



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Tres Rios Field Office
29211 Highway 184
Dolores, Colorado 81323



In Reply Refer to: 9210 (CO-S01000)

May 31, 2013

OPTIONAL REPLY DUE: JUNE 18, 2013

Dear Interested Parties:

The Bureau of Land Management Tres Rios Field Office is seeking comments on the **West Dolores Rim Hazardous Fuels Reduction environmental assessment** (EA) that is proposed in Dolores and San Miguel Counties on public lands located in all or parts of T40N R17W, T40N R18W, T41N R 17W, T41N R18W, T42N R18W, T42N R19W, T43N R19W and T43N R18W (see attached map). The project area is approximately 15,000 acres and is planned to be implemented over a 10 year period with mechanical and prescribed fire treatments with no more than 1,500 acres completed each year, beginning in 2013. The project would connect several previous fuels treatments completed in past years to create a mosaic of fuel breaks along the western side of Dolores river canyon area.

The purpose of and need for this action is to restore the fire regime condition class to more natural values within the project area and reduce the risk of catastrophic wildland wildfire. Additional benefits include improved habitat and forage for elk, deer, cattle, turkey and Gunnison Sage Grouse as well as improve vigor and health of ponderosa pine stands thereby improving ecosystem resiliency.

The environmental assessment is available for review at the Dolores Public Lands Center, 29211 Highway 184, Dolores, CO as well as online at: http://www.blm.gov/co/st/en/BLM_Information/nepa/TRFO_NEPA.html

Site specific comments should be submitted via FAX, email or hard copy to:

BLM Tres Rios Field Office
ATTN: Brad Pietruszka
29211 Highway 184
Dolores, CO 81323
Email: bpietruszka@blm.gov
FAX: 970-882-2643

Before including your address, phone number, email address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment – including your personal identifying information – may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

For further information, contact Brad Pietruszka, Fire Management Specialist, at (970)882-6820; or send an email to bpietruszka@blm.gov

Sincerely,

Connie Clementson
Field Manager - Tres Rios Field Office

Enclosure – Vicinity Map

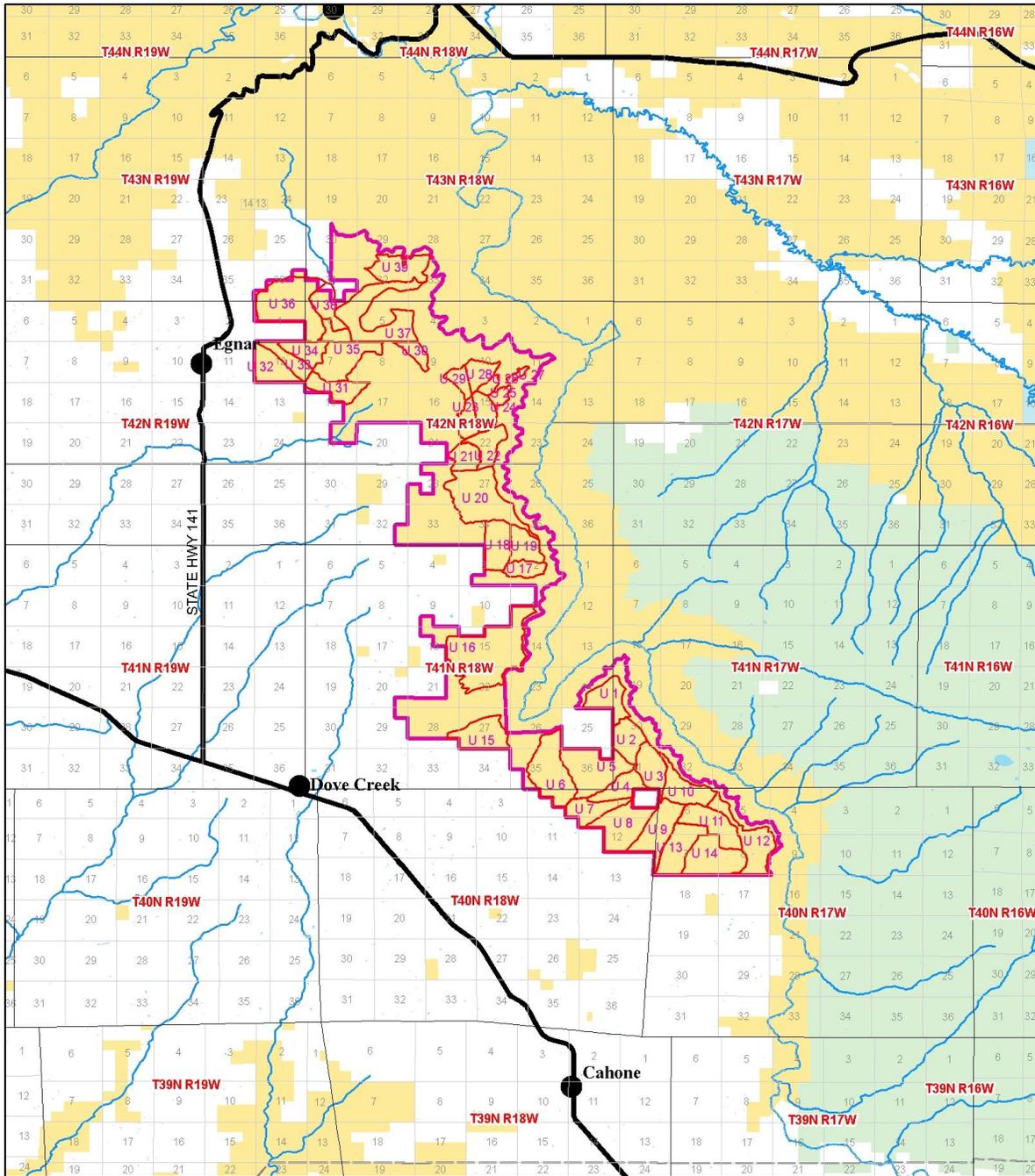


Figure 1:

**West Dolores Rim EA Vicinity Map
and Project Area Boundary**
DOI-BLM-CO-SO10-2012-0026

0 1 2 4 Miles
1:200,000

Prepared by: bpietruszka
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Legend	
gdb_mn_bsp	Surface Ownership
gdb_mn_pact	Bureau of Land Management
WD-RimEA_AltProposedTreatmentUnits	US Forest Service
West Dolores Rim EA	Bureau of Indian Affairs
Highways	National Park Service
Point	State
	Private