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Addendum to Eligibility Report for the National Wild and Scenic River System

Apache-Sitgreaves
National Forests

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Introduction

This document updates river conditions in light of the 2011 Wallow Fire and presents additional information for East Eagle Creek. This information was compiled by Evelyn Treiman with review from Linda WhiteTrifaro, Lance Brown, and Jerry Ward.

The Outstandingly Remarkable Values (ORVs) for the eligible and suitable Wild and Scenic Rivers within the perimeter of the Wallow Fire were reviewed in late 2011. The Wallow Fire burned over 538,000 acres on the Apache-Sitgreaves National Forests and adjacent ownerships in May and June of 2011. The review focuses on the *long-term assessment of eligibility because of the changed conditions.*

The review found the ORVs for each river are still valid and will remain valid into the future. Each eligible river and its ORVs are discussed below. Specific information for each river is shown in table 1. The percentages of fire severity are for the portion of the river segment that lies within the fire perimeter.

Additional information for East Eagle Creek is presented for use in further river studies (i.e., suitability study.)

Only maps for rivers that were partially affected by the Wallow Fire are included in this document. Maps for the remaining rivers, which are completely within the Wallow Fire perimeter, can be found in the 2009 *Eligibility Report for the National Wild and Scenic River System, Apache-Sitgreaves National Forests*.

Eligible rivers affected by the Wallow Fire

Bear Wallow Creek

The Wallow Fire affected the entire eligible river: Segments 1 and 2. Fire severity along Segment 1 was mostly unburned (72 percent) and low (22 percent), with patches of moderate (4 percent) and high (2 percent). Segment 2 showed mostly unburned (69 percent) and low (26 percent) severity, with patches of moderate (5 percent). Vegetation along Segment 1 is conifer forests and pine oak woodland, while Segment 2 is pine oak woodland and conifer forest. Riparian vegetation, including montane willow riparian forest, occurs adjacent to the river. Riparian vegetation recovers over time and usually more rapidly than upland vegetation after disturbance (fire and flood) events.

Scenery will continue to be an ORV for this river. The physical landscapes along the river were not affected. It is expected that aspen regeneration will be very high along the entire eligible river, with the extent of fall colors greater than in the past. In this regard, the river corridor will continue to be showcase of forest succession. Increased landscape diversity is expected because of the greater variety of landscapes (more rock features visible, greater presence of aspen, different tree sizes and species as regrowth occurs, and more open forests where small trees were killed).

Recreation will continue to be an ORV for this river. Recreation opportunities are unchanged for the long-term, although the fishery may be depleted for some time. Hunting opportunities may increase because of more diverse vegetation and more open forests.

Fish habitat will continue to be an ORV for this river. Bear Wallow Creek is identified as necessary for Apache trout recovery; short- and long-term management for this purpose will continue. Approximately ½ mile of Apache trout recovery habitat was directly affected. The effects of fire in the uplands will indirectly affect an additional 3½ miles of recovery habitat. Habitat quality and conditions have been, and possibly for many years, will be affected by the loss of riparian vegetation and increased sedimentation. Work on or reconstruction of the fish barrier to prevent upstream movement of non-native fishes must not affect the free-flowing character of Bear Wallow Creek and must be in conformance with the Wilderness Act and FSH 1909.12, section 82.51.

Wildlife species and habitat will continue to be ORVs for this river. Riparian areas along Bear Wallow Creek were primarily unburned, with short sections of low severity fire. The riparian areas and their associated wildlife species (e.g., rodents, shrews) are expected to recover over time; recovering vegetation still provides many habitat components that support a variety of wildlife species, including birds. Prey species will support predators and raptors, including the northern goshawk. Wildlife habitat in the river corridor may be more diverse with more shrubs and small trees. Early succession habitats are likely to attract a variety of wildlife species (e.g., snags and dead trees attract woodpeckers and cavity nesting birds). The regrowing shrubs and down trees will maintain habitat for black bear and blue grouse. Mexican spotted owls may persist in the river corridor.

Vegetation will continue to be an ORV for this river. The riparian areas were generally unburned and will recover over time. Plant species such as Goodding's onion and Blumer's dock will regrow from underground rhizomes. Aspen will resprout throughout the river corridor. Moderate and high severity fire created scattered openings on north-facing slopes, which will increase vegetation diversity as succession occurs.

Black River (Mainstem)

The Wallow Fire affected the entire eligible river: Segments 1, 2, and 3. Fire severity along Segment 1 was unburned (14 percent), low (69 percent), and moderate (14 percent) with a small amount of high (3 percent). Segment 2 showed a mix of unburned (62 percent) and low severity (38 percent). Fire severity along Segment 3 was predominantly unburned (32 percent) and low (65 percent), with 3 percent moderate severity. Vegetation along Segment 1 is conifer forests and grassland, while Segment 2 is conifer forests. Segment 3 vegetation is conifer forests and pine oak woodland. Riparian vegetation, including montane willow riparian forest, occurs adjacent to the river. Riparian vegetation recovers over time and usually more rapidly than upland vegetation after disturbance (fire and flood) events.

Scenery will continue to be an ORV for this river. The physical landscape along the river (lava ridges, canyon size, scree slopes, and colorful canyon walls) was not affected. The canyon should be more open where the mostly low severity fire removed brush and undergrowth. Higher fire severities on some north-facing slopes should result in openings with different plant species than nearby forested slopes. Increased landscape diversity is expected because of the greater variety of landscapes (more rock features visible, greater presence of aspen, different tree sizes and species as regrowth occurs, and more open forests where small trees were killed).

Recreation will continue to be an ORV for this river. The available opportunities have not changed and will continue to attract users, although the fishery may be depleted for some time.

Fish species and habitat will continue to be ORVs for this river. Short- and long-term management for native fish species recovery will continue and is critical for roundtail chub. Approximately 16 miles of the Black River were directly affected. The effects of fire in the uplands will indirectly affect an additional 2 miles of native fish habitat. Habitat quality and native fish populations have been, and possibly for many years, will be affected by impacts to the watershed and increased sedimentation.

The Black River currently supports one of two roundtail chub populations on the Apache-Sitgreaves NFs and contains populations of desert sucker, speckled dace, and Sonora sucker. Wallow fire impacts to the roundtail chub population include reduced habitat (especially pool quality) from increased sedimentation. Concurrent increases in non-native species abundance will also affect all native species. However, native fish populations will persist at possibly reduced levels, but should improve when aquatic habitat, riparian, and watershed recovery occur.

