



NEWS

July 6, 2005

OREGON DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY
SOUTHWEST OREGON DISTRICT
5286 Table Rock RD
Central Point, OR 97502

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
SOUTHWEST OREGON NEWS MEDIA

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FIRE RESTRICTIONS INCREASE ON ODF-PROTECTED LANDS

Continued hot and dry weather, coupled with an increase in the number of wildland fires on private forestlands, has prompted the Oregon Department of Forestry to impose further restrictions on activities that may cause fires. These restrictions, detailed below, take effect Friday, July 8, and apply to state and private forestlands, and Bureau of Land Management lands in Jackson and Josephine counties.

Fire restrictions:

- Chain saw use is prohibited between the hours of 1:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m. Chain saw use is permitted at all other hours if the following fire fighting equipment is present with each operating saw: one axe, one shovel, and one operational 8-ounce or larger fire extinguisher. In addition, a fire watch is required at least one hour following the use of each saw.
- Mowing of grass with power driven equipment is prohibited between the hours of 1:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m., except for the commercial culture and harvest of agricultural crops.
- Smoking is prohibited while traveling, except in vehicles on improved roads.
- Open fires are prohibited, including debris piles and burn barrels; and campfires, charcoal fires, cooking fires and warming fires outside of designated campgrounds. Portable cooking stoves using liquefied or bottled fuels are allowed.
- Fireworks are prohibited.

- Cutting, grinding and welding of metal is prohibited between the hours of 1:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m. Cutting, grinding and welding of metal is permitted at all other hours, if conducted in a cleared area and if a water supply is present.

ODF's Southwest Oregon District protects 1.8 million acres of forestland. Fire season was declared on these lands June 27.

For more information about fire season regulations, or to view a map of areas affected by these regulations, contact the Oregon Department of Forestry's unit office in your area:

ODF Medford Unit, 5286 Table Rock Rd., Central Point. Phone: (541) 664-3328

ODF Grants Pass Unit, 5375 Monument Drive, Grants Pass. Phone: (541) 474-3152

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