

# **NEWS RELEASE**

**Richfield Interagency Fire Center  
1830 South Industrial Park Road  
Richfield, Utah 84701**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
DATE: October 15, 2004**

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## **FISHLAKE NATIONAL FOREST TO CONDUCT PRESCRIBED FIRE**

Richfield, UT.

October 15 through October 17 is the anticipated date for a prescribed fire northeast of Richfield being conducted by the U.S. Forest Service. Depending on weather conditions, approximately 1,500 acres will be burned using hand ignition methods. The project area includes Little Creek, Tommy Hollow, North Creek, Clear Creek, Red Creek, and North Last Chance drainages. The boundaries are Last Chance Road and the south, Utah State Road # 72 on the east, Interstate 70 on the north, and the ridgeline between Meadow Gulch, Moroni Peak, and Sheep Valley on the west.

The burn is part of a 7,000 acre area where 1,500 acre increments are burned over a three-year period, depending on weather conditions. To date, 5,500 acres have already been treated. The primary objectives are to reduce the amount of heavy shrub accumulation and tree species to increase the amount of forage for wildlife and livestock, and regenerate desired browse species and aspen stands.

“The overriding objective for the project is to reduce hazardous fuel loading and to improve the health and vigor of the ecosystem by reintroducing a fire regime,” said Gayle Sorenson, Assistant Fire Management Officer for the Central Utah Interagency Fire Organization. “In this area, fire historically cleansed and renewed the ecosystem with periodic natural fires. This type of burning also reduces the potential of large, catastrophic fires,” Sorenson said.

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