



FIRE PREVENTION NEWS

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For Immediate Release:

FIRE SEASON STILL IN EFFECT IN SOUTHWEST OREGON

Central Point, OR: Fire season may have ended in some parts of Oregon, but it's still in effect in Jackson and Josephine Counties. Some local areas received little rainfall, the heavy vegetation is still dry, and warm, dry, & windy conditions are expected by the weekend. Although fire danger is "High", ODF officials are easing some restrictions on state, county, private and BLM lands protected by the Oregon Department of Forestry in Jackson and Josephine Counties:

The following activities are still prohibited at all times:

- All outdoor burning.
- Campfires, except in designated locations, such as county and state parks.
- Fireworks in areas of flammable vegetation such as dry grass, brush, and other forested areas, and on all federal lands.
- Use of vehicles off of improved roads.
- Smoking in wildland areas except in enclosed vehicles while on improved roads, free of flammable vegetation.

The following activities, previously prohibited between 1:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m., are now allowed all day:

- Public chain saw use.
- Non-agricultural mowing of dry grass.
- Non-agricultural, non-commercial use of power driven machinery such as backhoes, rototillers, and trenchers, in areas of flammable vegetation.
- Cutting, welding, and grinding of metal in areas of flammable vegetation.

On the Wild and Scenic section of the Rogue River between Grave Creek and Marial- Campfires and smoking will be permitted on sand and gravel bars between the river and the high water mark in areas naturally free of flammable vegetation. Smoking will also be permitted in boats and rafts while on the river. Campfires must be in fire pans or fire blankets. Use of fireworks of any kind is prohibited year-round.

Industrial Forest Operations - An Industrial Fire Precaution Level 1 is now in effect. Under the IFPL 1, commercial operators on forested lands are required to have fire equipment on site, and provide a watchman service.

For more information, contact your local Oregon Department of Forestry office.

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