



Ashley National Forest 2011 Year in Review



FOREST SUPERVISOR'S LETTER



Dear Friends,

2011 has been a very active year for the Ashley National Forest. Kevin Elliott, former Forest Supervisor for the Ashley National Forest, left the Uintah Basin this past fall. He was promoted to Forest Supervisor of the Sequoia National Forest in California. I have been filling in as Acting Forest Supervisor in the interim while the position is being advertised and filled permanently. It has been my privilege to work with the folks here on the Ashley National Forest and with members of the local communities of Manila, Vernal, Roosevelt and Duchesne. The employees of the Ashley National Forest are true professionals tied to the land, the people and communities we serve.

In the following pages, we have highlighted many of our accomplishments completed this past year and some projects that are ongoing. Energy development continues across the Forest with the expected completion of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) early in 2012 for the development of up to 400 oil and gas wells on the South Unit of the Ashley National Forest. The Forest also continues to implement the Travel Management Plan approved in September, 2009, with the addition of routes to the motorized vehicle use map (MVUM) as they are cleared for use.

Throughout the year we have worked in partnership with multiple agencies and organizations to complete many projects across the Forest. In recognition of this work, this year the Ashley National Forest received the *2010 Bob Marshall Champion of Wilderness Stewardship Award* for High Lakes Stabilization in the High Uintas Wilderness. This work began in 2006 and culminated in 2010 achieving the goal of stabilizing 13 reservoirs within the High Uintas Wilderness.

In addition, we worked with the Ashley National Forest Resource Advisory Committee (RAC) to allocate \$687,847 to projects nominated by the public, the Forest and other organizations on or adjacent to the Ashley National Forest. Together with our partners we improved destinations for Forest visitors and met our stewardship requirements in caring for the land. We invested in infrastructure to enhance public safety and improve critical fish habitat and passage for the Colorado River Cutthroat trout through the replacement of bridges and culverts.

Our Heritage Resources program is active and strong and enables us to manage the land while preserving our connection to the distant and recent past. In addition to their regular program of work, our fish and wildlife program managers conducted Northern Goshawk, snowshoe hare, Canada lynx and wolverine studies and monitoring.

We invested in our employees' safety awareness which has resulted in a significant reduction in personal injuries and vehicle accidents. Our fire management program provides protection for nearly 1.4 million acres of National Forest System lands.

The upcoming year does look to be challenging, but we are up to the task. Our budgets are being reduced and it is likely that our workforce will be as well. Additionally there will be a new Forest Supervisor selected for the Ashley National Forest who is expected to report to duty in Vernal this spring.

We are proud of our accomplishments and grateful to our employees, partners and fellow agencies. We could not have done it without strong support from everyone. We are looking forward to this coming year as we continue to care for the land and serve people.

Acting Forest Supervisor, Ashley National Forest

Recreation Enhancement Activities in 2011



During 2011 recreation staff focused on repairing and refurbishing campgrounds across the Forest.

New picnic sites were constructed adjacent to the visitor center at Flaming Gorge Dam. An accessible fishing pier will be added to this location in 2012.

Also on the Flaming Gorge National Recreation Area, we are currently reconstructing portions of the Lucerne Campground. Work was nearly complete as of December and the new loops should be available for campers early next summer.

Several campgrounds on the Duchesne Ranger District were improved to repair damage from high spring runoff and improve accessibility.

Implementation of the 2009 Motorized Travel Plan continues. Signs showing the route number have been installed on the majority of roads and trails across the Forest, so visitors can identify allowed uses on the Motor Vehicle Use Map

(MVUM). The 2009 Travel Management decision also approved a number of routes pending completion of certain mitigation measures.

Mitigation was completed for more than 20 of these routes, so they can be added to the 2012 MVUM.

Trail crews cleared and maintained nearly 300 miles of trail (motorized and non-motorized) to standard across the Forest, as well as replacing several foot bridges that were washed out during spring runoff.

Hades Campground, located in the North Fork drainage on the Ashley National Forest, was refurbished in the fall of 2011. Spring and summer flooding damaged roads and many of the sites were

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New picnic tables near Flaming Gorge Dam.

Ashley National Forest Oil and Gas Activities

Environmental Analyses



South Unit Oil and Gas Development EIS Project:

The Ashley National Forest continued work on the South Unit Oil and Gas Development (Berry) Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), a programmatic proposal from Berry Petroleum to drill up to 400 new oil and gas wells over an approximate 20-year period. The Draft EIS was released for public comment in February 2010. Since that time, we have reviewed the comments received, updated the EIS documents, and are nearly ready to release the Final EIS and Record of Decision. The Final EIS is expected to be released to the public with a decision in early 2012.

Berry 2011 Categorical Exclusion (CE) Project:

The Ashley National Forest received a site-specific proposal for up to 19 new wells, all of which would be drilled on existing well pads. We

evaluated that proposal, and signed a decision on June 10, 2011 approving the proposed development.

Vantage Oil and Gas Development (2009 EA and 2011 CE Projects):

The Ashley National Forest completed the 2009 Vantage Environmental Assessment, and released a decision approving some of the proposed development. However, that decision was subsequently withdrawn. Continued work on the Vantage EA has been postponed and a new, much smaller, oil and gas proposal from Vantage is now being evaluated. This smaller proposal is the 2011 Vantage CE project, for which we hope to release a decision in early 2012.

High Desert CE:

During 2011, the Ashley National Forest received a proposal for small-scale exploratory drilling for hard-rock minerals from High Desert Mining. We have been evaluating this proposal, and expect to

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2011 Safety and Health Program and Green Team



Solar Lights brighten the Manila Ranger District Office

In 2011 the Ashley N.F. provided safety training to all 123 of our employees.

This high-level safety training known as the “Safety Journey” utilized the safety records and safety strategies of both government entities and large private companies. The result; the Ashley NF has since enjoyed a 14

percent decline in personnel injuries and a 20 percent reduction in vehicle accidents. We hope to continue with this style of training, and reflect on the results as a positive segment of our new-found ‘Safety Culture’.

Another highlight of 2011 is the conception and initial launch of our Emergency Medical Response training program.

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Over \$500,000 Invested in Bridges and Culverts in 2011

In 2011 the Ashley National Forest completed bridge replacement projects along the Red Cloud Loop Road, (Forest Service Road 018), and the culvert on Reader Creek along the road to Chepeta Lake (FSR 110).

The bridge over the north fork of Ashley Creek on Red Cloud Loop (FSR 018) was replaced last winter and final detail work that included the paving of the approaches to the bridge was completed in August.

The bridge over Big Brush Creek along Red

Cloud Loop (FSR 018) has been replaced and opened to public use on Friday, September 9, 2011. The new bridge provides for a wider crossing platform that will accommodate traffic and enhance public safety. With the opening of this bridge the Red Cloud Loop Road between Iron Springs and Kaler Hollow is now open, completing Red Cloud Loop.

In total, the Ashley National Forest invested over \$500,000 dollars on bridge and culvert replacement projects in 2011 that provide for public safety and unrestricted fish passage.



Above: Reader Creek Culvert Before (left), After (right) Below: Big Brush Creek Bridge



Timber and Vegetation Management

The purpose of the timber and vegetation program is to manage forest vegetation to maintain or promote the health and resiliency of forest ecosystems.

In 2011, six scheduled timber sales were sold. In addition, five unscheduled contracts were awarded to remove beetle killed or infested trees from recreational sites.

A total of 1,317,670 cubic feet (CF) of timber was sold through permits and timber sale contracts.

Over twenty timber sale contracts were administered, and 864,130 CF of timber was harvested.

A total of 716 acres of forest vegetation was improved through pre-commercial thinning to improve future growth.

