



Malheur National Forest

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PRESCRIBED FIRE PLANNED FOR BLUE MOUNTAIN RANGER DISTRICT

John Day, OR - If weather conditions permit the Blue Mountain Ranger District fire officials will begin their spring prescribed burn today. Approximately 1137 acre will be ignited 5 miles east of Seneca and south of Forest Road 16. The purpose of prescribed fire is to decrease the intensity of future wildfires and also improve wildlife forage, rangeland and plant vigor to maintain a healthy ecosystem.

“We only ignite the prescribed fire if we have very specific favorable weather conditions,” announced Steve Cross, Fire Management Officer. “If the unit is ignited, smoke will be visible from Seneca and Highway 395 south. Smoke may impact visitors in the immediate area of the burn as well as downwind. Visibility along highway 16 may also be impaired, particularly during the morning and evening hours for several days after the ignition is complete, so please drive with caution.”

All roads leading into the project will be posted but will remain open. Maps will be posted and are available at the Malheur National Forest Supervisor’s office in John Day.

For additional information contact the Malheur National Forest at 541-575-3000.

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