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## **2018 Fire Season Restrictions for Klamath and Lake Counties**

2018 fire season closures will go into effect: 12:01 a.m., PDT, June 1, 2018, in Klamath and Lake Counties. This proclamation covers all private, county, and state forestlands in Northern Klamath and Lake Counties.

The following acts are prohibited during fire season in accordance with ORS 477.510 and ORS 477.512:

- (1) Smoking while working in or traveling through any operation area.
- (2) The use of fuse and caps for blasting, unless approval is granted by the forester.
- (3) The discharge of an exploding target inside the district or within one-eighth mile of the district.
- (4) The discharge of tracer ammunition on land that is within the district or within one-eighth mile of the district, or when discharged, crosses above land that is within the district or within one-eighth mile of the district.

Forest operations that require a Permit to Operate Power Driven Machinery will be required to have Fire Tools, on-site water supply and watchman service on privately owned forest lands as of June 1, 2018. Watchman requirements on industrial operations, as of June 1, 2018, will be one (1) hour.

On May 24, 2018 Gov. Kate Brown, citing low snowpack and precipitation, low stream flows and warming temperatures, declared a drought emergency in Klamath, Harney and Grant Counties. As we brace for another wildfire season, forecasted water conditions are not expected to improve, this could impact agriculture, livestock, natural resources and you. R.D. Buell (District Manager) said “traditionally Walker Range is one of the first District’s in Oregon to enact closed fire season. We ask everyone to be as safe as possible while burning and to make sure your burn piles are out and cold to the touch by June 1, 2018”, declaring fire season now could help minimize the effects of drought and wildfires this upcoming fire season.

This fire closure proclamation also prohibits firewood cutting on the Gilchrist State Forest and Shanda Asset LLC (old Whitefish Cascade Forest Resource) lands during fire season closures on Walker Range FPA and Oregon Department of Forestry lands.

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