

**Figure 2 is a map of all treatment units (Project area).**

The following is a summarization of each treatment unit:

- **Bald Mountain (3,599 acres)**: Treatment unit located along the southern most crest of the Pine Nut Mountains. The unit is located within preliminary priority habitat (PPH) and occurs in brood-rearing/summer habitat in the Bald Mountain area. The unit was designed to include as much of the sage-grouse total summer (June – July) utilization distribution<sup>1</sup> (UD) as feasible.

This unit includes the top ends of South Camp Canyon, Minnehaha Canyon, and Mill Canyon. The upland vegetation community is dominated by pinyon-juniper trees to the south of Bald Mountain proper and mountain mahogany (*Cercocarpus ledifolius*) to the north of Bald Mountain and into Mill Canyon. The riparian systems in the tree dominated drainages no longer express surface water. South Camp Spring and China Spring are examples of diminishing available surface water. The head of the Mill Canyon channel is dry and does not appear to be maintained by flowing water. Upland vegetation species dominate the channel bottoms and no riparian obligate species have been observed. The riparian systems in Mill Canyon are in reasonable condition, however evidence of historical grazing and mining use are seen in active headcuts lower in the drainage, these make Mill Canyon susceptible to erosion during high flow events. Barren areas persist from past heavy grazing of the grass/forb/sedge community, these areas and exasperate headcuts in the channel. The healthy overstory of aspen groves and patches of willows are an important stabilizing element on this system. Surface water appears to be perennial with no signs of recent high flow events. Streamflow originates in the Buena Suertes Spring enclosure. Additional inflow comes from tributary drainage. Riparian habitat, including aspen groves and patches of willows, continues the length of the drainage below Buena Suertes Spring to Blossom Canyon.

- **Brunswick (308 acres)**: Treatment unit located on both sides of the Brunswick Canyon Road. Unit is strategically located to reduce the potential for large-scale high severity wildland fire, improve travel safety and would improve woodland health. Pinyon-juniper density varies from low to high. Desired shrub and herbaceous vegetation is present on portions of the unit and not on others. Where the understory is present pinyon-juniper trees are in the process of increasing in dominance. Forest insect and disease activity is high.
- **Buffalo Canyon (159 acres)**: Treatment unit located in the 2011 Ray May Fire. Numerous dead standing trees are present. The BLM portion of the fire was seeded immediately following the fire with limited success initially. Treatment to reduce dead fuel loading. Through soil scarification and seeding to reestablish desired shrub and herbaceous vegetation.

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<sup>1</sup> Utilization distribution (UD) is a method of constructing a species distribution based on random samples of locational observations, often over different points in time.

- Bull Canyon (176 acres): Treatment unit located in a stretch of Bull Canyon with management concerns over the downward trend, documented most recently in August 2002, toward reduced streamflow and declining shallow groundwater supplies. There is currently no riparian vegetation, however there is evidence of cottonwood trees previously growing in the drainage bottom. The unnamed spring, mid-drainage, is dry. Pinyon-juniper trees cover much of the upper watershed and appear to be spreading into lower elevation areas. Many patches of dead and dying trees are present in the drainage.
- Cherokee (233 acres): Treatment unit is located upwind from a low density residential area and directly adjacent to Pine Nut Road, a primary access road for the west slope of the Pine Nut Mountains. Pinyon-juniper density varies from moderate to high. Desired shrub and herbaceous vegetation is present on portions of the unit and not on others. Where the understory is present pinyon-juniper trees are in the process of increasing in dominance. Forest insect and disease activity and associated tree mortality is high.
- Como (872 acres): Treatment unit includes two discontinuous sub-units located along the Fort Churchill to Wellington Backcountry Byway in the vicinity of the historic Como mining district. The western sub-unit is in moderate to high density pinyon-juniper which would be thinned. Forest insect and disease activity and associated tree mortality is high. The east sub-unit is in the 2008 and 2012 Como Fires where numerous dead standing trees are present which would be cut. Treatment to reduce dead fuel loading. Through seed-bed preparation and seeding to reestablish desired shrub and herbaceous vegetation.
- Crest (2,865 acres): Treatment unit located along the central crest of the Pine Nut Mountains. The unit is located in PPH and runs roughly north to south from breeding/nesting habitat in the Mill Canyon area in the north down to brood-rearing/summer habitat in the Mount Siegel and Bald Mountain areas in the south. Most sage-grouse move in a southerly direction after the breeding period to the Mount Siegel area by late-June. This unit captures crucial habitat serving as seasonal movement corridor for the Bi-State sage-grouse population in the Pine Nut PMU. Average distance to the lek (in the Mill Canyon area, not in a treatment unit) for June was over 23 miles, which is a substantial increase from May (nine miles from the lek). Based on data, sage-grouse appear to travel relatively long distances to summer and fall habitat. During July the average distance to the lek was over 25 miles. Seasonal migration patterns appear to slow at this time and remain localized in the south through September. Pinyon-juniper encroachment expanding uphill toward the crest of the Pine Nut Mountains is reducing the quality and dimensions of the sage-grouse movement corridors.

