



**Forest Service**

Uinta-Wasatch-Cache

National Forests

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# News Release

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## **EVANSTON/MT. VIEW RANGER DISTRICTS PLAN TO IMPLEMENT HOOP LAKE PRESCRIBED FIRE**

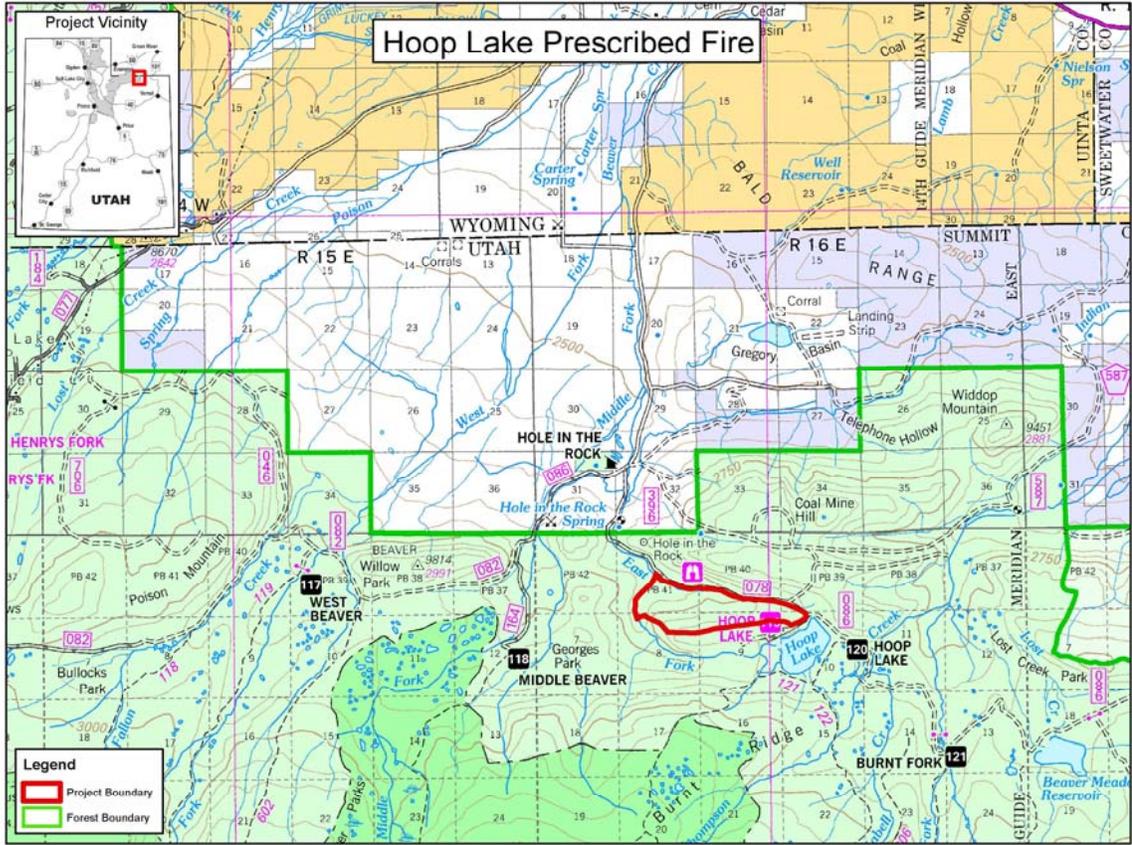
Salt Lake City, Utah, August 18, 2016 –Uinta-Wasatch-Cache National Forest fire management personnel plan to implement the Hoop Lake prescribed fire project sometime from August 22nd through November 2016.

The Hoop Lake prescribed fire project is located in Summit County, Utah, 11 miles south of Lonetree, Wyoming. The project consists of one burn unit (see attached map) totaling 524 acres in the Hoop Lake and East Beaver Creek areas. The primary objectives of the prescribed fire are to reduce fuels, improve wildlife habitat, and restore fire back into the ecosystem. The majority of the timber communities in the project area are approaching late successional stages due to a lack of natural disturbances. The burn will create age-class mosaics across the landscape in timber ecosystems and is intended to lower the risk of future wildfires.

The prescribed fire area will be closed to the public on the day of the burn and possibly the day after. Long-term benefits of prescribed fire will benefit both wildlife and hunters. Forest users should contact the Evanston/Mt. View Ranger District Offices (307) 789-3194 or (307) 782-6555 to confirm when the prescribed fire will be implemented.

To meet resource and safety concerns, prescribed fires only occur when a specific set of conditions are met. These conditions include air, soil and vegetation moisture levels, temperatures, wind directions and speeds, smoke dispersal, and expected fire behavior. Prescribed fires will only be ignited when fuel moistures and weather conditions will allow the smoke to dissipate or drift away from communities near the burn area.

Fire personnel will use hand-held drip torches and a helicopter to ignite fire in the designated units. Crews will monitor the burn area until the fire is completely extinguished.



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