



NEWS

July 28, 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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INDUSTRIAL FIRE PRECAUTION LEVEL 3 STARTS WEDNESDAY

Extreme fire danger on forestlands protected by the Oregon Department of Forestry's Southwest Oregon District has made it necessary to increase the fire prevention measures on industrial operations, such as logging sites and other commercial operations. Industrial Fire Precaution Level III (three) takes effect at 1:00 a.m. on Wednesday, July 29.

The following activities will be prohibited between the hours of 1:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m.:

- Cable yarding, except gravity-operated logging systems employing non-motorized carriages which have all blocks and moving lines suspended 10 feet above the ground (does not apply to the line between the carriage and the chokers)
- Power saws, except at loading sites and on tractor or skidder operations
- Tractor/skidder, feller-buncher, forwarder, or shovel logging operations where tractors, skidders or other equipment with a blade capable of constructing fireline are immediately available to quickly reach and effectively attack a fire start
- Mechanized loading or hauling of any product or material
- Blasting
- Welding or cutting of metal

- Any spark-emitting operation not specifically mentioned

Additionally, all fires are prohibited, and commercial operators on forestlands are required to have fire suppression equipment on site and provide watchman service.

These regulations affect state, county, private and Bureau of Land Management lands in Jackson and Josephine counties in regulated use zones SW-1, SW-2, SW-3 and SW-4. Maps of these zones are available at the following ODF unit offices:

- Medford Unit, 5286 Table Rock Rd., Central Point. Phone: (541) 664-3328
- Grants Pass Unit, 5375 Monument Drive, Grants Pass. Phone: (541) 474-3152

A zone map is also available online for viewing or printing at:

www.oregon.gov/ODF/FIRE/Closures/maps/RegUse_FireWeather_8x11.pdf

Southwest Oregon District fire precaution level information is posted on the World Wide Web at www.swofire.oregon.gov.

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