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Contact: Erica Hupp
Fremont-Winema National Forests
541-883-6715

Scott Stoffel
BLM Lakeview District
541-947-6237

Lisa Swinney
Fremont-Winema National Forests
541-947-6261

South Central Oregon Still in Fire Season

Lakeview – The Fremont-Winema National Forests (Forest Service) and the Lakeview District of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) would like to remind everyone that public use restrictions are still in effect.

“We had lightning caused fires last weekend yet there were a number of areas that received considerable rainfall,” said Ed Guzman, Interagency Deputy Fire Staff for the Forest Service and BLM. “However, we’re still not quite to the point where the conditions will allow us to lift public use restrictions just yet. We’re asking hunters to use extreme caution when scouting or hunting.”

The following public use restrictions apply to both Forest Service and BLM lands:

- Campfire and stove fires are allowed only at designated campgrounds. This includes charcoal briquettes, liquefied fuel or bottled fuel.
- Smoking is only allowed in an enclosed vehicle, building, or while stopped in an area at least three feet in diameter that is void of all flammable material.
- No welding equipment may be used, including acetylene or open flame torches.

Public use restrictions that only apply to BLM:

- Vehicles (this includes all terrain vehicles, motorcycles, cars, pickups, etc.) are only allowed on roadways clear of flammable material.
- All vehicles must carry one shovel not less than 26 inches in overall length, with a blade not less than eight inches wide; one gallon of water or a fully charged 2.5 pound fire extinguisher; and one axe with a handle at least 26 inches in length and a head weight of not less than two pounds.

- Vehicles parked off roadways must be in an area barren of flammable materials.
- Chain saw operation is prohibited.

Public use restrictions that only apply to Forest Service:

- Chain saws, generators and other internal combustion engines may only be operated on roadways clear of vegetation or within a designated area.
- Vehicles must remain on National Forest System roads

The Forest Service and BLM have designated areas exempt from public use restrictions. For a list of those specific areas please contact your local Forest Service or BLM office.

For more information concerning current fire conditions and restrictions, please contact your local Forest Service, BLM, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Park Service or Oregon Department of Forestry office. Additional information may be found at the following Web sites:

<http://www.scofmp.org/lifc.shtml>

<http://www.fs.fed.us/r6/kfifc/intel.html>

<http://www.scofmp.org/index.html>

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