

Collaborating to solve watershed challenges

The Cycle of Recovery



Coalition for the Poudre River Watershed



Our mission is to improve & maintain the ecological health of the Poudre River watershed through community collaboration

Hally Strevey

hallys@poudrewatershed.org

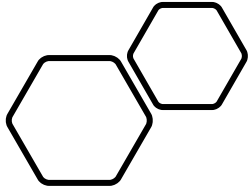
970-222-5754

Cameron Peak Fire Timeline

August 13, 2020

- 13 The Cameron Peak Fire ignited in the Upper Poudre Watershed near Cameron Pass between Cameron Peak and Chambers Lake





Between September 4 and
September 7, 2020, the
fire grew over 78,000
acres





October 13th, 2020



October 19th, 2020 (200,000 acres)

100% contained on December 2nd, after burning 208,913 acres. The fire was declared controlled on January 12th, 2021.

Impact

- 25-mile-long perimeter
- 1,050 stream miles
- 124 trail miles
- 41,700 acres of Wilderness burned
- 32 miles of Wild and Scenic corridor burned
- Three watersheds - Poudre, Big Thompson & Laramie
- Five reservoirs
- 16 mountain communities
- 492 structures destroyed



Long-term impacts

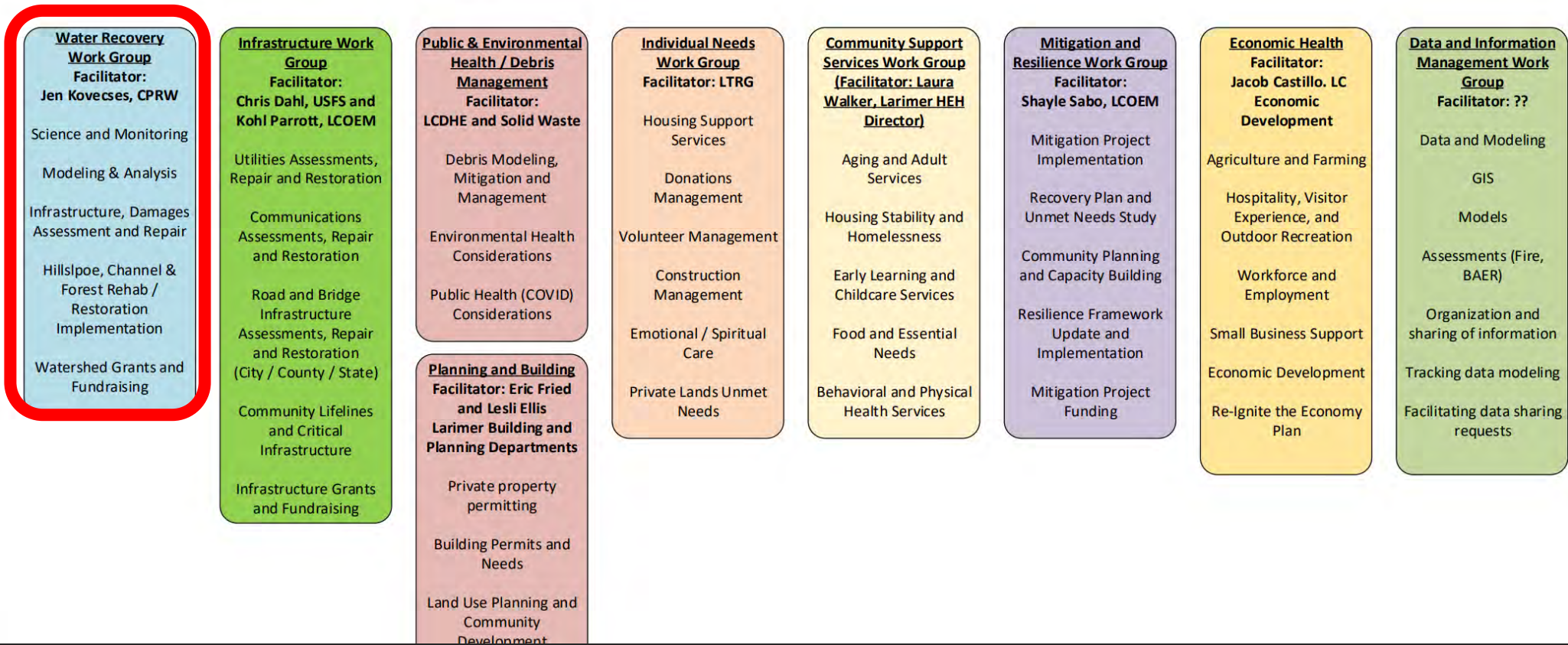
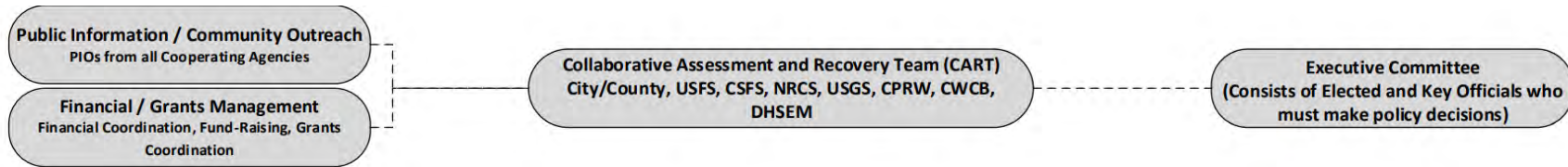
- Altered watershed processes
- Excess sediment & nutrients
- Debris flows, flash floods, washed out roads, water quality issues



