

NEWS RELEASE

Uinta-Wasatch-Cache National Forest

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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FOREST OFFICIALS TO IMPLEMENT PRESCRIBED BURN

Provo, Utah, June 2, 2011 – Uinta-Wasatch-Cache National Forest fire personnel plan to conduct a prescribed burn in the Bartholomew Canyon area sometime between June 6-10 for one to two days, when weather conditions allow. The project area is located approximately 7 miles northeast of Springville City. The burn unit will include approximately 380 acres. Fire personnel attempted the burn in mid-May but weather conditions prohibited completion of the project.

The prescribed burn is part of a vegetation project in this area that included mechanical treatment over the last two years within 1500 acres of National Forest System lands.

The oak and maple stands in the Bartholomew Canyon area are mature and decadent. This project would enhance critical habitat for mule deer, moose, elk, mountain goats, and wild turkeys. This project will also help minimize the risk of large-scale wildfires to private landowners, structures, and natural resources within the area.

The method used for these projects is called "prescribed burning" because the area will only be burned when certain pre-planned conditions exist. Air temperature, relative humidity, fuel moisture, and wind speed and direction are some of the requirements that must be met before burning begins. Prescribed burns will be ignited when fuel moistures and weather forecasts allow for good smoke dispersal away from population centers.

Roads and trails accessing the project will be temporarily closed during the project to protect firefighters and the public. Private landowners will be allowed access to their property. Smoke seen in nearby areas will be within the State's clean air standards.

For additional information contact the Spanish Fork Ranger District at 801-798-3571, or <http://fs.usda.gov/uwcnf>.

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