



Collaborative Effort Leads to Hazardous Fuels Reduction Capability

Through a collaborative effort between the Mescalero Apache Tribe, Bureau of Indian Affairs, and the Southwest Sustainable Forest Partnership, the Mescalero Apache Tribal



Yarder and Crew at Work

Division of Resource Management & Protection was able to purchase a small yarder to implement fuels projects on steep slopes.

Tribal Forester, Sharon Paul, saw the need for hazardous fuels reduction in steep terrain on the Reservation. Resource Management & Protection Program Manager, Thora Padilla, knew the Southwest Sustainable Forest Partnership had grants available. And so, after three years of working on their idea, the yarder came to fruition in October.

The Mescalero Apache Tribe, through their grant, paid for the yarder and crew training, which was facilitated by Forest Engineering Inc.; and the Bureau of Indian Affairs is currently funding the hazardous fuels acres. The yarder is capable of getting anywhere that has pickup truck access, which increases the number treatable acres on the Reservation and provides the means for fuels reduction in steep territory.

The yarder crew is currently working on a Wildland Urban Interface project along the Highway 70 corridor. This is a valuable project not only because of the fuels reduction work, but also because of the visibility to the public.



Treated Slope along Hwy. 70

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