

# UINTA-WASATCH-CACHE NATIONAL FOREST

## Mud Creek Boreal Toad Habitat Improvement Project

Mud Creek is in the Strawberry Reservoir Management Area located in Wasatch County, UT. This area is an important boreal toad breeding site. Multiple use includes grazing, road OHVs, dispersed camping, and snowmobiling on a groomed trail west of the creek. Mud Creek is in a summer cattle allotment with a pasture rotation. Utah Division of Wildlife Resources (UDWR) has expressed a concern about the timing of cattle grazing and potential impacts to boreal toad breeding within the riparian area. To minimize impacts to the toads but still allow multiple-use of the area, the Heber-Kamas Ranger District worked with UDWR on a habitat improvement project.

The purpose of the project was to protect boreal toad breeding habitat on Mud Creek by minimizing the bank compaction and sediment delivery that occurs during livestock grazing. Approximately 3,000 feet of buck and pole fence was installed to project the Mud Creek riparian area. A 20x20-foot hardened crossing was constructed to allow livestock access to both sections of the Mud Creek pasture. In addition, a pipeline from a spring to three livestock troughs was constructed to provide off-channel watering for the pasture.

Total project costs amounted to \$44,321 of which UDWR contributed \$ 3,000.



*Hardened water crossing*



*Riparian Fence in Mud Creek Allotment (12/7/15)*



*Before Photo of Water Crossing Location*



*New pipeline and trough to disperse cattle through the Mud Creek Allotment (12/7/15)*

For more information contact Traci Allen, Fish and Wildlife Program Manager, Uinta-Wasatch-Cache National Forest, at 801-999-2167 or [traciallen@fs.fed.us](mailto:traciallen@fs.fed.us) .