Firewood cutting on the Ochoco National Forest, 1910

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**General Rules and Regulations:** These rules are in addition to the “General and Other Conditions” listed on your permit. See individual woodcutting maps for additional specifications for those areas.

1) Permittee must be present and have in their possession:
   - Permit
   - Synopsis - rules and regulations
   - Firewood unit maps
   - Load tags
   - Required Fire equipment:
     - Spark arrester, 0.023” or less on chain saw.
     - Shovel - long handled, round point, 8” blade (size 0).
   - Fire extinguisher with a pressurized chemical of no less than 8 ounce capacity by weight.

2) The current year’s load tag must be validated by completely removing the month and day that you are removing the firewood. The validated tag must be highly visible at the back of the load, and displayed prior to moving the vehicle. Previous year’s tags are not valid. One tag is required for every 1/2 cord of firewood, or any portion thereof.

3) Each household may obtain up to eight (8) cords of free personal-use firewood annually. Permit is for personal use only and cannot be sold, transferred or bartered.

4) Fill out Product Removal Record on your signed free-use permit.

5) Woodcutting is prohibited in all posted timber sales, contract areas, developed campgrounds, old growth areas, research natural areas, riparian areas, wilderness areas and all other areas posted closed to woodcutting. Riparian areas are defined as follows for each National Forest (NF):
   - Deschutes NF - riparian areas are defined as land within 300 feet of water such as springs, streams, wet meadows, floodplains and overflow channels.
   - Crooked River National Grassland (CRNG) and Ochoco NF – Riparian Habitat Conservation Areas (RHCAs) are NOT open to woodcutting. These areas are displayed on each map, in light gray under the legend category of “Closed to Woodcutting – Riparian”.

6) Do not cut trees (standing and/or down) marked with paint, signs, wildlife tags, blazes or with any evidence of wildlife habitation such as nests or cavities.

7) Open and closed dates, species authorized for removal, and other restrictions may vary by map, see each cutting area map for specific information about firewood cutting.

8) Woodcutting is authorized for dead trees only, or as specified on woodcutting maps. Some areas do not allow the cutting of standing dead trees. Be familiar with the map of your cutting area.

9) Where cutting of standing trees is allowed, stump heights may not exceed 12 inches. Maximum length of wood allowed to be transported is 6 feet. Remove all wood down to 3 inches in diameter for less waste.

10) Protect all green trees and other vegetation during falling and removal activities. Live trees and other vegetation may not be cut to create access to firewood.

11) The only power equipment authorized for use are: chain saws, winches and hydraulic splitters, unless otherwise prohibited in specific cutting areas.

12) Woodcutting activity is permitted only within designated firewood area boundaries as specified on woodcutting map.

13) Cut and scatter limbs and tops so they lie no more than 12” from the ground. This reduces potential for wildfire. Remove all slash from roads, ditches, and trails.

14) Woodcutters must comply with all road closures, seasonal road closures, and transport firewood in vehicles less than 26,000 lbs GVW.

15) No tree felling within 100 feet of utility lines.

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**Validate and Use Load Tags Correctly**

- Measure your load of wood to determine how many tags are necessary.
- One cord = 4 feet by 4 feet by 8 feet, or 128 cubic feet.
- To validate your tags, completely remove the day and month tabs from each load tag needed.
- Securely attach all load tags to the back of your load in a highly visible location.
- Attach one tag for each 1/2 cord or portion thereof. (See Rule #2 above)
**Know the current Industrial Fire Precaution Level:**

- Call the toll-free recorded message line at 1-800-523-4737.
- Call one of the local offices listed on the back of this Synopsis.
- Check the Deschutes N.F. website at: http://go.usa.gov/xE8MQ

**General Fire Information:**
Visit the Central Oregon Interagency Dispatch Center website at:
https://go.usa.gov/xn7cz.
Or http://www.centraloregonfire.org/

**To Report a Wildfire:**
Call 911 or the Central Oregon Interagency Dispatch Center (541) 316-7700.

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**Industrial Fire Precaution Levels**

**Level IV:**
General Shutdown. All operations are prohibited.

**Level III:**
Partial Shutdown. Prohibits some activities; limits others to between 8 p.m. and 1 p.m.

**Level II:**
Partial Hootowl. Limits certain activities to between 8 p.m. and 1 p.m.

**Level I:**
Closed Season. Fire equipment and fire watch service is required.

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**Fire Precaution Requirements**

**Required Equipment**
The following equipment is required while using power equipment:

- **Spark Arrester:** Chainsaw exhaust system must be in good repair with a screen type spark arrester of 0.023” or less and qualified under USDA/USDI Federal Standards
- **Shovel:** Long handled round point with an 8” blade (size O) in possession of the operator.
- **Fire Extinguisher:** Pressurized chemical of not less than 8 ounce capacity by weight.

