



Forest
Service

Lake Tahoe Basin
Management Unit

35 College Drive
South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150
(530) 543-2600
(530) 543-0956 TTY

File 5100
Code:
Route
To:

Date: June 30, 2014

Subject: Forest Order 19-14-09 Campfire Restrictions

To: File

From: Nancy J. Gibson, Forest Supervisor 

I have made a decision to issue the campfire restrictions described in Forest Order 19-14-09, to provide resource protection and reduce the risk of unplanned wildfire ignitions. I have decided to implement these restrictions because of the dangers to natural resources, water quality, and adjacent communities that are at risk of detrimental effects from wildfire. Poorly placed and abandoned campfires continue to be the leading cause of wildfires in the Lake Tahoe Basin. The concentration of use in the Lake Tahoe Basin increases the hazard created by unregulated campfires.

I have exempted the locations and activities listed on Forest Order 19-14-09, because they either have improvements provided by the Forest Service, require a campfire permit that provides additional education, or are a low risk activity. I have exempted fee campgrounds, because a campground host is present, a water source is on site, and daily clearance and cleaning of fire rings and grills are provided. Group camps under Special Use Permit with the Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit are also exempt, because they are continuously staffed during the fire season, provide regular maintenance of the fire rings, and have water resources available for extinguishing campfires. Grills at designated Day Use sites are exempt, because proper construction, clearance and cleaning are provided by the Forest Service or site hosts.

External scoping was completed through communication with the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, adjacent National Forests, and all cooperating fire protection agencies within the Lake Tahoe Basin. No concerns or objections were raised.

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.



FOREST ORDER NO. 19-14-09
USDA FOREST SERVICE
LAKE TAHOE BASIN MANAGEMENT UNIT
CAMPFIRE RESTRICTIONS

Pursuant to USC 551 and 36 CFR.261.50(a), and to protect natural resources and provide for public safety, the following act is prohibited within the Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit. This Order is effective from July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2016.

Building, maintaining, attending or using a fire, campfire, charcoal fire, or portable stove or lantern using gas, jellied petroleum, or pressurized liquid fuel, except in the locations listed below.

1. Bayview Campground, Fallen Leaf Campground, Camp Richardson Resort Campgrounds, Kaspian Campground, Meeks Bay Campground, Meeks Bay Resort Campground, Zephyr Cove Resort Campground, William Kent Campground, Nevada Beach Campground, Camp Shelly, Camp Concord and Berkeley Camp.
2. Within the grills, located in the Kaspian Day Use Area, Meeks Bay Day Use Area, Nevada Beach Day Use Area, 64 Acres Day Use Areas, William Kent Day Use Area, Eagle Falls Picnic Area, Pope Beach Day Use Area, Baldwin Beach Day Use Area, and Kiva Picnic Area.

36 CFR 261.52(a).

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

1. 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 prohibition listed above, but may build, maintain, attend or use a fire, campfire, or charcoal fire within the Meiss Management Area, Bucks Lake, Lost Lake and Duck Lake areas, Mount Rose Wilderness, and within the fire rings provided in the designated campsites in the Watson Lake, Blackwood Canyon and Luther Pass areas.
2. Persons with a valid California Campfire Permit are not exempt from the prohibition listed above, but may use portable stoves or lanterns using gas, jellied petroleum, or pressurized liquid fuel within the Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit.
3. Persons with a valid Desolation Wilderness Permit are not exempt from the prohibition listed above, but may use portable stoves or lanterns using gas, jellied petroleum, or pressurized liquid fuel within the Desolation Wilderness.
4. Persons with a valid California Campfire Permit and a valid Special Use Permit issued by the Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit are not exempt from the prohibition listed above, but may build, maintain, attend or use a fire, campfire, or charcoal fire inside the boundary of their Special Use Permit area.
5. Any Federal, state or local officer, or member of an organization rescue or fire fighting force in the performance of an official duty.

This prohibition is in addition to the general prohibitions in 36 CFR Part 261, Subpart A.

A violation of this prohibition is punishable by a fine of not more than \$5,000 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.

Done at South Lake Tahoe, California, this 30th day of June, 2014.


NANCY J. GIBSON
Forest Supervisor
Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit