



# NEWS

September 8, 2009

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

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
SOUTHWEST OREGON NEWS MEDIA

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## **RESTRICTIONS ON POWER-DRIVEN EQUIPMENT START TOMORROW**

Starting tomorrow, a noon shutdown is required for mowing and chain saw use on lands protected by the Oregon Department of Forestry. The Industrial Fire Precaution Level also returns to Level II in all SW and SK weather zones in ODF's Southwest Oregon District. These restrictions affect most of the state, private, county and Bureau of Land Management lands in Jackson and Josephine counties.

The fire danger level remains High (yellow).

Industrial Fire Precaution Level II (two) will be in effect in zones SW-1, SW-2, SW-3, SW-4 and SK-3, and IFPL III (three) will remain in effect in zones RR-1, RR-2 and RR-3. See [www.swofire.oregon.gov](http://www.swofire.oregon.gov) for links to a zone map and a summary of IFPL regulations.

Here is a summary of the public regulated use fire prevention restrictions that go into effect at 1:00 a.m. Wednesday:

- Campfires are allowed only in designated campgrounds. Portable stoves using liquefied or bottled fuels are allowed in other locations.
- Motorized vehicles are allowed only on improved roads.

- Chain saws may not be used between noon and 8:00 p.m. During other hours, chain saw users must have an ax, a shovel and an 8-oz or larger fire extinguisher at the job site, and a fire watch is required for one hour after the saw is shut down.
- Mowing of dead or dry grass with power-driven equipment is not allowed between noon and 8:00 p.m. This restriction does not include mowing of green lawns, or when equipment is used for the commercial culture and harvest of agricultural crops.
- Cutting, grinding or welding metal is not allowed between noon and 8:00 p.m. These activities are allowed during other hours providing the work site is cleared of potentially flammable vegetation and other materials, and a water supply is at the job site.
- Smoking while traveling is allowed only in vehicles on improved roads.
- All debris burning, including debris burned in burn barrels, is prohibited.
- Fireworks use on forestlands is prohibited.
- Electric fence controllers must be approved by a nationally recognized testing laboratory, such as Underwriters Laboratories Inc., or be certified by the Department of Consumer and Business Services, and be installed and used in compliance with the fence controller's instructions for firesafe operation.

The fire prevention restrictions in the Wild and Scenic section of the Rogue River between Grave Creek and Marial are unchanged. For further information about fire restrictions in all parts of the Wild and Scenic Section of the Rogue River, contact the Smullin Visitor Center located at the Rand National Historic Site at (541) 479-3735.

Information about fire season restrictions on ODF-protected lands is available online at [www.swofire.oregon.gov](http://www.swofire.oregon.gov), and at ODF Southwest Oregon District unit offices:

- Medford Unit, 5286 Table Rock Rd.; (541) 664-3328
- Grants Pass Unit, 5375 Monument Dr.; (541) 474-3152

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