WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method for setting a downhole tool, comprising:

positioning a downhole tool within a wellbore, the downhole tool including expandable metal configured to expand in response to hydrolysis;

positioning a downhole localized heater within the wellbore, the downhole localized heater being proximate the expandable metal; and

subjecting the expandable metal to a wellbore fluid to expand the expandable metal into contact with one or more surfaces while activating the downhole localized heater to create a temperature spike and accelerate an expansion of the expandable metal.

2. The method as recited in Claim 1, wherein the downhole localized heater is configured to increase a relative rate of reaction by at least 2X, or alternatively wherein the downhole localized heater is configured to increase a relative rate of reaction by at least 5X.

3. The method as recited in Claim 1, wherein positioning the downhole localized heater within the wellbore includes lowering the downhole localized heater within the wellbore proximate the downhole tool using a downhole conveyance, or alternatively wherein the downhole tool includes a tubular having the expandable metal located on an outside thereof, and further wherein the downhole localized heater is lowered within the tubular proximate the expandable metal, or alternatively wherein the downhole localized heater is movable relative to the expandable metal as the expandable metal is subjected to the wellbore fluid.

4. The method as recited in Claim 1, wherein the downhole tool includes a tubular having the expandable metal located on an outside thereof, and further wherein the downhole localized heater is located proximate the expandable metal outside of the tubular.

5. The method as recited in Claim 1, wherein the downhole localized heater is fixed relative to the expandable metal as the expandable metal is subjected to the wellbore fluid.

6. The method as recited in Claim 1, wherein the downhole localized heater includes a heating section and a control section.

7. The method as recited in Claim 6, wherein the heating section includes exothermic reactants contained within an enclosure.

8. The method as recited in Claim 7, wherein the enclosure includes a valve operable to move from a closed state to an open state to allow reactant fluid to enter the enclosure and react with the exothermic reactants.

9. The method as recited in Claim 7, wherein the heating section and the control section are located within the enclosure, and further wherein a barrier within the enclosure separates the heating section from the control section, or alternatively further including a rupture tool located within the enclosure, the rupture tool configured to rupture the barrier after a period of time to allow reactant fluid to react with the exothermic reactants, or alternatively wherein the reactant fluid is fully contained within the enclosure.

10. The method as recited in Claim 9, wherein the reactant fluid is wellbore fluid.

11. The method as recited in Claim 7, wherein the downhole localized heater further includes a fusible alloy located within the enclosure, the fusible alloy operable to regulate a temperature of the downhole localized heater through the heat of fusion.

12. A downhole localized heater, comprising:

an enclosure;

a heating section located within the enclosure, the heating section including exothermic reactants contained therein; and

a control section located within the enclosure, the control section operable to allow reactant fluid to react with the exothermic reactants and create a temperature spike after a period of time.

13. The downhole localized heater as recited in Claim 12, wherein the enclosure includes a valve operable to move from a closed state to an open state to allow the reactant fluid to enter the enclosure and react with the exothermic reactants and create the temperature spike.

14. The downhole localized heater as recited in Claim 12, wherein a barrier within the enclosure separates the heating section from the control section.

15. The downhole localized heater as recited in Claim 14, further including a rupture tool located within the enclosure, the rupture tool configured to rupture the barrier after the period of time to allow the reactant fluid to react with the exothermic reactants, or alternatively wherein the reactant fluid is fully contained within the enclosure, or alternatively further including a fusible alloy located within the enclosure, the fusible alloy operable to regulate a temperature of the downhole localized heater through the heat of fusion.