



**Pacific Northwest Region  
Malheur National Forest  
541-575-3000  
[www.fs.usda.gov/malheur](http://www.fs.usda.gov/malheur)**

# News Release

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October 19, 2015

## Public Use Restrictions eased Forest-wide

**JOHN DAY, OR** –With recent and forecast wet weather patterns the Malheur National Forest will be changing Public Use Restrictions to the Seasonal Restrictions, effective Tuesday, October 20, 2015, with an Industrial Fire Precaution at Level I.

Public Use Restrictions pertaining to chainsaw use, smoking, and off-road travel will be lifted. Firewood cutting is permitted all day, with a one hour fire watch following chainsaw shutdown. Seasonal campfire restrictions will remain in place until October 31, 2015.

### Seasonal campfire restrictions include:

1. Campfires allowed only in fire pits surrounded by dirt, rock, or commercial rings and in areas not conducive to rapid fire spread, at a minimum clear of flammable material within a radius of 5 feet from the edge of the pit and free of overhanging material. Use existing pits wherever possible.

- a. Campfires must be attended at all times, and completely extinguished prior to leaving.
- b. Persons with campfires are required to have an axe, shovel, and one gallon of water in their possession (except in specified developed recreation sites listed in the Forest Order).
- c. Portable cooking stoves using liquefied or bottled gas and wood burning stoves equipped with a chimney that is at least five (5) feet in length with a spark-arresting screen consisting of ¼ inch mesh hardware cloth are allowed.
- d. Use of charcoal briquettes is permitted within the clearing requirements outlined under #1 above. The public is responsible for knowing if restrictions are in place and can obtain information through many avenues:

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Call the Forest's offices or District offices at:

- Malheur National Forest/Blue Mountain Ranger District: 541-575-3000
- Prairie City Ranger District: 541-820-3800
- Emigrant Creek Ranger District: 541-573-4300

Visit the Forests website at: <http://www.fs.usda.gov/malheur>

To report a wildfire call:

- John Day Interagency Dispatch Center: 1-541-575-1321
- Burns Interagency Dispatch Center: 1-541-573-1000

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