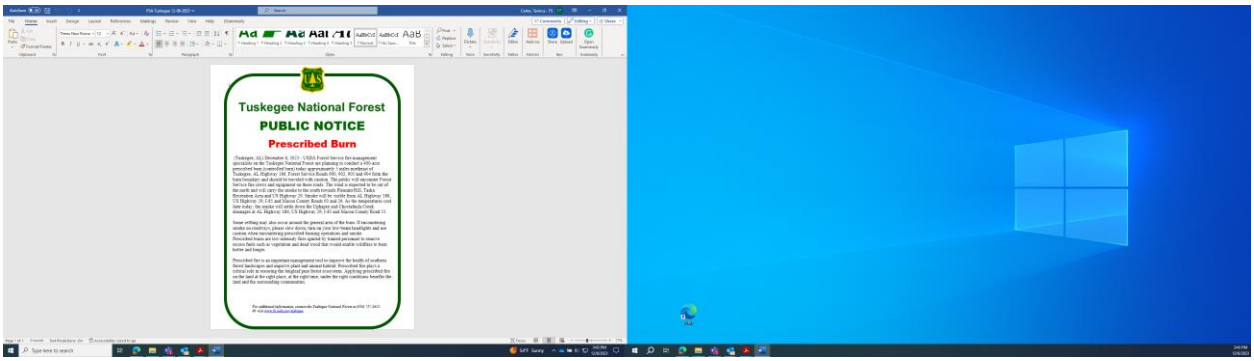

Tuskegee National Forest

PUBLIC NOTICE

Prescribed Burn

Chalkville, AL) December 8, 2022 – USDA Forest Service fire management specialists on the Tuskegee National Forest are planning to conduct a 600-acre prescribed burn on Friday, December 9, 2022 in the Chalkville area of Tuskegee, AL Highway 186, Forest Service Roads 682, 682, 683 and 684 form the burn boundary and should be traveled with caution. The public will encounter Forest Service Road 682 and Forest Service Road 683 on the eastern side of the burn and will carry the smoke to the south towards Pleasant Hill, Tuskegee Recreation Area and US Highway 29. Smoke will be visible from AL Highway 186, US Highway 29, I-85 and Macon County Roads 45 and 29. As the temperatures cool late today, the smoke will settle down the Uphapee and Chewhalacla Creek drainages in AL Highway 186, US Highway 29, I-85 and Macon County Road 29.

Some settling may also occur around the general area of the burn. If encountering smoke on roadways, please slow down, turn on your low-beam headlights and use caution when encountering prescribed burning operations and smoke management practices. Prescribed fire is used to reduce hazardous fuels to remove excess fuels such as vegetation and dead wood that would enable wildfire to burn hotter and longer.

Prescribed fire is an important management tool to improve the health of southern forest landscapes and improve plant and animal habitat. Prescribed fire plays a critical role in restoring the longleaf pine forest ecosystem. Applying prescribed fire on the land at the right place, at the right time, under the right conditions benefits the land and the surrounding communities.

For additional information, contact the Tuskegee National Forest at (334) 727-2652 or www.fs.usda.gov/tuskegee