

File Code: 1950  
Route To:

Date: June 20, 2015

Subject: Temporary Fire Restrictions in the High and Moderate Hazard Areas

To: Project File

From: Jeanne M. Higgins, Forest Supervisor



The High Fire Hazard and Moderate Fire Hazard Areas of the Stanislaus National Forest are located in Calaveras, Mariposa, Alpine, 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 High Fire Hazard and Moderate Fire Hazard Areas through a forest order are based on National Fire Danger Rating System indices and fuel moisture conditions. The indices that can trigger fire restrictions in the High Fire Hazard Area are: Burning Index is 60 or greater for three consecutive days with a predicted stable or upward trend; dead fuel moisture content for thousand-hour time lag fuels are less than 14%; and Energy Release Component greater than 70.

The Forest currently meets all of the criteria for activating High Fire Hazard Area fire restrictions using the Mt. Elizabeth weather station as the representative site. The current upwardly trending data supports predictions that all Moderate Fire Hazard indices will be met by June 21, 2015. Combinations of the data above threshold levels for multiple days along with upward trending data indicate a need for restricting potential fire-causing activities of persons using the High Fire Hazard and the Moderate Fire Hazard Areas.

In response to the situation described above, the Forest Service will issue a temporary Forest Order prohibiting the following activities in the High Fire Hazard and Moderate Fire Hazard Areas of the Stanislaus National Forest:

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).



These actions are determined to 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 will occur via a press announcement published by the local newspapers and postings in public places of the National Forest's facilities. The Forest Service will install signs along roads entering the High Fire Hazard and Moderate Fire Hazard Areas 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.

cc: Heidi Rieck, Chris Schow



**Order No. STF 2015-06  
Stanislaus National Forest  
Temporary 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 High and Moderate Fire Hazard Areas of the Stanislaus National Forest, as shown on Exhibit A, and described in Exhibits B and C. This Order is effective from June 23, 2015, through the end of the official 2015 fire season.

1. Building, maintaining, attending or using a fire, campfire, or stove fire, except in the Developed Recreation Sites listed in Exhibit D. 36 CFR 261.52(a).
2. Smoking, except within an enclosed vehicle or building, within a Developed Recreation Site listed in Exhibit D, 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 61.52(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 High and Moderate Hazard Areas.
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 High and Moderate Hazard Areas 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 High and 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.

