

Forest Order STF-2014-06
Temporary Fire Restrictions
Moderate Fire Hazard Area
Stanislaus National Forest

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 Moderate Fire Hazard Area of the Stanislaus National Forest, as shown on Exhibit A and described in Exhibit B. This Order is effective from July 23, 2014 through the end of the official 2014 fire season.

1. Building, maintaining, attending or using a fire, campfire, or stove fire, except in the Developed Recreation Sites listed in Exhibit C. 36 CFR 261.52(a).
2. Smoking, except within an enclosed vehicle or building, within a Developed Recreation Site listed in Exhibit C, 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).
3. Welding, or operating an acetylene or other torch with an open flame. 36 CFR 261.52(i).
4. Using an explosive. 36 CFR 261.52(b).

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.
2. 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 stove or lantern using gas, jellied petroleum, or pressurized liquid fuel on National Forest System lands within the Moderate Hazard Area.
3. Any Federal, State, or local officer, or member of an organized rescue or fire fighting force in the performance of an official duty.
4. Persons with a Special Use Permit from the Forest Service for a recreation residence on National Forest System lands within the Moderate Hazard Area are not exempt from the prohibitions listed above. However, persons with a Special Use Permit from the Forest Service for a recreation residence on National Forest System lands within the Moderate Hazard Area 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 \$5,000.00 for an individual or \$10,000.00 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 Sonora California, this 22nd day of July, 2014.



SUSAN SKALSKI
Forest Supervisor
Stanislaus National Forest

File Code: 1950

Date: July 22, 2014

Route To:

Subject: Temporary Fire Restrictions in the Moderate Fire Hazard Area

To: Project File

From: Susan Skalski, Forest Supervisor 

The Moderate Fire Hazard Area of the Stanislaus National Forest is located in Calaveras and Tuolumne Counties, California. The Forest's Fire Management Plan (Appendix A, Wildland Fire Management Program Implementation) and Forest Service Manual (FSM) 5110.4 provide authority and guidance on implementing actions that reduce the risk of certain ignition sources during periods of high fire risk.

Criteria for activating prohibitions in the Moderate Fire Hazard Area through a forest order is based on National Fire Danger Rating System indices and fuel moisture conditions. The Forest currently meets the criteria for activation of restrictions in the Moderate Fire Hazard Area using the Mt. Elizabeth weather station as the representative site. Indices that can trigger restrictions are: Burning Index is 80 or greater for three consecutive days with a predicted stable or upward trend; dead fuel moistures for thousand-hour time lag fuels are less than 13%; and Energy Release Component greater than 82 for three consecutive days. Current conditions reflect a Burning Index of 66 but this is upward trending and in the past month was ranging in the high 80s and low 90s with an upward trend. Calculated thousand-hour fuel moisture is 8% with an Energy Release Component of 70 but trending upwards and in recent weeks has been above 84 for multiple, consecutive days. Combinations of the data that are above threshold indicate a need for restricting potential fire-causing activities of persons using the Moderate Fire Hazard Area.

In response to the situation described above, the Forest Service will issue a temporary Forest Order prohibiting the following activities in the Moderate Fire Hazard Area:

1. Building, maintaining, attending or using a fire, campfire, or stove fire, except in the Developed Recreation Sites listed in Exhibit C. 36 CFR 261.52(a).
2. Smoking, except within an enclosed vehicle or building, within a Developed Recreation Site listed in Exhibit C, 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).
3. Welding, or operating an acetylene or other torch with an open flame. 36 CFR 261.52(i).
4. Using an explosive. 36 CFR 261.52(b).

Scoping determined that anticipated effects of this proposed action would be administrative in



nature. Minimal ground disturbance will occur, and no other additional impact on any natural resources will occur with the implementation of this proposed action. The public notification of these restrictions occurred via a press announcement published by the local newspapers.