Cache la Poudre River runs black after a rain event over the Cameron Peak burn scar - July 1, 2021 - Lower Narrows Campground (Photo: Coalition for the Poudre River Watershed)

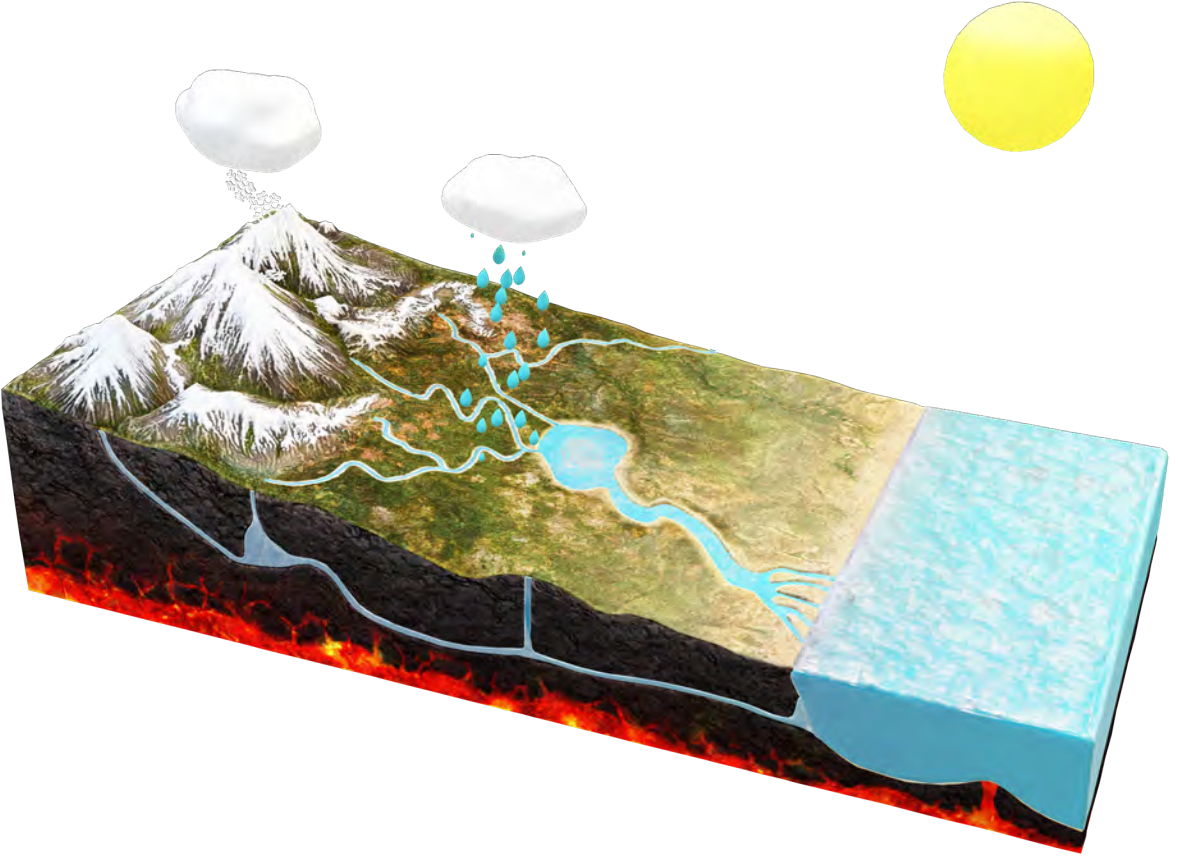
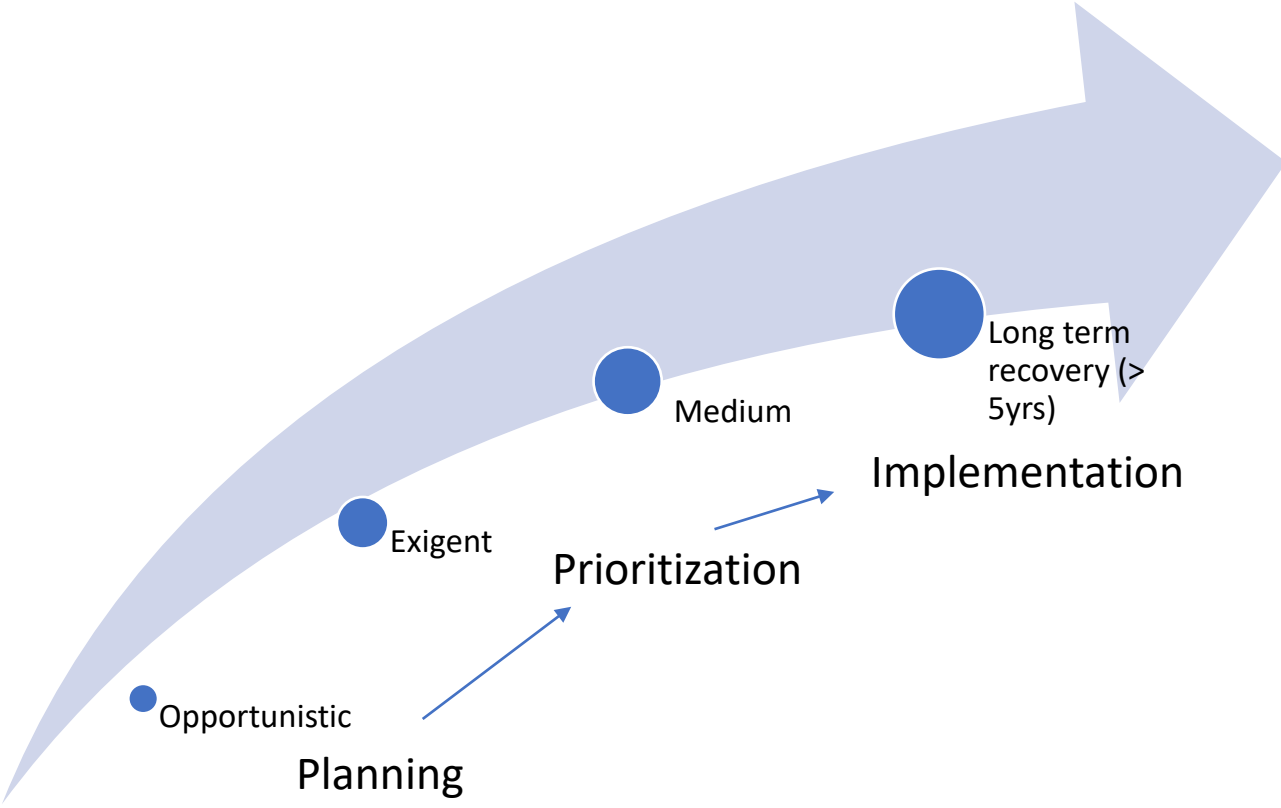
Wildfire Response Phases & Stakeholders Involved





