

NEWS Release BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

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News Release
For Immediate Release
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BLM Authorizes Supplemental Release of Big Horn Sheep

The Vale District of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has authorized the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) to conduct a supplemental release of California bighorn sheep into two locations within Malheur County during the first part of December 2007. This action represents one more step in the restoration of bighorn sheep populations within Oregon that began for Malheur County in 1963. Depending upon weather conditions and ODFW success in capturing enough sheep, the Department plans to release sheep into the BLM's Jordan and Malheur Resource Areas. Several animals from each Resource Area will be radio-collared so their movements can be monitored.

One transplant consisting of approximately 20 head of sheep will be released on the Owyhee River near the mouth of Soldier Creek in the Jordan Resource Area. The other transplant of approximately 20 head of sheep will be released on the Malheur River downstream from Riverside in the Malheur Resource Area.

These 2007 releases are in conformance with Oregon's statewide plan for bighorn sheep management as well as the Southeastern Oregon Resource Management Plan and Record of Decision (2002).

If you have any questions regarding this action please contact the Vale District office for clarification at (541) 473-3144.

About 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 sub-surface 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.

BLM
Vale District Office

