## Ochoco and Deschutes National Forests, and Prineville District, Bureau of Land Management Office of Communications

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For immediate release: September 3, 2008 Contact: Virginia Gibbons 541/416-6647

## **Controlled Burn Scheduled For Juniper Canyon**

PRINEVILLE—Prineville Bureau of Land Management (BLM) fuels specialists is planning a 760-acre controlled burn on public lands near Prineville along southeast Remington Road in Juniper Canyon. The exact dates and times of the burn is dependent upon weather; however, the project is tentatively scheduled to begin on September 8<sup>th</sup> and is expected to take 6-10 days total to complete.

The objective of the burn is to reduce the chance of future wildfires threatening homes in the area while restoring natural grass habitats and decreasing the spread of western juniper trees.

Smoke may settle in the project area associated with cooler air in the evening and morning hours. Prineville Lake Area I and Prineville Lake Area II residents are most likely to be affected by the burn, which will be located just north of those subdivisions. Residents are advised to close windows and doors to keep any potential smoke out of structures. Motorists should reduce speed, turn on head lights and proceed with caution when traveling through smoke-impacted areas along Remington Road or other roads in the area.

This project is done in coordination with the Crook County-Fire Ready Campaign as one of several initiatives to enhance wildfire safety preparedness.

"This is a collaborative effort between county, state and federal agencies. We are pleased to be working together to achieve the goals associated with the Crook County-Fire Ready FEMA grant," said Fire Marshall Casey Kump of Crook County Fire and Rescue. Kump added that the public is invited to come by the Fire Station at 500 NE Belknap Street to see the fire-resistant plant landscaping. The plants used are described in Oregon State University Extension Service's free publication titled, "Fire-Resistant Plants for Oregon Home Landscapes."

All controlled burns are weather-dependent and completed in cooperation with the Oregon Department of Forestry smoke management plan. Fire specialists will postpone burning if winds are not forecasted for adequate smoke dispersal. For additional information, contact the Prineville District Office at (541) 416-6700.