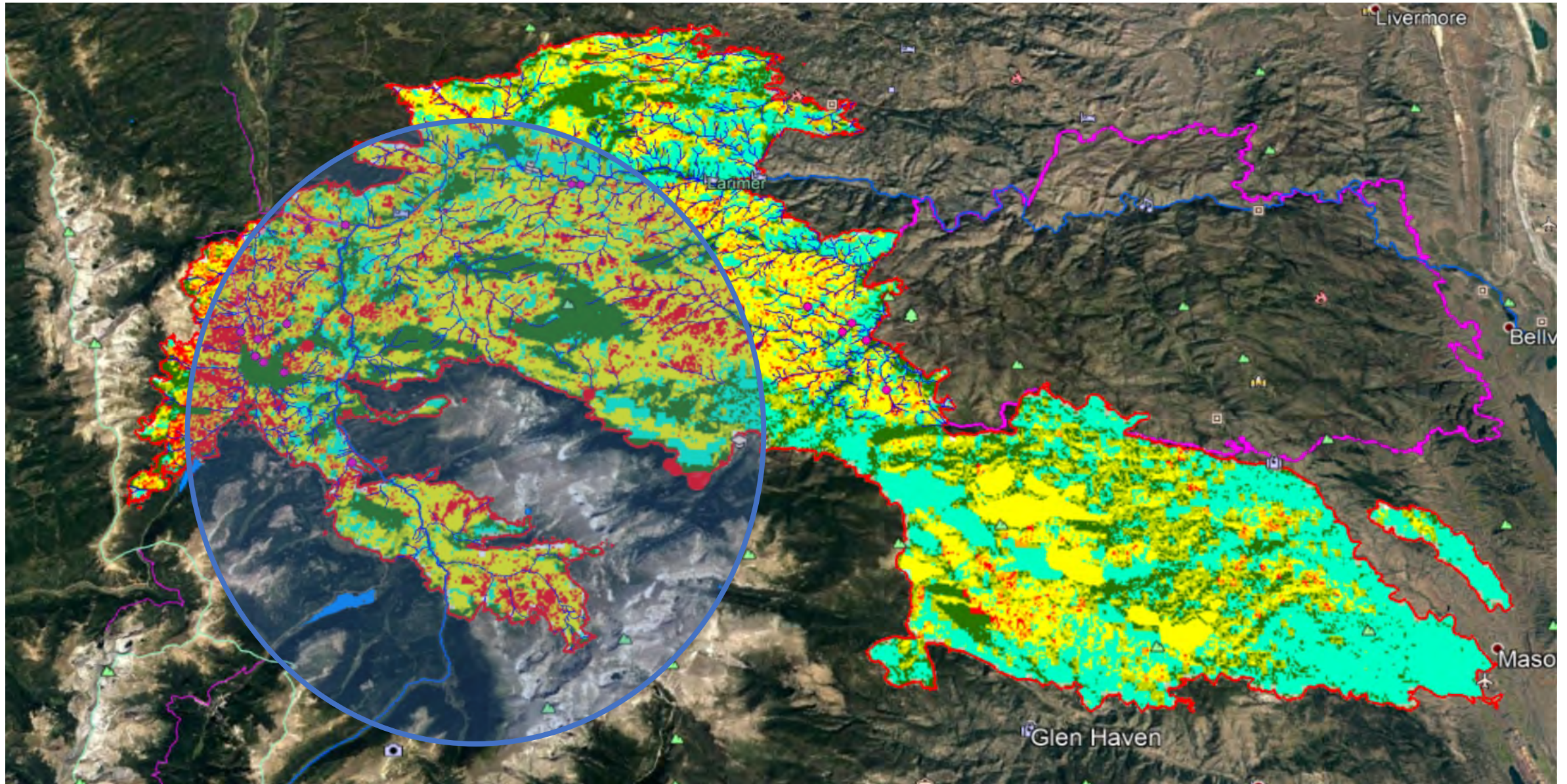
CPF Recovery Team Structure

CPF Recovery Process



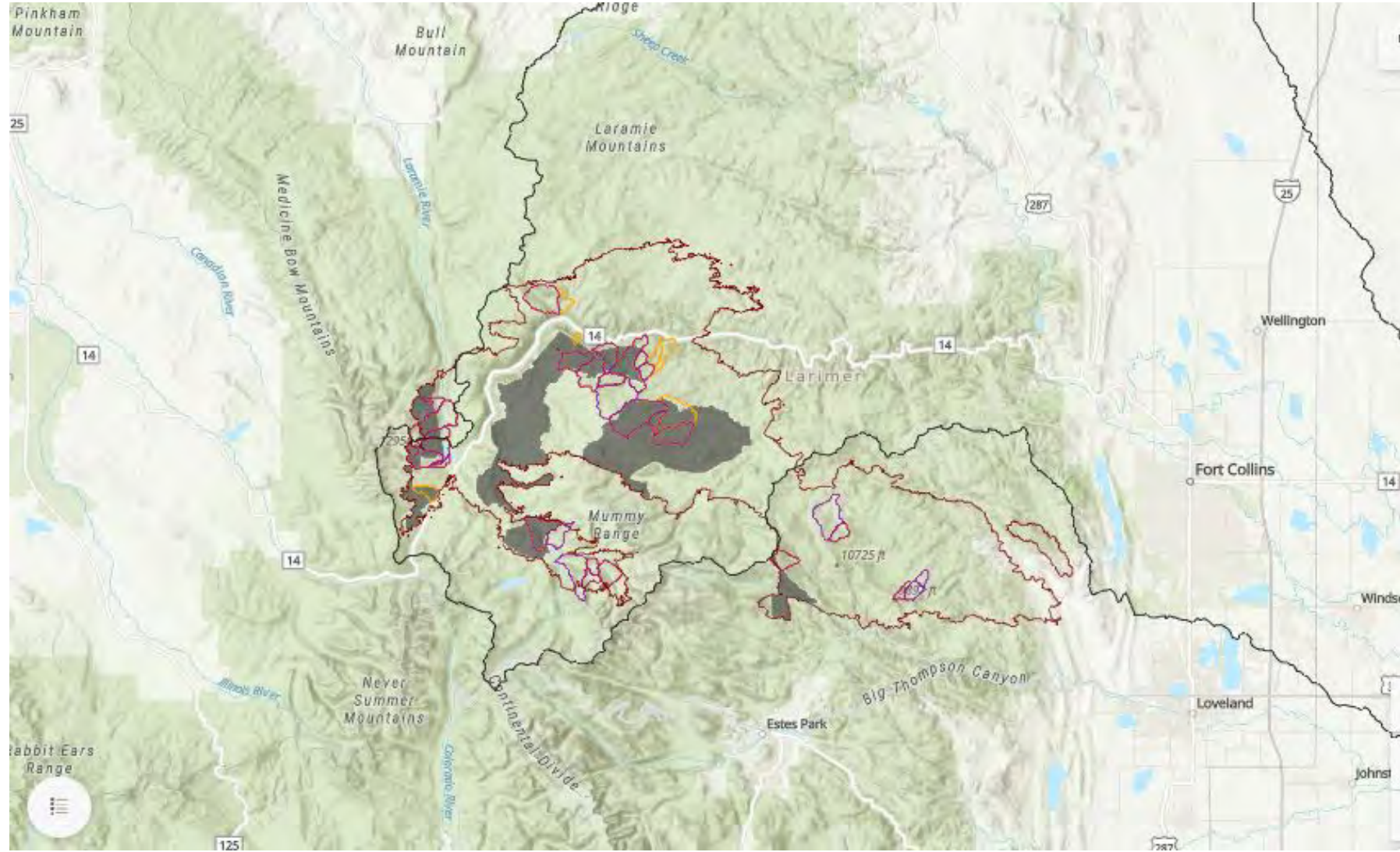
Tech info + risk tolerance + feasibility = prioritization
Hillslope to channel

