



**U.S. Forest Service  
Inyo National Forest  
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## **News Release**

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### **Ski Back Area Hazardous Fuel Reduction Resumes**

Hazardous fuels reduction work adjacent to the town of Mammoth Lakes will resume during the week of May 1<sup>st</sup>. The project area is located between the Forest Trail/ Minarets Road junction along the south side of the Minarets Road to the Chair 4 Parking Lot of Mammoth Mountain Ski Area. Work will be conducted during the month of May to limit impacts to the public and MMSA mountain bike park operations that typically use the trails once fully accessible later in the spring.

To ensure public and contractor safety the forest asks that the public refrain from entering the areas till the project is completed and posted signs are removed.

Hazardous fuel thinning reduces wildfire spread and intensity by removing surface and ladder fuels, mimicking how natural fire reduces those accumulated fuels. This creates an environment where firefighters can more safely respond to fire events and reduce the chance of catastrophic fire near populated areas.

Thinning also promotes forest health by increasing resiliency to insects and disease through reducing competition for water, nutrients, and sunlight. This is especially important during California's extended drought where numerous trees are dying from insect infestations or water stress. For more information, please contact Andrew Weinhart at (760) 924-5550.

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