Creating Resilient Ecosystems and Communities in the Upper Rio Grande

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The Nature Conservancy

RIO GRANDE WATER FUND
A Wildfire and Water Source Protection Project
Increasing areas of high-severity burn

Photo: Craig Allen, USGS
Sedimentation
WHAT IS THE RIO GRANDE WATER FUND?

- 20-year public-private partnership
- Restore 600,000 acres of forest
- Reduce the risk of catastrophic fire
- Protect water supply for NM
- Boost local economies and rural jobs.
- Educate youth, policy makers, and local community leaders.
Ownership Map
Annual Acres Treated (Thinning and Controlled Burns)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Acres</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>3,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>10,130</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>12,561</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>27,111</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>33,169</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
IN 2018:
• 4,379 acres burned
• 8 burns
• 21 new fire managers
• 205 shifts worked
Prescribed Burns supported by AHAL

Cerro Montoso
Broadcast & Jackpot
Taos BLM & NM State Land Office

White Feather Pile Burn
Taos Ski Valley

Alamosa Broadcast Burn
Carson National Forest

Borrego Mesa Jackpot Burn
Santa Fe National Forest

South Side Rx
Santa Clara Pueblo

Seco Pile Burn
Valles Caldera
National Preserve

Santa Fe Watershed Broadcast Burn
Santa Fe National Forest

Chato Rx Broadcast Burn
Cibola National Forest

AHAL is supported by an agreement between The Nature Conservancy and USDA Forest Service.

AHAL Burn Team works in the Rio Grande Water Fund project area, a unique collaborative with over 70 signatories. Learn more at: riograndewaterfund.org

ACRES BURNED
EVALUATION FROM BURN LEADER

The AHAL crew assisted the Carson NF with burning 2800+ acres of understory RX… They easily fit in with the forest resources and were able to break down into mods to accomplish tasks including overhead and trainee positions. Although several crew members had limited fire experience the crew operated safely, communicated effectively and their presence was greatly appreciated.
Forest Council Projects

Community Forestry:
• Fuels Reduction
• Firewood
• Community Engagement
Fuels Reduction

Firewood Supply

Local Economic Gains

Trust

Resiliency
PROACTIVE MANAGEMENT PAYS DIVIDENDS
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