Soil Burn Severity

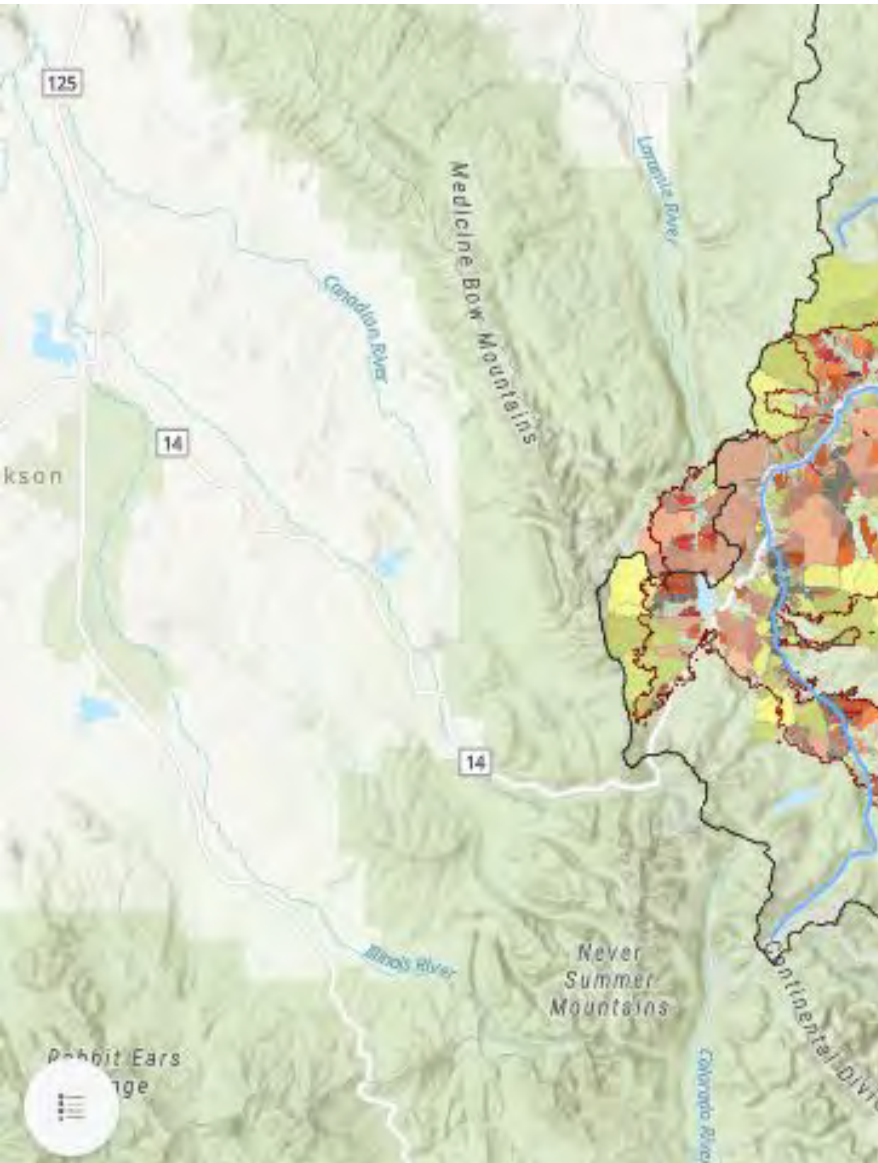


Post-Fire Sediment Yield

- Modeling prioritized by extent of treatment (reward) vs. untreated (risk)
- High reward and High risk have greatest potential for post-fire increases in sediment



Debris Flows



magnitude &
requent events
at previously
have
low or debris
will be at risk
presents
od of debris
st 15 min
of 24 mm/hr

