



BIFZ

Burns Interagency Fire Zone



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Industrial Fire Precaution Level and Public Land Use Restrictions on the Rise

BURNS, Oregon – Continuous hot, dry temperatures and the increased risk of fire have promoted Federal officials to tighten use restrictions on all public land within the Burns Interagency Fire Zone (BIFZ), including the Emigrant Creek Ranger District and the southern portion of the Malheur National Forest. On Friday, July 21, the Industrial Fire Precaution Level (IFPL) will move from a level 2 to a level 3, Partial Shutdown, and a regulated fire closure will be in effect across the entire zone.

IFPL 3 prohibits the following except as indicated:

- cable yarding - except for gravity operated logging systems employing nonmotorized carriages operating between 8 p.m. and 1 p.m. local time when all blocks and moving lines are suspended 10 feet above the ground except the line between the carriage and the chokers;
- power saws - except power saws used at loading sites and on tractor/skidder operations between the hours of 8 p.m. and 1 p.m. local time.

In addition, the following are permitted to operate between the hours of 8 p.m. and 1 p.m. local time:

- tractor, skidder, feller-buncher, forwarder, or shovel logging operations where tractors, skidders, or other equipment with a blade capable of constructing fireline are immediately available to quickly reach and effectively attack a fire start are permitted;
- mechanized loading or hauling of any product or material; blasting;
- welding or cutting of metal;
- any other spark emitting operation not specifically mentioned.

The regulated closure affects all public land within the BIFZ and prohibits ignition of any fireworks, off-road vehicle travel, operating motorized vehicles without a shovel and water or fire extinguisher, smoking out of doors, and parking a vehicle or operating an internal combustion motor in an area not free of vegetation. Campfires are permitted only in existing fire rings at the following campgrounds: Chickahominy Reservoir, Page Springs, Jackman Park, Fish Lake, South Steens, Joaquin Miller, Idlewild, Emigrant Creek, Falls, Delintment Lake, Yellowjacket Lake, Buck Springs, and Rock Springs. Fire danger is rated **VERY HIGH**.

Visitors experiencing the outdoors and recreating on public land are encouraged to use extreme caution and report any wildfire immediately by calling (541) 573-1000.

For further information on current fire restrictions, call (541) 573-4519. Recorded information is available 24 hours a day at (541) 573-4555.

