



Fortine and Rexford Ranger Districts Plan Spring Prescribed Burns 2009



Spring is here and the Fortine and Rexford Ranger Districts will begin to implement their spring prescribed burn programs.

The Fortine and Rexford Ranger Districts use prescribed burning as a very important resource management tool to reach their management objectives. Some of the most common objectives of prescribed burning are: fuel reduction, site preparation for reforestation, improvement and creation of wildlife habitat and regulation of stand composition.

The Fortine and Rexford Ranger Districts may treat up to 3,654 acres this spring with their prescribed burn programs. 667 acres may be treated by understory burning to remove logging slash generated from timber harvest activities. 2,987 acres may be treated by understory burning to achieve the following objectives; to reduce fuels generated by thinning activities, to reduce natural fuel accumulations and to enhance wildlife browse and forage.

Some of these treatments are in close proximity to private property. Local communities and the valley may experience some periodic smoky conditions. All prescribed burns on the Fortine and Rexford Ranger Districts must comply with air quality regulations, guided and monitored by the Montana/Idaho State Airshed Group. Burns will occur when air dispersion and weather forecasts are predicted to be favorable. We will strive to minimize the smoke effects; however there may be some short periods of smoky conditions. Although some areas will be impacted more by short term smoke created by the prescribed burns, the effects of fuels treatments in these areas will have long-term benefits.

We would like to thank the local communities for being supportive of our fuels treatment programs in the past and value your continued support. Please keep in mind that fuels treatments will help make our forests healthier and help reduce hazardous fuels.

Please travel cautiously through smoky areas and reduce your speed. Visibility may be limited and people and equipment may be present in the smoke. If you have any questions about the prescribed burns or would like to be contacted prior to any burning in your area, please call the Fortine Ranger District at 406-882-4451 or Rexford Ranger District at 406-296-2536.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR COOPERATION

**Please see the back side of this flyer for
prescribed burn areas.**