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Fire closes convenience store



A grease fire that started in the deep fryer at the Exxon (Deano's) Convenience Store at 13834 U.S. Highway 12 in Orofino damaged the kitchen and office area of the business Sunday afternoon, according to Orofino Fire Chief Mike Lee.

Because of the electrical connections housed in that area of the building, the store will be closed to all business indefinitely, according to manager Jeff Wicks. He said he anticipates that the insurance representatives will be on scene Wednesday and

then they will know more about how long it will be closed. There is also smoke and water damage in some of the rest of the store.

Lee said the fire was hard to extinguish because the grease kept reigniting. Fire fighters used four or five fire extinguishers to put the grease out. Water was used on other areas where the blaze spread. It took about 1 1/2 hours to put out completely.

There were no injuries. In addition to Orofino Fire Department, Sunnyside Rural Fire Department Chief John Willard, Clearwater County Sheriff's Department and Orofino Police Department responded to assist.

Photo: The kitchen and office area of the Exxon (Deano's) Convenience Store on U.S. Highway 12 was heavily damaged in a fire Sunday afternoon.

Window on the Clearwater
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