

NEWSRelease

Bureau of Land Management • BIFZ

28910 Hwy 20 West • Hines, Oregon 97738 • <http://www.blm.gov/or/districts/burns>

Burns Interagency Fire Zone • <http://www.blm.gov/or/districts/burns/fire>

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BLM
Burns District Office

PUBLIC USE RESTRICTIONS ON THE RISE

HINES, Ore. – Despite a two-day cooling trend, officials from the Burns Interagency Fire Zone are tightening Public Use Restrictions in the area in preparation for above average temperatures in the coming week. The regulated fire closure currently in effect on the east side of Steens Mountain will extend to include all Bureau of Land Management (BLM) administered lands within the Burns Interagency Fire Zone beginning on Thursday, September 1. The regulated fire closure prohibits:

1. Woodcutting between 1:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m.
2. Building, maintaining, attending, or using a fire, campfire or stove fire, including charcoal briquette fire, *except at Chickahominy, Page Springs, Jackman Park, Fish Lake, and South Steens Campgrounds*. Liquefied and bottled gas stoves and heaters are permitted. When used outside of developed recreation sites, stoves and heaters must be used within an area at least 10 feet in diameter that is barren or clear of all flammable material.
3. Smoking outside of a vehicle, trailer or building, except within areas barren of all flammable materials for at least a 3-foot diameter, or on boats on rivers and lakes.
4. Operating any type of motorized vehicle without a shovel and a container with at least 1-gallon of water, or a fully charged 2.5-pound fire extinguisher.
5. Operating any type of motorized vehicle off existing roadways or parking vehicles on roadways not clear of all flammable materials. *Vehicles must be parked on developed roadways, which are those areas clear of flammable debris, berm to berm.*

A map of the closure area is available at the Burns District BLM Office, 28910 Hwy 20 West in Hines. Visitors should use extreme caution when visiting public lands this time of year and remember ignition of fireworks on all public land is prohibited.

Recent wildfire activity in the Burns Interagency Fire Zone remained calm for the last several days. The Desert Meadows and Smyth Creek fires have minimal to no burning activity within the fire perimeter and are expected to be contained by weeks end. South Steens Campground on Steens Mountain will be reopened the afternoon of September 1.

Fire danger is currently rated VERY HIGH and the Industrial Fire Precaution Level is a Level 3. The regulated fire closure for all BLM-administered land within the Burns Interagency Fire Zone will remain in effect until further notice.

To report a wildfire, call 573-1000.

For more information on current wildfire activity or Public Use Restrictions, call 573-4519.

