



NEWS RELEASE

United States
Department of Agriculture

Forest Service
Nez Perce National Forest
104 Airport Road
Grangeville, Idaho 83530

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – March 31, 2008

**Contact: Laura Smith
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PRESCRIBED BURNING PLANNED ON THE SALMON RIVER RANGER DISTRICT

The U.S. Forest Service, Salmon River Ranger District will be utilizing prescribed fire to meet ecosystem management objectives in the Blue Mountain / South Fork Squaw Creek, Kessler Creek, and Slate Creek drainages this year. The prescribed burning will take place this spring when weather and environmental conditions are favorable to meet resource objectives.

The prescribed burning will treat natural fuels to meet resource objectives. The prescribed burning is designed to improve habitat for wildlife, reduce the natural fuel accumulations, enhance forest health, and re-introduce fire into a fire dependant ecosystem.

A total of approximately 4800-5000 acres will be treated with prescribed fire. This activity is weather dependant and may occur as early as April 1st or as late as mid / late May 2008.

The prescribed burning will utilize hand ignition in conjunction with aerial ignition. The aerial ignition will be ignited using a helicopter and a "Primo Mark III" plastic sphere dispenser.

Individuals requesting additional information concerning this project may contact Kevin P. Chaffee or Andrew B. Lane – Fire Management personnel on the Salmon River Ranger District at (208) 839-2211.

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