

# NEWS Release BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

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

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT OR-030-2015-014

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## Vale District BLM Plans NEPA Analysis of Leslie Gulch Fire

*Vale, Ore.* – On June 28, 2015, lightning ignited a wildfire at Leslie Gulch in southeastern Oregon. Conditions allowed the fire to grow to nearly 8,000 acres of public land managed by the Vale District Bureau of Land Management (BLM). The fire was controlled on July 3, 2015. Due to the damage caused by the Leslie Gulch Fire, the Vale District BLM plans to complete a National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) analysis which will address a variety of resource and management actions on the area affected by the fire.

The Vale District BLM's Malheur Resource Area is managing the process and is seeking comments concerning the affected area including: wildlife habitat, including priority Sage-grouse habitat, riparian areas and winter deer range; damage to the Honeycombs and Slocum Creek Wilderness Study Areas; special status plant sites and cultural sites; effects of fire on proliferation of noxious weeds; and damage to grazing allotments.

Once planning work is completed the BLM will implement proposed actions as quickly as possible to protect and rehabilitate the area. Comments must be specific in order for them to be considered in the final analysis. Comments must also contain the name and address of the submitter. Comments, including personal information, may be included in the final, publicly available document.

A full copy of the scoping letter can be found at: [www.blm.gov/or/districts/vale/plans/plans](http://www.blm.gov/or/districts/vale/plans/plans)

All comments should be sent to the Vale District BLM Office **by August 7, 2015** at:

**Via mail:**

**BLM Vale District  
ATTN: Susan Fritts  
100 Oregon Street  
Vale, Oregon 97918**

**Via email:**

**[sfritts@blm.gov](mailto:sfritts@blm.gov)**

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 2014, the BLM generated \$5.2 billion in receipts from public lands.

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