

# NEWS Release BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

28910 Hwy 20 West • Hines, Oregon 97738 • <http://www.blm.gov/or/districts/burns>

Contact: Tara Martinak (541) 573-4400 • Release No. OR-BU-14-15 • July 11, 2014

## Wildfire season officially underway in Harney County

**HINES, Ore.** – Wildfire season is officially underway in Harney County. A brief lightning storm on July 10 brought the largest fire to the District so far this year: the Denio Basin fire started Thursday evening and moved quickly through grass and brush, pushing mostly to the south. The fire is located in the Pueblo Mountains, approximately 17 miles due south of Fields, Oregon, and just north of the Nevada border.

This morning, the Denio Basin fire is showing burning activity to the north. Several Single Engine Air Tankers and at least one Very Large Air Tankers are on order to work on containment lines. On the ground access is rough and limited in the area. The High Desert Type 3 Incident Management Team has been assigned to manage the fire and will work closely with the Winnemucca, Nevada, district to coordinate suppression efforts. At last estimate, the Denio Basin fire is over 3,000 acres and threatening extensive Sage Grouse habitat. Updated information will be released as conditions change.

A 365-acre fire on private land near Drewsey also broke out Thursday afternoon. Firefighters responded from the ground and air and managed to keep the incident from Bureau of Land Management-administered lands in that area. The Drewsey fire is in patrol status and will be monitored throughout the weekend.

Burns Interagency Fire Zone firefighters have been busy on several other small fires this summer as well. A lightning storm on July 3 brought at least five starts to the area, the largest two being the Cliff fire near Yellowjacket Reservoir at 24 acres and the Gold Hill fire in Silvies Valley at 8 acres.

Hot and dry weather is expected in the coming week, along with unstable conditions and the potential for additional thunderstorms. Fire danger is HIGH and public use restrictions are in effect within the Burns Interagency Fire Zone. The Industrial Fire Precaution Level is a level two, which limits personal woodcutting to those hours after 8 p.m. and before 1 p.m. Visitors should use caution when traveling through and recreating in the outdoors this time of year.

**To report a wildfire, call 573-1000.** For more information on current wildfire activity, call 573-4519.

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. The BLM's mission is to manage and conserve the public lands for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations under our mandate of multiple-use and sustained yield. In Fiscal Year 2013, the BLM generated \$4.7 billion in receipts from public lands.

-BLM-

Come join the Oregon/Washington BLM on our Social Media sites for the latest on outdoor opportunities, videos of your public lands, spectacular photos, and a whole lot more!

 [www.facebook.com/blmoregon](http://www.facebook.com/blmoregon)  [www.youtube.com/user/blmoregon](http://www.youtube.com/user/blmoregon)  
 [www.flickr.com/photos/blmoregon](http://www.flickr.com/photos/blmoregon)  [www.twitter.com/blmoregon](http://www.twitter.com/blmoregon)

