



**U.S. Forest Service
Apache-Sitgreaves National Forests
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News Release

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Fire restrictions lifted Thursday, July 21 on Apache-Sitgreaves National Forests

Springerville, AZ., July 21, 2016, For Immediate Release – Due to decreasing fire danger, the Apache-Sitgreaves National Forests will lift campfire and smoking restrictions, also known as Stage 1 Fire Restrictions, at **12:00 noon Thursday, July 21.**

Forest managers typically lift fire restrictions when at least a half inch of precipitation has been received over more than two-thirds of the forests. Some of the criteria for implementing fire restrictions include current and predicted weather, fuel moistures and available resources. While we consider a broad range of factors, there are also the important components of risk management and the professional judgement of our fire managers and line officers.

The Apache-Sitgreaves National Forests initially implemented campfire and smoking restrictions on June 15, along with the Prescott, the Coconino and the Kaibab National Forests, in order to protect public health and reduce preventable, human-caused wildfires.

Gary Strickland, acting Forest Fire Management Officer stated that “the 4th of July weekend and following weekends have resulted in fewer abandoned and/or illegal campfires than in many years gone by. We appreciate our public being so responsive to obeying the campfire/smoking restrictions.”

Know Before You Go! The public can obtain additional fire information via the following:

- Arizona Fire Restrictions <http://firerestrictions.us/az/>
- Arizona Fire Prevention & Information <http://wildlandfire.az.gov/>
- Fire Restrictions on Public Lands in Arizona and New Mexico 1-877-864-6985

To learn the latest information about the ASNFs please visit www.fs.usda.gov/asnf

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