In addition, 1,075 acres were surveyed and determined to be fully stocked with trees and required no planting of trees.

The timber and vegetation program on the Ashley National



Forest employs six full-time employees, two permanent full-time employees who are shared with the Uinta-Wasatch-Cache National Forest and up to eight seasonal employees.

In 2011, cutting unit layout, timber designation or cruising was completed on approximately 577 acres.

Four additional sales totaling approximately 187,900 CF were prepared for sale in 2012.

Forest goals for the timber and vegetation program in 2012 include selling 1,350,900 CF of timber, improving vegetation on 600 acres and surveying 1,000 acres to ensure they are fully stocked with trees.

Other work completed in 2011 includes spraying campgrounds to minimize tree mortality from bark beetles, distributing insect pheromones to prevent tree loss, coordinating noxious weed treatments on completed timber sales, and monitoring harmful insect activity and disease levels on the Forest.

The vegetation and timber program is active and working to maintain or promote the health and resiliency of forest ecosystems on the Ashley National Forest.



Fish and Wildlife

The fish and wildlife program managers on the Ashley National Forest worked on many projects in 2011.

Northern Goshawks are native to the Ashley National Forest and are monitored annually to determine nest occupancy and reproductive success.



In 2011, 62 traditional goshawk territories and 150 nests were visited during the breeding season.

All old nest structures were visited and an area within 200 meters of each nest structure was examined for signs of use. After this first visit, only active nests or inactive random territories received further visits. During the second visit an adult goshawk alarm call was made in an attempt to elicit a response. Those territories that were found active on the initial visit received a second visit from mid-June to mid-July to count chicks.

Of the nests visited in 2011, fourteen were determined to be active, of which seven were successful and seven failed. In total, nine goshawks fledged during the 2011 nesting season on sites monitored by the Ashley National Forest.

On the south unit of the Ashley National Forest another project worked to improve habitat for sage grouse. 1,085 acres (about a mile and a half) of sagebrush and mountain brush communities were treated and maintained. Pinion/juniper and Douglas fir encroachment threatened this area. In this project, the encroaching trees were cut into pieces

and spread across the landscape to increase native grasses, sagebrush and mountain brush that will benefit various wildlife species such as, sage grouse, deer and elk.

The snowshoe hare density study on the Ashley National Forest is designed to determine the density of snowshoe hares on the Forest and identify



suitable habitat for Canada lynx. This study uses pellet count surveys at randomly selected sites and grid survey design to determine the location of viable populations of snowshoe hares which in turn assists in refining Canada lynx suitable habitat maps for the Forest.

Continuing the focus on Canada lynx the Forest also conducts Canada lynx snow track surveys to determine if lynx and wolverine exist on the Ashley National Forest. This survey is a presence and absence survey. If species are found, further surveys will be used to determine if breeding populations exist.

Snowmobiles are used to follow established trails and roadways within potential lynx habitat utilizing established lynx winter track survey protocol. During this survey tracks of prey animals (red squirrels, snowshoe hares) are recorded as well as the tracks from other predator species.

In 2011 eight established routes were surveyed covering approximately 113 linear miles of roads and trails. In all approximately 293,000 cumulative acres are represented in this survey.

No lynx or wolverine tracks were detected during these surveys. A total of 269 snowshoe hare tracks and 58 red squirrel tracks were encountered.

Partnership Projects On the Ashley National Forest

Visitors to the Ashley National Forest have likely recognized some really big improvements on the Forest this past year.

Many of these have been completed through partnerships with other agencies and groups that have worked together to make these improvements possible.

In particular, the Flaming Gorge National Recreation Area (NRA) has seen several projects accomplished during 2011 that will greatly enhance visitor experiences.

At Dam Point, near the Flaming Gorge Dam Visitor Center, a new picnic area and improved trail was constructed. The picnic area consists of covered picnic table areas with accessible tables and pads. The trail has been improved to allow better visitor access to the reservoir for fishing. Funding has come from a variety of sources, including a Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Scenic Byway grant, as well as Forest Service dollars. Substantial support for the project has been provided by members of the Flaming Gorge – Uintas National Scenic Byway



group.

Mark Sprague, recreation program manager for the Flaming Gorge District states, “Visitors

now really enjoy coming to this area. Previously, there wasn’t any shade for the tables and the trail did not access the water. The improvements have truly made this a much more enjoyable stop.”

The visitor center is one of the primary attractions on the NRA and the improved facilities have already received considerable use.

Some other partner sponsored projects completed in 2011 on the



Flaming Gorge NRA include:

Resurfacing of the boat launch parking area at Lucerne Valley Marina. The improvements were made possible through partnership and funding with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Sport Fish Restoration Program, Utah Division of Wildlife Resources, Utah Parks and Recreation and the Forest Service.

Installation of a new pump out station and floating restroom facility at Cedar Springs Marina. Funding for this project is made possible through partnership and funding with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Clean Vessel Act program, Utah Parks and Recreation, and the Forest Service.

Replacement of the restroom at Anvil Draw boat launch. After lightning destroyed the original

structure, Wyoming Game and Fish and the Forest Service worked through the Sport Fish Restoration program to replace



this structure.

In addition to the projects completed this year, a prior year project was recently recognized by the Federal Highways Administration for its outstanding contribution to “enhancing the visitor experience”. The improvements completed in 2009 at Moose Ponds were recognized at the National Scenic Byways Conference in Minneapolis, Minnesota during August, through receipt of the prestigious Scenic



Byway Award.

Sponsored by the America’s Byways Resource Center, Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), and the American Association of State Highway Transportation Officials (AASHTO), the Scenic Byway Awards recognize eight projects of excellence from byway nomi-

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Heritage Program Alive and Well on the Ashley



The Ashley National Forest Service Heritage Program has the goal of protecting significant heritage resources, sharing their values with the American

people, and contributing relevant information and perspectives to natural resource management.

The Heritage Program identifies archaeological and historical sites, documents them, and preserves them in order to retain our connection with our distant and recent past.

The Heritage Program shares this history with the public by displaying collections of artifacts at various public venues, providing fun, hands-on experience with prehistoric hunting technology, and offering volunteer opportunities for those wanting to be involved with discovering history.

The Heritage program employed two permanent archaeologists and nine seasonal archaeologists in 2011. The archaeologists surveyed over approximately 6000 acres of land searching for archaeological and historic sites in advance of a variety of projects, including: prescribed burns, vegetation management, oil and gas, recreation, travel management, facility management, and the renewal of grazing permits. Seventy-five new sites were discovered and thirty known sites were revisited. Archaeologists found prehistoric residential sites, prehistoric campsites, animal drivelines, historic roads, shepherd camps, sawmills and logging camps.

One significant project in 2011 was the documentation and review of the historic Anderson Creek Road. The road was first used in the 1890s to access the Swen Anderson sawmill and later the Dyer Mine smelter. Uintah County and the Anderson Creek Youth Camp requested authorization from Ashley National Forest to repair the road. In order to protect the historic road, the Heritage Program surveyed and documented the road and developed an agreement with various groups to ensure the preservation of the history of the road.

The Heritage Program also excavated and mapped an intact portion of wooden cribbing (corduroy) built as part of the road in marshy areas.

As oil and gas development has increased on the south unit of the Ashley National Forest, the Heritage Program has collaborated with the multiple groups to develop an agreement that ensures the documentation and protection of archaeological sites while facilitating the approval of oil and gas wells by the Berry Petroleum Company.

The Heritage Program has also provided the public with opportunities to get involved. For the fourteenth year, Ashley National Forest held a Passport in Time (PIT) project for volunteers from all over the country to enjoy the fresh air while helping research the Forest's history. This year, PIT volunteers from California, Oregon, and Utah used metal detectors to help Forest Service archaeologists find the actual routes of the Carter Military Road and the Cherokee Trail. The Ashley National Forest, with major contributions written by volunteers, will soon publish a report on the archaeology of the Carter Road. If you would like to participate in future PIT projects on National Forests, please visit www.PassportInTime.com.

