

**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](http://www.fs.fed.us/r6/centraloregon)

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## **Industrial Fire Precaution Levels on Public Lands to Increase**

*CENTRAL OREGON*—As the weather heats up, moisture levels drop and fire danger increases, fire restrictions are being implemented on public lands in Central Oregon. “Industrial Fire Precaution Level-II” restrictions for the Deschutes and Ochoco National Forests and the Prineville District of the Bureau of Land Management will start effective Monday, July 2, at 11:59 p.m.

Many people 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.

Federal officials ordered the restrictions after weather observations and moisture readings in woody material showed increased fire danger.

Fire regulations will become more restrictive as fire danger increases, necessitating the need to 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](http://www.fs.fed.us/r6/centraloregon/fire).

Fire managers urge people who visit public lands to be extremely careful with outdoor activities involving campfires, lanterns, charcoal briquettes, chainsaws and recreational vehicles. People who start wildland fires can be fined, jailed and billed for suppression costs.

Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF) officials are also enforcing a regulated closure that was effective 12:01 a.m. on July 2, 2007, for private land protected by the agency in Crook, Deschutes, Gilliam, Grant, Harney, Hood River, Jefferson, Morrow, Wasco and Wheeler counties.

The ODF restrictions include regulations against fireworks, blasting, open fires outside approved designated locations, smoking outside vehicles and all-terrain vehicle use off improved roads. They also prohibit welding, cutting, grinding and chainsaw operation from 1 p.m. to 8 p.m. and mowing with power equipment between 10 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. with the exception of commercial culture and the harvest of agricultural crops.

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