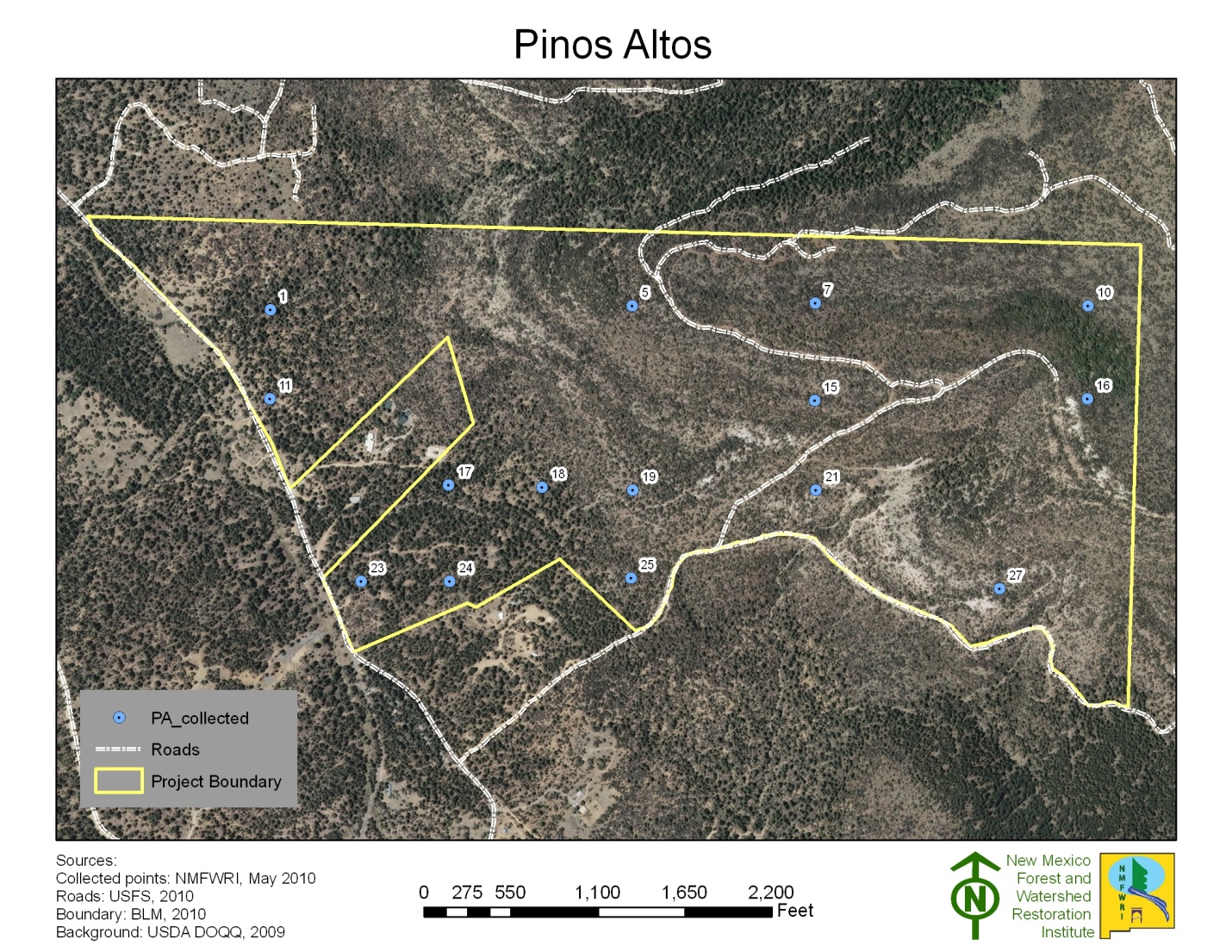
**Pinos Altos  
Field Inventory Summary   
New Mexico Forest and Watershed Restoration Institute**

**Figure 1. 2010 Pre Treatment Monitoring Sample Plots (15)**

The Pinos Altos unit is on BLM land in Grant County. This pre-treatment measurement was done under an agreement with New Mexico BLM, on an area scheduled for a fuels reduction thinning. This work was done in May 2010.

The unit is located NNE of the community of Pinos Altos. The unit is bounded on the south by Cross Mountain Road, on the west by NM Highway 15, and on the north and east by the Gila National Forest.

The area is extremely rugged, and at pre-treatment supported a dense stand of mature shrubs, including various oaks and mountain-mahogany, with an overstory of alligator juniper and piñon, grading to ponderosa pine at the upper elevations of the north-facing slopes.

