

PUBLIC COMMENT ON PROPOSED ACTION
Tank Hollow Habitat Restoration Project
USDA Forest Service – Uinta National Forest
Spanish Fork Ranger District

The Spanish Fork Ranger District, Uinta National Forest, is requesting public comment on the proposed Tank Hollow Habitat Restoration project. During the 1960s and 70s, approximately 1700 acres were chained to improve big game winter range. These areas are now being invaded by juniper whips. The area has approximately 7 miles of non-system roads and trails created by illegal ATV operators. The District, in co-operation with the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources, proposes to implement wildlife habitat and watershed work including removal of encroaching juniper whips on approximately 1000 acres, contour falling of trees on hillsides for erosion control, repairing existing fences, defining dispersed camping areas, informational signing, and obliteration of approximately 7 miles of non-system roads and trails. The treatment area is accessible from existing roads and no new roads will be created. The work will be completed over the next one to five years. The proposed area of treatment is in the Tank Hollow area of the Uinta National Forest (Sections 23, 25, 26, 34, 35, and 36, Township 9 South, Range 5 East, and Sections 2 and 3, Township 10 South, Range 5 East) in Utah County. The area is located approximately 18 miles east of Spanish Fork, Utah and north of Highway 6.

We anticipate this project is within categorical exclusion FSH 1909.15 31.2(6) “*Timber stand and/or wildlife habitat improvement activities which do not include the use of herbicides or do not require more than one mile of low standard road construction.*” The public is invited to comment on the proposed action. Send comments to the Responsible Official, Douglas 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*. Comments must be postmarked or received 30 days after publication in this newspaper. This comment period provides those interested in or affected by these projects an opportunity to make their concerns known. It is being provided pursuant to the order issued by the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of California, case no. CIV F-03-6386JKS. Those who provide timely comments will be eligible to appeal the decision pursuant to 36 CFR 215 regulations.

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