



## News from the Forest Service

Edited on: August 24, 2006

### Where are the Cows Now?



We currently have cattle in the Wilkins Pasture, on the east side of State Highway 87. This includes Clear Creek Pines 8 & 9, Ponderosa, Starlight Pines, east side of Highway 87, Blue Ridge Estates, Tameron Pines, and Mogollon Ranch. The cattle will be in this pasture until approximately sometime in October, which will most likely be the remainder of the grazing season. Cattle will also be in the Clints Well area approximately until mid-September. This area covers the East side of FH3, from Clints Well north about 7 miles, this includes Clear Creek Pines Units 1 & and the Shipping Pasture across Highway 87 from Long Valley Service. Please keep in mind that these dates are all approximate. These times may be shorter or longer depending on forage conditions, forage utilization, water and many other factors.

I know that some of the above mentioned subdivisions have fences around them, for those of you that don't and have your property fenced. . . . **DON'T FORGET TO CLOSE YOUR GATE!**

### Little Bly Pit



We had a challenge on our hands earlier this summer when it was so dry . . . What do we do with Bly Pit, keep it open or close it until the rains come? After much discussion and thanks to many of our generous volunteers we were able to keep it open. Now that our rains have begun we are able to keep it open 7 days a week and are able to burn some slash in the pit again. As many of you well know by now, we will close off the area of the pit that will be burned and leave the other half open. Little Bly is a big asset to this community and we are very glad to be able to offer this service to our local residents. Once again thank you for your cooperation, this certainly helps us to keep it open!

### As Fall Season Approaches . . .



The campgrounds on the Mogollon Rim Ranger District begin closing and hunting season goes into full gear! Moqui Group Use Campground will officially close on Monday, September 18th at 12:00 PM, Rock Crossing and Blue Ridge Campgrounds will be closing on September 18th at 2:00 PM. Clints Well as well as Kehl Springs will be open until we are forced to close it due to the snow.

Then hunting season begins and hunting season can be just as busy or even busier than the summer months for all of us at the Ranger Station. Hunting season has actually already started. Bear season opened up August 11th, followed by turkey and then it is one continuous hunt all the way through December. Please be careful when you are out in the forest.

Lastly . . . Don't forget to get your fuelwood in!

## Fall Prescribed Burning



As fall approaches we are beginning to set things up for our fall prescribed burning period. Last year we completed approximately 15,000 acres of burning and we hope to complete about the same amount for the 2006/2007 season. As most of you are aware by now, our burning is mostly implemented in the fall. Some of the areas we plan to burn this fall are: the Blue Ridge Urban Interface Project (located primarily near Pine Canyon, Clear Creek Pines Units 8 & 9 and Clear Creek Pines Units 3 & 7), APS Powerline Project, Victorine Urban Interface Project, Pocket Baker Project, and the East Clear Creek Project. We plan to burn 2,000 acres on the Blue Ridge Urban Interface Project, 1,300 acres on the APS Power Line Project, 6,000 acres on the Victorine Urban Interface Project, 2,000 acres on the Pocket Baker Project and 2,000 acres on the East Clear Creek Project. None of these projects are scheduled to be burned in any particular order, there will be a lot of jumping around from project to project. There are other areas we plan to burn in also, but the above mentioned projects are the larger ones that will be most noticeable. As always, smoke will be impacting some of these areas, with the heaviest concentration being in the morning and evening hours. Our burning period usually runs between Monday thru Thursday, so we do not impact the local community on the weekend.

If you have specific questions about the project locations or timing please feel free to call and ask for Jeff Thumm at 477-2255. Thank you in advance for your patience, the more prescribed burning we complete the better the chances of stopping a wildfire from threatening your home or property.

Till next month,

Jean Gilbertson  
Editor