There are three perennial springs/seeps along the spine of the Pine Nut Mountains, above 7,600 feet elevation. These springs or seeps are overcrowded with too high a density of pinyon-juniper trees to currently have much value. Additionally, there are a few dry meadows near Slaters Mine and Upper Buckeye Creek. Pinyon-juniper encroachment appears to be expanding uphill toward the crest of the Pine Nut Mountains, reducing the sage-grouse habitat corridor telemetry has shown their use.

- Eldorado Canyon (778 acres): Treatment unit includes nine discontinuous sub-units located within the Eldorado Canyon watershed. In general, the riparian vegetation community in Eldorado Canyon appears to be in good condition. The community is dominated by a variety of mixed age class willows and occasional large old cottonwoods. The shrub, forb and aquatic components of the community are also diverse and healthy. However, channel stability appears to be variable. The upper canyon exhibits signs of large flow events that caused substantial lateral and vertical channel movement. High eroded banks and small, active headcuts are observed in several locations. Streamflow hydrology is characterized as intermittent since streamflow appears, disappears, and reappears throughout the canyon. Surface flow regimes and groundwater supplies appear to be adequate to support a healthy and vigorous riparian community. However, pinyon-juniper expansion in the watershed may pose a threat to the existing water supply. Dense stands of tree cover substantial areas of the watershed. Patches of dead trees are observed throughout the watershed. In addition, young pinyon age classes are scattered throughout the uplands and appear to be colonizing lower elevations of the watershed as well as the drainage bottom, and its tributaries. Forest insect and disease activity is high.
- Hacket Canyon (133 acres): Treatment unit includes four discontinuous sub-units located in three drainages on the north slope of the Pine Nut Mountains. Streamflow is intermittent. The riparian system appears to be in good condition; however the upland vegetation is increasing in density into the riparian corridor.
- Illinois (966 acres): Treatment unit is located along the Sunrise Pass Road and two parallel transmission line corridors. It is strategically located to reduce the potential for fire damaging area transmission lines, reduce the potential for a large-scale high severity wildland fire and improve travel safety and would improve woodland health and area aesthetics. Pinyon-juniper density varies from low to high. Desired shrub and understory vegetation is present on portions of the unit and not on others. Where the understory is present pinyon-juniper trees are in the process of increasing in dominance. If this situation is not addressed fuel loads would increase, understory vegetation would be stressed and depleted, and the stage would be set for a large-scale high severity wildland fire.
- Illinois Canyon (187 acres): Treatment unit located in Illinois Canyon, a tributary to Eldorado Canyon. Pinyon-juniper density varies from low to high. Desired shrub and understory vegetation is present on portions of the unit and not on others. Where the understory is present, pinyon-juniper trees are in the process of increasing in dominance. Patches of dead pinyon are observed throughout the drainage.

Illinois Canyon, a tributary to Eldorado Canyon, would be treated to increase riparian health without encouraging/increasing motorized vehicle use.

- Lyon (969 acres): Treatment unit located on the east slope of the Pine Nut Mountains below Lyon Peak between two previously completed vegetation treatment projects, Mill Canyon and Buckskin. Unit located in a potential migration corridor for Bi-State sage-grouse. Pinyon-juniper density varies from low to moderate. Desired shrub and

herbaceous vegetation is present on portions of the unit and not on others. Where the understory is present pinyon-juniper trees are in the process of increasing in dominance.

- Mill Canyon (5,676 acres): Treatment unit located in and around Mill, Mineral and Bull Canyons on the low northwestern slope of the Pine Nut Mountains. This unit occurs in PPH and is near the only known active lek in the Pine Nut Mountains (not in a treatment unit). This unit occurs in breeding, nesting, and early brood-rearing habitat. This unit was designed to include as much of the sage-grouse total spring (March – May) UD as feasible.

