

Dark Pine & Integrator Prescribed Fires

Date Issued: April 25, 2022

Prescribed Fire Information: 218-248-2411 or online at inciweb: <https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/> or the Superior National Forest website: www.fs.usda.gov/superior

Anticipated Schedule for Prescribed Fires: The USDA Forest Service plans to implement several prescribed fire projects on the Superior National Forest this spring. Many factors influence the actual date of ignition including fuel moisture, relative humidity, temperature, and wind. Fire managers hope to complete the units during the spring or summer burning season.



Ground fire burns through a forest pine stand

Size and Location: The Dark Pine (280 acres) and Integrator (275 acres) units are located near the junction of County Road 65 and MN State Highway 73, west of Lake Leander, and northwest of Virginia, MN (Township 60N, Range 20W, Sections 12, 13, 14, 15, 22 and 23).

Description: Fire is a part of the boreal forest ecosystem in northeastern Minnesota. These burns will contribute to meeting several Forest management objectives in these areas.

The Dark Pine and Integrator units are red pine stands that were last thinned in 2019. The burn objectives are to remove slash, needles and other surface litter, hazel brush, and balsam fir, to create

and maintain a more open understory. In addition, these treatments aim to improve the stands' conditions for tree growth and reduce the potential for a wildfire to start and spread. Prescribed fire treatments also create a patchwork or mosaic of fire-resistant forest stands within the landscape that can reduce the intensity of future wildfires.

Fire staff will use precise ignition methods to start the fires. Natural topographic features and/or constructed lines will be used to control and hold the fires. Equipment including hose-lays supplied by water pumps or other water delivery equipment will support holding actions where needed.

Closures: Trail guards will be stationed on the Taconite Trail to direct public OHV traffic safely through the prescribed fire area. Parts of the Dark River Hiking Trail will be closed to visitor use.

Resources: Holding crews and ignition crews of firefighters and/or engines will be working directly on the prescribed fire while it is active. Fire crews will continue to monitor the fire after it is completed.

Public Information Map

Dark Pine Units

Taconite State Trail




County Road 65

Lake Leander Recreation Area

Hwy 73 to Chisholm MN, 9 miles



Dark Pine (280 acres)
Prescribed Fire
Laurentian Ranger District
Superior National Forest

 Lakes
 Trails
 Roads



0.1 0.25 0.5 0.75 1 Miles