



Forest Service News Release

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Prescribed burns planned for Dolores Ranger District

Dolores, Colo., April 14, 2025 — The San Juan National Forest's Dolores Ranger District is planning to conduct several prescribed burns starting as early as April 21st. Operations will take place over multiple days when weather and fuel conditions are favorable and may continue throughout the early summer based on conditions. Both hand and aerial ignition methods may be utilized, following the weather, fuel and smoke parameters stated in the prescribed fire plan. Burning operations will be conducted by U.S. Forest Service personnel assisted by fire resources from cooperating agencies.

Project areas identified for burn implementation are:

- Haycamp Mesa: 1,657 acres located 10 miles east of Dolores, along the Haycamp Mesa Road, National Forest Service Road (NFSR) 556 - Haycamp Mesa Units 8, 26
- Boggy Draw: 6,481 acres located 5-15 miles northeast of Dolores, along (NFSR) 527 and (NFSR) 532 - Boggy Draw Units 15, 16, 21, 22, 25A, 25B, 25C, 28, 48, 50, 51
- Salter/Carlyle: 1,659 acres located 15 miles east of Cahone, near Salter Y along (NFSR) 510 - Salter Units 32, 33, 39, 41

This effort will reduce hazardous ground fuels, lessen the risk of unplanned large-scale wildfire, help restore ponderosa pine ecosystems, and improve wildlife habitat. Prescribed fire also reduces the ladder fuels that can carry fire into the canopy, killing mature trees.

During burning operations, smoke may be visible around Mancos, Dolores, Dove Creek, Cortez, and Highway 491 between Dove Creek and Pleasant View. Smoke may settle into low lying valleys and the Dolores River Canyon overnight. Smoke monitoring will be conducted, and ignitions will be scheduled to minimize smoke impacts to communities. Prescribed fire smoke may affect your health. More information can be found online: <https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/cdphe/wood-smoke-and-health>.

Maps of the prescribed burn units and additional San Juan National Forest prescribed fire program news can be found on [InciWeb](https://inciweb.fs.fed.us/). For more information, please contact Acting Fire Management Officer Caleb Schutz, by email at Caleb.Schutz@usda.gov or by phone at (970) 882-6844.

For information on the San Juan National Forest, call (970) 247-4874, visit the [forest website](https://www.fs.usda.gov/sanjuan/), or follow us on social media ([X](#) and [Facebook](#)).

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