

NEWSRelease

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

1103 N. Fancher • Spokane Valley, WA 99212 • <http://www.blm.gov/or/districts/spokane>

For Immediate Release
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Fire Restrictions on Bureau of Land Management Lands in Eastern Washington

Spokane, WA - A regulated fire closure on lands administered by the Spokane District, Bureau of Land Management (BLM) will take effect at 12:01 a.m. July 13, 2009.

The following eastern Washington counties: **Adams, Asotin, Benton, Chelan, Columbia, Douglas, Franklin, Garfield, Grant, Kittitas, Klickitat, Lincoln, Okanogan, Spokane, Walla Walla, Whitman, Yakima**, will be affected by the closure.

Off-highway vehicle and all-terrain vehicle (ORV/ATV) use will be allowed in the Juniper Dunes Area but **no** camp fires are allowed. Be aware that this area may be closed as conditions require.

The regulated fire closure **prohibits** the following acts on affected lands:

- **Operating any type of motorized vehicle off developed roadways. Parking of vehicles off roadways must be done in an area barren of flammable materials.**

NOTE: Developed roadways are those that are clear of flammable debris berm to berm.

- **Building, maintaining, attending or using a fire, campfire or stove fire -- including charcoal briquette fire -- is prohibited.**

NOTE: Liquefied and bottled gas stoves and heaters are permitted provided they are used within an area at least 10 feet in diameter that is barren or cleared of all flammable material. Fires within BLM-provided steel rings at improved campgrounds will be deemed legal only at the **Yakima River Canyon, Coffeepot, Liberty, Chopaka, Washburn, Pacific Lake and Twin Lakes sites.**

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- **Smoking while traveling in timber, brush or grass areas is prohibited except in vehicles on roads, or cleared areas at least three feet in diameter, or on boats on rivers and or lakes.**

On all public lands within the Spokane BLM District, ignition of fireworks is prohibited.

Violation of these prohibitions is punishable by a fine of not more than \$1,000, or imprisonment of not more than 12 months, or both.

For complete details on the restrictions, please see the official regulated fire closure order at the BLM website: <http://www.blm.gov/or/districts/spokane/fire/index.php>

For additional information, please contact the Spokane BLM District Office, at (509) 536-1200.

-BLM-

The BLM manages more land – 256 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.

