

**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**  
**Bureau of Land Management**

**EMERGENCY CLOSURE OF PUBLIC LANDS: Douglas County**

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Land Management, Roseburg District, South River Resource Area

**ACTION:** *UPDATED* Temporary closure of public land in Douglas County.

**SUMMARY:** *Update: Due to fire activity and ongoing suppression activity the emergency closure has been expanded.*

Pursuant to 43 CFR 8364.1, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is giving notice that public lands west of Riddle, OR as described below are closed to all unauthorized entry, effective immediately and remaining in effect until the Horse Prairie Fire is declared controlled, which is currently projected to be on Tuesday, October 31, 2017. This closure affects public lands within the road and area closure perimeter of the Horse Prairie Fire, including the Cow Creek Backcountry Scenic Byway, administered by the BLM through the South River Resource Area of the Roseburg District Office, and is specific to BLM lands and routes only. 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 regulatory 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 Roseburg District Office.

**AFFECTED AREA:** The Cow Creek Backcountry Scenic Byway from the end of Douglas County road maintenance (200 block Lower Cow Creek) to the Union Creek junction (13,000 block Lower Cow Creek), Island Creek Day Use Area (3,000 block Lower Cow Creek Road and all other BLM lands in and immediately surround the Horse Prairie Fire roughly bounded by Olalla Creek, Union Creek, Cow Creek, Beatty Creek and upper Doe Creek. This includes all BLM lands and roads within the following sections:

- T.30 S., R.06 W.  
secs. 18, 19, 30, 31
- T.30 S., R.07 W.  
secs. 5- 8, 13- 15, 17- 19, 21, 24, 25, 27, 29, 30- 36
- T.30 S., R.08 W.  
secs. 13, 15, 23, 25, 27, 35
- T.31 S., R.07 W.  
secs. 1-9, 17, 19
- T.31 S., R.08 W.  
secs. 1, 11, 13

**UPDATE:** The emergency area and road closure has been expanded to include all Roseburg District BLM lands south of the previously published closure. The updated closure moves the southern boundary of the closure to the Roseburg BLM District and Medford BLM District boundary. The Cow Creek Backcountry Scenic Byway is now closed from the end of county road maintenance (200 block of Lower Cow Creek Road to the Roseburg BLM boundary near the West Fork Historic Town Site (18,000 block of Lower Cow Creek) along with the Recreational Gold Panning Area (16,000 block Lower Cow Creek Road. This includes the previously listed sections along with the following additional sections:

T.31 S., R.06 W.  
secs. 5-7, 17-20, 29, 31  
T.31 S., R.07 W.  
secs. 11, 13, 15, 21, 23, 25, 27, 29, 31- 33, 35  
T.31 S., R.08 W.  
secs. 15, 22, 23, 25, 27, 35  
T.32 S., R.06 W.  
secs. 5, 6  
T.32 S., R.07 W.  
secs. 1-3, 5, 11, 13  
T.32 S., R.08W.  
secs. 1-3

This order does not affect access to the West Fork of Cow Creek from Glendale, OR via Lower Cow Creek Road.

Please see attached map.

Entry into the closure area is limited to firefighting resources, current land owners and by permit.

**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 is in effect immediately and will remain in effect until the Horse Prairie Fire is declared controlled, which is currently projected to be on Tuesday, October 31, 2017.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Additional information and maps of the closure area may be obtained online and at the Roseburg District Office at:

[https://www.blm.gov/news/oregon-washington?body value=&field region tid%5B%5D=26&date filter%5Bvalue%5D%5Byear%5D=2017](https://www.blm.gov/news/oregon-washington?body%5Bvalue%5D%5Byear%5D=2017&field%5Bregion%5Btid%5B%5D=26&date%5Bvalue%5D%5Byear%5D=2017)

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 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); and
- 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 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, 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.

