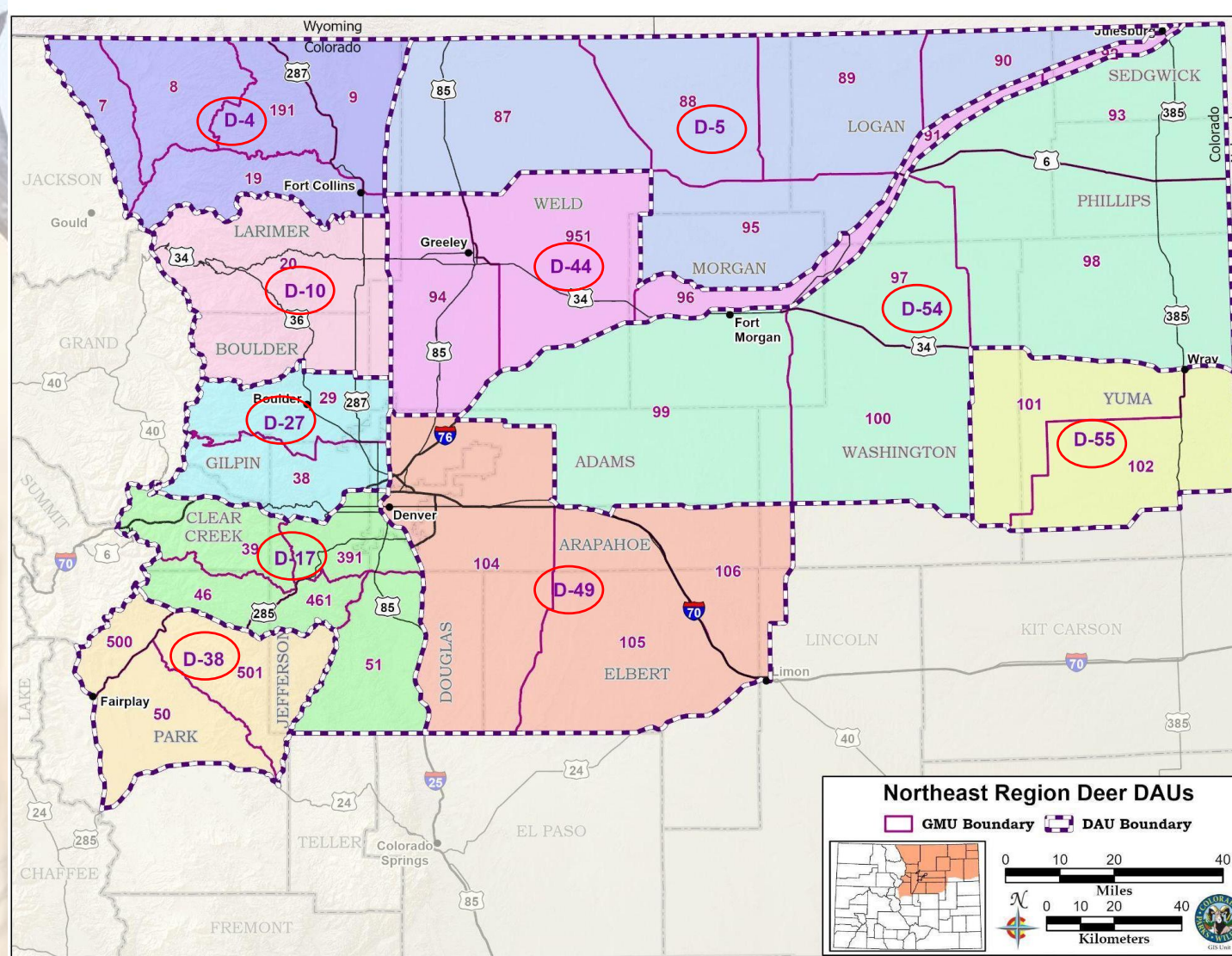


Northeast Region Deer Herd Management Plans



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Northeast Deer Herds

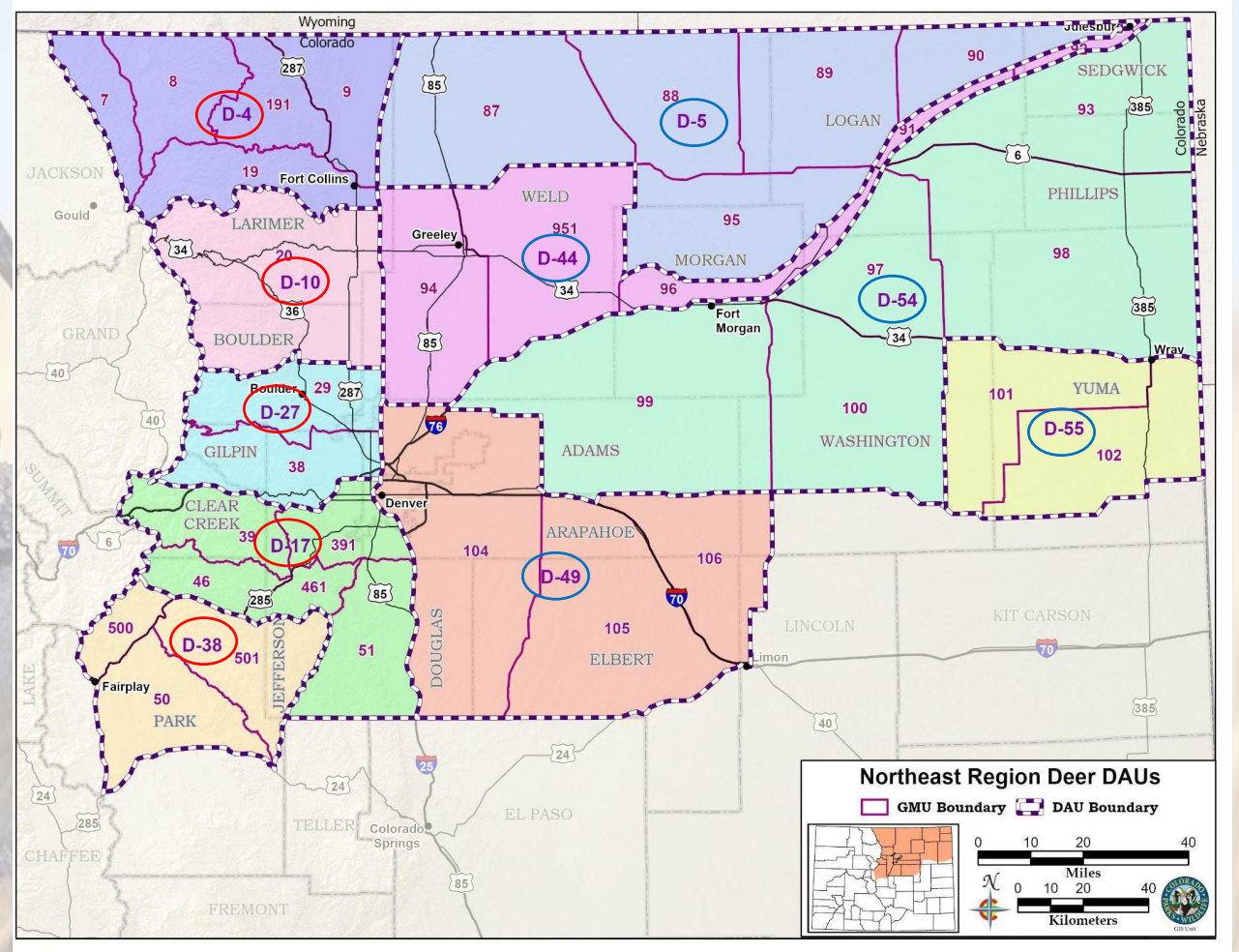


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Background

Northeast Deer Herds

- 53,000 deer in 2024
 - ~14% of statewide population
- 4 plus million people
- 22,931 mi²
 - 45% winter range
- Landownership
 - 76% private
 - 21% federal & state
 - 3% City/Counties Open Spaces



Deer in the Northeast Region

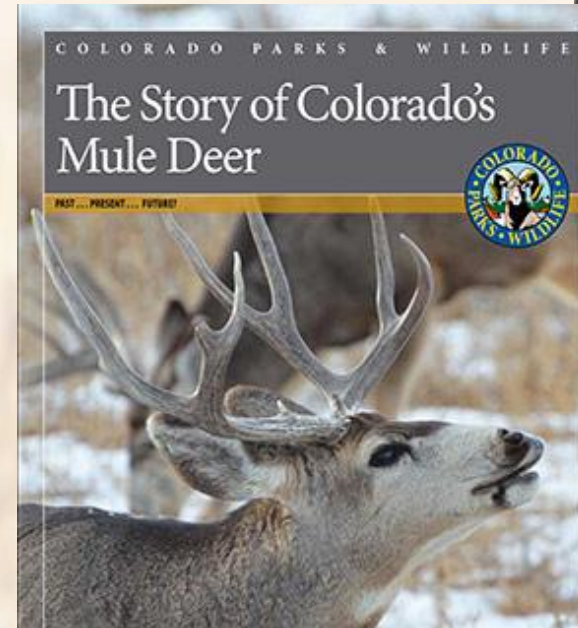
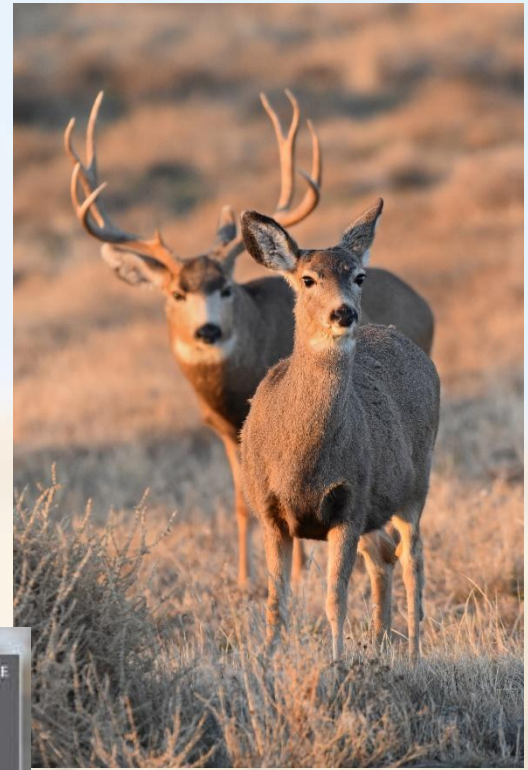
- Two species: mule deer (*Odocoileus hemionus*) and white-tailed deer (*Odocoileus virginianus*)
- Mule deer are found statewide in all habitats
- White-tailed deer found in riparian river bottoms
- Both can occupy edge habitats including suburban areas



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Deer Management History

- Late 1920s deer only numbered around 45,000
- Early conservation efforts and hunting regulations the population increased
- 1960s/1970s: deer populations in CO likely number > 1 million deer
- Colorado currently support over 385,000 deer