Wildlife species and habitat will continue to be ORVs for this river. Riparian areas along the Black River were primarily unburned or experienced low severity fire. These areas and their associated wildlife species (e.g., rodents, shrews) are expected to recover over time; recovering vegetation still provides many habitat components that support a variety of wildlife species, including birds. Prey species will support a variety of predators and raptors, including the northern goshawk. Early succession habitats are likely to attract a variety of wildlife species (e.g., snags and dead trees attract woodpeckers and cavity nesting birds). Wildlife habitat in the river corridor may be more diverse with more shrubs and small trees. The regrowing shrubs and down trees will maintain habitat for black bear. Riparian areas with moderate or high fire severity are expected to recover slowly, with a slower return of riparian-associated wildlife species. Mexican spotted owls may persist in the river corridor.

Campbell Blue Creek

The Wallow Fire affected almost all of the eligible river: Segments 1, 2, and most of 3. Fire severity along Segment 1 was predominantly low (98 percent) with some moderate (2 percent). Segment 2 showed a mix of low (64 percent), moderate (12 percent), and high (18 percent) severities, with 6 percent unburned. The moderate and high fire severities were primarily in the mixed conifer forest. Fire severity along the affected portion of Segment 3 was primarily unburned (53 percent) and low (44 percent) with some moderate (3 percent). Vegetation along Segment 1 is conifer forests, while Segments 2 and 3 are conifer forests and pine oak woodland. Riparian vegetation, including montane willow and cottonwood-willow riparian forests, occurs adjacent to the river. Riparian vegetation recovers over time and usually more rapidly than upland vegetation after disturbance (fire and flood) events.

Scenery will continue to be an ORV for this river. The physical landscapes along the river (canyons, cliffs, and meadows) were not affected. The canyon should be more open where low severity fire removed brush and undergrowth. It is expected that the riparian vegetation will rebound and that aspen regeneration will be high where it was present, with the extent of fall colors greater than in the past. Increased landscape diversity is expected because of the greater variety of landscapes (more rock features visible, greater presence of aspen, different tree sizes and species as regrowth occurs, and more open forests where small trees were killed).

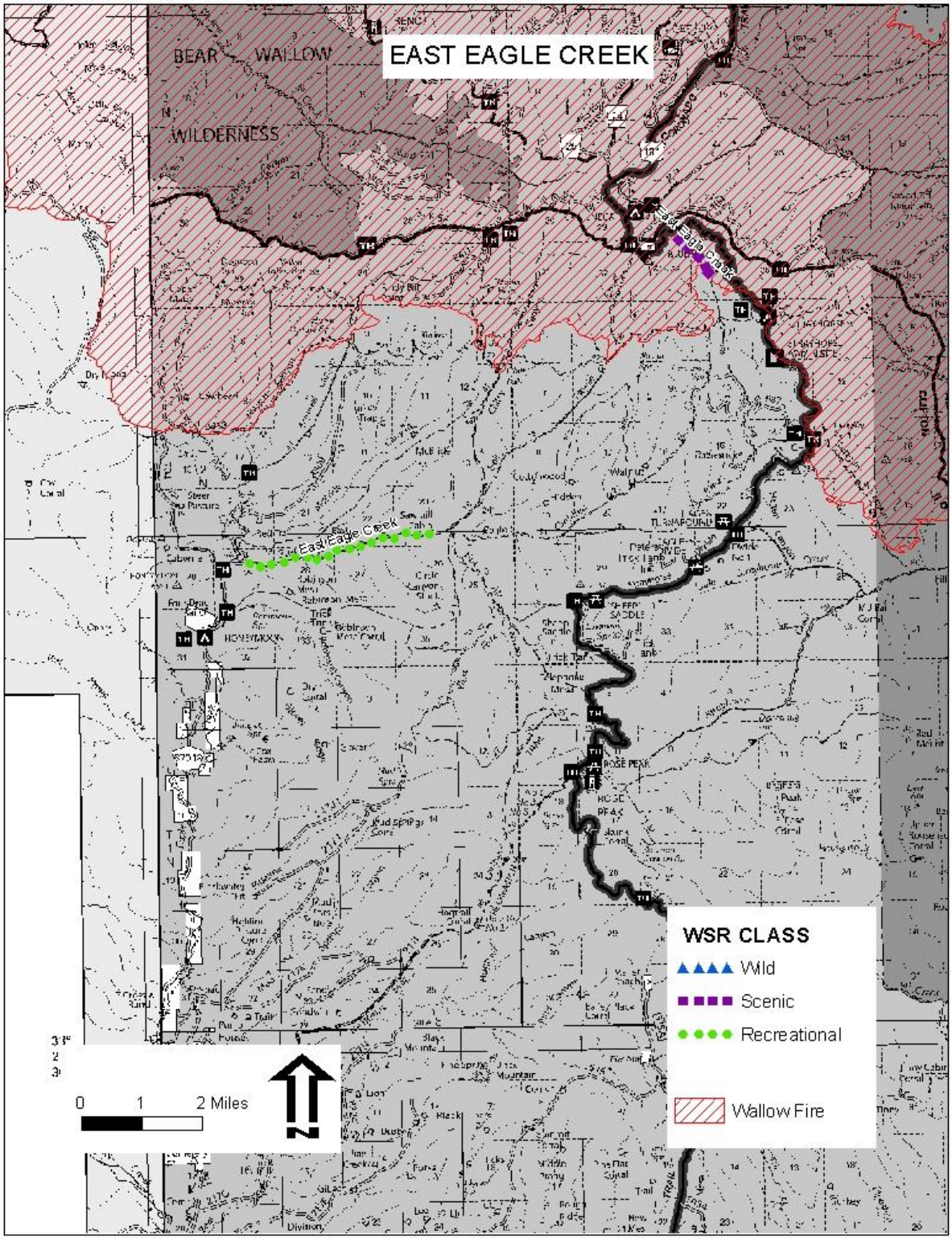
Recreation will continue to be an ORV for this river. The recreation opportunities available along the river corridor have not changed and will continue to attract visitors, although the fishery may be depleted for some time.

Fish species and habitat will continue to be ORVs for Campbell Blue Creek. Short- and long-term management of this eligible river for native fish species recovery and viability will continue and is essential for the loach minnow and its designated critical habitat. Approximately 10 miles of Campbell Blue Creek were directly affected. The effects of fire in the uplands will indirectly affect an additional 2 miles of native fish habitat.

