. visitor center, fire station, and the campground and extension on Moenkopi Road) and existing fire scars (i.e. Loop Fire). Treatments adjacent to infrastructure would create 300-foot buffers around buildings. Mechanical blading along roads, trails, and natural features would be 150 feet on each side of the feature creating a 300-foot fuel break. However, all washes with potential penstemon habitat would be avoided. In accordance, State Route 159 from just north of Blue Diamond to the intersection of State Route 160 would be mechanically bladed 300 feet in from just the east side of the road to avoid washes/penstemon habitat on the west side.

Total Area Treated

The linear area to be mechanically bladed would be 2,114 acres along approximately 65 miles. Mechanical blading locations would be in the same areas as the Proposed Action, excluding fire scar interiors.

Alternative D

No Action

Under the No Action Alternative invasive annual grasses within Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area would not be treated.

Fires will continue to happen, visitor and fire fighter safety will continue to be compromised, the annual grass problem will continue to expand, and habitat will continue to be lost.

