In Reply Refer to:
9212 (ORV004)
Notice of Emergency Fire Prevention Orders on Public Land within the Vale District, Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation)

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Vale, Oregon / Reclamation, PN Region
ACTION: Emergency Fire Prevention Orders for public land within the boundaries of the Vale District BLM.
SUMMARY: The BLM and Reclamation are temporarily prohibiting some activities and uses of the public lands within the boundaries of the Vale District (BLM) during periods of high fire danger. This regulation is necessary to protect natural resources and the public’s health and safety.
DATES: Beginning on July 24, 2020 and will remain in effect until rescinded.
DISCUSSION: These orders will apply to all public lands administered by the Vale District BLM and lands under the jurisdiction of Reclamation within the boundaries of the BLM Vale District. These agencies have determined that these orders are necessary to protect natural resources and provide for public safety. Reclamation lands administered by agencies other than the BLM will determine their own restrictions. Pursuant to 43 CFR 9212.2 and 43 CFR 423.3(d), the following acts are prohibited on lands administered by the Bureau of Land Management (Vale District) and Reclamation jurisdictional lands within the Vale District (BLM):

Prohibited activities:
1. Building, maintaining, or attending an open fire, or wood-fired stove, smoker, or portable brazier fire, including charcoal briquette fires. NOTE: Liquefied and bottled gas equipment is permitted. When used outside of developed recreation sites, they must be within an area at least ten (10) feet in diameter that is barren, or clear of all flammable materials.
2. Smoking outside of a vehicle, trailer, or building, except within areas barren of all flammable materials for at least a six (6) foot diameter, or aboard boats on rivers and lakes.
3. Possessing, discharging, or using any type of fireworks or other pyrotechnic device, to include exploding targets.
4. Using tracer or incendiary ammunition and the shooting of metal targets.
5. Operating a chainsaw or cutting, grinding, and/or welding metal.
6. Operating a motorized vehicle outside of existing roads or ways. This prohibits cross-country travel.
7. Operating or parking your motorized vehicle, or any other type of internal combustion engine, in an area that is not clear of flammable material.
8. Operating any motorized vehicle or equipment that is wider than 46 inches or has a dry weight of 800 pounds or more, on public lands without a shovel not less than 26 inches in overall length, with a blade not less than 8 inches wide, and a container with at least one gallon of water, or a fully charged 2.5 pound fire extinguisher. All motorcycles, All-Terrain Vehicles (ATV), and side-by-side Utility Terrain Vehicles (UTV) must be equipped with a functional U.S. Forest Service approved spark arrestor.

PENALTIES: On BLM lands, under section 303(a) of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1733 (a)) and 43 CFR 9212.4, any person who violates any of the supplementary rules within the boundaries established in the rules may be tried before a United States Magistrate and fined no more than $1,000 or imprisoned for no more than 12 months, or both. Such violations may also be subject to the enhanced fines provided for by 18 U.S.C. 3571. On BOR project lands under section (1)(a) of Pub. L. 107-69, you are subject to a fine under chapter 227, subchapter C of title 18 United States Code (18 U.S.C. 3571), or can be imprisoned for not more than 6 months, or both, if you violate:
   a) The provisions of this part 423; or
   b) Any condition, limitation, or prohibition on uses or activities, or of public use limits, imposed under this part 423. Pursuant to 43 CFR 9212.3(a) and 43 CFR 423.3(d), the following persons are exempt from this order:
      1 Persons with a permit specifically authorizing the otherwise prohibited act or omission.
      2 Any Federal, State, or local officer or a member of an organized rescue or firefighting force in the performance of an official duty.

Donald N. Gonzalez
District Manager