

NPS and USFS have completed a draft joint plan to manage the Caldwell Cougar Butte Communal Bald Eagle Roost in and adjacent to Lava Beds National Monument. The draft recommends that the agencies maintain current timber stand overstory characteristics and ensure long-term health, regeneration and recruitment of Ponderosa pine into the overstory, thus providing suitable winter roosts in the future for approximately 50-90 of the 500 bald eagles that winter in the Klamath Basin. The draft also recommends the use of hazard fuel reduction in and around the roost and the minimizing of human disturbance during the

winter roosting period.

On Oct. 19-20, Steven Underwood, Resource Manager at Lava Beds National Monument, led a mini-symposium on the park's prescribed fire management program. Three NPS scientists, one U'Cal scientist, and a retired USDA scientist met with park staff and local state Fish and Game Department personnel to review the park's ongoing prescribed fire program and its impact on native wildlife and non-native plants. They concluded that the program was "on track," but identified and discussed further research that would benefit the prescribed fire program.