

**Deschutes and Ochoco National Forests,  
and Prineville District Bureau of Land Management  
Office of Communications**

*Working as One to Serve Central Oregon*  
[www.fs.fed.us/r6/centraloregon](http://www.fs.fed.us/r6/centraloregon)

**For immediate release: September 10, 2009**  
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**Industrial Fire Precaution Levels on Public Lands  
Remain at Level III**

*CENTRAL OREGON*—With close weather vigilance, the decision has been made to remain at “Industrial Fire Precaution Level III” restrictions for the Deschutes and Ochoco National Forests, Crooked River Grassland and the Prineville District of the Bureau of Land Management. The level will **not** change to II at this time.

**Many people refer to the regulations as "partial shutdown" because the following activities, including woodcutting, are prohibited:**

- **Cable yarding is prohibited** with the exception of gravity operated logging systems employing non-motorized carriages may operate between 8 p.m. and 1 p.m. when all blocks and moving lines are suspended ten feet above the ground (except the line between the carriage and the chokers).
- **Power saws are prohibited** with the exception of power saws that are used at loading sites and on tractor/skidder operations between the hours of 8 p.m. and 1 p.m. local time.

**The following are still 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;
- Mechanized loading or hauling of any product or material; blasting;
- Welding or cutting of metal
- Any other spark emitting operation not specifically mentioned.

Fire regulations become more restrictive as fire danger increases, necessitating the need to check local restrictions before visiting public or private lands. Current fire restrictions can be found by checking agency websites, speaking to campground hosts, reading posted signs and calling recorded messages.

To check Industrial Fire Precaution Levels and Public Use Restrictions for Central Oregon call 1-800-523-4737 or log onto:

[www.fs.fed.us/r6/centraloregon/fire/ifpl.htm](http://www.fs.fed.us/r6/centraloregon/fire/ifpl.htm)

Fire managers urge people who visit public lands to be extremely careful with outdoor activities involving campfires, lanterns, charcoal briquettes and recreational vehicles. People who start wildland fires can be fined, jailed and billed for suppression costs.