

NEWS Release BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

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BLM
Lakeview District Office

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BLM Conducts Prescribed Burning to Improve Resource Values

Klamath Falls, OR - The Klamath Falls Resource Area of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) plans to initiate prescribed burning the second week of October.

A total of five prescribed burns are planned to treat approximately 3,500 acres of public lands. The two largest burns will be located near Gerber Reservoir. The burn most visible from Klamath Falls will take place on a steep slope just south of Bonanza. The first of the remaining two burns will be conducted in the Klamath River Canyon near the California border, and the second will occur 15 miles northwest of Keno near Buck Lake.

The primary objectives of these burns are the reduction of hazardous fuels and enhancement of wildlife habitat. Depending upon weather conditions, ignitions are expected to continue for several weeks. Smoke is expected to disperse from the fires fairly quickly, but may be visible throughout the Klamath Basin.

An additional 2,000 acres of pile burns are planned throughout the fall and winter on BLM-managed lands in Klamath County.

Fire crews from the Oregon Department of Forestry, U.S. Forest Service and Grayback Forestry, Inc. will assist the BLM with burn activities.

“We take our obligation to meet air quality standards very seriously,” said Donald Holmstrom, field manager of the Klamath Falls Resource Area. “Keeping smoke out of the Klamath Basin is a key consideration when we’re selecting when and where to burn.”

For more information about these prescribed fires, please call the BLM at (541) 883-6916.

About the BLM

The BLM manages more land – 258 million surface acres – than any other Federal agency. Most of this public land is located in 12 Western States, including Alaska. The Bureau, with a budget of about \$1.8 billion, also administers 700 million acres of sub-surface mineral estate throughout the nation. The BLM’s multiple-use mission is to sustain the health and productivity of the public lands for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations. The Bureau accomplishes this by managing such activities as outdoor recreation, livestock grazing, mineral development, and energy production, and by conserving natural, historical, and cultural resources on the public lands.

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