

# Prescribed Fire

EVANSTON/MT. VIEW  
RANGER DISTRICTS  
FALL 2015 / SPRING 2016  
UINTA-WASATCH-CACHE  
NATIONAL FOREST



Hoop Lake Terra Torch October 2012

## *Hoop Lake Prescribed Fire To Enhance Wildlife Habitat & Reduce Hazardous Fuels*

If you would like more information about the prescribed fires planned on the Evanston/Mt. View Ranger Districts please visitor call (307) 789-3194 or (307) 782-6555

### PRESCRIBED FIRES

Prescribed fires, which are planned ignitions are just one tool used by fire managers to improve forest health by reducing hazardous fuels, restore ecosystem health and improve the quality of watersheds and wildlife habitat.

A prescribed fire only occurs when the temperature, humidity, wind speed and fuel moisture are within the prescribed fire plan objectives. Prescribed fires will be ignited when predicted weather and fuel conditions allow for minimized smoke impact on the air quality and the public's health. Prescribed fires can be ignited by hand, using drip torches or by air using helicopters to drop incendiary devices.

In order to restore fire to its natural role in forests and rangeland, we ignite prescribed fires in the spring and fall when weather conditions allow for slow, low intensity burning to protect the vegetation and soil.

Specific objectives may be to reduce the fuels and/or create a mosaic pattern in the vegetation to create cover, forage, and browse areas for wildlife. It can also, enhance native plant species and create diversity in vegetation structure and distribution.

We know that fire is essential to the health of our forests and rangelands. Since conditions in many areas are conducive to large, severe wildfires, and because so many people now live in or near forest and rangelands, we need fires to burn in a more controlled way. By igniting prescribed fires, we can maximize the chance that they will burn on our terms with acceptable effects.

### HOOP LAKE PRESCRIBED FIRE

Uinta-Wasatch-Cache National Forest fire personnel plan to implement portions of the Hoop Lake prescribed fire anytime beginning September 28th, through November 2015 depending on weather conditions. The plan is to treat burn units A and B totaling 465 acres. The Hoop Lake prescribed fire project is located in Summit County, Utah, 11 miles south of Lonetree, Wyoming. The primary objective of the prescribed fire is to reduce fuels, improve wildlife habitat and to restore fire back into the ecosystem. The burn will create age-class mosaics across the landscape in timber ecosystems and is intended to lower the risk of future wildfires.

### MILL CITY PRESCRIBED FIRE

Scheduled for fall 2015, this 913-acre burn will be along the Whitney Road, going south to the Gold Hill road. Objectives are to stimulate aspen regeneration and improve wildlife habitat. A variety of wildlife species are dependent on the age class and species diversity of aspen and conifer found in the project area. Goshawks prefer the mixed aspen and conifer for nest sites. Elk, deer, and moose use the area for winter range, transitional winter range, and calving.



Aerial photo showing successful mosaic burn Aspen Dahlgreen Prescribed Burn June 2008

### DAHLGREEN-ASPEN PRESCRIBED FIRE

The Dahlgreen-Aspen prescribed fire was successfully treated in June, 2008. The primary purpose of the prescribed fire was restoration and maintenance of age-class diversity among aspen dominated stands. The primary objectives were met with additional benefits including the re-generation of aspen for the benefit of wildlife, such as elk, moose and mule deer and to restore and maintain age-class diversity among sage brush dominated stands.

It also provides modified fuel patterns for more effective, timely, and safe suppression efforts for future wildfires and improves wildlife habitat.

### Hand Ignition Lower Sage, October 2010

These prescribed fires or planned ignitions are part of a multi-year plan that reintroduces fire back into the ecosystem for re-vegetation and to reduce hazardous fuels near communities at risk as part of the revised Uinta-Wasatch-Cache National Forest Management Plan.

The majority of the brush communities in the burn areas are approaching late seral stages due to a lack of natural disturbances. In addition, grazing, fire suppression, and other management practices have changed the forest structure and composition, causing a decline in the ecological health of the forests.

