

NEWS



Forest Service

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Department of
Agriculture*

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Lassen National Forest

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Eagle Lake Ranger District Prescribed Burning Program.

The Eagle Lake Ranger District is preparing to begin implementation of the fall prescribed fire program. Burning will begin as soon as weather conditions will insure safe and efficient burning conditions.

Approximately 2000 acres of understory burning will be conducted in the Gordon Valley and Dow Butte areas, seven miles northwest of Spalding. Another 500 acres of understory burning will be conducted in the Grays Flat area. Additionally, an estimated 400 acres of hand piles scattered throughout the Eagle Lake Ranger District will be burned.

“These areas have been mechanically thinned, resulting in reduced smoke emissions. Burning will take place on permissive burn days. Additionally, the Eagle Lake Ranger District coordinates 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 our Prescribed Burn Program are to:

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

The Cone Fire within the Black’s Mountain Experimental Forest on the Eagle Lake Ranger District has dramatically demonstrated the effectiveness of these treatments in lowering fire intensity and tree mortality. Initial observations indicate that the treatments were very effective in slowing down and sometimes stopping the fire spread.

The Eagle Lake Ranger District is committed to returning your forest to a more natural fire resistant state, through the combined use of mechanical treatment and prescribed fire. For more information please contact Fire Management Officer Mike Holmes, or Assistant Fuels Officer Clif Motheral at 257-4188. For TDD assistance, call 252-6624.

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