Fire Prevention

. . . Before Suppression

CONFEDERATED SALISH & KOOTENAI TRIBES

September 21, 2026– The CS&KT Fuels Program will be conducting a prescribed burn activity on the National Bison Range tomorrow, Tuesday, September 22. The total acres are 1,867. The management objectives of these fire activities are to begin to restore periodic fire to a fire dependent ecosystem, to aid in the treatment of invasive species, and for ongoing research studies.

During prescribed fire activities, visitors to the refuge may experience smoky conditions. As a result of these prescribe fire activities, visitors to the refuge will notice burned areas along the tour routes and may temporarily experience reduced use by certain wildlife species within the burned units.

A. Resource Objectives:

- Increase grassland habitat and foraging potential
- Knock back conifer encroachment
- Slash all trees 8” DBH and smaller
- Retain all ponderosa pine 20” DBH and larger
- Snag retention, solid snags over 20” diameter

B. Prescribed Fire Objectives:

- Attain mortality in the understory and overstory Douglas Fir as well as create a mosaic burn throughout the timber units to encourage more rangeland for grazing. Holes in the overstory are encouraged for this burn. Remaining natural stringers of trees will be utilized as hiding cover for wildlife.

If you have questions or concerns regarding this notice, please contact the Division of Fire at 406-676-2550.