Briefing Paper

Pacific Northwest Region – *Umatilla National Forest*

2015 Public Use Restrictions

Restrictions include both seasonal and phased- in requirements as conditions warrant. The fire danger adjective and IFPL are used as indicators to consider when implementing phased restrictions.

Seasonal Restrictions, June 1st –October 31st

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 all flammable material within a radius of 3 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 a tool that can serve as a shovel and one gallon of water in their possession (except in specified developed recreation sites listed in Exhibit A). The intent of this requirement is to ensure individuals with a campfire to have the tools necessary to completely extinguish their campfire per "a" above.
   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 under the same restrictions as campfires as described above.

Within designated wilderness areas users are encouraged to locate fires such that minimal disturbance would be necessary to meet the clearing requirements identified. Naturally cleared areas, previously used sites, and areas where vegetation is non-flammable (green grass) are examples. Possession of a typical backpacking folding shovel (commercially available) meets the intent of a tool as described in item "b" above.

Phase A (indicators are Adjective fire danger MODERATE to HIGH; IFPL level II or III)

1. Seasonal **Campfire** Restrictions and Requirements described for June 1st-October 31st apply.
2. **Chainsaws** may be operated only between the hours of 8 p.m. and 1 p.m. local time. A one hour fire watch is required after saw operations cease. Saw operators are required to have an axe (minimum 2 lb head, 26" length), shovel (8" wide, 26" length), and fire extinguisher (minimum ABC 8 oz) in their possession.
3. **Smoking** allowed only in enclosed vehicles and buildings, developed recreation sites, or cleared areas.

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4. **No off-road/off-trail vehicle travel** or travel on roads not cleared of standing grass or other flammable material; no vehicle travel on those FS roads where access has been impeded or blocked by earthen berm, logs, boulders, barrier, barricade or gate, or as otherwise identified in the Fire Order. Off-road/off-trail travel to access firewood as allowed under firewood permit is exempt.

Phase B (indicators are Adjective fire danger rating of HIGH; IFPL at level III).

1. **Campfires** allowed only in developed recreation sites listed in Exhibit A (revised annually). This restriction applies to building, maintaining, attending, or using a fire, campfire, charcoal briquettes or stove fire except for liquefied or bottled gas stoves and heaters.
   a. Campfires must be attended at all times, and completely extinguished prior to leaving.
   b. Persons with campfires are required to have a tool that can serve as a shovel and one gallon of water in their possession (except in specified developed recreation sites listed in Exhibit A).
   c. 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 in developed recreation sites listed in Exhibit A.
2. **No internal combustions engine operation**, except motor vehicles. **Chainsaw** use is prohibited. Electrical generators operated under the following conditions are allowed:
   a. in the center of an area at least 10 feet in diameter that is barren or cleared of all flammable material, or;
   b. when fully contained within a pickup truck bed that is devoid of all flammable material, or;
   c. when factory installed in a recreational vehicle and the generator exhaust discharge is located in the center of an area at least 10 feet in diameter that is barren or cleared of all flammable material;
3. **Smoking** allowed only in enclosed vehicles and buildings, developed recreation sites, or cleared areas.
4. **No off-road/off-trail vehicle travel** or travel on roads not cleared of standing grass or other flammable material; no vehicle travel on those FS roads where access has been impeded or blocked by earthen berm, logs, boulders, barrier, barricade or gate, or as otherwise identified in the Fire Order.

Phase C (indicators are Adjective fire danger rating of Extreme; IFPL level IV).

1. **Campfires** not allowed. Liquid and bottle gas stoves only.
2. **No internal combustions engine operation,** except motor vehicles.
3. **Smoking** allowed only in enclosed vehicles and buildings, developed recreation sites, or cleared areas.
4. **No off-road/off-trail vehicle travel** or travel on roads not cleared of standing grass or other flammable material; no vehicle travel on those FS roads where access has been impeded or blocked by earthen berm, logs, boulders, barrier, barricade or gate, or as otherwise identified in the Fire Order.