**Industrial Fire Precaution Level (IFPL)**

**Level I:**
A Fire Watch is required to stay in the area for one hour after power equipment has been shut off to watch for fire starts.

**Level II:**
Shut down all power equipment by 1 pm. A Fire Watch is required to stay in the area for one hour after power equipment has been shut off to watch for fire starts.

**Levels III and IV:**
All woodcutting activity is PROHIBITED.

**For more information on Industrial Fire Precaution Level (IFPL) please visit the Deschutes National Forest website at:** https://go.usa.gov/xE8MQ
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Crooked River National Grassland
2022 Firewood updates will be made available for the Crooked River National Grassland mid-season and are located on the webpage [https://www.fs.usda.gov/ochoco](https://www.fs.usda.gov/ochoco) for the Ochoco National Forest & Crooked River National Grassland, under Passes and Permits, Forest Product Permits

Sisters RD
See map insert

Ochoco NF East and West Maps
See map insert

Bend-Ft. Rock North and South Maps
See map insert
ADDITIONAL FIREWOOD CUTTING AREAS may open after publication of the 2022 Synopsis. Contact a Ranger District office regarding the availability of new areas and to obtain a map of the new area.

The specific USDA Forest Service map noting the location of new areas is required to be in your possession when cutting or removing wood.

THE FIREWOOD CUTTING SEASON IS LIMITED TO THE DATES SPECIFIED ON MAPS

This seasonal restriction is in place to protect roads that are more likely to be saturated with water outside of the specified dates, to protect soils that could be damaged due to high soil moisture, and for wildlife preservation and resource protection.

Central Oregon Firewood Cutting is limited, see cutting area map(s) for local restrictions and/or closures.
YOU CAN CUT AND REMOVE: All species of standing dead trees or down dead trees, less than 24" in diameter (75" circumference), measured 12 inches above the root collar, located within 150’ of the road edge. Roads open to woodcutting are highlighted in yellow on the map.

Special Regulations: Vehicles must stay on roads or road shoulders. (Road shoulder defined as within 20’ of the road edge). Off road travel is not allowed. Motorized travel for the purpose of firewood harvest must comply with restrictions found on Forest Service Motor Vehicle Use Maps. No winching of material is allowed. Do not cut, remove, or disturb material that has been piled for burning. All slash must be kept clear of roads, ditches and trails. No felling within 150 feet of Roads 40 and 45.

Directions: From Bend, travel south on US-97 for 14 miles. Take exit 153 for South Century Drive toward Sunriver. Turn right and continue for 1.5 Miles. At the traffic circle, take the 2nd exit and stay on South Century Drive. Continue on South Century Drive for 8.8 miles. Turn left on Forest Road 4525 to access the general cutting area.
YOU CAN CUT AND REMOVE: All species of standing dead trees or down dead trees, less than 24" in diameter (75" circumference), measured 12 inches above the root collar, located within 150’ of the road edge. Roads open to woodcutting are highlighted in yellow on the map.

Special Regulations: Vehicles must stay on roads or road shoulders. (Road shoulder defined as within 20’ of the road edge). Off road travel is not allowed. Motorized travel for the purpose of firewood harvest must comply with restrictions found on Forest Service Motor Vehicle Use Maps. No winching of material is allowed. Do not cut, remove, or disturb material that has been piled for burning. All slash must be kept clear of roads, ditches and trails. No felling within 150 feet of Roads 40 and 42.

Directions: From Bend, OR: Travel 17.3 miles south on Hwy 97, then 12.2 miles southwest on County Road 42 to arrive in the general area.
YOU CAN CUT AND REMOVE: All species of standing dead trees or down dead trees, less than 24" in diameter (75" circumference), measured 12 inches above the root collar, located within 150' of the road edge. Roads open to woodcutting are highlighted in yellow on the map.

Special Regulations: Vehicles must stay on roads or road shoulders. (Road shoulder defined as within 20' of the road edge). Off road travel is not allowed. Motorized travel for the purpose of firewood harvest must comply with restrictions found on Forest Service Motor Vehicle Use Maps. No winching of material is allowed. Do not cut, remove, or disturb material that has been piled for burning. All slash must be kept clear of roads, ditches and trails. No felling within 150 feet of Road 46.

