

# NEWS Release

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

100 Oregon Street • Vale, Oregon 97918 • <http://www.blm.gov/or/districts/vale>

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT OR-030-2012-12

For release: Immediate Release

Date: July 9<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 pm

Fire Contact: Mark Wilkening

(541) 473-6218

## Multiple Fires Continue to Increase in Size

**Vale, Oregon** – The Bureau of Land Management, Vale District. Fires continue to increase in size as erratic winds pushed the fire over control lines.

### Southern Vale District

The Long Draw Fire, located approximately 20 miles south of Burns Junction, Oregon increased in size to 45,000 acres as erratic winds pushed the fire over control lines and forced the evacuation of Oregon Department of Transportation Basque Station located on Highway 95. As the fire spread toward the Basque Station facility, crews, from control lines surrounding the station, used fire to burn the fuels as the main fire approached the facility. The structure was not lost. The fire did cross the road in several locations along the road, power lines were threatened and the power was turned off between Burns Junction and McDermitt Nevada. Vehicles traveling on Highway 95 are being allowed to travel between Burns Junction and McDermitt Nevada once again. The public is asked to slow down in the area as emergency fire vehicles and personnel continue to gain control of this fire. Please do not stop along the roadsides to take pictures as this will be a hazard to others traveling the highway. Additional resources are being requested and Watts's Oregon Interagency Team #4, a Type 2 team, will take over management of the fire at 6:00 am on July 10, 2012.

### Northern Vale District

There are three fires burning in the northern portion of the District, all in the Bonita area, located 8 miles southwest of Brogan, Oregon. The local Vale/Burns High Desert Type 3 Team has been requested to take over management of these 3 fires at 0600 a.m. July 10, 2012.

The **Bonita Fire** is currently at over 900 acres, engine crews are on the fire providing extended attack.

The **Iron Fire** is currently at over 1000 acres, engine crews are on the fire providing extended attack.

The **North Ridge Bully Creek Fire** is currently at over 500 acres, engine crews are on the fire providing extended attack.

To report wildfires, please contact the Vale BLM Dispatch Center at 541-473-6295 or 1-800-982-0287. Additional information about the BLM Vale District can be found by visiting the district website at [www.blm.gov/or/districts/vale](http://www.blm.gov/or/districts/vale).

-BLM-

**About the BLM:** The BLM manages more land – more than 245 million acres - than any other Federal agency. This land, known as the National System of Public Lands, is primarily located in 12 Western states, including Alaska. The Bureau, with a budget of about \$1 billion, also administers 700 million acres of sub-surface mineral estate throughout the nation. 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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