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# ***CENTRAL OREGON WILDLAND FIRE NEWS RELEASE***

## **WEATHER ADJUSTS TIMING OF SOME FIRE RESTRICTIONS ON FEDERAL LANDS**

Bend—Due to the welcome wet storm moving west across the Cascades and up the Highway 97 corridor on Tuesday night, the **Deschutes National Forest will delay implementation of public use fire restrictions until further notice. The public use restrictions** outlined in the 7/17/07 Central Oregon Wildland Fire News Release **will remain in effect for the Ochoco National Forest and Prineville BLM beginning at 12:01 a.m. on Thursday, July 19<sup>th</sup>.**

Rainfall provided some relief for firefighters on the western half of Central Oregon, with precipitation levels from ½ to ¾ inches in locations along the Cascade Range. This helped particularly with the Warm Springs Agency Fire Complex. There was, however, light rainfall in the Prineville area. The BLM rangelands to the east of Prineville remain drier than the west slopes of the Cascades.

“This storm system is short-lived, and the forest fuels are very dry,” says Craig Letz, Deputy Interagency Fire Management Officer for Central Oregon. “We need the public’s help to prevent wildfires.”