

# Upper Monument Creek – Monument Fuels Treatment

- Reduce the risk of catastrophic wildfires
- Maintain healthy and resilient forest for future generations
- Actively manage landscape to increase the resiliency of the forest
- Improve the health of the forest, watersheds, wildlife habitat
- Create fuel breaks in strategic locations for firefighter safety, to prevent fire spread, and create holding areas for prescribed fire

Hand Thinning - Trees would be hand thinned using chainsaws. Slash is piled for burning during the winter with snow on the ground. Focus is on smaller diameter trees, regeneration, and shrubs/brush - ladder fuels -which can transition surface fires into the tops of the larger trees.



Mastication - Oak shrubs & small trees will be mulched into small chunks by a rubber tire or tracked equipment. Woody debris will be distributed across the treatment areas in 4" or less depths.



- Ponderosa pine islands, individual trees, & large old oak trees would be protected
- Remove Gambel oak and other woody brush that may serve as ladder fuels and encourage pine regeneration
- Leave variation in oak growth forms, sizes, age-classes, densities, and spatial distribution
- Future treatments to follow during winter seasons

**To help ensure public safety:**

A special order will be issued to prohibit all public entry into the area, including day use, hiking, and biking, within specified closure area. The order will be in effect during operations. Contact: Ryan Harlow, Pikes Peak Ranger District, [ryan.harlow@usda.gov](mailto:ryan.harlow@usda.gov), (719) 636-1602.