



Willamette National Forest



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**News Release – 09/06/2010 12:00 p.m. PT**

**AREA CLOSURE STILL IN EFFECT FOR PORTIONS OF THE MCKENZIE RIVER RANGER DISTRICT DURING EARLY HUNTING SEASON**

Early High Cascade Buck rifle hunting season begins in Western Oregon on September 11. Early season rifle hunters are reminded that they will not be able to hunt the Scott Creek Cooperative Travel Management Area as well as portions of the Mt. Washington wilderness to the east this fall. An emergency closure, set in place by the Scott Mountain Fire, affects both vehicle and foot traffic. Hunters who had planned to hunt in the Scott Creek Cooperative Travel Management Area should consider hunting elsewhere. "There is an abundance of other hunting opportunities on the district," said Shane Kamrath, District Natural Resource Staff and Resource Advisor to the team currently managing the fire.

The closure area is bounded by Oregon State Highway 126 on the west, Oregon State Highway 242 on the south and the Deschutes/Linn County line on the east. The primary roads closed are: 2664 (Robinson Lake), 2657 (Olallie), 2653 (Boulder Creek), 2649 (Scott Creek), 2647 (Cupola), and 260 (Scott Lake). Additionally, Scott Lake and Alder Springs campgrounds are closed. Trails 3508 (Robinson Lake), 3513 (Hand Lake), and 3502 (Benson Lake) are also closed. State Highways 126 and 242, the Pacific Crest Trail, Belknap Crater Trail and Limberlost Campground are open.

"Public safety is the agency's highest priority. That means we must keep the area closure in effect," said Mary Allison, McKenzie District Ranger. "The cooler weather has led to a drop in fire activity, but the area is still considered dangerous," she added. The closure will be re-evaluated based on safety and weather conditions during the course of the fire.

Hunters with a rifle hunting license can hunt in other units in Western Oregon identified in the 2010 Oregon Big Game regulations. Please visit Oregon department of Fish and Wildlife at [www.dfw.state.or.us/](http://www.dfw.state.or.us/) to view the regulations.

The Scott Mountain Fire began August 19 and is being managed by the Southern Cascades Type 3 Interagency IMT using multiple strategies based on firefighter safety, fuel conditions, enhancement of Wilderness values, protection of Anderson Creek (a tributary to the McKenzie River Municipal Watershed), and federally-threatened Bull Trout habitat. To date, it has burned 3,454 acres and is 35% contained.

For further information on the fire and area closure maps, visit [www.inciweb.org,2082/14](http://www.inciweb.org,2082/14), or call the McKenzie River Ranger District at 541-822-3381.

*This Fire Update was produced by the Scott Mountain Information Center staffed by Southern Cascades Type 3 Incident Management Team.*

**FOR ADDITIONAL AND UPDATED LOCAL FIRE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT:**

[www.InciWeb.org](http://www.InciWeb.org), Willamette NF: [www.fs.fed.us/r6/willamette](http://www.fs.fed.us/r6/willamette),  
Follow the Fire on Twitter at [www.twitter.com/WillametteNF](http://www.twitter.com/WillametteNF)

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