SIERRA NATIONAL FOREST
Forest Order No. 05-15-00-17-16
Fire Restrictions

Pursuant to 16 USC 551 and 36 CFR 261.50(a) and (b), and to provide for public safety and protect natural resources, the following acts are prohibited within the Sierra National Forest in Fire Danger Area 528 as described in Exhibit C and shown in Exhibits B and D and Fire Danger Area 529 as described in Exhibit E and shown in Exhibits B and F. This Order is effective from August 12, 2017, through the end of the official 2017 fire season.

1. Building, maintaining, attending or using a fire, campfire, or stove fire, except within Designated Recreation Sites listed in Exhibit A. 36 CFR 261.52(a).

2. Smoking, except within an enclosed vehicle or building, or within the Designated Recreation Sites listed in Exhibit A. 36 CFR 261.52(d).

3. Welding, or operating acetylene or other torch with open flame. 36 CFR 261.52(i).

4. Using an explosive. 36 CFR 261.52(b).

5. Operating an internal combustion engine, except on a National Forest System road or trail. 36 CFR 261.52(h).

Pursuant to 36 CFR 261.50(e), the following persons are exempt from this Order:

1. Any Federal, State or local officer, or member of an organized rescue or firefighting force in the performance of an official duty.

2. Persons with a permit from the Forest Service specifically authorizing the otherwise prohibited act or omission. Persons with a valid California Campfire Permit are not exempt from the prohibitions listed above. However, persons with a valid California Campfire Permit may use a portable lantern or stove using contained gas, or pressurized liquid fuel with a fuel shut off valve.

3. Persons with a Special Use Permit from the Forest Service for a recreation residence on the Sierra National Forest may use a campfire or stove fire at their recreation residence.
These prohibitions are in addition to the general prohibitions in 36 CFR Part 261, Subpart A.

A violation of these prohibitions is punishable by a fine of not more than $5000 for an individual or $10,000 for an organization, or imprisonment for not more than six months, or both. 16 USC 551 and 18 USC 3559, 3571, and 3581.

Executed in Clovis, California on August 11, 2017.

[Signature]

DEAN A GOULD
Forest Supervisor
This document explains my rationale and the regulatory basis for implementing temporary fire restrictions on the Sierra National Forest.

Criteria for activation of prohibitions through Forest Orders are based on National Fire Danger Rating System indices and fuel moisture conditions. Current conditions reflect a range of Burning Indices from 113-140, and a thousand hour fuel moisture of less than 30%, with a predicted stable weather pattern and drying trend. Per the current Sierra National Forest Restriction and Emergency Closure Plan, these conditions meet the criteria for entry into restrictions for Fire Danger Areas 528 and 529.

Line Officers as well as Forest Fire Management and Prevention Staff have assessed Recreation Sites and Wilderness Areas on the Forest. Those areas that lack flammable material or have had flammable materials removed to prevent fire ignitions from escaping into the wildland are listed in Exhibits A. Closed areas include Fire Danger Area 528 as described in Exhibit C and shown in Exhibits B and D as well as Fire Danger Area 529 as described in Exhibit E and shown in Exhibits B and F.

