

	United States Department of Agriculture Forest Service	<h1>News Release</h1>	FOREST KLAMATH NATIONAL 1711 S. Main Street, Yreka, CA 96097 (530) 841-6131 www.fs.usda.gov/klamath	
Date: September 5, 2012 9:00 AM		For Immediate Release	Contact: Kerry Greene kkgreene@fs.fed.us Fire Information Line: (530) 841-4597	

It's Fire Season--Be Extra Careful!

YREKA, CA—In the midst of battling the lightning caused 22,000+ acre Goff Fire, the Klamath National Forest is experiencing an increase in the number of person caused fires. In the past week an average of 1 to 2 new fires have started each day. Suppression of these new fires requires firefighters and equipment which could otherwise be working on suppression of large fires such as the Goff and Bagley that are consuming hundreds to thousands of acres per day. Fire fighting resources are stretched to the limit.

Dry summer weather, steep slopes and dense vegetation make wildfires a constant threat. Fuel moisture is at a record low—setting the stage for fire ignition. Wildfires destroy trees and other vegetation, endanger lives and property, and damage vital watersheds. Your help is needed to preserve these valuable lands from wildfire.

Based on current Fire Restrictions please remember the following:

Campfires—on the Klamath National Forest campfires are currently permitted only in Designated Recreation Sites and in the Trinity, Marble Mountain, and Siskiyou Wilderness Areas.

1. Clear all flammable material away from the fire for a minimum of five feet in all directions to prevent escape of the fire.
2. Have a shovel available at the campfire site for preparing and extinguishing campfires.
3. Have a responsible person in attendance at all times.
4. Extinguish campfire with water, using the drown, stir and feel method.

Smoking - Smoldering cigarettes can start fires hours after being dropped or thrown away. Never toss cigarettes from cars. Smoking is restricted to inside vehicles, developed sites or areas cleared to bare soil 3 feet in diameter.

Fireworks - Fireworks are not allowed anywhere on the National Forest. Call 911 if you see anyone lighting fireworks in the forest.

Vehicles - Parking in tall grass or shrubs can start fires because of the hot exhaust system can ignite dry plant materials. Dry, windy conditions can turn smoldering grass into a wall of flames. Don't park where vegetation is touching the underside of your vehicle. Motorcycles and ATV's must have approved working spark arresters.

Welding – Welding of any kind is prohibited.

Explosives – Use of explosives is prohibited.

Firearms – Be careful with the use of firearms. Bullets striking rocks can create sparks which lead to fire. For target practice chose a site that rock free and on a north facing slope (higher soil moisture, and higher fuel moisture).

(more)

More detailed wildfire information is available on the internet at www.inciweb.org. The Klamath National Forest and Rogue River-Siskiyou National Forests are now in fire restrictions. Forest visitors are reminded to use care while in the Forest and please check the Forest websites at: <http://www.fs.usda.gov/klamath/> or http://www.fs.usda.gov/rogue_river-siskiyou/ or with a Forest Service station for local conditions.

Please call (530) 841-4597 for fire information.



Please help protect the forest by observing fire-safety measures during your visit.

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