

Burns District, Bureau of Land Management Three Rivers Resource Area Lake Creek/Boone Canyon Forest Restoration Project

Location:

This project is located in Harney County, Oregon on the west side of the Silvies River, north to Lake Creek and south to Boone Canyon. Lake Creek and Boone Canyon are approximately 15 miles northwest of Burns, Oregon. This project is being planned as an HFRA project. The project area is approximately 3,050 acres.

Purpose:

The projects will 1) increase human safety; 2) reduce the risk of fire spreading onto adjacent private land; 3) reduce the risk of stand-replacing wildfires; and, 4) prevent the spread of insect infestation, and disease. Furthermore, the project will improve forest and range health and vigor, improve and restore wildlife habitats of various species (including sage grouse), and enhance watershed conditions.

The project's goals will be achieved through numerous forestry and fuel treatments, such as, a combination of ponderosa pine and Douglas fir thinning, removal of western juniper, treatments to reinvigorate aspen and the use of prescribed fire. The treatments will be implemented in four vegetative communities: 1) low/stiff sagebrush flats; 2) mountain big sagebrush/bunchgrasses currently dominated by western juniper and ponderosa pine; ponderosa pine and Douglas fir/bluegrasses forest types; and 4) aspen stands. Some of this work may be accomplished with the use of stewardship contracts. Treatments are scheduled to start begin in the spring of 2005.

Partners:

This project was developed in consultation and coordination with an array of groups, including: Harney County Court, Harney County Watershed Council, Harney Soil and Water Conservation District, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, Southeast Oregon Resource Advisory Council, Malheur National Forest, (Emigrant Creek Ranger District), the Forest Service Pacific Northwest Research Station (LaGrande, Oregon), numerous adjacent landowners, and livestock permittees.

Contact:

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