

NEWS RELEASE
UINTA-WASATCH-CACHE NATIONAL FOREST
PROVO OFFICE



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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FOREST SERVICE TO IMPLEMENT PRESCRIBED BURN

Uinta-Wasatch-Cache National Forest personnel plan to resume a prescribed burn in the Spanish Fork Ranger District on Friday, if weather conditions allow implementation. The Fifth-Sixth Water prescribed burn project is expected to treat 2000 acres near the Rays Valley area north of Highway 6 in Spanish Fork Canyon. Approximately 600 acres were treated during the last week of April.

The method used for these projects is called "prescribed burning" because the areas will only be burned when certain pre-planned conditions exist. Air temperature, relative humidity, fuel moisture, and wind speed and direction are some of the requirements that must be met before burning begins. Prescribed burns will be ignited when fuel moistures and weather forecasts allow for good smoke dispersal away from population centers.

Vegetation to be burned in the designated areas will include primarily aspen, Gambel oak, and spruce. Qualified fire personnel will use hand crews and helicopters to ignite fires in designated areas to create a mosaic effect. Benefits of the project include improved wildlife habitat and regeneration of vegetation, and reduction of hazardous fuels.

The project area is still surrounded by snow, creating a natural barrier. All public access routes are still snow-packed, therefore no closures will be implemented. The project is expected to last two days.

For additional information regarding the project contact the Forest Service Provo office at 801-342-5117.

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