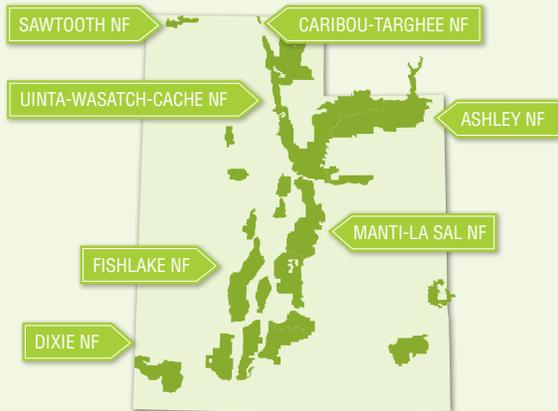


# INTERMOUNTAIN REGION National Forests IN UTAH

## AT A GLANCE

Utah contains five national forests, plus portions of the Sawtooth and Caribou-Targhee, which lie mostly in Idaho:



### ACRES OF NFS LAND

ASHLEY	14%
C-T	0.1%
DIXIE	22%
FISHLAKE	17%
MANTI-LA SAL	15%
SAWTOOTH	1%
U-W-C	32%

## MYTOGE MOUNTAIN TIDWELL SLOPE SAGE-GROUSE HABITAT IMPROVEMENT PROJECT: FISHLAKE NATIONAL FOREST

The Mytoge Mountain Tidwell Slope Sage Grouse Habitat Improvement Project proposes to treat conifer encroachment upon sagebrush-capable landscapes essential to sage-grouse for breeding, nesting, brood rearing, and winter use across approximately 40,000 acres in the Mytoge Mountain Tidwell Slope area.

The national forests in Utah cover a tremendous diversity of landscapes and ecosystems, from the mountains along the Wasatch Front that provide drinking water to Salt Lake City, to the plateaus and mountains of central Utah known for their motorized trail systems and dispersed recreation opportunities, to the unique redrock landscapes of southern Utah known for year-round recreation, watershed restoration, and timber and rangeland improvements.

## NOTABLE PROJECTS

Throughout the past year, the national forests in Utah have been involved in many projects that help care for the land and serve the people. The following stories illustrate their commitment to the mission of the Forest Service.

### DEER HOLLOW NON-MOTORIZED WINTER RECREATION AREA: DIXIE NATIONAL FOREST

The Deer Hollow Non-Motorized Winter Recreation Area (located on the Cedar City Ranger District of the Dixie National Forest) encompasses more than 1,300 acres, with 23 miles of non-motorized groomed trails for cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, and fat biking. It provides excellent recreation opportunities for those who wish to find real peace and quiet in the solitude of Deer Hollow. District Ranger Veronica Magnuson, Forest Supervisor Angelita Bullets, and other Forest Service employees worked with multiple partners such as Cedar Mountain Nordic Club, Iron County Office of Tourism, and Southern Utah University to help make this recreation experience possible. The Dixie National Forest wants to connect people to the outdoors in every season of the year. Outdoor opportunities such as this promote healthy lifestyles, help to bond families and friends, and inspire community engagement and volunteerism in caring for the land.

#### Deer Hollow Non-Motorized Winter Recreation Area



# National Forests IN UTAH

## FUELS MANAGEMENT PROJECTS: ASHLEY NATIONAL FOREST

The management of fuels (flammable vegetation) on the Ashley National Forest is a priority that not only reduces the risk of catastrophic wildfires, but reintroduces fire into an ecosystem that is adapted to it. In fiscal year 2016 the Ashley's fire and fuels management program reported a fuels accomplishment of 5,738 acres. Mechanical methods (which use power and hand tools) were used to treat 2,381 acres, while 3,357 acres were treated with prescribed (controlled) fire. Five major projects were completed, including the Flaming Gorge Ranger District Ponderosa Pine Maintenance and Fuels Reduction, which used prescribed fire to treat 1,884 acres. The projects are ongoing and have future targets associated with them. The Forest is planning to treat approximately 6,700 acres in fiscal year 2017, with about 4,700 acres of prescribed fire and 2,000 acres of mechanical treatment.



*Fuels management on the  
Ashley National Forest*

## FOREST PLAN REVISION: MANTI-LA SAL NATIONAL FOREST

The Manti-La Sal National Forest began revision of its Land and Resource Management Plan in the spring of 2016. The revision will update the current Forest Plan, which was written in 1986. Since that time, natural resource and social conditions have changed, new scientific knowledge has come to light, and additional land management laws have been put into place. The Forest Plan Revision process will take about four years, with a decision expected in 2020. The Forest held 14 public open houses and 2 workshops in the summer and fall of 2016, with a focus on gathering input to include in its Assessment Report. The Forest has agreements in place with 21 cooperating agencies and held 2 workshops in the fall of 2016 with them. The Forest is currently drafting the Assessment Report and expects to share the draft with the public early in the summer of 2017. Throughout the plan revision effort there will be numerous opportunities for public participation.

## CONTACT

### INTERMOUNTAIN REGION

Regional Forester – Nora Rasure

801-625-5605

[fs.usda.gov/r4](http://fs.usda.gov/r4)



**TIMBER HARVEST**



**TIMBER RESTORATION**

## TIMBER LAND RESTORATION: UINTA-WASATCH-CACHE NATIONAL FOREST

The Forest has been impacted by high tree mortality due to native beetle epidemics. Partnerships continue with the states of Utah and Wyoming to accelerate restoration through timber harvests and fuels treatments. In 2016 about 117,000 ccf (hundred cubic feet) of timber were sold. This is a cost-effective way to open the land for the growth of young trees. There is also an economic benefit that supports private sector jobs, especially for local communities.