

Ochoco and Deschutes National Forests and Prineville District, Bureau of Land Management Office of Communications

Working as One to Serve Central Oregon

News and Information
For Immediate Release

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FIRE CLOSURES IN EFFECT FOR PRINEVILL BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT RIVER RECREATION AREAS

CENTRAL OREGON-It's that time of year again when the threat of fire along river recreation corridors require a closure order for the protection of natural resources and the health and safety of the recreating public. The closure order took effect on June 1, 2004, and lasts through October 15, 2004. The following fire closures are now in effect on public lands within Wild and Scenic River corridor boundaries and public lands in other areas as described below. Prohibited acts associated with the closure order are described on the following page.

Lower Crooked River

Within ½ mile of the river's edge along the Lower Crooked River from the Highway 97 bridge to Lake Billy Chinook.

Deschutes River

Within ½ mile of the river's edge along the Middle Deschutes River from Highway 20 to Lake Billy Chinook; within ½ mile of Lake Simustus (between Round Butte Dam and Pelton Dam); within the Lower Deschutes National Wild and Scenic River corridor (Pelton Dam to the Columbia River).

White River

Within ½ mile of the river's edge from its confluence with the Deschutes River upstream to the eastern boundary of the Mount Hood National Forest.

Lake Billy Chinook

Those public lands located within ½ mile of Lake Billy Chinook.

John Day River

On public lands withing ¼ mile of the river's edge in the following locations:

-The Mainstem John Day River, from Tumwater Falls (River Mile 10) upstream to Kimberly (River Mile 185).

-The North Fork John Day River, from the confluence with the mainstem at Kimberly (River Mile 0) upstream to the Umatilla National Forest boundary (River Mile 62).

-The South Fork John Day River from Smokey Creek (River Mile 6) upstream to the Malheur National Forest boundary (River Mile 47).

JUNE 1, 2004 THROUGH OCTOBER 15, 2004:

PROHIBITED ACTS FOR ALL CLOSURE AREAS DESCRIBED ABOVE:

1. Building, igniting, maintaining, attending, using, or being within 20 feet of open flames, including but not limited to campfires, candles, torches, kerosene lanterns, or charcoal briquette fires. (Portable, commercially constructed cooking stoves and shielded lanterns using pressurized bottled fuels such as white gas and propane are permissible.)
2. Smoking except while in non-public buildings, within a closed vehicle, or in a boat floating on the water or standing in the water.

Except in emergency conditions or permission by an agency-authorized officer, there are no exceptions to this closure order. A violation of this closure is punishable by a fine of not more than \$1000 or imprisonment of not more than 12 months, or both.

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