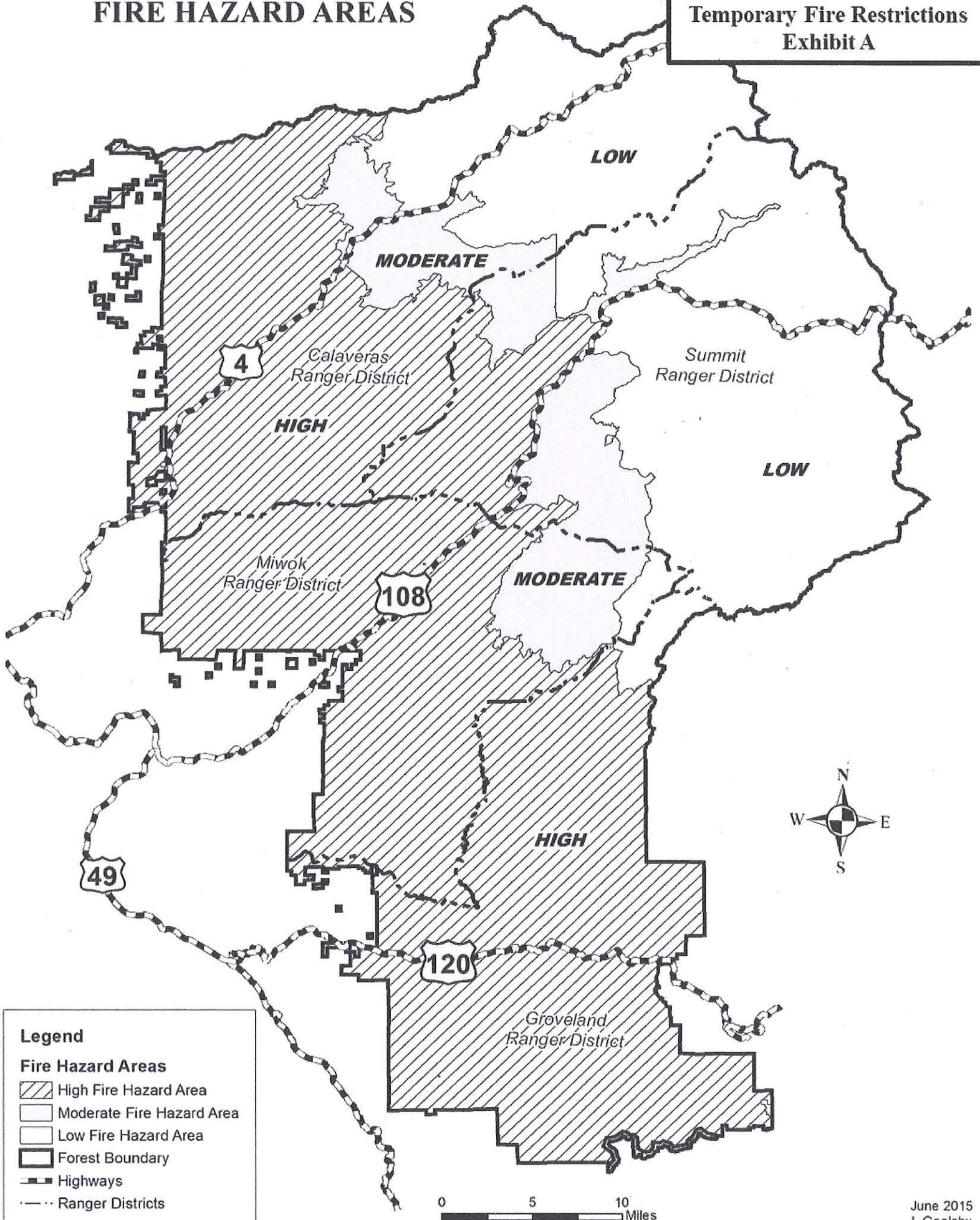
Executed in Boise, Idaho, this 20th day of June, 2015.



JEANNE M. HIGGINS  
Forest Supervisor  
Stanislaus National Forest

# STANISLAUS NATIONAL FOREST FIRE HAZARD AREAS

Forest Order STF-2015-06  
Stanislaus National Forest  
Temporary Fire Restrictions  
Exhibit A



**Forest Order STF 2015-06  
Stanislaus National Forest  
Temporary Fire Restrictions  
Exhibit B**

The Stanislaus National Forest High Fire Hazard Boundary Line begins at the northern border of the Stanislaus National Forest at the Amador/Calaveras County line on the east side of Salt Springs Reservoir, then follows the Mokelumne Wilderness boundary south for 1 mile, then continues cross country for 0.4 miles due south to Forest Road 7N16, then continues 2 miles west along Forest Road 7N16 to Forest Road 7N09, then continues 11 miles west along Forest Road 7N09 to Forest Road 7N23, then continues 6 miles south along Forest Road 7N23 to Highway 4, then crosses Highway 4 and continues 1.5 miles southeast across the North Fork Stanislaus River canyon to Forest Road 6N17, then continues 3 miles south along Forest Road 6N17 to Forest Road 5N14, then continues 19 miles east along Forest Road 5N14 to Forest Road 6N05, then continues 2 miles north along Forest Road 6N05 to Basin Creek, then continues 1 mile east along Shoefly Creek to the confluence with the Middle Fork Stanislaus River, then continues 4 miles northwest along the Middle Fork Stanislaus River to Donnell Lake, then continues 1.5 miles east along the south shore of Donnell Lake to Niagara Creek, then continues 1.5 miles south and east along Niagara Creek to Highway 108, then continues 15 miles south along Highway 108 to Crabtree Road (Forest Road 4N26), then continues 7 miles east along Crabtree Road to Forest Road 4N33, then continues 8 miles southwest along Forest Road 4N33 to Forest Road 3N01, then continues 15 miles east and then south along Forest Road 3N01 to Reynolds Creek, then continues 0.6 mile due east to the Emigrant Wilderness boundary, then continues 6 miles south and then east along the Emigrant Wilderness boundary to the Stanislaus National Forest boundary, as shown on the attached map.

