

San Luis Valley  
Bureau of Land Management



San Luis Valley Public Lands



Rio Grande  
National Forest



Contact: Mike Blakeman, (719) 852-6212

## **News Release**

**--FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE--**

**May 6, 2009**

### **Prescribed Burns Scheduled for May**

MONTE VISTA – San Luis Valley residents may notice smoke in the mountains over the next few weeks as fire officials from the SLV Public Lands Center conduct prescribed burns. Depending on weather conditions, the first burning operation may begin as early as Friday, May 10<sup>th</sup>, in the Embargo Creek area, located northeast of South Fork

The 500 acre November Prescribed Burn, located in the vicinity of Fox Creek, may also be carried out later this month.

Prescribed fire is used as a tool to improve the condition of forests and rangeland under carefully controlled circumstances. Fire is also used to burn piles of woody material left over from thinning projects.

There may be some minimal visibility and air quality impacts to residents or visitors in the immediate area of these prescribed burns during, and for one to two days following, burning operations. It is expected to take one to three days to conduct each prescribed burn followed by several more days of monitoring the areas.

**###**