

# NEWS Release BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

100 Oregon Street • Vale, Oregon 97918 • <http://www.blm.gov/or/districts/vale>

News Release  
For Immediate Release  
News Contact: Mark Wilkening, (541) 473-6218

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October 1, 2008

BLM  
Vale District Office

## Vale District Implements Fall/Winter Prescribed Burning Program

**VALE, OREGON-** Wednesday October 1, 2008, Vale District, Bureau of Land Management (BLM) The cooler temperatures and scattered rain showers have improved range and forest conditions enough to begin implementing the Vale District's fall prescribed burning program.

Prescribed burning requires certain weather conditions; wind speed and direction, temperatures, relative humidity, and fuels moistures are all taken into consideration. When these values fit into the parameters outlined in the prescribed fire plan, burning can then occur. The prescribed fire plans are developed in advance of the actual project implementation. .

All prescribed burning activities comply with federal, state, and local air quality and smoke dispersal guidelines to reduce the impacts of smoke on local residents.

Prescribed burning can help reduce the damaging effects of high intensity wildfires. Burning under favorable conditions clears out vegetation, such as small trees, shrubs, and brush which can eventually fuel a much larger fire. Fuel treatment areas can also be used to help successfully suppress high intensity fire.

Fires are also necessary to the ecosystem. Plants and animals that grow and live in eastern Oregon developed with fire in their environment, making fire a necessary element in their habitat. The late fall prescribed burning conditions are designed to have low to moderate fire intensity which produces beneficial post-fire effects.

Vale District Prescribed Fire treatment areas for the fall/winter of 2008-2009 may include:

**Segundo Springs** - 200 acres landscape prescribed fire located in McClellan Creek of Burnt River Canyon, approximately 15 miles south of Baker City, OR.

**Trail Creek** -200 acres of landscape prescribed fire located in Trail Creek drainage, approximately 10 miles south of Baker City, OR.

**Lower Cove** - 140 acres of under-burning located in Mill Creek drainage, approximately 2 miles southwest of Cove, OR.

**Cove Stewardship** - 30 acres of pile burning located in Potters Creek drainage, approximately 4 miles southeast of Cove, OR.

**Castle Rock** – 75 acres of under-burning located in North Fork Malheur and Bull Creek drainages, approximately 20 miles north of Juntura, OR.



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**Stices Gulch** – 115 acres of pile burning located near Stices Gulch approximately 10 miles south of Baker City, OR.

**Eastface** – 190 acres of pile burning located in various locations surrounding Baker City, OR including French Gulch, Washington Gulch, Salmon Creek and Wolf Creek.

**McDermitt Complex** – 400 acres of broadcast burning of cheatgrass in the Shearing Corral Creek drainage, approximately 3 miles northeast of McDermitt, OR.

**Woods Gulch** - 400 acres of jackpot burning in Woods Gulch in the Burnt River drainage, located approximately 4 miles west of Durkee, OR.

For additional information the following persons may be contacted, Melinda Martin (541) 523-1927 or Jason Simmons (541) 473-6336. Or visit the District website at [www.blm.gov/or/districts/vale](http://www.blm.gov/or/districts/vale) .

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