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## MISSOULA PARKS AND RECREATION PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release through March 30, 2022

### **City contractors to burn logging debris on Mount Jumbo**

Parks and Recreation contractors plan to burn logging debris on the west face of Mt. Jumbo beginning approximately March 23 and continuing through about April 6, weather permitting. The burn area is located above the intersection of Rattlesnake Drive and Lolo Street; smoke may be visible in the Rattlesnake Valley and beyond.

The logging debris, known as slash piles, was generated by a forest-thinning project completed in 2021. Thinning dense tree stands reduces the susceptibility of the forest to pine beetle attack, decreases wildfire danger and restores historical forest conditions on Mt. Jumbo. The forestry project is funded by a grant from the Montana Department of Natural Resources & Conservation and the 2018 Conservation & Stewardship Mill Levy.

Contractors have secured appropriate burn permits and will comply with all state and local regulations. Burning will commence only if suitable fuel, weather, and air quality conditions exist. For more information, contact Conservation Lands Manager Jeff Gicklhorn [via email](mailto:gicklhornj@ci.missoula.mt.us) or phone 552-6691.

- **Location:** West face of Mt. Jumbo above the intersection of Lolo St. and Rattlesnake Dr.
- **Date of Operations:** Pending weather conditions, ignitions could begin as soon as Wednesday, March 23, and continue weekdays only for approximately two weeks.
- **Recreational Access:** No direct impacts to recreational access should occur. Slash piles are located away from system trails on Mt. Jumbo. Users may see smoke as burning operations occur. For public safety, recreationists are asked to be aware of forestry contractors and Parks staff working in the area.
- **Smoke:** Smoke may be visible from Interstate 90, the Rattlesnake and greater Missoula valley.

Media note: Burn area is indicated by the black dashed circle on the attached map.