Campbell Blue Creek supports one of three loach minnow populations on the ASNFs and 7½ miles of its designated critical habitat. Critical habitat for spikedace has recently been proposed for Campbell Blue Creek. Campbell Blue Creek also contains populations of desert sucker, longfin dace, speckled dace, and Sonora sucker. Wallow fire impacts to these species' habitats (especially pool quality) will probably be greatest to the loach minnow, because of its sensitivity to increased sediment. Concurrent increases in non-native species abundance will also affect the native fish species. Native fish populations may persist at reduced levels, but should improve when aquatic habitat, riparian, and watershed recovery occurs.

Wildlife species will continue to be an ORV for this river. Riparian areas along Campbell Blue Creek were primarily unburned or experienced low severity fire, with a section of moderate and high severity in Segment 2. The unburned and low severity areas and their associated wildlife species (e.g., rodents, shrews) are expected to recover over time; recovering vegetation still provides many habitat components that support a variety of wildlife species, including birds. Prey species will support a variety of predators and raptors, including the northern goshawk. Early succession habitats are likely to attract a variety of wildlife species (e.g., snags and dead trees attract woodpeckers and cavity nesting birds). Wildlife habitat in the river corridor may be more diverse with more shrubs and small trees. Wildlife habitat in the moderate and high severity area in Segment 2 is expected to recover slowly, with a slower return of riparian-associated wildlife species. Mexican spotted owls may persist in the river corridor.

Vegetation will continue to be an ORV for this river. The riparian areas were generally unburned and will recover. Plant species such as Blumer's dock and yellow lady's-slipper regrow from underground


EAST EAGLE CREEK
BEAR WALLOW
WILDERNESS
East Eagle Creek
East Eagle Creek
WSR CLASS
Wild
Scenic
Recreational
Wallow Fire
0 1 2 Miles
N

rhizomes. Aspen will resprout where it was previously present. Moderate and high severity fire created several openings, which will increase vegetation diversity as succession occurs. The woody riparian species and ponderosa pines in Segment 3 were generally not affected by fire.

East Eagle Creek

The Wallow Fire affected approximately 1.4 miles of the river corridor in Segment 1; Segments 2 and 3 were not directly affected. Fire severity along the affected portion of Segment 1 was mostly unburned (75 percent) and low (24 percent), with 1 percent moderate. Vegetation along Segment 1 is conifer forest and pine oak woodland. Riparian vegetation occurs adjacent to the river. Riparian vegetation recovers over time and usually more rapidly than upland vegetation after disturbance (fire and flood) events.

Recreation will continue to be an ORV for this river. The recreation opportunities available along the river corridor have not changed and will continue to attract visitors. Greater diversity of vegetation may improve habitat for big game species.

Fish species and habitat will continue to be ORVs for East Eagle Creek. Short- and long-term management of this eligible river for Gila chub recovery and its designated critical habitat will continue. Approximately ½ mile of East Eagle Creek was directly affected. The effects of fire in the uplands will indirectly affect an additional 14½ miles of native fish habitat. The impacts to East Eagle Creek, its riparian areas, and the watershed will affect habitat quality for native fish.

East Eagle Creek supports one of three Gila chub populations on the ASNFs and 15 miles of designated critical habitat. Wallow fire impacts to Gila chub habitat include reduced habitat quality (especially pool quality) from increased sedimentation. Concurrent increases in non-native species abundance will also affect the Gila chub. However, the Gila chub may persist at reduced levels, but should improve when aquatic habitat, riparian, and watershed recovery occurs.

East Fork Black River

The Wallow Fire affected the entire eligible river: Segments 1, 2, and 3. Fire severity along Segment 1 was mostly low (44 percent) and moderate (38 percent), with some unburned (15 percent) and high (7 percent). Segment 2 showed mostly low (44 percent) and moderate (38 percent) severities, with 15 percent unburned and 3 percent high. Fire severity along Segment 3 was mostly unburned (27 percent) and low (60 percent), with 10 percent moderate and 3 percent high. Vegetation along Segment 1 is conifer forests, grassland, and wetland, while Segment 2 is conifer forests and grassland. Segment 3 vegetation is conifer forests. Riparian vegetation, including montane willow riparian forest, occurs adjacent to the river. Riparian vegetation recovers over time and usually more rapidly than upland vegetation after disturbance (fire and flood) events.

Scenery will continue to be an ORV for this river. The physical landscapes along the river (canyons, cliffs, and rolling meadows) were not affected. The canyon should be more open where the mostly low severity fire removed brush and undergrowth. Higher fire severities on some north-facing slopes should result in openings with different plant species than nearby forested slopes. It is expected that aspen regeneration will be very high along the entire eligible river, with the extent of fall colors greater than in the past. Increased landscape diversity is expected because of the greater variety of landscapes (more rock features visible, greater presence of aspen, different tree sizes and species as regrowth occurs, and more open forests where small trees were killed).

Recreation will continue to be an ORV for this river. The recreation opportunities available along the river corridor have not changed and will continue to attract visitors, although the fishery may be depleted

for some time. Motor vehicle access through Segment 3 may be different in the future, depending on long-term effects of any flooding and rock falls. Apache trout will continue to be stocked in Segment 3.

Fish habitat will continue to be an ORV for this river. Short- and long-term management of East Fork Black River for recovery of native fish species will continue and is critical for the loach minnow and its designated critical habitat. Approximately 6 miles of this eligible river were directly affected. The effects of fire in the uplands will indirectly affect an additional 6 miles of native fish habitat. Habitat quality for native fish species has been, and possibly for many years, will be affected by the loss of riparian vegetation and increased sedimentation.

The East Fork Black River supports one of three loach minnow populations on the Apache-Sitgreaves NFs and includes designated critical habitat. There are also populations of desert sucker, speckled dace, and Sonora sucker. Wallow fire impacts to these species' habitats (especially pool quality) will be greatest to the loach minnow, which is affected by increased sedimentation. Concurrent increases in non-native species abundance will affect all native species. Native fish populations will persist at possibly reduced levels, but should improve when aquatic habitat, riparian, and watershed recovery occur.

Wildlife species and habitat will continue to be ORVs for this river. Riparian areas along the East Fork Black River were primarily unburned or experienced low severity fire. These areas and their associated wildlife species (e.g., rodents, shrews) are expected to recover over time; recovering vegetation still provides many habitat components that support a variety of wildlife species, including birds. Prey species will support a variety of predators and raptors, including the northern goshawk. Early succession habitats are likely to attract a variety of wildlife species (e.g., snags and dead trees attract woodpeckers and cavity nesting birds). Wildlife habitat in the river corridor may be more diverse with more shrubs and small trees. Mexican spotted owls may persist in the river corridor.