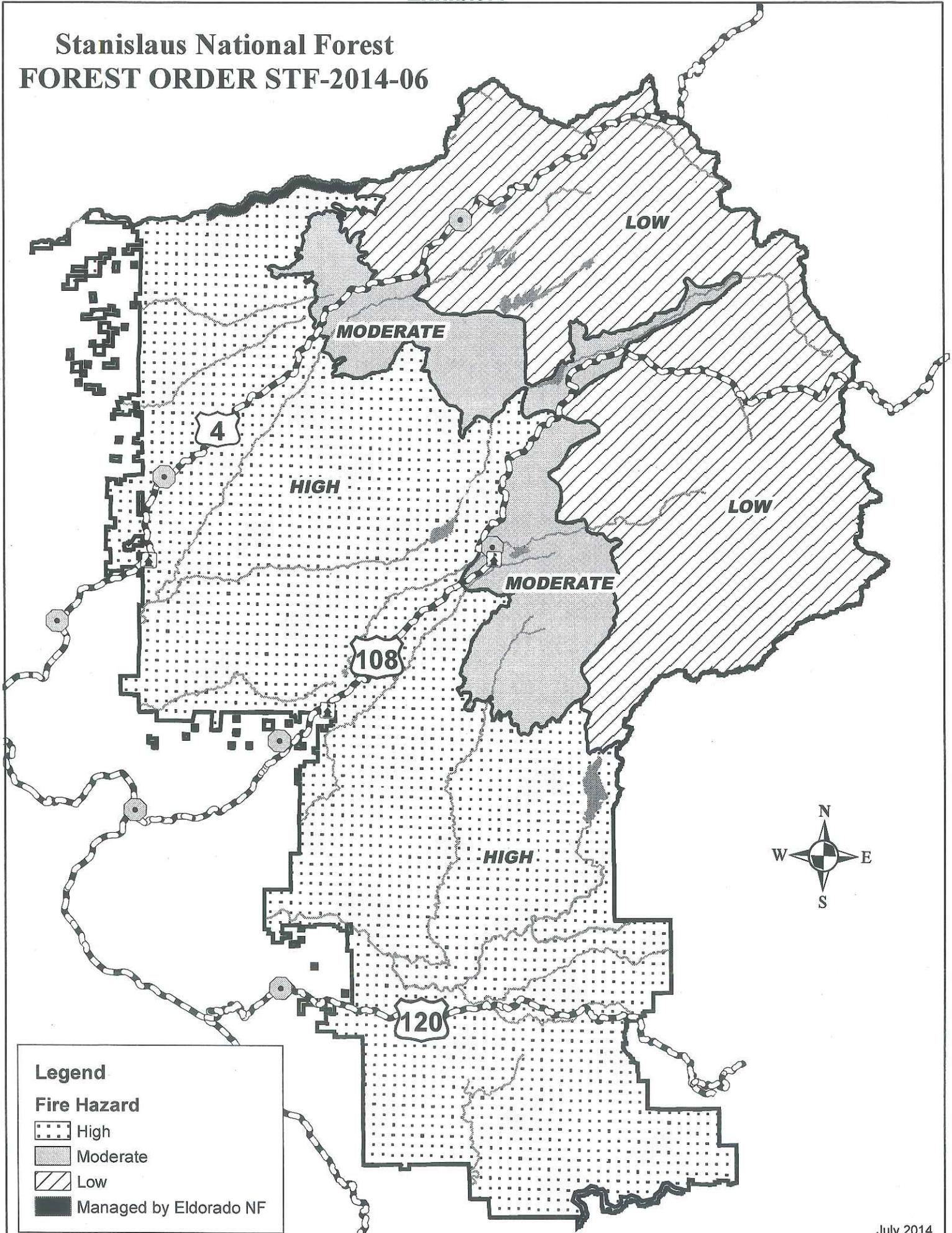
The Forest Service will install signs along roads entering the Moderate Fire Hazard Area to alert the public to these fire restrictions.

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.

For further information regarding this decision, contact: Chris Schow, Fire Management Officer, Stanislaus National Forest, 19777 Greenley Road, Sonora, CA. (209) 532-3671.

