



Portland Fire & Rescue

Controlled Burns Scheduled at Powell Butte Nature Park

Getting Started

Two controlled burns are scheduled for approximately 40 total acres of the grassland area on the upper portions of Powell Butte Nature Park. The burns will take place on Monday, August 17 and Monday, August 24, 2009. The first fire will take an estimated 90 minutes, with mop-up lasting an additional one to three hours. The site will be monitored for 24 hours following the burn to make sure that the fire is completely extinguished.

Valuable Training

Portland Fire & Rescue (PF&R) uses controlled burns as a valuable training opportunity for regional fire companies. Companies get hands-on practice with fire control techniques in a wildland environment. Agencies involved in the controlled burn operations will include Portland Fire & Rescue, Boring Fire Department, Portland Parks & Recreation, and Gresham Fire Department.

Wildfire Risk Reduction Project

The controlled burns are part of a three-year (2006-2009) Wildfire Risk Reduction project funded by a grant from the Federal Emergency Management Agency. The burns are designed to reduce the potential for wildfire at Powell Butte and other natural areas including Willamette Bluffs, Oaks Bottom, and Forest Park. During this time, projects have been initiated at each site to reduce flammable vegetation and replace weeds with native plants.

