



A Healthy Fire

Fire is an important tool for managing natural resources. BC Parks uses carefully controlled fire to renew, strengthen and restore habitats by enhancing and promoting the growth of grasses and shrubs.

As a visitor to Skihist Provincial Park, you may notice evidence of a recent prescribed burn. Skihist has a history of strong winds that cause major needle fall from our stately ponderosa pines. Therefore, a prescribed burn of the dead needles was conducted in order to reduce the danger of a catastrophic fire, to enrich the soil, and to maintain our pines that are adapted to survive grass fires.



A large accumulation of dead needles will build to a point that any fire, whether natural or not, can end up causing extensive damage and risk to public safety.



Fire raises the pH level of the soil, removes the needles, and provides the opportunity for wild grasses and herbs to grow.



In the absence of fire, these pine trees would eventually be replaced by Douglas-fir and other species.