



National Park Service
Department of the Interior

Whiskeytown National
Recreation Area

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Whiskeytown National Recreation Area Fire Management: Completion of Prescribed Burn

Whiskeytown National Recreation Area completed a 467-acre successful prescribed burn on the Shasta Divide on February 12, 2003. This burn is a big success story for Whiskeytown National Recreation Area and part of their continued commitment to reducing fuels near the Wildland Urban Interface.

The Fire Branch has been trying to burn the Shasta Divide for the last six years. This burn is a critical Wildland Urban Interface burn for the park. The Shasta Divide lies on the east boundary of the park separating the park from the community of Old Shasta and west Redding. Several attempts have been made to complete this burn. It was always too dry or too wet. Smoke dispersal was an issue due to the communities being so close.

The park finally got its window of opportunity in February, after two weeks of no rain, north winds and warmer weather. On February 11, 2003 crews from Lassen Volcanic National Park, Lava Beds National Monument, the California Conservation Corps, California Department of Forestry and Fire Prevention, contract crews and the United States Forest Service came together with fire personnel from Whiskeytown and ignited this burn. Along with help from Redding Air Service, aerial ignition with over 25,000 ping-pong balls were used to complete this burn.



Over 25,000 ping-pong balls were used on the burn.



Smoke column rising above the Shasta Divide fuelbreak