



# Malheur National Forest

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[www.fs.fed.us/r6/malheur](http://www.fs.fed.us/r6/malheur)

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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## **PRESCRIBED FIRE PLANNED FOR PRAIRIE CITY RANGER DISTRICT**

John Day, OR - If weather conditions permit the Prairie City Ranger District fire officials will be conducting an under burn operation tomorrow beginning around 11:00 am. The unit to be burned is located approximately five miles east of Blue Mountain Work Center in the Phipps Meadow area. Fall and spring weather provide the best conditions for prescribed burning, moist soil, dry material and cooler temperatures. Prescribed burns are used to achieve several goals, to reduce the risk of catastrophic wildfires by reducing dead fuel accumulation, stimulate plant growth for wildlife winter forage, rangeland, and plant vigor to maintain a healthy ecosystem.

Prescribed burning is highly dependent on weather conditions. "We only ignite the prescribed fire if we have very specific favorable weather conditions," announced Lance Delgado, Fire Management Officer. If the unit is ignited, smoke will be visible from Prairie City and Highway 26. Smoke may impact the community of Unity and visitors in the immediate area of the burn as well as downwind. Visibility along Highway 26 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.

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

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