

## SPANISH FORK RANGER DISTRICT JOINT LANDSCAPE RESTORATION PARTNERSHIP VERNON PROJECT

The Uinta-Wasatch-Cache National Forest Spanish Fork Ranger District recently received the Joint Chief's Grant for restoration projects in the Vernon Management Unit. The grant will be used to complete an environmental analysis on approximately 9,000 acres of critical sage-grouse and mule deer habitat. The first stage in 2015 was successfully completed by restoring sage steppe ecosystems through the reduction of fuels while improving rangeland conditions, mule deer habitat and improving habitat quality for at risk species such as sage grouse. The project also focused on hazardous fuels reduction treatments which helps to minimize the risks to private land, structures, and natural resources, from potential wildland fires for the nearby community of Vernon was successfully completed. The project leverages strong partnerships with state and federal organizations as part of a multi-agency landscape restoration effort.

