

Prescribed Fire

OGDEN RANGER DISTRICT
Fall/Spring 2004/2005
Wasatch-Cache
National Forest



Aerial Ignition, Helicopter using Heli-torch

*Monte Cristo and Curtis
Aspen Prescribed Burns To
Reduce Hazardous Fuels &
Enhance Wildlife Habitat*

If you would like more information about
The Prescribed Fires planned on the Ogden
Ranger District Please Visit.
www.fs.fed.us/r4/wcnf or call (801) 625-5112



USDA FOREST SERVICE
Caring for the land and serving people



September 18, 2004 burn preparation

PREScribed FIRES

Prescribed Fire is one tool used by Forest Managers to reduce hazardous fuels, restore ecosystem health and improve the quality of watersheds and wildlife habitat.

A Prescribed Fire only occurs when the temperature, humidity, wind speed and fuel moistures are within the prescribed fire plan objectives. Prescribed Fires will be ignited when predicted weather and fuel conditions allow for minimized smoke impact on air quality and public health.

Prescribed fires can be ignited by hand, using drip torches or by air using helicopters to drop incendiary devices.

In order to restore fire to its natural role in forests and rangeland, we ignite prescribed fires in the spring and fall when weather conditions allow for slow, low intensity burning to protect the soil. Specific management objectives may be to reduce the fuels and/or create a mosaic pattern in the vegetation to create cover, forage, and browse areas for wildlife. Prescribed fire can also mimic naturally occurring fire, enhance native plant species and create diversity in vegetation structure and distribution.

We know that fire is essential to the health of our forest and rangelands. Since conditions in many areas are conducive to large, severe wildland fires, and because so many people now live in or near forest and rangelands, we need fires to burn at cooler temperatures and lower intensities. By igniting prescribed fires, we can maximize the chance that they will burn on our terms with acceptable effects.

MONTE CRISTO PRESCRIBED BURN

The Monte Cristo Prescribed Burn consists of nine units totaling approximately 2,600 acres of aspen, mixed conifers and mountain brush. The burn area is located primarily south and east of Highway 39, approximately 13 miles west of Woodruff, Utah, and approximately 35 miles east of Ogden, Utah.

Depending on weather conditions, lighting of this prescribed burn could take place anytime from September 25, 2004 through the end of October 2004.

The purpose of the burn is to improve aspen regeneration and wildlife habitat. Additional benefits include over all health of Aspen to lower the risk of insect and disease and to reduce the risk of catastrophic wildfires through the reduction of hazardous fuels.



Burn Preparation of Monte Cristo Burn Unit G

CURTIS ASPEN PRESCRIBED BURN

The Curtis Aspen Prescribed Burn consists of 6 units totaling 2,160 acres of aspen, mixed conifers and mountain brush. The burn is located in the Curtis Ridge area north of Highway 39, approximately 20 miles west of Randolph, Utah.

The purpose of the burn is to stimulate aspen regeneration and wildlife habitat. Additional benefits include regeneration of vegetation to lower the risk of insect epidemics and disease and reduce hazardous fuels to lower the risk of having high-intensity wildfires.

Depending on weather conditions, lighting of this prescribed burn could take place anytime from September 25, 2004 through the end of October but probably not until the spring of 2005.



Burn Preparation of Monte Cristo Burn Unit G

These prescribed burns are the first phases of a multi-year plan that reintroduces fire back into the ecosystem for re-vegetation and to reduce hazardous fuels near communities at risk as part of the revised Wasatch-Cache National Forest Management Plan.

