U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR Bureau of Land Management

EMERGENCY CLOSURE OF PUBLIC LANDS: Douglas County and Josephine County, Oregon

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Medford District, Grants Pass Resource Area and Bureau of Land Management, Roseburg District, South River Resource Area

ACTION: Temporary closure of public land in Douglas County and Josephine County, Oregon.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to 43 CFR 8364.1, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is giving notice that public lands west of Glendale, OR as described below are closed to all unauthorized entry, effective immediately and remaining in effect until the Douglas Complex is declared contained, which is currently projected to be Sunday, September 1, 2013. This closure affects public lands within the perimeter of the Douglas Complex fire area, administered by the BLM through the Grants Pass Resource Area of the Medford District Office and the South River Resource Area of the Roseburg District Office, and is specific to BLM lands and routes only. The Douglas Complex consists of the Rabbit Mountain, Dads Creek and Farmer fires. Please see attached map.

This emergency closure is necessary to ensure public safety, land health, and resource integrity during firefighting activities and initial suppression rehabilitation efforts. The fire is not contained or controlled, and ongoing suppression and restoration activities preclude safe public access. The areas affected by this closure order will be posted with appropriate regulator signs at main access and entry points.

BLM will post closure signs at main entry points to this area. You may obtain maps of the closure area and information from either the Grants Pass Interagency Office or the Roseburg District Office.

AFFECTED AREA: The Douglas Complex consists of the Rabbit Mountain, Dads Creek, and Farmer fires. Please see attached map. The boundaries of the affected public lands are located at:

T.31 S., R.07 W. secs. 19, 29, 30-32 T.31 S., R.08 W. secs. 9, 10, 13-17, 20-28, 33-36 T.32 S., R.07 W. secs. 4-9, 14, 16-28, 30, 32-36, MS383 T.32 S., R.08 W. secs. 1-4, 9-16, 22-28, 34-36 T.33 S., R.06 W. secs. 17-19, 30 T.33 S., R.07 W. T.33 S., R.08 W. secs. 1-3, 12, 13, 23-26, 36, MS352

PROHIBITIONS: You must not enter the described closure areas by any means of motorized or nonmotorized transportation, to include foot traffic.

DATES: This closure will be in effect immediately and will remain in effect until the Douglas Complex is declared contained, which is currently projected to be Sunday, September 1, 2013.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Additional maps of the closure area may be obtained online at: <u>http://www.blm.gov/or/districts/roseburg/newsroom/index.php</u> <u>http://www.blm.gov/or/districts/medford/newsroom/index.php</u>

or hardcopies from either of the offices listed below:

Grants Pass Interagency Office, 2164 NE Spalding Grants Pass, OR 97526 (541) 471-6500 Roseburg District Office, 777 NW Garden Valley Blvd. Roseburg, OR 97471 (541) 440-4930

EXCEPTIONS: Persons who are exempt from these rules include:

- a. Any Federal, State or local officer, or member of an organized rescue or firefighting force engaged in fire, emergency, or law enforcement activities, or public utility or Railroad employees engaged in emergency repairs;
- b. BLM employees, contractors, or agents engaged in official duties;
- c. Individuals operating within the scope of their official and legitimate governmental duties;
- d. Individuals with valid existing rights for access (e.g. Reciprocal and Unilateral Right of Way agreement holders or internal landowners)
- e. Any person authorized in writing by the Bureau of Land Management

EXCEPTION REQUEST: Persons wishing to obtain an exception may submit a written request to the Grants Pass Resource Area Field Manager or the South River Resource Area Field Manager for consideration. If an exception is granted, the permitted party must carry the written approval signed by the BLM Authorized Officer, Grants Pass Resource Area or South River Resource Area Field Manager when entering the closure area.

PENALTIES:

43 CFR 8364.1 Closure and restriction orders.

- (a) To protect persons, property, and public lands and resources, the authorized officer may issue an order to close or restrict use of designated public lands.
- (d) Any person who fails to comply with a closure or restriction order issued under this subpart may be subject to the penalties provided in 43 CFR 8360.0-7 of this title.

43 CFR 8360.0-7 Penalties.

Violations of any regulations in this part by a member of the public are punishable by a fine not to exceed \$1,000 and/or imprisonment not to exceed 12 months.

__/S/ Allen Bollschweiler _____ Date: ___8/17/2013__ Allen Bollschweiler Grants Pass Resource Area Field Manager