Willamette National Forest

Forest Service News Release

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Ore Fire closure reduction to reopen popular recreation sites, hunting areas

Lookout Campground, Buck Mountain Trail top list of areas to open

Springfield, Ore. – Sept. 30, 2024 – Due to effective firefighting efforts and favorable weather conditions, the Willamette National Forest will reduce the emergency closure area for the Ore Fire on Oct. 1, 2024, which will reopen several popular recreation sites around Blue River Reservoir.

The Ore Fire, which was reported on July 16, is located north of Highway 126 and Blue River Reservoir. The human-caused fire is approximately 3,485 acres in size and 100% contained. The closure order is effective from Oct. 1, 2024, through Jan. 1, 2025, unless rescinded or modified sooner.

These recreation sites are now open: Lookout Campground, Buck Mountain Trail #3304, Tidbits West Trail #3398 and Trailhead, Twin Buttes Trail #3404 and Trailhead, Buck Mountain East and West Trailheads, Gold Hill Trail #3370 (east of Tidbits South), and Gold Hill Trailhead.

Many roads providing access to areas popular with hunters are now open, including Forest Service Roads (FSR) 2820, 2026, 2022, 2032, 2044, and 1509. Roads along the Ore closure boundary, including FSR 15, also will reopen.

To reserve a campsite at Lookout Campground, phone 1.877.444.6777 or reserve online at www.recreation.gov. Mona Campground and Saddle Dam Boat Launch are now out of the Ore closure area but are closed for the season.

Recreation sites that remain closed as part of the original emergency order include Tidbits South Trail #3328 and Trailhead.

For a map of the closure area and a complete list of recreation sites and roads included in the order, please visit our website at https://www.fs.usda.gov/alerts/willamette/alerts-notices.

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