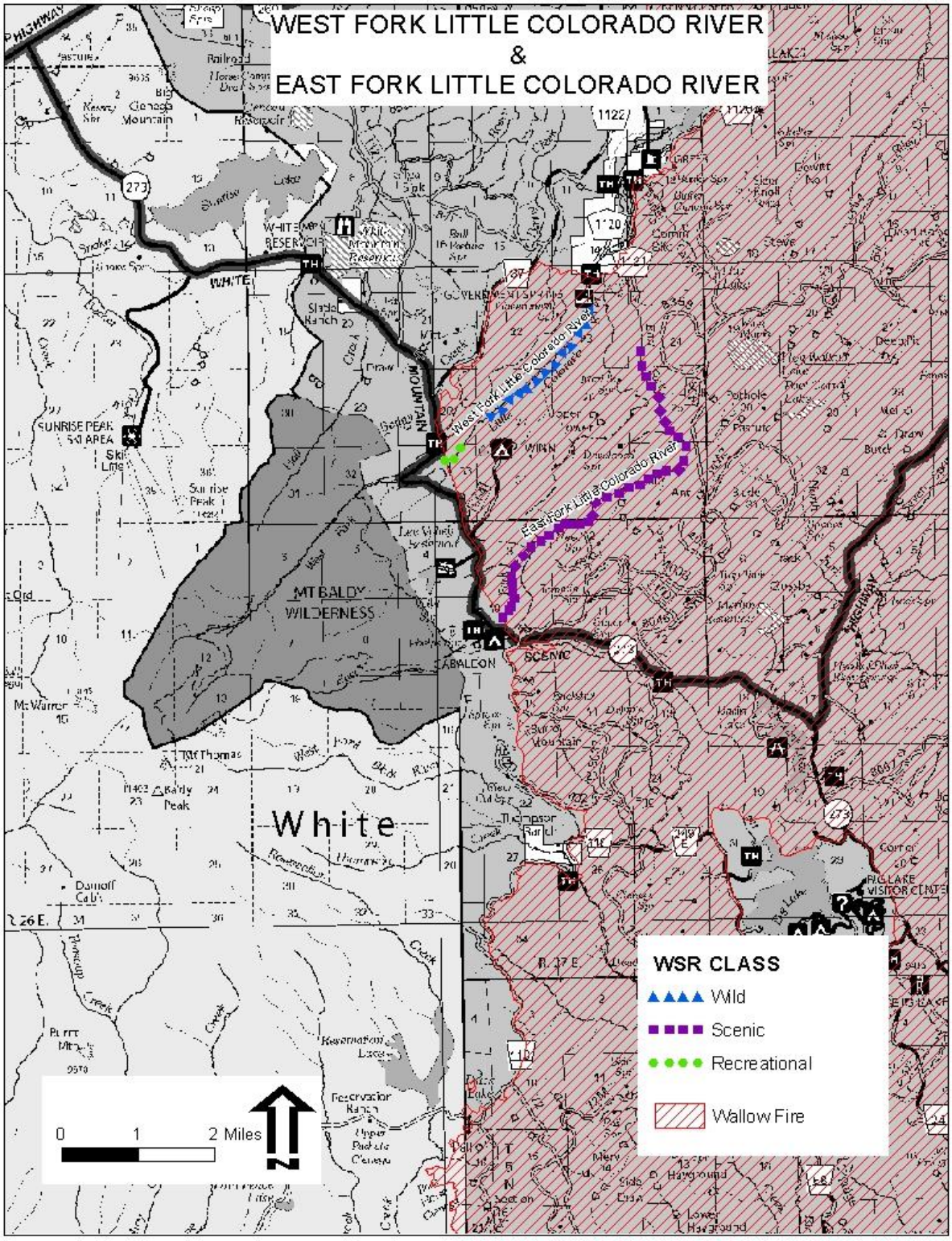
The Three Forks area was slightly affected by the fire; sediment flows from burned hillsides are a continuing concern. Straw wattles were placed uphill of important habitats to reduce sediment effects to wildlife and aquatic species.

Historic resources will continue to be an ORV for this river. None of the identified historic features was affected by the Wallow Fire.

East Fork Little Colorado River

The Wallow Fire affected approximately 66 percent of the eligible river corridor, from State Highway 273 northeast towards Greer. Fire severity was generally unburned (18 percent) to low (45 percent) in the affected portion of river corridor. The upper 4½ miles of affected river corridor show mostly low severity and unburned areas with patches of moderate and high severity. The high (12 percent) and moderate (12 percent) severity is concentrated along the lower portion of the river corridor. Vegetation along the upper affected river is conifer forests, grassland, and wetland; the lower, more severely burned portion was conifer forests. Riparian vegetation, including wetland/cienega areas, occurs adjacent to the river. Riparian vegetation recovers over time and usually more rapidly upland vegetation after disturbance (fire and flood) events.

Scenery will continue to be an ORV for this river. The landscapes associated with the western portion of the eligible river in Mount Baldy Wilderness remain untouched. The physical landscapes along the river were not affected. It is expected that aspen regeneration will be very high in all affected areas, with the extent of fall colors greater than in the past. Increased landscape diversity is expected because of the greater variety of landscapes (more canyon walls visible, greater presence of aspen, different tree sizes and species as regrowth occurs, and more open forests where small trees were killed).


WEST FORK LITTLE COLORADO RIVER
&
EAST FORK LITTLE COLORADO RIVER
West Fork Little Colorado River
East Fork Little Colorado River
MT BALDY WILDERNESS
SUNRISE PEAK SKI AREA
WHITE MOUNTAIN RESERVATION
SCENIC
CABALCON
White
WSR CLASS
Wild
Scenic
Recreational
Wallow Fire
0 1 2 Miles
N

Recreation will continue to be an ORV for this river. The recreation opportunities associated with the western portion of the river in Mount Baldy Wilderness remain unchanged. The user-created route along the very eastern portion of the eligible river was probably affected by falling trees and any flooding. Future users will probably re-establish this route. The physical isolation and solitude found in the canyon are not affected and may increase if the lower canyon receives less visitor use. The variety of wildlife seen along the river corridor may increase with the anticipated greater vegetation diversity.