Travel distances, injury, staff availability, and conditions on the plots slowed productivity. As a result, we measured fewer plots on this unit than is our standard practice. We are confident, however, that the data collected sufficiently capture the current conditions, and that the plot distribution will clearly demonstrate differences between pre- and post-treatment.

Summary bigger (1/10 acre) plots (Table 1)

The sampled area supported 668 living trees per acre, with only about 80 over 6 inches dbh. Basal areas (BA) were also very low, reflecting the large numbers of small trees. Very few dead trees were tallied, and most of them were also saplings. Site fertility seems decent, especially given the rockiness of the site, with the larger ponderosa pine reaching 60 feet and more in height.

Summary small (1/20 acre) plots (Table 2)

The two smaller plots had even more trees per acre, and were even more imbalanced toward the small diameters; however, not enough plots were taken to draw any firm conclusions. These two small plots were taken because these two locations had unusually high levels of small diameter trees, and taking a smaller plot reduced the number of measurements. Note these two plots are on opposite sides of the unit.

**Table 1. Pre Treatment Monitoring Summary of Tree Component for Plots 1,5,7,11,15-19,21,25,27 (1/10 acre plot size)**



**Table 2. Pre Treatment Monitoring Summary of Tree Component for Plots 10 and 23 (1/20 acre plot size)**



Diameter class, woodland species (Tables 3 and 4)

The unit had the expected piñon and alligator juniper, with strong skewing to small diameters. Note the high numbers for the smallest seedlings, with DRC of less than 1-inch, for PIED and JUDE2 (Table 3). Note on the small plots the very high per acre values for gray oak, silver-leaf oak, and wavy-leaf oak, with all individuals in the small diameters (Table 4). (Note the “0” diameter class is only up to 1 inch, and is thus half the range of the other diameter classes.)

Diameter class, forest species (Tables 5 and 6)

More than twice as many ponderosa per acre were found on the large plots as the small plots. Note the high number of small saplings on the larger plots. Note also that the ratio of pines in the 4-inch class to all the ponderosas larger than that is the same, 1:2, on both sets of plots. (This observation may be meaningless ecologically.) The basal area is especially low, 28 sq.ft. per acre, on the small plots. Note what seems to be the better recruitment on the larger plots with less oak than on the smaller plots with more oak; comparing estimated sapling numbers per acre, the large plots have 438 woodland (314 oak) saplings and 85 ponderosa pines; the small plots, 1250 (1238 oak) and 20. However, despite having the serious competition with the oak, the even the small plots have decent numbers of seedlings and saplings.

**Table 3. Pre Treatment Woodland Species by Diameter Class Plots 1,5,7,11,15-19,21,25,27 (1/10 acre plot size)**



**Table 4. Pre Treatment Forestland Species by Diameter Class Plots 1,5,7,11,15-19,21,25,27 (1/10 acre plot size)**



**Table 5. Pre Treatment Woodland Species by Diameter Class Plots 10 and 23 (1/20 acre plot size)**



**Table 6. Pre Treatment Forestland Species by Diameter Class Plots 10 and 23 (1/20 acre plot size)**



Individual Plot Summary (Table 7)

One of the small plots, 23, has 50% more trees per acre than the next highest plot. The other small plot, 10, is in the middle of the pack with 900 tpa.

Percent cover (Table 8)

This table, especially the 5% shrub cover, does not reflect the field crew observation that the area was almost too dense to walk through. Note also the relatively high bare soil and rock.

Surface fuels (Table 9)

The area had moderate levels of surface fuels (9.4 tons/acre). The levels of live woody vegetation (3.5 tons/acre) were as high as any we have measured, which does reflect field crew observations.

Table 7. Individual Plot Summary Table for Pinos Altos



Table 8. Average Percent Cover for Plot Descriptions



Table 9. Surface Fuels Summary, fuels listed in tons per acre



Table 10. Latitude and Longitude for Pinos Altos Sample Plots





**Figure 2. Pinos Altos Pre Treatment Sample Point Photographs, June 2010.**

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**Sample Point 27 – August 2010**, figure is one chain East of plot center

**Sample Point 24 – August 2010**, figure is one chain South of plot center

**Sample Point 19 – June 2010**, figure is one chain South of plot center

**Sample Point 15 – June 2010**, figure is one chain South of plot center

**Sample Point 11 – June 2010**, figure is one chain West of plot center

**Sample Point 5 – June 2010**, figure is one chain West of plot center