

NEWS RELEASE

Uinta-Wasatch-Cache National Forest

Evanston-Mt. View Ranger Districts

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For Immediate Release:

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Aspen Dahlgreen Prescribed Fire

Evanston, WY, May 14, 2008 – The Evanston/Mt. View Ranger District is planning to implement a 250 acre prescribed fire this spring in the Dahlgreen Drainage. The area to be burned is the east side of the ridge extending north from Red Mountain (see map). A mosaic burn is expected within the treatment area shown with a solid black line. The burn will occur when conditions are favorable which should be between the last few weeks in May, through the end of June, 2008

Burn Prescription

To meet resource and safety concerns, prescribed burns 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. The prescribed burn will only be ignited when fuel moistures and weather conditions will allow adequate smoke dispersal. 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.

Resource Benefits

“The objective of the prescribed fire is to regenerate aspen stands that provide habitat for wildlife, forage for livestock, water, desirable recreation sites, and landscape diversity,” said Steve Ryberg, Evanston/Mt. View District Ranger. “Removing conifer trees in some of the project area has created fuels that will allow fire to carry through parts of the project,” stated Ryberg.

Prescribed fires play a role in forest health by reducing hazardous fuels which in turn reduces the risk and severity of catastrophic wildfires that can disrupt natural ecological processes. Reintroducing non-catastrophic fire into the ecosystem establishes effective vegetation regeneration, lowers the occurrence of insect and disease, protects soils in the area, and prevents erosion.

Please contact the Evanston Ranger District at (307) 789-3194 or go to <http://www.fs.fed.us/r4/wcnf/fire> to obtain the most current information pertaining to the status of the prescribed fire.

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