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Intermountain
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Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement

West Bear Vegetation Management Project

**Evanston Ranger District, Wasatch-Cache National Forest
Summit County, Utah**

Township 1 North, Range 9 East, Salt Lake Principle Meridian



Front Cover Photo: View looking east from Moffit Ridge across Beaver Lake in the right foreground and Whitney Reservoir in middle ground toward the forested ridge between Whitney Reservoir and Coyote Hollow.

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WEST BEAR VEGETATION MANAGEMENT PROJECT
Final Supplemental
Environmental Impact Statement

Evanston Ranger District
Summit County, Utah

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Abstract

Alternative 2 (The Proposed Action) is the Forest Service Preferred Alternative (See Appendix A, Map 2). It includes timber harvesting, prescribed burning, construction of temporary roads, intermittent service roads, and minor reconstruction of existing system roads. Treatment would involve group selection harvest in spruce-fir and mixed conifer stands, small (1 to 5 acre) patch cutting in mixed aspen/conifer stands, conifer removal and prescribed burning in aspen/conifer stands, and prescribed burning in aspen stands. The proposal includes retaining green trees and snags for wildlife habitat. Approximately 1,686 acres within 38 units would be treated under the proposal. Harvests would be accomplished using ground-based systems, and in conformance with Forest Plan Standards and Guidelines. Approximately 326 acres of aspen and mixed aspen/conifer would be burned following removal of conifers on those acres. In addition, about 197 acres would be prescribed burned without prior conifer harvest. Access to the timber would require the construction of approximately 7.8 miles of temporary roads, 0.9 miles of intermittent service system roads, and relocation of approximately 0.6 miles of existing system roads. Approximately 3.4 miles of firelines would be needed. In addition to Alternative 2, Alternative 1 (No Action), and Alternative 3 (Reduced Roads) have been analyzed. Alternative 1 would maintain the existing conditions in the analysis area. Alternative 3 (See Appendix A, Map 3) would reduce road construction and emphasize

prescribed fire without mechanical pretreatment. It would treat approximately 1,387 acres within 28 tentative treatment units. It would require construction of approximately 1.9 miles of temporary roads, no intermittent service system road, and relocation of approximately 300 feet of an existing system road. An estimated 6.4 miles of firelines would be needed to accomplish the prescribed burning.