



Oregon

Kate Brown, Governor

Department of Forestry

Northeast Oregon District

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NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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"Stewardship in
Forestry"

Regulated-Use Closure terminated on lands protected by Oregon Department of Forestry Fire Season still in effect

As of 12:01 am, September 21, 2021, the Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF) has terminated the Regulated-Use Closure, or Public Use Restrictions for forestlands protected by the Northeast Oregon District. Due to moderating weather and precipitation, the closure and the associated fire prevention restrictions are no longer necessary. Mitch Williams, La Grande Wildland Fire Supervisor, cautions "The recent precipitation has been welcoming across the region, however it's important to stay aware of how quickly conditions can change. A warm or breezy day can dry the lighter fuels out and we can quickly be back into a dangerous fire situation."

While Public Use fire restrictions have eased, Fire Season remains in effect for private, state, county, municipal and tribal lands protected by Oregon Department of Forestry. All open debris burning and burn barrels are prohibited. Campfires are now allowed with landowner permission. Making sure that campfires are always attended is a good step towards fire safety. Ensure the fire is dead out before leaving.

The Northeast Oregon District includes lands in the following counties: Union, Baker, Umatilla, Wallowa and small portions of Grant, Morrow and Malheur counties.

Fire restrictions may differ on lands protected by rural fire departments or lands managed by the US Forest Service or BLM. Check local regulations before burning. More information on fire restrictions can be found the Blue Mountain Interagency Dispatch Center website at www.bmidc.org.

For more information on fire prevention restrictions in the Northeast Oregon District call: (541)975-3027

To report a fire, call the Blue Mountain Interagency Dispatch Center at (541)963-7171, or dial 9-1-1.

<http://bluemountainfireinfo.blogspot.com/> is your spot for current fire information in the Blue Mountains.

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FIRE RESTRICTION INFORMATION FOR OREGON DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY PROTECTED LANDS IN NORTHEAST OREGON, 2021

FOR CURRENT RESTRICTION INFORMATION CALL 541-975-3027 OR VISIT BMIDC.ORG/RESTRICTIONS

Out of Fire Season

- Use of sky lanterns is prohibited throughout the year in Oregon.

MODERATE RESTRICTIONS

- All open debris burning and burn barrels are prohibited (excluding campfires).
- Use of exploding targets is prohibited.
- Use of tracer ammunition or any bullet with a pyrotechnic charge in its base is prohibited.

HIGH RESTRICTIONS

- Debris burning and burn barrels are prohibited.
- Open fires are prohibited, including campfires, charcoal fires, cooking fires, and warming fires, except at designated locations. Portable cooking stoves using liquefied or bottled fuels are allowed. For information on designated campfire locations call your local office.
- Smoking is prohibited while traveling, except in vehicles on improved roads, in boats on the water, or at a cleared area free of flammable vegetation.
- Non-industrial chainsaw use is prohibited between the hours of 12:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m. Chainsaw use is permitted at all other hours if the following firefighting equipment is present with each operating saw: one axe, one shovel, and one 8 ounce or larger fire extinguisher. In addition, a fire watch is required at least one hour following the use of each saw.
- Cutting, grinding, and welding of metal is prohibited, between the hours of 12:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m. Cutting, grinding, and welding of metal is permitted at all other hours, if conducted in a cleared area and if a water supply is present.
- Mowing of dried and cured grass with power driven equipment is prohibited, between the hours of 12:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m., except for the commercial culture and harvest of agricultural crops.
- Any electric fence controller in use shall be :1) Listed by a nationally recognized testing laboratory or be certified by the Department of Consumer and Business Services; and 2) Operated in compliance with manufacturer's instructions:
- Possession of the following firefighting equipment is required while traveling, except on state highways, county roads and driveways: one shovel and one gallon of water or one 2 1/2 pound or larger fire extinguisher.
- Use of fireworks is prohibited.
- Use of exploding targets is prohibited.
- Use of tracer ammunition or any bullet with a pyrotechnic charge in its base is prohibited.

EXTREME RESTRICTIONS

- Debris burning is prohibited, including the use of burn barrels.
- Open fires are prohibited, including campfires, charcoal fires, cooking fires, and warming fires.
- Smoking is prohibited while traveling, except in vehicles on improved roads, in boats on the water, or at a cleared area free of flammable vegetation.
- Non-industrial chainsaw use is prohibited.
- Cutting, grinding, and welding of metal is prohibited.
- Mowing of dried and cured grass with power driven equipment is prohibited, except for the commercial culture and harvest of agricultural crops.
- Any electric fence controller in use shall be :1) Listed by a nationally recognized testing laboratory or be certified by the Department of Consumer and Business Services; and 2) Operated in compliance with manufacturer's instructions:
- Possession of the following firefighting equipment is required while traveling, except on state highways, county roads and driveways: one shovel and one gallon of water or one 2 1/2 pound or larger fire extinguisher.
- Use of fireworks is prohibited.
- Use of exploding targets is prohibited.
- Use of tracer ammunition or any bullet with a pyrotechnic charge in its base is prohibited.

*The above public use restrictions are in accordance with ORS 477.535

Local Office Phone Numbers

Baker City: 541-523-5831

La Grande: 541-963-3168

Pendleton: 541-276-3491

Wallowa: 541-886-2881