

U.S.D.A. Forest Service News



Colville National Forest
765 South Main Street
Colville, Washington 99114
(509) 684-7000
FAX (509) 684-7280



Friday, September 6, 2002, Contact: Diana Baxter dlbaxter@fs.fed.us (509) 684-7184

Federal and State agencies lift restrictions on cutting firewood

Colville, Wash., --Cooling temperatures and an increase in humidity levels have prompted national forest and state officials to change the Industrial Fire Precaution Levels (IFPL) to a Level II effective 12:01 a.m., Monday, September 9th, in Zones 685, 686, 687, and 688. Zone 678, which encompasses most of Ferry County from westside of the Kettle Range to the Okanogan National Forest boundary, will remain in Level III, closed to firewood cutting.

Under a Level II classification (Partial Hootowl), firewood cutters may cut firewood between the hours of 8 p.m. until 1 p.m. and stay in the area one hour to check for any new fire starts.

Campfire restrictions are still in place in the national forest and recreation area within Ferry County, but pressurized gas stoves are allowed. Campfires, in approved fire rings in the following developed campgrounds, are still allowed in the Colville National Forest: (Three Rivers Ranger District) Lake Thomas, Gillette, Lake Leo, Big Meadow Lake; (Newport Ranger District) Panhandle, Browns Lake, Pioneer Park, South Skookum; (Sullivan Lake Ranger District) Mill pond, Sullivan Lake Group Campground, Edgewater, East Sullivan Lake, Noisy Creek and West Sullivan Lake.

Smoking restrictions are still in effect on federal and state administered lands. Smoking is allowed only in vehicles, buildings, on paved roads, developed recreation sites or in an area free of debris within a three-foot diameter.

Contact the following offices to obtain the latest firewood/campfire information:

Colville National Forest Headquarters, 509-684-7000
Washington State Department of Natural Resources, 509-684-7474
Three Rivers Ranger District, 509-738-7700
Newport Ranger District, 509-447-7300
Republic Ranger District, 509-775-7400
Sullivan Lake Ranger District, 509-446-7500

END