

NEWS RELEASE



**USDA Forest Service
Rocky Mountain Region
Pike & San Isabel National Forests, Cimarron & Comanche National Grasslands**

Salida Ranger District
5575 Cleora Road
Salida, CO 81201
<http://www.fs.usda.gov/goto/psicc/sal>

Leadville Ranger District
810 Front Street
Leadville, CO 80461
<http://www.fs.fed.usda.gov/goto/psicc/leadville>

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Andrew White, Mountain Zone Fuels Specialist, 719-530-2157 / awwhite@fs.fed.us

U.S. FOREST SERVICE PLANS PRESCRIBED BURNS ON THE SALIDA and LEADVILLE RANGER DISTRICTS

SALIDA, CO., October 1, 2015 – The U.S. Forest Service, San Isabel National Forest-Salida and Leadville Ranger Districts are planning several prescribed burns in Chaffee and Lake County in October and November, 2015. Temporary road closures may be necessary to provide for public and firefighter safety.

The prescribed burns are located near:

- O’Haver Lake (Chaffee County): off of FS Road 202 in the Beaver Creek drainage
 - FS Road 200 (by Beaver Creek) will be temporarily closed.
- Mt. Shavano (Chaffee County): west of FS Road 252
 - FS Road 252 may be temporarily closed along Placer Creek.
- Flume Creek (Lake County): southeast side of Twin Lakes Reservoir
- Twin Lakes (Lake County): southwest of Twin Lakes at the headwaters of the Reservoir

The projects involve burning to reduce the accumulation of hazardous fuels, restore and maintain healthy and diverse forest ecosystems and maintain and enhance wildlife habitat. Partial partnership funding comes from Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, Colorado Parks and Wildlife – Habitat Partnership Program, and Colorado Springs Utilities.

Prescribed fire is an important tool in reducing the risk of catastrophic wildfire across the landscape and can help prevent extreme fires by reducing hazardous fuel buildup and restoring the forest to a more historical state. Prescribed fires also minimize impacts to air quality when compared to wildfires. Safety for the public and firefighters is the top priority when considering any prescribed fire operation on the landscape.

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Prescribed fire smoke may affect your health. For more information see:
<https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/cdphe/wood-smoke-and-health>

Weather and fuel conditions may affect the dates for ignition and fire personnel will monitor conditions to determine if and when ignition should take place. Once the burn begins, smoke will be visible for several days throughout the Arkansas River Valley and the north end of the San Luis Valley.

For prescribed fire information on the Forest, please visit: <http://www.fs.usda.gov/goto/psicc/rxinfo>

More information is available by calling the Salida Ranger District at 719-539-3591, or the Leadville Ranger District at 719-486-0749. Follow us on Twitter for up-to-date information about these prescribed burn projects: @PSICC_NF, #TwinLakesRX, #FlumeCreekRX, #ShavanoRX, #OHaverRX

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