

NEWS Release BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

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

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT OR-030-2014-09

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BLM LIFTS FIRE RESTRICTIONS

Vale, Ore. – Effective September 29th, the Vale District of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is rescinding the Fire Prevention Order for all public lands administered by BLM's Vale District.

“Fire conditions have improved and we have made the decision to rescind the Fire Protection Order,” said Vale BLM Fire Management Officer Bob Narus. “We ask that visitors to public lands keep fire safety in mind and always exercise caution when building fires or operating vehicles and equipment on public lands.”

Fire season has been hectic, with several hundred thousand acres scorched across the Vale District alone. But Narus said that it was not nearly as bad as it could have been.

“We had some man made fires earlier in the season, but at the height of fire season, we had very few,” Narus said. “That was thanks to our community adhering to the restrictions and supporting our efforts to prevent fires where we can.”

Smoking, campfires, even poorly maintained work equipment and auto exhaust systems can cause a fire in the right conditions. Vale District Fire Prevention Officer Tom Morcom recommends that if you plan to build a campfire on public lands that you also bring along a shovel and water to put it out when you leave. He also suggests that visitors carry a fire extinguisher for vehicle fires or other emergencies.

For more information on public lands and wildfire prevention visit the Vale District BLM website at <http://www.blm.gov/or/districts/vale/>.

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 2013, the BLM generated \$4.7 billion in receipts from public lands.

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