



WARM SPRINGS MESA



In fall of 2011 the Southwest Idaho Resource Conservation and Development began a partnership with the City of Boise and Bureau of Land Management (BLM) to reduce the chance of a wildfire in the Warm Springs Mesa neighborhood. The home owners of Warm Springs Mesa put in many hours to work together on this project to help protect their homes along with their neighbors. In the fall they began to remove heavy fuel loads with a tractor and hay rake. This had to be done before spraying the 70 acres with Plateau, pre-emergence herbicide or the chemical would not have even reached the soil surface. This Plateau was used to reduce the Medusa Head and Cheatgrass competition.



Spring 2012 the brush removal along the roads began along with the Chipper Project in March. Handouts were given to homeowners letting them know there would be a wood chipper coming through the neighborhood to pick up debris that was put out on the curbside. Along with this great success the perennial vegetation that was seeded sprouted and started to grow.

Tim Linquist with We Rent Goats was contracted to do goat grazing throughout the neighborhood to help restore native vegetation. The goats grazed along 1.7 miles of subdivision perimeter. This was an amazing success. Shortly after the grazing a squirrel shorted out the transformers, fell to the ground on fire and ran starting a string of fire. The homeowners had the fire mostly out by the time the fire department got there. They said that without the fuels reduction the goats grazed off it would have been a disaster.

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