Black Hollow Flood July 21, 2021

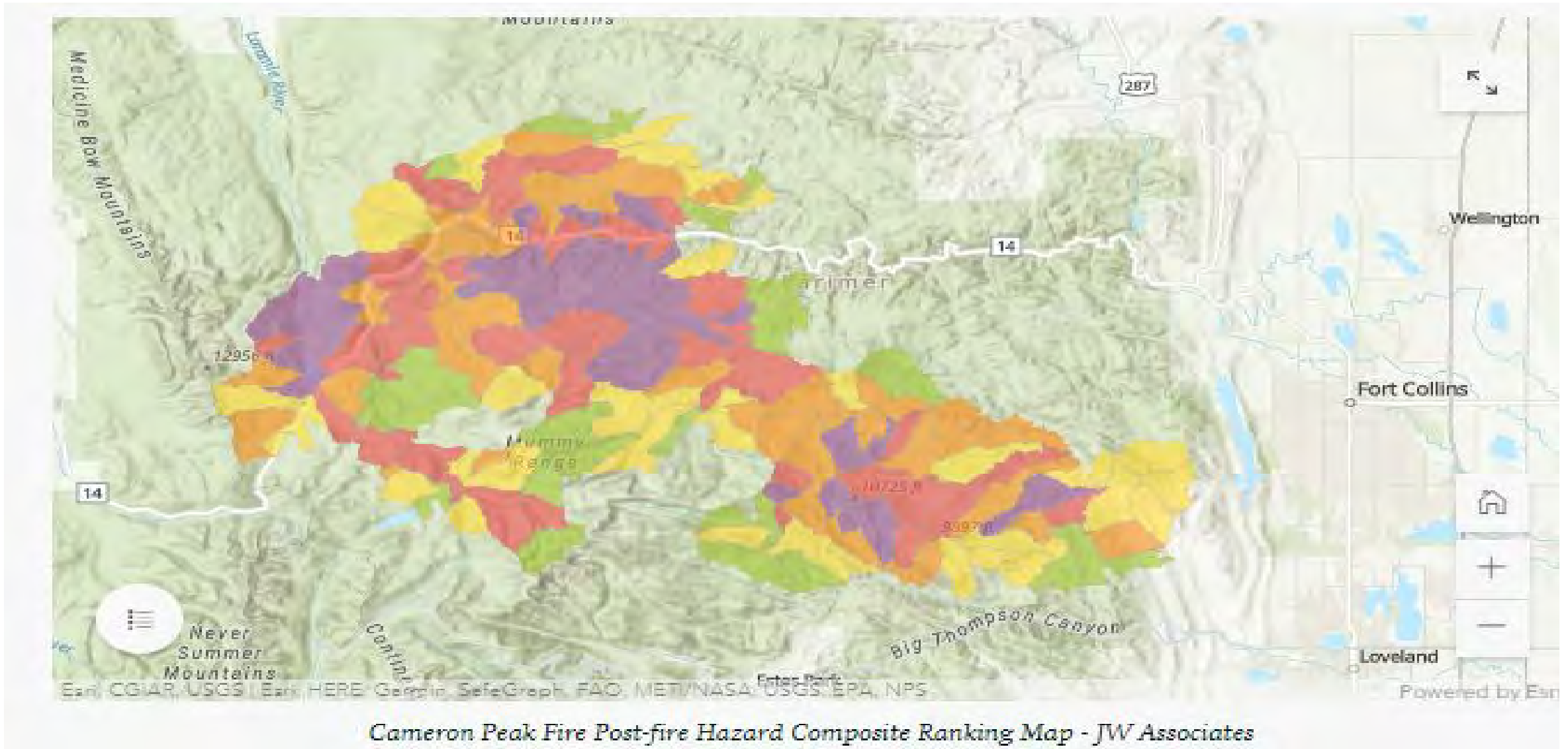




On July 21, 2021, City of Fort Collins Utilities staff collect water samples from the Poudre River in