

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Klamath National Forest Butte Valley National Grassland

Forest Service News Release

Public Affairs Officer: Janine Summy (509)429-1206 janine summy@firenet.gov

Klamath National Forest reduces emergency closure order

Yreka, Calif., September 29, 2023 - Due to excellent progress on fire suppression and repair activity on the Happy Camp Complex, the Klamath National Forest is reducing the area under emergency closure order. Forest Order 05-05-23-10 replaces the previously issued order 05-05-23-09, effectively lifting the eastern section of the closure on the Oak Knoll and Scott River ranger districts. The emergency closure order for the Happy Camp Ranger District remains unchanged.

The purpose of an emergency closure order is to provide for public safety in response to ongoing wildfire activity across the forest, including the Happy Camp Complex. A forest closure prohibits the public from entering portions of the forest in or near the vicinity of ongoing wildfire activity. The closure order also prohibits the use of roads, trails, and developed recreation sites within the closure area.

Happy Camp Ranger District Closure Location: This closure order remains in place and extends from Happy Camp south to the Marble Mountain Wilderness boundary at Norcross Recreation Area. The closure continues west along the edge of the Marble Mountain Wilderness to the Siskivou Wilderness boundary. From there, the closure runs north along the Siskivou Wilderness, down Clear Creek to Highway 96, and then north back to Happy Camp near Curley Jack Campground.

A description and map of the closure order, including specific roads, trails, and recreation sites can be found on the Klamath National Forest Website: https://originfs.fs.usda.gov/alerts/klamath/alerts-notices/?aid=83650.

Fire Restrictions: Fire restrictions were lifted on the Klamath National Forest on September 28, 2023. Forest officials stress that the Northern California fire season is not over, and care and common sense must still be used when in the forest. The larger fuels, such as logs, remain fairly dry and have not been as affected by the recent rains. The potential for wildfires still exists and visitors to the forest should remember to never leave campfires unattended. When the time comes to leave your campfire, make sure it is completely extinguished using the drown, stir, feel, repeat method.

#

The Klamath National Forest & Butte Valley National Grassland cover 1,700,000 acres located in Siskiyou County, California and Jackson County, Oregon. Butte Valley National Grassland is the newest National Grassland and the only one in California. The forest is headquartered in Yreka, CA, and maintains ranger stations in the California communities of Macdoel, Happy Camp, and Fort Jones. More information is available at www.fs.usda.gov/klamath.

Follow us <u>www.facebook.com/KlamathNF</u> <u>Twitter @KlamathNF</u>

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.