

Mesa Verde CO CRN Site

Installation expected in late
summer, early autumn 2004

Scheduled: CO Mesa Verde, Mesa Verde National Park

37.3N 108.5 W 8054'

Autumn 2004



Characteristics-Mesa Verde NP

- Park consists of elevated mesas, 1-2000' above surrounding lowlands; extending N to S with north end higher
- Park on southside of San Juans; experiences the summer monsoon/more subject to ENSO
- Slope uniform (3-4deg) with mesas separated by canyons that fall faster than mesas; hence canyons are broad swales in upper drainages, becoming more clifflike in lower ends
- All sites on Chapin Mesa ~1/2 mile across
- Large sections of Park burned in 2002; first burns in primary surveyed area in 500 years! Hot dry conditions and low tree moisture load allowed fires to spread.
- Groundcover in primary surveyed area will stabilize in 2-5 years with low (1-2') brush; no significant tree regrowth expected within 50 years. 3-400 year for reversion to pinyon pine and utah juniper
- Coop at NADP/Resource site; also RAWs, NADP, Ozone, Castnet; nearest HCN 25 miles

Large Fire History 1926-2003

Todd Mesa 1933 -
74 Acres (Human Caused)

Long Mesa 1989 -
3469 Acres

Widhorn 1934 -
4327 Acres

Wickup Point 1934 -
287 Acres

Chapin 5 1996 -
4761 Acres

Barber 2000 -
72,405 Acres

Morefield 1958 -
2074 Acres

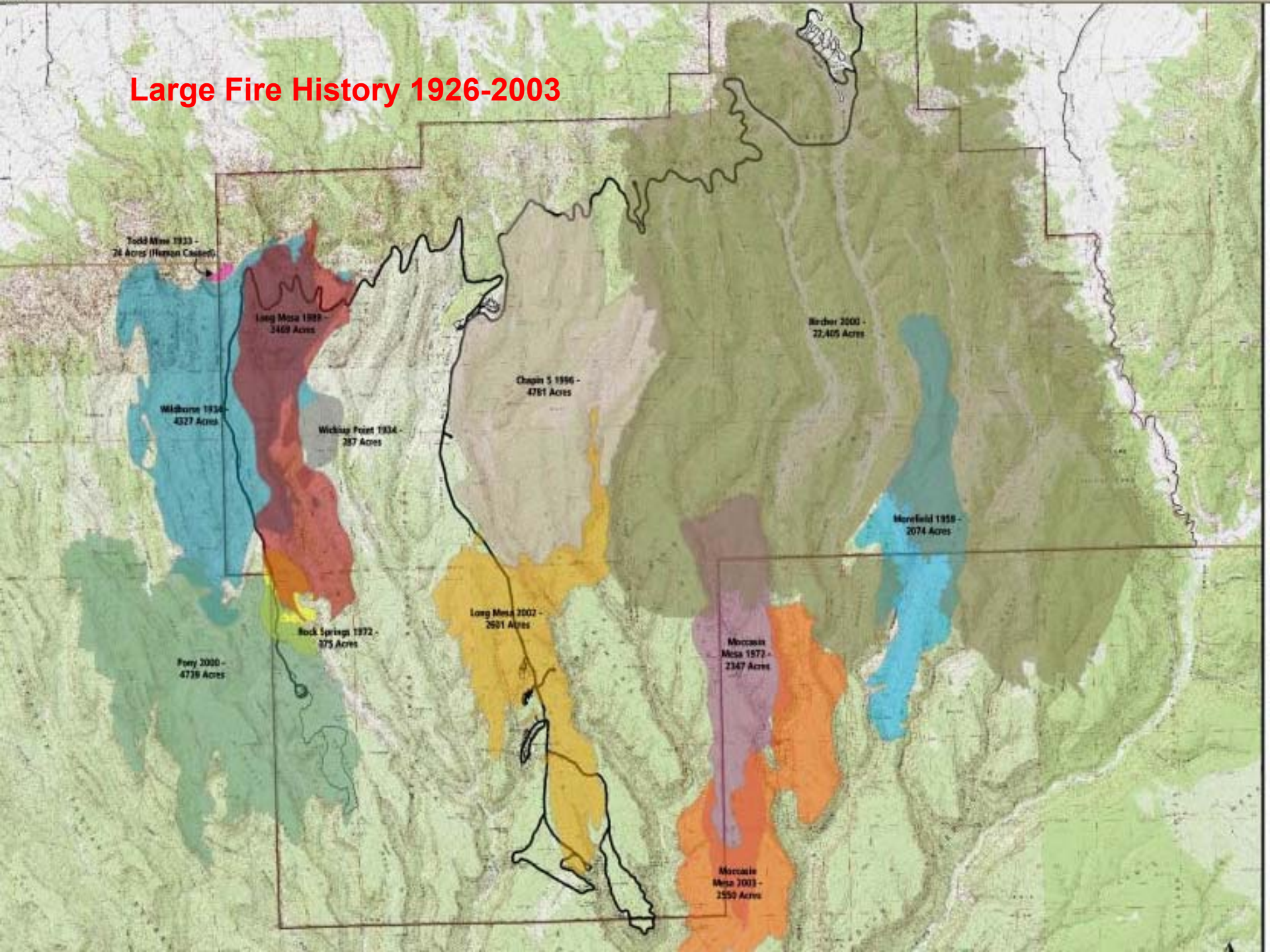
Rock Springs 1972 -
975 Acres

Long Mesa 2002 -
2601 Acres

Perry 2000 -
4738 Acres

Moccasin
Mesa 1972 -
2347 Acres

Moccasin
Mesa 2003 -
2550 Acres



PRECIPITATION UPDATE FOR MESA VERDE NP - June 30, 2002

Averages are based upon precipitation data from 1922-present for the Chapin Mesa weather station. Current season data is from September 1, 2001 to June 30, 2002.

	Current Year	Monthly Average	% of Normal
September	0.29"	1.61"	18%
October	0.48"	1.68"	28%
November	1.42"	1.33"	107%
December	0.83"	1.59"	52%
January 2002	0.02"	1.66"	1%
February	0.17"	1.64"	10%
March	0.59"	1.76"	33%
April	0.40"	1.31"	30%
May	0.00"	1.05"	0%
June	0.00"	0.63"	0%