The Upper Mill Canyon watershed has limited riparian vegetation, dependent on ephemeral flow, limited to a sparse scattering of stunted cottonwoods adjacent to the channel. No surface water is visible. Pinyon-juniper trees are increasing in number in the upper watershed, as seen in many areas with numerous younger age classes.

Gregs Cabin Meadow Spring is located at the upper end of Bull Canyon in the larger Mill Canyon treatment unit. The spring provided flow in the past, but has been dry for over 10-years (as documented in 2002). The encroachment of closed canopy upland vegetation into the riparian community is a concern.

- Mineral (501 acres): Treatment unit is located in a basin upwind of the Sunrise Pass Road and two parallel transmission line corridors. It is strategically located to reduce the potential for fire damaging area transmission lines and reduce the potential for a large-scale high severity wildland fire. Pinyon-juniper density varies from low to moderate. Desired shrub and understory vegetation is present on portions of the unit and not on others. Where the understory is present pinyon-juniper trees are in the process of increasing in dominance. If this situation is not addressed fuel loads would increase, understory vegetation would be stressed and depleted and the stage would be set for a large-scale high severity wildland fire.
- Mineral Valley (163 acres): The Mineral Valley treatment unit is in a drainage on the west slope of Mount Como. The encroachment of upland vegetation into the drainage's riparian community is a concern.
- Mount Siegel (2,191 acres): Treatment unit located along the south-central crest of the Pine Nut Mountains. Treatment unit located in PPH and occurs in brood-rearing/summer habitat in the Mount Siegel area. This unit was designed to include as much of the sage-grouse total summer (June – July) UD as possible.

The treatment unit is at the top of three watersheds, Upper Buckeye Creek, Pine Nut Creek, and Smith Valley-Artesia Lake. There are three identified water sources between 7,400 and 8,600 feet. These springs or seeps are currently not overcrowded with pinyon-juniper trees and have a high value to animals. There is approximately 65 acres of dry meadows, with some surface water expression. Approximately 40 acres of these meadow systems are protected by exclosures. The majority of the dry meadows appear to be relic systems that developed during higher precipitation conditions. Sage-grouse telemetry

data has shown continued use through the dry meadows. For the smaller dry meadow systems, stringers of meadow-type vegetation such as wire grass up to three acres in size and pinyon-juniper encroachment is a concern for water availability, soil moisture and wildlife habitat.

- Oreana (31 acres): Treatment unit located in a drainage that runs east off Oreana Peak and offers an opportunity to apply vegetation treatment to the upland vegetation communities that are in the drainage bottom in order to protect and enhance the riparian system. The riparian system consists of willow and aspen stands, and cottonwood at lower elevations, with some pinyon-juniper encroachment.
- Pine Nut (620 acres): Treatment unit is located directly adjacent to moderate density residential areas and along the primary access/egress road for the residential areas. The risk of high intensity damaging wildfire is high. Moderate density pinyon-juniper woodland. The BLM, the East Fork Fire and Paramedic Districts and local residents are concerned that in the event of an intense wildfire, residential areas could be difficult to defend, property damage could be substantial, access/egress could be compromised and the lives of the public and firefighters could be at risk. Four hundred fifty-four acres of the treatment unit had been treated previously in 2005 and 2009. The BLM is proposing to maintain the original treatment areas as well as expand treatment outside of original treatment boundaries.
- Pine Nut Valley (252 acres): Treatment unit located along the main road through Pine Nut Valley. It is strategically located to reduce the potential for large-scale high severity wildland fire and improve travel safety, woodland health and area aesthetics. Pinyon-juniper density is high with a heavy component of dead down and standing trees. Desired shrub and herbaceous vegetation is limited. Where the understory is present pinyon-juniper trees are in the process of increasing in dominance. Forest insect and disease activity is high.
- Pipeline Canyon (32 acres): Treatment unit in Pipeline Canyon on the east slope of the Pine Nut Mountains. The perennial flow throughout the drainage offers an opportunity to apply vegetation treatment to the upland vegetation communities that are susceptible to wildfire in order to protect a riparian system that was determined to be in proper functioning condition in 2002. The middle segments of Pipeline Canyon, upstream of the diversion into an irrigation ditch, have healthy and diverse riparian vegetation. Fuel loading in streamside zones is not as heavy compared to other areas.
- Ruhenstroth (189 acres): Treatment unit is located directly adjacent to a moderate density residential area. The risk of high intensity damaging wildfire is high. Moderate to high density pinyon-juniper woodland. The BLM, the East Fork Fire and Paramedic Districts and local residents are concerned that in the event of an intense wildfire, residential areas could be difficult to defend, property damage could be substantial and the lives of the public and firefighters could be at risk.

