

NEWS Release BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

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BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT OR-030-2013-16
For Immediate Release

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BLM Announces Public Use Restrictions

Vale, Ore. – The Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Vale District Office, announced today that Public Use Restrictions will take effect immediately for all public lands under the jurisdiction of the BLM within the BLM's Vale District.

To ensure continued enjoyment of public lands, visitors must be aware of Public Use Restrictions as they travel to lands administered by the BLM Vale District this summer. "Fire danger has been increasing with the hot dry weather and it is likely to continue to increase for some time. The Vale District BLM has already had fires burn nearly 100,000 acres this summer, and we are just entering the typical peak of the fire season," said Bob Narus, Vale District Fire Management Officer.

The public is reminded to monitor vehicle undercarriage and exhaust systems for vegetation build-up and to ensure trailer wheel bearings are properly maintained. The following restrictions are specified in the Fire Prevention Order:

1. You must not build, maintain or attend a campfire, or stove fire, including charcoal briquette fire, except within the existing metal fire rings located at the following recreation sites; Spring Recreation Site and Carters Landing in Baker County and Chukkar Park in Malheur County.
NOTE: Liquefied and bottled gas stoves and heaters are permitted. When used outside of developed recreation sites, they must be used within an area at least ten feet in diameter that is barren or clear of all flammable materials.
2. You must not smoke outside of a vehicle, trailer, or building, except within areas barren of all flammable materials for at least a six-foot diameter, or aboard boats on rivers and lakes.
3. You must not possess, discharge, or use any type of fireworks or other pyrotechnic device, to include exploding targets, on public lands at any time.
4. You must not operate a chainsaw.
5. You must not park your vehicle or operate any type of internal combustion engine (generators, weed eaters, etc.) in an area that is not clear of all flammable material.
6. You must not operate a motorized vehicle outside of existing roads and ways. This prohibits cross country travel until this order is rescinded.
7. You must not operate an automobile, pickup, truck, or any other motorized equipment that is wider than 50 inches or has a dry weight of 800 pounds or more, on public lands without a shovel not less than 26 inches in overall length, with a blade not less than eight inches wide, and a container with at least one gallon of water, or a fully charged 2.5-pound fire extinguisher.

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Individuals who violate restrictions on public lands not only endanger themselves and others, but they may be subject to penalties including fines and imprisonment.

For more information, call the Vale District Office at (541) 473-3144. To report wildfires, call the Vale BLM Dispatch Center at (541) 473-6295 or toll free at 1(800) 982-0287. Additional information about the Vale District is available online at: www.blm.gov/or/districts/vale

About the BLM:

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