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Common Management Issues

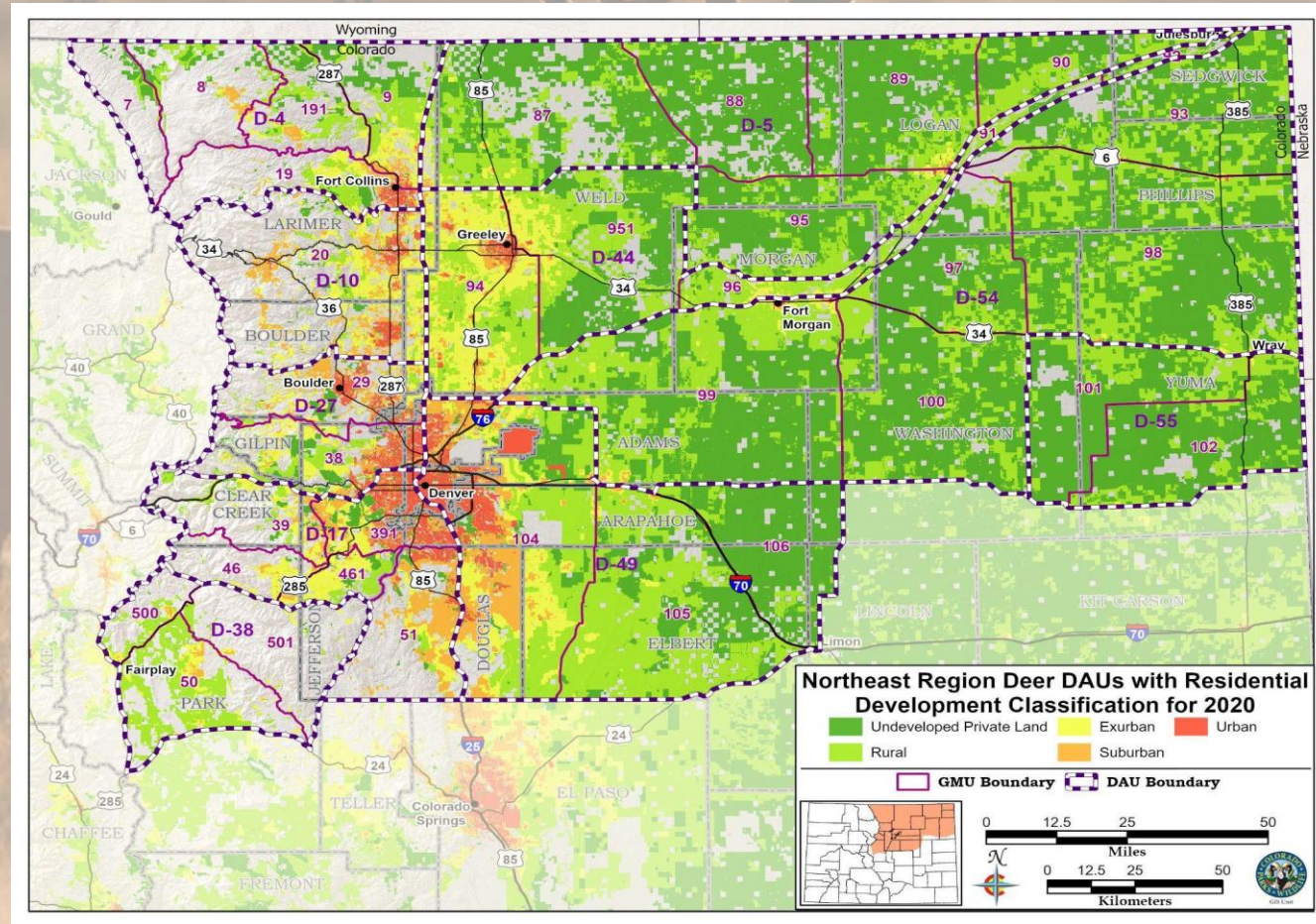
Habitat Loss



