



NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release
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Mt. Magazine prescribed burn today will benefit land & communities

RUSSELLVILLE, AR – A 4,500-acre prescribed burn is being conducted today by the Magazine Ranger District, Mount Magazine State Park, and Arkansas Forestry Commission, with the assistance of several ranger districts on the Ouachita and Ozark-St. Francis National Forests.

People living in – or traveling through – this area should be aware of smoke, potential road closures, and increased traffic.

Managers intend to begin the prescribed fire by 9 a.m., completing the ignitions by 4 p.m.

As a result of these activities, Highway 309 will be closed from Barber Ridge to the Mount Magazine State Park Visitor Information Center on the day of the burn.

Residual smoke in the surrounding river valleys can be expected for a few days after the burn is complete.

Prescribed burning is a method used to reduce the risk of catastrophic fire in the wildland/urban interface, where houses and development meet the forest.

The burn is taking place when conditions are favorable, taking into consideration factors including weather (temperature, humidity, wind speed and direction), fuel moisture content, and helicopter and fire crew availability. A primary emphasis is placed on conducting the burn safely and efficiently.

For more information, contact the Magazine Ranger District at 479-963-3076 or Mount Magazine State Park at 479-963-8502.

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