

NEWS RELEASE

**USDA Forest Service
Ashley National Forest
355 North Vernal Avenue
Vernal, Utah 84078
(435) 789-1181**



For: Immediate Release
Subject: Management Indicator Species
(Decision Notice)

Date: June 7, 2004
Contact: Lisa Ross, Public Affairs
Location: Ashley National Forest
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Forest Supervisor makes Decision on Management Indicator Species

Ashley National Forest Supervisor George Weldon has made a decision to select Alternative 4 of the environmental assessment on management indicator species, which will amend the Ashley National Forest Plan to designate northern goshawk and cutthroat trout as management indicator species. The amendment also includes the monitoring parameters for these two species.

Management indicator species are defined as certain species selected because their population changes are believed to indicate the effects of management activities. As the Ashley National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan is implemented, population trends of management indicator species are monitored and relationships to habitat changes are determined, to assess the effects of management activities.

The evaluation concluded that the northern goshawk and cutthroat trout were the species that had the best potential to provide information about forest management.

An environmental assessment was completed in June 2004. The environmental assessment and decision notice are available at the Ashley National Forest's Supervisor's Office, 355 North Vernal Avenue, Vernal, Utah 84078, (435) 789-1181. This information is also available on the web at www.fs.fed.us/r4/ashley/. If you have any questions about this decision please contact George Weldon, Forest Supervisor at (435) 781-5101.

