NEWS RELEASE

Uinta-Wasatch-Cache National Forest
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BARTHOLOMEW CANYON PRESCRIBED FIRE SUCCESSFULY IMPLEMENTED

Uinta-Wasatch-Cache National Forest fire management personnel, in partnership with the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources and Utah Partners for Conservation and Development, successfully treated the prescribed fire unit of the Bartholomew Canyon Vegetation Treatment project. Assisting in implementation of the project were cooperators and Forest Service personnel from: Springville City, Utah County Fire, Unified Fire Authority, Bureau of Land Management, Lone Peak Fire, and Caribou-Targhee, Fishlake, Manti-La Sal and Ashley National Forests.

Fire personnel completed treatment of 493 acres using hand ignition by fire crews. The Bartholomew Canyon prescribed fire burned almost entirely at low, or low to moderate levels of severity. Even those few areas that burned at a higher severity offer some benefit to forest resources. The result is a mosaic of fire effects on the landscape; mimicking the historical progression of natural fire in a fire-adapted ecosystem.

In 2010, approximately 750 acres were successfully treated using mechanical mastication treatments in adjacent areas.

George Garcia, Spanish Fork District Ranger, Uinta-Wasatch-Cache National Forest, said “Prescribed fire treatments on the Bartholomew Project were very successful in meeting our objectives. With the help of our partners, we were able to reduce fuel loading, while enhancing habitat for turkey, elk, moose and mule deer and most importantly, we achieved it with the safety of our personnel and the community in mind”.

Utah Division of Wildlife Resources, Central Region Big Game Biologist, Covy Jones, stated “From a wildlife and watershed standpoint we need to be implementing more prescribed fires to create a more resilient and resistant landscape.

A significant portion of the project was funded by the Mule Deer Foundation, Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, Sportsman for Fish & Wildlife and Utah Department of Natural Resources, Utah Department of Water Resources, Springville City, and National Wild Turkey Federation.

Figure 1. Bartholomew Canyon Prescribed Fire Pre-Treatment

Figure 2. Bartholomew Canyon Rx Post Treatment

Figure 3. Hand ignitions at Bartholowmew Rx

Figure 4. Cow and calf moose just off the edge of the fireline.