the wake of the Black Hollow flood. (Photo: City of Fort Collins Utilities)



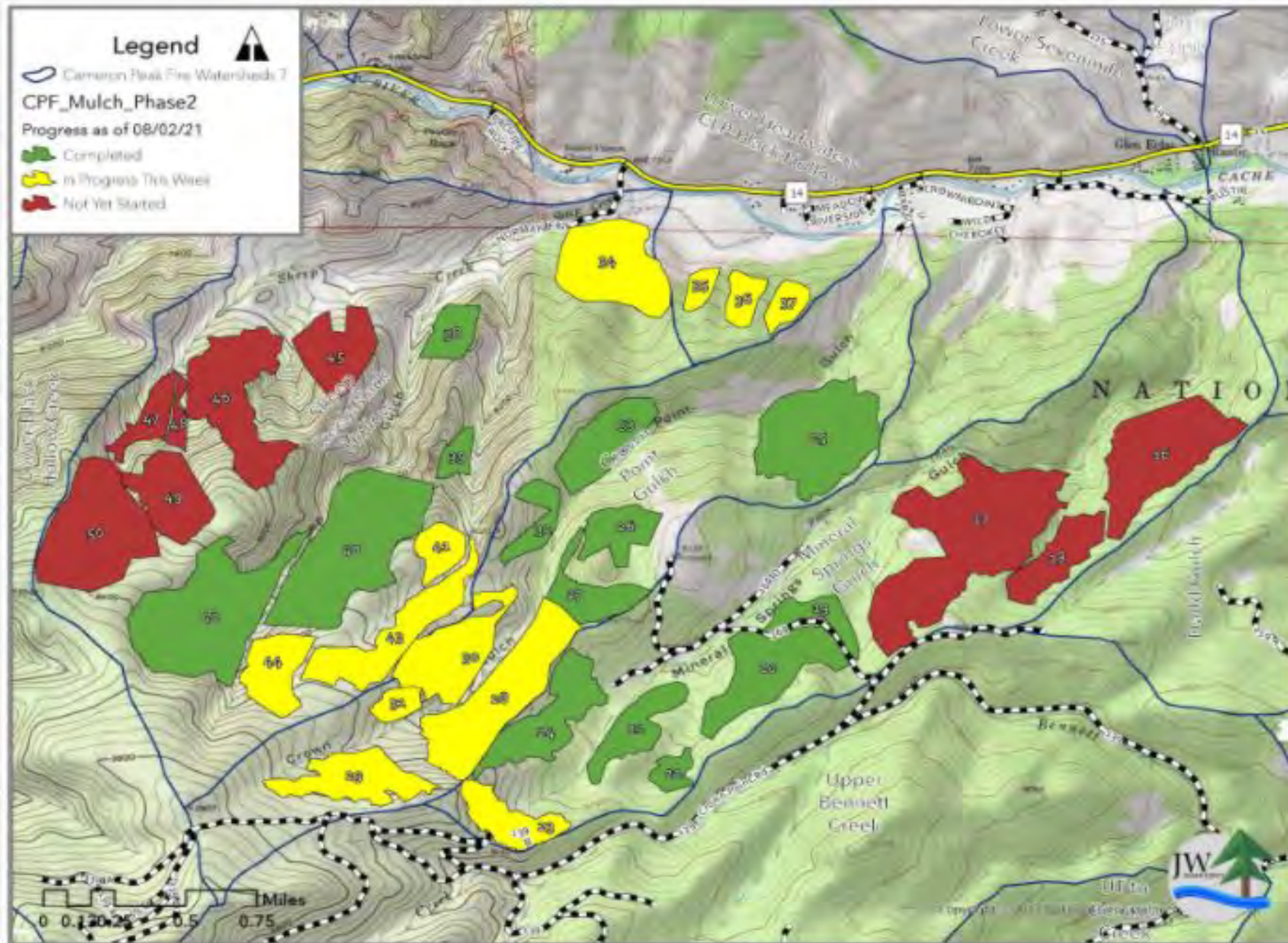
Watershed Hazards, Treatments and Targeting Prioritization



