



United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Klamath Falls Resource Area
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Website: <http://www.or.blm.gov/Lakeview/kfra/index.htm>

February 4, 2014

IN REPLY REFER TO:
1790 (ORL040)

To: All Interested Parties

The Klamath Falls Resource Area (KFRA), Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is preparing the Double J Fire Restoration & Rehabilitation Environmental Assessment (EA). The EA will document the potential effects of revegetation treatments on native vegetation, wildlife habitat, soils, hydrology, and other resources, as required by the National Environmental Policy Act. The project is located approximately six miles south of Bonanza, Oregon, in Township 40 South, Range 12 East, Sections 08 and 17, Willamette Meridian (see map).

Background

The Double J Fire was a wind-driven fire started by lightning in August 2013, which burned an estimated 140 acres. The proposed project area consists of approximately 135 acres of BLM land in juniper and sagebrush habitat with perennial and annual grasses.

Purpose & Need for Action

The purpose of this project is to address resource concerns resulting from the Double J Fire through management that is consistent with objectives in the 1995 KFRA Resource Management Plan (RMP). These objectives include the following:

- Contain and/or reduce noxious weed infestations on BLM-administered land using an integrated plant management approach.
- Avoid introducing or spreading noxious weed infestations in any areas.
- Enhance and maintain biological diversity and ecosystem health in order to contribute to healthy wildlife populations.

Interagency guidance and BLM policy, as stated in the Interagency Emergency Stabilization and Rehabilitation (ES&R) Handbook and Emergency Stabilization and Burned Area Rehabilitation Handbook (February 12, 2007 – H-1742-1), provide for emergency stabilization and rehabilitation where fire has an adverse impact on vegetation, soils, and watersheds and also to minimize other adverse changes to the extent practicable.

The area burned by the Double J Fire is in need of immediate stabilization/rehabilitation to reduce the invasion and increased dominance of undesirable flammable invasive annual grasses, and to reduce the potential spread of noxious weeds, preserve on-site productivity, and minimize soil movement.

Proposed Treatments

Treatments are proposed only on BLM land, and would include the following:

- (1) **Herbicide application** – As part of the proposed action, the herbicide, imazapic, would be applied on existing populations of the noxious weed Medusahead rye (*Taeniatherum caput-medusae*), and the invasive non-native weeds, cheatgrass (*Bromus tectorum*) and North Africa grass (*Ventenata dubia*) in the burned area.
- (2) **Seeding** – Perennial grass and sagebrush seed would be applied over the burned area to encourage recovery of these species to the pre-fire condition. Applying seed will also discourage noxious and invasive weed spread from adjacent populations.

Comments Requested

The BLM is asking for your help in identifying issues and concerns that you may have regarding the proposed Double J project. **Please submit your comments by February 19, 2014** to be most effective in BLM's planning schedule. To submit issues or questions about the proposed treatments, you may email us at the following address: BLM_OR_KF_Mail@blm.gov and identify your comments as being for the "Double J Fire EA." For regular mail, please use the address in our letterhead, ATTN: Field Manager.

Once an Environmental Assessment has been prepared, the public will be notified again and will have an opportunity to review and provide comments on the proposed action and analysis. For further information, contact Johanna Blanchard at 541-883-6916.

