



# Oregon

Theodore R. Kulongoski, Governor

October 15, 2009  
NEWS RELEASE  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
Contact: Angie Johnson, (541) 620-4360

## Department of Forestry

Central Oregon District  
John Day Unit  
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"Stewardship in Forestry"

### **FIRE SEASON TERMINATED ON PRIVATE LANDS IN CENTRAL OREGON DISTRICT**

As of 6:00 p.m., Wednesday, October 14, 2008, fire season was officially terminated for forestlands protected by Oregon Department of Forestry, Central Oregon District. This includes ODF protected private, state, county, municipal, and tribal lands in six counties: Grant, Harney, Wheeler, Morrow, Umatilla, and Gilliam Counties. Landowners are asked to be cautious, though. Fall weather, with intermittent rain showers, does not eliminate fire danger. "Even though a large part of Oregon has received several inches of rainfall, the John Day Unit has only received minimal amounts and those amounts are spotty across the Unit," stated Errin Hickerson, John Day Interagency Dispatch Coordinator for Oregon Department of Forestry.

Permits are required for burn barrels, open burning, and burning of slash from either logging or thinning. You can acquire these from your local Oregon Department of Forestry office. Determining if it is a "good" day to burn is an important consideration as well. To check weather conditions before burning in the John Day Unit, please call (541) 575-1139 for the smoke management forecast or go to the smoke management forecast website at –

[http://www.odf.state.or.us/DIVISIONS/protection/fire\\_protection/Daily/neo.htm](http://www.odf.state.or.us/DIVISIONS/protection/fire_protection/Daily/neo.htm)

After rain and cooler temperatures, people may be experiencing a false sense of security which leads to a higher occurrence of human-caused fires. It is important for people to practice fire prevention, especially as it relates to debris and slash burning. Make sure the appropriate notification and/or burn permit are secured. Monitor burning at all times and make sure tools and water are available.

To report a fire, call John Day Interagency Dispatch Center at (541) 575-1321 or Burns Interagency Communication Center at (541) 573-1000.

For further information, contact your local Oregon Department of Forestry office:

John Day Unit (541) 575-1139  
Fossil Sub-Unit (541) 763-2575  
Monument Guard Station (541) 934-2300

You can also check our website at <http://www.oregon.gov/ODF/FIELD/JD/aboutus.shtml>.

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