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Willamette National Forest implements fire restrictions

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Open fires prohibited as Industrial Fire Precaution Level increases

Springfield, OR – July 17, 2024 – As hot, dry temperatures and red flag warnings continue, the Willamette National Forest will implement fire restrictions and increase the Industrial Fire Precaution Level (IFPL) to IFPL II. The new restrictions are in effect starting July 17, 2024, until rescinded. The Fire Danger Level across the forest remains “HIGH”.

All campfires, charcoal or briquette fires, pellet fires, or any other open fires will be prohibited outside of designated campgrounds under Forest Order #06-18-00-24-12. Building, maintaining, or using a fire, campfire or stove fire is authorized in designated metal campfire rings or grills in designated recreational sites, except when the site is closed to the public.

Portable cooking stoves and lanterns using liquefied or bottled fuel are still allowed as they can be instantly switched off. Generators are permitted only in areas devoid of vegetation, such as campground pavement. Motorized vehicles may operate only on designated trails and roads.

Restrictions will also go into effect for smoking, off-highway vehicles, and chainsaws in campgrounds. Smoking is not allowed except within an enclosed vehicle, building, or a developed recreation site. Additionally, welding or operating an acetylene or other torch with open flame is also not allowed.

The increase to IFPL II limits the following operations to the hours between 8 p.m. and 1 p.m.: power saws except at loading sites; feller-bunchers with rotary head saws; cable yarding; blasting; and welding, cutting, or grinding of metal.

Please be aware of current restrictions and share information with others who may be unaware of the restrictions. As fire restrictions change, information will be made available at <https://www.fs.usda.gov/main/willamette/fire>.

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To report a wildfire, please call 9-1-1.