



U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management

29 September 2016

News Release

Oregon/Washington

Contact: Larry Moore (541) 473-6218



Vale District Rescinds Fire Restrictions

Vale, Ore. – The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Vale District is rescinding fire restrictions effective 12:01 a.m. on September 30, 2016.

Fire restrictions went into effect on June 29, when an Emergency Fire Prevention Order was released. This Order covered all public lands managed by the Vale District BLM as well as project lands under the jurisdiction of the Bureau of Reclamation (BOR).

Fire restrictions prohibited a number of activities, including campfires, spark-creating tool use, and vehicle use and travel outside of established roads.

Although these restrictions are being rescinded, Vale District Fire Management Officer Bob Narus advises that the public remain cautious.

“We’ve seen cooler weather, but conditions are still extremely dry,” Narus said. “The worst may be behind us, but fires can start any time of year.”

Vale District Manager Don Gonzalez says that, restrictions or not, applying common sense in outdoor practices is the best way to keep wildfire at bay.

“Even without fire restrictions in place, practices like never leaving a fire unattended and putting them dead-out are age-old ways of protecting our landscape,” Gonzalez said.

“Historically, we have very few human caused fires,” Gonzalez added, “our community in the Vale District knows what’s at stake and have helped us in the past—we ask that they continue helping us to prevent wildfire.”

-BLM-

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 sustain the health, diversity, and productivity of America's public lands for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations. In Fiscal Year 2015, the BLM generated \$4.1 billion in receipts from activities occurring on public lands.