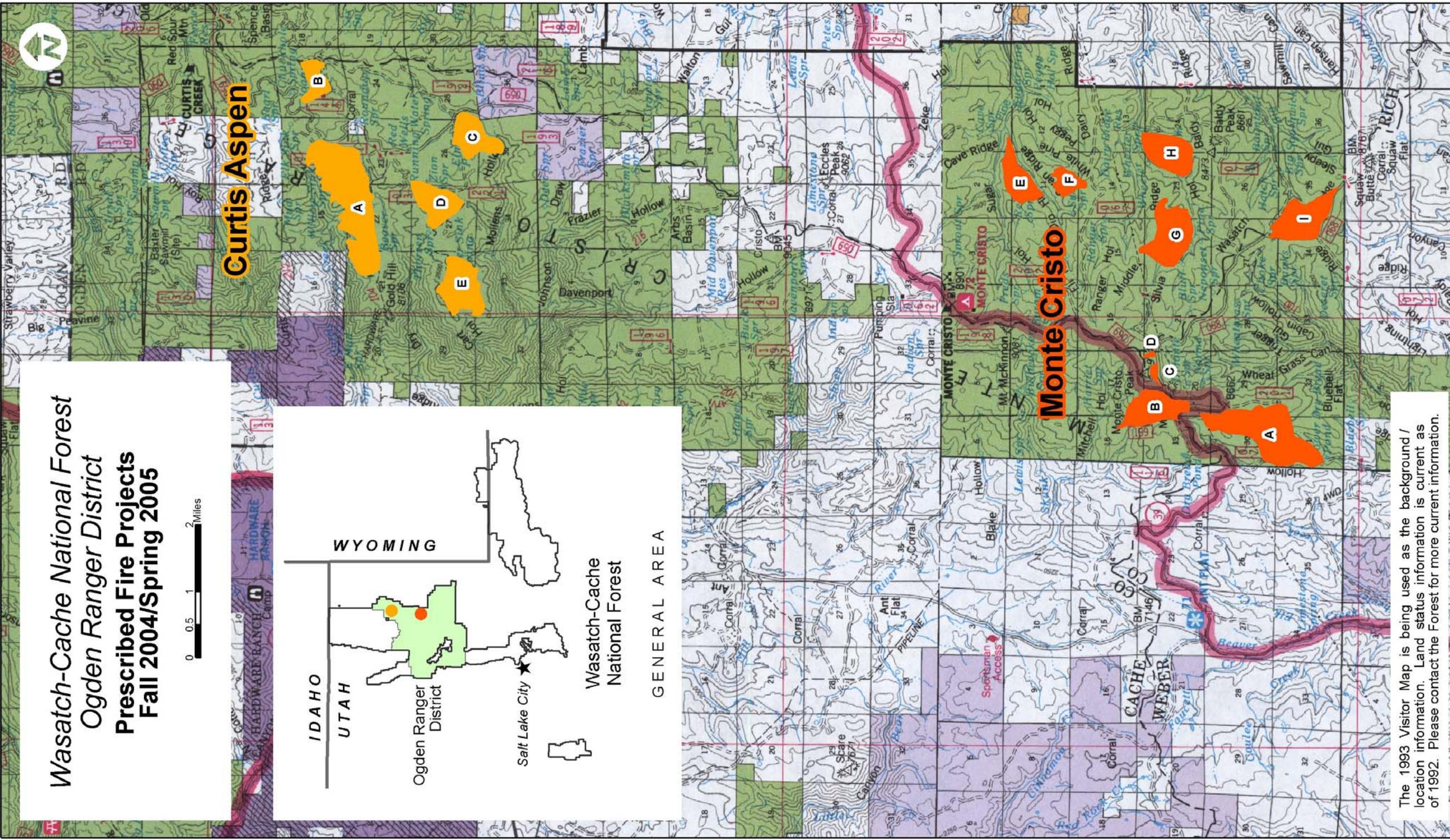
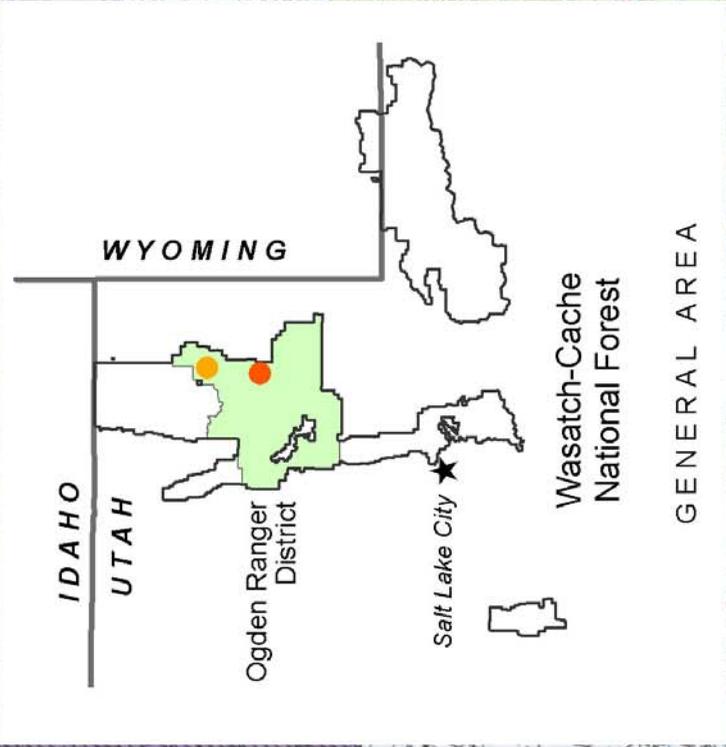
The majority of the brush communities in the burn areas are approaching late seral stages due to a lack of natural disturbances. In addition, grazing, fire suppression, and other management practices have changed the forest structure and composition, causing a decline in the ecological health of the forests.

Prescribed fire and wildland fire use provide for ecosystem maintenance and restoration consistent with land uses and historic fire regimes. Fuels are managed to reduce the risk of damage to private property and to provide for public and firefighter safety by lowering the risk of having large catastrophic wildfires occurring.

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Wasatch-Cache National Forest
 Ogden Ranger District
 Prescribed Fire Projects
 Fall 2004/Spring 2005



The 1993 Visitor Map is being used as the background / location information. Land status information is current as of 1992. Please contact the Forest for more current information.