

Figure 2.a.4 Wildland-Urban Interface and Intermix in Rustic displayed by housing density per acre (Source: Colorado State Forest Service: Colorado Forest Atlas)

Rustic:

The Rustic community is defined by the natural breaks between inhabited areas. The community borders are defined as:

- East Border – MM 100 Century Park
- West Border –MM 83 Big Bend
- North - MM 1 CR 69
- South - MM 2 CR 63E

Legal

Township 9 North, Range 74 West of the 6th PM Sections 29, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36

Township 8 North, Range 74 West of the 6th PM Sections 1, 2, 3, 4

Township 9 North, Range 73 West of the 6th PM Sections 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36

Township 8 North, Range 73 West of the 6th PM Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6

Township 8 North, Range 72 West of the 6th PM Sections 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10

Colorado State Highway 14 runs east and west through the center of the Rustic WUI. Highway 14 is the main escape route for the Rustic area. The Cache La Poudre River runs east and west through the Rustic WUI, parallel with Colorado State Highway 14. The Cache La Poudre River is designated a Wild and Scenic River and also provides domestic and agricultural water for a large area of northern Colorado. The Cache La Poudre River is a significant financial asset as it draws visitors interested in camping, fishing, hunting, and water sports. All of the businesses in the Rustic area and up and down the river depend on tourist dollars. The Cache La Poudre River also provides some of the finest fishing in the entire state of Colorado. Near the community of Rustic, wild trout waters are managed with special regulations so that fly and lure enthusiasts have the opportunity to fish for wild trout.

Community Access

The main access through the Rustic Community is via Highway 14, which runs east/west through the full length of the community. Highway 14 is a state highway maintained by the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT). Highway 14 is accessed from Jackson County to the west, the intersection of 287 to the east, and can also be accessed from Pingree Park Road (MM 96) or Stove Prairie Road (MM 106) east of Rustic, or County Road 69, which intersects Highway 14 near the Rustic Resort (site), mile marker 91. Many residences and businesses are accessed directly off Highway 14, also known as Poudre Canyon Road. Rustic Road, Crown Point Dr., U Bar U Lane, and Norman Fry Road are all accessed by bridges to the south of Highway 14 over the Cache La Poudre River.

Near MM 98 there is a bridge that accesses USFS cabins. There is a locked gate at the bridge, but if it is open the bridge is rated for 9 tons.

Near MM 95.9 is County Road 63E, which accesses the Pingree Park area. The bridge should handle any type emergency equipment. There are four structures across the bridge, which are within the district. Even though the PCFPD is called to support many

emergencies in the Pingree Park area it is not within the district and is not part of the CWPP. There is one residence at the junction of Highway 14 and CR 63E at MM 95.3.

- County Road 69 -- Can be used as an evacuation route. There are three residences within a quarter mile of the junction of CR 69 and Hwy 14.
- Rustic Road – This road is accessed via a wooden bridge with four steel beams. The bridge is safe to handle legal highway loads. The road is narrow and over grown in many places, but does have a few areas sufficient for a turn around. In emergencies, the gate between Crown Point Dr. and Rustic Rd. can be opened for an alternate exit.
- Crown Point Dr. and U Bar U Lane – To access these roads you need to cross a concrete bridge. The bridge is safe to handle all legal highway loads. Crown Point Drive has good access, egress, and places to turn around. U Bar U Lane is a narrow road with overgrown vegetation and should not be use. It requires extensive mitigation. Instead access it through Samples Meadow (55 Crown Point Dr.) and use hose lays. In emergencies, the gate between Crown Point Dr. and Rustic Rd. can be opened for an alternate exit.
- Meadow Lane and Riverside Drive, “Poudre City”, is accessed from Highway 14 directly. No bridge crossing is required. These two roads form a loop, which allows easy access and egress.
- Norman Fry Road– Is accessible via a Bridge near MM 89. The bridge has a locked gate with a fire department lock. The wooden bridge with steel beams can support 90,000 pounds and fire equipment. Norman Fry area has sufficient area to turn around.
- Profile Rock Bridge - was removed after the Black Hollow Flood in 2021. There are eight houses with foot traffic access across the river.
- Black Hollow Bridge - easy access and area to turn around.
- Idylwilde at MM 86.9 is an area on the North side of Hwy 14. The road loops around providing adequate access and egress for rural fire engines.
- Home Moraine RV Park (currently closed). There is a bridge that leads into the back of the property N 40* 41.731, W 105* 41.440. There are no structures beyond the bridge.
- River Ridge Lane MM 85.3 is on the south side of Hwy 14. There are three houses
- There is a bridge just west of the Fish Hatchery that is access for two cabins. The bridge should carry type 6 engines and there is room to turn around. N 40* 42.188, W 105* 43.150.

Prescribed fire done by Forest Service in 2019 to improve habitat for bighorn sheep. Photo by Hugh Collins.



- Poudre Canyon - Station 2
- Poudre Canyon Chapel

Other structures at risk:

- There is an electrical substation in the Seven Mile Creek area that is essential to the electrical power supply in the Rustic area. It is off of CR 69 and on FS Road 225. N 40*42 .320, W 105*35.267
- Historic Arrowhead Lodge, Visitor Center, USFS
- Home Moraine RV Park (Closed in 2020)
- State Fish Hatchery, Colorado State

- There are a total of 195 houses in Rustic area.

