

NEWS RELEASE

Colorado Springs, Colorado
November 24, 2020

STEAMBOAT SKI RESORT WINDTHROW VEGETATION MANAGEMENT PROJECT COMPLETED BY MARKIT! FORESTRY MANAGEMENT

With nearly half a million annual visitors, Steamboat Ski Resort is one of the most popular ski resorts in Colorado. Located 160 miles northwest of Denver, Steamboat Ski Resort is the fifth largest ski resort in North America, managing 169 trails, 18 lifts, and 2,965 acres of terrain.

On September 8, 2020, the Steamboat Springs area experienced high winds in excess of 100 miles per hour. Approximately 277 acres of tree islands between open ski runs and lift lines within Steamboat Ski Resort received major windthrow damage as a result of this event. Steamboat Ski Resort immediately reached out to Markit! Forestry Management LLC (“Markit! Forestry”) since Markit! Forestry had worked with Steamboat Ski Resort on previous projects, as well as on similar forestry and emergency response projects throughout the southwestern United States.

The Steamboat Ski Resort Windthrow Vegetation Management Project, undertaken and completed by Markit! Forestry, was an effort to remove trees and other vegetation affected by the windthrow event that blocked or interfered with ski trails or were likely to present other hazards to ski resort patrons in the upcoming ski season. To mitigate these hazards, Markit! Forestry formed two hand crews working in tandem to complete the project quickly and efficiently. One hand crew cut limbs and the tops of trees — called lop and scatter — leaving them to be fed into a woodchipper by the second hand crew.



Steamboat Ski Resort Windthrow property during treatment by Markit! Forestry

Since the windthrow event took place in the fall season, the timeline to complete the initial treatment was very tight — about a month — to ensure completion of the project before the first

snowfall and the start of the ski season. Markit! Forestry completed the treatment in the assigned acreage on time and on budget.

Aaron Rector, Forester and Business Development Manager for Markit! Forestry, commented on the Steamboat Ski Resort 2020 Windthrow Vegetation Management project as follows:

The Steamboat Ski Resort Windthrow Project required quick action in response to a unique weather situation. Thankfully, Markit! Forestry had the capacity and experience working with Steamboat Ski Resort to tackle this important job in a very tight time window.

Markit! Forestry worked with Steamboat Ski Resort to create an operational plan that kept costs low while producing excellent results in a short timeframe. We are all very pleased at the outcome and look forward to working with the Steamboat Ski Resort again in the future to continue mitigating both safety and fire hazards while producing aesthetically pleasing ski trails and settings.



***Windthrow Trees at the Steamboat
Ski Resort***



***Hand crews executing a lop and scatter
operation at the Steamboat Ski Resort***

Markit! Forestry Management LLC is a full-service environmental forestry management company, specializing in steep slope forestry projects and helicopter logging in the southwest United States. Markit! Forestry Management provides Forest Fuels Reduction, Forest Health Restoration, Post-Fire Rehabilitation, Defensible Space, and Timber Harvesting on Municipal, State, Federal and private land. For more information on Markit! Forestry Management please visit www.markitforestry.com, or call Jeremy Moore at 719-593-2365.