Fish habitat will continue to be an ORV for this river. The East Fork Little Colorado River is identified as necessary for Apache trout recovery; short- and long-term management for this purpose will continue. Approximately 5 miles of Apache trout recovery habitat were directly affected. The effects of fire in the uplands will indirectly affect an additional 2½ miles of recovery habitat. Habitat quality and conditions have been, and possibly for many years, will be affected by the loss of riparian vegetation and increased sedimentation. A small population of Apache trout is expected to remain in the upper 3 miles of this eligible river, outside the fire perimeter.

Wildlife species and habitat will continue to be ORVs for this river. Riparian areas along the East Fork Little Colorado River were unburned or experienced low severity fire expect for the lower 1½ miles. The riparian areas and their associated wildlife species (e.g., rodents, shrews) are expected to recover over time; recovering vegetation still provides many habitat components that support a variety of wildlife species, including birds. Prey species will support a variety of predators and raptors, including the northern goshawk. Early succession habitats are likely to attract a variety of wildlife species (e.g., snags and dead trees attract woodpeckers and cavity nesting birds).The lower 1½ miles of the river corridor experienced mostly moderate and high fire severity. Wildlife habitat here is expected to recover slowly, with a slower return of riparian-associated wildlife species. Mexican spotted owls may persist in the river corridor. The Upper Little Colorado River Watershed Important Bird Area will continue to provide breeding habitat for a variety of bird species.

Vegetation will continue to be an ORV for this river. The riparian communities along the affected portion of the eligible river were generally not adversely affected by the fire except along the lower 0.3 miles. Riparian vegetation is expected to rebound and overall vegetation diversity in the river corridor will probably increase. The Phelps Cabin RNA and Phelps Botanical Area were not affected by the fire.

Fish Creek

The Wallow Fire affected the entire eligible river: Segments 1 and 2. Fire severity along Segment 1 was a mix of low (31 percent), moderate (27 percent), and high (37 percent), with some unburned (5 percent). Segment 2 was predominantly low (73 percent) and moderate (26 percent) severities, with 1 percent high. Vegetation along the eligible river is conifer forests and wetlands. Riparian vegetation, including montane willow riparian forest in Segment 2, occurs adjacent to the river. Riparian vegetation recovers over time and usually more rapidly than upland vegetation after disturbance (fire and flood) events.

Scenery will continue to be an ORV for this river. The physical landscapes along the river (canyons and cliffs) were not affected. Moderate and high fire severities along the river corridor should result in large areas with different plant species than nearby forested slopes. It is expected that the riparian vegetation will rebound and that aspen regeneration will be very high where it was present, with the extent of fall colors greater than in the past. Increased landscape diversity is expected because of the greater variety of landscapes (more rock features visible, greater presence of aspen, different tree sizes and species as regrowth occurs, and more open forests where small trees were killed).

Recreation will continue to be an ORV for this river, although the fishery may be depleted for some time. Hiking and backpacking will continue to be recreation activities that attract visitors to the river corridor,

but the experiences will be different because of the moderate and high fire severities through the river canyon and the potentially very different vegetation in the future.

Fish habitat will continue to be an ORV for this river. Fish Creek is identified as necessary for Apache trout recovery even though stream and watershed impacts are severe. Short- and long-term management for Apache trout will continue. Approximately 8½ miles of Apache trout recovery habitat was directly affected. The effects of fire in the uplands will indirectly affect an additional 1½ miles of recovery habitat. Habitat quality and conditions have been, and possibly for many years, will be affected by the loss of riparian vegetation and increased sedimentation. Reconstruction of the fish barrier to prevent upstream movement of non-native fishes must not affect the free-flowing character of Fish Creek and must be in conformance with FSH 1909.12, section 82.51.

Wildlife species and habitat will continue to be ORVs for this river. Riparian areas along Fish Creek experienced a variety of fire severity. The unburned and low severity areas and their associated wildlife species (e.g., rodents, shrews) are expected to recover over time; recovering vegetation still provides many habitat components that support a variety of wildlife species, including birds. Prey species will support a variety of predators and raptors, including the northern goshawk. Early succession habitats are likely to attract a variety of wildlife species (e.g., snags and dead trees attract woodpeckers and cavity nesting birds). Wildlife habitat in the river corridor may be more diverse with more shrubs and small trees. The regrowing shrubs and down trees will maintain habitat for black bear and blue grouse. Approximately 4½ miles of the river corridor experienced moderate and high fire severity. Wildlife habitat here is expected to recover slowly, with a slower return of riparian-associated wildlife species. Mexican spotted owls may persist in the river corridor.

North Fork East Fork Black River

The Wallow Fire affected the entire eligible river: Segments 1, 2, and 3. Fire severity along Segment 1 was unburned (32 percent) and low (68 percent). Segment 2 showed predominantly low severity (83 percent) with 7 percent unburned and 9 percent moderate severity. Fire severity along Segment 3 was predominantly unburned (46 percent) and low (53 percent) with 1 percent moderate severity. Vegetation along all segments is grassland, wetland, and conifer forests. Riparian vegetation, including montane willow riparian forest in Segment 3, occurs adjacent to the river. Riparian vegetation recovers over time and usually more rapidly than upland vegetation after disturbance (fire and flood) events.

Scenery will continue to be an ORV for this river. The physical landscapes along the river (rolling meadows, canyons, and cliffs) were not affected. It is expected that aspen regeneration will be very high, particularly in Segment 3, with the extent of fall colors greater than in the past. Increased landscape diversity is expected because of the greater variety of landscapes (more rock features visible, greater presence of aspen, different tree sizes and species as regrowth occurs, and more open forests where small trees were killed).

Fish habitat will continue to be an ORV for this river. Short- and long-term management of North Fork East Fork Black River for recovery of native fish species will continue and is critical for the loach minnow and its designated critical habitat. Approximately 7 miles of this eligible river were directly affected. The effects of fire in the uplands will indirectly affect an additional 7 miles of native fish habitat. Habitat quality for native fish species has been, and possibly for many years, will be affected by the loss of riparian vegetation and increased sedimentation.

The North Fork East Fork Black River supports one of three loach minnow populations on the Apache-Sitgreaves NFs, with 3½ river miles designated as critical habitat. There are also populations of desert sucker, speckled dace, and Sonora sucker. Wallow fire impacts to these species' habitats (especially pool

quality) will be greatest to the loach minnow, which is affected by increased sedimentation. Concurrent increases in non-native species abundance will affect all native species. However, native fish populations will persist at possibly reduced levels, but should improve when aquatic habitat, riparian, and watershed recovery occur.

