

*Managing Forested Headwaters for  
Source Water Protection  
in the Rocky Mountain Region*

South Platte Forum  
October 20, 2010



Claire Harper, Water Emphasis Coordinator,  
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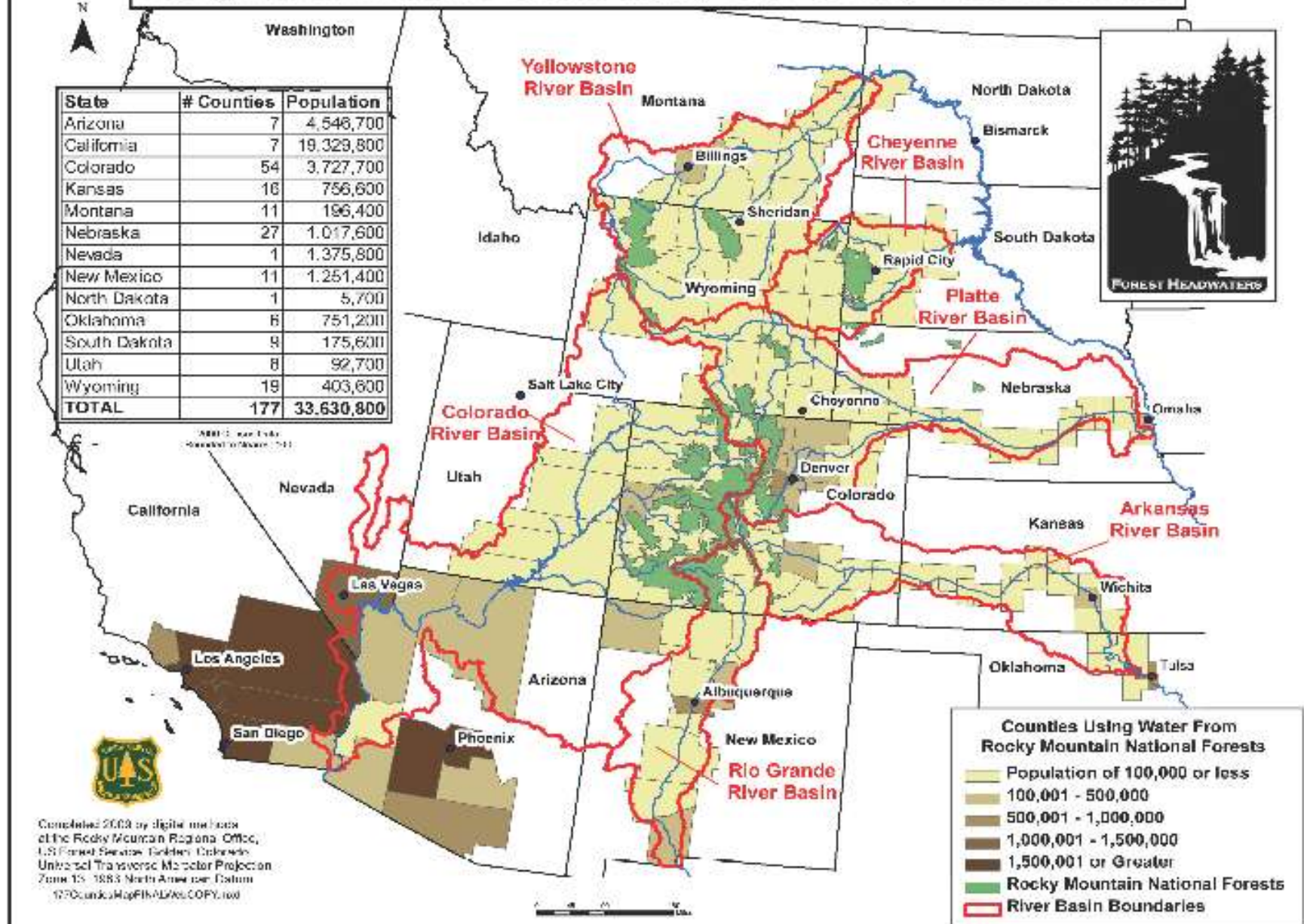
# US Forest Service, Rocky Mountain Region



