



- ❖ Reducing Hazardous Fuels
- ❖ Promoting Ecosystem Resiliency

Fuels Project Informational Bulletin

Box Elder County Fuels Projects

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Planned Date: Spring 2013 projected completion

Location: Grouse Creek

Legal Description: T10-12N, R17-19W

Project Description: The BLM is continuing with the next phase of a broad-scale project to reduce the accumulation of hazardous fuels and enhance wildlife habitat in the Grouse Creek area of northwestern Box Elder County. A variety of grass and forb seed was aerially applied in December of 2012. A mechanical shredder (Bullhog) will be used to thin trees within dense areas of juniper; islands of mature trees, wildlife corridors, and riparian areas will remain undisturbed. The goal is to protect critical mule deer winter range by reducing encroaching juniper, creating fire breaks within sagebrush habitat, and regenerating the understory of grasses and forbs. Benefits will include increased forage for wildlife and livestock and a change in fuel type allowing safer and easier fire suppression. Support for the project comes from the Utah Watershed Restoration Initiative, a partnership consisting of: Healthy Lands Initiative, Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, Mule Deer Foundation; Utah Division of Forestry, Fire, & State Lands; Ruby Pipeline mitigation funds, and Utah Department of Natural Resources.



Before



After

The Pole Creek project, completed in Spring 2012, was proved a success when the Meadow Fire came through the treatment area. Fire suppression efforts were enhanced by better equipment access, a ground fire that didn't progress into a crown fire, and better retardant coverage on the ground.

