



## Avalanche Creek Prescribed Burn: Information and Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

The U.S. Forest Service is planning to conduct a prescribed fire in the Avalanche Creek area 5 miles north of the town of Redstone in spring of 2023. The prescribed burn is part of the Aspen Sopris Wildlife Habitat Improvement and seeks to improve habitat across the landscape for elk, mule deer, and other native wildlife, and reduce the threat of wildfire to the surrounding communities.

### Where, when and how long will the burn occur?

**Where:** See the attached map. Prescribed fire will be ignited across approximately 800 acres in targeted blocks of aspen and mixed mountain shrub vegetation that is decadent, of poor condition, and degraded forage value.

**When:** A prescribed burn is a planned event. The project will be implemented when conditions are ideal for a safe and effective prescribed fire. Conditions are considered suitable when the snow has sufficiently melted off the targeted areas and other surrounding areas still retain moisture and snow. These conditions typically occur in April or early May. Other environmental factors such as wind, temperature, and relative humidity are key elements to a successful controlled ignition. If conditions are not favorable, the project will be delayed.

**Duration:** Ignition will take place over a 1-3 day period. During this time, ignition operations typically last 4-6 hours per day. Once ignition operations cease, crews will remain to monitor and contain fire spread.

### What to expect during the prescribed fire?

On the days of the burn please do not call 911 if you see flames or smoke in this area. There may be large volumes of smoke visible at times and people may even see flames. You can expect to see fire engines, crews, and possibly a helicopter over the fire. Signs and personnel will be posted for public safety. Little to no fire will be visible overnight.

**Smoke:** Prior to burning, a smoke permit is obtained through the State of Colorado, Air Pollution Control Division. A project objective is to minimize smoke impacts on surrounding communities.

*If you have a smoke sensitivity, please contact Dan Nielsen at 970-309-8198 so that we can keep you informed of smoke conditions. Prescribed fire smoke may affect your health. For more information, please visit: <https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/cdphe/wood-smoke-and-health>.*

**Drones:** Are illegal around fire operations. They are a threat to firefighter and public safety. **NO Drone Zone.**

### Where can I get more information and sign up for alerts?

#### For information contact:

- White River National Forest Facebook page at [Facebook@WhiteRiverNF](https://www.facebook.com/WhiteRiverNF).
- For more prescribed burn information contact Aspen-Sopris Ranger District at (970) 963-2266

#### For Alerts Contact:

- Pitkin County Alert System: Information will be disseminated via the Pitkin Alert system. To sign up for the alert system visit [www.PitkinAlert.org](http://www.PitkinAlert.org).
- Garfield and Eagle County Alert Systems: The Garfield and Eagle County alerts systems will also provide information during the prescribed fire. Visit: Garfield County: <http://garco911.org/>. Eagle County Alerts Visit: [Eagle County - Citizen Alert - Sign In \(everbridge.net\)](http://Eagle County - Citizen Alert - Sign In (everbridge.net))

# AVALANCHE CREEK PRESCRIBED FIRE AREA

