

Office of the  
**SHERIFF**  
INYO COUNTY, CA



**WILLIAM R. LUTZE**  
Sheriff

**JOHN N. EROPKIN**  
Undersheriff

*"A Professional Service Agency"*

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
March 26, 2008

## **LIGHTENING WARNING**

Over the next several days the Owens Valley and backcountry will be experiencing heavy lightening activity. Due to the current high fire level, all backcountry travelers are advised to be cautious of their personal safety and aware of their surroundings.

The heavy smoke accumulation on the valley floor will make visibility of spot fires difficult to see. The Sheriff's Department and local Fire Departments are asking all residents and visitors to be vigilant of smoke not associated with the current conditions, and report anything unusual immediately.

The National Weather Service offers many helpful brochures and factsheets as well as lightening statistics; that website is [www.lighteningsafety.noaa.gov](http://www.lighteningsafety.noaa.gov).

-End-