

# columbia river gorge NATIONAL SCENIC AREA



*Photo Courtesy of ODOT*

Know Before You Go  
**Entering Burned Areas**



for the greatest good

# What You Need to Know



Recreation involves inherent risks. Those risks are higher in areas where fire has recently burned. On the Gorge's steep slopes, the risks are even greater.



## Risks Include:

- Falling snags (dead trees)
- Falling limbs from standing trees
- Stump holes
- Difficulty navigating trails obscured by downed trees
- Unstable ground due to burned root systems
- Falling rocks from unstable slopes
- Debris flows
- Landslides

## Be Alert, Know When Not To Go:

- If wind is forecasted at speeds greater than 30 mph, **DON'T GO INTO A BURNED AREA.**
- If wind picks up while in an area, **LEAVE IMMEDIATELY.**
- If trail signs are missing, know your comfort level navigating the area. **TURN BACK IF NECESSARY.**
- If visiting during a winter or rain storm event, **BE AWARE OF A HEIGHTENED RISK OF MOVING EARTH.**
- If unsure of recreation site status, **CHECK CONDITIONS BEFORE YOU GO.**



## YOUR SAFETY IS IN YOUR HANDS:

- SCAN** for overhead hazards.
- LISTEN** for falling trees, limbs, and rocks.
- WATCH OUT** for stump holes and increased stream flows.
- STAY** on established trails.
- LEAVE** when windy.
- STAY OUT** of closed areas.



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