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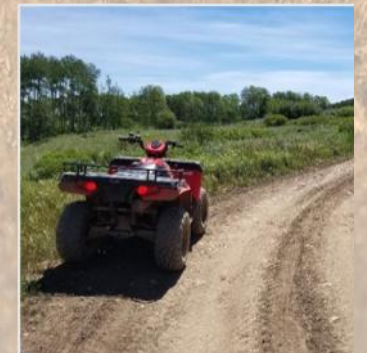
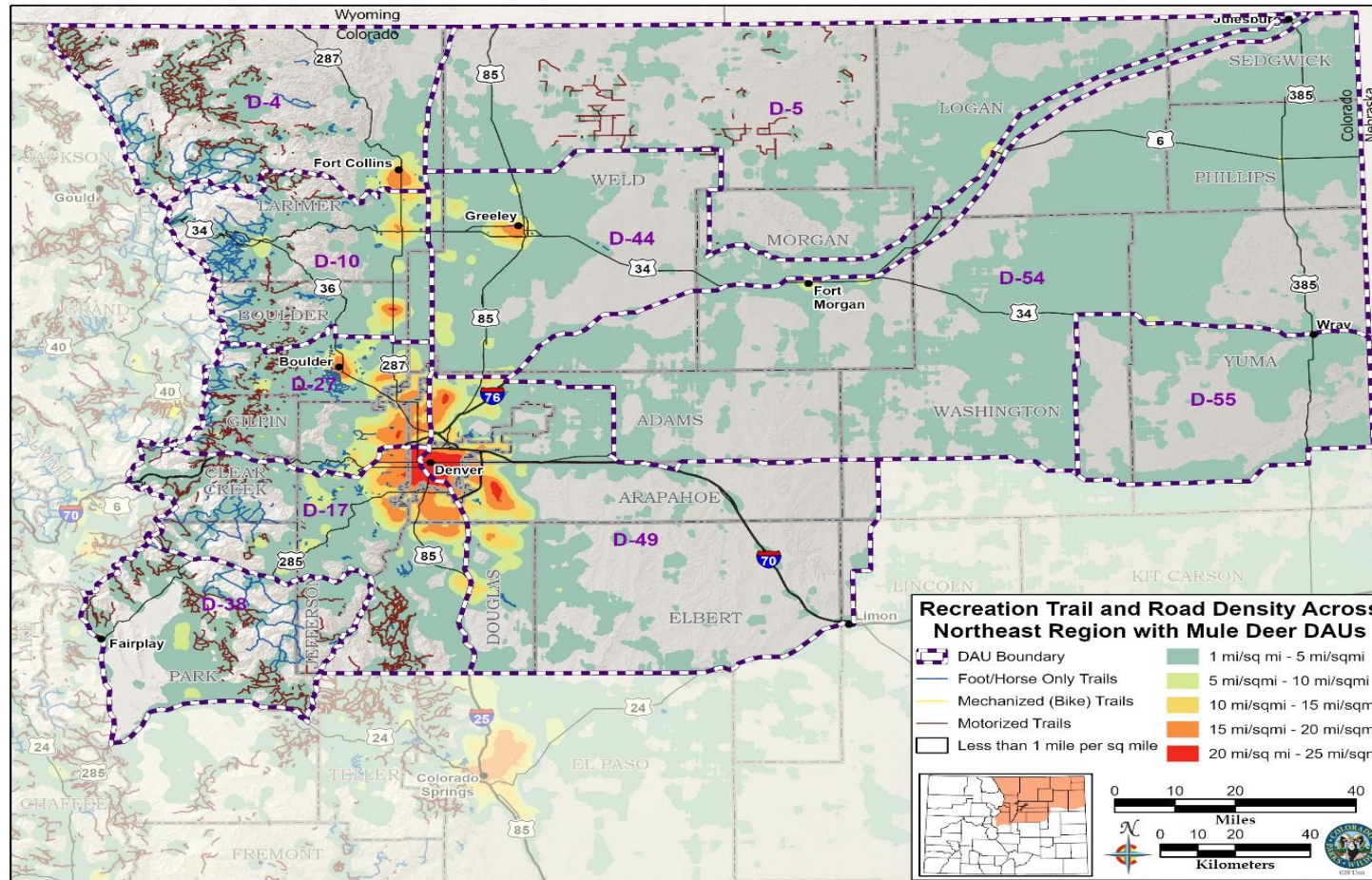
Common Management Issues

