

## United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT Coos Bay District Office 1300 Airport Ln, North Bend Oregon 97459 http://www.blm.gov

## EMERGENCY CLOSURE OF PUBLIC LANDS

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Coos Bay District, Oregon.

ACTION: Temporary Closure of Public Lands

**SUMMARY:** Pursuant to 43 CFR 9268.3(d) and 43 CFR 8364.1, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) hereby provides notice that effective immediately, the public lands described below are closed to all forms of public access. This action is in response to large fires currently active in the area. The BLM is closing public lands to reduce conflicts with emergency crews and allow for fire suppression and burned area site recovery, as well as to ensure public safety, land health, and resource integrity.

AFFECTED AREA: The following public lands near Port Orford, OR are affected by this closure:

BLM managed lands in T32S R14W Sections 6, 7, 10, 11, 12, 14 BLM managed lands in T32S R15W Sections 24, 25, 26 BLM managed lands in T33S R15W Section 12

Please see attached map.

Both the Edson Creek and Sixes River Recreation Sites, which are managed by the BLM, and located off Sixes River Road near Port Orford, OR, remain closed per the BLM Coos Bay District Office temporary closure order issued on September 14, 2023.

**DATES:** This closure will be effective as of 5:00 pm Pacific Daylight Time on September 19, 2023, and will remain in effect until such time as conditions allow for safe use of the public lands.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Megan Harper, Public Affairs Specialist, 1300 Airport Lane, North Bend, OR 97459, telephone (541) 751-4353. This notice and the closure notice is also available online at <u>https://www.blm.gov/programs/public-safety-and-fire/fire-and-aviation/regionalinfo/oregon-washington/fire-restrictions</u>.

**DISCUSSION OF THE RULES:** The public must not enter the closure area. All public uses within the closure area are prohibited. Exceptions to these prohibitions are noted below under Exemptions. Incidents of extreme fire behavior and extreme fire danger have been observed in the area. You must not enter closed recreation sites.

**EXEMPTIONS:** The following persons are exempt from the provisions of this Order:

- 1. Any Federal, State, or Local Officer, or member of an organized medical, rescue or firefighting force engaged in fire, emergency, or law enforcement activities, or public utility employees engaged in emergency repairs;
- 2. BLM employees, contractors, or agents engaged in official duties;

- 3. Individuals operating within the scope of their official and legitimate governmental duties;
- 4. Individuals with valid existing rights for access (e.g., Reciprocal and Unilateral Right of Way agreement holders, permittees or lease holders, or internal landowners); and
- 5. Parties who carry written approval by the BLM Authorized Officer (Field Manager or District Manager) allowing access to the described public lands.

**PENALTIES:** Any person who violates this may be tried before a United States Magistrate and fined in accordance with 18 U.S.C. 3571, imprisoned for no more than 12 months, or both. Vehicles found in violation of this order may be removed.

EFFECTIVE: This Order will be effective as of 5:00 pm Pacific Daylight Time on September 19, 2023.

Steven D. Lydick District Manager, Coos Bay District