



News Release

United States Department of
Agriculture - Forest Service

Plumas National Forest
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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National Forest Prescribed Burning

Fall prescribed burning has begun on the Plumas National Forest. The purpose of burning is to complete Herger-Feinstein Quincy Library Group fuel-break work within defensible fuel profile zones (DFPZ), and burn piles remaining from similar thinning projects. Burning reduces the amounts of accumulated needles, limbs, downed logs, and brush that occur in the forest, minimizing the potential impact if a wildfire occurs during the summer.

Fire management personnel work with the California Air Resource Board, Northern California Predictive Service Unit, and local air quality management districts to plan the prescribed burns so that smoke impacts to communities are minimized. While burning will only take place on permissive burn days, some smoke may settle into the valleys during the evenings and mornings until atmospheric conditions allow for smoke dispersal. Opportunities to burn are typically limited to several weeks in the spring and fall and are dependent on favorable weather conditions, fuel moisture levels, humidity, and availability of fire crews.

The Feather River Ranger District will begin 400 acres of under-burning (DFPZ) near Brush Creek, 400 acres north of Little Grass Valley Reservoir (Bald Onion DFPZ), 400 acres between Little Grass Valley and Sly Creek Reservoirs (South Fork DFPZ), and 70 acres near Pike County Lookout. Plans also include a total of 150 acres of piles scattered throughout the district.

The Beckwourth Ranger District underburns include: 300 acres in the Squaw Valley area (Red Clover DFPZ), 145 acres near Dixie Valley and Frenchman Cove (Buck), 135 acres just north of Lake Davis (Blakeless), 400 acres near Delleker and Portola (Humbug DFPZ), 400 acres between Doyle Crossing and Milford Grade (Last Chance DFPZ), 1,185 acres north and east of Frenchman Lake (Crystal Adams DFPZ), and 1,200 acres south of Portola (Mabie DFPZ). Pile burning includes 2,000 acres on the Mabie DFPZ that stretches from Ross Meadows east and south of Portola and along Highway 89 to McNair Meadows.

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An additional 800 acres of piles will be done throughout the district.

The Mt. Hough Ranger District plans include: 300 acres on Green Flat northeast of Taylorsville. An additional 100 acres of piles will be burned in the Meadow Valley and Chandler Road areas, as well as others throughout the district.

The actual number of acres burned in any given season is highly variable, based on site and weather conditions.

Questions regarding the fall burning program may be directed to Lou Ann Charbonnier, Assistant Fire Management Officer, Plumas National Forest, (530) 283-2050.

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Key points:

- 1) Prescribed burn projects on the Plumas National Forest has begun.**
- 2) Burning to take place only on permissive burn days.**
- 3) Smoke may be visible from communities far removed from the immediate project area.**