



**Pacific Northwest Region
Malheur National Forest**
431 Patterson Bridge Road
John Day, OR. 97845
www.fs.usda.gov/malheur

News Release

Contact: Shawna Clark: 541-575-3008

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Flooding a Concern across the Malheur National Forest

JOHN DAY, PRAIRIE CITY, and HINES, OR. – Due to significant rainfall many rivers and creeks on the Malheur National Forest are nearing or have reached flood stage. Forest officials advise the public to use caution when traveling on or to the Forest, as roads and trails could be impacted by washouts or obstructions (such as rocks or boulders).

There are currently known areas of concern on the Malheur National Forest which include; County Road 20 (Middle Fork), County Road 18 (Keeney Fork Road), and County Road 61. Forest visitors are asked to use caution when traveling in these areas as there may be standing water on roadways and debris flows blocking travel routes.

Malheur National Forest officials urge forest visitors to contact the local ranger district office prior to starting their trip. Some forest roads are still not accessible due to mud, snow or snow drifts. In addition, traveling on thawing, saturated, and muddy roads can result in resource damage and serious safety concerns, especially if visitors are unprepared. Forest conditions are dynamic this time of year and likely to change throughout the day and week. Forest Service staff will be reporting known road obstructions, road washouts, or downed trees. The public is encouraged to monitor the Malheur National Forest Facebook page and website for updates on flooding.

Many places in the Blue Mountains have limited or no cell phone coverage. Forest visitors should always be prepared to spend the night in the forest with warm clothing, food, personal hygiene items and plenty of water.

For more information please call 541-575-3000 or visit our website at <https://www.fs.usda.gov/malheur/>.

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