

December 12, 2011
NEWS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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SLASH PILE BURNING WILL BE TERMINATED ON MARCH 31, 2012 FOR THE SEASON

Many landowners have begun their burning for the year. It is important that everyone still practice safe burning, monitoring large slash piles at all times. Also, a burn permit is needed to take you through the end of the year. If burning has not been completed by the end of the year, it is important to secure a permit for the new year that starts on January 1 and will expire on March 31st.

In the past, landowners have been allowed to go beyond March 31st because of moist spring weather conditions. Because the John Day Unit has responded to higher than normal number of rekindled or escaped slash pile fires, despite the moderate weather, the Unit Forester has determined that burning slash piles larger than 6 ft x 6 ft in size will be shut off for this burning season on March 31st, 2012. Landowners will need to plan accordingly.

Permits are required for burn barrels, open burning, and burning of slash from either logging or thinning. You can acquire these permits 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 link to the smoke management forecast website at –

http://www.odf.state.or.us/DIVISIONS/protection/fire_protection/Daily/neo.htm (follow instructions for Zone 630 and 632)

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

You can also check our website at <http://www.oregon.gov/ODF/centraloregon/>.

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