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**BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT LV-08-26** 

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## Wildland Firefighting Equipment Destroyed

**Bonanza, OR** – Greater than \$3,000 in damages were inflicted upon Bureau of Land Management (BLM) firefighting equipment assembled in preparation for a prescribed fire operation conducted just south of Bonanza, Oregon.

On October 13, the Klamath Falls Resource Area of the BLM laid out a network of hoses and bladder tanks for use the following day during a hazardous fuels reduction project. When BLM personnel arrived on scene the next morning to begin ignitions, they discovered various components of the temporary water system erected had been vandalized. The end result was a delay of planned burn activities, and workers redirected to replace the lost equipment.

"The BLM takes seriously its responsibility for the management of public funds and assets. It's unfortunate that individuals would choose to destroy public property," said Donald Holmstrom, field manager of the Klamath Falls Resource Area. "The BLM is working to identify solutions that will prevent similar events from occurring in the future," continued Holmstrom.

## 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 subsurface 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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