



Flathead National Forest

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Media Release

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Tally Lake Ranger District 2014 Spring Prescribed Burn Plan

KALISPELL, MT - The Tally Lake Ranger District on the Flathead National Forest plans to initiate prescribed burns this spring, if suitable weather conditions exist. Ignition will only occur on days with a good smoke dispersion forecast. Prescribed fire is used throughout the forest to meet various management objectives, including returning fire to the ecosystem, maintaining or restoring plant communities, reducing or removing exotic plants, maintaining or improving wildlife habitat, reducing hazardous fuel accumulations and reducing fire suppression costs.

- Up to 150 acres may be treated in the Good Creek drainage area 18 miles Northwest of Whitefish to reduce hazardous fuel accumulation and improve big game winter range. The Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation provided a portion of the funding for this project. Smoke may be visible from various locations in the Flathead Valley.
- Hand piles may be burned in the following areas; Griffin Creek, Ashley Lake, Twin Lakes, Bootjack Lake, and Star Meadows. These hand piles were created during hazardous fuels reduction projects. Burning may start as early as the first week of April and will continue through May. A total of 100 acres are planned for this spring.
- Approximately five acres may be burned around Blast Lake and four acres around two ponds in the Martin Lakes area. These burns are designed to aid in the suppression of Reed Canary Grass which is a non-native species.

Contact the Tally Lake Ranger Station front desk at 758-5204 for further information.

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