

## Wildland Fire in a Fire Adapted Ecosystem

*The U.S. Forest Service has evolved from suppressing fire to managing fire*

Firefighters are currently managing one or more lightning-ignited wildfires burning on the Forest. Fires are typically suppressed as needed to protect life, property or sensitive natural and cultural resources. In certain cases fires may be contained to a selected area to be managed to burn as naturally as possible, returning fire to perform its historic role of clearing excess vegetation from the landscape. Fire activity may vary in intensity depending on weather, fuels, and topography. Hot spots within the fire's perimeter will continue to smolder until extinguished naturally by repeated rain or snow.



Aerial ignition can be used to burn out large and remote areas safely, and to minimize fire intensity in sensitive areas.



All fires are different. Fire managers evaluate each one and determine the safest, most effective, and cost efficient strategies to manage it for protection and/or resource objectives. Firefighter and public safety is always the top priority.



Visibility may be reduced during increased fire activity. Smoke may settle into the canyon when air temperatures cool at night and in the early morning hours. Smoke usually lifts during the day as temperatures increase.



Wildland fire plays an important role in returning fire to a fire-adapted ecosystem, reducing hazardous accumulations of forest fuels, improving wildlife habitat, and recycling forest nutrients in order to maintain forest health.