



NEWS

September 12, 2008

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

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
SOUTHWEST OREGON NEWS MEDIA

Contact: Greg Alexander, ODF, (541) 664-3328
Rick Dryer, ODF, (541) 474-3152

INDUSTRIAL FIRE PRECAUTION LEVEL GOES UP TOMORROW

Dry weather in southwest Oregon forestlands is driving the Industrial Fire Precaution Level (IFPL) up a notch tomorrow. Restrictions under IFPL III (three) take effect at 1:00 a.m. Saturday, and apply to state, private, county and Bureau of Land Management forestlands in Jackson and Josephine counties.

The public-use fire danger level remains at "high" (yellow).

Under IFPL III:

- Cable yarding is not allowed. However, gravity operated-logging systems employing non-motorized carriages may operate until 1:00 p.m. and after 8:00 p.m. These systems must have all blocks and moving lines suspended 10 feet above the ground, except the line between the carriage and the chokers.
- Power saw use is not allowed. However, power saws may be used until 1:00 p.m. and after 8:00 p.m. at loading sites and on tractor or skidder operations.
- In addition, the following equipment and operations must shut down between 1:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m.:

- Tractor/skidder, feller-buncher, forwarder, or shovel logging operations where tractors, skidders or other equipment with a blade capable of constructing fireline are immediately available to quickly reach and effectively attack a fire start.
- Mechanized loading or hauling of any product or material
- Blasting
- Welding or cutting of metal
- Any spark-emitting not specifically mentioned above

For more information about the Oregon Department of Forestry's fire season regulations, contact the unit office in your area:

- Medford Unit, 5286 Table Rock Rd., Central Point. Phone: (541) 664-3328
- Grants Pass Unit, 5375 Monument Drive, Grants Pass. Phone: (541) 474-3152

Southwest Oregon District fire precaution level information is also posted on the World Wide Web at www.swofire.oregon.gov.

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