**Prescription text (from proposal):**

***“Proposed activities:*** Based on tree age and tree diameter measurements collected in the landscape assessment (CFRP 34-10), we developed a prescription of thin-from-below with a diameter cap of 12” drc (diameter at root crown). Mastication treatments will be used in areas with lower tree densities and along a private property boundary. The remaining denser forests will be hand thinned. Particular attention will be paid to the old and large trees identified during the landscape assessment; such that fuels will be removed from a buffer around these trees to prevent excessive scorch or torching during fire. Mechanical treatments will be scheduled to occur outside of the late-spring/summer time window that is critical for breeding birds.

Within the 2,500 acre treatment unit this “thin-from-below” prescription will be implemented in the areas (675 acres) prioritized by the FlamMap Treatment Optimization model (see map, Appendix A). Thus, by thinning only 675 acres, 2,500 acres are effectively “treated” with a first entry and ready for low intensity prescribed fire or managed wildfire at historic return intervals (average of 8 years), which the Pecos/Las Vegas District has committed to doing (see letter of commitment).