

San Luis Valley  
Bureau of Land Management



San Luis Valley Public Lands



Rio Grande  
National Forest



Contact: Mike Blakeman, Public Affairs  
(719) 852-6212

## News Release

--FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE--

# Prescribed Burn Planned Near South Fork

April 23, 2008

**DEL NORTE** – Weather permitting, the Divide Ranger District of the Rio Grande National Forest is planning to conduct a prescribed burn starting this Saturday, April 26th. The two units planned for burning are in the Alder Creek area about two miles north of the town of South Fork.

“We hope Mother Nature cooperates and the winds diminish so that we can start the burn this weekend or early next week,” said Randy Chappell, fire management officer for the Divide District. “The grass will start greening up soon, which will make it difficult to get a clean burn and meet our burn objectives.”

The purpose of the burn is to reduce surface fuel loadings, return nutrients to the soil and prepare seed beds to stimulate regeneration of grasses, forbs, and shrubs. The effects will reduce the hazard of uncontrolled wildland fires and improve wildlife habitat.

Some minimal visibility and air quality impacts to residents in the immediate area of these prescribed burns may be present during implementation and from one to two days after. It is expected to take three days to conduct the burn followed by several more days of monitoring the area.

For further information contact the Divide District office at (719) 657-3321.

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