

# Fire Danger Ratings - Public Use Restrictions - Industrial Fire Precaution Levels

As of July 22, 2018

<b>North End Blue Mountain &amp; Prairie City District's</b>	<b>South End Emigrant Creek District</b>
<b>High and IFPL II Phase A - Public Use Restrictions Effective July 20, 2018</b>	<b>Extreme and IFPL III Phase B - Public Use Restrictions Effective July 23, 2018</b>

For a complete details about Public Use Restrictions, please visit: [Phases of Public Use Restrictions Information Link](#)

Visit [John Day Interagency Dispatch Center](#) or [Burns Interagency Communication Center](#) for current conditions and local wildland or prescribed fire activity.

For updates on Wildfire activity in Washington and Oregon visit: <http://nwccinfo.blogspot.com/>



**HIGH** - When the fire danger is "high", fires can start easily from most causes and small fuels (such as grasses and needles) will ignite readily. Unattended campfires and brush fires are likely to escape. Fires will spread easily, with some areas of high-intensity burning on slopes or concentrated fuels. Fires can become serious and difficult to control unless they are put out while they are still small.

**EXTREME** - When the fire danger is "extreme", fires of all types start quickly and burn intensely. All fires are potentially serious and can spread very quickly with intense burning. Small fires become big fires much faster than at the "very high" level. Spot fires are probable, with long-distance spotting likely. These fires are very difficult to fight and may become very dangerous and often last for several days.

Effective July 23, 2018, the south zone (Emigrant Creek District) of the Malheur National Forest is under Phase B- Personal Use Restrictions

Effective July 20, 2018, the north zone (Blue Mountain and Prairie City Districts) of the Malheur National Forest is under Phase A- Personal Use Restrictions

## Phase A Prohibited Activities Include:

1. Operating a chainsaw outside the hours of 8 p.m. and 1 p.m. local time. A one hour fire watch is required after saw operations cease. Saw operators are required to have an axe (minimum 2 lb. head, 26" length), shovel (8" wide, 26" length), and fire extinguisher (minimum ABC 8 oz.) in their possession.
2. Seasonal Campfire Restrictions and Requirements described for June 1-October 31 apply (See Below).
3. Smoking, except within enclosed vehicles and buildings, or areas cleared of flammable material with a minimum clearance of 3 feet.
4. Operating a motorized vehicle off National Forest System roads.
5. Operating a motor vehicle on National Forest System roads where vegetation or other flammable material comes into contact with the vehicle's undercarriage.
6. Being on a closed National Forest System road where access has been impeded or blocked by earthen berm, logs, boulders, barrier, barricade or gate.

## **Effective, June 1, 2018, Seasonal Restrictions (June 1 –October 31)**

Campfires allowed only in fire pits surrounded by dirt, rock, or commercial rings and in areas not conducive to rapid fire spread, at a minimum clear of all flammable material within a radius of 3 feet from the edge of the pit and free of overhanging material. Use existing pits wherever possible.

- a. Campfires must be attended at all times, and completely extinguished prior to leaving.
- b. Persons with campfires are required to have a tool that can serve as a shovel and one gallon of water in their possession. The intent of this requirement is to ensure individuals with a campfire to have the tools necessary to completely extinguish their campfire per “a” above.
- c. Portable cooking stoves using liquefied or bottled gas and wood burning stoves equipped with a chimney that is at least five (5) feet in length with a spark-arresting screen consisting of ¼ inch mesh hardware cloth are allowed.
- d. Use of charcoal briquettes is permitted under the same restrictions as campfires as described above.

Within designated wilderness areas users are encouraged to locate fires such that minimal disturbance would be necessary to meet the clearing requirements identified. Naturally cleared areas, previously used sites, and areas where vegetation is non-flammable (green grass) are examples. Possession of a typical backpacking folding shovel (commercially available) meets the intent of a tool as described in item “b” above.

### **Phase B**

**1.** Campfires allowed only in developed recreation sites listed in Exhibit A (revised annually). This restriction applies to building, maintaining, attending, or using a fire, campfire, charcoal briquettes or stove fire except for liquefied or bottled gas stoves and heaters.

- a. Campfires must be attended at all times, and completely extinguished prior to leaving.
- b. Persons with campfires are required to have a tool that can serve as a shovel and one gallon of water in their possession.
- c. Wood burning stoves equipped with a chimney that is at least five (5) feet in length with a spark-arresting screen consisting of ¼ inch mesh hardware cloth are allowed in developed recreation sites.

**2.** No internal combustions engine operation, except motor vehicles. Chainsaw use is prohibited, valid personal firewood permit or other special use permit holders must follow conditions outlined in their permit. Electrical generators operated under the following conditions are allowed:

- a. in the center of an area at least 10 feet in diameter that is barren or cleared of all flammable material, or;
- b. when fully contained within a pickup truck bed that is devoid of all flammable material, or;
- c. when factory installed in a recreational vehicle and the generator exhaust discharge is located in the center of an area at least 10 feet in diameter that is barren or cleared of all flammable material;

**3.** Smoking allowed only in enclosed vehicles and buildings or areas cleared of flammable material with a minimum clearance of 3 feet.

**4.** It is prohibited to operate a motorized vehicle off National Forest System roads, operate a motor vehicle on National Forest System roads where vegetation or other flammable material comes into contact with the vehicle’s undercarriage, along with being on a closed National Forest System road where access has been impeded or blocked by earthen berm, logs, boulders, barrier, barricade or gate.

## The Industrial Fire Precaution Level (IFPL) for the Malheur National Forest is:

<b>North End: Blue Mountain &amp; Prairie City Districts</b>	<b>South End: Emigrant Creek District</b>
<b>Level II - Partial Hootowl Effective July 20, 2018</b>	<b>Level III - Partial Shutdown Effective July 23, 2018</b>

### IFPL Levels

#### Level I Closed Season –

Fire precaution requirements are in effect. A fire watch/security is required at this and all higher levels unless otherwise waived.

#### Level II Partial Hootowl –

The following may operate only between the hours of 8 p.m. and 1 p.m. local time:

- Power saws except at loading sites;
- Cable yarding;
- Welding or cutting of metal.

#### Level III Partial Shutdown –

The following are prohibited except as indicated:

- Cable yarding – except that gravity operated logging systems employing nonmotorized carriages or approved motorized carriages may operate between 8 p.m. and 1 p.m. when all block and moving lines, except for the line between the carriage and the chokers, are suspended ten feet above the ground;
- Power saws – except power saws may be used at loading sites and on tractor/skidder operations between the hours of 8 p.m. and 1 p.m. local time.

#### Level IV General Shutdown –

All operations are prohibited.

### Now is not the time to take chances!

 <p>If they are allowed, never leave fires or hot coals unattended. Always make sure your fire is dead out before you leave.</p>	 <p>When restricted, smoking is allowed only in an enclosed vehicle on improved roads. Always use an ashtray.</p>
 <p>Fireworks are prohibited on public lands in Oregon and Washington. Enjoy fireworks at community events instead.</p>	 <p>Use properly functioning spark arrestors and stay on designated roads and/or trails.</p>
 <p>Make sure your trailer chains are not dragging and creating a spark that can ignite nearby vegetation.</p>	 <p>Do not park, drive or idle on dry, flammable vegetation. Your vehicle could start a wildfire.</p>
 <p>Sky lanterns (mini hot air balloons) are illegal to release into Oregon airspace and in most areas in Washington.</p>	 <p>Call 911 to report a wildfire. Be prepared to provide your location and contact information.</p>