

**NATIONAL FIRE PLAN
BULL HILL FUELS TREATMENT 2001
MAVERICK WILDFIRE 2003
GMUG National Forest, Colorado**



Lessons Learned...

The Bull Hill project was part of a much larger initiative that began in 1996. Known as the NW Uncompahgre Plateau project, the Grand Valley R.D. and the Grand Junction Field Office of the BLM saw a need to more intensively manage the natural resource base and manipulate wildland fuels on the northwest corner of the Uncompahgre Plateau.

On July 23, 2003, the Maverick Fire caused by lightning burned over 1138 acres through the Bull Hill treatment units requiring management by a Type 2 Incident Management Team at a final cost of \$857,000. Additionally, As with any project, lessons were learned during Bull Hill project and the Maverick Fire. Unit placement as well as size and shape of treatment units, while never critical in the suppression effort, were factors contributing to some units being less effective than other units within the overall area. Terrain, drought, potential insect and disease outbreaks along with unit placement are factors that will be more closely monitored in future projects of this type. However, despite these factors, the Bull Hill Project was, and is, a positive example of effective fuel treatment and effective use of National Fire Plan funds.

