

ALTERNATIVES TO BURNING

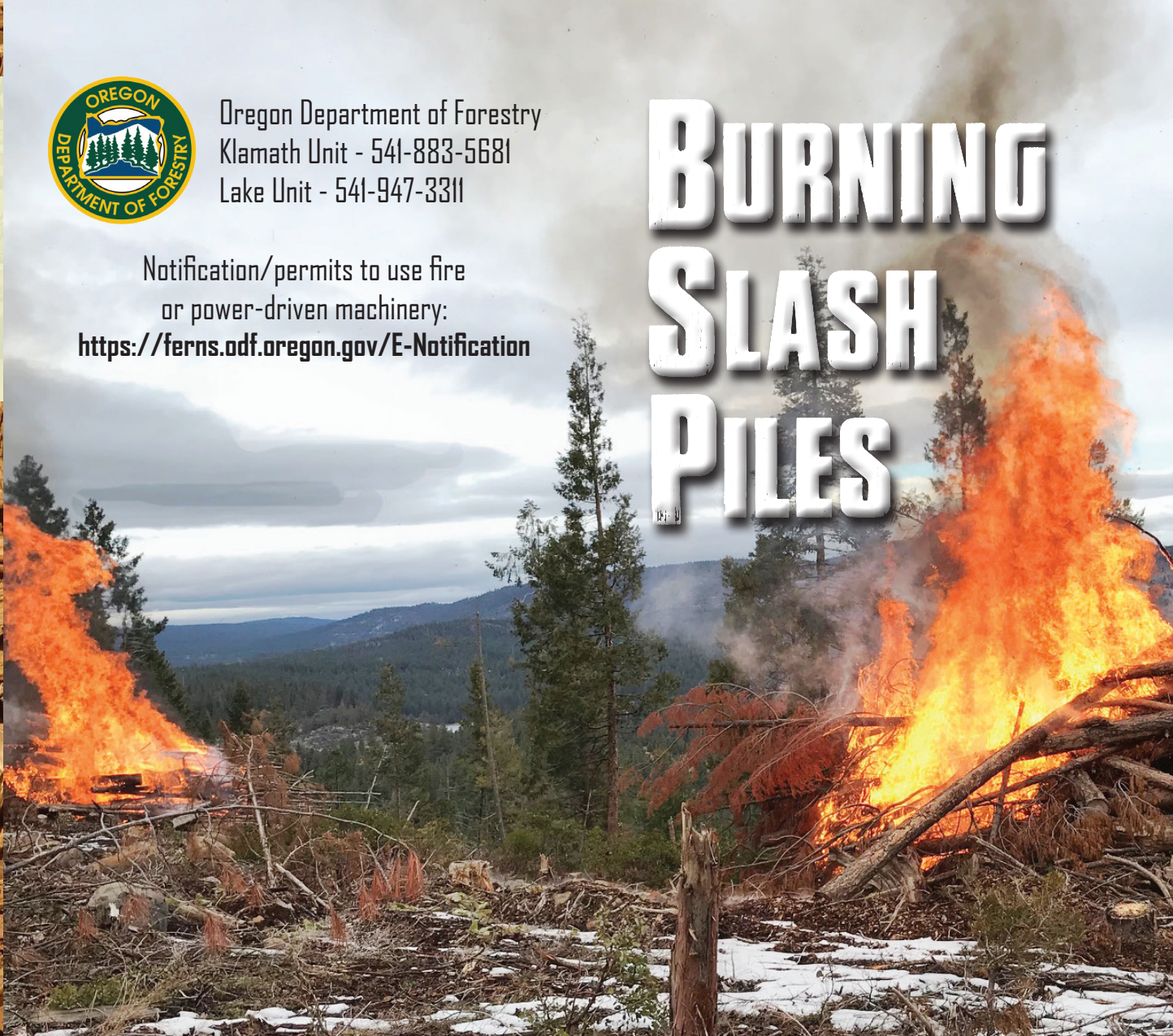
There may be other methods of slash disposal that could be appropriate for your site. Depending on your objectives and the volume of material, other common techniques could include lop and scatter, mastication, or chipping and hauling. Talk with an Oregon Department of Forestry Stewardship Forester about your options.



Oregon Department of Forestry
Klamath Unit - 541-883-5681
Lake Unit - 541-947-3311

Notification/permits to use fire
or power-driven machinery:
<https://ferns.odf.oregon.gov/E-Notification>

BURNING SLASH PILES



...AND DON'T FORGET REHAB

Former burn areas should be rehabilitated during the next growing season to minimize weeds. Harrow the burned area and seed with a native grass mix or plant bare root native shrubs.



Developed by the Klamath-Lake Forest
Health Partnership for the
Oregon Department of Forestry
Klamath-Lake District
2018



GUIDELINES FOR SAFE AND EFFECTIVE BURNING

BUILD

Proper slash pile construction and siting is important to set the stage for safe and complete burning.

Build high and tight -

Minimize pile size by harvesting firewood. Create piles that are as tall as they are wide, minimizing air space within the pile.



Keep it clean and dry-

Keep dirt and all non-vegetative material out of the piles to ensure complete consumption. Covering $\frac{1}{3}$ of the pile with 4mil plastic may help keep material dry for lighting.

Note the surroundings -

Locate piles so that there are no overhanging branches or power lines. Piles should have an enlarged footprint cleared of all flammable vegetation to reduce the risk of the fire spreading. Avoid placing piles near live trees or structures.

BEFORE

In the days and hours leading up to burning, assess environmental conditions and check local restrictions.



Check the forecast -

Never burn on dry or very windy days. Burning in damp conditions or when there is adequate snow cover (4"-6") will minimize risk of the fire spreading. A light breeze (<10mph) can help with smoke dispersal.

Follow notifications and regulations -

» Call your local fire department during the week to verify burning is permitted and to notify them of the time and location of your burn.

» Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF) requires permits for Power Driven Machinery (PDM's) and for all landowners burning forest land debris. Apply online at <https://ferns.odf.oregon.gov/E-Notification>

» A call to your ODF unit office is helpful for other notifications and to understand Smoke Management Guidelines.

» Useful resources include:

www.klamathair.org

www.oregon.gov/ODF/Fire/pages/Burn.aspx

BURN

When you are ready to burn, timing, techniques, and tending are critical to safely accomplish disposal objectives.

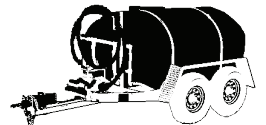
Time your burn -

Burn only as much as you can safely complete in your permitted burn window, and only as long as good conditions persist.



Grab your tools -

A shovel and Pulaski should be readily available at all burn sites. Consider if a water source is needed.



Light your piles -

Use a propane weed burner, drip torch, or other controlled ignition source. Start on the downwind side and try to light all sides. Only light as many piles as you can see and manage at one time.



Tend to the end -

Stir and drown embers until the fire is dead out. Recheck burn areas for several weeks or months for any signs of heat or smoke. Revisit areas in the spring to look for smoldering spots that could reignite.

