

News Release

Susanville Interagency Fire Center

California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection ! Lassen National Forest
Bureau of Land Management ! Lassen Volcanic National Park

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Contact: Jeff Fontana, BLM, (530) 252-5332
Leona Rodreick, Lassen National Forest, (530) 252-6605

Fall Prescribed Burning To Begin Soon

The Bureau of Land Management, Lassen Volcanic National Park and the Lassen National Forest are preparing to implement their Fall prescribed burning program. "Burning will begin as soon as weather conditions will ensure safe and efficient burning conditions," commented Larry Ault, co-center manager for the Susanville Interagency Fire Center (SIFC).

The BLM's Alturas Field Office plans a 30-acre burn project in the Ash Valley about 30 miles south of Madeline. It will remove brush, grass and pine needle accumulation to benefit several plant species that are rare, or have "special status" listing by the BLM.

The Field office also plans to continue a burning project in the South Knob area about 18 miles south of Adin. The project will burn about 1,200 acres of brush to leave a mosaic pattern of brush and new plant growth to benefit wildlife species, including mule deer. Burning is targeted for early this month.

The Eagle Lake Field Office will conduct two small research burns in the Five Springs and Belfast areas. Brush pile burning projects are planned for the Susan River Canyon near Hobo Camp, and at North Eagle Lake.

The Lassen Volcanic National Park will be working with the Hat Creek Ranger District to burn 1,900 acres near Manzanita Lake, and they will also be burning 300 acres of the Flume Tank project located near the northwest corner of the park.

Approximately 4,000 acres of burning will occur on the Eagle Lake Ranger District. The burning will consist of burning understory, piles and burning for the Pacific Southwest Experimental Research Station. Burning is planned six areas: Cal Underburn, east of Poison lake off of Highway 44; Little Aunt Underburn, north of Antelope lookout; Blacks RNA B&C, within the Blacks Experimental Forest; Dow Underburn, Northwest of Spalding off of county road 105; Gordon Underburn, north of Champs Flat; and, Grays Underburn south of Poison Lake in the Grays Flat area.

The Almanor Ranger District plans to conduct approximately 750 acres of pile burning. Burns are planned for the Betty Sue project, along county road A-21 five miles north of Westwood, this will be 300 acres; at Middle Ridge, southwest of Mineral in Tehama County along Ponderosa Way, this burn will total 100 acre; and, 50 acres will be burned along the Prattville Defensible Fuel Profile Zone (DFPZ) located two miles south of Almanor and Prattville.

The Hat Creek Ranger District plans to burn brush, ground cover, machine and hand piles on approximately 3,000 acres. The Stonehenge Burn will take place on both the Lassen Volcanic National Park, 1,000 acres, and the Hat Creek Ranger District, 900 acres. The burns will take place in project areas along the Hat Creek Rim near Ladder Butte, near the Pittville Highway, around Wylie Ranch at the base of Soldier Mountain, and near Red Lake.

“These areas have been mechanically thinned, resulting in reduced smoke emissions. Burning will take place on permissive burn days. Additionally, both agencies will coordinate with industrial and agency landowners in the areas surrounding the prescribed burn locations on days planned to burn. This collaboration effort limits the

amount of smoke in the air at any one time,” Commented Mike Holmes, Fire Management Officer for the Eagle Lake Ranger District.

The objectives of prescribed burning programs are to:

- ❖ Reduce natural and management activity created fuels.
- ❖ Reduce the threat of catastrophic fires, such as the recent fires across the interior west.
- ❖ Enhance forage opportunities for wildlife by increasing new growth.

The BLM, Lassen Volcanic National Park and Lassen National Forest are committed to returning your public lands to a more natural fire resistant state, through the combined use of mechanical treatment and prescribed fire. For more information contact the fire management staff at your local ranger station, park service or BLM office.

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