

NEWS Release BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

28910 Hwy 20 West • Hines, Oregon 97738 • <http://www.blm.gov/or/districts/burns>
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INDUSTRIAL FIRE PRECAUTION UP TO LEVEL 4

HINES, Ore. – On Friday, August 17, the Burns Interagency Fire Zone will move from an Industrial Fire Precaution Level (IFPL) 3 to a level 4, general shutdown. Increasing the IFPL to a level 4 stops all industrial operations on public lands within the Burns Interagency Fire Zone, which includes the Emigrant Creek Ranger District of the Malheur National Forest.

A regulated fire closure remains in effect across Harney County, allowing campfires only in designated campgrounds, prohibiting off-road vehicle travel, and prohibiting smoking out of doors, parking a vehicle or operating an internal combustion motor in areas not free of vegetation.

Burns Interagency Fire Zone Fire Management Officer Ken Higle said, “We’ve had significant wildfire activity over the past 6 weeks and a long period of extremely hot and dry weather. Implementing the general shutdown and keeping the public use restrictions in place will give us the best chance of limiting *human-caused* fires when weather and fuel conditions are at their driest.”

Fire Danger is EXTREME on BLM-administered lands and VERY HIGH on U.S. Forest Service-administered lands within the Burns Interagency Fire Zone.

Travelers are advised to remain clear of wildfire areas and report any new fire incident to the Burns Interagency Communication Center at 541-573-1000. Information on existing wildfires with the Burns Interagency Fire Zone can be found online at www.inciweb.org, or by calling (541) 573-4519.

About the BLM: The BLM manages more than 245 million acres of public land – the most of any Federal agency. This land, known as the National System of Public Lands, is primarily located in 12 Western states, including Alaska. The BLM also administers 700 million acres of subsurface mineral estate throughout the nation. In Fiscal Year (FY) 2011, recreational and other activities on BLM-managed land contributed more than \$130 billion to the U.S. economy and supported more than 600,000 American jobs. The Bureau is also one of a handful of agencies that collects more revenue than it spends. In FY 2012, nearly \$5.7 billion will be generated on lands managed by the BLM, which operates on a \$1.1 billion budget. The BLM’s multiple-use mission is to sustain the health and productivity of the public lands for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations. The Bureau accomplishes this by managing such activities as outdoor recreation, livestock grazing, mineral development, and energy production, and by conserving natural, historical, cultural, and other resources on public lands.

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