

NEWS Release BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

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BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT OR-030-2013-01
For Immediate Release:

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BLM Lifts Public Use Restrictions on Vale District Public Lands

VALE, OREGON – Effective October 16, 2012 the Vale District of the Bureau of Land Management is rescinding the Fire Prevention Order for all public lands administered by BLM's Vale District.

According to Vale District Fire Management Officer, Bob Narus, “while the larger fuels are still dry, moisture recovery is occurring in the finer fuels, days are getting shorter, and the predicted weather patterns will help conditions improve. Taking into consideration these factors, we have made the decision to drop the public use restrictions throughout the District. We are still asking visitors to use caution with fire or with equipment that poses a fire risk until we receive more rain and snow.”






Hunters are reminded to be extra careful when they build campfires: never leave your fire unattended and make sure it is dead out before breaking camp. Afternoon temperatures and wind can rekindle a smoldering fire, which could cause a wildfire. Exhaust systems on vehicles start numerous fires too; check for any brush or debris that might be trapped in or around your catalytic converter. It is recommended you still carry a shovel and a container of water to put out your campfire and a fire extinguisher for other fire emergencies.

Vale District Fire Prevention Officer Tom Morcom said, “I would like to thank the public for their awareness during this year’s fire season. This has been a long fire season, fire prevention patrols have continually reported that public land visitors have done an outstanding job following the requirements of the Emergency Fire Prevention Order. There is still a need for your continued diligence in preventing wildfires until the District receives significant rainfall and lower temperatures” said Morcom.

For further information, you can contact the Vale District at 541-473-3144 or 541-473-6295 or visit their website at www.blm.gov/or/districts/vale.

The BLM manages more than 245 million acres of public land – the most of any Federal agency. This land, known as the National System of Public Lands, is primarily located in 12 Western states, including Alaska. The BLM also administers 700 million acres of sub-surface mineral estate throughout the nation. In Fiscal Year (FY) 2011, recreational and other activities on BLM-managed land contributed more than \$130 billion to the U.S. economy and supported more than 600,000 American jobs. The Bureau is also one of a handful of agencies that collects more revenue than it spends. In FY 2012, nearly \$5.7 billion will be generated on lands managed by the BLM, which operates on a \$1.1 billion budget. 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, cultural, and other resources on public lands.

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