Prescribed Fire Newsletter



Welcome to the Tahoe Fire & Fuels Team Prescribed Fire Newsletter. Every year, partners across the Lake Tahoe Basin carefully plan and carry out prescribed fire projects, and this newsletter is intended to keep you informed.

Prescribed fire is one of the most effective tools we have to reduce wildfire risk, restore forest health, and strengthen forest resilience. During prescribed fire season, this newsletter will be distributed weekly to share updates on where ignitions may occur, which partners are leading the work, and when you might see smoke in your area. While operations may shift due to weather and site conditions, our goal is to keep you informed and connected to the important work happening across the Tahoe Basin.

Along with program updates, the newsletter will share facts and insights from prescribed fire professionals covering topics such as why fire is used as a tool, how it's managed, and the benefits it brings to our communities and the land we love.

Program Updates

10/19-25/2026, North Lake Tahoe FPD

North Lake Tahoe Fire Protection District is scheduled to begin prescribed pile burning in the Mill Creek drainage near Crystal Bay and Incline Village, as conditions, staffing and weather permit.

10/01-25/2026, U.S. Forest Service

The U.S. Forest Service is scheduled to begin prescribed understory burning in 40-acre unit in Baldwin Meadow on the Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit as conditions, staffing and weather permit.

Stay Informed

Watch Duty - Download the app for real-time prescribed fire, wildfire map, & alerts. Receive notifications as conditions change and monitor wildfires and prescribed burns.

AirNow - AirNow's website and app highlights air quality in your local area first, while still providing air quality information at state and national views. AirNow's Fire and Smoke map uses a variety of products to provide detailed, up-to-date information in collaboration with the U.S. Forest Service.

Have an idea for this newsletter?

Let us know! This is a living document and adaptable to fit the needs of the readers. Send questions or topic ideas to:

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Rx Fire Tip: Prescribed Fire Smoke

Smoke from prescribed fire operations is normal and may continue for several days after an ignition depending on the project size and environmental conditions. Prescribed fire smoke is generally less intense and of much shorter duration than smoke produced by unwanted wildland fires. Visit AirNow for real-time air quality monitoring and smoke mitigation tips.



Click here to access the Lake Tahoe Basin Prescribed Fire and Forest Fuels Project Map or visit https://www.tahoelivingwithfire.com/get-informed/lake-tahoe-basin-prescribed-fire-project-map/.