



File Code: 1950; 1570

Date: July 2024

I have decided to withdraw the October 2, 2023 final decision notice approving the Ashley National Forest Aspen Restoration Project. This withdrawal is effective immediately. The Ashley National Forest completed an environmental assessment and finding of no significant impact for this project.

The Ashley National Forest Aspen Restoration Project used a condition-based management approach to the restoration of aspen stands (approximately 177,706 acres) across the Ashley NF in northeastern Utah. The project allowed for treatments in any aspen community outside of designated wilderness. The purpose of the project was to begin a phased treatment approach to restore aspen forests based on an assessment of current ground conditions. One or more of the following actions were to be implemented where appropriate: prescribed burning; selectively cutting conifers, aspen, or both; girdling conifers in aspen stands; root separation; protecting aspen from wildlife and livestock browsing; planting aspen and controlling competing vegetation; and/or inventory and monitoring.

On June 24, 2024, the Chief of the Forest Service granted the Forest Supervisor of the Ashley National Forest authority to withdraw the decision.

I am withdrawing the decision notice for the Ashley National Forest Aspen Restoration Project and plan to review the analysis. Any new decision will be consistent with the National Environmental Policy Act and provide for public involvement.

The withdrawal will be noted on the Forest Service project webpage at:

<https://www.fs.usda.gov/project/ashley/?project=57075>. For additional information, contact me at [kristy.groves@usda.gov](mailto:kristy.groves@usda.gov).

Sincerely,

*Kristy Groves*  
Forest Supervisor  
Ashley National Forest

