

Ho-Chunk doing their part to prevent forest fires

The Ho-Chunk Nation's DNR department has been busy clearing brush to prevent forest fires.

Crews begin the lengthy process by clearing out the small brush with weed whackers and brush mowers. The second phase includes the use of chainsaws to cut down small, dead or damaged trees. This eliminates the fuel forest fires use to rage out of control.

The Wildland Urban Interface funded project is entering its second year. The team most recently finished clearing the area surrounding the Andrew Blackhawk Memorial Pow Wow grounds in Black River Falls.

"The work we are doing is vital to the communities we live and work in," said AJ Mann, Ho-Chunk Nation Division of Natural Resources. "Forest fires can quickly burn out of control when massive amounts of brush line the forest beds. By clearing the brush, we are helping make our neighborhoods safer."

Ho-Chunk Division of Natural Resources crews have also protected five other Ho-Chunk Nation sites in Central Wisconsin with these fire prevention efforts. The next project will focus on the forest land surrounding the Nation's Executive Building in Black River Falls.

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