

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

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For immediate release: May 13, 2008
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Controlled Burn near Bend Cancelled

CENTRAL OREGON—Deschutes National Forest fuels specialists, after reviewing the latest weather forecasts, made the decision to cancel the prescribed burn located several miles southeast of Bend. According to the National Weather Service, Central Oregon could expect wind gusts up to 25 mph today, potentially impacting the ability of fuels crews to conduct a successful burn. The burn may be rescheduled but will be dependent on predicted wind, relative humidity and temperature.

At this time, the 200-acre prescribed burn planned near Crescent is still scheduled for today. Lighter fuels and a black line around the area mean less fire intensity and less potential for the burn to be impacted by wind. Fuels specialists will continue to monitor the weather and determine if the burn can be safely carried out and will postpone burning if necessary for public and firefighter safety. The burn project area is located approximately ten miles south of Crescent and 1/4 mile east of Highway 97.

Smoke may be visible on Hwy 97 in the late evening/early morning hours as a result of the burn. Signs will be posted to warn motorists of potential smoke intrusions along the highway and flaggers and pilot cars will be utilized as necessary between milepost 189 and 194. Motorists should reduce speed, turn on head lights and proceed with caution when traveling through smoke-impacted areas.

The project is scheduled to begin today at 11:00 am and is expected to take one day for burning and 1-2 days of mop up. For more information, contact Kevin Carlson at (541) 433-3214.

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