



News Release

Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest
Jarbidge & Ruby Mountains Ranger Districts
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For Immediate Release on August 15, 2008 - Stop Date is October 30, 2008

Closure order in place on East Slide Rock Ridge Fire

Elko, Nevada...The Forest Service has issued an Area Closure Order for the East Slide Rock Ridge Fire in the remote Jarbidge Wilderness. The order went into effect at noon on August 13, and will remain in place until further notice. The closed area covers about seven square miles of rugged terrain located about 15 miles southeast of the town of Jarbidge.

The Forest Service is managing this fire by monitoring it as it burns through dead and bug-killed trees and brush. Called Wildland Fire Use, this approach is used to manage lightning-caused fires in remote areas where fire is a natural component of the ecosystem. Low to moderate intensity fires such as this typically burn in a mosaic pattern, creating sunny openings where grasses and shrubs can grow. The increased diversity of vegetation in turn improves habitat for wildlife species.

Additionally, Wildland Fire Use management in remote, rugged areas is much safer for firefighters and offers a considerable cost-savings to taxpayers. These fires typically continue to burn until rain or snow puts them out.

Fire activity increases during dry, hot, and windy afternoons, making smoke from this fire visible in Elko and other surrounding communities. However there is no threat to human life or property. The safety of firefighters and the public remains the top priority.

For further information on this release, please contact Fire Information Officer Linda Slater at 775-778-6105, or David Ashby, Acting Jarbidge and Ruby Mountains District Ranger, at 775-752-3357. Learn more about Wildland Fire Use by visiting this website at:

http://www.fs.fed.us/fire/fireuse/wildland_fire_use/use_index.html.

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