

**NEWS RELEASE
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Star Mountain Fire active today

VALE, Oregon – The Star Mountain Fire, which began Monday night south of Juntura, is currently estimated at 35,000 acres with no estimated containment. High winds in dry fine fuels of grass and sage drove the fire north and northeast today, but it remains south of Juntura.

Three ranches are located in the vicinity of the fire, and the Bureau of Land Management's Vale District continues to work closely with the ranchers to prevent the fire from reaching structures and livestock. No threats to public roads or structures are currently identified; however, the district is working closely with Malheur County to keep them apprised of fire movement and behavior.

District resources, regional aircraft, and contract engine crews have provided air and ground support throughout the past two days. Weather predictions indicate another storm cell may arrive this evening, and could impact suppression operations.

For more information, please contact the Vale District Office at (541) 473-6218.

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