USDA

Order No. 19-14-08
Fire Restrictions
USDA Forest Service
Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit

Pursuant to 16 USC 551 and 36 CFR 261.50(a) and (b), and to protect natural resources and provide for public safety, the following acts are prohibited within the Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit. This Order is effective from 6:00 a.m. to 11:59 p.m. on July 4, 2014.

1. Building, maintaining, attending or using a fire, charcoal fire, stove fire, or campfire, except within the grills and fire rings provided in the Exempted Recreation Sites shown on Exhibit A. 36 CFR 261.52(a).
2. Possessing, discharging or using any kind of firework or other pyrotechnic device. 36 CFR 261.52(f).
3. Smoking, except within an enclosed vehicle or building, within an Exempted Recreation Site shown on Exhibit A, or while stopped in an area at least three feet in diameter that is barren or cleared of all flammable material. 36 CFR 261.52(d).
4. Welding, or operating an acetylene or other torch with an open flame. 36 CFR 261.52(i).
5. Using an explosive. 36 CFR 261.52(b).

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 fire fighting 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 Wilderness Permit or a Campfire Permit are not exempt from the prohibitions shown above.
3. Persons with a valid Campfire Permit may use a pressurized gas or contained fuel stove.
4. Persons with a special use permit from the Forest Service for Exempted Camps, Resorts, and Day Use Areas shown on Exhibit B, may build, maintain, attend or use a fire, charcoal fire, or campfire at their Exempted Camps, Resorts, and Day Use Areas provided that it is done in compliance with the terms of the permit.

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 $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.

Executed in South Lake Tahoe, CA, this 2nd day of July, 2014.

Nancy J. Gibson
Forest Supervisor
Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit

This Order supersedes Order No. 19-14-07, dated June 24, 2014.

EXHIBIT A

Exempted Recreation Sites

Bayview Campground
Fallen Leaf Campground
Kaspian Campground and Day Use Area
Meeks Bay Campground and Day Use Area
Nevada Beach Campground
Tallac Historic Day Use Area
William Kent Campground and Day Use Area

EXHIBIT B

Exempted Camps, Resorts, and Day Use Areas

Angora Lakes Resort
Berkeley City Camp
Camp Concord
Camp Shelly
California Alpine Club
Camp Richardson Resort
Camp Richardson Stables
Echo Chalet
Meeks Bay Resort and Marina
Zephyr Cove Resort
Round Hill Pines Resort
Baldwin Beach Day Use Area
Pope Beach Day Use Area
Nevada Beach Day Use Area

USDA United States Department of Agriculture | Forest Service | Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit | 35 College Drive
South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150
(530) 543-2600 (Voice)
(530) 543-0956 (TTY)

File Code: 1010 **Date:** 07-02-14
Route To:

Subject: Fire Restrictions

From: Nancy Gibson
Forest Supervisor
Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit

To: File

It is my decision to implement Fire Restrictions on the Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit.

These restrictions are required for purposes of protecting public safety and to reduce the risk of human caused fires on National Forest land, and associated damage and cost. Criteria for implementation include national, statewide and local critical burning conditions that are being experienced and predicted. The Energy Release Component, which is an index measuring fire weather and fuels condition trends, is at historic maximums for this time of year in Lake Tahoe Basin. The area has been experiencing severe drought for consecutive years, which leads to high fire potential. The snowpack survey on May 1, 2014 measured moisture stored in snowpack at 18% of normal, and a more limited survey on May 30 suggested that snowpack was at only 3% of normal. Long range weather forecasts indicate this trend will continue without relief.

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.

This Order will be effective from 6:00 a.m. to 11:59 p.m. on July 4, 2014.

Internal discussions about this action were conducted with Forest Fire Management, Recreation, Law Enforcement, and Line Officers. External scoping was done through communication with California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, Nevada Division of Forestry, adjacent National Forests, and cooperating fire protection agencies within Lake Tahoe Basin. Adjacent state agencies and National Forests have already implemented or are concurrently implementing fire restrictions due to region-wide drought conditions.

This action is consistent with the Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit Land and Resource Management Plan (1988), as required by the National Forest Management Act. It is also consistent with the Unit's Fire Management Plan.

For further information, contact Kit Bailey, Forest Fire Management Officer, Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit, 35 College Drive, South Lake Tahoe, California, 96150. Phone: 530-543-2631.