

## DLA - U.S. Forest Update on Monitoring of Burn Piles

Deer Lake Board <krys.rodriguez13@send.mailchimpapp.com>

Thu 2/29/2024 8:07 PM

To:glynt@hotmail.com <glynt@hotmail.com>

### **Good Evening Deer Lake Association Members,**

The Board received an update from the U.S. Forest Service regarding the ongoing monitoring of the burned piles in our area. Please see the email below from Mr. Patrick Petracca which was sent out this morning.

Thank You,

Krystal Rodriguez

DLA Secretary

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Good Morning,

With the recent high winds, I've been asked if we are still monitoring the American Park piles project we ignited in December.

Rest assured we are absolutely keeping a very close eye on the piles as warmer temps melt the snow pack and higher winds begin to arrive.

On Tuesday, fire crew members checked the burn units and the following updates are offered:

- Along the south side of HWY-126...12-18 inches of continuous snow surrounding piles. No visible smoke. 100% snow cover excluding piles
- Along FR-103...approximately 50% patchy snow cover on what was visible. Approximately 4-8 inches of snow where it remains. No visible smoke.
- Palomas subdivision...approximately 70% snow cover with 6-8 inches. No visible smoke. Palomas Creek is actively flowing.
- Rio de Las Vacas Campground area...approximately 50-75% snow cover with 4-8 inches. No visible smoke. Rio de Las Vacas creek is actively flowing.
- Clear Creek Campground area...approximately 90% snow cover with 8-12 inches. No visible smoke. Clear Creek starting to flow.

To date, we have not had the needed conditions to address the remaining piles surrounding the Deer Lake subdivision and no ignitions have occurred in the unit.

As the snow continues to dissipate, we will be getting into some of the harder to reach areas and checking for heat traces using hand-held devices and old-fashioned cold trailing methods.

We are also working to arrange for air support to perform ariel infrared flight operations to identify any heat sources, but ideally will hold that resource until a little later in the spring.

It will be imperative that we check the perimeters of the piles once the snow is gone and the fuels adjacent to the piles have dried out. Bottom line, this is ongoing monitoring work and we are about halfway through the process.

We will continue to provide updates as monitoring progress and spring arrives.

Please feel free to reach back with any questions.

Have a safe day.

Patrick

 **Forest Service Shield Patrick M. Petracca**  
District Ranger

## **US Forest Service**

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