

Siuslaw News Sports & Recreation

ODF warns campers of increased wildfire risk this weekend

BY NED HICKSON
Siuslaw News

While the southwest U.S. sizzles in a record-breaking heatwave, Oregon is also in store for elevated temperatures throughout the weekend.

Summer heat and dry landscapes increase the risk of wildfires. With some parts of the state already having declared fire season in effect, fire officials are reminding all Oregonians and visitors to the state to be aware of fire danger when working or recreating outdoors.

“Given the right conditions, a fire can start almost any time of year,” said Oregon Department of Forestry Fire Prevention Coordinator Tom Fields. “And while we’ve been blessed with cool conditions so far, fire activity is beginning to pick up as

we head into the first weekend of summer.”

In fact, more than 125 fires have already burned 170 acres of ODF forest and grasslands in 2017. Nearly half of those fires were started by debris burning, with another 14 fires soarkwed by people recreating (campfires, fireworks and target shooting).

Anyone camping this weekend is asked to take extra steps to prevent a potential wildfire catastrophe by keeping in mind some of the following tips:

- Keep your vehicle on good roads and don’t idle over dry grass.
- Campgrounds are best for campfires. If campfires are allowed outside campgrounds, choose a location in a

MORE THAN 125 FIRES HAVE ALREADY BURNED 170 ACRES OF ODF FOREST AND GRASSLANDS IN 2017

clear area away from grass, brush and overhanging trees.

- If campfires are allowed where you’re camping, keep it contained and small by surrounding it with rocks. Also, have water and a shovel close by at all times in the event your campfire spreads.
- Before sleeping, put the fire completely out before leaving. Never leave

a campfire unattended, even if it’s only smoldering. Always assure that it is “dead out” before heading to bed or leaving your camp spot.

- If you’re weekend plan includes cleaning up properly, think twice before burning yard debris. Chipping or taking to a recycling center are safer options.

Remember to check with a local ODF/protective association office or fire department for current restrictions.

In the Florence and mapleton area, call Siuslaw Valley Fire and Rescue at 541-997-3212.

- If burning is allowed, follow these safety tips:
- Refrain from burning on windy days.

• Try to burn in the morning when conditions are generally cooler and more damp.

- Keep burn piles small and manageable, feeding from larger piles.
- Scratch a wide fire trail down to mineral soil around the pile and have a shovel and charged garden hose at the ready.
- Never leave the pile unattended and put the fire completely out when finished.

Lastly, go back over the next several weeks and double check the pile for heat and smoke. Burn piles can retain heat for several weeks and rekindle under warm, windy conditions.

For more information on fire restrictions and closures in the area, visit www.oregon.gov/odf/fire/restrictions.

SPORTS Calendar

• JUNE 24-25
SHS BASKETBALL
SEASIDE TOURNEY
TIMES TBA

UPCOMING
• AUG. 7-10
SHS FOOTBALL
ANNUAL KIDS CAMP
HANS PETERSEN FIELD
K THRU 4TH GRADE:
NOON TO 1:30 P.M.
5TH THRU 8TH GRADE
3 TO 5 P.M.

TIDE TABLE

Entrance Siuslaw River

High Tide	Low Tide
June 24 12:05am / 8.5 1:38pm / 6.5	12:05am / 8.5 1:38pm / 6.5

June 25 12:55am / 8.5 2:28pm / 6.7	7:55am / -2.4 7:55pm / 1.9
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June 26 1:45am / 8.3 3:17pm / 6.7	8:42am / -2.2 8:49pm / 1.9
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June 27 2:36am / 7.7 4:06pm / 6.7	9:30am / -1.7 9:47pm / 1.9
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June 28 3:30am / 7.1 4:56pm / 6.7	10:18am / -1.1 10:48pm / 1.9
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June 29 4:27am / 6.3 5:46pm / 6.6	11:06am / -0.4 11:54pm / 1.9
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June 30 5:30am / 5.6 6:37pm / 6.6	11:57am / 0.4
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READY TO BEAT THE HEAT



NED HICKSON/SIUSLAW NEWS

The Cleawox Lake area of Honeyman State Park, 3 miles south of Florence, was quiet Friday morning. But anticipated high temperatures of 100 degrees in the valley is expected to drive many visitors to the coast this weekend. Local lakes will likely be destinations for individuals and families seeking to beat the heat, with Cleawox being a favorite spot among visitors and locals due to its easy access to the water, kayaks, paddle boats and swimming dock. For more information, call the park at 800-551-6949.

On the Bite

A WEEKLY
FISHING REPORT FOR
THE LOCAL REGION

www.dfw.state.or.us/RR

MID COAST LAKES:

Most of the North Coast lakes were stocked with trout recently. Water temps are great and fish should be hungry, so go catch them!

The 2017 trout stocking schedule is available online.

ALSEA RIVER: Trout

Trout season opened May 22, and there should be some nice cutthroat around.

Remember the limit on streams and rivers is two per day over 8-inches.

SALMON RIVER:

Steelhead

The Salmon River closed for wild and hatchery steelhead on March 31 to protect spawning wild steelhead.

SILETZ RIVER:

Steelhead, Chinook, trout

The Siletz River opened for wild Chinook on April 1 (1 per day and 2 per season). Spring Chinook and summer steelhead are being caught. Drift boaters are having success from Moonshine Park to Siletz and bank anglers are catching hatchery fish in the Siletz gorge.

Casting spinners, drifting bait or using a bobber and jig can be effective.

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See **FISHING 3B**

SIUSLAW NEWS

148 Maple St.
Florence
541-997-3441

RED CROSS ISSUES EXTREME TEMPERATURE SAFETY TIPS

With extreme temperatures expected this weekend, including up to 90 degrees on the central Oregon coast, the American Red Cross Red is urging residents to be aware of the steps they should take to avoid heat-related illness.

Follow these simple, tried and true steps to keep yourself and others safe before and during a heat wave.

Before:

• Listen to local weather forecasts and stay aware of upcoming temperature changes.

• Be aware of both the temperature and the heat index. The heat index is the temperature the body feels when the effects of heat and humidity are combined.

• Check the contents of your disaster preparedness kit to ensure it has enough water and non-perishable food

items, just in case. For a full kit list, visit redcross.org/PrepareGuide.

• Look out for your neighbors — people who are elderly, young or sick are more likely to become victims of heat-related illness and may need your help.

• If you do not have air conditioning, locate places you could go to find relief from the heat during the warmest part of the day (schools,

libraries, theaters, malls).

Many government websites provide a list of available cooling centers.

• Ensure that your animals’ needs for water and shade are met.

During:

• Listen to a NOAA Weather Radio for critical updates from the National Weather Service (NWS).

See **TIPS 4B**