

14-day Stay Limit - Long Term Camping Policy on the Umatilla National Forest

This policy was put into place to protect natural resources, address sanitation issues, prevent camps from monopolizing popular sites, and to control squatting on national forest lands.

The 14-day stay limit has been in effect on the Umatilla for many years now and Law Enforcement has been enforcing the stay limit across the Forest with good compliance for the last several years. However, with the arrival of hunting season, we are finding many campers are not aware of the 14-day stay limit and have already planned for extended camping periods.

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The following are the stipulations for long term camping on the Umatilla National Forest:

- The 14-day stay limit will be enforced in all areas
- Campers are not permitted to stay on the forest for more than 14 days within any 30-day period as per Forest Order 2009-0614-UM-01 and 36 CFR 261.58(a)
- After 14 days, campers will need to move their camp off forest

Due to overcrowding and resource damage at many forest campgrounds, additional occupancy and use regulations were put into effect in 2010. Campgrounds with new occupancy limits include:

Walla Walla Ranger District: Jubilee Lake, Mottet, Target Meadows, Woodward, Woodland and Umatilla Forks.

North Fork John Day Ranger District: Olive Lake, Frazier, Winom, Drift Fence, Driftwood, Tollbridge, Bear Wallow, Lane Creek, North Fork John Day, Gold Dredge, Welch and Oriental.

Here are the following occupancy and use regulations that will be enforced:

- Single-occupancy site: Maximum of eight people, two tents (and/or camping trailers) and two vehicles
- Multiple-occupancy site: Varies by campground and campsite. Please contact the ranger district office for occupancy limits at multiple-occupancy sites.

Limits will be posted on the campground bulletin board and at affected campsites.

Only campers in registered campsites are allowed in campgrounds between 9 p.m. and 6 a.m.

Occupancy and Use regulations will be enforced at campgrounds and campsites where the regulation is posted. The regulation will be posted at the campground bulletin board and at each affected campsite.

Camp Firewood

Firewood for campfires on National Forest lands is free. A woodcutting permit is not necessary when collecting wood for a campfire. However, if the wood is being gathered for home use or if you plan to transport leftover firewood home, you will need to purchase a woodcutting permit.

Dispersed Camping

You may camp outside of developed campgrounds in most areas on the Umatilla National Forest, up to 300 feet from an open road, at no charge. Potable water, toilets, and other amenities are not generally available. If you choose to camp outside developed areas, be sure to bring adequate water or be prepared to purify any water source before drinking