



## Southwest - Jemez Mountains Restoration Workshop

Dennis Trujillo  
Preserve Manager

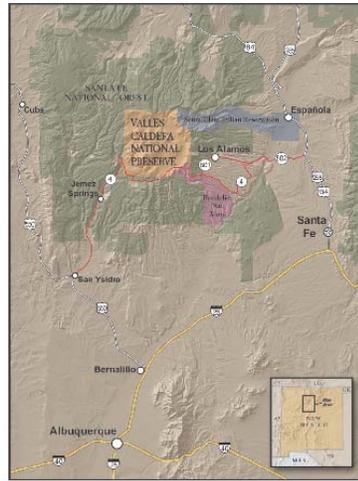
# Valles Caldera National Preserve

IN 2000 THE 106<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS PASSED THE VALLES CALDERA PRESERVATION ACT THE PURPOSES OF WHICH WERE TO:

- ACQUIRE THE PRESERVE
- PROTECT AND PRESERVE THE RESOURCES OF THE PRESERVE FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS
- PROVIDE OPPORTUNITIES FOR PUBLIC RECREATION
- ESTABLISH A DEMONSTRATION AREA
- PROVIDE FOR SUSTAINED YIELD MANAGEMENT OF TIMBER AND LIVESTOCK GRAZING, WHERE CONSISTENT WITH OTHER PURPOSES.

## Valles Caldera National Preserve

- ❖ 88,900 Acres
- ❖ Located in north-central New Mexico within Sandoval and Rio Arriba Counties
- ❖ National Forest System Land



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## Vegetation

### Forests:

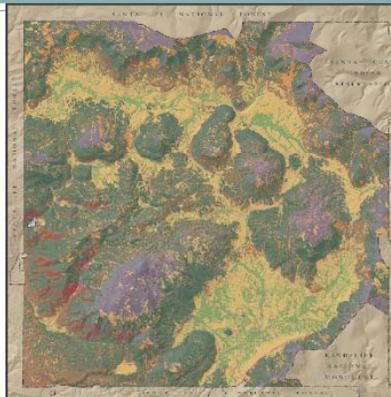
- Spruce/Fir
- Mixed Conifer Species
- Aspen
- Ponderosa Pine

### Shrublands:

- Gambel oak/montane
- Riparian

### Grasslands:

- Montane Grasslands
- Wetlands and Wet Meadows



- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Spruce/Fir Forest</li> <li>Mixed Conifer Forest and Woodland</li> <li>Aspen Forest and Woodland</li> <li>Ponderosa Pine Forest</li> <li>Grassland, Oak-Mixed Montane Shrubland</li> <li>Montane Grassland</li> <li>Wetlands and Wet Meadows</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Montane Riparian Shrubland</li> <li>Sparsely Vegetated Rock Outcrop</li> <li>Pulmoniferous Rock Field</li> <li>Rocky Disturbed Ground</li> <li>Open Water</li> <li>Post-Fire Bare Ground</li> </ul> |
|---|--|

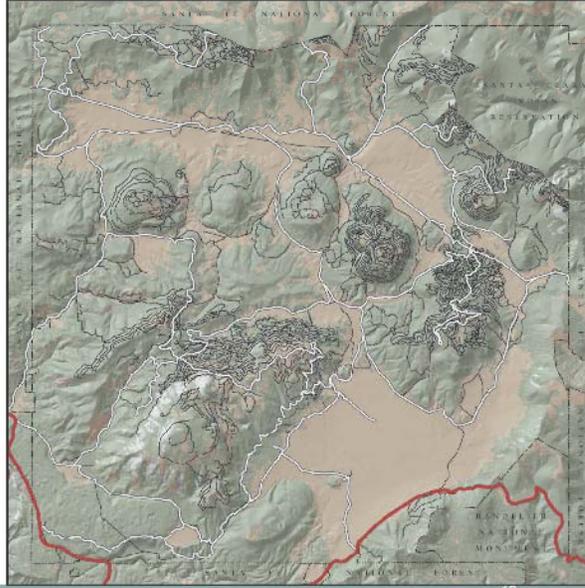


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## Human Disturbance

Human activities profoundly altered the structure, composition and function of the Preserve's ecosystems.

The activities included fire suppression, logging, and grazing by sheep and cattle



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## Grazing

At the turn of the century the Preserve was intensely grazed by sheep. Reports of 25,000 or more sheep are common with numbers as high as 100,000 reported in court records.

The transition from sheep to cattle began in the 1950's as the demand for wool declined. While as many as 12,000 head have been reported, from 1979-1999 4,000-7,200 steer grazed on the Preserve from May through November

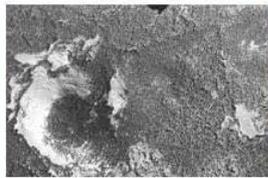
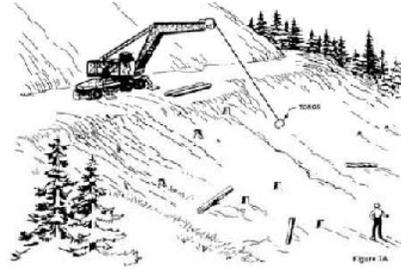


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## Logging

Removed large trees

During the 1960's approximately one third of the Preserve was clear cut using a logger jammer system that included constructing a network of roads spiraling up the forested domes.