Development



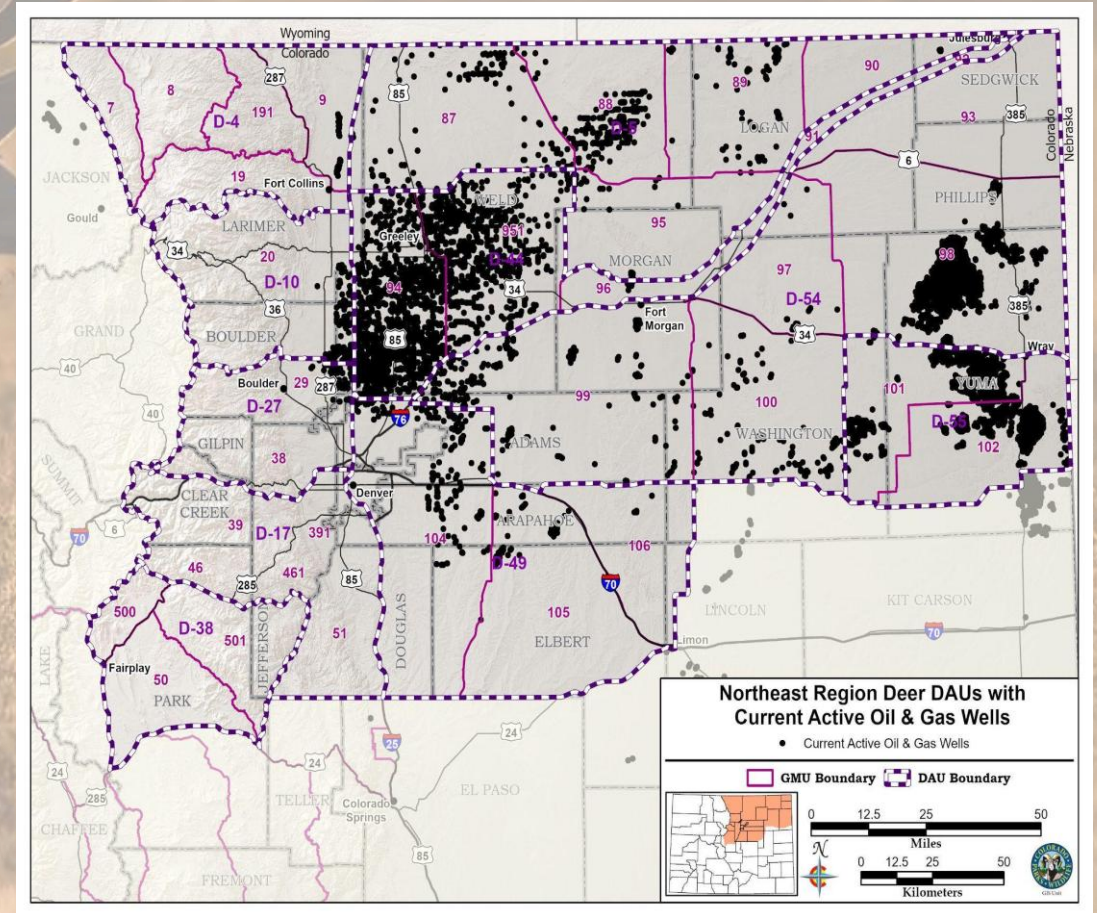
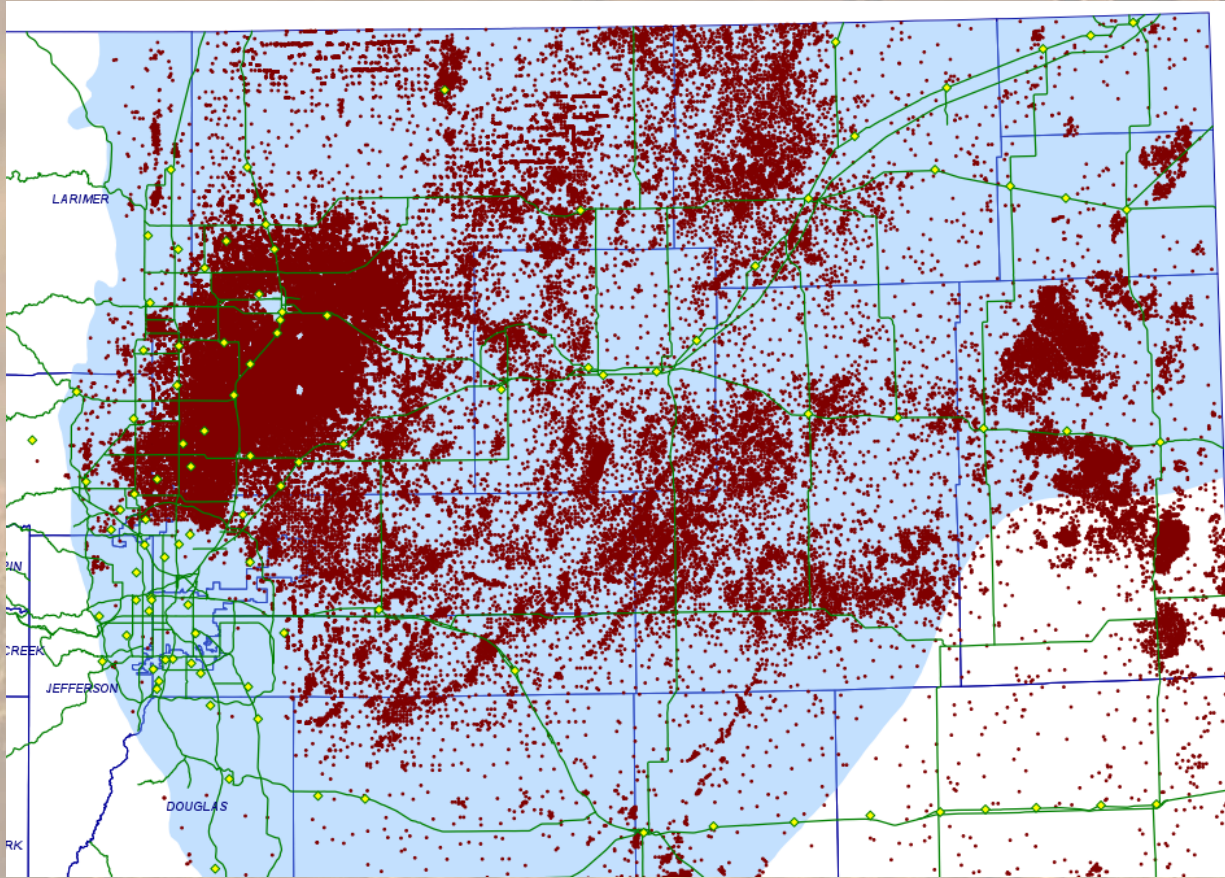
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Common Management Issues Recreation



