JOINT PRESS RELEASE:  Level 1 and 3 Evacuation Notices

Dates: September 4, 2017

Under the recommendation of the Chetco Bar Fire Incident Commander with concurrence of the Josephine County Sheriff’s Office and the Illinois Valley Fire District, a Level 3 evacuation order has been issued for all residents on Illinois River Road within the US Forest Service Boundaries. This includes the Oak Flat Community.

A Level 3 “GO” Evacuation means that you need to LEAVE IMMEDIATELY! Danger to your area is current or imminent, and you should evacuate immediately. If you choose to ignore this advisement, you must understand that emergency services may not be available to assist you further. DO NOT delay leaving to gather any belongings or make efforts to protect your home. Access to evacuated areas may be denied until conditions are safe for citizens to return. DO NOT plan to return to check on your house or animals. If it is not safe for you, it is not safe for them!

The US Forest Service has closed Illinois River Road and is turning back public traffic along the Illinois River Road. We strongly advise travelers to avoid this area so the appropriate law enforcement and wildland firefighter resources can respond to this emergency.

A Level 1 “Be Ready” evacuation order has been issued for the residents of the Illinois Valley west of Highway 199 from Hayes Hill to the California state line. This is a precautionary measure to insure residents are aware of changing conditions and wind driven fire behavior.

A Level 1 “Be Ready” Evacuation means that you should be aware of the danger that exists in your area, monitor emergency services websites and local media outlets for information. This is the time for preparation and precautionary movement of persons with special needs, mobile property and (under certain circumstances) pets and livestock. If conditions worsen, emergency services personnel may contact you via an emergency notification system.

Chetco Bar Fire Information will be staffed 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. and can be reached at 541-247-3680.

Dennis Hoke                                            Dave Daniel  
Fire Chief                                             Sheriff  
Illinois Valley Fire District                           Josephine County