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Old growth forest surrounding the historic headquarters area unique.

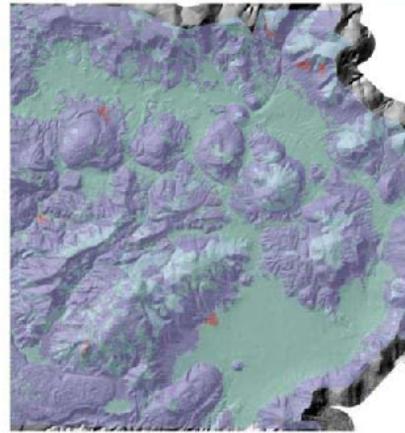
Less than 1% of the Preserve's forests are dominated by large trees

*Photo by Michael Mudd*



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## Forests dominated by trees 9-16" in diameter



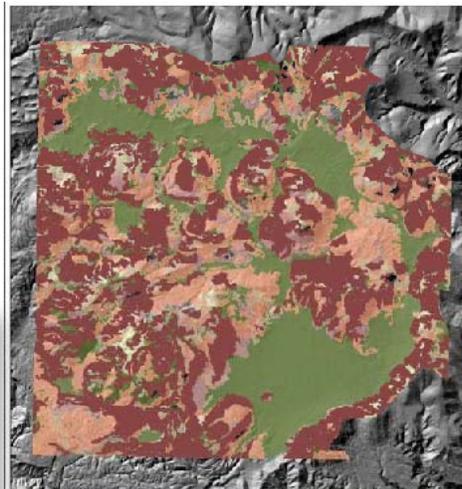
**Legend**  
 Dominant Size Class  
 Not Forested  
 0 - 8.9" diameter  
 9 - 15.9" diameter  
 16 - 24.9"  
 25" +

**NOTE:**  
 As displayed on this poster, very few stands on the Preserve are dominated by trees greater than 16" in diameter. Only nine stands representing 283 acres.  
 817 stands, totaling nearly 37,000 acres have a presence of trees greater than 16" in diameter. However, within those stands, trees of the size class represent less than 3% of the cover.

1:50,000  
 1887 1008

## Wildfire Risk

Most of the forests of the Preserve could burn as a crown fire under hot, dry, windy conditions.



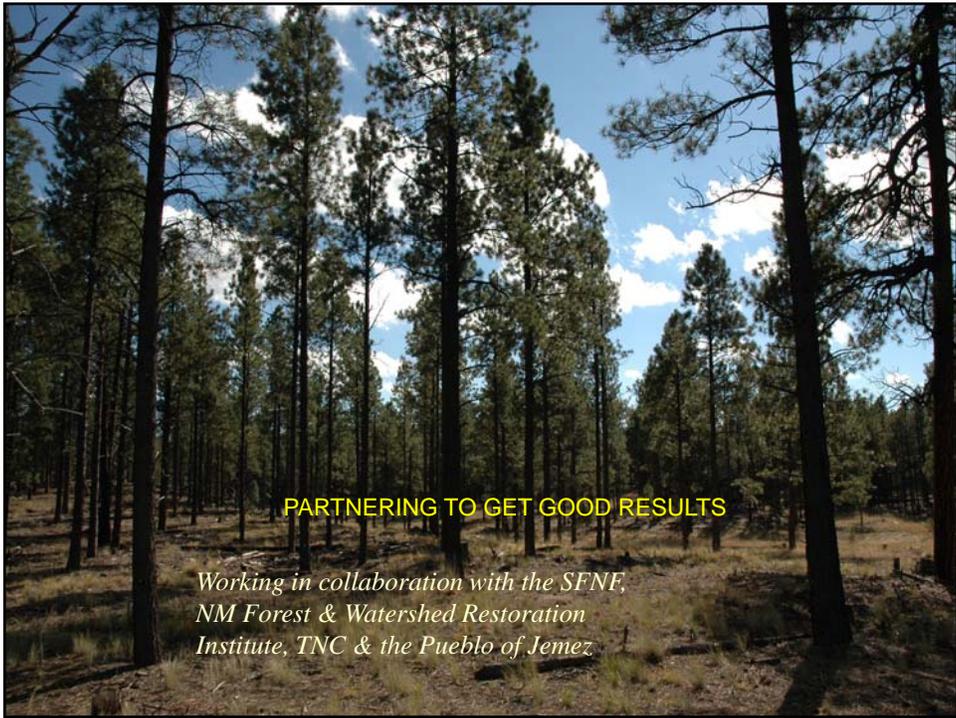
**Legend**  
 Very\_High\_Crown\_Fire  
 High\_Crown\_Fire  
 Moderate\_Crown\_Fire  
 Low\_Crown\_Fire  
 Aspen\_Dominated\_Reduced\_DF  
 No\_Crown\_Fire

1:14,000

Data from V. D'Elia, David P. Foltz, and M. C. ...  
 Map is data provided through the ...  
 Values Colored True  
 Contact: K. Cole GIS  
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 VER 6/2007



*Thinning operations in Ponderosa pine stand.*



**PARTNERING TO GET GOOD RESULTS**

*Working in collaboration with the SFNF, NM Forest & Watershed Restoration Institute, TNC & the Pueblo of Jemez.*