- Ruhenstroth Well (132 acres): Treatment unit includes two discontinuous sub-units located along two two-track roads that run south from Pine Nut Road into the area of Ruhenstroth Well. It is strategically located to reduce the potential for fire damaging area residences. Pinyon-juniper density varies from low to high. Desired shrub and understory vegetation is present on the majority of the unit. Where the understory is present pinyon-juniper trees are in the process of increasing in dominance. The area was previously treated in the 1960's to reduce tree cover and enhance shrub and herbaceous vegetation.
- Slaters (721 acres): Treatment unit located along the central crest of the Pine Nut Mountains. The unit is located in PPH and runs roughly north to south from breeding/nesting habitat in the Mill Canyon area in the north down to brood-rearing/summer habitat in the Mount Siegel and Bald Mountain areas in the south. Most sage-grouse move in a southerly direction after the breeding period to the Mount Siegel area by late-June. This unit captures crucial habitat serving as seasonal movement corridor for the Bi-State sage-grouse population in the Pine Nut PMU. Average distance to the lek (in the Mill Canyon area, not in a treatment unit) for June was over 23 miles, which is a substantial increase from May (nine miles from the lek). Based on data, sage-grouse appear to travel relatively long distances to summer and fall habitat. During July the average distance to the lek was over 25 miles. Seasonal migration patterns appear to slow at this time and remain localized in the south through September. Pinyon-juniper encroachment expanding uphill toward the crest of the Pine Nut Mountains is reducing the quality and dimensions of the sage-grouse movement corridors.

There are three identified water sources along the spine of the Pine Nut Mountains, above 8,000 feet elevation. These springs or seeps are overcrowded with too high a density of pinyon-juniper trees to currently have much value. Additionally, there are a few dry meadows near Slaters Mine and Upper Buckeye Creek.

- Stone Spring (13 acres): Treatment unit located below Lyon Peak on the east slope of the Pine Nut Mountains. Young age class trees have established in the watershed above and around the spring. It appears closed canopy tree cover in the watershed is contributing to low flow volume and similar to other springs in the Pine Nut Mountains. Stone Spring is in a drying trend, changing from perennial to intermittent flow.
- Sunrise (1,970 acres): Treatment unit is located along the Sunrise Pass Road and two parallel transmission line corridors. It is strategically located to reduce the potential for fire damaging area transmission lines, reduce the potential for a large-scale high severity wildland fire and improve travel safety and would improve woodland health and area aesthetics. Pinyon-juniper density varies from low to high. Desired shrub and herbaceous vegetation is present on portions of the unit and not on others. Where the understory is present pinyon-juniper trees are in the process of increasing in dominance. If this situation is not addressed fuel loads would increase, understory vegetation would be stressed and depleted and the stage would be set for a large-scale high severity wildland fire.

- Sunrise Pass (301 acres): Treatment unit includes three discontinuous sub-units located along the Sunrise Pass Road and two parallel transmission line corridors. It is strategically located to reduce the potential for fire damaging area transmission lines and improve travel safety and would improve woodland health area aesthetics. Pinyon-juniper density is high with a heavy component of dead down and standing trees. Desired shrub and herbaceous vegetation is limited. Where the understory is present pinyon-juniper trees are in the process of increasing in dominance. Forest insect and disease activity is high.
- West Barton Spring (527 acres): Treatment unit includes two discontinuous sub-units located below Rawe Peak on the north slope of the Pine Nut Mountains. The riparian area within the West Barton Spring enclosure was in poor condition in 2002, and determined to be functional-at-risk. The area exhibits a perennial spring with minimal flow, erosion or deposition, with an observed drying trend. The associated meadow/riparian community is invaded by upland vegetation such as sagebrush and pinyon-juniper trees. Compaction of soil is occurring due to wild horse use within and outside the enclosure. Riparian/meadow vegetation communities appear unhealthy. Sedge and rush species are the dominant species present within the enclosure. There is some tule grouped together toward the lower end of the enclosure, suggesting standing water in that small area. However, drying within the enclosure is apparent by the reduction of meadow species on enclosure edges and the invasion of upland plants such as rabbitbrush (*Chrysothamnus viscidiflorus*), single-leaf pinyon, desert peach (*Prunus andersonii*) and sagebrush