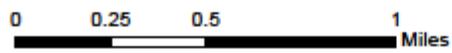
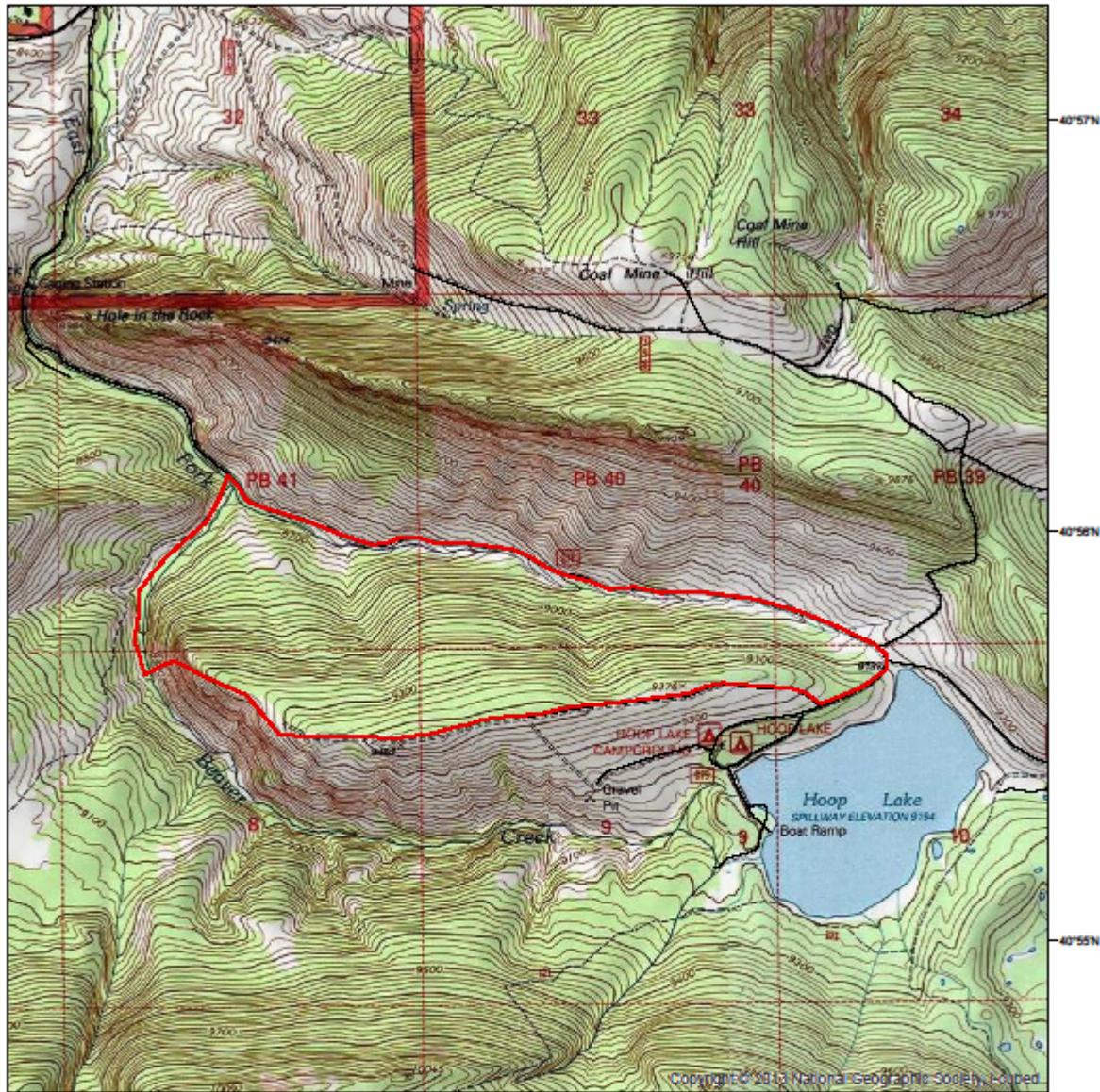
Prescribed fire provides for ecosystem maintenance and restoration consistent with land uses and historic fire regimes. Fuels are managed to reduce the risk of damage to private property and to provide for public and firefighter safety.