# Rocky Mountain National Forests Supply Water to Many Western Counties



State	# Counties	Population
Arizona	7	4,546,700
California	7	19,329,800
Colorado	54	3,727,700
Kansas	16	756,600
Montana	11	196,400
Nebraska	27	1,017,600
Nevada	1	1,375,800
New Mexico	11	1,251,400
North Dakota	1	5,700
Oklahoma	6	751,200
South Dakota	9	175,600
Utah	8	92,700
Wyoming	19	403,600
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>177</b>	<b>33,630,800</b>



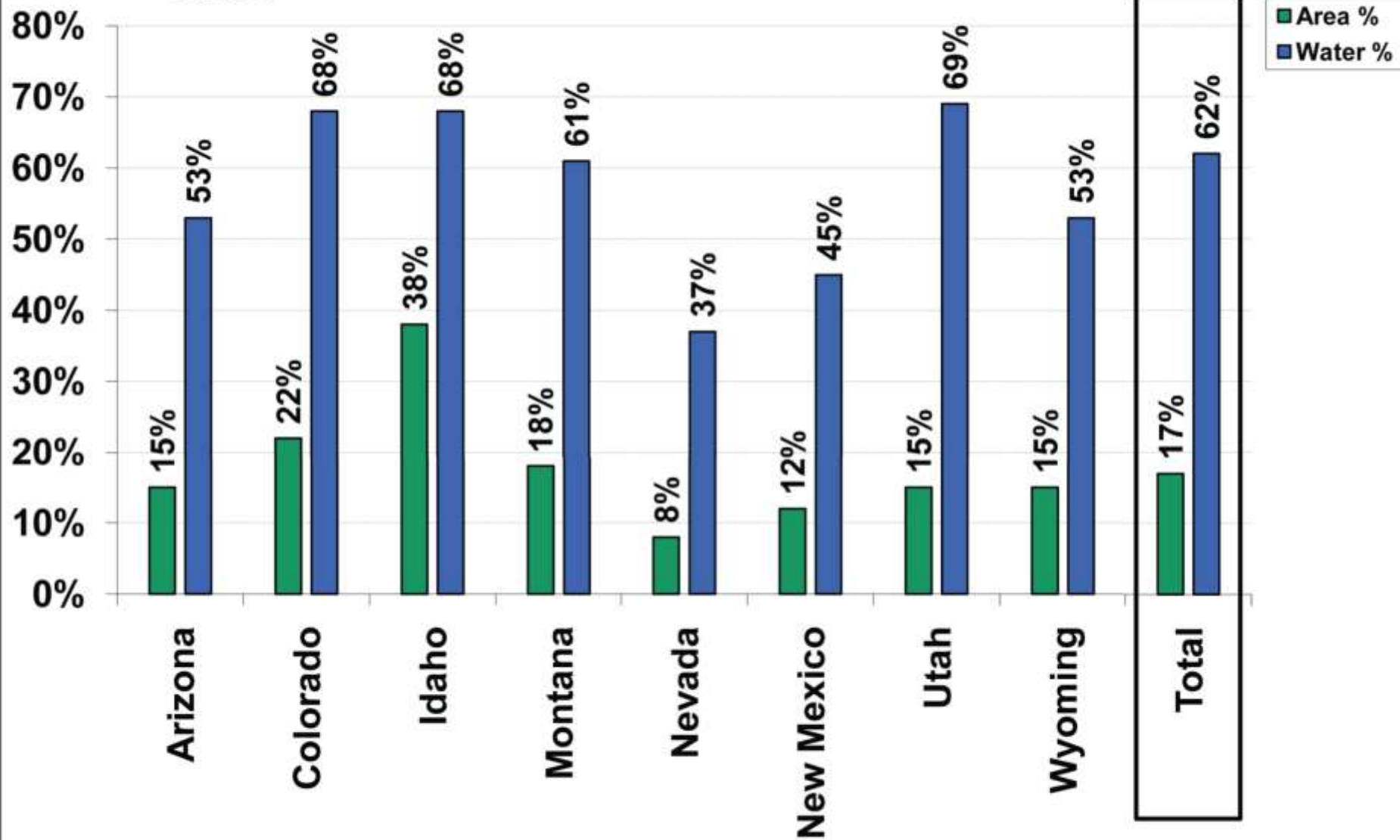
**Counties Using Water From Rocky Mountain National Forests**