Directions: From Bend, OR: Travel about 50 miles southwest on Cascade Lakes Hwy (Road 46) to arrive in the general area.
YOU CAN CUT AND REMOVE: All species of standing dead trees or down dead trees, less than 24" in diameter (75" circumference), measured 12 inches above the root collar, located within 150' of the road edge. Roads open to woodcutting are highlighted in yellow on the map.

Special Regulations: Vehicles must stay on roads or road shoulders. (Road shoulder defined as within 20' of the road edge). Off road travel is not allowed. Motorized travel for the purpose of firewood harvest must comply with restrictions found on Forest Service Motor Vehicle Use Maps. No winching of material is allowed. Do not cut, remove, or disturb material that has been piled for burning. All slash must be kept clear of roads, ditches and trails. No felling within 150 feet of Road 46.

Directions: From Sunriver, OR travel approximately 5 miles west on Spring River Road to 40/45 Road junction. The cutting area is located to the south.
YOU CAN CUT AND REMOVE: All species of standing dead trees or down dead trees, less than 24" in diameter (75" circumference), measured 12 inches above the root collar, located within 150' of the road edge. Roads open to woodcutting are highlighted in yellow on the map.

Special Regulations: Vehicles must stay on roads or road shoulders. (Road shoulder defined as within 20' of the road edge). Off road travel is not allowed. Motorized travel for the purpose of firewood harvest must comply with restrictions found on Forest Service Motor Vehicle Use Maps. No winching of material is allowed. Do not cut, remove, or disturb material that has been piled for burning. All slash must be kept clear of roads, ditches and trails.

Directions: To access the CRE Roadside Unit 1, proceed from Crescent, Oregon south on Hwy 97 for 7.6 miles to Road 9758, head west on 9758 to the general area; or proceed from Crescent, Oregon south on Hwy 97 for 9.4 miles to Hwy 58, head north-west on Hwy 58 for 4.4 miles to the general area.
YOU CAN CUT AND REMOVE: All species of standing dead trees or down dead trees, less than 24" in diameter (75" circumference), measured 12 inches above the root collar, located within 150' of the road edge. Roads open to woodcutting are highlighted in yellow on the map.

Special Regulations: Vehicles must stay on roads or road shoulders. (Road shoulder defined as within 20' of the road edge). Off road travel is not allowed. Motorized travel for the purpose of firewood harvest must comply with restrictions found on Forest Service Motor Vehicle Use Maps. No winching of material is allowed. Do not cut, remove, or disturb material that has been piled for burning. All slash must be kept clear of roads, ditches and trails.

Directions: To access the CRE Roadside Unit 2, proceed from Crescent, Oregon west on County Road 61 (crescent cutoff road) for 8.8 miles to County Road 46 (Cascade Lakes Hwy), and proceed north on County Road 46 for 14.2 miles to the general area.
Dead and dying trees provide food and shelter for many wild animals. As a tree dies, each stage of decomposition plays a vital role in the feeding, breeding, or housing of wildlife. Before taking a standing dead tree for firewood, please examine the tree for wildlife use, and if there is significant use, please consider leaving it for wildlife.

Noxious weeds devour 4,600 acres of public land doing millions of dollars worth of damage in the west each year. Also known as exotics and invasive plants, noxious weeds: REDUCE forage diversity and quality for wildlife and livestock REDUCE nesting for animals CHOKE OUT native plant life and CAN INCREASE wildfire frequency. YOU Can Help By... Washing your vehicle prior to entering Public Lands - especially the tires, undercarriage, muffler, etc to remove any noxious weed seeds that you may have picked up along roadways. Properly disposing of garden waste. (No dumping on Public Lands!). Be aware and don’t transport loose soil and plant parts. Toadflax and Spotted Knapweed are just two of many noxious weeds threatening healthy plant communities in Central Oregon. For an extensive weed list and additional information go to the Oregon Noxious Weed Profiles site at: https://go.usa.gov/xdgWD

With the help of many volunteers, public land managers organize weed pulls, clip seed heads, put biocontrol agents (natural insect enemies) onto weed populations, arrange for herbicide spraying on certain sites, and participate in local weed boards and partnerships.

Contact the Invasive Plant Program Manager for the Deschutes National Forest, Ochoco National Forest and the Crooked River National Grassland for more information at 541-416-6588

Wildlife and Snags

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