



**First to Fourth Water Prescribed Fire
Spanish Fork Ranger District, Uinta National Forest
April 2007**



Project Description: This prescribed fire was conducted on the Spanish Fork Ranger District, Uinta National Forest, in the First, Second, Third, and Fourth Water drainages west of Strawberry Ridge in Utah County. The fire was ignited primarily in oakbrush vegetation to reduce hazardous fuels, densely packed brush and grasses, to create age-class diversity within the shrub communities. Several benefits from the prescribed fire include provision for more effective, timely, and safe suppression efforts in the event of a wildland fire and the creation of healthy wildlife habitat.

The prescribed fire was ignited aurally from a helicopter using a Helitorch and a plastic sphere dispenser (PSD) implemented by the Forest Service with assistance from Utah County fire resources. A Helitorch is a device hung from a helicopter that disperses ignited lumps of gelled gasoline to commence burning on the landscape. A PSD is a device that has ping-pong sized, spheres injected with potassium permanganate. Once the PSD are expelled from the aircraft and touch ground, a chemical reaction takes place causing ignition on the ground.



Accomplishment: The prescribed fire was accomplished on April 4 and 5, 2007. The amount of fire-spread within the burn area covered 2,150 acres and objectives were met successfully by positively affecting the entire shrub community. Living plant heights were lowered and are accessible to wildlife while, soil cover was maintained at desirable levels.

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