



U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management

News Release

Canyon Country District, UT

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Prescribed Fires Planned for Fall and Winter Months in San Juan County

MOAB, Utah—The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Canyon Country Fire Zone will conduct a number of prescribed fires on public lands in San Juan County during the fall and winter months. Conducting prescribed burns reduces the wildfire risk for adjacent communities, restores ecosystem health and enhances wildlife habitat.

Prescribed fires are planned for the following locations:

- Ray Mesa II (southeast of Old La Sal) – understory broadcast burning in Ponderosa pine within an area previously treated to remove encroaching pinyon and juniper trees totaling 136 acres;
- Devil Canyon (between Monticello and Blanding at Canyon Terrace, adjacent to Highway 191) – pile burning for approximately 600 acres of brush piles, and;
- San Juan River (near the town of Bluff in the Sand Island Campground area) – pile burning of brush piles located along the river corridor.

Fire personnel from the Canyon Country Fire Zone will conduct the burns and monitor fire conditions. Prescribed burns are only conducted under favorable weather and vegetation conditions, and smoke may be visible from adjacent highways or in local communities. Smoke from prescribed burns generally lifts and dissipates during the warmest part of the day, but can linger over burn areas and in drainages as temperatures drop during the evening hours.

Prescribed burns will be posted on www.UtahFireInfo.gov. Local radio stations will be notified the day before burning begins.

The BLM manages more than 245 million acres of public land, the most of any Federal agency. This land, known as the National System of Public Lands, is primarily located in 12 Western states, including Alaska. The BLM also administers 700 million acres of sub-surface mineral estate throughout the nation. The BLM's multiple-use mission is to sustain the health, diversity, and productivity of the public lands for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations. In Fiscal Year 2012, activities on public lands generated \$4.6 billion in revenue, much of which was shared with the States where the activities occurred. In addition, public lands contributed more than \$112 billion to the U.S. economy and helped support more than 500,000 jobs.

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