



NEWS RELEASE

Lolo National Forest

United States
Department of Agriculture

Forest Service
Lolo National Forest
Building 24, Fort Missoula
Missoula, Montana 59804

www.fs.fed.us/r1/lolo

For Immediate Release
Date: September 25, 2008

Contact: Boyd Hartwig 406-329-1024

Prescribed Burn Planned Southeast of Missoula

Missoula, MT. – Fire managers with the Missoula Ranger District will under-burn approximately 50 acres of timber slash near Hollowman Saddle about 12 miles southeast of Missoula sometime over the next three days, weather conditions permitting. Smoke from the burning may be visible to the southeast of Missoula. Residents of upper Miller Creek smoke will likely see smoke to the southeast and fire managers are advising hunters and others to use caution if near the burn area. Signs will be posted along roads near the burn to advise the public of smoke and fire activity. Motorists should also use caution along area roads and be aware of increased traffic from fire personnel.

The purpose of the burning is to remove slash from the Moccasin Timber Sale from the late nineties and help regenerate soil and vegetation. Once ignition begins, the burn should last about four hours, according to fire personnel.

Approval for the burning has been received from the Montana/Idaho Smoke Monitoring Unit, a group of local, state, and federal government representatives who monitor air quality and potential smoke impacts from prescribed burning. The burning will only take place when smoke dispersal conditions are met.

For more information, contact the Lolo National Forest Public Affairs Office at (406) 329-1024.

- END -