

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT OR-030-2011-016
For release: Immediate Release

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(541) 473-6218

Is it a Fire, or a Field Burn?

Vale, Oregon-Officials with the Bureau of Land Management, Vale District are requesting that if you are going to conduct a controlled burn of any type that you notify your local Fire Department or the BLM (1-800-982-0287) before burning. This will help cut down on the unnecessary expense of mobilizing resources. In addition, responding to these false alarms could draw firefighters away from a true emergency.

This year's wet spring produced an abundance of flammable vegetation, which has contributed to large fires within the Vale District in the last three weeks. With fire season well underway, officials are urging public land users to be extremely cautious when visiting public lands. The following Fire Prevention Order is in effect for lands administered by the Vale District Bureau of Land Management:

1. You must not build, maintain or attend a fire, or stove fire, including charcoal briquette fire, except within the existing metal fire rings located at the following recreation sites; Bob Creek, Spring Recreation Site and Carters Landing in Baker County and Chukar Park in Malheur County. NOTE: Liquefied and bottled gas stoves and heaters are permitted. When used outside of developed recreation sites they must be used within an area at least ten (10) feet in diameter that is barren, or clear of all flammable materials.
2. You must not smoke outside of a vehicle, trailer or building, except within areas barren of all flammable materials for at least a 3 foot diameter, or aboard boats on rivers and lakes.
3. You must not possess, discharge or use any type of fireworks or other pyrotechnic device to include sparklers. This order does not differentiate between lawful use or careless/negligent use of fireworks, but prohibits all fireworks activity and their use on public lands as identified above.
4. You must not operate a chainsaw.
5. You must not park your vehicle or operate any type of internal combustion engine (generators, weed eaters etc.) in an area that is not clear of flammable material.
6. You must not operate a motorized vehicle outside of existing roads or ways. This prohibits cross-country travel until this order is rescinded.
7. You must not operate an automobile, pickup, truck, or any other motorized equipment that is wider than 50 inches or has a dry weight of 800 pounds or more, on public lands without a shovel not less than 26" in overall length, with a blade not less than 8" wide, and a container with at least one gallon of water, or a fully charged 2.5 pound fire extinguisher. All Motorcycles or All-Terrain Vehicles must be equipped with a functional U.S. Forest Service approved spark arrestor.

Come join the Oregon/Washington BLM on Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, and Flickr for the latest on outdoor opportunities, videos of your public lands, spectacular photos, and a whole lot more!

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NEWS Release

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

Local firefighters thank you for your cooperation and for being partners in the fire prevention effort. To date the Vale District Bureau of Land Management has responded to very few human caused fires on federal lands. With the recent dry hot weather and forecasts for thunderstorms your help in preventing wildfires is appreciated.

For additional information the following persons may be contacted, Tom Morcom (541) 473-6270 or Jason Simmons (541) 473-6336. Or visit the District website at www.blm.gov/or/districts/vale.

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.

BLM
Vale District Office

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