

UPPER COLORADO RIVER

BLM - NORTHWEST DISTRICT BLM - SOUTHWEST DISTRICT



NEWS RELEASE

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Prescribed fire planned Sunday south of Grand Junction

GRAND JUNCTION, Colo. — Fire managers with the Upper Colorado River Interagency Fire and Aviation Management Unit are planning to burn up to 200 acres of Bureau of Land Management administered lands 18 miles south of Grand Junction on Sunday.

The Farmers Canyon Prescribed Fire will remove pinyon-juniper slash resulting from an earlier project to reduce dense vegetation to lower the risk of large wildfires and stimulate new vegetation growth that benefits wildlife.

Smoke may be seen but is not expected to impact communities given the remoteness of the area. Fire managers have developed a detailed prescribed fire plan and obtained smoke permits from the State of Colorado for this burn.

"We will only ignite this prescribed fire if conditions are ideal for a safe, effective burn, as well as for good smoke dispersal," said Jeff Phillips, fire management specialist with the Upper Colorado River Fire Unit. "We evaluate weather, moisture and fuel conditions before deciding whether to proceed, and human safety is always our top priority."

Prescribed fire smoke may affect your health. For more information, see <u>https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/cdphe/wood-smoke-and-health</u>.

For more information, contact Jeff Phillips, (970) 244-3000.

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The Upper Colorado River Interagency Fire and Aviation Management Unit (UCR) includes Bureau of Land Management and U.S. Forest Service firefighting resources that cover 5.8 million acres along the Interstate 70, Colorado River and Roaring Fork River corridors from the Continental Divide to the Utah state line. The UCR includes the White River National Forest and the BLM's Colorado River Valley and Grand Junction field offices. The UCR cooperates with other federal and state agencies, local communities, and fire departments on a wide range of activities including fuels treatments, fire prevention, and suppression.