



OREGON DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY

3200 Delap Road, Klamath Falls, OR 97601

2021 Fire Season Goes Into Effect in Klamath and Lake Counties

For Immediate Release

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Contact: Dustin Gustaveson (ODF) Randall Baley (ODF) RD Buell (WRFPA)
 (541) 947-3311 (541) 883-5681 (541) 433-2451

Fire officials in Klamath and Lake Counties will officially declare fire season beginning **Saturday, May 15, 2021 at 12:01 A.M.** on lands protected by the Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF) Klamath-Lake District and Walker Range Fire Patrol Association. This affects all private, county, and state forestlands.

“Where we are at with fuel conditions, lack of spring rains, extreme and exceptional drought, and continuous fire activity in Klamath County, Lake County, and around the state, Klamath-Lake District will be declaring fire season on Saturday, May 15th at 12:01 AM.” stated Randall Baley, Protection Unit Forester, Oregon Department of Forestry. “The total package of conditions all adds up to make the public aware of the situation and minimize the potential for human-caused fires.”

The “Fire Season in effect” declaration puts into place regulations restricting debris burning and timber harvest operations. Wildland and structural fire protection agencies in Klamath and Lake Counties have agreed to **prohibit all outdoor debris burning.** Forest operations that require a Permit to Operate Power Driven Machinery now are required to have **fire tools, on-site water supply, and watchman service** on privately owned forestland. **Declaring “Fire Season” also activates the adjective class (fire danger) measures and South Central Oregon Fire Management Partnership will**

begin at MODERATE level and IFPL (Industrial Fire Precaution Level) at a level I.

The Lakeview Interagency Fire Center website: <https://scofmp.org/> is available to assist in keeping people informed of current and changing conditions for our area. Walker Range Fire Patrol Association can be contacted at 541-433-2451.

Additional information on BLM and/or USFS you can call Bureau of Land Management, Lakeview District and the Fremont - Winema National Forest.

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