Wildlife habitat will continue to be an ORV for this river. Riparian areas along the North Fork East Fork Black River were unburned or experienced low severity fire. These areas and their associated wildlife species (e.g., rodents, shrews) are expected to recover over time; recovering vegetation still provides many habitat components that support a variety of wildlife species, including birds. Prey species will support a variety of predators and raptors, including the northern goshawk. Early succession habitats are likely to attract a variety of wildlife species (e.g., snags and dead trees attract woodpeckers and cavity nesting birds). Wildlife habitat in the river corridor may be more diverse with more shrubs and small trees. Mexican spotted owls may persist in the river corridor.

South Fork Little Colorado River

The Wallow Fire affected the entire eligible river: Segments 1 and 2. Fire severity along Segment 1 was mostly moderate (43 percent), high (25 percent), and low (30 percent) with 2 percent unburned. Segment 2 showed a mix of moderate (39 percent), low (37 percent), and high (17 percent) severities, with 8 percent unburned. Vegetation along Segment 1 is conifer forests, grassland, and wetland; Segment 2 is ponderosa pine forest and piñon-juniper woodland. Riparian vegetation, including montane willow riparian forest, occurs adjacent to the river. Riparian vegetation over time and usually more rapidly than upland vegetation after disturbance (fire and flood) events.

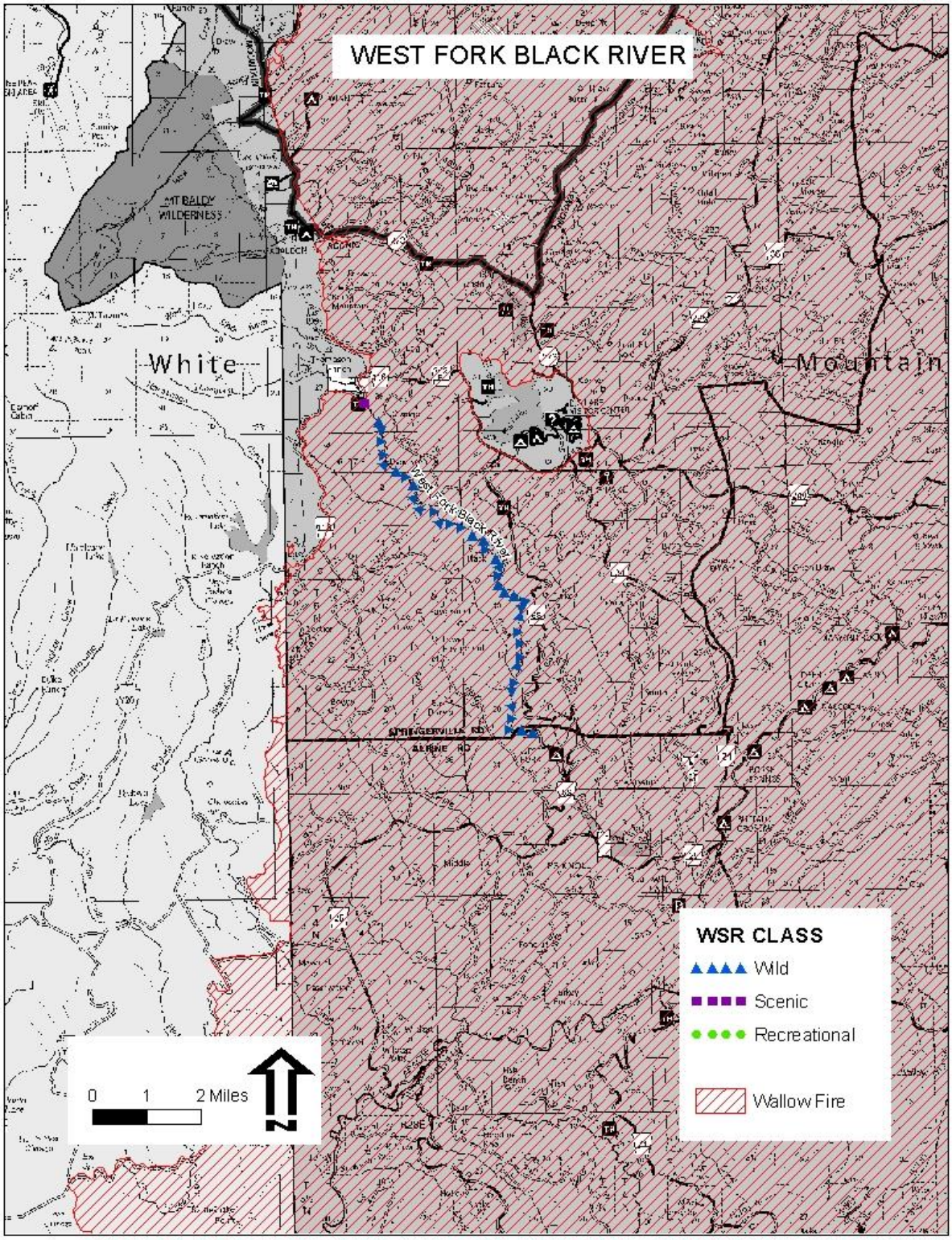
Scenery will continue to be an ORV for this river. It is expected that aspen regeneration will be very high along the entire eligible river, with the extent of fall colors greater than in the past. Increased landscape diversity is expected because of the greater variety of landscapes (more rock features visible, greater presence of aspen, different tree sizes and species as regrowth occurs, and more open forests where small trees were killed).

West Fork Black River

The Wallow Fire affected the approximately 0.8 miles of Segment 1 and all of Segment 2. Fire severity along the affected portion of Segment 1 was mostly unburned (46 percent) and low (49 percent), with a small amount of moderate (5 percent). Segment 2 showed a mix of low (20 percent), moderate (29 percent), and high (39 percent) severities, with 12 percent unburned. Vegetation along Segment 1 is conifer forest, grassland, and wetland, while Segment 2 is conifer forests, wetland, and grassland. Riparian vegetation, including montane willow riparian forest, occurs adjacent to the river. Riparian vegetation over time and usually more rapidly than upland vegetation after disturbance (fire and flood) events.

Scenery will continue to be an ORV for this river. The physical landscapes along the river (deep canyons, cliffs, and rolling meadows) were not affected. It is expected that aspen regeneration will be very high along the entire eligible river, with the extent of fall colors greater than in the past. Increased landscape diversity is expected because of the greater variety of landscapes (more rock features visible, greater presence of aspen, different tree sizes and species as regrowth occurs, and more open forests where small trees were killed).