cc: Heidi Rieck, Chris Schow

Stanislaus National Forest FOREST ORDER STF-2014-06



Legend

Fire Hazard

 High

 Moderate

 Low

 Managed by Eldorado NF

**Forest Order STF-2014-06
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Exhibit B**

The boundary of the Moderate Fire Hazard Area begins at the intersection of Forest Road No. 7N09 and Moore Creek in the SW ¼ of Section 12, T7N R16E, then continues south along Forest Road No. 7N09 to its intersection with Highway 4, then continues east along Highway 4 to its intersection with Forest Road No. 7N01, then continues south along Forest Road No. 7N01 to its intersection with the creek crossing in Section 26, T7N R17E, then continues south along the creek to its intersection with the North Fork of the Stanislaus River, then continues west along the North Fork of the Stanislaus River to its intersection with Highland Creek, then continues south and east along Highland Creek to its intersection with Forest Road No. 18E04, then continues east along the boundary of the Carson-Iceberg Wilderness to its intersection with the boundary of Tuolumne and Alpine Counties, then continues southwest along the south side of Clark Fork Road at 6,400 feet elevation through Sections 35 and 34, T7N R20E, Sections 4, 5, 7, and 12, T6N R20E, Sections 13 and 14, T6N R19E, then continues southwest into the NW ¼ of Section 23, then continues southwest across Highway 108 west of Boulder Flat, then continues due southwest to Double Dome Rock in Section 27, T6N R19E, then continues due southwest through Sections 28, 33, and 32, T5N R19E, then continues southwest across Niagara Creek east of Niagara Creek Campground, then continues south and west along the edge of Niagara Creek Campground to its intersection with Forest Road No. 6N24, then continues southwest along Forest Road No. 6N24 to Forest Road No. 5N01, then continues west along Forest Road No. 5N01 to Highway 108, then continues west along Highway 108 to Mill Creek, then continues east along Mill Creek to Mill Creek Campground, then continues north, east, and south around the edge of Mill Creek Campground back to Mill Creek, then continues east along Mill Creek through Sections 7 and 8, T5N R19E, to the corner of sections 8, 9, 17, and 16, T5N R19E, then continues southwest along the elevation contour line at 7,600 feet to Bull Run Rock in Section 25, T5N R18E, then continues due southeast to the corner of Sections 25 and 36, T5N R18E, and Sections 30 and 31 T5N R19E, then continues south along the section line between Section 36, T5N R18E, and Section 31, T5N R19E, to the corner of Sections 1 and 12, T4N R18E, and Sections 6 and 7, T4N R19E, then continues east along the section line between Sections 6 and 7, and 5 and 8 of T4N R19E to its intersection with the Emigrant Wilderness boundary, then continues south along the Emigrant Wilderness boundary to Hells Mountain in Section 32, T3N R19E, then continues due southwest to its intersection with Forest Road No. 3N01 located in Section 31, T3N R19E, then continues west along Forest Road No. 3N01 to its intersection with Forest Road No. 4N33, then continues north along Forest Road No. 4N33 to its intersection with the boundary of the Mi-Wok and Groveland Districts, then continues west along the boundary of the Mi-Wok and Groveland Districts to its intersection with Highway 108, then continues east along Highway 108 to its intersection with Mill Creek, then

continues west along Mill Creek to the section line between Sections 11 and 12, T5N R18E, then continues north along the section line Sections 1, 2, 11, and 12, T5N R18E, and Sections 35 and 36, T6N R18E to the south end of the dam of Donnell Lake, then continues west along the Middle Fork of the Stanislaus River to its intersection with Shoofly Creek, then continues west along Shoofly Creek to its intersection with Forest Road No. 6N05, then continues south along Forest Road No. 6N05 to its intersection with Forest Road No. 5N18, then continues north along Forest Road No. 5N18 to its intersection with Forest Road No. 5N14, then continues north and west along Forest Road No. 5N14 to the corner of Sections 25, 26, 35, and 36, T6N R16E, then continues north along Forest Road No. 6N17 to its intersection with Big Rattlesnake Creek, then continues west along Big Rattlesnake Creek to its intersection with the North Fork of the Stanislaus River, then continues north along the North Fork of the Stanislaus River to its intersection with the NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 14, T6N R17E, then continues west crossing Highway 4 at its intersection with Forest Road No. 7N23, then continues north along Forest Road No. 7N23 to its intersection with Forest Road No. 7N09, then continues west and north along Forest Road No. 7N09 back to the starting point, as shown on the attached map.

**Forest Order No. 2014-06
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Exhibit C**

Summit Ranger District

Cottonwood Picnic Area
Clark Fork Campground
Clark Fork Horse Camp
Donnell Vista Picnic Area
Fence Creek Campground
Meadowview Campground
Mill Creek Campground
Niagara Creek Campground
Pioneer Trail Group Campground
Pinecrest Campground
Pinecrest Lake Picnic Area
Sand Flat Campground

Mi-Wok Ranger District

Hull Creek Campground

Calaveras Ranger District

Big Meadow Campground