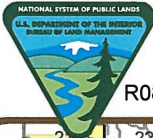


Date: August 30, 2017

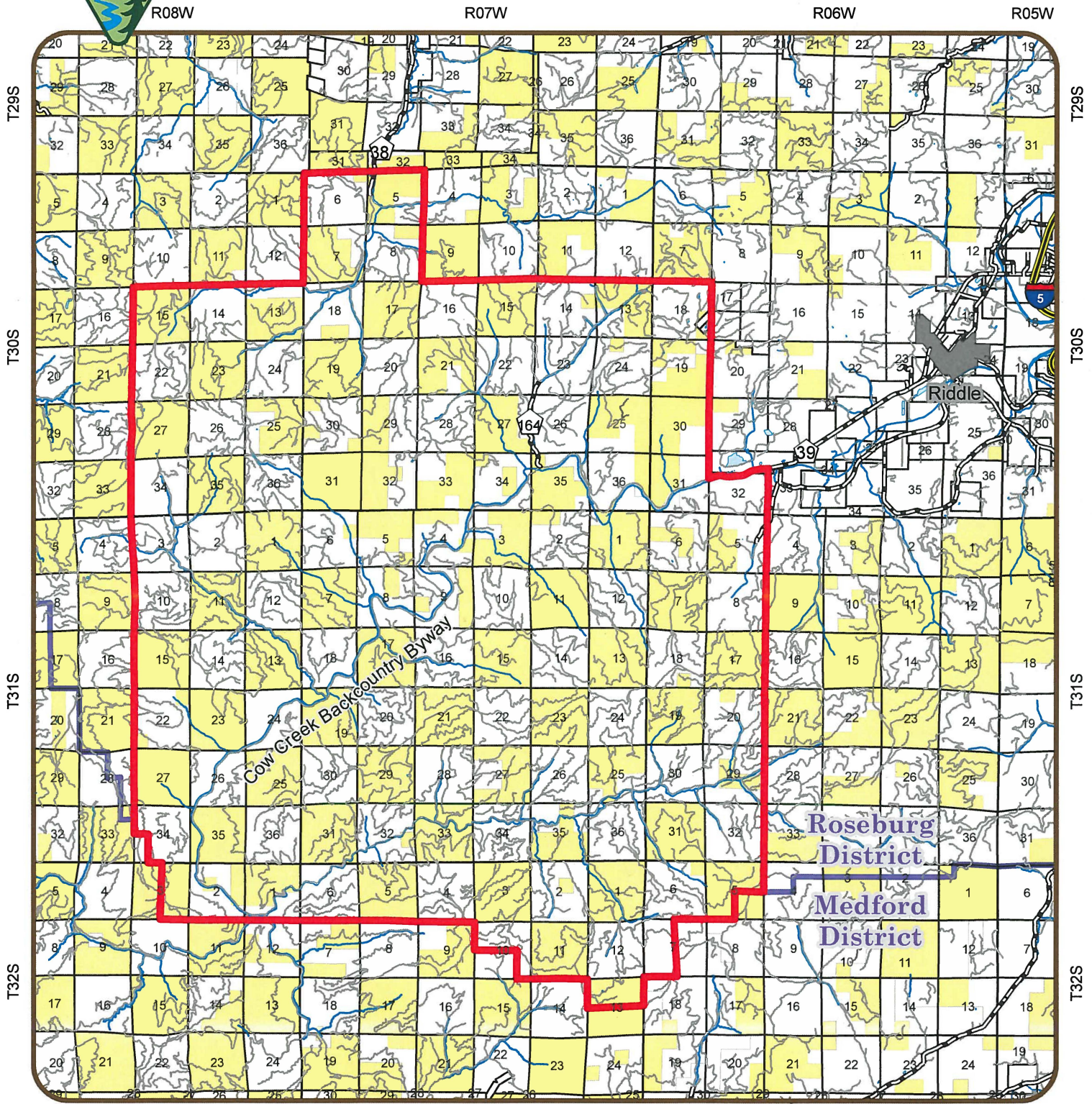
Mike Korn

South River Field Manager



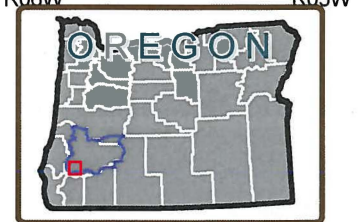


# Horse Prairie Area and Road Closure



### Legend

- Closure Area
- Interstate Highway
- State Highway
- County Roads
- Roads
- Major Stream
- Edited Waterbodies
- BLM
- Other



Date: 8/30/2017

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