

NEWS Release BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

777 Garden Valley Blvd • Roseburg, Oregon 97471 • <http://www.blm.gov/or/districts/roseburg>

For release: August 30, 2013
Release No: OR-100-2013-016

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Emergency Closure of Public Lands Extended

Roseburg, Ore. – The Bureau of Land Management, Medford District, Grants Pass Resource Area and Roseburg District, South River Resource Area are extending a Temporary Emergency closure of public lands in Douglas County & Josephine County, Oregon. This closure affects public lands within the perimeter of the Douglas Complex fire, on lands administered by the BLM. **This closure will be in effect through September 10, 2013.**

The emergency closure is necessary to ensure public safety, land health, and resource integrity during firefighting activities and initial suppression rehabilitation efforts. The BLM is continuing to evaluate the area and is extending the closure until an assessment of hazards and risks can be completed. The areas affected by this closure order will be posted with appropriate regulation signs at main access and entry points.

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 September 10, 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 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

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- 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 non-motorized transportation, to include foot traffic.

DATES: This closure will be in effect immediately and will remain in effect until September 10, 2013.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

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

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)

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- 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.

The Douglas Complex consists of the Rabbit Mountain fire, on the west side of Interstate 5, northwest of Glendale, Dad's Creek, west of Glendale, and the Farmer's Fire south of Glendale.

The Douglas Complex was started by lightning on July 26, 2013, seven miles north of Glendale, OR.

For further information on the current status of the fires in the area, please visit the Incident Information System (InciWeb) at:

<http://www.inciweb.org/>

Information about the Cow Creek Back Country Byway system can be found at:

<http://www.blm.gov/or/resources/recreation/byways.php>

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The BLM manages more land – more than 245 million acres - than any other Federal agency. This land, known as the National System of Public Lands, is primarily located in 12 Western states, including Alaska. The Bureau, with a budget of about \$1 billion, also administers 700 million acres of sub-surface mineral estate throughout the nation. 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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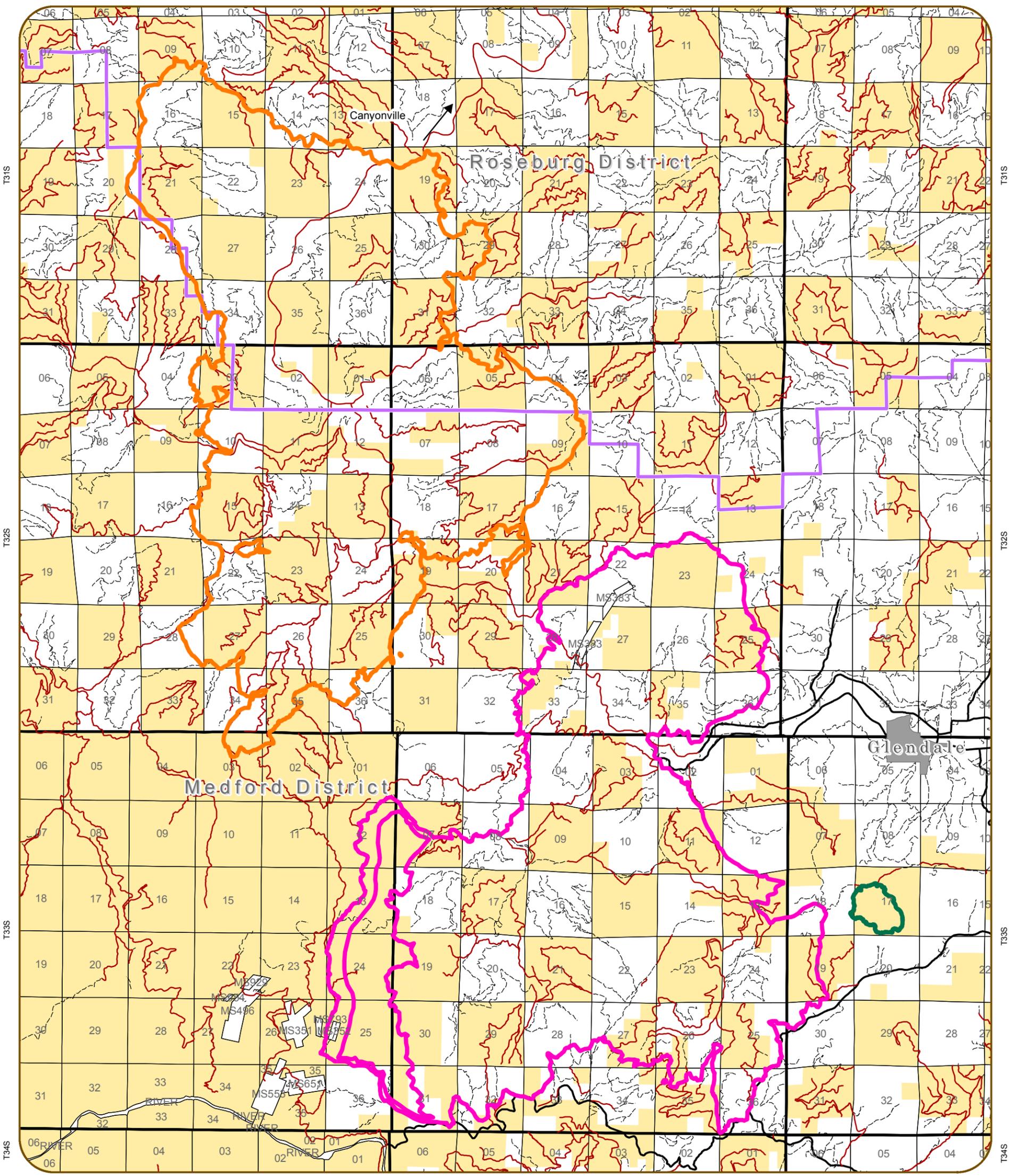


Douglas Complex Road Closure

R08W

R07W

R06W



Legend

Fire Closure Areas

- Dads Creek
- Farmer's Gulch
- Rabbit Mt

Road Ownership

- Bureau of Land Management Road
- County Road
- Private Road
- BLM District Boundary



Miles



Date: 8/16/2013

Roseburg District
Bureau of Land Management
777 NW Garden Valley Blvd.
Roseburg, Oregon 97471



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