News for Immediate Release

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Fort Indiantown Gap Begins Prescribed Burns for Wildfire Prevention

Harrisburg – The Department of Military and Veterans Affairs' Forestry Department has begun its spring prescribed burns to reduce the risk of wildfire at Fort Indiantown Gap, Lebanon County.

Weather conditions permitting, the burns will be held between 10 a.m. and 8 p.m.

A prescribed burn is a commonly used forestry management technique that reduces the amount of combustible material naturally existing in the wilderness. It is performed only when conditions such as humidity, wind and temperature are ideal for managing fires. Prescribed burns are not conducted unless all required weather conditions are met.

"Our prescribed burn program helps reduce the potential of major wildfires on Fort Indiantown Gap property," DMVA Forest Program Manager Shannon Henry said. "More than 250 prescribed burns have occurred at Fort Indiantown Gap in the past decade and they are always conducted by properly trained personnel with an approved plan and coordinated with the appropriate authorities."

Prescribed burns will be conducted on approximately 3,000 to 4,000 acres at Fort Indiantown Gap through May.

Fort Indiantown Gap, headquarters to the DMVA and Pennsylvania National Guard, offers more than 17,000 acres and 140 training areas and facilities for year-round training. It balances one of the region's most ecologically diverse areas with a military mission that annually supports 19,000 Pennsylvania National Guard personnel and more than 130,000 other states' Guard, military, law enforcement, and civilian personnel each year. It is the only live-fire, maneuver military training facility in Pennsylvania.

For more information visit the Fort Indiantown Gap website at www.ftig.ng.mil or follow us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/ftindiantowngap.

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