

NEWS Release BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

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

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News Contact: Mark Wilkening, (541) 473-6218

BLM
Vale District Office

BLM Lifts Fire Restrictions on All Public Lands within the Vale District

VALE, OREGON – Effective September 14, 2009 the Vale District of the Bureau of Land Management is rescinding the Fire Prevention Order for all public lands administered by BLM’s Vale District.

According to Vale District Deputy Fire Management Officer, Tracy Skerjanec, “Conditions have improved and we have made the decision to drop the public use restrictions throughout the District. Although the Emergency Restrictions have been lifted, we encourage visitors to use caution when building a camp fire or using equipment that may cause a wildland fire,” cautioned Skerjanec.

Hunters are reminded to be extra careful when they build campfires, never have your fire unattended and before you leave make sure it is dead out. Afternoon temperatures and wind can rekindle a smoldering fire, which could cause a wildfire. Exhaust systems on vehicles start numerous fires; look for brush becoming trapped in and around your catalytic converter. It is recommended you still carry a shovel and a container of water to put out your campfire and a fire extinguisher for other fire emergencies.

Vale District Fire Prevention Officer, Tom Morcom, “I would like to thank the public for their awareness during this year’s fire season. Fire prevention patrols have continually reported that public land visitors have done an outstanding job following the requirements of the Emergency Fire Prevention Order. There is still a need for your continued diligence in preventing wildfires until the District receives significant rainfall and lower temperatures” said Morcom.

For further information, you can contact the Vale District at 541-473-3144 or 541-473-6295 or visit their website at www.blm.gov/or/districts/vale .

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The BLM manages more land – 258 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.

