

CENTRAL OREGON FIRE MANAGEMENT SERVICE

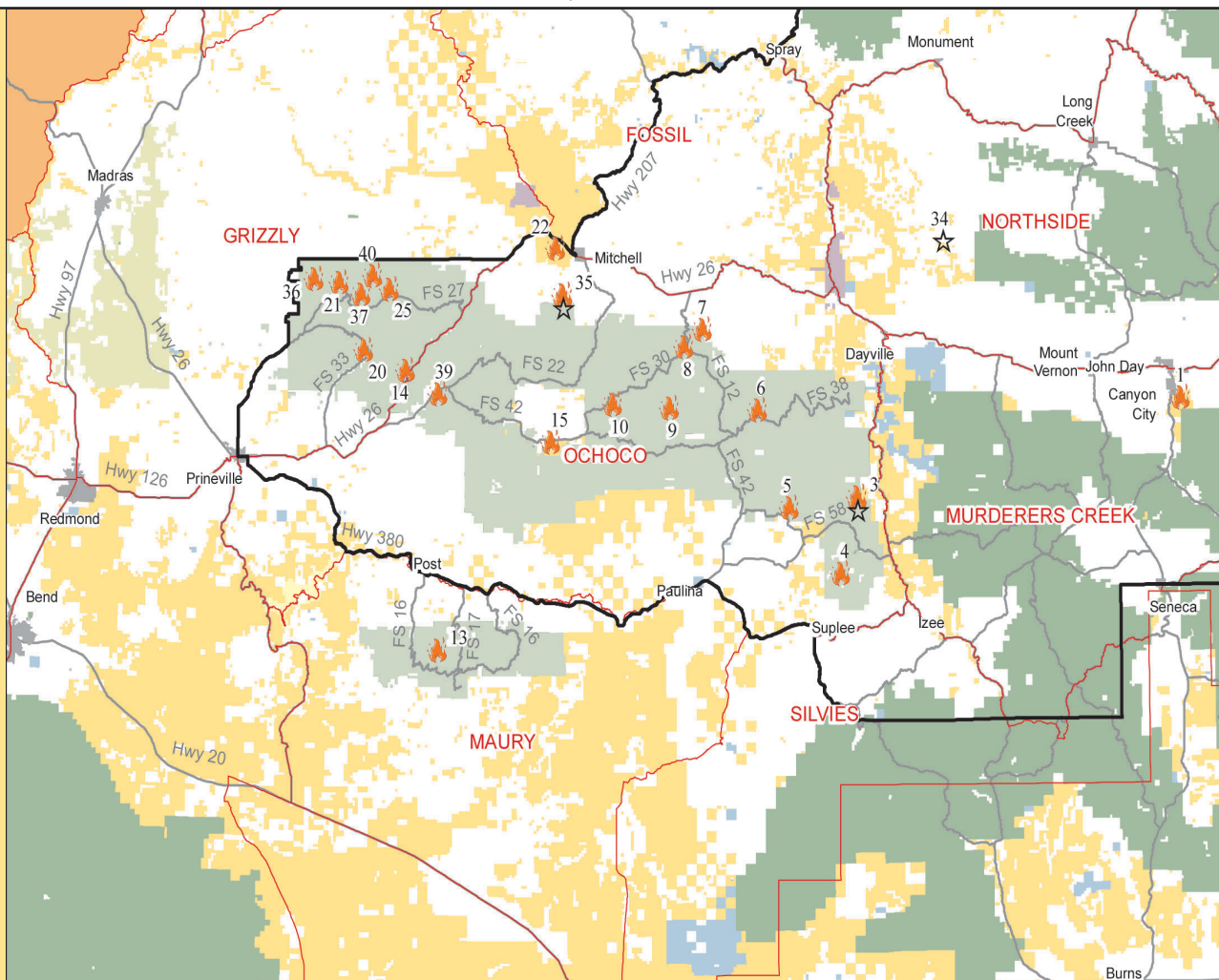
2008 HAZARDOUS FUEL REDUCTION PROGRAM

PRAIRIE DIVISION

PRINEVILLE BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT,
 OCHOCO NATIONAL FOREST, & CROOKED RIVER NATIONAL GRASSLAND



Twenty-two fuel reduction projects (more than 19,000 acres) are planned for spring and fall of 2008. The schedule includes map number, name/area, project acres and how they will be accomplished (prescribed burning or mechanical treatment). Dates have not been included. It is difficult to pinpoint when fuel conditions & weather will allow these activities to occur. Most prescribed burning occurs March-May and September - December.



Risk to Public Safety - Hunters and other forest visitors that enter recently burned areas are at risk of being hit by fire-weakened timber, or being burned by stepping in a stump hole.

