

NEWS RELEASE

FISHLAKE NATIONAL FOREST

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DATE: October 2, 2009

Two Prescribed Burn Projects Slated for Beaver Ranger District

Richfield, UT- The Fishlake National Forest is planning to implement two prescribed burn projects beginning this fall on the Beaver Ranger District.

The first project is the Sheep Rock Chaining Maintenance Prescribed Fire. The project is located on the west side of the Beaver Ranger District, north of the community of North Creek. The burn will take place in the area of the Sheep Rock Chaining Project. The project area is approximately 800 acres.

The primary objective of the project is to reduce hazardous fuels, primarily pinyon and juniper that have returned to the old chaining area. The trees have been selectively cut and left to cure for one season in order to aid ignition.

The second project is the Cove Creek/Sulphurdale Prescribed Fire located approximately 25 miles north of Beaver, Utah and east of the Sulphurdale geothermal plant. The project area is approximately 1,000 acres and consists of a mixture of Gamble oak, mixed conifer and aspen fuel types.

The primary objective of the project is to reduce fuel loading in the area, which consists of abundant dead and down fuels.

Additional objectives for both projects are to return fire to its natural role on the landscape in order to maintain a diverse mosaic pattern of vegetation, increase herbaceous forage production for wildlife, and improve range habitat.

Both projects are scheduled to begin this fall but may not be completed until spring 2010. As with all prescribed fires, the actual dates for ignition and completion are dependent on a variety of conditions being met including air temperature, humidity, fuel moisture, and wind speed and direction.

Past prescribed burn projects with similar vegetation composition within the Fishlake National Forest have shown to improve the health and vigor of desirable vegetative species.

For additional information on this project contact Cory Norman at 435-896-1074, or visit www.utahfireinfo.gov .

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