Cameron Peak Fire Post-fire Hazard Composite Ranking Map - JW Associates

Aerial Mulching





Aerial Mulching Progress - Week 2 (08.02.2021)

- Mitigate the negative consequences to watershed values
- >10,000 high priority acres identified in the Poudre watershed; 1,500 acres in the Big Thompson

Erosion Control

- LCCC, WRV, BTWC and CPRW
- Wattles, seeding, mulching, check dams etc.

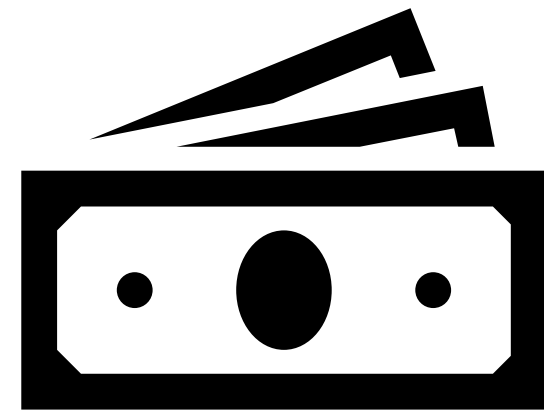
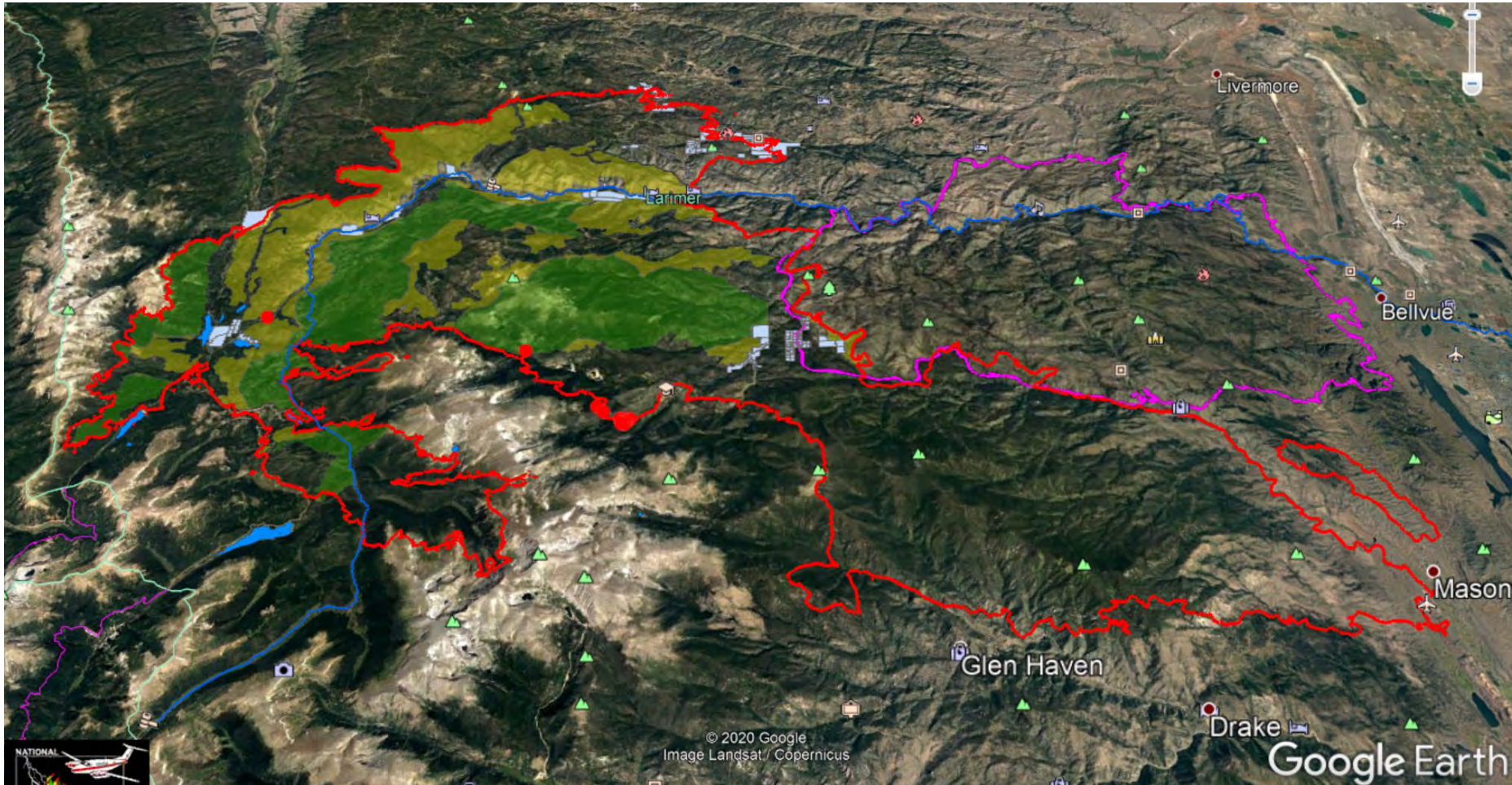


