



U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management

28 June 2016

News Release

Oregon/Washington

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Vale District BLM Releases Fire Restrictions

Vale, Ore. – With temperatures rising and relative humidity decreasing, the Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) Vale District is releasing Emergency Fire Prevention Orders which go into effect on June 29, 2016. The rules apply to all public lands managed by the Vale District BLM as well as project lands under the jurisdiction of the Bureau of Reclamation (BOR).

Beginning on Wednesday June 29 the following orders are in effect:

1. **You must not build, maintain or attend a camp, stove, or charcoal briquette fire. Liquid and bottled gas stoves and heaters are allowed. If these items are used outside of established 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. **Do not smoke outside of a vehicle, trailer or building except within areas free of flammable materials at least six feet in diameter or aboard boats on rivers and lakes.**
3. **Do not use any kind of firework, pyrotechnics or exploding targets.**
4. **Do not operate a chainsaw—these tools can throw sparks and cause fires.**
5. **Do not park your vehicle or operate any type of internal combustion engines (generators, lawn equipment, etc.) in an area that is not free of flammable material.**
6. **Do not operate any motor vehicles outside of existing roads or roadways—including cross-country travel until the order is rescinded.**
7. **Do not operate any automobile or motorized equipment that is wider than 50 inches or has a dry weight of 800 pounds or more, on public lands without a shovel at least 26 inches in length with a blade at least eight inches wide. Also required is a container holding at least one gallon of water or a fully-charged fire extinguisher of at least two and a half pounds.**

There are criminal penalties for violating the fire restrictions including fines and jail time.

"Wildfires are incredibly dangerous, destructive, and expensive," said Don Gonzalez, Vale BLM District Manager. "We're asking our community to help us protect lives, property and resources with these restrictions."

These orders remain in effect until they are rescinded.

If you see or suspect a wildfire, call the Vale BLM Fire Dispatch Center at 541-473-6295. For more information on reporting wildfires in eastern Oregon visit: <http://www.blm.gov/or/districts/vale/fire/report-fire.php>.

-BLM-

The BLM manages more than 245 million acres of public land, the most of any Federal agency. This land, known as the National System of Public Lands, is primarily located in 12 Western states, including Alaska. The BLM also administers 700 million acres of sub-surface mineral estate throughout the nation. The BLM's mission is to sustain the health, diversity, and productivity of America's public lands for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations. In Fiscal Year 2015, the BLM generated \$4.1 billion in receipts from activities occurring on public lands.