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NEWS

For Immediate Release

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Prescribed Fire Scheduled West of Fort Collins – Do Not Call 911

FORT COLLINS, Colo. – The Fort Collins District of the Colorado State Forest Service is planning to burn slash piles over the next few weeks near Horsetooth Mountain Open Space west of Fort Collins. Starting as early as Thursday, slash piles located on Colorado State University property adjacent to the Open Space will be burned to reduce the amount of woody fuel left on the ground from past forest restoration activities.

Qualified CSFS firefighters will be conducting the pile burning operations. As with all prescribed burning activities conducted by the CSFS, ignition will only occur if weather and fuel conditions are within the burning prescription; minimal smoke impacts are expected for surrounding communities; and the burn meets all conditions for a burn permit approved by Larimer County and the Poudre Fire Authority.

Residents in the surrounding area can expect to see and smell smoke in the vicinity when burning occurs. Wind direction, wind speed, air temperature and humidity all play an important role in fire behavior and smoke dispersal, so conditions will be constantly monitored during burning operations.

Forest management projects including pile burning are part of an ongoing effort to reduce wildland fuel loading near radio towers on the property, remove trees affected by insects and disease, and create healthier forests.

For additional information about the prescribed burn, please call the CSFS Fort Collins District at 970-491-8660.

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