



SAN JUAN NATIONAL FOREST REGULATIONS

A quick guide to staying safe and legal!

As Revised 2014

DISCLAIMER

Rules referenced in this brochure do not reflect the exact language of federal regulations and special orders. Specific language and legal terms are available from our offices and online.

This listing does not include all site-specific closure orders on the San Juan National Forest. Forest officers patrol the National Forest to help fulfill the U.S. Forest Service mission of "caring for the land and serving the people." Forest visitors who receive citations may end up in federal court and be subjected to fines.

Please respect the National Forest and other Forest visitors. Thank you.

PLEASE FOLLOW THE RULES!

This brochure contains a listing of federal regulations and special orders on the San Juan National Forest. Failure to comply with rules and regulations may result in citations and fines. These regulations are in place to ensure your safety and that of other forest visitors, and to protect natural resources. Check with our offices (listed on back) for more information.

FIRE



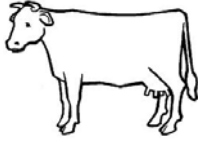
- Remove all flammable material from the immediate vicinity before starting a campfire.
- Campfires must be attended at all times and completely extinguished before left. Don't leave a campfire to burn out while you sleep in your tent or go for a walk.
- Fireworks are not allowed ... PERIOD.

GATHERING FOREST PRODUCTS

- You must have a permit to cut or remove timber, firewood and other forest products.
- A validated load tag must be visibly posted when you load, haul or remove firewood and other forest products.
- You are responsible for knowing the regulations on size and species of standing dead timber allowed as firewood.
- You must carry written authorization from landowners to transport wood from private land across public lands.



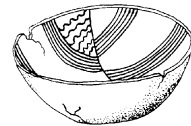
LIVESTOCK



- Leave gates as you found them (open or closed) once you pass through.
- Only certified weed-free hay and feed can be brought onto the National Forest for stock animals.
- Do not tie pack animals directly to trees.

PROPERTY

- Do not damage any natural feature or public property.
- Do not excavate, disturb, damage or remove any prehistoric, historic or archaeological structure or artifact.



SANITATION

- Do not deposit damaging substances or objects into toilets or plumbing.
- Do not place polluting substances in or near streams, lakes or other water.
- Garbage, sewage and waste water must be removed or deposited into appropriate receptacles.
- It is illegal to dump refuse or debris.
- Deposit and bury human waste in a cat-hole dug 6-8" deep at least 200' from water. Pack out toilet paper.

ROADS AND TRAILS

- You must have written authorization to use any forest road for commercial hauling.
- All activities that cause resource damage to roads and trails are prohibited.
- Do not violate posted road closures.
- Do not shortcut switchbacks.
- Do not block or interfere with the use of roads, trails or gates.

MOTOR VEHICLES



- Off-road and cross-country use of wheeled motorized vehicles is prohibited.
- Drivers of motor vehicles must stay on roads and trails open to their type of use as indicated in Motor Vehicle Use Maps and on posted signs.
- Drivers of motor vehicles must comply with regulations on Motor Vehicle Use Maps and signs.
- Motor vehicles can only be driven up to 300' off any open road to reach a dispersed campsite, gather firewood, retrieve game, etc.
- Motor vehicles must adhere to federal and state noise emission standards.
- All motor vehicles, including Off Highway Vehicles, must comply with state, local and federal laws, including registration requirements for in-state and out-of-state vehicles.
- Do not operate any vehicle under the influence of alcohol or other drugs.
- Do not operate a vehicle in a manner that may endanger any person or property.
- Do not operate a vehicle in a manner that damages or disturbs the land, wildlife or vegetation.

OCCUPANCY AND USE

- A permit is needed to construct or maintain a road, trail, structure, fence or facility.
- Cutting live trees is prohibited (for use as tent poles, etc.).
- A permit is required to sell merchandise or conduct work or service for pay or other compensation.
- Do not park a vehicle or place an object in a location or manner that creates an impediment or hazard to the safety or convenience of others.
- Residential use is prohibited ... PERIOD.
- Personal property cannot be stored or cached on the National Forest.
- Pack it in; pack it out. All refuse and other items must be removed from the Forest.
- Camping on the National Forest is limited to no more than 28 days within any continuous 60-day period.
- After 14 consecutive days in one location, you must move beyond a 3-mile radius.
- Do not park or leave a vehicle in areas posted as off-limits.
- Do not ride or restrain a horse or other stock in areas posted as closed to such use.
- Possession or use of marijuana is illegal.



FIREARMS

- You cannot discharge a firearm or use any other weapon:
 - within 150 yards of a building, campsite or otherwise occupied area,
 - on or across a road, trail or body of water,
 - in a manner or place that may expose a person or property to injury or damage.
- On federal lands, firearms cannot be concealed and must be carried in plain sight.
- Targets must have a hillside or mound of dirt behind them.
- All shells and items used for target practice must be picked up and removed.
- You cannot use trees or vegetation as targets.
- Do not discharge a firearm into a cave.
- In motor vehicles, firearms must be fully unloaded and enclosed in a case.



DEVELOPED RECREATION SITES



- Some developed campgrounds allow camping up to 30 days, but most have a 14-day stay limit.
- No more than 8 people/2 tents are allowed in a family campsite (or 1 RV+1 vehicle, depending on site size).
- Campfires are only allowed in provided fire rings, stoves, grills or fireplaces.
- No bathing or washing at hydrants or water faucets unless otherwise posted.
- All pets (except seeing-eye dogs) must be leashed, crated, caged or physically restrained.
- Livestock and pack animals are allowed only in sites posted for their use.
- Do not operate or park a motor vehicle or trailer off designated routes or spurs.
- Motor vehicles can only be used to enter or leave campsites. No joy riding.
- Body waste can only be deposited in receptacles provided for that purpose.
- You cannot "save" a campsite in advance of occupation by depositing personal property or parking a vehicle there.

DESIGNATED WILDERNESS

(Weminuche, South San Juan, Lizard Head Wilderness Areas)



- Motor vehicles, motorboats and motorized equipment are prohibited.
- Hanggliders and bicycles are prohibited.
- You cannot possess or use a wagon, cart or other vehicle.
- Landing of aircraft (including helicopters) is prohibited.
- Dropping off or picking up of materials or people by means of aircraft is prohibited.
- You cannot graze stock in areas posted as closed to grazing.
- You cannot store or cache equipment, personal property or supplies.
- The maximum group number must not exceed 15 people.
- A combination of people and livestock in a group must not exceed 25 (with the number of people still not above 15).
- You cannot camp or build a campfire within 100' (35 adult steps) of streams, lakes or other water sources.
- Human waste and wash water must be disposed of at least 200' (70 adult steps) from any water source.
- Dogs must be leashed or under voice control and near you at all times.
- Obey site-specific regulations regarding campfire bans, camping distance from water, and livestock use.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

San Juan Public Lands Center
Durango, CO (970) 247-4874

Dolores Public Lands Office
Dolores, CO (970) 882-7296

Columbine Ranger District
Bayfield, CO (970) 884-2512

Pagosa Ranger District
Pagosa Springs, CO (970) 264-2268

<http://www.fs.usda.gov/sanjuan/>