



Pacific Northwest Region
Malheur National Forest
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News Release

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Malheur National Forest continues spring prescribed burning

JOHN DAY, OR – Due to the unusually mild winter across the forest, fire managers continue to evaluate conditions for conducting prescribed burning.

Burns will take place over the next several months; exact days will vary depending on weather.

Landscape burning is planned for this spring may include the following units:

- Dairy, Emigrant Creek Ranger District
- Knox, Prairie City Ranger District
- Pine Creek, Prairie City Ranger District
- Crawford Creek, Blue Mountain Ranger District
- Balance, Blue Mountain Ranger District
- Damon, Blue Mountain Ranger District
- Starr, Blue Mountain Ranger District
- Canyon Creek, Blue Mountain Ranger District
- 18 Road, Blue Mountain Ranger District

Burning may have some short-term impacts on air quality levels, but any burning activity will be accomplished during weather conditions that should minimize impacts of smoke on local communities.

Areas to be burned are often prepared by constructing a fire line around them and using existing roads and trails as fire breaks. Firing or ignition of the area will be accomplished by ground personnel utilizing drip torches and, on larger projects, by a helicopter mounted firing devices. Each prescribed burn has an organized command structure including a burn boss, firing boss, and a holding boss that provides and implements management of the burn.

Prescribed fires are an integral part of land management across the Malheur National Forest. Each of these burns represents many hours of planning and preparation. Specific weather and vegetative conditions must be in place in order to conduct these burns. Prescribed burns are designed to both reduce the risk of catastrophic wildfires as well to restore overall health of the National Forest System lands.

Regular updates are available at Malheur National Forest offices and online at www.fs.usda.gov/malheur.

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For further information, contact forest staff at 541-575-3000 or the Day Interagency Dispatch Center at 541-575-1321.



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