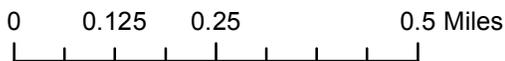
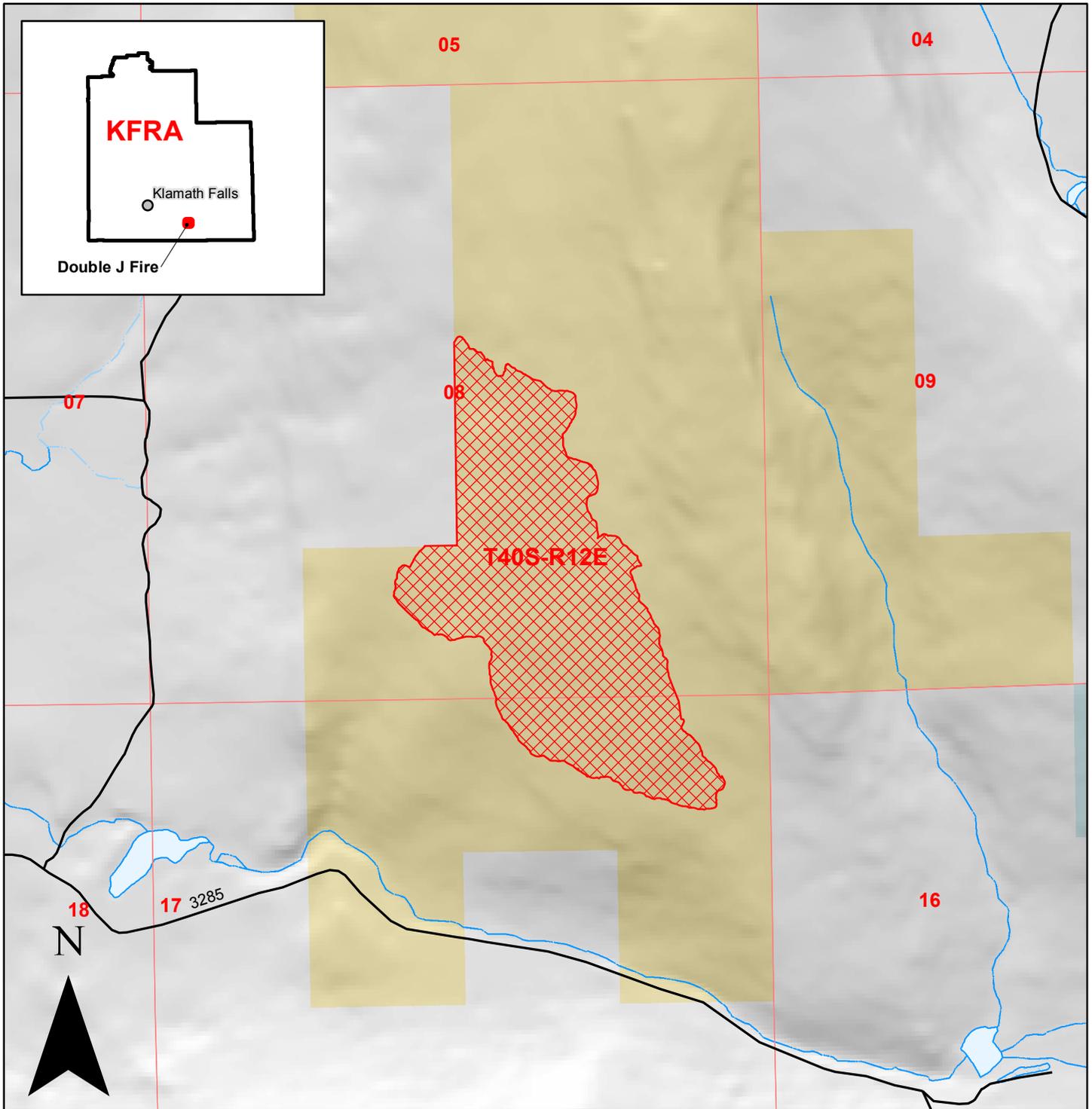
NOTE: Comments, including names and street addresses of respondents, will be available for public review at the Klamath Falls Resource Area Office during regular business hours (7:45 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.), Monday through Friday, except holidays. Before including your address, phone number, email address, or other personally identifying information in your comment, please be aware that your entire comment – including your personal identifying information – may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review or from disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so. All submissions from organizations or businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses, will be made available for public inspection in their entirety.

Sincerely,

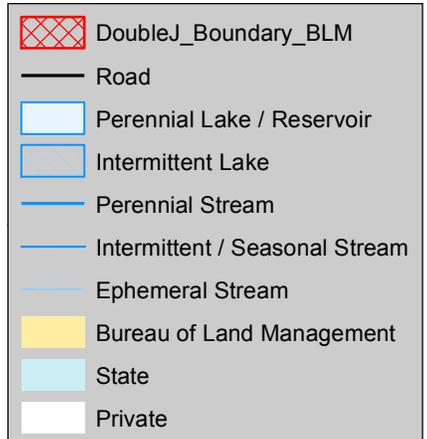
/s/ Donald J. Holmstrom

Donald J. Holmstrom
Field Manager

Enclosure



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Double J Fire EA
Lakeview District
Klamath Falls Resource Area
2795 Anderson Ave. Bldg. 25
Klamath Falls, OR 97601
(541) 883-6916

No warranty is made by the Bureau of Land Management as to the accuracy, reliability, or completeness of these data for individual or aggregate use with other data. Original data were compiled from various sources and may be updated without notification.

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