

**Reservation Ridge East Fuels Treatment  
Ashley National Forest, Duchesne/Roosevelt Ranger District  
2010**

The Reservation Ridge East Fuels Treatment project is located on the Southern unit of Duchesne/Roosevelt Ranger District on the Ashley National Forest. This project was proposed in cooperation with Utah Division of Forestry, Fire and State Lands, the Argyle Canyon Wildland Fire Council and the BLM. Through a combination of treatments over



five years this project will reduce fuel loading on the north side and up to four miles west of highway 191S on the Reservation Ridge Road (FSR 147). There is an additional western portion to this project which is currently in a holding pattern due to lack of

funding. The current situation is one of a bark beetle epidemic, heavy fuel loading/dense forest conditions and 1-2 natural fire return intervals have been missed. The purpose of this project is to reduce the amount of hazardous fuels and create defensible space providing a buffer around private property and Forest facilities in the wildland urban interface. Because of these developments, this area has been delineated as, “high risk”, when making decisions to authorize resource benefit fires. After project completion we anticipate reducing the amount of area classified as “high risk” and allowing more fires to be managed for resource benefits.

This project is one more step toward a goal of managing the majority of naturally occurring fires for resource benefit, even in developed areas like Reservation Ridge. In the past, the potential consequences of letting a fire burn in this area would have been too

hazardous. Additional benefits of this project include: promoting aspen regeneration, reducing conifer encroachment, and restoring fire to where one or more fire return intervals have been missed.



Treatments that have already been implemented include: Stewardship contract for merchantable timber, mechanical thinning and limbing, piling, and burning of piles. This work has been completed through two service contracts and work by Forest personnel. The majority of the mechanical work has been along the eastern end of Reservation Ridge Road (FSR147) and areas around Avintaquin Campground. This work involved treating around 500 acres 600' north of FSR 147 with well over 18,000 piles produced in the spring, summer and fall of 2009. The burning of this material began in the winter of 2009 and will continue in 2010.



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