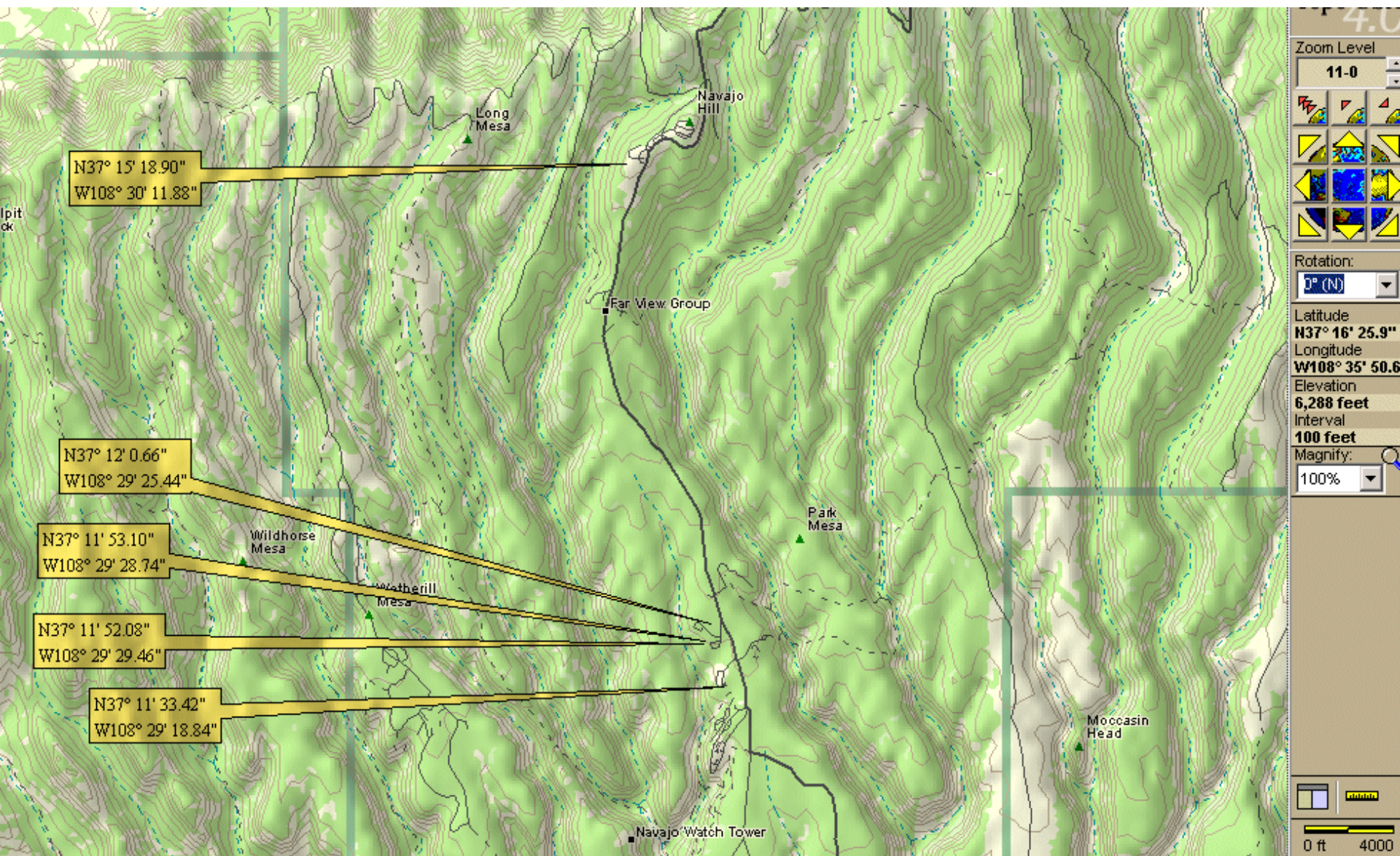
Nine Month % of normal: 29%

Ten Month precipitation departure from normal: 10.06"

The Drought continues with the last measurable precipitation on April 18.

We are now at 72 days without precipitation on Chapin Mesa.