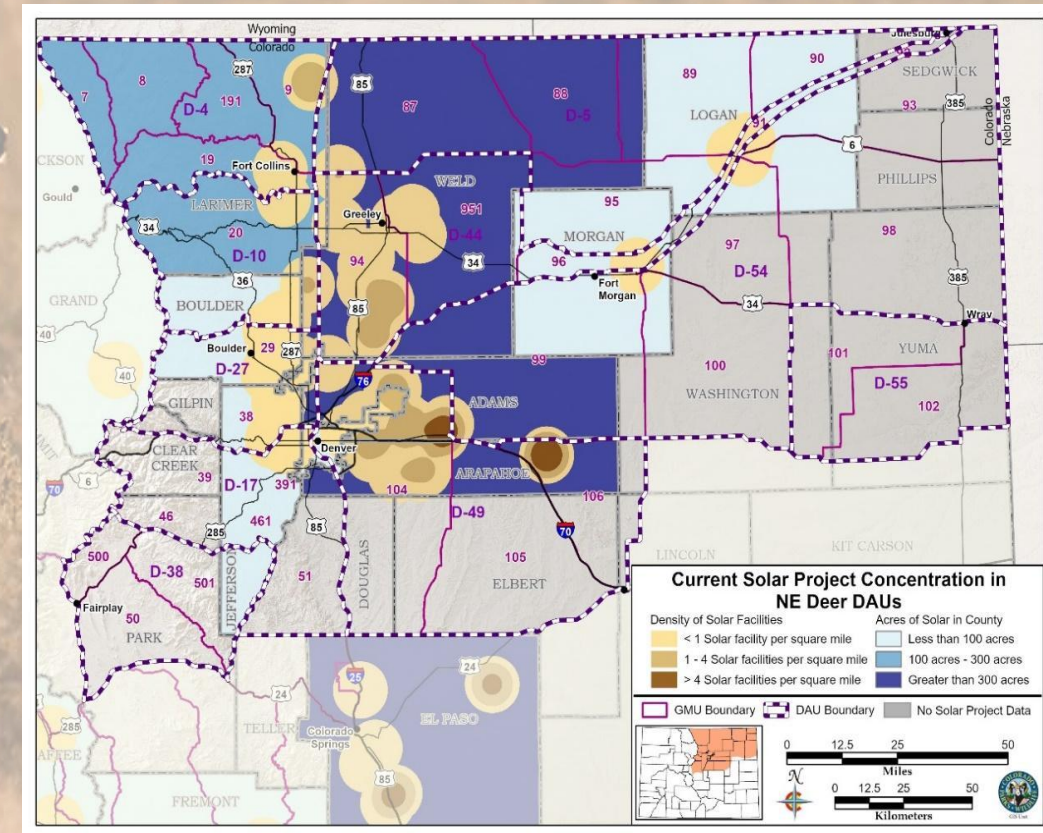
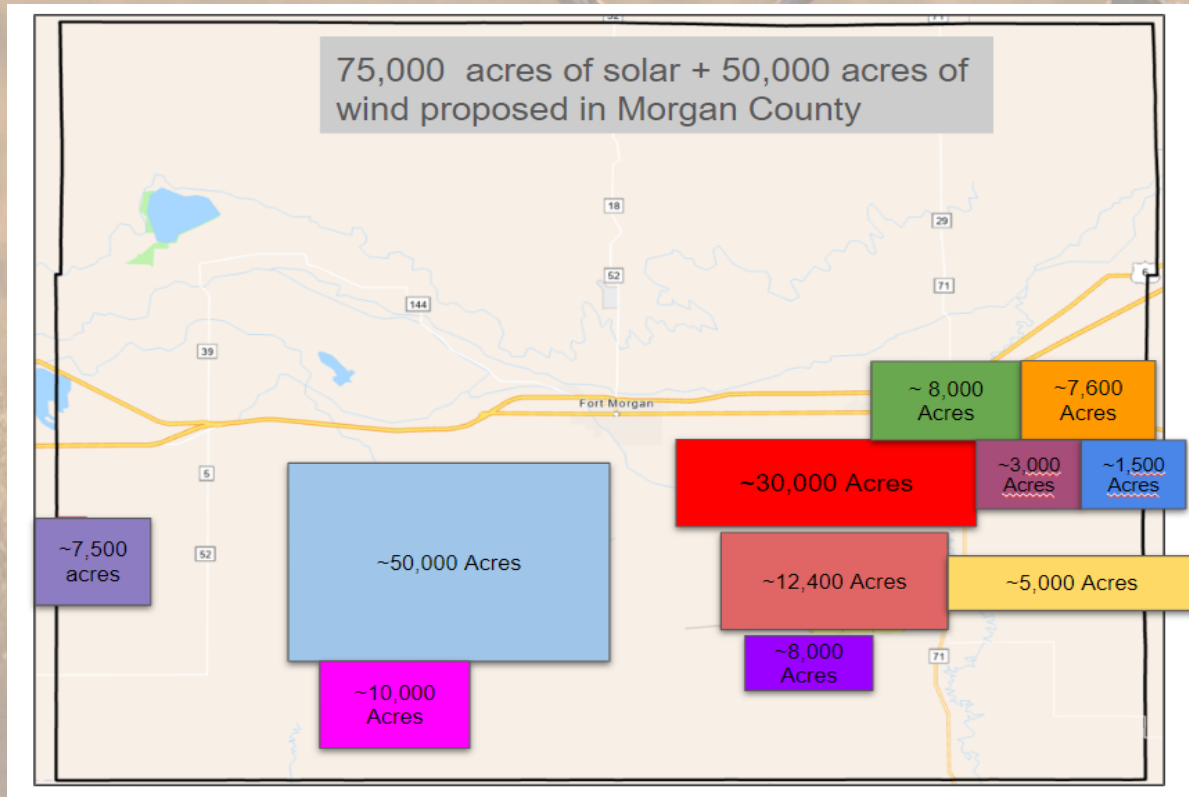
Common Management Issues

