

NEWS Release BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

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Contact: Tara Martinak (541) 573-4400 • Release No. OR-BU-13-25 • September 13, 2013

Federal agencies plan for fall prescribed fire

HINES, Ore. – Fire crews from the Burns Interagency Fire Zone expect to carry out within the next month a large prescribed fire in the Moon Hill area near Krumbo Ridge. If weather permits, officials say the project could start as early as next week.

The Burns Interagency Fire Zone does a number of prescribed fire projects annually to reduce fuel loading and the risk of catastrophic large wildfires, increase forage for livestock and wildlife, and improve wildlife habitat.

Fire Management Officer Ken Higle said, “These projects are important in our efforts to develop more fire resilient and healthier ecosystems. In the long term, completing these projects will allow for lower intensity fires that are more in tune with the historic natural occurrence of fire in this area.”

The 6,000-acre Moon Hill prescribed fire will last approximately 3-7 days. There will be noticeable smoke and increased traffic around the burn area. The public should be aware of the activity and avoid the work site as much as possible.

For further information on prescribed burning in Harney County, contact Chad Rott at (541) 573-4504.

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 multiple-use mission is to sustain the health, diversity, and productivity of the public lands for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations. In Fiscal Year 2012, activities on public lands generated \$4.6 billion in revenue, much of which was shared with the States where the activities occurred. In addition, public lands contributed more than \$112 billion to the U.S. economy and helped support more than 500,000 jobs.

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