Recreation will continue to be an ORV for this river. The variety of recreation opportunities has not changed, although the fishery may be depleted for some time. The greater vegetation and habitat diversity may enhance wildlife viewing.


WEST FORK BLACK RIVER
MT BALDY WILDERNESS
White
Mountain
West Fork Black River
WSR CLASS
Wild
Scenic
Recreational
Wallow Fire
0 1 2 Miles
N

Fish habitat will continue to be an ORV for this river. West Fork Black River is identified as necessary for Apache trout recovery; short- and long-term management for this purpose will continue. Approximately ½ mile of Apache trout recovery habitat was directly affected. The effects of fire in the uplands will indirectly affect an additional ½ mile of recovery habitat. Habitat quality and conditions have been, and possibly for many years, will be affected by the loss of riparian vegetation and increased sedimentation. This eligible river is still capable of supporting Apache trout, especially in the uppermost 2 river miles.

Wildlife species and habitat will continue to be ORVs for this river. Riparian areas along the West Fork Black River were primarily unburned or experienced low severity fire in the upper 2/3 of the river corridor. These areas and their associated wildlife species (e.g., rodents, shrews) are expected to recover over time; recovering vegetation still provides many habitat components that support a variety of wildlife species, including birds. Prey species will support a variety of predators and raptors, including the northern goshawk. Early succession habitats are likely to attract a variety of wildlife species (e.g., snags and dead trees attract woodpeckers and cavity nesting birds). Wildlife habitat in the river corridor may be more diverse with more shrubs and small trees. The lower 1/3 of the river corridor experienced mostly moderate and high fire severity. Wildlife habitat here is expected to recover slowly, with a slower return of riparian-associated wildlife species. Mexican spotted owls may persist in the river corridor.

West Fork Little Colorado River

The Wallow Fire affected approximately 25 percent of Segment 2 and all of Segment 3; Segment 1 was not affected. Fire severity was generally unburned (49 percent)to low (39 percent) in the affected portion of Segment 2, while fire severity in Segment 3 varied from unburned to high (21 percent) depending on vegetation type and aspect. More than half of Segment 3 is unburned (21 percent) and low (43 percent) severity. Vegetation along the affected river segments is conifer forests and montane grassland. Riparian vegetation, including wetland/cienega areas in Segment 2, occurs found adjacent to the river. Riparian vegetation recovers over time and usually more rapidly than upland vegetation after disturbance (fire and flood) events.

Scenery will continue to be an ORV for this river. The physical landscape was not affected. Patches of conifer forests on the north-facing slopes in Segment 3 experienced moderate to high fire severity. It is expected that aspen regeneration will be very high in all affected areas, with the extent of fall colors greater than in the past. Increased landscape diversity is expected because of the greater variety of landscapes (more canyon walls visible, greater presence of aspen, different tree sizes and species as regrowth occurs, and more open forests where small trees were killed).

Recreation will continue to be an ORV for this river. Most of the lands along Segment 2 where recreation use is highest are not within the fire perimeter. The user-created route along Segment 3 was probably affected by falling trees and any flooding. Future users will probably re-establish this route. The variety of wildlife seen along the river corridor may increase with the anticipated greater vegetation diversity. Apache trout will continue to be stocked in Segment 2.

Wildlife habitat will continue to be an ORV for this river. Riparian areas along the West Fork Little Colorado River were unburned or experienced low severity fire. The riparian areas and their associated wildlife species (e.g., rodents, shrews) are expected to recover over time; recovering vegetation still provides many habitat components that support a variety of wildlife species, including birds. Prey species will support a variety of predators and raptors, including the northern goshawk. Early succession habitats are likely to attract a variety of wildlife species (e.g., snags and dead trees attract woodpeckers and cavity nesting birds). Mexican spotted owls may persist in the river corridor. The Upper Little Colorado River Watershed Important Bird Area will continue to provide breeding habitat for a variety of bird species.

Suitable river affected by the Wallow Fire

KP Creek

The Wallow Fire affected the entire eligible river. Fire severity was a mix of unburned (13 percent), low (51 percent), and moderate (32 percent), with some high (4 percent). Vegetation along the eligible river varies from conifer forest and wetland to pine oak woodland and chaparral to grassland as the elevation decreases. Riparian vegetation, including mixed broadleaf deciduous riparian forest at the lower elevations, occurs adjacent to the river. Riparian vegetation recovers over time and usually more rapidly than upland vegetation after disturbance (fire and flood) events.

Scenery will continue to be an ORV for this river. The steep canyon walls and waterfalls are not affected. In the long-term the riparian vegetation will recover, however the large ponderosa pine component may be missing.

Recreation will continue to be an ORV for this river. The recreation opportunities are unchanged, although the fishery may be depleted for some time. The river corridor will continue to attract visitors.

Fish habitat will continue to be an ORV for this river. Although the Wallow fire affected the watershed, KP Creek is identified as a potential recovery stream for Gila trout; short- and long-term management for this purpose will continue. Approximately 9 miles of Gila trout recovery habitat were directly affected. The effects of fire in the uplands will indirectly affect an additional 2 miles of recovery habitat. Habitat quality and conditions have been, and possibly for many years, will be affected by the loss of riparian vegetation and increased sedimentation.

Wildlife species and habitat will continue to be ORVs for this river. Riparian areas along KP Creek were unburned or experienced low severity fire, except for approximately 2½ miles of moderate severity in the center of the river segment. The unburned and low severity areas and their associated wildlife species (e.g., rodents, shrews) are expected to recover over time; recovering vegetation still provides many habitat components that support a variety of wildlife species, including birds. Prey species will support a variety of predators and raptors, including the northern goshawk. Early succession habitats are likely to attract a variety of wildlife species (e.g., snags and dead trees attract woodpeckers and cavity nesting birds). Wildlife habitat in the river corridor may be more diverse with more shrubs and small trees. The regrowing shrubs and down trees will maintain habitat for black bear and blue grouse. Wildlife habitat in the moderate severity portion of the river corridor is expected to recover slowly, with a slower return of riparian-associated wildlife species. Mexican spotted owls may persist in the river corridor.

