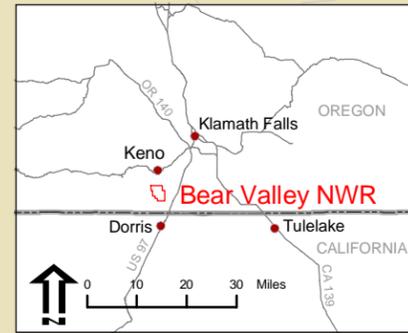


# Bear Valley National Wildlife Refuge

## Wildfire History 1936 - 2005



**Location:**  
Near Worden, OR

**Acreage:**  
4,208

**Established:**  
May 31, 1978

**Total Wildfires:**  
6

**Percentage of Zone Total:**  
3

**Cause Type:**

Natural	6
Camp Fire	0
Smoking	0
Fire Use	0
Incendiary	0
Equipment Use	0
Railroads	0
Juveniles	0
Miscellaneous	0
Unknown	0

Bear Valley National Wildlife Refuge is the newest of the Klamath Basin component refuges, established in late May, 1978. The first parcels of refuge lands were grounds condemned for the preservation of vital night roosting and nesting habitat for bald eagles. Bear Valley is recognized as the largest night roost for wintering bald eagles in the contiguous United States.

It took more than a decade to acquire all of the lands which today make up Bear Valley refuge, an effort involving a number of federal, state, non-profit and private organizations. The refuge is bordered on three sides by the rural communities of Keno and Worden, Oregon. As such, the refuge has a large wildland-urban interface, sharing common boundaries with neighboring homes. In order to protect these communities and maintain the vital nesting and roosting resources, thousands of refuge acres have been subjected to hazardous fuels reducing treatments.

These treatments include mechanical slashbusting, hand thinning with chainsaws and prunners, selective timber sales and prescribed burning. The fuels treatments have reduced the massive accumulations of vegetative debris and made managing and suppressing unwanted wildfires safer for firefighters.

Despite the heavy urban influence surrounding Bear Valley, all of the refuges known six wildfires were lightning caused. Most of the fires were less than one acre and quickly extinguished before threatening lives or property. Prior to the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service managing the lands encompassing Bear Valley, there was at least one major wildfire that burned a large portion of the present day refuge in 1926.

### Wildfire Location Type Descriptions

**Calculated:** The wildfire is calculated to a central point based upon reported legal location or specific place description. Examples include 48N, 2E, Section 28 or middle of Unit C-4 at waters edge.

**General:** The wildfire is location is based upon a general area description. Examples include Southwest Sump of Tule Lake NWR or Unit 4 of Lower Klamath NWR.

**GPS:** The wildfire location was determined using a geographic positioning system and supporting software, providing a specific latitude and longitude. An example is 41 degrees, 52 minutes, 54.33 seconds north by 121 degrees, 14 minutes, 12.98 seconds west, NAD 83.

**Unknown:** The wildfire location was recorded only in relation to the refuge it occurred on. Historical records and research did not provide any additional information. An example would be a wildfire listed as 1954, Tule Lake NWR.

Number	Name	Year	Acreage
B01	Robin	1988	1.0
B02	Bear Valley	1990	0.3
B03	No Way	1992	0.1
B04	Roost	2001	5
B05	Tire	2001	0.2
B06	Fence	2005	0.1

### Wildfire Location Type

- Calculated
- GPS
- Roads
- Bear Creek
- Refuge Boundary

0 0.25 0.5 0.75 Miles

