

FORESTS TO GRASSLAND



Secretary of Interior Sally Jewell and Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack sign the Western Watersheds Enhancement Partnership Memorandum of Understanding with representatives of the State of Colorado, Western Area Power Authority, Northern Water Conservancy District, Bureau of Reclamation, Colorado State Forest Service and the U.S. Forest Service's Rocky Mountain Region.

The ARP 2013 Accomplishment Report

Introduction

We appreciate this opportunity to highlight our 2013 accomplishments. The Arapaho and Roosevelt National Forests and Pawnee National Grassland's (ARP) success and public service was again enhanced by our dedicated volunteers and partners. We had a year of great accomplishments across the ARP while continuing our burned area rehabilitation work on the 2012 High Park and Hewlett Gulch fires. Fire season was milder in 2013 but the September rains and the flooding that followed significantly damaged National Forest System lands on the Boulder and Canyon Lakes ranger districts. The landscape, access routes and opportunities were changed on these units. Recovery from the flood will take years and it is unlikely that all areas, roads, and opportunities will be returned to pre-flood conditions. We will focus our recovery around health and safety, restoring dynamic ecosystems that are sustainable and appropriate within the limits and opportunities of the changed landscape and providing public service by continuing to work with communities, volunteers and partners to resolve issues, leverage funds and expand our recovery efforts. **More information about this significant flood event is located on page 4.**

About the Forests and Grassland

The ARP is located in north-central Colorado and headquartered in Fort Collins. The Forests and Grassland encompasses 1.6 million acres of public land in the Rocky Mountains and plains. Boundaries extend north to the Wyoming border and south to Mount Evans. The Arapaho National Forest includes lands on both sides of the Continental Divide while the Roosevelt National Forest is confined to the eastern side of the Divide. The Pawnee National Grassland is located 30 miles east of Fort Collins. We manage National Forest System lands in Boulder, Clear Creek, Gilpin, Grand, Larimer, Weld, and portions of Park and Jefferson counties. **Information about our offices is on page 23.** National Forest System lands contribute to a healthy economy by providing recreation opportunities; offering timber, mineral, and grazing commodities; supporting local schools and governments through the Secure Rural Schools Act and Payments in Lieu of Taxes (PILT); investing in infrastructure, natural resource health, and restoration; and paying salaries and benefits to Forest Service employees who in turn contribute to the local economy.