**Forest Order STF-2015-06  
Stanislaus National Forest  
Temporary Fire Restrictions  
Exhibit C**

The Stanislaus National Forest Moderate Fire Hazard Boundary Line begins at the northern border of the Stanislaus National Forest at the Amador/Calaveras County line on the east side of Salt Springs Reservoir, then follows the Mokelumne Wilderness boundary south for 1 mile, then continues cross country for 0.4 miles due south to the Forest Road 7N16, then continues 2 miles west along the Forest Road 7N16 to Forest Road 7N09, then continues 10 miles southeast along Forest Road 7N09 to Highway 4, then continues 3 miles east along Highway 4 to the Spicer Meadow Road (Forest Road 7N01), then continues 3 miles south along the Spicer Meadow Road to the North Fork Stanislaus River, then continues 3 miles west along the North Fork Stanislaus River to Highland Creek, then continues 6 miles southeast along Highland Creek to Spicer Meadow Reservoir, then continues 2 miles east along the south shore of Spicer Meadow Reservoir to the Carson Iceberg Wilderness boundary, then continues 22 miles south and then east along the Carson Iceberg Wilderness boundary to the Clark Fork River, then continues 2 miles west along the Clark Fork River to Forest Road 20E58, then continues 1.5 miles west along Forest Road 20E58 to Forest Road 7N76A , then continues 0.5 miles southwest along Forest Road 7N76A to the end of the road, then continues cross country for 0.3 miles due west to the Clark Fork River, then continues 4 miles west along the Clark Fork River to Forest Road 7N83, then continues 1 mile south along Forest Road 7N83 to Highway 108, then continues 7 miles southwest along Highway 108 to Mill Creek, then continues 4 miles east along Mill Creek to Forest Road 19EV114, then continues 2 miles west along Forest Road 19EV114 Road to Forest Road 4N12, then continues 5 miles south along Forest Road 4N12 to Forest Road 5N31, then continues 2 miles south and west along Forest Road 5N31 to Forest Road 5N55Y, then continues east for 1 mile along Forest Road 5N55Y to Forest Trail 19E31, then continues 1 mile south along the Forest Trail 19E31 to the Emigrant Wilderness boundary, then continues 20 miles south along the Emigrant Wilderness boundary and ends at the southern Stanislaus National Forest boundary, as shown on the attached map.

**Forest Order STF 2015-06  
Stanislaus National Forest  
Temporary Fire Restrictions  
Exhibit D**

**High Hazard Area**

**MIWOK RANGER DISTRICT**

Fraser Flat Campground  
River Ranch Campground  
Riverside Picnic Area  
Sand Bar Flat Campground

**CALAVERAS RANGER DISTRICT**

Boards Crossing Campground  
Waka Luu Hep Yoo Campground  
Sourgrass Day Use Area

**SUMMIT RANGER DISTRICT**

Cascade Campground  
Beardsley Lake Day Use Area  
Beardsley Campground  
TeleLi PuLaya (Black Oak) Campground

**GROVELAND RANGER DISTRICT**

Carlton Day Use Area  
Dimond O Campground  
Lost Claim Campground  
Lumsden Campground  
Lumsden Bridge Campground  
Rainbow Pool Day Use Area  
Sweetwater Campground  
The Pines Campground  
Peach Growers Tract  
South Fork Campground  
Cherry Valley Campground  
Middlefork Day Use Area

**Moderate Hazard Area**

**MIWOK RANGER DISTRICT**

Hull Creek Campground

**CALAVERAS RANGER DISTRICT**

Big Meadow Campground

**SUMMIT RANGER DISTRICT**

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