Red Mountain Flume Chessman Reservoir Project

The following pages include photos that show the current conditions along the Red Mountain Flume and to Chessman Reservoir as well as photos that offer examples of what an area may/could resemble once proposed management activities are implemented. For more specific information on the proposed activities, please read the Red Mountain Flume Chessman Reservoir scoping letter.

Your input are important to our scoping and project development process. Please send your specific comments to us by April 5, 2013 (details on how to submit comments are in the scoping document and on our website).

Existing Conditions Along Flume

These photos illustrate the existing fuel loading conditions along the Red Mountain flume segments located on National Forest System land.

Mountain water is carried nearly five miles through the flume until it reaches Chessman Reservoir, where the water stays until transported to the Helena Water Treatment Plant before reaching the homes and businesses within the city of Helena.

Post Treatment Examples for Flume

To effectively mitigate hazards, management activities including cutting/removing trees and specific prescribed burns of piles are proposed along the flume. The City of Helena has treated fuels along segments of the flume located city and private lands; the Forest is proposing similar fuels treatments as already implemented by the City.

Photos illustrate treated areas completed by the City of Helena.

Existing Condition at Chessman Reservoir

To fully mitigate hazards to the water quality and supply for the City of Helena, specific areas adjacent to Chessman Reservoir are proposed. Treating these fuels would reduce the potential for ash and sediments to contaminate the water while in the reservoir.

These photos illustrate the current condition in areas adjacent to Chessman Reservoir that are proposed to be treated.

Post Treatment Examples for Reservoir

These two photos show what the areas adjacent to Chessman Reservoir may look like after treatment.

The above photo is a unit treated within the Clancy-Unionville project area; and the photo on the right is an old harvest unit near the Cabin Gulch area.