Oil and Gas Development



Common Management Issues

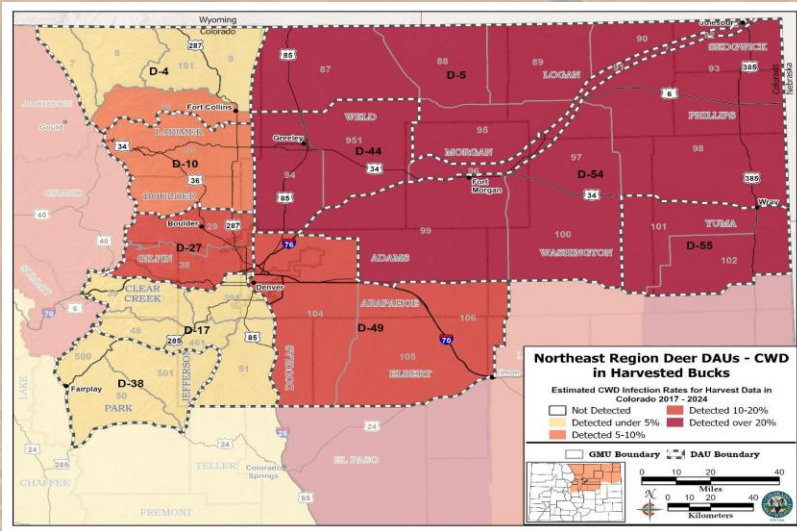
Renewable Energy - Solar



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Common Management Issues

Disease



Colorado Chronic Wasting Disease Response Plan



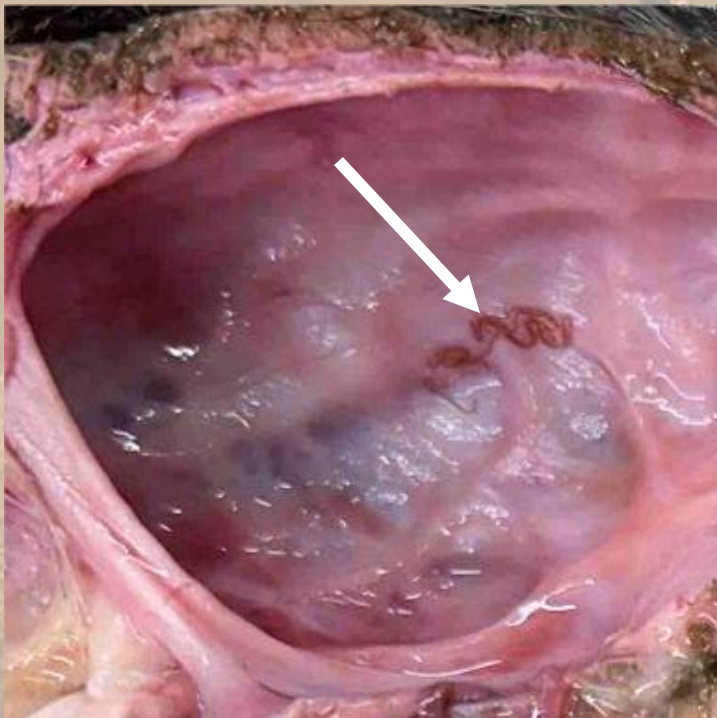
December 2018



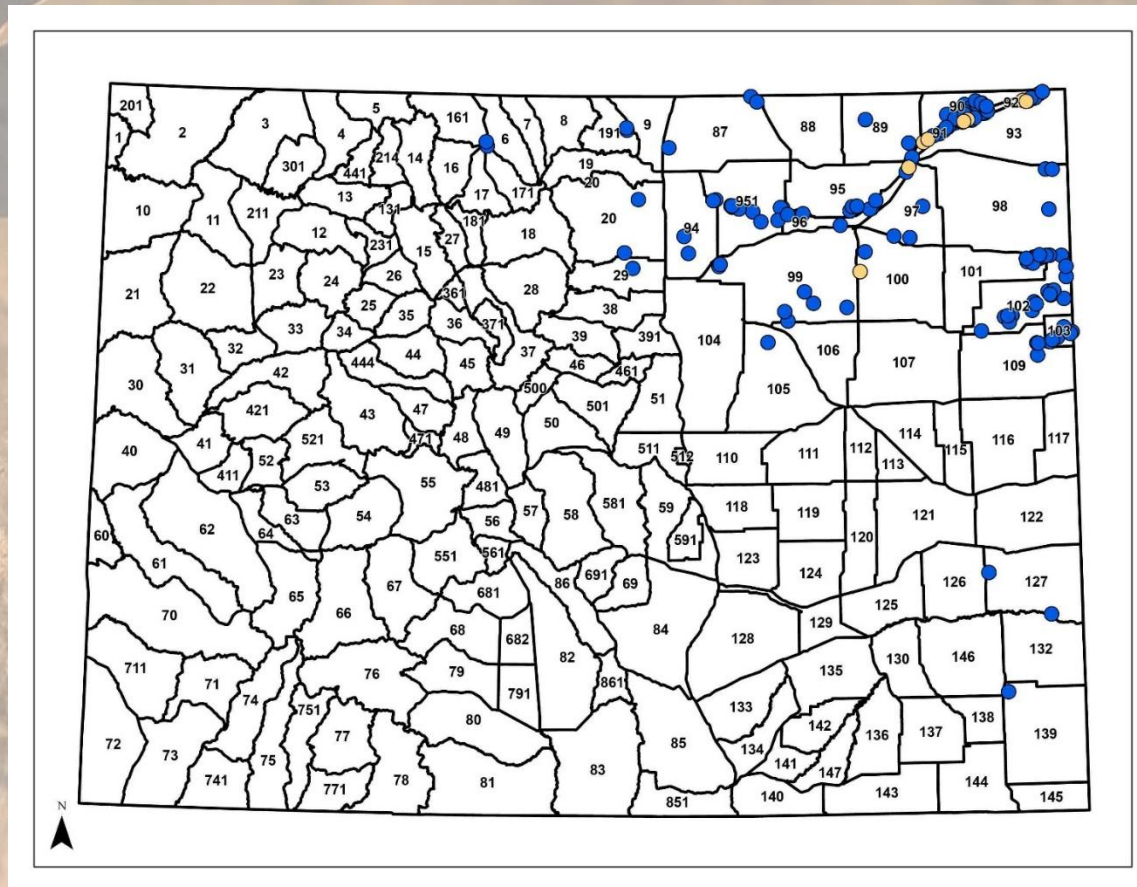
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Common Management Issues

