

# TAKE PRECAUTIONS TO KEEP CAMPFIRES FROM BECOMING WILDFIRES

Sitting around a campfire is one of the special times we all enjoy, but campfires are also a major cause of wildfires.

Keep Oregon Green, the Oregon Office of State Fire Marshal and the Oregon Department of Forestry urge Oregonians to follow these

basic outdoor safety tips:

- Know before you go — Call your local forestry or fire district to learn if there are any current campfire restrictions at your recreation destination. An interactive map of Oregon's fire restrictions is available at [www.keeporegongreen.org](http://www.keeporegongreen.org).

- Kick the campfire habit this summer — Portable camp stoves are a safer option to campfires at any time of year. Areas that prohibit campfires outside maintained campgrounds with established fire pits will often allow the use of camp stoves.

- Select the right spot — Where campfires are allowed, avoid building the fire near your tent, structures, vehicles, shrubs and trees, and be aware of low-hanging branches overhead.

Clear the site down to mineral soil, at least five feet on all

sides, and circle your campfire site with rocks. Store your unused firewood a good distance from the fire.

- Keep your campfire small — A campfire is less likely to escape control if it is kept small. A large fire may cast hot embers long distances. Add firewood in small amounts as existing material is consumed.

- Attend your campfire at all times — A campfire left unattended for only a few minutes can grow into a costly, damaging wildfire. Staying with your campfire from start to finish until dead out is required by

state law, to ensure that any escaped sparks or embers can be extinguished quickly.

- NEVER use gasoline or other accelerants (flammable or combustible liquids) to start or increase your campfire. Once the fire is ignited, wait until the match is cold and then discard it in the fire.

- Always have water and fire tools on site — Have a shovel and a bucket of water nearby to extinguish any escaped embers. When you are ready to leave, drown all embers with water, stir the coals, and drown again. Repeat until the fire is dead out.

If it is too hot to touch, it is too hot to leave.

- Burn only wood — State regulations prohibit the open burning of any material that creates dense, toxic smoke or noxious odors.

Escaped campfires are costly — The Oregon Department of Forestry spent more than \$3.3 million in 2014 to suppress unattended and escaped campfires. State law requires the proper clearing, building, attending and extinguishing of open fires any time of year.

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## Fishing from 1B

presentations. Typical steelhead tactics apply such as bobber and jig / bait, or casting spoons or spinners. Cutthroat trout are now also open to harvest and can be found throughout the main stem river and many large tributaries.

WILSON RIVER: steelhead, Chinook, cutthroat  
Spring Chinook fishing is slow in the low clear water. A few more fish are showing in the river. Summer steelhead angling is slow also. Angling for cutthroat trout should be fair. Use lighter gear for best results.

YAQUINA RIVER: cutthroat trout

The cutthroat trout season opened on May 23rd and anglers can expect to have fair to good fishing. The mainstem Yaquina and Big Elk Creek are good places to try casting small spinners or spoons as well as bait fishing near the head of tide.

UMPQUA RIVER, SOUTH: Steelhead

The mainstem South Umpqua upstream to Jackson Creek Bridge is open to fish-

ing, with trout fishing being strictly catch and release.

Catch and release trout fishing in South Umpqua tributaries below Jackson Creek Bridge is also open, with fishing restricted to the use of artificial flies and lures.

Smallmouth bass fishing should be productive with warming water temperatures.

COOS RIVER BASIN: Dungeness crab, bay clams, rockfish, trout

Anglers are still catching a few rockfish inside lower Coos Bay around the jetties. The best fishing has been around the slack tides. The marine fish daily bag limit (which includes fishing in estuaries) is 7 fish and a separate daily limit for lingcod (two). Anglers will be able to keep only 3 blue rockfish and 1 canary rockfish as part of their daily limit and there will be no harvest of China, quillback or copper rockfish.

- Crabbing has been good in the lower bay with crabbers catching mostly hard shell crab with a couple soft shell crabs in the mix. The best crabbing will be near the jetties and close to slack tides.

- Clamming is excellent during low tides near Charleston, off Cape Arago Highway, and Clam Island. There are also good places to dig clams even on positive low tides in Coos Bay.

- Recreational harvest of razor clams is closed for the entire Oregon coastline from the Columbia River to the California border due to elevated levels of domoic acid.

This includes all beaches and all bays. Before any shellfish harvest trip, make sure to check the Oregon Department of Agriculture website for any updates.

TENMILE BASIN: Trout, largemouth bass, yellow perch  
Streams in the Tenmile Basin are open for trout fishing. Fishing is restricted to artificial flies and lures in streams above tidewater.

Anglers should have good success catching trout in the deeper pools and riffles using spinners or flies.

Tenmile Lakes is open all year for trout and anglers have been catching trout trolling wedding ring spinners tipped with a worm in the main part of Tenmile Lakes.

Bass anglers have been catching several largemouth bass in Tenmile Lakes. Bass can be found this time of the year in shallow water near structure like logs or weed lines.

A few anglers have been catching yellow perch from the fishing dock at the County Boat Ramp and near the edge of the weedlines. A worm or piece of cut bait fished near the bottom works well for catching yellow perch.

WINCHESTER BAY:

Bottomfish, perch

Fishing for bottomfish in the Triangle and South jetty has been successful. Perch fishing has been productive in the bay, and it was reported that good size striped perch were being caught along the jetty.

Crabbing has picking up

with some limits reported.

PACIFIC OCEAN and BEACHES: Bottomfish, salmon, Dungeness crab, surf perch

The ocean is open for harvest of Dungeness crab.

Anglers continue to catch surf perch from the beaches near Winchester, Bandon and Coos Bay. The best fishing is usually on the incoming tide. Sand shrimp is one of the best baits to use when fishing for surf perch.

Recreational ocean salmon season from Cape Falcon to Humbug Mt. opened on March 15.

The season is open for all salmon except coho salmon, with a bag limit of two salmon per day, and a minimum size for Chinook salmon at 24 inches or larger. Fishing has been difficult due to rough seas and there are few reports of fish being caught, but fishing should improve with conditions.

The next all-depth halibut open days will be June 25-27.

The nearshore halibut season does not open until July 1.

Fishing for bottom fish is restricted to inside the 30 fathom curve. Fishing for black rockfish continues to be good from Charleston to Bandon.

Anglers are still picking up a few lingcod also.

REMINDER: Cabezon is closed through June 30, and the ocean is open for bottom fishing only inside of the 30-fathom regulatory line (30-fathom waypoints) through Sept. 30.

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