

NEWSRelease

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

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Federal stewardship contracts awarded to local businesses

Hines, Ore. – The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Burns District announces the award of two multi-year stewardship contracts to local businesses. The three-year Claw Creek project was awarded to H Timber Contracting, and the ten-year Blitzen project was awarded to Joseph's Juniper, Inc. Both businesses are located in Burns, OR.

"We're happy to see work stay in the local community," said BLM Burns District Manager Brendan Cain. "One of the purposes of stewardship contracting is to achieve public land management goals while utilizing or offering services that meet local and rural community needs."

The Claw Creek project intends to restore about 900 acres of forest and sagebrush communities in the Dry Mountain area north of the town of Riley and west of U.S. Forest Service Road 41. The Blitzen project expects to restore up to ten thousand acres of sagebrush and juniper woodland restoration outside of Frenchglen, OR.

The BLM expedited the implementation of these projects in response to the Governor-designated Oregon Solutions project, the Western Juniper Utilization Group (WJUG). The WJUG is the result of a collaborative effort led by the Association of Oregon Counties and Oregon Solutions to increase employment opportunities in eastern Oregon – especially those related to utilization of juniper by-products from treatments on federal lands.

Restoration work on both projects is expected to begin in the spring of 2013, weather permitting. For more information on the Claw Creek or Blitzen projects or stewardship contracting, please contact the Burns District Office at (541) 573-4400.

About the BLM: 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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