Bridger-Teton National Forest

Forest Service News Release

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Pile Burning Planned on the Bridger-Teton National Forest

Jackson, Wyo., October 28, 2024 – The Blackrock and Jackson ranger districts of the Bridger-Teton National Forest plan to begin burning 109 acres of hand piles comprised of limbs and slash in November, and the following months as weather allows. Several piles are within the Teton to Snake Hazardous Fuels Reduction Project area, which is adjacent to the community west of Jackson near Highway 22. Other pile locations include the Blackrock Administration Site, Burro Hill, Cottonwood Work Center, Grouse Mountain, Goosewing Guard Station, Shadow Mountain, Granite Hot Springs, Jack Pine, Spread Creek, Flagstaff Road, and the Turpin Meadows Ranch groomed ski trails

Implementation will be dependent on weather conditions and resource availability, and it is anticipated the pile burning will take multiple days to complete. Firefighters will monitor the piles during and after ignition until they are declared out.

The piles may smolder and burn for several days after ignition, producing smoke. Smoke impacts are expected to be minimal, and efforts will be made to limit smoke impacts to surrounding communities, but the possibility exists for smoke to settle in low-lying areas overnight. Residents in areas near burn operations are encouraged to close windows at night to avoid possible smoke impacts. When driving in smoky areas, drivers should slow down and turn on headlights.

The project areas will be clearly marked with signage. No road closures or delays are anticipated.

Hazardous Fuels Reduction Project is an on-going effort designed to reduce wildfire risk in the Wildland Urban Interface. The thinning and pile burning treatments will help to establish defensible space around Teton County in the event of future wildfires. The fuels reduction activities will also improve wildlife habitat and help to restore and maintain plant diversity within the ecosystem.

For other news, events and information you can call 307-739-5500 or visit https://www.fs.usda.gov/btnf or follow the Bridger-Teton National Forest on Facebook @BridgerTetonNF.

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