

Reporting Wildfires

- During normal business hours, call the Wallowa Unit Forester at (541) 886-2881.
- Non-business hours, call the Blue Mountain Interagency Dispatch Center at (541) 963-7171.
- If no answer, call 911.

The HLOA is not liable for damage or losses due to a fire.

- The HLOA water system is primarily for household use and has limited capacity to counter a fire.
- Owners are encouraged to study the information found on the HLOA website (see HLOA Activities → Fire Committee) and to consider one or more of the following mitigations which are voluntary.
 - Have garden hoses and sprinklers pre-deployed or at the ready during fire season. Special low-volume sprinklers should be used per HLOA water policies – contact the water committee before making a purchase.
 - Extend the time your sprinklers can run by using a supplemental or alternative source of water. Owners can purchase their own several-thousand gallon tank (collapsible or solid) and fill it by July 1 each year without being charged for the water. Owners with lots adjacent to the river can use river water to extend the run time of their sprinklers by purchasing their own pumping and delivery equipment.
 - Reduce fuel load by thinning.

Burning material on your property

Burning is allowed without a burn permit after the Fire Season Declaration is lifted in the fall, and also during the winter and spring. A water hose with pressure nozzle should be setup next to the fire to control the rate of burn and heat output of the fire, to avoid scorching or ignition of nearby branches, trees, or other materials. A shovel should also be stationed at the fire to smother out any daughter fires caused by lofting embers or sparks. Extra care must be taken in the spring -- materials are often surprisingly dry and wind can spread a fire.

Outside of those times, before you burn slash/debris piles or use a burn barrel, call the Oregon Department of Forestry in Wallowa at (541) 886-2881. They will tell you what the current burn restrictions are and issue you the appropriate permit for burning.

A Fire Season Declaration typically begins in mid-June to early July and typically lasts until mid-October. However, the exact dates are set each year based on conditions. The Declaration places fire prevention restrictions on land owners.

A Regulated Closure occurs in the middle portion of the Fire Season Declaration. Again, the exact dates are set each year based on conditions. Fires are not allowed during the Closure.

If you currently have slash piles on your property, it is your responsibility to have them cleared by chipping or burning.