

Notice of Decision
Telephone Hollow Timber Sale and Fuels Treatment
USDA Forest Service
Uinta National Forest
Wasatch County, Utah

The Uinta National Forest has completed an Environmental Assessment for the Telephone Hollow Timber Sale and Fuels Treatment Project. The Responsible Official, Heber District Ranger Julie King, approved a Decision Notice and Finding of No Significant Impact (DN/FONSI) for this project on May 4, 2007.

My decision is to approve implementation stand treatments designed to reduce stand densities and competition in approximately 270 acres of lodgepole pine and aspen forest types with project-specific mitigation measures. Even-aged stands would be commercially thinned to increase growth and vigor, primarily retaining the larger healthier trees on the site. In addition to the commercial thinning, a hazardous fuels reduction treatment near the Daniels Summer Homes will be implemented. In conjunction with the thinning, small openings (up to 2 acres in size) would be created to promote structural diversity and lodgepole pine regeneration. Multi-aged stands would be thinned across all age/size classes, with a focus on reducing invading shade-tolerant species which contribute to ladder fuels and conversion of the site from lodgepole pine to subalpine fir dominance. Approximately 20 acres of aspen would be mechanically treated to reduce subalpine fir invasion. Activity fuels (logging slash) would be treated by various means to reduce post-harvest fire potential in selected areas of the project. This may include removal, chipping, crushing, and/or piling and burning. Areas within Strawberry Lands would not be part of a commercial timber sale and would be treated by piling and burning bark beetle infested trees.

This legal notice provides notification of the final decision associated with the project. This decision is subject to appeal pursuant to Forest Service regulations at 36 CFR 215. Appeals must meet the content requirements of 36 CFR 215.14. Appeals must be postmarked or received by the Appeal Deciding Officer within 45 days of the publication of this notice in the *Provo Daily Herald*. The Appeal Deciding Officer is the Forest Supervisor Brian Ferebee. Appeals must be sent to: Appeal Deciding Officer, Intermountain Region USFS, 324 25th Street, Ogden, Utah 84401; or by fax to 801-625-5277; or by email to: appeals-intermtn-regional-office@fs.fed.us. Emailed appeals must be submitted in rich text (rtf.) or Word (doc.). Documents in other formats (tiff, jpg etc) should be mailed in hardcopy. Appeals may also be hand delivered to the above address, during regular business hours of 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. If no appeal is filed, this decision may be implemented no sooner than five days following the close of the appeal period. If an appeal is filed, implementation may begin 15 days following the disposition of all appeals.

If you have any questions or would like a copy of the EA and/or DN/FONSI, please contact Steve Penny, Forester, at (435) 654-0470. The EA and DN/FONSI are also available on the internet at <http://www.fs.fed.us/r4/uinta/projects/nepa/>.