



Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest

Forest Service News Release

Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest Fire & Aviation Management

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Facebook: [Beaverhead-Deerlodge NF Wildland Fire Information](#)

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Fall Pile Burning Projects Planned on the Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest

Dillon, Mont., Oct. 30, 2024 — The Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest may implement prescribed fire pile burning projects this fall/winter, as weather and fuels conditions allow. Prescribed fire and pile burning activities are highly weather dependent, relying on close coordination with the National Weather Service and air quality specialists to determine the best possible weather conditions to promote smoke dispersal and limit smoke impacts.

The Forest has developed pile burning plans for the following units for the respective Ranger Districts:

Prescribed Fire Pile Burn Units	Project Location
Black Mountain piles	Dillon RD: 12 miles south of Jackson on Forest Service Road 919
Harrison Park Trailhead piles	Dillon RD: 10 miles north of Polaris on Pioneer Mountains Scenic Byway
Middle Fork Little Sheep Creek piles	Dillon RD: 10 miles southwest of Lima
Pintler Face piles (Calvert)	Wisdom RD: northwest of Wisdom on the 1223 road in the Calvert Creek
Pintler Face piles (Mill)	Wisdom RD: west of Mill Creek Road on Forest Service Road 934
Steele Creek piles	Wisdom RD: east of Wisdom on road 2433
Calvert Hill piles	Wisdom RD: Forest Service Road 70648 on Bryant Creek
Pettengill Creek piles	Wisdom RD: south of Wise River, along Pioneer Mountains Scenic Byway
Basin Creek piles	Butte RD: Basin Creek watershed, south of Butte
Red Rocks piles	Butte RD: north of the Bernice exit off I-15, north of Butte
Bowles piles	Pintler RD: 22 miles southwest of Philipsburg
Upper Willow piles	Pintler RD: 16 miles northwest of Philipsburg

EDLV piles	Pintler RD: 10 miles northeast of Opportunity
Hand piles	Pintler RD: smaller hand piles located at Georgetown Lake, East Fork Reservoir, Middle Fork of Rock Creek, Stoney Creek, and Henderson Mountain

Why burn piles? Pile burning operations help reduce accumulations of fuels from previous projects or fire incidents, increasing landscape wildfire resilience and reducing the risk of uncharacteristic wildfire effects on the landscape.

Public notifications: Prior to initiating the prescribed fire or pile burning operations, fire professionals assess conditions, conduct a test burn, and notify local governments and interested publics via website postings, email, social media, and news releases. Implementation and accomplishment updates will also be posted to the Forest website, the Prescribed Fires Inciweb page, and the Forest’s Wildland Fire Information Facebook page.

Smoke: Minimal smoke impacts are expected with pile burning operations. Larger piles will normally consume completely in a few days, with smaller hand piles taking less time. Smoke may be visible from adjacent communities and roadways. Smoke tends to pool in lower elevations and along roadways during the evenings and early morning hours, so motorists should take note during those times.

For more information about the status of prescribed fires and pile burning projects, please visit the Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest website or our [Prescribed Fire page on Inciweb](#) and follow us on our Wildland Fire Information [Facebook](#) for updates. Contact the B-D Forest Fire PIO, Terina Hill, at (406) 683-3920, or the B-D Fuels Program Manager, Greg Schenk, at (406) 683-3870, for additional information.

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