

**NEWS RELEASE**  
**USDA Forest Service**  
**Cleveland National Forest**



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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

January 10, 2006

**Contact:**

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**Prescribed Fire Activity To Start**  
**Reduces Threats To Local Communities & The National Forest**

**Palomar Ranger District**

District contact: Tom Brand - 760-788-0250

Ramona, CA...Cleveland National Forest, Palomar District will begin its prescribed burning program in and around Palomar Mountain starting in January 2006. The Aguanga Ridge Fuelbreak, East Grade Fuelbreak, and the North Slope Fuelbreak will be burned over a period of several weeks. These fuelbreaks serve as key fire control points for the protection of the forest and nearby communities from wildfires.

The Agunaga Ridge Fuelbreak stretches from Warner Springs to Highway 371, a distance of 11 miles on the main ridgeline. Prescribed burning of 400 acres will be accomplished to bring this fuelbreak to an appropriate maintenance standard.

The East Grade Fuelbreak is off Highway S7 (East Grade Road), 55 acres of chaparral will be removed to help protect Oak and Conifer trees in the area as well as to provide for maintenance of existing fire control points.

The North Slope Fuelbreak lies on the slope behind Oak Grove Fire station, phase 1 of the project has 270 acres that are scheduled to be burned.

All projects are contingent on favorable weather conditions and firefighter availability to carry out these projects.

Residents can expect to see smoke from various locations and some drift smoke could linger into the late afternoon but is not expected to adversely impact surrounding areas. Local residents may call Tom Brand at (760) 788-0250.

### **Descanso Ranger District**

District contact: Chris Anderson - 619-445-6235

Alpine, CA...The Descanso District of the Cleveland National Forest will be conducting prescribed burning projects January 2006 through May 2006. This burning is for the purpose of fuel break maintenance and forest health along the Sunrise Highway, Wooded Hill, Kitchen Creek, Fred Canyon, Horsethief Canyon and Pine Valley areas. The prescribed burns will be conducted on approximately 1000 acres of national forest land. Some drifting smoke may be visible around these areas and along Interstate 8 during the period of burning.

Call Battalion Chief John Truett or Battalion Chief Chris Anderson at 619-445-6235 for further information on these projects.

### **Trabuco Ranger District**

District contact: Gordon Martin - 951-736-1811

Corona, CA...The Cleveland National Forest, Trabuco Ranger District, is preparing to burn portions of the Falls Prescribed Burn project. The Falls prescribed burn area is located in Tenaja Canyon and is designed to protect the communities of Tenaja and La Cresta.

One thousand sixty-three (1063) acres in the vicinity of Tenaja and Los Alamos Canyons are scheduled to be burned between January 18, 2006 and May 26, 2006.

The Falls Prescribed Burn is designed to reduce the chances of a large wildfire occurring along the Wildomar Road, thus reducing the impacts to the forest, the San Mateo Canyon Wilderness and surrounding communities. For further information contact Gordon Martin, Fuels Officer at (951) 736-1811.