

# NEWS RELEASE

Pacific Northwest Region - Colville National Forest  
765 S. Main Street, Colville, WA 99114, [www.fs.usda.gov/colville](http://www.fs.usda.gov/colville)

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September 17, 2013

## *Fall Prescribed Burning Starting*

**Colville, WA** – Colville National Forest Fire Managers are keeping a close eye on the weather and moisture conditions on the Colville National Forest. When Moisture levels and expected smoke dispersion patterns are within Washington State smoke management standards crews will begin the fall prescribed burning season immediately and will continue operations into early winter.

Residents of the Colville Valley and those traveling near the Columbia River should plan to see smoke west of Lake Roosevelt in the South Fork Sherman Creek Road area, on the west side of Aladdin Mountain as well as on the south slope of Hope Mountain west of the community of Laurier. Crew will be treating 850 acres 10 miles west of Kettle Falls in the Paradise Peak area south of the Sherman Pass Highway and Sherman Creek, as well as 200 acres along the south slopes of Hope Mountain three miles west of the community of Laurier. The objective of these prescribed fires is to reduce the accumulation of dense undergrowth to reduce fire danger and to improve wildlife and big game wildlife habitat. The Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation (RMEF) supports these prescribed fire objectives and provides grant funding to the Forest Service to help fund these efforts.

Crews will also be treating 100 acres on the west side of Aladdin Mountain 15 miles northeast of Colville east of the junction of Aladdin Highway and Meadow Creek Road. An additional 50 acres near the top of Eagle Mountain, located about six miles east of Chewelah to the north of Flowery Trail Road, will also be treated. The objectives of these prescribed fires is to conduct post-harvest treatments to burn logging debris and slash leftover from logging activities and to reduce thick undergrowth areas under Ponderosa pine and Douglas fir stands. For more information on these specific prescribed fires, please call the Three Rivers Ranger District at (509) 738-7700.

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Residents and visitors in the Pend Oreille Valley and those traveling up Highway 20 can expect to see smoke on both sides of the valley from Furport, north to Lone. Crews will be treating 265 acres with helicopter based ignition in the Lost Ridge area, 200 acres in the Cottonwood Divide area near the Middle Fork Calispell Drainage and 217 acres between Fourth of July Creek and Middle Creek 13 miles southeast of Lone. The Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation (RMEF) supports these prescribed fire objectives and provides grant funding to the Forest Service to help fund these efforts.

An additional 200 acres will be treated 2.5 miles northeast of Furport in the Geophysical area and crews will also be conducting prescribe burning in the Winchester Peak, Misery Lake, Browns Lake, Scotchman Lake, and Ruby Creek areas. Please contact the Newport Ranger Station at (509) 447-7300 for more information on these prescribed fires.

Residents in Republic can expect to see smoke East of Curlew Lake, from St. Peters Creek, Herron Creek Road and Tonasket Creek as well as Northwest of Curlew near Vulcan Mountain. North of Republic, smoke may be visible from North and West Fork Trout Creek area. Smoke will also be visible North of County Highway 602 (Boulder Creek Road). South of Republic smoke will be visible from the Hall Creek area. East of Curlew Lake the crews will be treating 122 acres, some of these acres are funded with grant money from the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation. In the Trout Creek areas crews will be treating Windstorm Salvage areas as well as others for a total of 280 acres. In the Vulcan area crews will be treating 212 acres. Quartz Mountain/Hall Creek area is another area crews will be treating 20 acres to clean up salvage debris left over from the windstorm of 2012. Please contact the Republic Ranger Station at (509) 775-7400 for more information on these prescribed fires.

Since air quality is a major consideration during prescribed fire operations, crews may suspend burning operation if conditions warrant or if smoke begins to impact local communities. In order to ensure you have the latest information on prescribed fires on the Colville National Forest please visit [www.inciweb.org](http://www.inciweb.org) or contact your local Ranger District.

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