

# NEWS Release BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

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**BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT**  
For release: **October 1, 2015**

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## **BLM Fall Prescribed Fire Projects**

*Medford, Ore.* -- The Medford District Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is entering the fall prescribed burning season. Prescribed burning is planned to restore native grass species on twenty acres of vernal pool mounded habitat on top of Lower Table Rock in mid-October. The trail head will be closed that day for several hours.

Exact scheduling of burning is dependent on wind direction and minimizing smoke impacts to the public. The decision to burn is made on a daily basis, based on the most current and accurate weather forecasts.

The BLM plans to burn an additional 23 acres of hand-piled brush around Upper and Lower Table Rocks during wetter weather by late November. These piles result from brushing and thinning on the Table Rocks Oak Climate Adaptation Project -- part of a landscape scale collaborative effort to restore declining oak ecosystems and increase their resiliency to climate change in the Rogue Basin. The Table Rocks trails will remain open during the late November pile burning.

In addition, the BLM will conduct approximately 300 acres of “underburning”, where fire is applied directly to the forest floor, on BLM lands in the Trail Creek, Evans Creek, Williams, Cave Junction and Sunny Valley areas. Underburning is when a prescribed fire is ignited under the forest canopy that focuses on the consumption of surface fuels but not the overstory vegetation. Underburning is generally used following a pre-treatment such as thinning or pile burning to further reduce the surface fuels, help maintain the desired vegetation conditions, and enhance the overall health and resiliency of the stand.

More information about BLM’s prescribed fire program is available at:

[www.blm.gov/or/resources/fire/prescribedburns](http://www.blm.gov/or/resources/fire/prescribedburns)

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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 2014, the BLM generated \$5.2 billion in receipts from public lands.

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