



# IN BRIEF - AN INFORMATION UPDATE

January, 2011

Photo - winter in the John Day Valley

## **LEADERSHIP CHANGES**

Forest Supervisor, Doug Gochnour retired from the Malheur National Forest, effective December 31, 2010.

Cal Joyner, Region 6 Acting Regional Forester, announced on January 28 that Teresa Raaf, Deputy Forest Supervisor for the Malheur NF was selected as the new Forest Supervisor for the Malheur.

Bob Varner, District Ranger for North Fork Ranger District on the Umatilla NF is currently the Acting Deputy Forest Supervisor on the Malheur. Bob served as the Acting District Ranger on the Prairie City Ranger District in 2007 so is familiar with the Forest and surrounding communities.

Doug Jones was selected as the District Ranger for Emigrant Creek Ranger District. Doug came from the Unita-Wasatch-Cache National Forest where he was the District Ranger on the Spanish Fork Ranger District.

Elaine Kohrman Prairie City District Ranger, will be on a work assignment as Deputy Forest Supervisor on the Colville National Forest in Washington until spring. Replacing her for the interim time will be Cindy Glick, from the Deschutes and Ochoco National Forests. Cindy's professional background includes experience in all aspects of forestry, recreation, fire, and environmental education.

*For more information, contact Pattie Hammett at (541)575-3144 or phammett@fs.fed.us*

## **NEW PRAIRIE CITY RANGER DISTRICT OFFICE TO BE BUILT**

Demolition began on the Prairie City Ranger District Office January 31. The new building is scheduled for completion by December, 2011. DSL Builders out of Salem is the contractor. Approximately 30 employees from the Prairie City Ranger District temporarily moved their offices to the Supervisor's Office in John Day in December, 2010.

*For more information, contact Holly Bentz at (541)575-3012 or hbentz@fs.fed.us*

## **WILD HORSE GATHER**

Horse Trappers LLC, a local Grant County business, as of January 19, 2011, successfully gathered 55 wild horses out of the Murderers Creek Wild Horse Territory. The gather began in November and will end on March 1. The goal for the gather is 60 - 65 horses and it is expected that Horse Trappers LLC will meet that goal by the end date.

Once gathered the horses are transported to the BLM's Oregon Wild Horse Facility in Burns, Oregon where they are put up for adoption.

*For more information contact Roy Beal at (541)575-3335*

## **EMIGRANT CREEK RANGER DISTRICT - PROJECTS PLANNED**

### **Dairy Vegetation Management**

- Environmental Assessment (EA) planned to be released for public comment May, 2011.
- Decision expected: June, 2011.
- Includes commercial and precommercial thinning and biomass removal. Commercial harvest - about 1,400 acres.
- Expected offer - Winter, 2011.
- Estimated volume: 1-2 mmbf.

*For more information, contact Lori Bailey at (541)573-4366 or labailey@fs.fed.us.*

*This document is intended to provide a brief update of what is occurring on the Malheur National Forest.*

*More information can be found at [www.fs.fed.us/r6/malheur](http://www.fs.fed.us/r6/malheur).*





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**BLUE MOUNTAIN RANGER DISTRICT - OTHER PROJECTS**

**Plantation Maintenance - Long Creek**

- Scoping - February, 2011.
- Expected Decision - April, 2011.
- This project consists of precommercial thinning, handpiling and burning of piles.
- Approximately 10,000 acres.

*For more information, contact Amanda Lindsay at (541)575-3333 or [alindsay@fs.fed.us](mailto:alindsay@fs.fed.us).*

**Galena Project - Forest Health and Fuel Reduction**

- 8,300 acres of mechanical treatment - 6,800 acres of harvest (24 MMBF) and 1,500 acres of precommercial thinning.
- 2,100 acres of potential biomass removal.
- 19,900 acres of underburning.
- Public comments on DRAFT Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) - February, 2011.
- Expected Decision - April, 2011.

*For more information, contact Eric Wunz at (541)575-3332 or [ewunz@fs.fed.us](mailto:ewunz@fs.fed.us).*

**Starr HFRA EA - Blue Mountain Ranger District**

- Reduction of hazardous fuels within the Starr subwatershed
- Decision expected: July, 2011.
- Includes commercial/noncommercial thinning on up to 7,000 acres, natural and project generated fuel treatment, and prescribed burning on up to 15,000 acres.
- Expected offer - Winter, 2012.
- Estimated volume - 8 mmbf.

*For more information, contact Lori Stokes at 541-575-3331 or [lstokes@fs.fed.us](mailto:lstokes@fs.fed.us)*

**PRAIRIE CITY RANGER DISTRICT - PROJECTS PLANNED**

**North Fork and Summit Prairie Lodgepole Salvage and Sanitation Projects**

- The decisions for these projects were signed October 16, 2010.
- Fire Crews will start felling dead lodgepole trees this spring within 150 feet of the following forest.
- roads: 1300, 1600, 1600701, 1600702, 1600705, 16000124, 16000386 and 1600625.

*For more information, contact Ryan Falk at (541)575-3358 or [rfalk@fs.fed.us](mailto:rfalk@fs.fed.us)*

