

# NEWSRelease

Bureau of Land Management • BIFZ

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

Contact: Tara Martinak (541) 573-4400 • Release No. OR-020-11-25 • September 21, 2011

## BLM PLANS FOR LATE-SEPTEMBER PRESCRIBED FIRE NEAR DIAMOND

**HINES, Ore.** – Fire crews from the Burns Interagency Fire Zone (BIFZ) expect to carry out several prescribed fires within Harney County this fall. Officials say, if weather permits, they will start the fall projects on September 26 with a 3-day, large-scale burn in the Five Creeks Rangeland Restoration Project area south of Diamond.

The Five Creeks project covers nearly 75,000 acres of public and private land. Juniper expansion on our rangelands is adversely affecting forage availability, soil stability, and overall watershed health. An intense amount of juniper management through the use of prescribed and natural fire helps achieve the project goals, which are to restore sagebrush steppe and riparian plant communities, and create conditions better for wildlife, wild horses, fish and livestock. Over 38,000 acres within the project area have already been managed with prescribed fire. Another 7,600 acres are slated for next week.

There will be noticeable smoke and increased traffic around prescribed fire area. The public should be aware of the activity and avoid the work site as much as possible. A map of the projected burn area is available for viewing at the Burns District Bureau of Land Management office in Hines.

For further information on BIFZ prescribed burning, contact Fuels Specialist Sean Rothwell at (541) 573-4535.

BLM  
Burns District Office

