Feds announce \$10 million for wildfire projects

By KEITH RIDLER **Associated Press**

MARSING, Idaho - Interior Secretary Sally Jewell on Tuesday toured a massive wildfire rehabilitation effort in southwest Idaho that's part of the federal government's new wildfire strategy and then announced \$10 million for projects in 12 states to reduce wildfire threats.

"It's easy for folks to think we can't respond quickly, but we can respond quickly," Jewell told about 30 federal land managers gathered in the small town of Marsing before heading out to an area where a wildfire last year scorched 436 square miles in Idaho and Oregon.

Jewell issued a secretarial order last year calling for a "science-based" approach to safeguard greater sage grouse while contending with fires that have been especially destructive in the Great Basin. The order also calls for rehabilitating burned areas,



Darin Oswald/Idaho Statesman via AP

Interior Secretary Sally Jewell tours the Blackstock Springs area, Tuesday, where the Soda Mountain Fire in August of 2015 charred over 280,000 acres of public and private land along the Idaho-Oregon border.

and her visit to Idaho gave her a chance to check up on the work.

"One of the things that is very gratifying about what is going on here is that it's putting the secretarial order into action," she said, standing on the side of a hill overlooking thousands of acres that have undergone rehabilitation.

The U.S. Bureau of Land Management has partnered with the U.S. Geological Survey to see

which rehabilitation efforts work best. Some 2,000 sample monitoring plots are being tracked to measure results of techniques that could become templates for future wildfire rehabilitation efforts.

They're looking at doing the research necessary to understand what's happening on this landscape to apply in the future," Jewell said. "That's not something that would have happened before this focus on rangelands and this understating of this sagebrush habitat and its importance.

Experts say trying to get in desirable plants to prevent non-native invasive species, particularly fire-prone cheatgrass, coming back is a key part of the rehab plan.

"We have to put in a functioning ecosystem," Cindy Fritz, a natural resource specialist with the Boise District of the U.S. Bureau of Land Management, told Jewell.

Sagebrush steppe supports cattle grazing and some 350 species of wildlife, including sage

grouse. The bird didn't receive federal protections under the Endangered Species Act last fall, but various efforts to protect sage

grouse habitat have been put in place. Those efforts continued Tuesday when Jewell, following her tour of the rehabilitation area, announced in Boise the \$10 million worth of projects mostly

habitat from burning. The money is part of the Wildland Fire Resilient Landscapes Program intended to restore public lands.

aimed at preventing sage grouse

Dan Buckley, a member of the National Multi-Agency Coordinating Group at the National Interagency Fire Center in Boise that deploys the nation's wildfire fighting resources, said Jewell's order has caused a change in how sagebrush steppe is viewed.

"Now that it's elevated as a secretarial priority it's become more important to the larger firefighting community," he said.

Television > Today's highlights



Stephen Amell stars in "Arrow"

Arrow

WPIX 5:00 p.m.

Oliver Queen (Stephen Amell) looks to join forces with someone surprising in order to put a stop to Damien Darhk's (Neal McDonough) magic once and for all in this season finale. David Ramsey and Emily Bett Rickards also star in this acclaimed series.

Heartbeat

25 KNDU KGW 8:00 p.m.

In this season finale, Alex (Melissa George) struggles to save Jesse (Don Hany), Pierce (Dave Annable) and Ji-Sung (Maya Erskine) after a mysterious illness strikes the hospital. Alex disobeys the orders of the

My 600-lb Life: Where Are They Now?: Supersized

Find out how participants are doing in this new special edition. Pauline struggles to find the will to stay true to her weight-loss journey after a medical emergency. Meanwhile, Chaye finally comes to terms

with being a transgender woman. **Wayward Pines**

KFFX KPTV 9:00 p.m.

When Dr. Theo Yedlin (Jason Patric) awakens from suspended animation, he discovers there's a rebellion brewing around him in this seathe shocking events of last season's finale.

Bering Sea Gold

DISC 9:00 p.m.

After waiting all season, it's finally time for Shawn to take the Christine Rose down to the Bluff in this new episode. In Nome, Vernon hopes to hit it big lest he lose his \$200,000 investment. Elsewhere, Zeke and Emily find common ground.

