



Courtney Taylor Photo

Cariboo Fire Centre's **Graham Cameron** looks on as a prescribed fire burns at Becher's Prairie, which is on the other side of Sheep Creek bridge, Sunday afternoon. The fire was all part of ecosystem restoration in the area.

Becher's Prairie out west gets some TLC

Courtney Taylor
Cariboo Advisor
Cariboo Fire Centre (CFC) crews had the chance to play with fire over the weekend by helping to conduct prescribed burns out in the Becher's Prairie area

Sunday afternoon. "CFC personal were responsible for conducting the burning and ensuring the burns were successful and contained within the burn area," said Jenny Fremlin, Fire

Information Officer for the CFC. The area in question was a 78-hectare piece of land in Becher's Prairie, which is a fire-maintained ecosystem according to Hugh Flinton, Ecosystem

Restoration Manager for the Cariboo region. "The prescribed fires that were conducted will assist in the enhancement of the native grasslands and their co-dependent plant and animal spe-

cies, including curlews and sharp-tailed grouse," said Flinton. "As well, the burns will increase grass and other forage for wildlife and domestic cattle, and will reduce forest fuel loading, which will

help mitigate forest fire concerns in the future." The overcast weather, mild winds and low humidity on Sunday met the requirements of the fire prescription, according to Flinton.