

Ochoco and Deschutes National Forests and
Prineville District, Bureau of Land Management
Office of Communications
Working as One to Serve Central Oregon

News and Information
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Little Canyon Mountain Timber Sale

CANYON CITY/JOHN DAY- D.R. Johnson Lumber Company was the high bidder for a 586-acre commercial timber sale in a competitive oral bid auction at the John Day BLM office in Grant County. The sale, which includes 2, 772 thousand board feet of Ponderosa pine and Douglas fir, sold for nearly twice the appraised value at \$173, 180.

Bidders were advised the project is currently under protest and possible appeal, which may cause significant delays in awarding the contract. The purchaser may elect to begin operations on the sale, however an adverse ruling could cause the sale to be suspended.

A primary objective of the project is to reduce hazardous fuels on Little Canyon Mountain in an effort to protect natural resources and adjacent residential areas from catastrophic loss due to wildfire. The sale will also improve forest health by reducing stand densities, competition and stress among trees. Thinning promotes healthier and more vigorous tree stands that are better able to resist parasitic insect infestations.

“This project is a response to local citizens’ concerns about the build up of hazardous fuels on public lands adjacent to their community. If we can move forward with the contract, it’s a positive step towards reducing the fire hazard,” said Central Oregon Area Manager Tina Welch.

The timber sale represents the first phase of the Little Canyon Mountain Fuels Reduction project. Two additional contracts for precommercial thinning, slash removal and road improvements are scheduled to follow.

Little Canyon Mountain is comprised of 2000 acres of BLM forest land located between the city limits of Canyon City to the north, Little Pine Creek to the east, Canyon Creek to the west and the Strawberry Mountain Wilderness to the south.

For more information regarding the Little Canyon Mountain project, visit our website at <http://www.or.blm.gov/Prineville/LCM/home/htm> or contact Brent Ralston at (541) 416-6713.

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