

Announcing the 2025 Blackhawk Ranch Community Wildfire Mitigation Plan

Dear Blackhawk Ranch Property Owners,

We're excited to announce the launch of the 2025 Blackhawk Ranch Community Wildfire Mitigation Plan. This year, our collective efforts will focus on Four Mile Canyon between Wapiti and Timber, beginning with initial work in the area known as "The Slide". The creation of this plan has been a collaboration between the BHR Emergency Management Committee and Roads Committee. Affected property owners will be contacted beforehand.

Why This Area Was Chosen:

This section of Four Mile Canyon was selected because it serves as a critical evacuation route for a large number of property owners. Clearing this area will help ensure safe passage in the event of wildfire, enhancing safety for the entire community.

Mitigation Work Schedule:

Community workdays will take place from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM on the 3rd Friday and Saturday of each month, beginning in April and continuing through September. May and July will be on only the 3rd Friday due to other, previously scheduled, community activities. ***In the event of foul weather or scheduling conflicts the missed day of mitigation will be made up on the same day of the following week.***

Mark your calendars:

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| • May 16 | BHR Connect is May 17 at 10 am at the Walsenburg Mercantile |
| • May 24 | Make up day |
| • June 20–21 | |
| • July 18 | BHR POA Annual Meeting is July 19 at 9:00 am at the La Veta |
| • July 26 | Make up day |
| • August 15–16 | |
| • September 19–20 | |

Please refer to the included calendar, where these dates are clearly marked, and the attached map, highlighting the target mitigation area.

How the Community Will Help:

Our strategy will be two-fold:

1. Hands-on Volunteer Work: We'll tackle the tasks that are manageable for volunteers—clearing brush, limbing trees, and removing debris.
2. Planning for Professional Help: We'll also identify and flag trees or areas that require professional equipment or expertise. This careful documentation will allow us to solicit bids and hire help efficiently, maximizing our resources.

This is a community-wide effort, and your participation makes a real difference in protecting our homes and land. Whether you can contribute time, tools, or support in other ways, we encourage everyone to get involved. Let's make 2025 our most effective wildfire mitigation year yet!

With gratitude,

Frank Horwich, Lot 62, On behalf of **Jim Nance** - roads@blackhawkranch.org and **Brad Brooks**
tractorboy2017@gmail.com

Blackhawk Ranch 2025 Community Wildfire Mitigation Calendar



Wildfire Mitigation



BHR Connect



Annual Meeting

JANUARY

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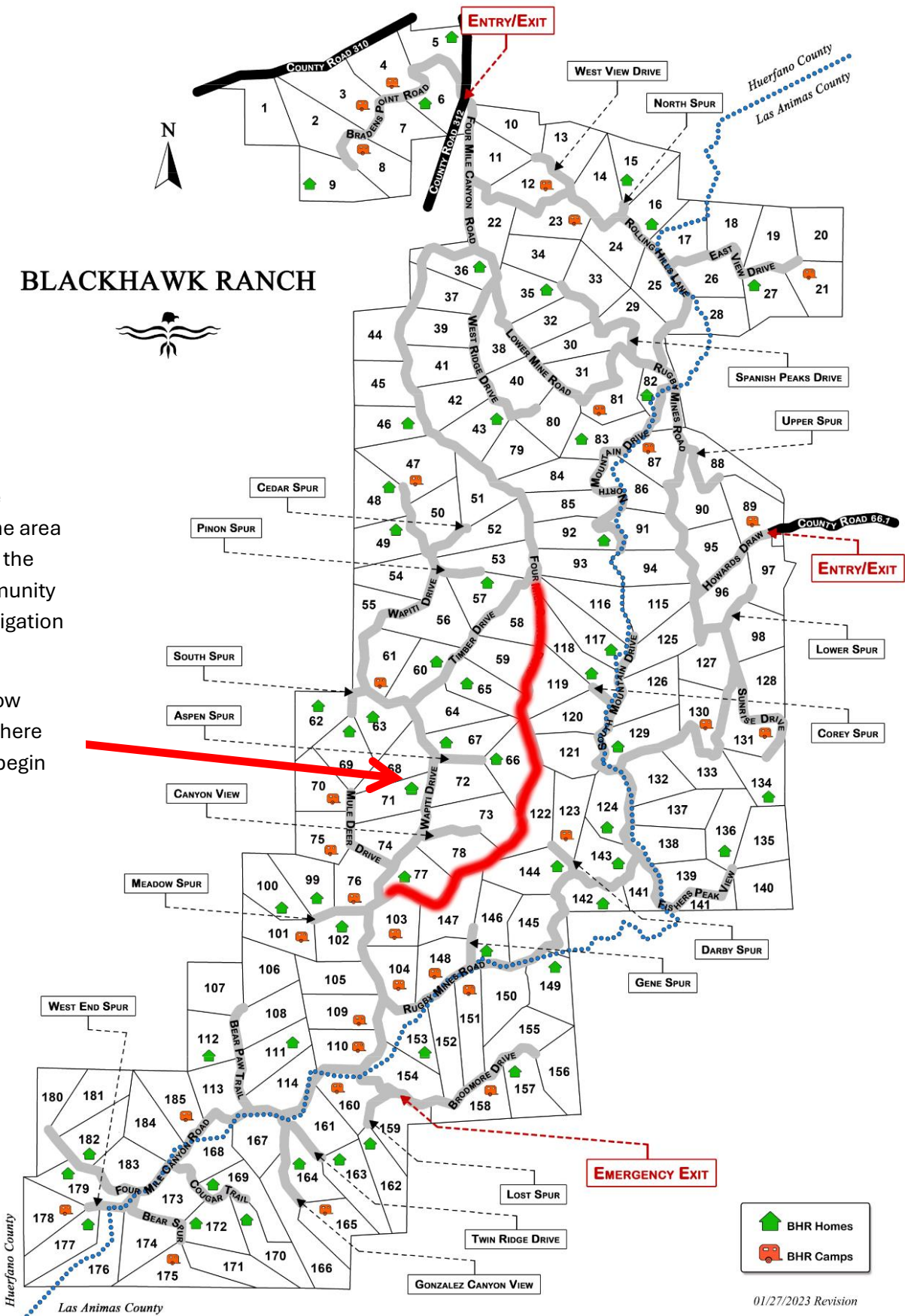
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DECEMBER

