

# NEWS Release

Bureau of Land Management • Forest Service

BLM Prineville District Office - 3050 NE Third Street - Prineville, Oregon 97754 - [www.blm.gov/or/districts/prineville](http://www.blm.gov/or/districts/prineville)  
Deschutes National Forest – 63095 Deschutes Market Rd. – Bend, Oregon 97702 - [www.fs/fed/us/r6/centraloregon](http://www.fs/fed/us/r6/centraloregon)  
Ochoco National Forest – 3160 NE Third Street – Prineville, Oregon 97754 – [www.fs/fed/us/r6/centraloregon](http://www.fs/fed/us/r6/centraloregon)

**BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT  
FOREST SERVICE**  
For release: July 29, 2013

**Contact: Lisa Clark  
(541) 416-6864**

**BLM  
FOREST SERVICE**

## **FIRE RESTRICTIONS BEGIN IN CENTRAL OREGON THIS WEEK; INDUSTRIAL FIRE PRECAUTION LEVEL ALSO SET TO INCREASE**

*Central Oregon* – With hot and dry conditions expected to continue and a series of human-caused fires on public land, the Prineville District Bureau of Land Management, the Deschutes National Forest and the Crooked River National Grassland of the Ochoco National Forest are implementing campfire restrictions. Effective 12:01 a.m. August 2, 2013 (Friday), open fires, including charcoal fires, **will be prohibited, except** in the following designated campgrounds:

***Crescent Ranger District:*** Contorta Flat, Contorta Point, Crescent Lake, Odell Creek, Princess Creek, Simax Beach, Simax Group, Spring, Sunset Cove, Trapper Creek, Whitefish Horse Camp, Windy Group Site, Industrial Mushroom Camp (Little Odell Butte)

***Bend-Ft. Rock Ranger District:*** Crane Prairie, Cultus Lake, Elk Lake, Fall River, Fall River Guard Station, Gull Point, Lava Lake, Little Cultus Lake, Little Fawn, Little Fawn Group, Little Lava Lake, Mallard Marsh, North Twin, Point, Quinn Meadow Horse Camp, Quinn River, Rock Creek, Sheep Bridge, South, South Twin, West South, Big River Group, Bull Bend, Wyeth, Cinder Hill, East Lake, Little Crater, Newberry, Ogden Group, Paulina Lake, Prairie

***Sisters Ranger District:*** Allen Springs, Allingham, Blue Bay, Camp Sherman, Candle Creek, Cold Spring, Driftwood, Gorge, Graham Corral, Indian Ford, Jack Creek, Link Creek, Lower Bridge, Lower Canyon Creek, Perry South, Pine Rest, Pioneer Ford, Riverside, Scout Lake, Sheep Spring, Smiling River, South Shore, Suttle Lake, Three Creeks Lake, Three Creeks Meadow, Three Creeks Horse Camp, Whispering Pine

***Crooked River National Grassland:*** Skull Hollow and Haystack Reservoir

***Prineville BLM:*** Big Bend, Castle Rock, Still Water, Lone Pine, Palisades, Chimney Rock, Cobble Rock, Post Pile, and Poison Butte.

These restrictions do not apply to Wilderness areas on the Deschutes National Forest.

In addition to campfire restrictions, smoking is restricted to an enclosed vehicle or building, in a designated campground, in boats on lakes and rivers, or while stopped in an area at least three feet in diameter that is clear of all flammable material. Portable cooking stoves or lanterns using liquefied or bottled fuel may be used in all areas. The restrictions also include operating or using any internal or external combustion engine without a spark arresting device and welding or using any torch with open flame. On the Deschutes National Forest and Crooked River National Grassland, drivers are



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also prohibited from using a motor vehicle off National Forest System roads. Officials want to remind the public that using explosive target material, such as Tannerite, explosives, and fireworks continue to be prohibited.

In addition to Public Use Restrictions, the Prineville BLM, Deschutes and Ochoco National Forests and Crooked River National Grassland will be moving to an **Industrial Fire Precaution Level III (IFPL)** at the same time. The IFPL applies to permitted and industrial operations on federal lands. IFPL III is considered a “partial shutdown” and restricts the use of chainsaws to loading sites on tractor/skidder operations to between the hours of 8 p.m. to 1 p.m. Only cable yarding systems that use non-motorized systems are allowed. Industrial welding and mechanized loading operations are also restricted to the hours of 8 p.m. to 1 p.m. Industrial and permitted operations may request a waiver from the Forest Service or BLM depending on land ownership at the activity location. It is the responsibility of all operators to know and follow the requirements of the current fire precaution level.

More information about both IFPL and Public Use Restrictions can be found at the Deschutes and Ochoco National Forest website, the Prineville District BLM website, and the website for the Central Oregon Interagency Dispatch Center.

Public use restrictions are not put in place to ruin camping experiences. Officials carefully consider the current fire situation, fuel moisture and predicted weather before making the decision to implement fire restrictions. Every year lightning-caused fires place a heavy demand on our firefighting resources, and put our wildlands, our firefighters, and our communities at risk. Fires caused through carelessness or negligence only increase the threat to life and livelihood, and place an even greater burden on already busy firefighters. Every fire that’s prevented protects our communities and helps our firefighters remain available, rested, and safe.

**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 sub-surface mineral estate throughout the nation. The BLM’s multiple-use mission is to sustain the health, diversity, and productivity of the public lands for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations. In Fiscal Year 2012, activities on public lands generated \$4.6 billion in revenue, much of which was shared with the States where the activities occurred. In addition, public lands contributed more than \$112 billion to the U.S. economy and helped support more than 500,000 jobs.

The mission of the USDA Forest Service is to sustain the health, diversity, and productivity of the Nation’s forests and grasslands to meet the needs of present and future generations. The Agency manages 193 million acres of public land, provides assistance to State and private landowners, and maintains the largest forestry research organization in the world. The USDA is an equal opportunity employer.

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Come join the Oregon/Washington BLM on Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, and Flickr for the latest on outdoor opportunities, videos of your public lands, spectacular photos, and a whole lot more!

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