



## NEWS RELEASE

USDA Forest Service  
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### Mill Hollow Wildland Fire Use Incident

Roosevelt, Utah – Yesterday, an early morning rainfall fell on the Mill Hollow Wildland Use Incident. Despite the wet morning, the precipitation only registered .01 inches and on many parts of the fire the rain did not reach the ground.

This is the season when the weather begins to fluctuate between cooler temperatures, increased rainfall and higher humidity, to an occasional short-term drying trend. Generally, the Ashley National Forest's peak for large fires is in mid July with the monsoon season beginning late July.

This is the perfect time to use wildland fire as a tool. The finer fuels are still moist and green. They create a barrier which firefighters can use in conjunction with other management actions to control where the fire spreads. The greatest challenge is to lessen the impact of potential spotting, that is when the wind carries embers beyond the fire perimeter and ignites new spot fires.

To strategize and prepare, long-term fire specialists on the Great Basin Wildland Fire Use management team use long-term fire modeling computer programs to project where the fire might spread in 7 to 14 days. They use historic weather and fire occurrence data, (when and how often fires historically burned in the fire area) and combine it with the current conditions (the moisture in the vegetation, the types of trees and plants are in the area, topography and current weather conditions.) to make tactical decisions.

Crews continue securing the fire's eastern flank to prevent fire spread into areas that could threaten private lands and structures. On the western edge of the fire crews are monitoring it as it burns areas with heavy fuels, far from private lands. Resource managers are extremely pleased with the resource benefits being accomplished by the fire.

The fire has slowly grown to 693 acres. The overall fire personnel managing the fire stands at 118. A road and trail closure order remains in place for roads and trails just east and north of Cat's Peak, Forest System Road (FSR) #081, #074, #076 and Forest System Trail #082. The Reservation Ridge Road (FSR) #147 remains open.

The Mill Hollow Fire started on June 23, 2008 from a single lightning strike.  
For more information about Wildland Fire Use on the Ashley National Forest visit:  
[http://www.fs.fed.us/r4/ashley/publications/2008%20wildland\\_fire\\_use\\_brochure\\_ver2.pdf](http://www.fs.fed.us/r4/ashley/publications/2008%20wildland_fire_use_brochure_ver2.pdf)

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