

News Release

Cleveland National Forest

10845 Rancho Bernardo Road, San Diego, California 92127
Voice (858) 673-6180, Fax (858) 673-6192, CRS/TTY 711



For Immediate Release

Contact: Anabele Cornejo, 858-674-2985

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CHECK BEFORE YOU GO!

Cleveland National Forest Use Restriction Level Moves Up To **VERY HIGH**

San Diego, CA – July 23, 2009...Effective on Friday morning, June 24, 2008 at 6 a.m., the Cleveland National Forest will move Forest Use Restrictions from **HIGH** to **VERY HIGH**. As we have entered the height of the wildland fire season, with Santa Ana wind events expected over the course of the next few months, Forest officials have determined that in order to safeguard against potential fire starts, it is necessary to limit certain forest uses. These Forest Use Restriction levels may change as necessary depending on fuels conditions and the likelihood of fire starts across the Forest.

Under “**VERY HIGH**” Forest Use Restrictions, campfires are not allowed in certain campgrounds, the use of camp stoves is limited in some wilderness areas, and the Orosco Ridge Target Shooting Area on the Palomar Ranger District is closed. Additionally, some site specific restrictions may be imposed based on red flag watches and warnings.

Forest visitors can check on road access, allowable recreational activities, and other restrictions by visiting to the forest website, www.fs.fed.us/r5/cleveland and clicking on “current conditions” or by calling the nearest district office. For a recorded message please call **619-593-2183**. Please check with the other southern California National Forests to determine what current fire restrictions are in place. We would like to remind visitors that fireworks are **never** allowed on the Cleveland National Forest. Discharging a firearm with steel core, armor piercing or tracer ammunition is also **not** allowed at any time on the Forest. Please use care and caution when visiting the Forest. Check Before You Go!

Check before you go for updated information.

- o Forest offices are open Monday - Friday, from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
- o For the Cleveland National Forest Supervisor's Office dial (858) 673-6180.
- o For Alpine, Descanso, and Laguna Mountain Area contact the Descanso Ranger District at (619) 445-6235.
- o For Palomar Mountain, Henshaw, Ramona and Oak Grove areas contact the Palomar Ranger District at (760) 788-0250.
- o For the Ortega Hwy area, San Mateo and Corona area contact the Trabuco Ranger District at (951) 736-1811.

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