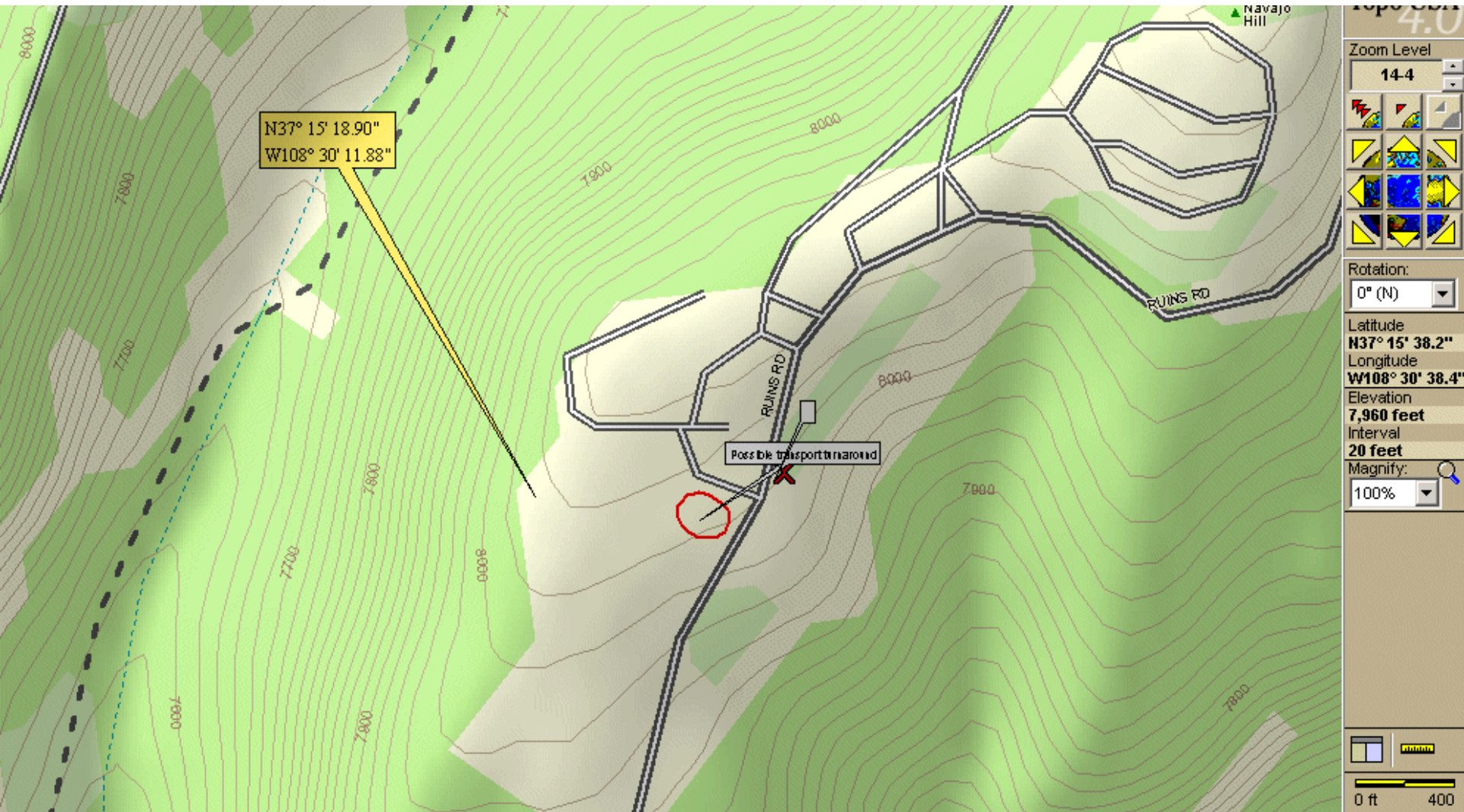
**Mesa Verde National Park. From top: Far View Site, Resources
Headquarters Fire Depot, Resources Headquarters NADP A, Resources
Headquarters NADP B, Residential Housing.**



Site Characteristics-Farview

- **Highest location (8000') in Park; best of 5 surveyed sites from a climatic standpoint**
- **More precip/snow than the 18"/80" at the 7000' coop site**
- **Less fire danger with lower/less dense vegetation**
- **Warm season use area; 1/4 mile from plowed road for winter access, weekly checks**
- **Power 300'**

Mesa Verde National Park. Far View CRN location, yellow tag. Red circled area, possible transport turnaround in the future plans for the Park..





Proposed Site

1993

0 | | | | .5Km



0 | | | | .25Mi

Mesa Verde National Park Far View CRN site. Looking from north toward south.



Mesa Verde National Park Far View CRN site. Looking from northeast toward southwest. Slope break is about 50 yards beyond, but is fairly gentle.



Mesa Verde National Park Far View CRN site. Looking from east toward west. Ute Peak is to rear, 9978 feet, about 12 miles distant. These are the Ute Mountains, home of the Ute Mountain Tribe.



Mesa Verde National Park Far View CRN site. Looking from southeast toward northwest. Road to Weatherill Mesa visible at top of hill.



Mesa Verde National Park Far View CRN site. Looking from south toward north. Seasonal housing visible at right. (~400')



Mesa Verde National Park Far View CRN site. Looking from south toward north. Like Photo 5, but panned to right.



Mesa Verde National Park Far View CRN site. Like Photo 5, but panned to the left.



Mesa Verde National Park Far View CRN site. Looking from southwest toward northeast.



Mesa Verde National Park Far View CRN site. Looking from southwest toward northeast. Panned to show relationship and distance to this structure.



Mesa Verde National Park Far View CRN site. Looking from west toward east.



Mesa Verde National Park Far View CRN site. Looking from northwest toward southeast.



**Mesa Verde National Park Far View CRN site. Ground truth.
Soil is relatively trenchable, mostly roots rather than rocks**