U.S. Forest Service (FS) indicated by black color ---- Bureau of Land Management (BLM) indicated by brown color

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| <p>01 - Little Canyon Mountain: 700 acres, handpile burning, fuels reduction</p> <p>03 - Hard Corner: 4000 acres, hazardous fuels disposal by mechanical treatment and handpile burning</p> <p>04 - Sunflower: 1200 acres, fire re-introduction</p> <p>05 - Rager WUI: 4500 acres, wildland urban interface fire fuels reduction around Rager Ranger Station</p> <p>06 - Flat Bucket: 500 acres, hazardous fuels removal</p> <p>07 - Barn: 500 acres, hazardous fuels disposal</p> <p>08 - Fryton: 450 acres, fuels reduction & grapple pile burning, Fry Creek area</p> <p>09 - Deep: 2000 acres, mechanical treatment & hand pile burning</p> <p>10 - Zane: 900 acres, activity fuels reduction</p> <p>13 - West Maury: 1000 acres, hazardous fuels reduction</p> | <p>14 - Spears: 500 acres, Marks Creek area</p> <p>15 - South Prairie: hazardous fuels reduction</p> <p>20 - Rocky: 600 acres, hazardous fuels reduction</p> <p>21 - Trout: 350 acres, fire re-introduction</p> <p>22 - Gable Creek: 300 acres, hazard fuel reduction - prescribed burn</p> <p>25 - Fishsticks: 175 acres, hazardous fuel reduction</p> <p>34 - Rudio: 80 acres, mechanical treatment to reduce hazardous fuels</p> <p>35 - White Butte: 120 acres, thinning & machine pile burning</p> <p>36 - Foley: 375 acres, hazardous fuels reduction</p> <p>37 - Catfish: 154 acres, hazardous fuels reduction</p> <p>39 - Ochoco Valley: 1000 acres of Wildland Urban Interface fuels reduction</p> <p>40 - Bull: 450 acres, hazardous fuels reduction</p> |
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NEED MORE INFORMATION? Contact Shaun Larson (BLM), 416-6699 or Jeff Bell (FS), 416-6417
GENERAL FIRE INFORMATION:

Visit the Central Oregon Interagency Dispatch Center Website at: www.fs.fed.us/r6/centraloregon/fire
TO REPORT A FIRE call 911 or 1-800-314-2560

CENTRAL OREGON FIRE MANAGEMENT SERVICE, RIVERS AND PRAIRIE DIVISIONS

Who plans hazard fuel reduction projects?

Hazard fuel reduction projects reduce the unnatural build-up of fuel in the forest. Fuels can be *natural fuels*, (forest vegetation or debris) *activity fuels* (debris left over from woodcutters or forest thinning projects) or *ladder fuels* (small trees or brush that carry a ground fire up into the canopy).

Resource specialists and fire managers from the US Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management and Oregon State Department of Forestry work closely together planning, implementing and monitoring hazard fuel reduction projects. Project locations and treatment methods are chosen carefully, with specific objectives. Land management agencies coordinate prescribed burning with Oregon Department of Environmental Quality to ensure compliance with national clean air standards.

Why burn?

✎ **Reduce** hazard fuels which lessens wildfire intensity making them easier to control and reduces suppression costs.

✎ **Maintain** and improve forest health by recycling nutrients, decreasing competition for water and sunlight and increasing resistance to bugs and disease.

✎ **Improve** wildlife habitat by increasing food supplies such as native grasses, forbs and shrubs.

What about the smoke it creates?

Smoke from prescribed burning is a short-term effect of restoring healthy forests and is a mere fraction of the amount of smoke generated by high-intensity wildfires.

Most smoke from pre-

scribed fires disperses quickly. Fire managers monitor the smoke from their burns, and try to avoid burning during poor smoke dispersal conditions.

The goal is always to have prescribed fires burn quickly, cleanly, under control and for smoke to be carried up and away from the area. Conditions are watched constantly and many times, scheduled burns are cancelled at the last minute if things aren't right for meeting that goal. Weather and winds are unpredictable and there is always a chance that smoke will end up in the valleys.

Does prescribed fire protect private property?

Private property may benefit from a nearby hazard fuels reduction project, though there are no guarantees. Reducing forest fuels reduces flame lengths, increasing the ability of firefighters to safely protect a home. Prescribed fire also reduces potential for long-distance spotting from a wildfire.

Homeowners can increase the chances of their homes surviving wildfire by creating *survivable* space around their property. For more information visit: www.firefree.org.

How long will it take to reduce hazardous fuels?

It is safe to assume that prescribed burning and mechanical treatments such as thinning and mowing will continue to be important tools for improving and maintaining forest and grassland health for years to come. With the assistance of new administrative processes and funding made available through legislation such as the Healthy Forests Restoration Act and the Healthy Forest Initiative, land management

agencies will continually look for ways to accomplish the work to be done.



COMMUNITY WILDFIRE PLANNING UPDATE- Wildfire is a natural part of central Oregon. Every summer thunderstorms move across central Oregon bringing thousands of lightning strikes along with the name "lightning alley." Historically, fires touched off by such storms were generally small and thinned much of the forest. However, years of successful fire suppression have led to a buildup of vegetation that causes extreme fire behavior. Increasing numbers of residents and visitors boost the chance of fires started by recreation use, trash burning, cigarettes, and industrial equipment. This combination of increased fuel and ignition sources means that more acres have burned over the past five years in central Oregon than burned in the previous century.

To address the buildup of fuel on the federal lands, the Prineville District BLM, and the Ochoco and Deschutes National Forests work together to reduce the potential for catastrophic wildfire around communities at risk. As part of a five-year plan to reduce the threat of catastrophic fire moving into communities, forests and rangelands in the wildland urban interface in central Oregon will be subjected to a variety of treatments including thinning, mowing, chipping, and burning.