- Population of 100,000 or less
- 100,001 - 500,000
- 500,001 - 1,000,000
- 1,000,001 - 1,500,000
- 1,500,001 or Greater
- Rocky Mountain National Forests
- River Basin Boundaries

Completed 2003 by digital methods of the Rocky Mountain Region Office, U.S. Forest Service, Golden, Colorado. Universal Transverse Mercator Projection Zone 13. 1983 North American Datum. ©2003 U.S. Forest Service. COPY: 100

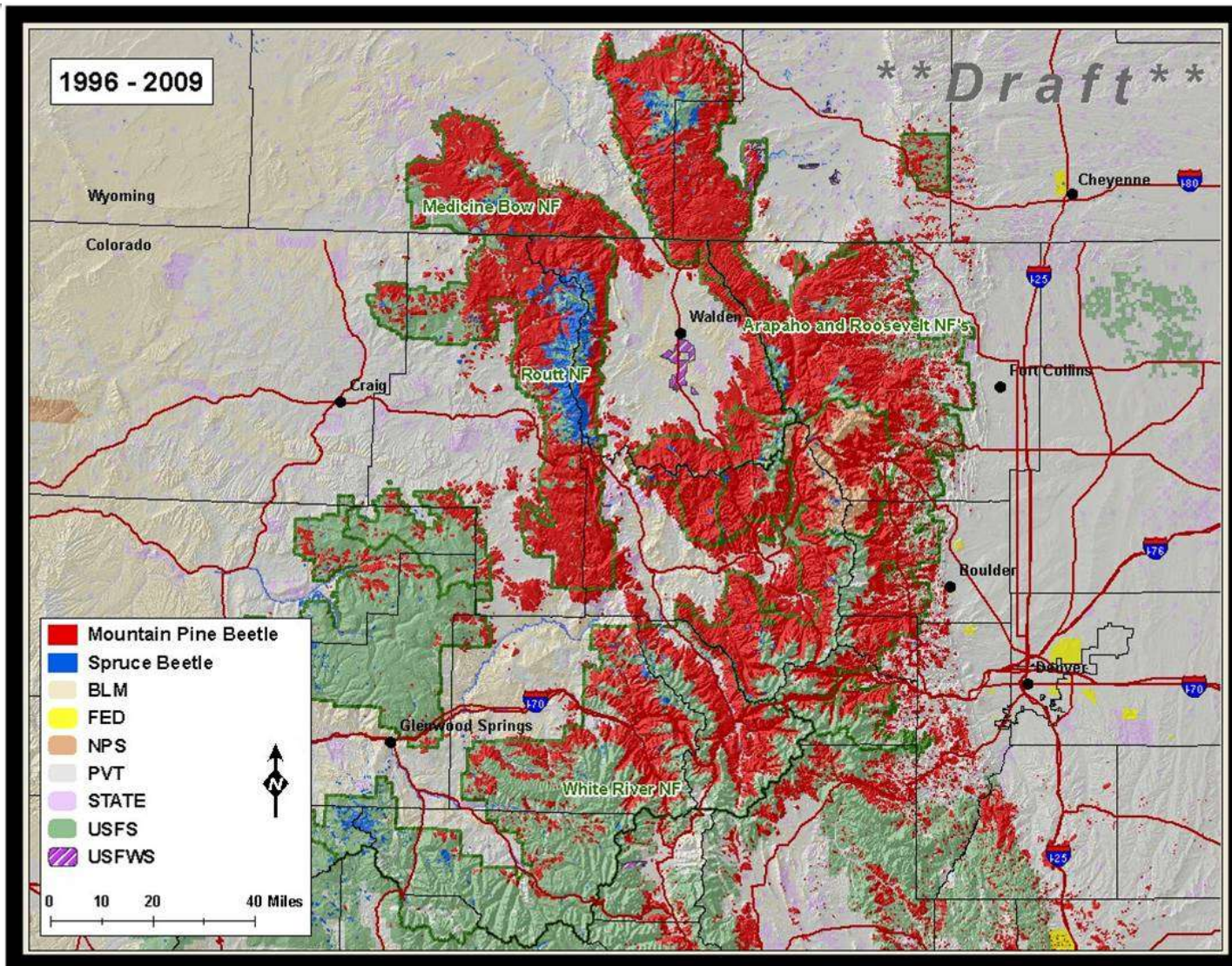
**People in 177 counties in 13 states depend on water from national forests in the Rocky Mountain Region. They draw their water from rivers or valley soils, and typically use it for some mix of drinking, irrigation, and livestock watering. Counties were included down-river until less than 20 percent of the flow in the river originates on**

