

PRESS RELEASE



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Citizens and Fire Agencies Collaborate On A Controlled Burn Near Southwest Yreka

The Siskiyou Prescribed Burn Association (SPBA) is helping a local landowner implement a prescribed burn on a six-acre oak woodland, located in the Greenhorn drainage in Yreka, CA. Ignitions are tentatively planned for the afternoon of Tuesday March 30, 2021, provided conditions on the ground line up to meet the objectives of the burn safely. The controlled burn will reduce wildfire risks to Yreka and enhance habitat by removing hazardous fuels utilizing low-intensity fire.

The fire may be visible to individuals travelling on Bennett Drive and Greenhorn Road in Yreka or recreating at Greenhorn Park. Smoke will likely be visible throughout the Yreka area and Interstate-5 corridor in the vicinity. The burn team will closely monitor weather and wind conditions in coordination with the National Weather Service and Siskiyou County Air Pollution Control District to minimize smoke impacts to residents.

Numerous fire agencies are expected to be on site including the Karuk Tribe and the Yreka Fire Department as well as representatives and volunteers from the SPBA. The landowner has acquired all necessary permits from both the Yreka Fire Department and Siskiyou County Air Pollution Control District to conduct this burn.

The landowner, Jeff Stone, says, "I'm pleased to be able to implement this prescribed burn, which will make my neighborhood safer from wildfire and will also improve the health of oak woodlands on my property. The SPBA has been an invaluable partner, and I wouldn't have been able to carry out this project without them."

Lyndsey Lascheck, Forestry and Fuels Project Manager for the Shasta Valley Resource Conservation District, helped the landowner plan this burn for the SPBA. She's excited for it because it will be the SPBA's first burn and a culmination of the SVRCD's Regional Forest and

Fire Capacity demonstration project, which seeks to model the benefits of community based prescribed burn associations for the region.

“It’s showcasing that the Siskiyou PBA can build more local prescribed fire capacity by working collaboratively with fire agencies as well as interested community members to get these burns done.”

She added: “so much evidence points to prescribed fire as a primary solution to reduce wildfire impacts. This burn is an important step in the right direction.”

The Siskiyou Prescribed Burn Association (SPBA) includes landowners, community members, tribes, local organizations and agencies that work together to safely conduct burns. The goals of SPBA burns are to restore historic roles of fire, use fire as a management tool, and reduce wildfire risk to our communities and watersheds throughout the diverse, fire-adapted landscapes of Siskiyou County.

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