

NEWS Release BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

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News Release
For Immediate Release
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Vale District Office

BLM

BLM Lifts Fire Restrictions on All Public Lands within the Vale District

VALE, OREGON – Effective September 29, 2008 the Vale District of the Bureau of Land Management is rescinding the Fire Prevention Order for all lands administered by BLM including BLM lands in the Baker Resource Area.

According to Vale District Deputy Fire Management Officer, Tracy Skerjanec, “District Staff examined the criteria we use to determine if public use restrictions should be in place. Conditions have improved and we have made the decision to drop the public use restrictions throughout the District. Although the Emergency Restrictions have been lifted, we encourage visitors to public lands to use caution with fire and equipment that may ignite wildland fires, as the potential still exists,” cautioned Skerjanec.

Hunters are reminded to be extra careful when they build campfires, never leave your fire unattended and before you leave make sure it is dead out. Afternoon temperatures and wind can rekindle a smoldering fire, creating a wildfire. Exhaust systems on vehicles start numerous fires; look for brush becoming trapped in and around your catalytic converter. It is recommended you still carry a shovel and a container of water to put out your campfire and a fire extinguisher for other fire emergencies.

Vale District Fire Prevention Officer, Tom Morcom, “I would like to thank the public for their awareness during this year’s fire season. Fire prevention patrols have continually reported that public land visitors have done an outstanding job following the requirements of the Emergency Fire Prevention Order and that effort is truly appreciated. There is still a need for your continued diligence in preventing wildfires until the District receives significant rainfall and temperatures drop” said Morcom.

For further information, you can contact the Vale District at 541-473-3144 or 541-473-6295 or visit their website at www.blm.gov/or/districts/vale .

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