



Contact: Travis Lipp, 605-720-0747
September 25, 2005

Prescribed Burns Scheduled in Fort Meade

Prescribed burns are scheduled on 321 acres in the southern half of the Fort Meade Recreation Area east of Sturgis, S.D. With favorable weather conditions, the burns should be completed sometime in October.

The burn area is divided into three units that will be burned separately. All three units are southwest of the Fort Meade VA and west of Interstate 90. The Bureau of Land Management Back Country Byway will be closed to through traffic while the burning takes place. Smoke will be visible from Interstate 90, State Highway 34, Fort Meade, and Sturgis, but will be monitored to ensure optimal smoke dispersal. Should unfavorable smoke conditions occur, burning will cease until conditions become favorable. Local firefighting resources from Sturgis, Fort Meade and the State of South Dakota will assist.

The prescribed burns will reduce hazardous fuel accumulations, maintain open park-like stands of Ponderosa Pine, and maintain and enhance native plant species. Increased forage and brows are also likely to occur. For more information call the Bureau of Land Management South Field Office at 605-892-7000, or Travis Lipp at 605-720-0747.

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