



**Flathead National Forest**  
[www.fs.fed.us/r1/flathead](http://www.fs.fed.us/r1/flathead)

**Media Release**

October 1, 2010

Contact: Denise Germann  
(406) 758-5252  
(406) 249-1714 cell

## **Prescribed Fire Project Planned Tomorrow on Swan Lake District** **Smoke Will be Visible**

The Swan Lake District of the Flathead National Forest is planning to conduct a prescribed fire project tomorrow, Saturday, October 2, if weather conditions are favorable. The project area is located east of Condon, Montana and Holland Lake in the Swan Valley. Smoke will be visible from various places in the Flathead Valley and the Swan Valley.

The project will be located on the ridge east of Holland Lake. Ignition is planned to begin at approximately 1pm on Saturday, October 2.

A temporary trail closure will be in effect on the Holland Look-Out Trail, Forest Trail #42, during burn operations.

This landscape prescribed fire project will burn mid to upper-elevation conifer stands and shrub fields. The introduction of fire will improve forest health and reduce the likelihood of intense wildfire, as well as increase forage for wildlife.

These areas have historically experienced infrequent moderate-intensity natural fires. Fire suppression and other factors have prevented or minimized fires within these landscapes. These areas have experienced a change in species composition, increased stress and disease levels, accumulations of woody material, and an increased risk of stand-replacing fires.

This prescribed fire project is located and designed for the potential to be controlled, and not escape as a wildfire. The project is in compliance with Montana air quality standards and coordinated with Montana State Department of Environmental Quality.

For additional information about the prescribed fire project or the temporary trail closure, contact 249-1714.

**-END-**