

News Release

Umatilla National Forest

2517 SW Hailey Avenue

Pendleton, OR 97801

visit us at www.fs.fed.us/r6/uma/

News Contact: Joani Bosworth (541) 278-3722

August 24, 2006

Road Closures Modified in the Sharps Ridge Fire Area Some closures remain in effect for public and firefighter safety.

Road closures in the Sharps Ridge Fire vicinity have been updated. Several Forest Roads located on the Umatilla and Malheur National Forests have re-opened for public use, while others remain closed remain closed for public and firefighter safety. Updated information on road closures will be available online at www.inciweb.org/incident/432.

The Sharps Ridge Fire, 27 miles southeast of Ukiah, OR began on August 19, 2006. Initial road closures were based on the fire's aggressive behavior and potential for growth. Firefighters have made good progress on fire line construction and burnout operations. The fire is being managed by the Central Oregon Interagency Incident Management Team. It is currently 5,500 acres and 15% contained.

With archery season starting this weekend, the public is reminded that Public-Use restrictions involving internal combustion engines such as chainsaws and generators, motorized use, campfires, smoking, and industrial use are in effect throughout the area. If unsure which restrictions apply, please contact any Umatilla National Forest, Oregon Department of Forestry Office or Washington Department of Natural Resources. Specific regulation are posted online at: www.fs.fed.us/r6/fireupdate.shtml.

Road / Trail Closures now in effect include:

Umatilla National Forest roads in the Desolation area that are still temporarily closed due to fire activity include:

- Forest Road 10 (Desolation Creek) from its north junction with Forest Road 1010 to its south junction with Forest Road 1010, and all National Forest Road 10 collector roads along that road segment.
- Forest Road 1007 at the junction with Forest Road 1006
- Forest Road 3974 from its junction with Forest Road 1006 to its terminus
- Forest Road 3980 from its junction with Forest Road 3980-080 to its terminus
- Forest Road 3990 and all Forest Road 3990 collector roads
- Forest Road 3986 and all Forest Road 3986 collector roads
- Forest Road 3988
- Forest Road 45

(continued)

Umatilla National Forest trails in the Desolation area temporarily closed due to fire activity include:

- Forest Trail 3026

Malheur National Forest roads north of the Middle Fork of the John Day River, in the Susanville area that are still temporarily closed due to fire activity include:

- Forest Road 45 from its junction with Forest Road 4500-537 (Indian Rock Look Out)
- Forest Road 2090 (Big Creek) at the junction with County Road 20

-USFS-