



## **PRESS RELEASE**

**For Immediate Release:** Friday September 9, 2016

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### **Wildfire Update – Fly Canyon**

**Fire Summary:** The Fly Canyon Fire was reported yesterday but was likely started days earlier by lightning. The size is estimated to be approximately 20-25 acres. This fire is currently crowning, torching and spotting in heavy dead and downed fuels. Today the fire and smoke are very visible to the public in the region and communities east of the fire. The fire is expected to remain active until weather conditions change by becoming wetter or cooler. Hot and dry weather is predicted for the next several days on the fire and fire behavior is expected to be similar to what is today over that time frame.

It is expected, without large rain events, that snowfall will completely extinguish this fire later in the fall. Until that time, crews will continue to manage this fire for resource benefits. The Porcupine Fire, to the south of this fire has been burning for about 6 weeks, but has not had significant growth in a couple weeks. The Fly Canyon Fire is expected to burn similar to the Porcupine Fire and burn pockets of fuel some days and not much on other days. Fire growth is expected to be approximately 500 acres by the time the fall snowstorms arrive. As the weather warms in the afternoon, smoke will be visible to the surrounding communities.

**Discussion:** This fire is being managed for multiple resource benefits based on local fire plans that have been developed with public input over a period of years. For decades, the Forest Service and other land management agencies suppressed most fires. Unfortunately, this resulted in decades and decades of dead and downed brush and tree litter. This fuel acts as ladder fuels that can create even more devastating wildfires. Science has changed the way we respond to fires. When we have the right fire, in the right place, at the right time, we can allow fire to play its natural role in the ecosystem. Benefits of managed wildfire include reducing hazardous fuels, protecting human communities from extreme fires, and minimizing the spread of pests, insects and disease. They also open up the forest floor to enhance wildlife travel paths and provide additional forage for game.

We also recognize the role that fire plays as a management tool. The goal of managing fires for resources benefits is to allow fire to resume its natural role in the ecosystem.

Ultimately, this results in greater safety for both the public and firefighters as well as a healthier forests for everyone to enjoy.

**Jurisdiction:** Ferron/ Price Ranger District, Manti-La Sal National Forest.

**Fuel Type:** Aspen and Mixed Conifer

**Structures:** No structures are threatened

**Percent Contained:** 0%-Managed Fire

**Fire Crews/Resources:** Local firefighters are on scene monitoring the fire

Information on fires in Utah visit [www.utahfireinfo.gov](http://www.utahfireinfo.gov). Information on fires across the country visit [www.inciweb.org](http://www.inciweb.org)



# Manti - La Sal NF Ferron RD Fly Canyon Fire Sept 9, 2016



Fire Location

