



**U.S. Forest Service,
Shasta-Trinity National Forest**

3644 Avtech Parkway, Redding, CA 96002
Voice (530) 226-2500
Web: www.fs.usda.gov/stnf



News Release

For Immediate Release

**Contact: Andrea Crain at (530) 226-2494
(530) 605-7337
acrain@fs.fed.us**

Twitter: [@ShastaTrinityNF](https://twitter.com/ShastaTrinityNF)

Facebook: <http://goo.gl/KDgQNN>

Prescribed Fire at Packers Bay

REDDING, Calif., October 30, 2015 – On October 31, 2015, the Shasta Lake Unit of the National Recreation Area on the Shasta-Trinity National Forest will be conducting a 100 acre prescribed fire to remove understory fuels on National Forest System lands in the area of Packers Bay. The project site is located between Packers Bay and Halfway Cove. The prescribed fire will create smoke that will be visible from many areas in the northern portion of Shasta Lake and along Interstate 5 near Bridge Bay and the O'Brien area. Implementation is planned to take approximately four to six hours, but smoke may continue to be visible through the following few days.

The project's expected initiation date is dependent upon several factors; including but not limited to, favorable weather and site conditions. Fire Managers will be evaluating conditions to ensure compliance with policy and utilization of best management practices. Fire Managers will be working with the Air Quality Management Board to ensure compliance with air quality regulations and health and safety conditions.

This project is part of the Northwoods Hazardous Fuels Reduction Project which totals approximately 1,250 acres of prescribed fire and mechanical treatment. This Project is the latest component of a multiple entry plan to treat the landscape south of O'Brien Mountain and west of Interstate 5. The area covered by the prescribed fire will create a landscape with a reduced amount of ladder fuels and dead vegetation, making fire suppression efforts easier. Once treated, the site will provide a safer place for firefighters to work and better opportunities to control fires because of reduced fire behavior. Prescribed fire is also an integral part of a fire adapted ecosystem which promotes future forest health and habitat.

For more information or updates about burn progress, please contact the Shasta Lake Ranger Station, (530) 275-1587 or visit <http://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/4124/>.

The mission of the Forest Service is to sustain the health, diversity and productivity of the nation's forests and grasslands to meet the needs of present and future generations. The agency manages 193 million acres of public land, provides assistance to state and private landowners, and maintains the largest forestry research organization in the world. Public lands the Forest Service manages contribute more than \$13 billion to the economy each year through visitor spending alone. Those same lands provide 20 percent of the nation's clean water supply, a value estimated at \$7.2 billion per year. The agency has either a direct or indirect role in stewardship of about 80 percent of the 850 million forested acres within the U.S., of which 100 million acres are urban forests where most Americans live.

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