



NEWS RELEASE

Lolo National Forest

United States
Department of Agriculture

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

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Prescribed Burning Planned for Blue Mountain

Missoula, MT. – The Missoula Ranger District of the Lolo National Forest plans to ignite a prescribed burn on Tuesday, April 21 on Blue Mountain near the motorcycle trailhead, approximately two miles up the main Blue Mountain Road. Smoke from the burning is likely to be visible from Missoula.

This prescribed burn location is Blue Mountain Unit 23, incorporating about 35 acres of light logging slash. This prescribed burn will be ignited only if operational safety, fuel moisture, weather conditions, and air quality parameters are met.

The management objectives of the prescribed burning are:

- Reduce summer wildfire hazard with lower intensity spring prescribed fire
- Reduce young Douglas Fir density to promote Ponderosa Pine regeneration
- Top kill shrubs to enhance available forage for wildlife
- Promote the vigor of the Ponderosa Pine over-story

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