**Table 1. Proposed Treatment Options.**

Treatment Unit	Treatment Method				
	Hand Thinning	Hand Cutting	Mechanical Mastication	Mechanical Thinning/Removal	Pile Burning
Bald Mountain		X			
Brunswick	X				X
Buffalo Canyon		X		X	
Bull Canyon		X			X
Cherokee	X			X	X
Como	X	X		X	X
Crest		X			
Eldorado Canyon		X			X
Hacket Canyon		X			X
Illinois	X	X	X	X	X
Illinois Canyon		X			X
Lyon		X	X		X
Mill Canyon		X			
Mineral	X	X	X	X	X
Mineral Valley		X			X
Mount Siegel		X			
Oreana		X			X
Pine Nut	X		X	X	
Pine Nut Valley	X			X	X
Pipeline Canyon		X			X
Ruhenstroth	X		X		
Ruhenstroth Well	X			X	X
Slaters		X			
Stone Spring		X			X
Sunrise	X	X	X	X	X
Sunrise Pass	X			X	X
West Barton Spring		X			X

### Summary of Acres By Treatment Method.

Table 2 shows the approximate number of acres to be treated by each treatment method.

Treatment Method	Acres	% of Project Area
Hand Thinning (Selective and Non-Selective Cutting)	19,942	81
Mechanical Mastication	4,622	19
Pile Burning	2,000	8
Seeding	3,000	12

The following is a summary of explanations as to why and where each treatment method has been proposed and a description of what each treatment method entails.

- Hand Thinning (Selective Cutting): Hand thinning of pinyon-juniper trees would occur on forestland ecological sites that range from pinyon-juniper woodlands with little desired understory vegetation to woodlands with remnant desirable understory vegetation that is at risk of being depleted from the site.

Shrubs (brush) may be thinned at selected sites where deemed necessary to reduce fuel continuity and fire intensity potential. These sites are generally within the wildland urban interface in the Pine Nut Road and Ruhestroth areas and along the Sunrise Pass Road. Where deemed necessary to meet fuels management objectives, brush spacing would be adjusted by treating up to 60 percent of the brush in a mosaic pattern. No brush would be cut in the Mill Canyon area or along the crest of the Pine Nut Mountains.

Treatment would be conducted by personnel on foot using hand tools and chainsaws. Crew size would vary but typically ranges from two to 20 people. Some trees would be cut, while others would be left standing. Thinning trees in dense stands reduces fuel continuity and vegetative competition. Tree health would be promoted by reducing competition for water and nutrients. The size and overall health of the remaining trees would increase. The thinning treatment would target primarily smaller trees, but age class distribution would be taken into consideration to ensure the long term viability of the population. Typically under this treatment the larger older trees would be retained. Where applicable trees would be retained in small groups with openings between the groups. Areas with healthy understory vegetation would be the target locations for openings. Trees cut could include dead, diseased or healthy trees depending on site evaluation and treatment objectives. It may be necessary to cut healthy trees where there are no dead or diseased trees to meet resource objectives. Cut trees may be removed by non-mechanical methods, chipped with a mechanical chipper working on an existing road, lopped and scattered and/or piled and burned, based on site evaluation and objectives. Stump height would be less than six inches and any residual biomass would not exceed two feet in depth.

- Hand Cutting (Non-Selective Cutting): Hand cutting of pinyon-juniper trees would occur on rangeland ecological sites where trees are encroaching into landscapes once dominated by shrubs and herbaceous vegetation and into riparian areas. These sites range

from open sagebrush sites with scattered young pinyon-juniper trees to sagebrush sites where young pinyon-juniper woodlands are threatening to deplete desirable understory vegetation to riparian sites with pinyon-juniper trees encroaching into riparian vegetation such as aspen, cottonwood and willow.

Treatment would be conducted by personnel on foot using hand tools and chainsaws. Crew size would vary but typically ranges from two to 20 people. All trees would be cut regardless of size. Cut trees may be removed by non-mechanical methods, chipped with a mechanical chipper working on an existing road, lopped and scattered and/or piled and burned, based on site evaluation and objectives. Stump height would be less than six inches and any residual biomass would not exceed two feet in depth.

