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BLM BATTLE MOUNTAIN DISTRICT OFFICE RMP PLANNING FACT SHEET *Fire Management*

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The BLM Battle Mountain District Office (BMDO) is revising the Resource Management Plan (RMP) for the BMDO planning area. The BMDO RMP will provide detailed information about the current state of resources on public lands within the planning area, and set forth a plan of action for managing those resources for the next twenty or so years under the BLM's dual mandate of *multiple use* and *sustained yield*.

Fire Management — Fighting wildfires, as well as managing fuels in order to prevent wildfires, is a complex, costly, and hazardous undertaking. Every year hundreds of homes and thousands of acres of habitat are lost and lives are endangered throughout the United States due to wildfires.

The BLM aggressively manages wildfires to protect the valuable resources. In addition, prescribed fire, mechanical, chemical, and biological fuel reduction treatments are used to modify current fuel conditions and future fire behavior.



Fire's Role in the Ecosystem —

"Fire, as a critical natural process, will be integrated into land and resource management plans and activities on a landscape scale, and across agency boundaries. Response to wildland fire is based on ecological, social, and legal consequences of fire. The circumstances under which a fire occurs, and the likely consequences on firefighter and public safety and welfare, natural and cultural resources, and values to be protected dictate the appropriate management response to fire." *1995/2001 Federal Wildland Fire Management Policy*



Fire Information —

Number of Fires 1980 to 1998: 1,078

Number of acres burned 1980 to 1998:
154,415

Number of Fires 1999 to 2010: 747

Number of acres burned 1999 to 2010:
491,147

BLM

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DEFINITIONS —

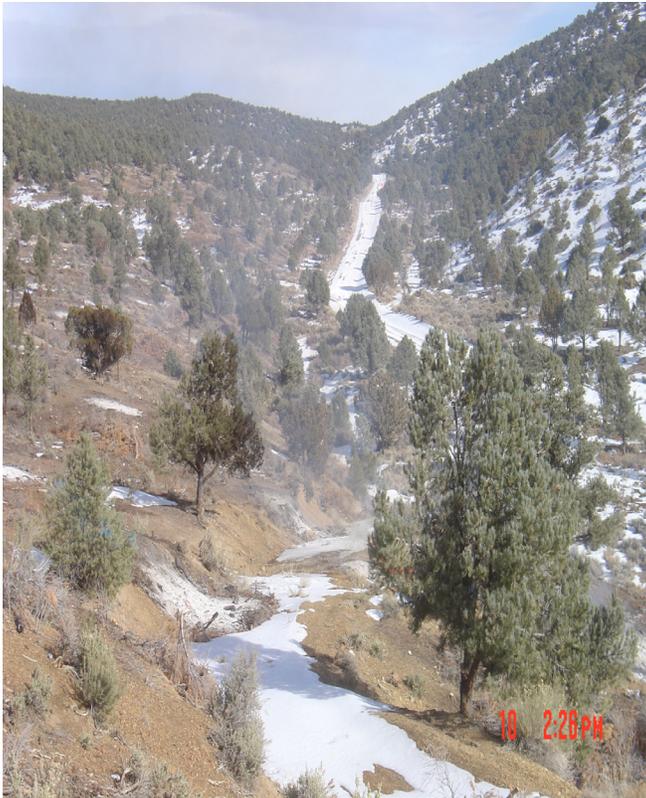
Per Guidance for Implementation of Federal Wildland Fire Management Policy, there are two (2) types of fire:

- Wildfires — Unplanned ignitions or prescribed fires that are declared wildfires
- Prescribed Fire — Planned ignitions



Fuels Management —

Both hazardous fuels reduction and vegetation treatment efforts are essential within the Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) as well as in the surrounding wildland environment. The methods and means of reducing fuels within a community may be similar or completely different to those treatments occurring outside of communities. Each area or unit has specific and unique methods and techniques for accomplishing community, environmental, and resource protection objectives. Some treatments require multiple management techniques such as mechanical, chemical, biological, and or prescribed fire to remove or minimize the hazardous fuel build up. Prescribed fire is also used to reintroduce fire back into the ecosystem, as fire is an essential ecological process.



The BLM wants your input...

- Under what conditions should fire suppression or fuel reduction activities occur?

Mail comments to:
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Battle Mountain District Office
50 Bastian Road
Battle Mountain, NV 89820

BMDO Planning Webpage:
www.blm.gov/nv/st/en/fo/battle_mountain_field/blm_information/rmp.com

Email comments to:
BattleMountainRMP@blm.gov