In 2011, the Heritage Program visited Uintah High School and Union High School history classes and provided opportunities for students to learn about archaeology and to use replica atlatls (spear throwers). The Heritage Program also provided opportunities for kids at multiple events, including: the Ouray National Wildlife Refuge open house, the Utah Field House of Natural History field day, the Utah Statewide Archaeological Society convention, Uintah High School, and Maeser Elementary School.

For more information about the Ashley National Forest Heritage Program, please contact the Forest Archaeologist, Jeffrey Rust, at 435-781-5156 (email: jarust@fs.fed.us).



Recreation Enhancement Activities in 2011 Continued

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Contractors pouring cement for new campsite in Lucerne Campground



Completed campsite at Lucerne Campground

becoming overgrown and outdated.

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) accessibility was very limited due to the existing topography of the sites, and none of the fire rings were ADA compliant. Some sites seemed “lumped” together and were confusing to campers as to what campsite furniture went with what site.

Drainage in the campground was also an issue, as there were no culverts across roadways. Splash Dam (a small lake north of Hades Campground) broke during the summer and flooded the campground. The road crew reopened the campground roadways and installed culverts to manage water flow.

In October, refurbishment began by Robert Jessen and Shannon Giles using the Forest Service track hoe and tractor. In total, 1,150 tons of road base was spread throughout all of the roadways, spurs, paths, and around tables and fire rings. Fire rings were replaced with new cement rings and inserts. Invasive brush was removed

and sites and roadways were lined with barrier rock. Additional culverts were placed in the lower loop to



Photo of campsite in Hades Campground

help manage water flow.

All 14 sites in Hades Campground were cleared of overgrowth, clearly defined with barrier rock, and received new fire rings and road base. Work on refurbishing and painting the tables began and will be completed in 2012.

“Perhaps the rebuilding of the body and spirit is the greatest service derivable from our forests, for what worth are material things if we lose the character and quality of people that are the soul of America.”

--Arthur Carhart, Forest Service Landscape Architect, 1919

Ashley National Forest Resource Advisory Committee

The Ashley National Forest Resource Advisory Committee (RAC) was formed in 2011 to allocate funds from Title II of the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act for projects on or adjacent to the Ashley National Forest.

Volunteers for the committee include; Mathew Crozier, Marrison Hacking-Oaks, Derk Hatch, David Higginson, Wayne Simper, Floyd Bartlet, Virginia Exton, Mark Wilson, Clark Tucker, Amber Harrison, Susan Horrocks, Uintah County Commissioner Mark Raymond and Duchesne County Commissioner Ron Winterton.

In 2011, the RAC funded \$686,145.00 for thirteen projects on or adjacent to the Ashley National Forest. Below are several of the projects approved for funding.

The Sheep Creek Geological Loop Road received \$100,000 to assist in resurfacing and widening sections of the road for access and public safety.

To assist in the implementation of the Motorized Travel Management Plan, the RAC funded the implementation of the McAfee Basin ATV Bypass Trail for \$37,660. This project will build an ATV trail to bypass tribal lands and allow ATV access to McAfee Basin from the Lower Stillwater Ponds on the Roosevelt-Duchesne Ranger District.

The RAC also funded the implementation of the Sheep Creek Lake ATV Trail (as approved in the Motorized Travel Management Plan Record of Decision in September 2009) on the Flaming Gorge Ranger District. This trail will provide for ATV travel away from major roadways enhancing the ATV experience and improving public safety.

Cattle permittees on Diamond Mountain requested that the RAC

purchase six cattle guards for installation at key points on Diamond Mountain. The RAC provided \$32,000 for the purchase and installation of the cattle guards replacing gates that cross the road in these locations.

