

Whiskeytown

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior



SHASTA DIVIDE PRESCRIBED BURN



Shasta Divide prescribed burn as seen from Southfork Lookout Mountain Road.

The National Park Service at Whiskeytown National Recreation Area, successfully completed a 368 acre prescribed burn on May 22, 2003, just before the Memorial Day Weekend.

Whiskeytown had a wet spring with a total rainfall for the year at over 75 inches. In late May the weather changed and allowed crews to blackline the burn and use aerial ignition to burn the interior of the burn.

This prescribed burn was located on the Shasta Divide along the east boundary of the park. The Shasta Divide prescribed burn is part of an interagency program to help reduce the threat of wildfire to Old Shasta and west Redding by reducing forest fuels. Whiskeytown is surrounded by communities that are at risk of catastrophic fire, due to a high concentration of fuels. Prescribed fire helps to reduce some of that threat, by reducing the surface fuels and consuming the dense thickets of brush.

Whiskeytown worked closely with the Shasta Air Quality District and Redding Fire Weather Meteorologist to successfully minimize smoke impacts to the local communities.

The burn was completed in two operational periods, and all roads and trails were open for the Memorial Weekend visitors.



Fire Crews from the United States Forest Service, California Conservation Corps, Fire Storm as well as the National Park Service worked together to accomplish this burn.



Homes in the Wildland Urban Interface near the park's boundary.