I have concluded that this decision may be categorically excluded from documentation in an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) or Environmental Assessment (EA) under the National Environmental Policy Act. This action falls within the category identified in 36 CFR 220.6(d)(1) – prohibitions to provide short-term resource protection or to protect public health and safety – and does not require documentation in a decision memo, decision notice, or record of decision. I have determined that there are no extraordinary circumstances associated with this temporary closure. Implementation of the decision may begin immediately.
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|                | Haslett Basin Traditional Use Area         |                | Kirch Flat Campground                        | Kirch Flat Group CG                             |                |
The boundary of Fire Danger Area 528 begins at the intersection of the Sierra National Forest boundary and its intersection with the San Joaquin River in Section 24, T9S, R22E, Mt. Diablo Base and Meridian (MDBM), it then continues northeast along the San Joaquin River to its intersection with Forest Road No. 8S03, then it continues north and west along Forest Road No. 8S03 to its intersection with Minarets Road (Forest Road No. 4S81), then it continues west along Minarets Road (Forest Road No. 4S81) to its intersection with Forest Road No. 8S27, then it continues north and west along Forest Road No. 8S27 to its intersection with Forest Road No. 8S09, then it continues north along Forest Road No. 8S09 to its intersection with the northern section line of Section 16, T8S, R23E, then it continues due northwest to its intersection with the South Fork Bluffs, then it continues north and west along the South Fork Bluffs to its intersection with Central Camp Road, then it continues south and west along Central Camp Road to its intersection with Madera County Road 274 (MAD 274), then it continues northwest along Madera County Road 274 (MAD 274) to its intersection with Forest Road No. 6S13, then it continues north along Forest Road No. 6S13 to its intersection with Forest Road No. 6S11, then it continues north along Forest Road No. 6S11 to its intersection with Sky Ranch Road, then it continues south along Sky Ranch Road to its intersection with Forest Road No. 6S97, then it continues north along Forest Road No. 6S97 to its intersection with Forest Road No. 6S90, then it continues north and west along Forest Road No. 6S90 to its intersection with State Highway 41, then it continues north along State Highway 41 to its intersection with Miami Mountain Road, then it continues west along Miami Mountain Road to its intersection with Forest Road No. 6S09, then it continues west along Forest Road No. 6S09 to its intersection with Forest Road No. 5S12, then it continues north along Forest Road No. 5S12 to its intersection with Forest Road 5S12D, then follows the northern section lines of Sections 30, T5S, R21E and Section 25, T5S, R20E until it intersects with Harris Ranch Road then it continues along north along Harris Ranch Road to its intersection with Chowchilla Mountain Road, then it continues west along Chowchilla Mountain Road to its intersection with the Sierra National Forest boundary, then it continues north and west along the Sierra National Forest boundary to its intersection with Forest Road No. 5S03, then it continues north along Forest Road No. 5S03 to its intersection with Forest Road No. 5S25, then it continues northwest along Forest Road No. 5S25 to its intersection with Forest Road No. 5S63, then it continues north along Forest Road No. 5S63 to its intersection with the western section line of Section 31, T4S, R20E (MDBM), then it continues north along the western section lines of Sections 31, 30, 19, 18, T4S, R20E (MDBM) to its intersection with the northern section line on of Section 18, T4s, R20E (MDBM), then it continues east along the northern section lines of Sections 18, 17, 16, 15, 14, 13 T4S, R20E (MDBM) to its intersection with the boundary of the Merced River Wild and Scenic River Corridor, then it continues southeast along the boundary of the Merced River Wild and Scenic River Corridor to its intersection with the Yosemite National Park boundary, then it continues north and west along the Yosemite National Park boundary to its intersection with the Merced River, then it continues west along the Merced River to its intersection with the Sierra National Forest.
Forest boundary, then it continues south, east and west along the Sierra National Forest boundary back to its starting point, as shown on the attached map found in Exhibit D
The boundary of the Fire Danger Area 529 begins at the intersection of the Sierra Forest Boundary and its intersection with Pine Flat Reservoir in the southeast corner of Section 23, T12S, R24E, Mt. Diablo Base and Meridian (MDBM), then it continues north and east along the north shore of Pine Flat Reservoir to its intersection with Forest Road No. 12S01 and the Kings River, then it continues east along the Kings River to its intersection with the Monarch Wilderness boundary, then it continues north along the Monarch Wilderness boundary to its intersection with the southwest corner of Section 23, T12S, R28E, then it continues due north northwest to its intersection with Forest Road No. 11S07, then it continues west along Forest Road No. 11S07 to its intersection with the north fork of the Kings River, then it continues due southwest to its intersection with the southwest corner of Section 4, T12S, R27E and Forest Road No. 11S12, then it continues west along Forest Road No. 11S12 to its intersection with Patterson Creek, then it continues northwest along Patterson Creek to its intersection with Forest Road No. 10S24, then it continues north along Forest Road No. 10S24 to its intersection with Forest Road No. 11S57, then it continues south and west along Forest Road No. 11S57 to its intersection with a point on Forest Road No. 11S57 approximately one mile south and west from the intersection of Forest Road No. 11S57 and Forest Road No. 10S67, then it continues due southwest to its intersection with Forest Road No. 10S69, then it continues north along Forest Road No. 10S69 to its intersection with Forest Road No. 10S02, then it continues north along Forest Road No. 10S02 to its intersection with Forest Road No. 10S05, then it continues northwest along Forest Road No. 10S05 to its intersection with Peterson Mill Road, then it continues west along Peterson Mill Road to its intersection with Tollhouse Road, then it continues northeast along Tollhouse Road to its intersection with State Highway 168, then it continues northeast along State Highway 168 to its intersection with the eastern section line of Section 26, T9S, R24E (MDBM), then it continues north along the eastern section lines of Sections 26, 23, 14, T9S, R24E (MDBM), to its intersection with the northern section line of Section 14, T9S, R24E, then it continues west along the northern section line of Section 14, T9S, R24E to its intersection with Forest Road No. 8S08, then it continues west along Forest Road No. 8S08 to its first intersection with powerlines, then it continues northeast along the powerlines to its intersection with Forest Road No. 8S05, then it continues north to its intersection with the San Joaquin River, then it continues southwest along the San Joaquin River to its intersection with the Sierra National Forest boundary, then it continues south, east and west along the Sierra National Forest boundary back to its starting point, as shown on the attached map found in Exhibit F.