



## **NEWS RELEASE**

Colorado Springs, Colorado

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### **MARKIT! FORESTRY MANAGEMENT COMPLETES THE ECHO BEAVER FUELS MANAGEMENT PROJECT FOR THE U.S. FOREST SERVICE**

Markit! Forestry Management ("Markit! Forestry") has completed a highly diverse forest fuels management project for the U.S. Forest Service in the South Park Ranger District of the Pike and San Isabel National Forests. The Echo Beaver Fuels Management Project ("Echo Beaver project") encompassed 575 acres located about seven miles southwest of Lake George, Colorado.

The Echo Beaver project was completed under an Integrated Resource Service Contract. The project included 144 acres of Timber Harvesting, 212 acres of handwork to remove designated non-sawtimber, and 219 acres of mastication of standing dead trees and downed woody debris.

The fuels reduction and environmental restoration objectives for the Echo Beaver project area were as follows:

1. Improve forest health by providing canopy space for healthy trees and reducing fuel loads.
2. Improve and protect wildlife and their habitats.
3. Utilize harvested timber and provide other wood products to the forest products industry.
4. Improve road management and provide road maintenance to meet the project area transportation plan and resource needs.

In addition to a massive fuels reduction over the 575 project acres, Markit! Forestry restored the ecosystem of a large aspen stand, restored wildlife habitat, created decks of firewood for use by the general public, and restored roads throughout the work area. The Echo Beaver project was due to be completed by December 2018, but by deploying diverse resources simultaneously, Markit! Forestry was able to complete the project 18 months early. Among other equipment, for the timber harvesting part of the project Markit! Forestry mobilized a TimberPro TL 725C Harvester, a Timberline SDL2a Stroke Boom Delimber, a CAT 525C Dual Arch Skidder, and a Doosan DX225 Log Loader. The mastication part of the project was accomplished by two Barko 930 Wheeled Tractors with mulching heads. Markit! Forestry owns all of the equipment that it utilized on the Echo Beaver project.

Markit! Forestry Management is a full service environmental forestry management company headquartered in Colorado Springs. Markit! Forestry provides Forest Fuels Reduction, Forest Health Restoration, Post-Fire Rehabilitation, Defensible Space, Timber Harvesting and Trail Building services on Municipal, State, Federal and private land. For more information on Markit! Forestry Management please visit [www.markitforestry.com](http://www.markitforestry.com), or call Pat Gayner at 719-593-2365.