Disease - CPW-WHP 2022 and 2023 *Parelaphostrongylus tenuis* Surveillance



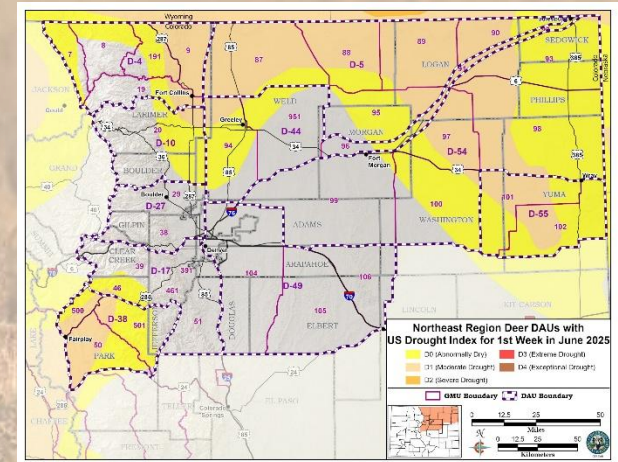
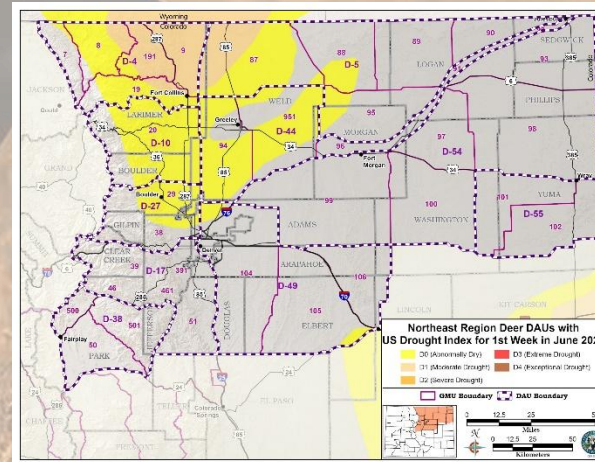
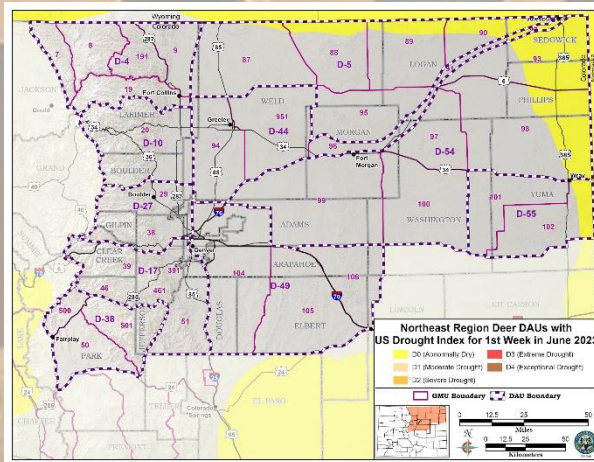
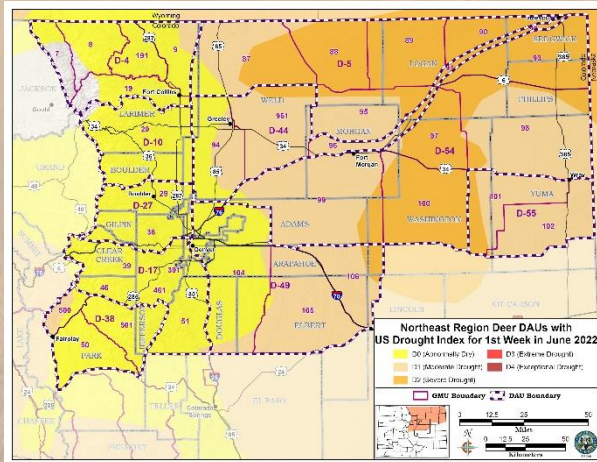
← Image of the inside of a deer skull with the brain removed; arrow pointing to an adult *P. tenuis* worm underneath the thin layer of tissue that separates the brain from the inside of the skull



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Common Management Issues

Climate Change



Stakeholder Engagement

- Landowner Surveys
- Optional hunter-harvest attitude survey data
- Public Meetings
- Meetings with Habitat Partnership Program committees
- Meetings with federal agency partners
- Public 30-day comment period on draft plan
- Parks and Wildlife Commission review and approval



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Recognize Private Landowners in the NE Region



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Proposed Deer HMP Objectives

DAU	Deer Herd	Current HMP Plan Approved	Current Post-Hunt Population Objective	2024 Post-Hunt Population Estimate	Current Post-Hunt Sex Ratio Objective	3-Yr Avg Post-Hunt Modeled Sex Ratio	Male CWD Prevalence (Female 2019)	Proposed Post-Hunt Population Objective	Proposed Post-Hunt Sex Ratio Objective
D-17	Bailey	2006	7,500–8,300	5,750	20–30	33	2% (0%)	6,500–7,500	30–35
D-27	Boulder Creek	2012	6,000–7,500	6,560	25–30	49	19%	Status Quo	Status Quo
D-38	South Park	2015	2,500–3,100	3,160	25–30	27	0%	2,500–3,500	30–35
D-49	Bijou Creek	2009	5,500–6,500	5,620	30–35	45	20% (2%)	5,000–6,000	Status Quo
D-04	Red Feather	2019	13,000–15,000	12,320	25–30	35	4%	Extension	Extension
D-05	North Tablelands	2021	2,500–3,000	1,820	30–35	30	26% (12%)	Extension	Extension
D-10	Big Thompson	2018	8,000–10,000	8,400	25–30	39	8%	Extension	Extension
D-44	South Platte River	2021	3,500–4,000	3,710	33–38	36	23% (8%)	Extension	Extension
D-54	South Tablelands	2021	3,500–4,000	3,460	30–35	36	34% (3%)	Extension	Extension
D-55	Arikaree	2018	2,300–2,700	2,160	35–40	40	39% (11%)	Extension	Extension



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Acknowledgments



- Biologists
- Pilots
- Wildlife Officers
- Regional Staff
- GIS
- Communication & Marketing
- Financial Services
- Purchasing & Contracts
- Program & Administrative Assistants
- Grants



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