



## News from the Forest Service

September 24, 2008

### Fall Prescribed Burning

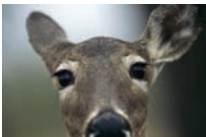


Now is the time of year the forest service does prescribed burning. Prescribed fire addresses natural fire and reduces the amount of hazardous fuels. Prescribed fire is needed today to replenish soil nutrients, stimulate new growth, and to maintain biological diversity; all of which contribute to a healthy forest. In addition to a healthier forest, another benefit resulting from prescribed fire and a healthier forest is the reduction in fire danger for our communities. Areas treated with prescribed fire are less likely to burn intensely during a wildfire and allow a wildfire to be brought under control more easily. In our area, a good example of this, was the "Springer" fire that burned just south of Blue Ridge Ranger Station in May 2002. It was a lightning caused fire in extremely dry and windy conditions and was burning directly towards Clear Creek Pines Units 3 & 7, until it reached the prescribed burn that was conducted in February 2002. This slowed the fire down enough where crews and air tankers were able to get in and extinguish it at the head of the fire, thus Clear Creek Pines Units 3 & 7 were no longer in imminent danger.

The prescribed fires that are scheduled for the Mogollon Rim Ranger District this fall are:

- Pocket Baker— By Fivemile Lake along Highway 87
- Good Enough Tule— Off Forest Road 142, bordering West Clear Creek Wilderness
- Imax— Off Forest Road 81 and Forest Highway 3
- Blue Ridge Urban Interface— Between Forest Road 316 and Forest Road 318, along Highway 87
- East Clear Creek— Between Forest Road 321, Dane Ridge and Forest Road 137, Buck Springs Ridge, also in the Hospital Ridge area.

Our prescribed burning is scheduled to run from September 22nd through November. If you are interested in knowing when we are going to burn and what area we will be burning in please send me an email asking me to add you to my "Blue Ridge Residents" email list. I send emails out to the recipients on the list quite frequently as information becomes available. You can always call us too, 928-477-2255. Thank you for your cooperation and support.



### Common Sense, We ALL Have It!

Did you know that all "rescued" fawns and calves should be returned to the exact location they were removed from within 24 hours. If they are in captivity for more than 24 hours, then they should be turned in to Game and Fish and they will either be euthanized or sent to the Game and Fish rehabilitation facility for placement in a zoo! Bottom line . . . . . Do not move them at all, call a Game and Fish officer for assistance and advice. Their odds for survival are a lot better in the wild.



## 2009 Seasonal Job Announcements are Out

Seasonal job announcements for fire related positions are out for the summer of 2009. They are: Prevention, Hand crews, Hotshots, Look Out Towers, Fuels and Engine positions.

If you are interested in working for the forest service and would like a position working in fire, the job announcements are available to pick up at Blue Ridge Ranger Station.

Please feel free to stop by the Blue Ridge Ranger Station pick one up, we also have the instructions that you will need to apply for the job(s). Our office hours are Monday—Friday, 7:30 am to 4:00 pm.



## Travel Management Rule Planning Update

As you know, the Coconino National Forest is currently studying various motorized travel system scenarios. Our purpose in designating a system of roads, trails, and areas open to motorized travel is to sustain our natural resources, maintain reasonable access to outdoor recreation opportunities, and to comply with national directing regarding motorized travel on national forest system lands. The rule addresses the growing demand for motorized recreation while protecting the environment and assuring that our national forests and grasslands provide clean air, clean water, and abundant wildlife for future generations.

The next steps include sharing our analysis, considering public comments, finalizing our analysis, making a final decision, and producing a map that displays our legal motorized travel system. We anticipate the draft analysis will be available for public review and comment within the next 2 months. We will conduct a public meeting during the 45-day comment period to answer your specific questions about the alternatives and our decision-making process. We hope to produce the Motor Vehicle Use Map (MVUM) about a year from now.

I am committed to answering your questions and providing the resources you need to understand this project and shape the outcome. Please visit our website at [www.fs.fed.us/r3/coconino/tmr](http://www.fs.fed.us/r3/coconino/tmr) or call me at 928-477-2255.

*Melinda Roth*, District Ranger



Until Next Month, Jean Gilbertson, Editor

## A Few "Go Green" Tips!



- Turn off appliances and lights when you leave the room.
- Keep drinking water in the refrigerator instead of letting the faucet run until the water is cool.
- Repair all leaks (a leaking toilet can waste 200 gallons a day).
- Insulate your home, water heater and pipes.
- Use a microwave to cook small meals (it uses less power than an oven).
- Scrape, rather than rinse, dishes before loading into the dishwasher; wash only full loads.
- Use soaker hoses or trickle irrigation systems for watering trees and flowers.