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News Release

For Immediate Release

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Hand ignition on the Tobacco Gulch Prescribed Fire - USFS photo by Jason Sieg

Forest Takes Advantage of Prescribed Fire Opportunities

30 acres burned today, 143 acres planned for Sunday

PLACERVILLE, Calif. - Cooler temperatures, higher relative humidity, and light winds combined with high fuel moisture after the long wet season this year, have created favorable conditions for prescribed fire on the Eldorado National Forest. With a limited number of good days for burning, its important to take advantage of the benefits of using prescribed fire for active forest management when possible.

Fire management staff completed a 30 acre prescribed fire today, approximately 3 miles east of Georgetown on Darling Ridge as part of the Tobacco Gulch Ecological Restoration Project. Another 143 acres of burning is planned for Sunday on the northern ridge above Caples Creek as part of the Caples Ecological Restoration Project.

Prescribed fire promotes healthy forests by reducing hazardous fuel, thinning tree density, and diversifying habitat.

Smoke was highly visible today from miles away due to good smoke dispersion which helps dissipate the smoke and minimize impacts on communities.

The public can monitor smoke in the Eldorado National Forest online using the Alert Tahoe fire camera system at <http://www.alertwildfire.org/tahoe/> . For updates on prescribed fire and other forest conditions, follow us on Twitter @EldoradoNF.



Smoke from Tobacco Gulch Prescribed Fire viewed from Sacramento Hill in Placerville