



NEWS

October 23, 2010

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 SEASON ENDS ON ODF-PROTECTED LANDS

Fire season ends today, Oct. 23, on lands protected by the Oregon Department of Forestry's Southwest Oregon District. The season began July 1 and lasted 115 days.

The largest fire of the season was the 315-acre Blackwell Fire that broke out east of Gold Hill on Sept. 12. Southwest Oregon District crews responded to 156 fires that burned a total of 459 acres. Fifty-seven of the fires were caused by lightning and 99 fires were caused by people.

ODF's Southwest Oregon District protects 1.8 million acres of state, private, county, city and Bureau of Land Management lands in Jackson and Josephine counties.

The fire danger level is "low" (green) and all fire restrictions have been removed.

Woody debris pile and barrel burning is now allowed on ODF-protected lands. However, open burning is regulated for air quality. Before lighting your pile or burn barrel, call the open burning advisory number for your county:

- Jackson County, 776-7007
- Josephine County, 476-WOOD

Also, some cities do not allow open burning, and many rural fire protection districts require a burning permit. Contact your local structural fire service provider to obtain any necessary permits before burning.

Information about fire season restrictions is available online at www.swofire.oregon.gov and at ODF Southwest Oregon District unit offices:

- Medford Unit, 5286 Table Rock Rd.; (541) 664-3328
- Grants Pass Unit, 5375 Monument Dr.; (541) 474-3152

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