

**NEWS RELEASE  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Caution advised for travel on public lands**

**VALE, Oregon** – Recent spring rains are raising havoc on unpaved roads throughout southeastern Oregon. The Bureau of Land Management is advising caution when traveling on unpaved roads within the Vale District.

The road to Birch Creek Ranch near Jordan Valley is currently impassable. This site is a popular pick up destination for floaters on the Owyhee River. Please check with your shuttle operator or the Vale District Office before making plans in this area.

“Although not all roads are washed out like the one into Birch Creek, any unpaved road can pose a potential hazard right now,” cautions Vern Pritchard, District Engineer. When the rains cease, engineers will perform damage assessments in the District and schedule any necessary road repairs. In the meantime, visitors planning a trip on lands administered by the Vale District should check with the front office when planning any trips that involve travel off of the major paved highways.

For further information, contact the Vale District Office at (541)473-3144.

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