

United States Department of Interior 3255 Fort Missoula Road

Bureau of Land Management

Missoula Field Office Missoula, Montana 59804

Contact: Marilyn Krause Phone: (406) 533-7617 Date: April 23, 2004

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MISSOULA – Smoke may be visible for the next few weeks in the Wilson Creek drainage northeast of Helmville as the Bureau of Land Management and Forest Service burn about 300 acres.

According to officials the prescribed burn should take three to six days to complete depending on weather conditions. The goal is to reduce the amount of Douglas-fir trees encroaching into grassy meadows. The burn will stimulate shrub growth on big game winter range and minimize hazardous fuels in the area.

For more information on the project, contact Shelagh Fox at the BLM Missoula Field Office at (406) 329-3914 or Amber Kamps at the Lincoln Ranger District, (406) 362-4265.