

PUBLIC COMMENT ON PROPOSED ACTION
Little Diamond Hazardous Fuels Reduction
USDA Forest Service – Uinta National Forest
Spanish Fork Ranger District

The Spanish Fork Ranger District, Uinta National Forest, is initiating scoping and requesting public comment on the proposed Little Diamond Hazardous Fuels Reduction. The purpose of this project is to reduce hazardous fuels build-up around Forest System/Private Land Boundaries as well as travel corridors in the Little Diamond Area. Hazardous fuels have been building over the years on Forest System Lands due to active fire suppression by the Forest Service. The proposed action is to mechanically treat a 300 foot buffer on the Forest side of the Forest System/Private Land Boundary (up to 7 miles). This fuel break would be as close to the boundary as topography allows and would incorporate naturally occurring open areas where possible. We also propose to treat 100 feet on both sides of Forest Service Roads 338, 039 and 029 (up to 4 miles). Treatment would remove brush, and trees up to 6 inch diameter at breast height (dbh) and delimb trees with a diameter greater than 6 inches up to a height of 6 feet. Remaining stumps would be no taller than 6 inches. Trees and brush would be chipped and scattered on site. A four wheeler or a pickup truck pulling a chipper/shredder, chainsaws, bullhog may be used in the project area. The total treatment area would be up to 400 acres. The treatment would take place in Utah County T8S R4E Sections 23, 25, 26, 27, 35, 36 And T9S R4E Sections 1, 2, 3, 10. Maintenance treatments would follow on the treated area 3-10 years after the initial treatments.

This project is expected to be categorically excluded following FSH 1909.15 31.2(10). A decision memo will be issued. Project implementation is expected to begin in 2007 and be completed before the fall of 2007.

The public is invited to comment on the proposed action. Verbal or written comments may be provided to the Responsible Official, Doug Jones, Uinta National Forest, Spanish Fork District Ranger, 44 West 400 North, Spanish Fork, UT 84660; phone (801) 798-3571; fax (801) 798-3050; or you may hand deliver your comments during normal business hours from 8:00 am to 4:30 pm, Monday through Friday, excluding federal holidays. You may also e-mail your comments to: comments_intermtn_uinta_spanishfork@fs.fed.us in rich text (rtf) or Word (doc). Comments in other formats should be mailed in hardcopy. Comments must be postmarked or submitted within 30 days following publication of this notice.

If you have questions regarding this proposal, please contact Lans Stavast, Spanish Fork Ranger District, 44 West 400 North, Spanish Fork, UT 84660 at (801) 798-3571.