

BLM News

ELY FIELD OFFICE NO. 07-018

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BLM Schedules Slash Pile Burns near Caliente

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Ely District has scheduled the last week of January and first week of February, as conditions are appropriate, to burn slash piles remaining from a pinyon and juniper tree-thinning project in the Clover Mountains, approximately 8 miles southeast of Caliente, Nev.

The ongoing Clover Mountains Ponderosa Restoration Project is meant to restore and protect the health of ponderosa pine communities in the Clover Mountains by reducing ladder fuels, which are grasses, shrubs and small trees that help a fire climb to the tree tops, and which could lead to a crown fire, or a fast-moving fire that burns from tree top to tree top in tall trees.

Using manual and mechanical tree-thinning methods, the BLM is able to selectively thin pinyon-juniper from underneath and adjacent to a nearly 1,000-acre stand of ponderosa pine. A low-intensity understory burn will be prescribed upon completion of the tree-thinning.

The BLM completed 200 acres of the 1,000-acre project last summer, cutting and piling the slash. Eight hundred acres remain to be treated.

The project meets criteria established by the Healthy Forests Initiative and implements strategies outlined in the National Fire Plan.

For more information, call Kyle Teel, BLM Ely District fire ecologist, at (775) 726-8117.

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