

NEWS RELEASE

Umatilla National Forest
2517 SW Hailey Ave, Pendleton, OR 97801
Visit us at : <http://www.fs.fed.us/r6/uma/news.htm>

541-278-3722 (Joani Bosworth, Public Affairs)

October 7, 2005

Area Closure Orders Lifted on Both School and Burnt Cabin Fires

Pendleton, OR: Area closures for both the School and Burnt Cabin Fires will be lifted as of 12:01 AM Saturday, October 8, 2005, on the Umatilla National Forest. All closures resulting from the two wildfires have now been lifted.

Lifting these closures will allow access for hunting, hiking, dispersed camping, firewood cutting and other activities within the footprint of the fire.

Both the School and Burnt Cabin fires are contained and controlled. Even so, people should take care when entering a burned wildfire area. There are still a number of hazards that folks need to be aware of.

The public can expect to encounter hot spots that could flare up without warning and patchy areas of smoke. Firefighters and equipment may still be working in the area on rehabilitation projects. Other common hazards when entering a recent wildfire area include falling snags or trees, rolling material such as rocks or logs, and holes from burned out stumps.

To avoid these hazards, it's best to plan ahead and take appropriate safety precautions. Keep your speed down when traveling around or through the fire area and take the extra time needed to be aware of your surroundings.

The public is also reminded that cross-country OHV use is prohibited on the Umatilla National Forest and OHVs are restricted to designated roads, trails and areas open to OHV travel.

For more information, contact any Umatilla National Forest Office or call the Supervisor's Office in Pendleton at (541) 278-3716.

-USFS-