## National Forest Share of Land Area & Water yield in Inland West States

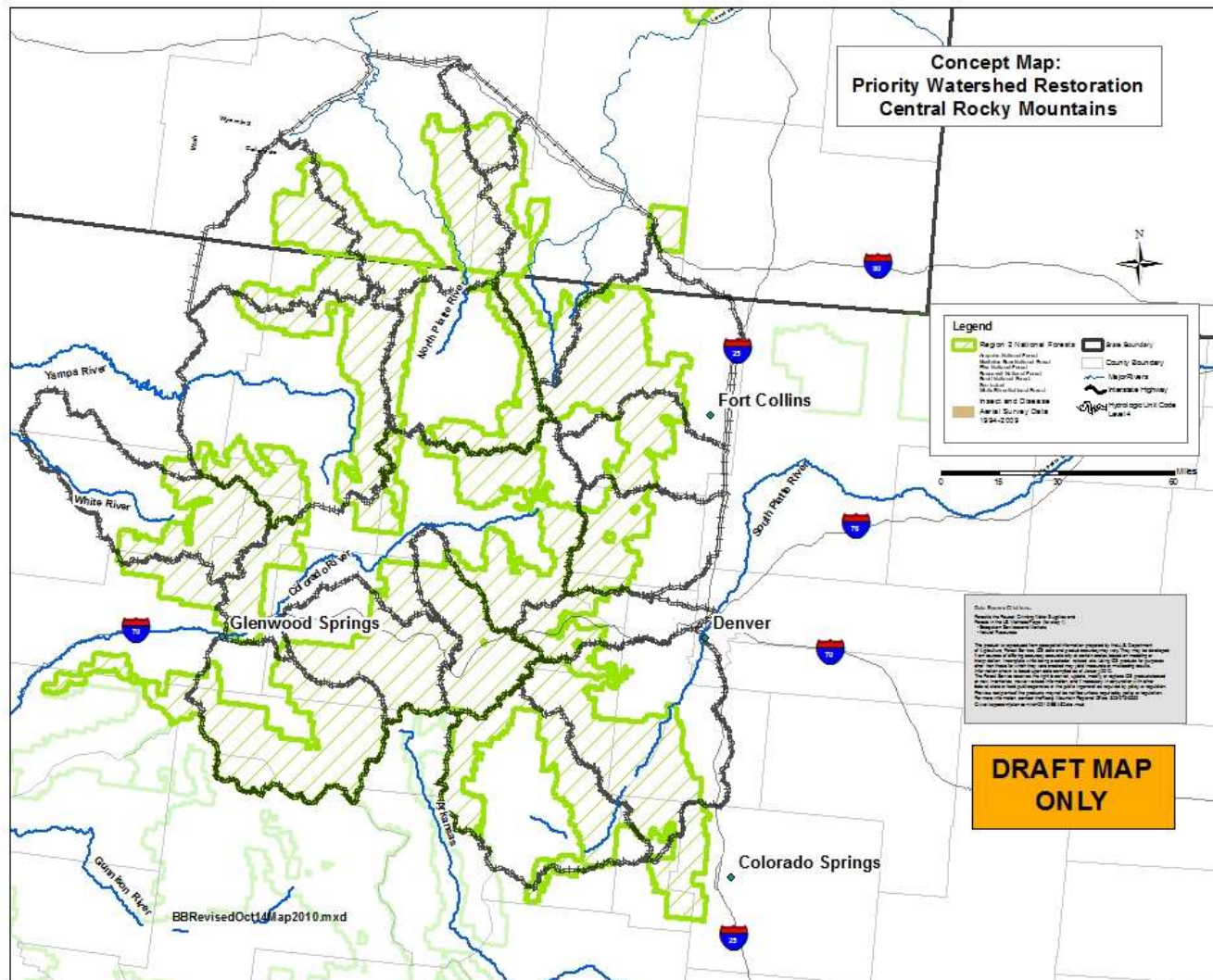


National forests occupy a minor share of total land area in the eight Inland West states, but contribute a much larger portion of their water.