Debris Removal and Structure Protection

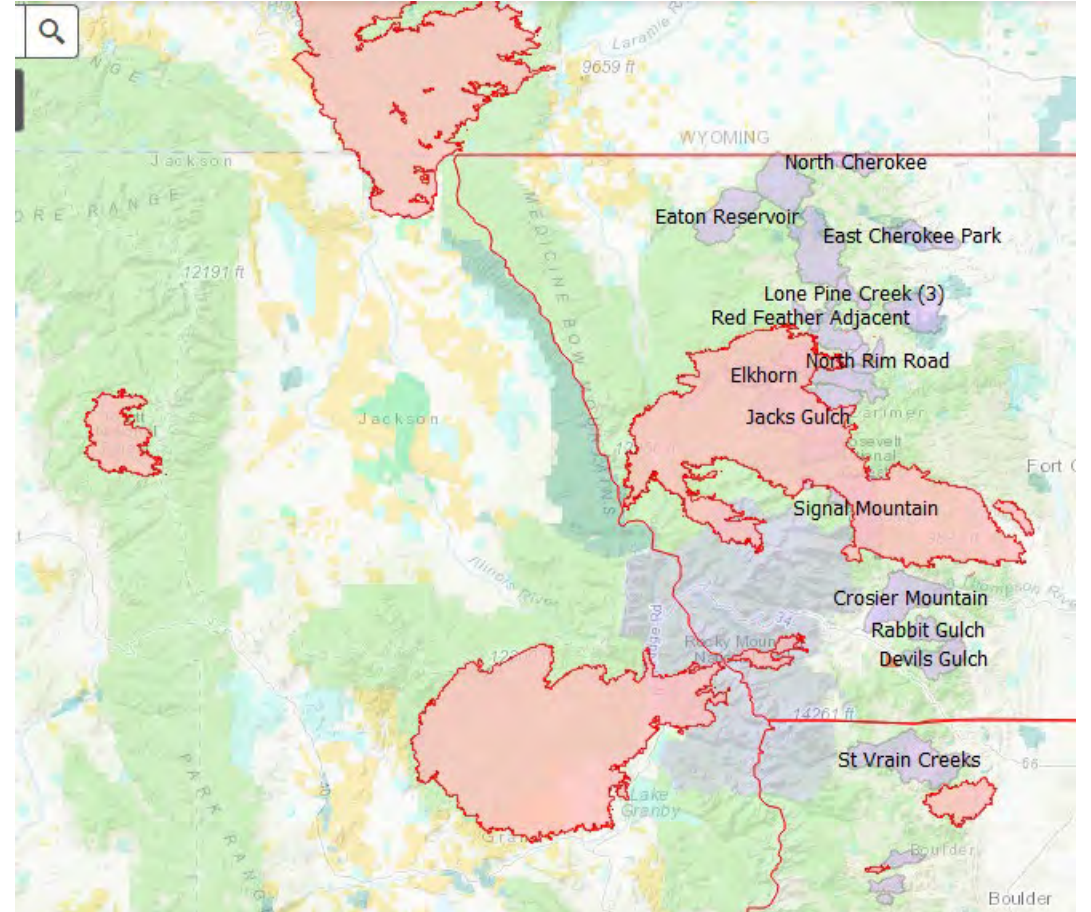
- Greeley & LaCo coordinating life & property protection work
 - Check dams, diversion berms, sandbags, wattles, armored crossings, willows etc.
- LaCo also coordinating debris removal



Recovery Challenges Ahead



Cycle of Recovery and Watershed Health



Funding Sources

- **Emergency Watershed Protection (EWP) Program**
- **Colorado Water Conservation Board**
- **City of Fort Collins**
- **City of Greeley**
- **Community Foundation NoCo Fires Fund**