



**Forest Service**

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# News Release



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## The Bridger-Teton National Forest Plans Prescribed Burn in Kemmerer

**KEMMERER, Wyo.**, June 8, 2017 – The U.S. Forest Service's Kemmerer Ranger District of the Bridger-Teton National Forest plans to continue with the implementation of the prescribed burn in the Pole Creek area this spring and early summer. The project will treat up to 1194 acres as conditions allow. The Forest Service Fire Managers hope to begin ignitions starting around June 9, 2017.

After the very successful fall burn in 2010 that saw the Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management treat over 6,000 acres in the lower Pole Creek drainage. This year will see the treatment of up to 1194-acres on Forest Service lands in the Upper Pole Creek drainage as we continue to treat the increasing bug killed conifers and aspen stands.

The objectives of the burn are to rejuvenate decadent aspen stands by targeting dead and dying beetle killed conifers, promote better grasses and forbs improving habitat for big game, reduce hazardous fuel accumulations and restore fire to the landscape representing a more historical and natural role in the environment.

The spring project will be about one third the size of 2010 fall burn that took place on BLM and private lands. Spring operations will be no more than 1194-acres in size with the remaining acres being broadcast burn in the late spring, after snow melt.

This project is expected to be carried out anytime between June 9 and June 24. Actual ignition dates will be dependent on meeting strict parameters for weather and fire behavior conditions.

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Flames may be visible during the active burning operation and smoke may be evident in the vicinity, especially in mountain valleys during the early morning hours of the burn period. This project has the potential to impact spring bear hunting season.

The Hams Fork Road will remain open. Visitors are reminded to always use caution when recreating in burned areas, smoke, falling snags and active fire may be present after a closure has been lifted. Interagency fire managers will attempt to minimize any adverse impacts to recreationists and residents as the burns proceed.

This vegetation treatment is an interagency cooperative effort with Wyoming Game & Fish Department, Bureau of Land Management, Wyoming Landscape Conservation Initiative, United States Forest Service.

For more information about this project, contact USFS Ben Banister at 307-828-5117.

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