# Bark Beetle Epidemic Most Current Progression Map



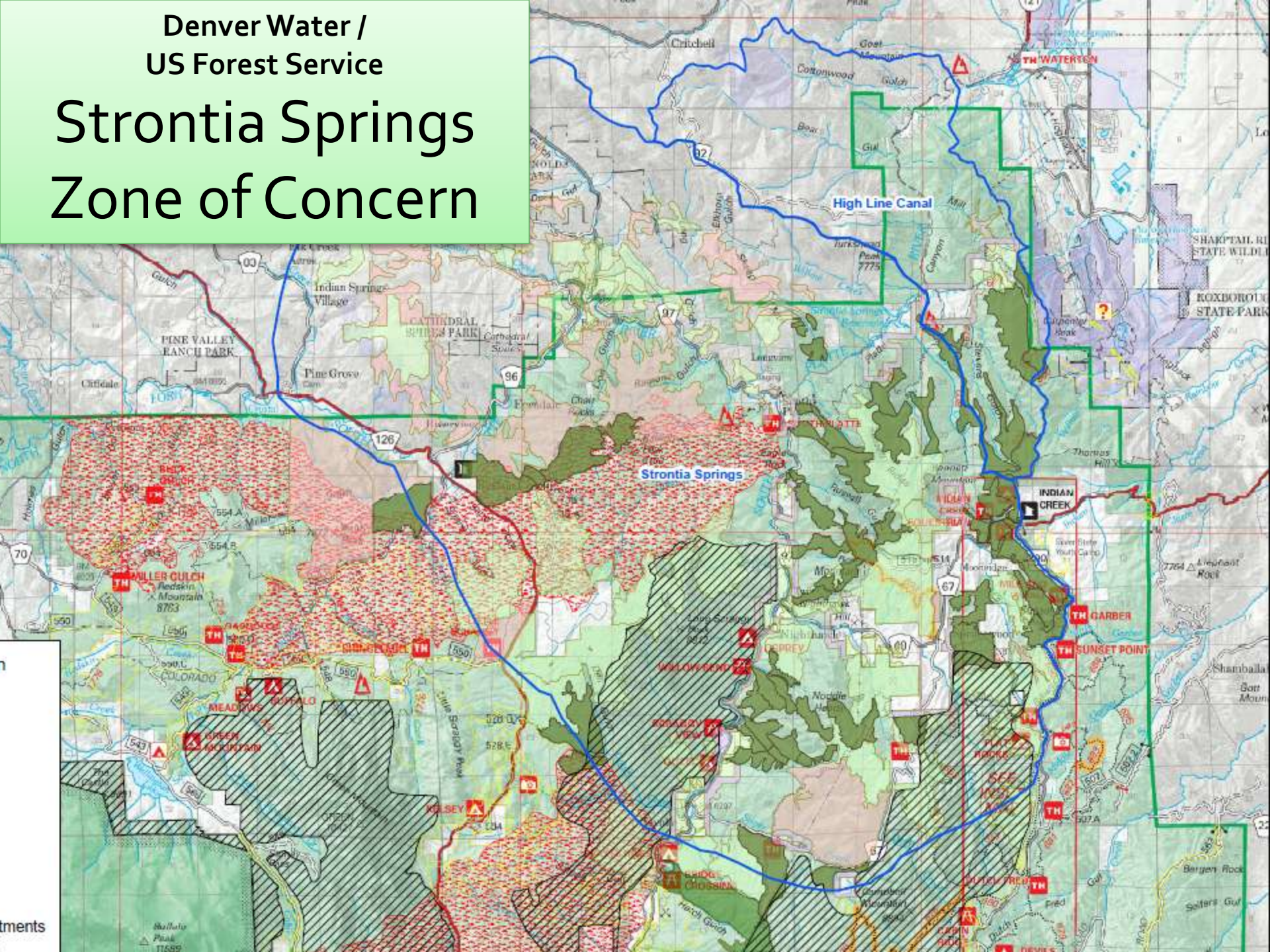
# Headwaters Restoration Concept





Denver Water /  
US Forest Service

# Strontia Springs Zone of Concern



# Vail/National Forest Foundation Treasured Landscape Project (Pike National Forest)

## *Long Term Watershed Restoration Projects*

Reduce sedimentation  
and improve water  
quality

Upper South Platte  
within the area of the  
Hayman Fire



# Four Mile Fire



*Thank You*



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