



FIRE MARSHAL

Columbia River Fire & Rescue / Scappoose Fire District



Date: 06/17/2019

Community Members living in the area of McNulty Way in St. Helens

RE:

Planned Prescribed Fire Operations for June 29 and 30, 2019 & Community Meeting Tuesday June 24 at the Lee Broadbent Training Center at 7PM

Dear Community Members:

Columbia River Fire and Rescue and the Scappoose Fire District will be conducting 2 prescribed fires on McNulty Way in 2 weeks. It is our intent to give you as much notice as possible and to let you know about a community meeting that we will be hosting for anyone in the affected area to ask questions and share concerns.

Prescribed fire operations while not commonplace in our county, are a necessary part of the fire environment for invasive species removal as well as training for firefighters in the art and use of using fire to fight fire. In the last 4 years, our resources have been asked to use fire to fight fire on several incidents.

There is an incredible amount of planning required for this type of operation. Some examples include having contingency resources brought in to provide extra support to prevent a prescribed fire from turning into a wildfire; establishing go-no-go checklists based upon national standards, as well as current and predicted fire behavior; and in our planned incident, reducing the 2 parcels into several smaller burn cells to limit the ability of fire intensity. Weather is very important for us. As such, our firing bosses will be taking specific weather readings over a period of days that will be submitted to the National Weather Service for a forecast developed specifically for our burn area. In other words, we will be using all tools available for proper predictions.

Please understand that burning will only occur if the weather conditions fall within our pre-established limits. It is not uncommon to have to postpone a burn. Part of the reason for our two scheduled days, is to give us an acceptable window to complete the prescription.

We will be hosting an informal meeting at the Lee Broadbent Training Center (LBTC) on June 25th at 7pm to 8pm to answer any questions you may have or to share any concerns. The address of the training center is 58577 McNulty Way.

Some of the participating agencies in this event will include, Columbia River Fire & Rescue, Scappoose Fire District, Oregon Department of Forestry, Clatskanie Fire, Mist-Birkenfeld Fire, Vernonia Fire, Portland Fire and Tualatin Valley Fire & Rescue.

Should you have any questions about anything else, please do not hesitate to give me a call or come to the meeting.

Sincerely,

Jeff Pricher

Division Chief

Fire Marshal (CRF&R / SRFD)

Proposed prescribed fire June 29th and 30th, 2019



Burn Area #1 is 16 Acres

Burn Area #2 is 19 Acres

The Burn Day is scheduled for June 29th and 30th, 2019