



BLM News



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For Immediate Release

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**BLM FIRE OFFICIALS TO IMPLEMENT PRESCRIBED FIRE
IN RICH COUNTY
LOCATED NEAR BEAR RIVER, WYOMING.**

SLC September 13 - Fire Officials of the Salt Lake Field Office, BLM, in coordination with county and state fire managers, are preparing to light a prescribed burn, called Desert #1, located along the northern Utah-Wyoming border, west of the Deer Mountain subdivision in Bear River, Wyoming. The 136-acre prescribed fire is aimed at reducing the thick sagebrush, in order to protect neighboring residents and property. If weather permits, fire crews will complete the prescribed fire the week of September 13. The actual fire operation is expected to take only one day. Monitoring of the fire's success will begin immediately and continue for several years.

Dan Washington, Project Coordinator, said, "We completed a prescribed fire last year near the Deseret #1 project site and have seen the grass come alive where older sagebrush once dominated. Our expectations are high for this project also, having seen the way the vegetation responded after the previous prescribed fire." Additional benefits from the fire include improved wildlife habitat while increasing health of the watershed by stimulating new growth. Proposed fuel reduction projects such as Deseret #1 are part of a national initiative referred to as the National Fire Plan (www.fireplan.gov).

The SLFO has also been working with the local Wyoming fire managers, leaders, and interested citizens to develop a community wildfire plan in Bear River. Ultimately, the success of Deseret #1 depends upon collaboration between local, state and private entities.

Information and links about wildland fire in Utah can be found on the Internet at www.utahfireinfo.gov.

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