

NEWS RELEASE

Uinta-Wasatch-Cache National Forest

Heber - Kamas Ranger District

2460 South Highway 40
Heber City, Utah 84032

50 East Center Street
Kamas, Utah 84036



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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UINTA-WASATCH-CACHE NATIONAL FOREST TO IMPLEMENT PORTIONS OF THE PONDEROSA PINE RESTORATION PROJECT

Salt Lake Utah, March 28, 2013 – Uinta-Wasatch-Cache National Forest fire personnel are continuing to implement portions of the Ponderosa Pine Restoration Project, starting Thursday, March 28th. This portion of the project is located in the Norway Flat area and is approximately 60 acres. Fire personnel successfully treated 67 acres on March 13th and 14th. The tree wells will only be burned when surrounding vegetation is unable to support fire spread due to an absence of fuels, or fuels covered with snow.

The exclusion of naturally occurring fire has changed the composition of the ponderosa pine groves to include a thick understory of juniper, mountain brush and lodgepole pine. The Ponderosa Restoration project is located in Summit County, approximately 10 miles east of Kamas, Utah. It encompasses 3,900 acres along the upper Provo River on the north side of the Mirror lake Highway from Co-op Creek, on the west, to Rock Creek and Soapstone campground to the East, (see attached map). This is one of the few native ponderosa pine stands on the Uinta-Wasatch-Cache National Forest.

The primary objectives of this project are to preserve the genetic diversity of ponderosa pine by reducing the thick understory of juniper, mountain brush, and lodgepole pine; lessen the wildfire risk along the highway corridor; improve watershed condition; restore wildlife habitat; and improve the scenic quality.

Smoke may impact visibility on the Mirror Lake Highway (SR150) and may drift towards populated areas. Firefighters will use only hand held drip torches to treat the area and will patrol and monitor the burn until weather conditions eliminate the need or the fire is declared out.

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Successful implementation of tree well burning, Ponderosa Pine Restoration Project March 2013



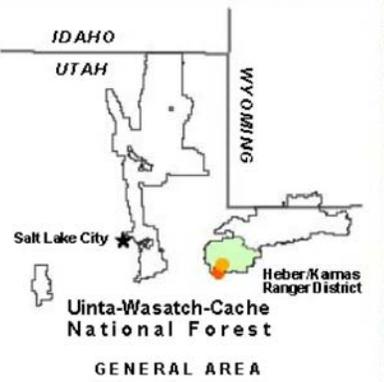
Fire personnel burning tree wells March 2013 Ponderosa Pine Restoration Project, Mirror Lake Highway

**Uinta-Wasatch-Cache National Forest
Heber/Kamas Ranger District
Prescribed Fire Projects
Spring/Fall 2013**

0 0.5 1 2 Miles

**Ponderosa Pine
Restoration**

**Cedar-Hollow II
(Treated)**



The 1993 Visitor Map is being used as the background/
location information. Land status information is current as
of 1992. Please contact the Forest for more current information.