- Mechanical Mastication: Pinyon-juniper trees and shrubs (brush) would be removed from both woodland and rangeland ecological site types by a mastication process which grinds up woody plant material. Due to mechanical limitations of the equipment, mastication treatments are limited to areas with less than a 30 percent slope. Mastication treatments are typically used to restore ecological balance in plant communities, provide for increased plant diversity by reducing a dominant species, stimulate new plant growth and/or reduce fuel continuity and potential fire intensity. The pre-treatment condition of the plant community would be considered relative to the management goals. Plant communities in any condition (no understory to intact understory) may be treated.

Trees/brush would be ground with an attachment mounted on machinery such as front-end loaders, tractors, excavators, skidders etc., the machine may have rubber tires, rubber tracks or metal tracks. Trees could be thinned or all cut depending on objectives. Thinning specifications would be similar to Hand Thinning specifications above. Stump height would be less than six inches and the products of grinding would not exceed two feet in depth.

Mechanical equipment would be parked and serviced daily on three to four small (less than ¼ acre) road accessible staging areas located on BLM land on the units designated for mechanical treatment. It can be expected that the vegetation and soils in the staging areas would be effected more than the general Project area due to the frequency of equipment activity on the sites.

A general overview of masticating equipment can be found in the Understory Biomass Reduction Methods and Equipment Catalog.

- Mechanical Thinning/Removal: Mechanical thinning/removal of pinyon-juniper trees would occur on forestland ecological sites that range from pinyon-juniper woodlands with little desired understory vegetation to woodlands with remnant desirable understory vegetation that is at risk of being depleted from the site. Mechanical thinning/removal would only occur in units designated for the treatment and may not occur on entire units designated for treatment.

Treatment includes the mechanical thinning and/or removal of entire trees or portions of trees for personal use or commercial sale. See Hand Thinning (Selective Cutting) above for description of thinning treatment. Rubber tired/tracked or metal tracked mechanized equipment would be used to cut, either skid or above ground haul, and remove entire trees or portions of trees. Shearing would include separating the tree from the stump, less than six inches from the ground. Once the trees are sheared, they would be skidded or hauled to a designated landing or processing area and be hauled off site.

Mechanical equipment would be parked and serviced daily on (less than ¼ acre) road accessible landings or processing areas located on BLM land on the units designated for mechanical removal. It can be expected that the vegetation and soils on any skid/haul roads or landings or processing areas would be effected more than the general Project area due to the frequency of equipment activity on the sites.

- Pile Burning: Pile burning would be considered as a follow up treatment to hand thinning and hand cutting to treat residual biomass where determined needed to manage surface fuel loading and where other treatment methods are not feasible.

The treatment includes the burning of hand constructed piles of residual biomass (e.g. branches, twigs), piles typically no larger than six feet tall and six feet in diameter, scattered within a treatment area. The number of piles per acre would vary depending on tree density and the treatment prescription. Hand held tools such as flares, drip torches and/or flammable gel packs may be used to ignite piles. Pile burns would be conducted under a burn plan, a site-specific implementation document which is a legal document that provides the agency administrator the information needed to approve the plan and the burn boss with all the information needed to safely and effectively implement the burn. Several factors are considered when determining whether to burn or not and designing a burn plan and implementing a prescribed burn. These factors include location, weather conditions, vegetation types, slope, fuel moisture content, risks to property and structures and potential impacts to air quality and land use. Pile burns would only be conducted in the late fall, winter and spring under low spread potential conditions (e.g. following precipitation, with snow on ground). The objective of pile burning would be to consume 80-100 percent of the piled biomass.

- Seeding: Limited seeding of native species may be conducted as a follow up in any treatment unit(s) where existing herbaceous understory has been compromised and is not sufficient for natural establishment. Seeding treatment includes ground-based or aerial broadcast application of seed. Seeding method to be determined based on terrain, soil type, soil moisture, and seed species.

Specific treatment areas would be evaluated to determine the most appropriate treatment method and resource protection measures based on slope, aspect, terrain, soil, vegetation composition, vegetation condition, amount of fuel/biomass needed to be removed, overall access on site, visual disturbance, and proximity to major roads. Treatment areas would be focused in areas where residual herbaceous vegetation is adequate to promote native release. However, areas in which do not have adequate understory may be treated as well due to the relative importance of

the site. The treatment methods would be considered, either individually or in combination, to achieve the desired results.