

# BLM NEWS



**NEW MEXICO TEXAS OKLAHOMA KANSAS**

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## **PRESCRIBED BURN PLANNED FOR POTTER COUNTY**

**Amarillo, Texas** – Returning to nature sometimes requires a little assistance. To reintroduce native plants and growth to federally managed lands northwest of Amarillo, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) plans to conduct a prescribed burn on public lands near the Canadian River and east of Highway 87/287. The planned start date for this activity is **February 1, 2004**.

The prescribed burn will cover approximately 4,000 acres of native short-grass prairie and mesquite. The actual start of this activity is dependent on weather conditions, however once the burn is initiated, it will take about 4 to 5 days to achieve desired results.

The **Crossbar Prescribed Fire** is east of Highway 87/287 and is located approximately 20 miles northwest of Amarillo, TX. The goal of this project is to employ prescribed burns ignited by the BLM fire crew to reduce the densities of encroaching mesquite, and hazardous fuel loadings that contribute to high intensity wildfires, rejuvenate native grasses, and enhance wildlife habitat.

During burn days, smoke may be visible from the City of Amarillo and U.S. Highway 87/287. Therefore, "Prescribed Fire in Progress" signs will be posted on the north and south bound lanes of Highway 87/287. This burn alert is open through **April 30, 2004**.

For more information contact: Paul Tanner at 806.356.1008 or Todd Richards at 505.761.8769.