Trailheads in Rustic

- Mountain Park Campground - MM 98.5 - hiking
- Kelly Flats Campground (Lower) MM 97 - jeep
- Dadd's Gulch - MM 93 - Hiking
- Seven Mile - North on County Road 69 to Forest Road 225 – jeep

Evacuation Routes

- Highway 14 east
- Highway 14 west
- CR 69 (no trailers over 16 feet)
- CR 63E (Pennock Pass closed in winter)

FYI
 In addition to fire trucks and ambulance, there is an industrial chipper that is available for residents to mitigate their property

To see the entire [Colorado Wildfire Risk Assessment for Rustic](#), [click here](#).

PCFPD's Station 2 in Rustic.



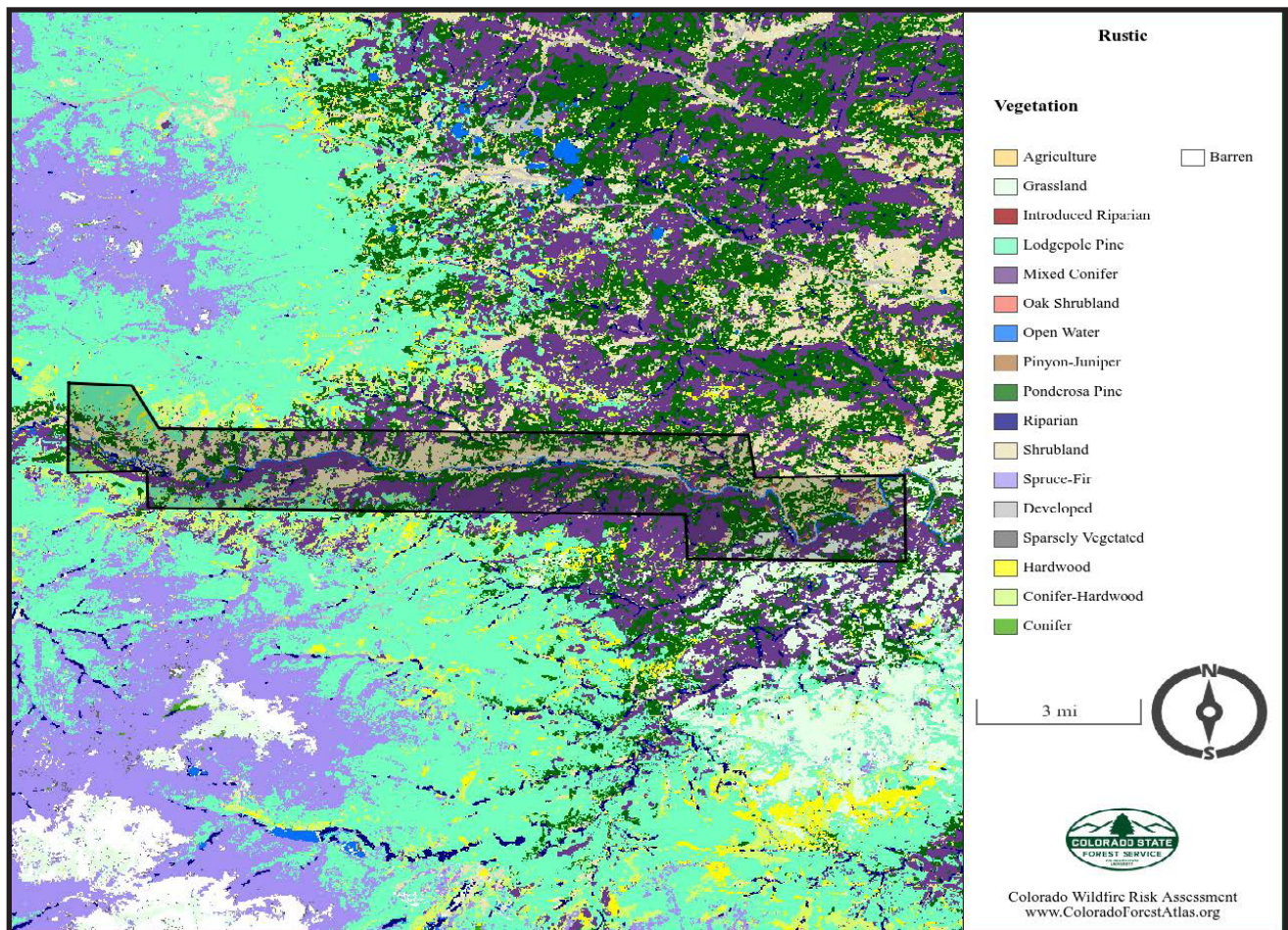


Figure 2.a.5 Vegetation in the Rustic treatment area is mostly mixed conifers, ponderosa pine and shrubland. (Source: Colorado State Forest Service: Colorado Forest Atlas)

Vegetation Type

The elevation in the Rustic area ranges between 7,000 and 7,700 feet. This elevation is known as the Lower Montane and consists mostly of ponderosa pine. Interspersed amongst the pine are fire-flashy Rocky Mountain juniper trees. Other trees in the area consist of blue spruce, Engelmann spruce, fir, and aspen. The river’s edge is predominately populated with cottonwood and willows, with interspersed dogwood. At this elevation there is still a fair amount of highly combustible sagebrush, chokecherry, and currant bushes.

Vegetation varies between the North and South facing slopes. The south aspect is predominantly sagebrush and grasses. The north aspect consists of a much denser tree population, characterized by mixed conifer with valley bottoms dominated by ponderosa pine. Tall prairie grasses reside along most of the roadways. During dry seasons of the year, this material will ignite quickly, carrying wildfire throughout the community.

Businesses in Rustic

- 9 Businesses exist in the WUI
 - Rustic Cabins
 - Glen Echo Resort
 - Bighorn Cabins
 - Canyon Utilities
 - Beck’s R/C Adventures
 - Poudre River Resort
 - Canyonside Campground