

**Deschutes and Ochoco National Forests,
and Prineville District Bureau of Land Management
Office of Communications**

Working as One to Serve Central Oregon
www.fs.fed.us/r6/centraloregon

For immediate release: July 18, 2008
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Industrial Fire Precaution Level II on Public Lands

CENTRAL OREGON—As the weather heats up and fire danger increases, fire restrictions are being implemented on public lands in Central Oregon. “Industrial Fire Precaution Level-II” restrictions went into effect on Tuesday, July 15 for the Deschutes and Ochoco National Forests and the Prineville District of the Bureau of Land Management. Many refer to the regulations as "partial hootowl" because chainsaw, cable yarding, blasting, welding and metal-cutting operations can only occur from 8 p.m. to 1 p.m. The regulations affect both commercial and personal use firewood cutters, and industrial operators.

Fire officials urge people who visit public lands to be extremely careful with outdoor activities involving campfires, lanterns, charcoal briquettes, chainsaws and recreational vehicles. If you chose to have a campfire, make sure it is dead out before leaving. The best way to extinguish a fire is to use a mixture of water and soil to cool it and stir with a shovel thoroughly, feeling for any residual heat with your hand. If heat remains, so should you! People who start wildland fires can be fined, jailed and billed for suppression costs.

The Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF) is currently enforcing a regulated closure that was effective 1:00 a.m. on July 1, 2008, for private land protected by the agency in Crook, Deschutes, Gilliam, Grant, Harney, Hood River, Jefferson, Morrow, Wasco and Wheeler counties. This closure regulates the use of fire activities or activities that could cause a fire.

The Prineville Bureau of Land Management is also currently enforcing a regulated fire closure effective June 6, 2008, for the John Day, Crooked and White Rivers and Lake Billy Chinook.

Fire regulations will become more restrictive as fire danger increases from high to extreme levels. Please check local restrictions before visiting public or private lands. Current fire restrictions can be found by checking agency websites, speaking to campground hosts, reading posted signs and calling recorded messages.

To check Industrial Fire Precaution Levels and Public Use Restrictions for Central Oregon call 1-800-523-4737 or log onto: www.fs.fed.us/r6/centraloregon/fire

To report fires or fireworks violations, call 9-1-1.