

## Table of Contents

### California

Bulletin Boards Help to Get the Word Out ..... 1

### Utah

The Many Benefits of a Single Fuels Reduction Project ..... 1

## California

### Bulletin Boards Help to Get the Word Out

During fire season it is crucial to get public information out to those that need it most: the residents of the wildland-urban interface. In Southern California, the fuels program has developed new ideas for ways to get informational messages out. Last winter, the BLM fuels staff and volunteers re-built a dilapidated, old bus stop. The design was built around a bulletin board that could be utilized by fire personnel to post up-to-date fire information and prevention messages. The location of the bus stop is next to the community bulletin board that was also replaced. Both informational bulletins are situated next to the community mailboxes in an effort to allow easy access to information for everyone. Information posted directly affects the community such as that about local fires, area closures, prescribed burns, and other FIREWISE practices.

The bulletin board has already been utilized this past summer to post information relating to prescribed burn preparations including dates and contact numbers several weeks in advance. This facilitated an even more seamless avenue for information exchange well before implementation of the prescribed burn. Due to unfavorable weather conditions, the prescribed burn had to be postponed although the community residents were appreciative and well informed of the situation. Fire restrictions, clearances and other prevention information is now posted. As this summer has brought fire closures to the area again, the bulletin board was able to be utilized to get the information distributed to those who need it the most.



*Fire information is now posted on the bulletin boards for the community to view.*

## Utah

### The Many Benefits of a Single Fuels Reduction Project

Dan Washington, Wildland Urban Interface Coordinator for the BLM Salt Lake Field Office, was pleasantly surprised to receive a phone call from a volunteer fireman representing a small town close to a recently implemented hazardous fuels reduction project. The fireman described how efficient and safe the recent thinning project made his job as there was a recent incident where a tree had been struck by lightning. Due to the thinning project, the firemen was able to drive right up to the burning tree with his brush truck, douse the tree to mitigate the fire hazard, and was home by supertime. The thinning project combined with the expedited response time kept the Harris-Hollow fire a single tree incident.

“Now that’s job satisfaction,” exclaimed Washington. “You know, I’m always happy to hear when my work makes a difference. I could just picture the firefighter’s delight and confidence being able to safely enter, or exit, the area in his brush truck.”

The reporting firefighter was confident that had the fuels treatment not been implemented, the fire would have quickly grown from a single tree incident to an over 400-acre, high intensity crown fire. The tree itself was a two stump tree with multiple stems. The fire was quick to move from one stump to the other, but was contained to a single tree incident due to hazardous fuels reduction efforts in the area.



*Area treated for fuels reduction including mulched trees in the foreground.*

Firefighter accessibility became the bonus benefit which the Salt Lake Field Office did not forecast. The goal of the Home Ranch project was to manage the existing fire risk to the Home Ranch community by reducing fuels, juniper in particular, in order to reduce the potential damage and intensity of wildfire. In the rural areas like Woodruff, resources are limited and livelihoods are often a direct correlation with the health of the land.

Contact: Erin Darboven, 801-977-4328 or [erin\\_darboven@blm.gov](mailto:erin_darboven@blm.gov)

*(Below) The Salt Lake Field Office Field Crew. The fuels crew that plays together stays together.*



*Home Ranch North before the fuels reduction project which increased the crown spacing between junipers to an average of 30-60 feet.*

