

FACTSHEET Brimson Area Prescribed Fire Projects

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Prescribed Fire Information: 218-208-3969 or snfwestzonepio@gmail.com

Anticipated Scheduling of Prescribed Fires: The US Forest Service plans to implement several prescribed fire projects in the Brimson area starting this spring. The actual date of ignition is dependent on many factors including: fuel moisture, relative humidity, temperature, wind, etc.

Size and Location: These prescribed fire projects are located in the Brimson vicinity on the Laurentian Ranger District on the Superior National Forest. The project names, legal location, and acreage include:

- County Line T56N, R11W S30 (44 acres)
- Irish T56N, R11W S4 (155 acres)
- Langley T56N, R12W S25/35 (140 acres)

Description: Prescribed fire is not new to many residents in the Brimson Area. Fire is part of the boreal forest ecosystem. There are several Forest management objectives that will be met by using prescribed fire in these areas. In the County Line unit, which is a thinned red pine stand, the objective is to use fire to remove needles and other surface litter and balsam fir to create and maintain a more open understory that will reduce the potential for a fire to start and spread. The other prescribed fires will meet Forest management objectives for fuels reduction along with site preparation for reforestation needs. Prescribed fire treatments also create a patchwork or mosaic of fire-resistant forest stands in the landscape that can reduce intensity of future wildfires. Precise ignition methods will be utilized to start the fires and natural and/or constructed lines will be used to control and hold the fires. Hose-lays supplied by water pumps or other water delivery equipment will supplement the holding actions where needed. Fire crews will monitor the prescribed fire until it is declared out.

Following prescribed fire in the understory (called an underburn), the lower limbs on pine trees often turn brown due to the heat. This is not usually an indicator of tree mortality in the prescribed burn unit. It may take up to 2 years for the trees to lose the brown needles.

Resources: Holding crews and ignition crews of firefighters and/or engines will be working directly on the prescribed fire while it is active. Fire crews may conduct preparations in the area prior to completion of the prescribed fires and continue to monitor after they are completed.

Superior National Forest
Forest Service

