

United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT Medford District Office 3040 Biddle Road, Medford, Oregon 97504 http://www.blm.gov

RESCISSION OF EMERGENCY CLOSURE OF PUBLIC LANDS Upper Applegate Fire Area

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Medford District, Oregon.

ACTION: Rescission of temporary closure of public land in and near the Upper Applegate Fire in the Ashland Field Office, Medford District.

SUMMARY: This notice rescinds the emergency closure of BLM-administered public lands, roads, sites, and trails in Jackson County issued on June 26, 2024 associated with the Upper Applegate Fire.

As Field Manager I have determined in consultation with appropriate agencies that fire conditions have changed and the closure is no longer needed. The Upper Applegate Fire was declared controlled on July 21, 2024.

The public is cautioned that conditions in burned areas will remain potentially hazardous for the foreseeable future. Hazardous conditions include fire weakened trees and limbs that may fall, loose rock, ash and dust that may be toxic or carcinogenic, and soils with reduced stability. Burned areas may also be more fragile and susceptible to damage from use. The public is urged to avoid burned areas, and to use extreme caution if they do enter these areas. The public is also reminded that all laws protecting public lands and resources from damage or unauthorized use remain in place; violators can be prosecuted, and convictions can lead to fines or imprisonment.

This rescission does not change the status of any other BLM closure or fire restriction orders.

AFFECTED AREA: The following are now open under this recission:

All BLM-managed public lands, roads, sites, and trails in Jackson County all public lands east of Upper Applegate Road south of Little Applegate Road, and west of BLM Road 39-3-24.0. The southern boundary comprises the line between the BLM and Forest Service lands. Grouse Creek Road is closed to public access at this time. Portions of BLM administered lands in the following sections are affected by this closure: Township 39 south, Range 2 west, Sections 19, 30, 31. Township 39 south, Range 3 west, Sections 10, 13, 14, 15, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 33, 34, 35, 36, Willamette Meridian.

EFFECTIVE DATE: This change will take effect at 12:01 AM on Saturday, September 21, 2024.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Kyle Sullivan, Public Affairs Specialist, 3040 Biddle Road, Medford OR 97504, telephone (541) 618-2340. This notice and the closure map is also available online at <u>https://www.blm.gov/programs/public-safety-and-fire/fire-and-aviation/regional-info/oregon-washington/fire-restrictions</u>.



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Field Manager, Ashland Field Office