

NEWS Release

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

1103 N. Fancher • Spokane Valley, WA 99212 • <http://www.blm.gov/or/districts/spokane>

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Huckleberry Mountain Prescribed Fire

Spokane, Wash. – The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Spokane District Office will be conducting prescribed fires in the Huckleberry Mountains area in Stevens County, Washington from May 10 to 22. Approximately 430 acres of public land will be burned. The overall goal of this burn is to reduce the fire hazard and intensity.

Prescribed fire is used to reduce the risk of catastrophic wildfires, and increase public and firefighter safety. It also helps meet a variety of resource management objectives: reducing hazardous fuels (surface or ladder fuels), and restoring habitats and ecosystems. To restore fire to its natural role in forests and rangelands, trained experts employ low intensity prescribed fire in the spring and fall, when weather conditions minimize escape and allow for controlled burning.

The legal description of the prescribed fire area is Township 29 North, Range 37 East, Section 12 and Township 29 North, Range 38 East, Section 18. The project is located approximately 10 miles northwest of the town of Wellpinit, Washington and 6 miles southeast of Fruitland, Washington. The units are bordered by other BLM public lands and Washington Department of Natural Resources lands. Additional information about the BLM's fire program is available online at:

<http://www.blm.gov/or/resources/fire/index.php>

-BLM-

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. In Fiscal Year (FY) 2011, recreational and other activities on BLM-managed land contributed more than \$130 billion to the U.S. economy and supported more than 600,000 American jobs. The Bureau is also one of a handful of agencies that collects more revenue than it spends. In FY 2012, nearly \$5.7 billion will be generated on lands managed by the BLM, which operates on a \$1.1 billion budget. The BLM's multiple-use mission is to sustain the health and productivity of the public lands for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations. The Bureau accomplishes this by managing such activities as outdoor recreation, livestock grazing, mineral development, and energy production, and by conserving natural, historical, cultural, and other resources on public lands.

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