

EXHIBIT F  
BLM FIRE PROTECTION REQUIREMENTS

This outline covers the fire protection requirements of a contractor or private party who performs service or construction contracts on BLM land. In Washington State, the BLM, US Forest Service, Bureau of Indian Affairs, and Washington State Department of Natural Resources all use the same four-level industrial regulation system. This system, which helps prevent wildfires by regulating work in the woods, is known as the Industrial Fire Precaution Level (IFPL) system.

Information available at: <http://www.blm.gov/or/districts/spokane/fire/index.php>

For areas outside this link call the local BLM office. Spokane 509-536-1200

**1. CLOSED FIRE SEASON**

The closed fire season means that fire season has been declared. The BLM works with their neighboring agencies when declaring this issuing public notices through the newspapers and radio when fire season will be closed for their individual districts. Closed fire season depends upon the drying of forest fuels, rainfall, and time of year. During the closed fire season, the following requirements must be met:

- a) Fire tools must be on site;
- b) Fire extinguisher must be in all vehicles;
- c) Chainsaws must have a .023-inch mesh screen installed in the exhaust;
- d) Only unmodified saws are to be used in the forest;
- e) Approved spark arresters must be on all internal combustion engines;
- f) Watchman service must be provided for 3 hrs after shutdown of power equipment for the day;
- g) No smoking is permitted while working or traveling through any operations area in the forest;
- h) No use of explosives is permitted unless approved by the BLM representative;
- i) Permits to burn are required unless waived by a BLM representative.
- j) Permits to operate power-driven machinery shall be obtained by the Contractor prior to commencing operations unless waived by a representative of the State Forester.

**2. FIRE PRECAUTION LEVELS**

There are 4 fire precaution levels that begin with level 1 at the start of the closed fire season and can go through level 4 if conditions warrant. The fire precaution levels restrict certain forest operations as the fire danger increases. It is the responsibility of the individual operating on forest/range land to know the precaution level for the day and take the correct fire precautions. There are no precaution levels prior to the closed fire season. Each fire precaution level requires adherence to the restrictions applicable to all lower levels in addition to the limits placed by that

level. At any time the local Fire Management Officer, reserves the right to shut down any and all operations regardless of the precaution level.

- Level I:** Closed Fire Season: Fire equipment and firewatch service is required.
- Level II:** Partial Hootowl: Limits certain activities between the hours of 8 p.m. and 1 p.m.
- Level III:** Partial Shutdown: Prohibits some activities altogether and limits other activities between the hours of 8 p.m. and 1 p.m.
- Level IV:** General Shutdown: All operations prohibited.

Example of restrictions:

<b>Operation: Power Saws</b>			
Precaution Level	Landing	Tractor/Skidder	Other Woods Saws
I. Closed Season	Fire Watch	Fire Watch	Fire Watch
II. Partial Hootowl	Fire Watch	Hootowl	Hootowl
III. Partial Shutdown	Hootowl	Hootowl	Prohibited
IV. General Shutdown	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited

  

<b>Operation: Yarding</b>			
Precaution Level	Tractor/skidder	Cable (gravity systems)	Other Cable Systems
I. Closed Season	Fire Watch	Fire Watch	Fire Watch
II. Partial Hootowl	Fire Watch	Hootowl	Hootowl
III. Partial Shutdown	Hootowl	Hootowl	Prohibited
IV. General Shutdown	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited

  

<b>Other Operations</b>			
Precaution Level	Loading	Blasting	Welding
I. Closed Season	Fire Watch	Fire Watch	Fire Watch
II. Partial Hootowl	Fire Watch	Hootowl	Hootowl
III. Partial Shutdown	Hootowl	Hootowl	Hootowl
IV. General Shutdown	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited

### 3. FIRE TOOLS REQUIRED DURING CLOSED FIRE SEASON

The operator/contractor shall furnish fire tools to all personnel on site using the following combinations:

NUMBER OF PERSONNEL

	1-4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
KINDS OF TOOLS	NUMBER OF TOOLS										
Pulaskis	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	2
Shovels	2	2	2	3	3	3	3	4	4	5	5
Adz Hoc	1	2	3	3	4	5	5	5	6	6	6

In addition to the above handtools, the operator/contractor must provide a backpack pump can filled with water located with the tool box in a readily available area.

All shovels are to be size 0 or larger, long handled. All tools shall be sharp and ready for service. Fire extinguishers as follows:

- a. For chainsaws - 8 oz. capacity by weight.
- b. For vehicles - UL rating of at least 4 BC.

**4. FIREWATCH SERVICES**

The purpose of the firewatch is to stay after the day's work is over and report any fire starts to the proper authorities. The firewatch is required to be on duty after the last power-driven equipment used by the operator has been shut down for the day. The firewatch must be on duty a minimum of one hour. During periods of high fire danger, BLM recommends the firewatch be on the operation site more than the mandated one hour.

A firewatch must:

- Visually observe all parts of the operation area on which industrial activity has been in progress.
- Be physically capable of fighting a fire and experienced in operating fire-fighting equipment.
- Have on-site communication (CB radio, cellular or radio phone) to summon in the event a fire breaks out. Transportation is also required in case radio or phone communication doesn't work.

**5. ADDITIONAL WATER SUPPLY**

During fire season when inside or within one-eighth of one mile of a state forest protection district and furnish additional water supply and equipment for use in fire suppression in conformity with the rules promulgated by the State of Washington, when directed by the State in writing. When required, all water supply and equipment components shall be maintained and ready for immediate use.

During fire season when operating a stationary internal combustion engine inside or within one-eighth of one mile of a state forest protection district, Contractor shall provide a water supply, with equipment for its use in fire suppression for each engine, in conformity with the rules promulgated by the State of Washington. All water supply and equipment components shall be maintained and ready for immediate use.