Table 1. River Corridor Acres, Percentage Affected, and Fire Severity for Rivers Affected by the Wallow Fire

River	Segment Number and Acres	Fire Severity	Corridor Acres (percent not affected)	Percentage of affected segment corridor	Potential Natural Vegetation Type
Bear Wallow Creek	1 976.6	U	704.7	72	mixed conifer, Madrean pine oak woodland, ponderosa pine, montane willow riparian
		L	211	22	
		M	42.1	4	
		H	18.9	2	
	2 287.1	U	198.9	69	Madrean pine oak woodland, mixed conifer, montane willow riparian
		L	74.6	26	
		M	13.7	5	
		H	0		
Black River (Mainstem)	1 3,048.4	U	436.9	14	ponderosa pine, mixed conifer, montane/ subalpine grassland, montane willow riparian
		L	2095.3	69	
		M	439.8	14	
		H	76.4	3	
	2 151.1	U	93.9	62	ponderosa pine, mixed conifer, montane willow riparian
		L	57.2	38	
		M	0		
		H	0		
	3 1,957.5	U	620.4	32	mixed conifer, ponderosa pine, Madrean pine oak woodland, montane willow riparian
		L	1273.1	65	
		M	61.2	3	
		H	2.8	0	
Campbell Blue Creek	1 329.4	U	0.6	0	ponderosa pine, mixed conifer, montane willow riparian
		L	323.4	98	
		M	5.4	2	
		H	0		
	2 1,167.6	U	72.5	6	ponderosa pine, mixed conifer, montane willow riparian, cottonwood-willow riparian, Madrean pine oak woodland
		L	743.1	64	
		M	136	12	
		H	216.0	18	
	3 1,829.0	not affected	62.1 (3%)		
		U	937.6	53	Madrean pine oak woodland, cottonwood-willow riparian, mixed conifer
		L	780.0	44	
		M	48.9	3	
		H	0.4	0	

River	Segment Number and Acres	Fire Severity	Corridor Acres (percent not affected)	Percentage of affected segment corridor	Potential Natural Vegetation Type
East Eagle Creek	1 1,116.9	not affected	764.7 (68%)		
		U	264.0	75	mixed conifer, Madrean pine oak woodland
		L	86.2	24	
		M	2.0	1	
		H	0		
	2	not affected			
	3	not affected			
East Fork Black River	1 325.6	U	36.3	11	mixed conifer, montane/ subalpine grassland, wetland/cienega, ponderosa pine, montane willow riparian
		L	141.4	43	
		M	124.4	38	
		H	23.5	7	
	2 937.9	U	137.4	15	mixed conifer, ponderosa pine, montane/subalpine grassland, montane willow riparian
		L	418.3	44	
		M	356.1	38	
		H	26.0	3	
	3 2,414.9	U	656.4	27	mixed conifer, ponderosa pine, spruce-fir, montane willow riparian
		L	1438.9	60	
		M	240.1	10	
		H	79.5	3	
East Fork Little Colorado River	1 2,628.3	not affected	898.5 (34%)		
		U	358.3	18	montane/supalpine grassland, wetland/ cienega, spruce-fir, mixed conifer
		L	888.4	45	
		M	237.6	12	
		H	245.5	12	
Fish Creek	1 2,914.9	U	156.7	5	mixed conifer, spruce-fir, ponderosa pine, wetland/ cienega
		L	890.1	31	
		M	788.3	27	
		H	1079.8	37	
	2 125.3	U	0		mixed conifer, spruce-fir, montane willow riparian
		L	90.9	73	
		M	33.1	26	
		H	1.3	1	

River	Segment Number and Acres	Fire Severity	Corridor Acres (percent not affected)	Percentage of affected segment corridor	Potential Natural Vegetation Type
North Fork East Fork Black River	1 1,413.9	U	449	32	montane/subalpine grassland, wetland/ cienega, spruce-fir, mixed conifer
		L	959.3	68	
		M	3.4	0	
		H	2.3	0	
	2 316.4	U	23.5	7	montane/subalpine grassland, wetland/ cienega, mixed conifer
		L	263.9	83	
		M	29.0	9	
		H	0		
	3 2,240.9	U	1042.2	46	mixed conifer, montane/ subalpine grassland, wetland/cienega, ponderosa pine, montane willow riparian
		L	1180.5	53	
		M	17.5	1	
		H	0.7	0	
South Fork Little Colorado River	1 1,789.1	U	30	2	mixed conifer, montane/ subalpine grassland, ponderosa pine, wetland/ cienega, piñon-juniper woodland, montane willow riparian
		L	541.6	30	
		M	772.8	43	
		H	444.7	25	
	2 421.1	U	32.1	8	ponderosa pine, piñon-juniper woodland, montane willow riparian
		L	153.8	37	
		M	162.2	39	
		H	73.0	17	
West Fork Black River	1 787.8	not affected	654.3 (83%)		
		U	61.7	46	spruce-fir, wetland/ cienega, montane/ subalpine grassland
		L	64.9	49	
		M	6.9	5	
		H	0		
	2 2,552.2	U	305.0	12	mixed conifer, spruce-fir, wetland/cienega, montane/ subalpine grassland, ponderosa pine, montane willow riparian
		L	521.3	20	
		M	735	29	
		H	991	39	
West Fork Little Colorado River	1	not affected			
	2 500.9	not affected	381.9 (76%)		montane/subalpine grassland, mixed conifer, spruce-fir, wetland/ cienega
		U	57.9	49	
		L	46.6	39	

River	Segment Number and Acres	Fire Severity	Corridor Acres (percent not affected)	Percentage of affected segment corridor	Potential Natural Vegetation Type
		M	14.5	12	
		H	0		
	3 661.9	U	135.8	21	mixed conifer, spruce-fir, montane/subalpine grassland, ponderosa pine
		L	287.5	43	
		M	99.1	15	
		H	139.4	21	
KP Creek	1 3,449.7	U	434.6	13	spruce-fir, wetland/ cienega, mixed conifer, Madrean pine oak woodland, interior chaparral, mixed broadleaf deciduous riparian, semi-desert grassland
		L	1758.2	51	
		M	1111.6	32	
		H	145.2	4	

Note for East Eagle Creek

In determining the segment classifications for East Eagle Creek in the northern portion of the Clifton Ranger District, information was provided that there was a motorized trail from FR 217 to Sawmill Cabin that paralleled East Eagle Creek. For this reason, Segment 3 was classified as Recreational.

In September 2010, it was determined that there was NOT a motorized trail in this location nor was one proposed.

Therefore, reclassification of Segment 3 of East Eagle Creek as Scenic or Wild should be considered.

Please refer to the map of East Eagle Creek above.