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BHR Community Wildfire Mitigation Volunteer Safety Guidelines

The following are important safety guidelines and recommendations on gear for individuals participating in community wildfire mitigation efforts. Your safety is our top priority. Please review and follow these recommendations to ensure a safe and productive workday.

Waiver: All volunteers will be required to sign a liability waiver at the work site prior to beginning work each day.

General Safety Guidelines:

- Always follow the instructions of the acting site supervisor.
 - Be aware of your surroundings—watch for uneven ground, sharp tools, falling branches, and other hazards.
 - Stay hydrated, take breaks as needed, and don't overexert yourself.
 - Notify the acting site supervisor immediately in case of injury or unsafe conditions.
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Personal Protective Equipment (PPE):

Volunteers are requested to wear or bring the following gear.

- Hard Hat: Protection from falling branches and debris.
 - Safety Glasses or Goggles: Eye protection from wood chips, dust, and flying debris.
 - Work Gloves: Heavy-duty gloves for handling tools and vegetation.
 - Long Pants: Durable pants such as denim or workwear (no shorts).
 - Long-Sleeved Shirt: Lightweight but protective clothing to shield arms from sun and brush.
 - Sturdy Boots: Closed-toe, non-slip, and preferably steel-toe work boots.
 - Hearing Protection: Earplugs or earmuffs if using or working near chainsaws or loud equipment.
 - Dust Mask or Respirator: For working in dry, dusty conditions or near smoke.
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Recommended Personal Items:

- Water (Minimum 2 Liters): Hydration is essential; bring a reusable bottle or hydration pack.
 - Snacks or Light Lunch: High-energy snacks like granola bars, trail mix, or fruit.
 - Sunscreen: SPF 30 or higher, reapply every 2 hours.
 - Hat with a Brim: For sun protection.
 - Bug Repellent: Especially during spring and summer months.
 - Personal First Aid Kit: Include band-aids, antiseptic wipes, and any personal medications.
 - Change of Clothes: In case you get wet or dirty.
 - Rain Gear: Lightweight poncho or rain jacket if rain is in the forecast.
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Optional But Helpful Items

- Multi-tool or Pocket Knife
 - Small Backpack or Daypack
 - Notebook & Pen: To take notes or report issues.
 - Smartphone or Two-Way Radio: For communication (ensure it's charged).
 - Towel or Wet Wipes: For cleaning up afterward.
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Emergency Procedures

- An acting site supervisor will be present at all times.
 - Emergency contacts and a first aid kit will be on-site.
 - In case of an emergency, call 911 and notify the acting site supervisor immediately.
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Thank You for Volunteering!

Your participation helps reduce wildfire risk and protects our community. We appreciate your time, effort, and commitment to safety.