The RAC also funded the Alma Taylor Vegetation Management Project for \$152,000. The purpose of this project is to promote continued aspen regeneration and structural diversity in lodgepole pine to benefit mule deer populations, increase the quality of critical moose winter range, and improve northern goshawk foraging and nesting habitat.

Aspen studies on the Ashley National Forest show a decline of approximately 25% in the project area, with a forest-wide decline of almost 70%. Conifer encroachment has been identified as one of the leading causes for this decline in aspen communities. This project will monitor the return of aspen in the project area over time.

The treatment of noxious weeds across the Ashley National Forest is a priority. Noxious weeds have had and continue to have numerous devastating ecological and economic impacts. Some of the impacts include altering the composition of plant communities, decreasing biological diversity, causing undesired shifts in wildlife populations, increasing soil disturbance and surface water runoff, decreasing water quality, decreasing recreational opportunities and increasing economic costs. To assist in this program the RAC provided \$50,000 over two years to survey and treat noxious weeds infestations on and adjacent to the Ashley National Forest.

In developing recreation destinations the RAC reviewed several projects designed to enhance visitor experiences and opportunities

on the Ashley National Forest. Out of the proposed projects the RAC elected to fund work on the restoration of Ute Tower, (the last standing fire lookout in Utah), the replacement of the foundation at Paradise guard station which would allow it to be available for rental through www.recreation.gov in the future, and the restoration of Summit Springs guard station for use as a rustic rental cabin for a total of \$191,000.

The RAC also approved \$40,000 for the removal of a barrier at an in-stream diversion structure and the installation of fish screens to prevent entrainment at two diversion structures.



This project will allow the unrestricted passage of Colorado River Cutthroat Trout over a seven mile section of Avintaquin Creek within and below the Ashley National Forest. Colorado River Cutthroat trout have earned their place on the Utah Sensitive Species List by dwindling to occupy less than 15% of their historic range.

Partnerships Continued

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nations across the country. Selection by a panel of byway-community experts is based on four criteria, including community involvement and public outreach; partnerships; advancing the goals of the byway's corridor management plan; and, innovation. The winning projects must also serve as successful models for other byway organizations and corridors.

The Moose Ponds project included construction of a safe and accessible trail, fishing points, picnic area, interpretive information, and deepening of



the pond to enhance the recreational fishing opportunity. The project was made possible through partnership and funding with the FHWA Scenic Byway program, Utah Division of Wildlife Resources, Utah Department of Transportation, Intermountain Natural History

Association, Uintah Impact Mitigation Special Service District (through funding of a Youth Conservation Corps (YCC) student crew which helped build the trail), as well as many other volunteers.

These are just a few examples of how partnerships are making a huge difference in the opportunities for visitors on the Forest.

Oil and Gas Continued

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release a decision on it sometime in early 2012. If approved to proceed, drilling is expected to be started and completed during the summer 2012 field season.



Minerals, Oil and Gas Development Projects:

Berry Petroleum and Vantage Energy:

During 2011, Berry Petroleum continued drilling oil and

gas wells previously approved via the 2006 Berry EA, 2009 CE, and 2011 CE decisions. About 15 new wells were drilled in 2011, bringing the total number of active Berry sites to approximately 52 wells on 23 well pads. There was no new drilling or development activity by Vantage Energy, during 2011, so they continue to have 3 semi-active wells on 3 well pads.

Honeycomb Mine and Limestone Mine:

During 2011, the Honeycomb Mine and Limestone Mine continued to operate as approved, mining decorative calcite and chemical-grade limestone respectively. A gate was finally installed on the access road to the Honeycomb Mine, for public safety and to

help minimize ongoing vandalism and theft concerns.

Iron King and Dal Cuinn Projects:

During 2011, there was no significant activity at the Dal Cuinn or Iron King project areas. Both areas were previously approved for exploratory drilling for locatable minerals, but funding and equipment availability issues prevented any significant work from being completed on these projects during the 2011 field season.

