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# LANE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

## NEWS RELEASE



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**CASE NUMBER:** 11-5373

**DATE/TIME OF INCIDENT:** 07/26/11 - 11:30pm

**DATE/TIME OF RELEASE:** 07/27/11 - 5:00 am

**NATURE OF STORY:** Theft Investigation

**LOCATION:** BLM land, off Highway 36, southwest of Junction City

**INVOLVED:** Brian K. Butterfield, 45, of rural Veneta

### **DETAILS:**

At approximately 11:30 pm on 07-26-11, Lane County Sheriff's deputies, acting on tip information received by the Sheriff's Office, responded to a remote area of Bureau of Land Management land southwest of Junction City off Highway 36.

It had been reported that a vehicle in the area was driving around suspiciously. Information suggested the vehicle might be connected to a wire theft incident earlier in the day in the area of High Pass Road and Oaklea, which left almost 1000 residents without telephone service.

Deputies Ryan Lane, Les Siczkowski and Todd May responded to a secluded and overgrown BLM spur road in the area and located a subject (subsequently identified as Brian K. Butterfield, 45, of Veneta). Butterfield was with a vehicle matching the description of the one reported as suspicious in the area. Butterfield was making preparations to alter the stolen wire to make it easier to sell as scrap metal. The wire was recovered.

Butterfield was taken into custody without incident, a woman with Butterfield was briefly detained and released. It is unusual to recover stolen metal in incidents like this, as it is often (as was the attempt here) quickly altered then sold. Butterfield was transported to the Lane County Jail pending the filing of formal charges related to the theft and possession of methamphetamine.

**Prepared by: Capt. Bill Thompson**

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