



**Malheur National Forest, Blue Mt. Ranger District
Canyon Creek HFRA Project**

Location:

The Canyon Creek WUI Project is located south east of John Day and Canyon City Oregon. The project is adjacent to the WUI of Canyon City, in Grant County and is being planned using the HFRA authorities.

Project:

This project is being implemented as an HFRA project. The planning area is approximately 28,300 acres, anticipated treatment acres is approximately 20,000 acres.

The Canyon Creek Wildland Urban Interface Project is intended to reduce hazardous fuel levels in the wildland urban interface of the Canyon Creek Watershed, and to alter the condition classes within the watershed and WUI.

Canyon Creek WUI Project will analyze about 28,300 acres of NFS land. The Forest is in the early stages of collaboration, however anticipated treatments include:

- ❖ mechanical treatments and prescribed fire to alter the stand structure on up to 16,600 acres,
- ❖ treatment by prescribed fire only,
- ❖ thinning and other stand alterations to reduce hazardous fuels.

Initial data collection is nearly completed through a contract. A second contractor has been hired to lead the community and forest through a collaborative process in preparation for scoping and development of an EA. Implementation of the project is anticipated to use the stewardship contracting authority

Adjacent landowners have conducted limited fuels reduction projects through National Fire Plan grants through the Oregon State Department of Forestry. When the Canyon City WUI Project is completed, along with adjacent projects on BLM lands, a significant portion of the landscape will have been treated and can enter the maintenance phase.

The County is currently working on the implementation plan for their Community Wildfire Protection Plan.

Partners:

Grant County has contributed \$146,000 from Payments to States Title III to assist in accomplishment of this planning project. In addition to Grant County, other partners include, Canyon City, BLM Prineville District, Oregon Dept. of Forestry, adjacent landowners.

Contact: Jennifer Harris, Malheur NF Public Affairs Officer, (541) 575-3008