COMMISSIONER'S ORDER

NUMBER 201628

STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Peter Goldmark, Commissioner of Public Lands

WHEREAS, RCW 76.04 defines the lands within the State of Washington where the Department of Natural Resources is responsible for fire protection; and

WHEREAS, RCW 76.04 authorizes the Department of Natural Resources to regulate the use of fire on the forest lands for which it has fire protection responsibility; and

WHEREAS, RCW 76.04 authorizes the Department of Natural Resources in times and localities of unusual fire danger to prohibit the use of fire in those locations; and

WHEREAS, unusual fire danger exists and is forecast to continue through September 30, 2016, on forest lands protected by the Department of Natural Resources; and

WHEREAS, wildfires result in large expenditures of public funding that can be avoided through prudent actions to prevent them;

WHEREAS, recent changes in weather in western areas of the state, with forecasted precipitation, lower temperatures, and higher humidity levels have abated high fire hazard condition in western Washington for the foreseeable future;

THEREFORE, outdoor burning is banned on all forest lands within the State of Washington under Department of Natural Resources fire protection from September 2, 2016, through September 30, 2016, with the following exceptions:

1. Recreational fires, west of the Cascade Mountains crest, in approved fire pits within designated state, county, municipal or other campgrounds.
2. Department of Natural Resources approved prescribed fire for ecological purposes, when such purposes can be accomplished successfully only by prescribed fire during the period of time from September 2, 2016, through September 30, 2016, to be considered and authorized only by signature of the Commissioner of Public Lands.
3. In rare or unforeseen circumstances, exceptions may be considered and authorized only by signature of the Commissioner of Public Lands.

Effective September 2, 2016, this order takes precedence over and supersedes all other burn bans currently in effect on forest lands within the state of Washington under Department of Natural Resources fire protection.

Dated this 01 day of September, 2016.

STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

PETER GOLDMARK
COMMISSIONER OF PUBLIC LANDS