ASHLEY NATIONAL FOREST STATISTICS

Ashley National Forest

Acres:.....1,382,347
 Acres in Utah:.....1,286,124
 Acres in Wyoming:.....96,223

Wilderness Areas Acres

High Uintas Wilderness
 Ashley N. F.....276,175
 High Uintas Wilderness
 Wasatch Cache N. F..... 180,530

Recreation

Campgrounds (Family).....60
 Campsites.....1,156
 Campgrounds (Group).....12
 Picnic Areas.....8
 Trailheads.....10
 Total Trail Miles.....1,196
 ATV (All Terrain Vehicle).....194
 Biking.....325
 Hiking.....939
 Snowmobile.....116
Total Road Miles.....1,818
ATV.....1,151

Employees

Permanent Employees.....103
 Temporary/Seasonal..... 20

Payments to Counties Amount

Uintah County.....\$349,655
 Duchesne County\$659,959
 Daggett County\$445,582
 Sweetwater County, WY...\$ 49,473
 Utah County\$ 7,634
 Wasatch County\$ 60,381



Ashley National Forest Supervisor's Office Vernal, Utah

<u>Land Use</u>	<u>Permits</u>
Non-Recreation.....	150
Recreation.....	121
Power.....	19
Total Collected.....	\$106,768

Fire Management

Fuel Treatment Acres.....2,552
 Prescribed Burn Acres.....6,419
 Number of Wildfires.....15
 Wildfire Acres Burned700

Fish and Wildlife Habitat Improved

Enhancement (Miles):
 Terrestrial Acres.....5,404
 Lake Acres8
 Stream Miles.....14
Surveyed:
 Terrestrial Acres.....38,850
 Aquatic Acres.....1,000

Livestock Grazed

Horses15
 Cattle9,597
 Sheep6,650
 Head Months Annually55,444
 Allotments/Livestock Areas.....71



USDA Forest Service,
Intermountain Region

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2011 Wildfire Season

During the 2010 fire season the Ashley National Forest experienced a total of 15 fires burning a total of 670 acres. Of these 15 fires, 13 were lightning caused and 2 were human caused. Of the 670 acres, 0.2 burned as a result of human caused ignitions, with the remaining coming from lightning ignitions.

District	Total Number	Lightning Caused	Human Caused	Lightning Caused-Acres	Human Caused-Acres	Total Acres
Flaming	12	11	1	3.1	0.1	3.2
Vernal	0	0	0	0	0	0
Roosevelt	1	0	1	0	0.1	0.1
Duchesne	2	2	0	696.8	0	696.8
Total	15	13	2	699.9	0.2	700.1

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2011 Safety and Health Program and Green Team

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This program provides for medical training to the Emergency Medical Technician (EMT), and Emergency Medical Responder (EMR) levels. Seven Ashley NF employees have since been certified to the EMT level, and five to the EMR level.

The training is designed to provide highly skilled emergency medical care in the event of tragedy to both Forest Service personnel working in often remote areas and to the general public if needed.

The Ashley NF believes we are duty-bound to collaborate with our community's emergency medical experts and public safety officers.

In 2011 an Ashley NF employee

happened upon a very bad accident on the highway. The employee utilized his emergency medical training to assist and comfort the victim and also contributed with highway safety. Our employee took the necessary steps to keep the victim safe until professional medical help arrived. The victim was in severe shock, and it is possible that the Ashley employee saved a life using his medical expertise.

2011 Green Team accomplishments

In 2011 the Ashley NF received two microgrants; one to

purchase a solar light and the other to purchase twelve dual-flush toilets. The solar light is being used for both lighting and security, and will be used in place of a less efficient lighting system. The dual-flush toilets will replace older high-volume water use conventional toilets. Both projects will significantly reduce energy and water use. The goal of the Ashley NF will be to replace inefficient systems with efficient ones as they reach the end of their useful life.