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# HOOP LAKE PRESCRIBED FIRE



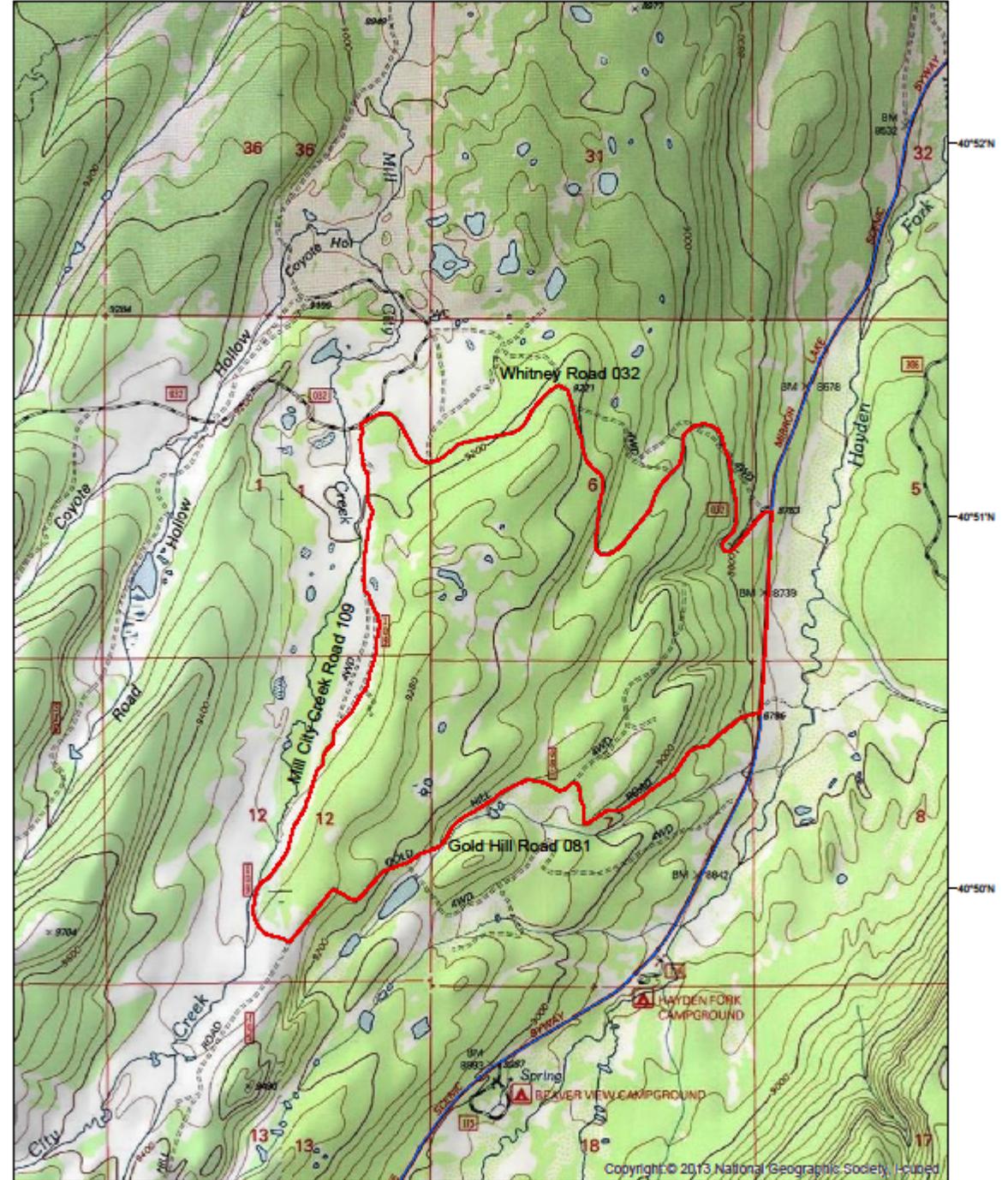
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 Burn Unit - 524 Acres

 Roads

# MILL CITY PRESCRIBED FIRE



1:24,000

 Burn Unit 913 Acres