



Ashland Prescribed Fire Training Exchange (TRES) Ashland, Oregon May 9-21, 2016

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Contacts: Chris Chambers, Public Information Officer, Ashland Fire & Rescue
541.890.8816
Darren Borgias, SW Oregon Program Director, The Nature Conservancy
541.821.3723
Marko Bey, Executive Director, Lomakatsi Restoration Project
541.944.6874
Chamise Kramer, Public Affairs Officer, Rogue River-Siskiyou National Forest
541.618.2051

Two Controlled Burns This Week for Ashland Prescribed Fire Training Exchange

May 16, 2016

Ashland, OR – The international cadre of prescribed fire practitioners involved with the Ashland Prescribed Fire Training Exchange, or TRES, will burn in Ashland starting Tuesday to cap-off their experience by bringing back fire to our forests ([Video: Bringing Back Fire](#)).

A 20-acre controlled burn Tuesday on private property, located on Ashland Loop Road above Morton and Terrace Streets will provide a quality experience for the TRES team. The final TRES burn is on tap for Wednesday at the White Rabbit Trailhead in the Ashland Forest Resiliency Stewardship Project, or AFR.

The 2060/Ashland Loop Road at Morton Street will be closed Tuesday through Thursday along with the Caterpillar and Alice in Wonderland trails. Jabberwocky will remain open, allowing bike traffic from Four Corners to the city.

Over the next several days, residents will likely see and smell smoke, particularly in the evening hours. Wind forecasts are favorable during the daytime hours, and with wet weather in the forecast this is an opportune time to conduct the two burns. Those sensitive to smoke should close windows and use air conditioners to reduce exposure. Though a hardship, the short duration of smoke from burning is slight compared to the exposure during summer wildfires, with the added benefit of protecting our local community and precious landscape from severe summer wildfires.

TREX participants have been learning and burning on a combination of local federal and private burns since May 11th and are ready to pitch in above Ashland to enhance forest health and reduce fire danger. TREX teams will dig control lines, establish water supply, light burns, hold flames within control lines, patrol the burn, and eventually extinguish the burn over the next 4 days before the program ends.

Brush was thinned and burned during winter months over a 10-year period by Small Woodland Services, Inc and Lomakatsi Restoration Project to prepare the private parcel for this burn. Lomakatsi coordinated a burn plan with The Nature Conservancy. Lomakatsi had planned to burn the unit under a Nature Conservancy grant last fall, but favorable weather conditions didn't occur.

TREX is a program sponsored by The Fire Learning Network, a cooperative program of Department of Interior and Department of Agriculture agencies and run by The Nature Conservancy. The TREX program brings together a diverse range of experienced and aspiring fire practitioners to share knowledge and train co-workers in the safe and effective use of controlled burning to benefit forests and protect communities. TREX also serves as a venue to increase public understanding of the need for fire as a component of forest stewardship.

-end-