Criminal Minds: Beyond Borders (19) KEPR KOIN 10:00 p.m.

When an American couple visits Haiti to adopt a child, their daughter is kidnapped in this season finale. The International Response Team races to the island nation to look for her. Sherry Stringfield guest stars as Karen, Jack's (Gary Sinise) wife.

Nashville

42 KVEW KATU 10:00 p.m.

When Rayna (Connie Britton) learns that Maddie (Lennon Stella) has crossed paths with a shady character from her past, she resorts to drastic measures in this season finale. Meanwhile, Juliette (Hayden Panettiere) carefully considers her next move.

Little Women: NY LIFE 10:00 p.m.

The friends finally meet Katie's boyfriend, P.J., in this new episode. However, when they express their concerns about the health and wellbeing of Katie and her baby, drama erupts. Also, the group visits a pumpkin patch.

Talk shows

Northwest

6:00 a.m. 42 KVEW Good Morning Northwest

WPIX Maury Maury celebrates his 3000th episode by sharing his favorite moments <u>from</u> the show. 6:30 a.m. 42 KVEW Good Morning

7:00 a.m. 19 KEPR KOIN CBS This Morning

25 KNDU KGW Today Show Today's eatured series: the new middle age. 42 KVEW KATU Good Morning

8:00 a.m. WPIX The Jerry Springer

9:00 a.m. 19 KEPR The Meredith Vieira Show Meredith takes a look back at the crime stories she covered

25 KNDU KGW Today Show II Today's guests include Sean Hayes and Robert 42 KVEW Live! With Kelly Kelly's

co-host today is Seal along with guests Stephen Amell. **ALN** The Balancing Act WPIX The Jerry Springer Show Martez doesn't know that Andrea was born

a male; Ladeja wants to confront her 10:00 a.m. 25 KNDU KGW Today Show III Fox Vance performs on Today. 42 KVEW KATU The View **HALL** Home and Family

WPIX The Bill Cunningham Show Employers who have had enough

drama in the workplace seek help from 11:00 a.m. **25** KNDU The Wendy Williams Show

KGW The Dr. Oz Show KATU Live! With Kelly Kelly's co-host

Noon KPTV The Rachael Ray Show

today is Seal along with guests Stephen

31 KTNW Charlie Rose 42 KVEW KATU The Chew HALL Home and Family
WPIX The Steve Wilkos Show 1:00 p.m. KPTV The Wendy Williams

ED KEPR KOIN The Talk OPB Charlie Rose 2:00 p.m. KPTV The Real KOIN 42 KVEW The Doctors KATU The Meredith Vieira Show Meredith takes a look back at the crime stories she covered this year. 3:00 p.m. 19 KEPR KOIN Dr. Phil

42 KVEW The Rachael Ray Show KATU Steve Harvey 4:00 p.m. 25 KNDU The Ellen DeGeneres Show
42 KVEW FABLife

KGW The Ellen DeGeneres Show

9:30 p.m. HBO3 Last Week Tonight With John Oliver 10:30 p.m. HBO Last Week Tonight With John Oliver 11:00 p.m. **31 KTNW** Charlie Rose

TBS Conan HBO2 Real Time With Bill Maher 11:05 p.m. 42 KVEW Jimmy Kimmel

11:35 p.m. 19 KEPR KOIN The Late Show With Stephen Colbert **25** KNDU KGW The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon KATU Jimmy Kimmel Live 12:30 a.m. TBS Conan 12:35 a.m. **25** KNDU KGW Late Night

With Seth Meyers

19 KEPR KOIN The Late Late Show With James Corden Anna Paquin, John Cena and Fleur East visit. 1:35 a.m. 25 KNDU KGW Last Call

Pendleton East-Oregonian, OR: Talk Shows May

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621 :05 Outlander "Faith" **STARZ NIGHT OWL**

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Outlander "Faith

★★ Don't Say a Word Michael Douglas.

:05 Girlfrnd ♥ ★★ First Sunday Ice Cube

:45 ♥ ★★★ St. Vincent

:05 🛠 Kill the Messenger Jeremy Renner.

:15 ♥ ★★★ The DUFF Mae Whitman.

:10 ♥ ★★★ Bull Durham Kevin Costner