



BURNS INTERAGENCY FIRE ZONE

28910 Hwy 20 West, Hines, Oregon 97738
(541) 573-4545 (p), (541) 573-4411 (f)
<http://www.blm.gov/or/districts/burns/fire/index.htm>

NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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BURNS INTERAGENCY FIRE ZONE CONDUCTING PRESCRIBED BURNS THIS FALL

BURNS, Oregon – Cooler temperatures have allowed the Burns Interagency Fire Zone (BIFZ) to begin prescribed burning in various areas of Harney County recently, and efforts are expected continue over the next couple of months.

The BIFZ conducts a number of prescribed burns each year to reduce fuel loading and the risk of catastrophic large wildfires, to increase forage for livestock and wildlife, and to improve wildlife habitat. Burn projects for this fall include approximately 3,000 near Ruby Springs, 1,100 acres in the Badger area, and 170 acres near Poison Creek. Burning may also occur in other areas as conditions allow.

Fire Management Officer Mike Morcom said, "These projects are important in our efforts to develop more fire resilient and healthier ecosystems. In the long term, completing these projects will allow for lower intensity fires that are more in tune with the historic natural occurrence of fire in this area." There may be noticeable smoke and increased traffic around project areas this fall. The public is asked to be aware of the activity and avoid the worksites as much as possible.

For further information on BIFZ prescribed burning, contact Dan Ridenour at (541) 573-4508 or Ken Hagle at (541) 573-4319, Prescribed Fire Managers, on regular business days between 7:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.

