



National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior

Lava Beds  
National Monument

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## Lava Beds National Monument News Release

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**September 26, 2014**

### **Lava Beds National Monument Plans Prescribed Fire**

Lava Beds National Monument plans to implement the Post Office Prescribed Fire between October and December if conditions become favorable. The 58 acre unit is primarily a grass-shrubland, juniper woodland mix. The brush around the few Ponderosa pine in the unit will be thinned to reduce their risk of burning. Last treated in 1995, this prescribed fire mimics the 20 to 50 year cycle of naturally occurring fire and limits the possibility of spread outside the unit. It also reduces the risk of structure loss in the event of a wildfire by removing accumulated hazardous wildland fuels.

This prescribed fire is located adjacent to the campground, visitor center and employee housing area in the monument. Closures of portions of the campground and Three Sisters Trail will be temporarily implemented for public safety.

A smoke management plan has been approved by the local air district. Wind directions that are likely to carry smoke to sensitive areas will be avoided.

As with every prescribed fire, the Post Office Prescribed Fire will be ignited only when sufficient firefighting resources are in place and weather conditions are favorable enough to give firefighters the upper hand in containing them to designated areas. Resources from the Modoc National Forest and Klamath Basin National Wildlife Refuge may be used to assist in the prescribed fire.

Fire Management Officer Chris Orr stated, "Using fire as a tool helps decrease risks to life, property and resources and helps perpetuate resource values for which Lava Beds National Monument was established." He further adds, "During all of these operations public and firefighter safety is the number one consideration in everything we do."

For additional information, call Lava Beds' Fire Management Officer at 530-667-8122.

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Lava Beds National Monument, established in 1925, is a land of turmoil, both geologic and historic. Over the last half-million years, volcanic eruptions have created a rugged landscape

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dotted with diverse volcanic features. Lava tube caves, Native American sites, historic battlefields and a high desert wilderness experience await you!

For more information about visiting Lava Beds National Monument, call 530-667-8113, email [labe\\_interpretation@nps.gov](mailto:labe_interpretation@nps.gov), or go to [www.nps.gov/labe](http://www.nps.gov/labe). Also, visit the park's Facebook and Twitter pages.

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