



July 23, 2009

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PUBLIC USE RESTRICTIONS GO INTO EFFECT FOR SOUTH CENTRAL OREGON

Lakeview – Due to the high fire danger in south central Oregon, Public Use Restrictions (PUR) will be in effect beginning at 12:01 a.m. on Saturday, July 25. These restrictions apply to lands managed by the Fremont-Winema National Forests and the Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) Lakeview District.

The only Lakeview District BLM-managed lands not included in this order are those within the Klamath Falls Resource Area that are west of the Langell Valley. This area is under the protection of the Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF). Information regarding restrictions that apply to ODF protected lands may be obtained by calling (541) 883-5681 or visiting the following Web site:

<http://egov.oregon.gov/ODF/FIRE/precautionlevel.shtml>

"Our primary concern is always the safety and protection of human lives," said John Giller, Interagency Deputy Fire Staff for the Fremont-Winema National Forests and the BLM's Lakeview District. "The area's fire danger level continues to rise, making these restrictions necessary to reduce the risk of human caused fires and promote the wellbeing of public land users."

Until further notice, the following restrictions apply:

- Building, maintaining, attending or using campfires or stove fires are allowed only in designated campgrounds/areas. Specific site information may be obtained by contacting your local BLM or Forest Service office.
- Portable cooking stoves utilizing liquefied or bottled fuel sources continue to be allowed on all public lands managed by the BLM's Lakeview District and the Fremont-Winema National Forests.
- Smoking is only allowed in an enclosed vehicle, building, developed recreation site or while stopped in an area at least three feet in diameter that is void of all flammable material, including vegetation.

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- A motorized vehicle (this includes all-terrain vehicles, motorcycles, cars, pickups, etc.) may only be operated on roads where vegetation does not come into contact with the vehicle's undercarriage.
- Motorized vehicles parked off roadways must be in an area barren of flammable material, including vegetation.
- Internal combustion engines (generators, etc.) not previously addressed may only be operated within designated campgrounds/areas.
- Power saw operations are prohibited.
- No welding equipment may be used, including acetylene or open flame torches.

The following are additional requirements that apply while restrictions are in place:

- All motorized vehicles must carry the following equipment: (1) one shovel not less than 26 inches in overall length, with a blade not less than eight inches wide; (2) one water container of at least one gallon filled to capacity or a 2.5 pound fully charged fire extinguisher; and (3) one axe or pulaski with a handle at least 26 inches in length and a head weight of not less than two pounds.
- Spark arresting devices must be properly installed and maintained on all internal combustion engines.

Members of the public are cautioned that failure to comply with these restrictions may result in criminal and/or civil penalties.

Additional information on PURs can be found at the following Web sites:

Lakeview Interagency Fire Center

<http://www.scofmp.org/lifc.shtml>

Klamath Falls Interagency Fire Center

<http://www.fs.fed.us/r6/kfifc/intel.html>

For breaking news during the South Central Oregon's fire season, please visit <http://twitter.com/scofmpfireinfo>.

For more information about how you can prevent wildfires, contact your local BLM, Forest Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Park Service or ODF office.