

Fire Restriction Definitions

Note: Possessing, discharging or using any kind of fireworks or pyrotechnic device is always prohibited on National Forests.

Stage I Restrictions

1. Building, maintaining, attending or using a fire, campfire, charcoal, coal, or wood stove, except within a developed recreation site, or improved site; 36 CFR § 261.52(a). The use of petroleum-fueled stoves, lanterns or heating devices providing such devices meet the fire underwriter's specifications for safety is allowed.
2. Smoking, except within an enclosed vehicle or building, a developed recreation site, 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).

Exemptions - Pursuant to 36 CFR § 261.50(e), the following persons are exempt from this order:

1. Persons with a Forest Service permit specifically authorizing the prohibited act or omission.
2. Any Federal, State or Local Officer or member of an organized firefighting force in the performance of an official duty.
3. Resident owners and lessees of land, and holders of Forest Service recreation special use authorizations, within the restricted area exempt from Restriction No. 1 above, provided such fires are within a permanent structure.
4. Residents in the area.
5. Persons occupied in a business, trade or occupation in the area.

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Stage II Restrictions

1. Building, maintaining, attending or using a fire, campfire, charcoal, coal, or stove fire, except within a developed recreation site, or improved site; 36 CFR § 261.52(a).
2. Smoking; 36 CFR § 261.52(c).
3. Using an explosive; 36 C.F.R. § 261.52(b).
4. Discharging a firearm, air rifle or gas gun; 36 C.F.R § 261.58 (m)
5. Operating a chainsaw, or other equipment powered by an internal combustion engine, is prohibited from times designated in the specific closure order 36 C.F.R. § 261.52(h).
6. Operating or using any internal or external combustion engine without a spark arresting device properly installed, maintained, and in effective working order meeting either:
 - Department of Agriculture, Forest Service Standard 5100-1a; or
 - Appropriate Society of Automotive Engineers (SAE recommended practice J335 (b) and J350 (a); 36 C.F.R. § 261.52(j)
7. Welding or operating acetylene or other torch with open flame; 36 C.F.R. § 261.52(i).
8. Possessing or using a motor vehicle off National Forest System roads, except when parking in an area devoid of vegetation within 10 feet of the roadway; and except for parking overnight in Forest Service developed campgrounds and trailheads. 36 C.F.R. § 261.56,
9. Violating any state law, specifically [*reference actual state [not county] statute or Order*], concerning burning, fires, or which is for the purpose of preventing or restricting the spread of fire; 36 C.F.R. § 261.52. (k).

Exemptions - Pursuant to 36 CFR § 261.50(e), the following persons are exempt from this order:

1. Persons with a Forest Service permit specifically authorizing the prohibited act or omission.
2. Any Federal, State or Local Officer or member of an organized firefighting force in the performance of an official duty.
3. Resident owners and lessees of land, and holders of Forest Service recreation special use authorizations, within the restricted area exempt from Restriction No. 1 above, provided such fires are within a permanent structure.
4. Residents in the area.
5. Persons occupied in a business, trade or occupation in the area.
6. Persons utilizing petroleum-fueled stoves, lanterns or heating devices providing such devices meet the fire underwriter's specifications for safety.

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Stage III Restrictions

1. Going into or being upon the restricted area. 36 CFR§ 261.52(e).

Exemptions - Pursuant to 36 CFR § 261.50(e), the following persons are exempt from this order:

1. Persons with a Forest Service permit specifically authorizing the prohibited act or omission.
2. Any Federal, State or Local Officer, or member of an organized firefighting force in the performance of an official duty.
3. Residents in the area accessing private property via a closed Forest Service road.
4. Persons occupied in a business, trade or occupation in the area as specifically authorized.
5. Persons visiting recreations sites, trails, roads, and areas described as open below.

Stage IV Restrictions

1. Going into or being upon the restricted area – 36 CFR 261.52(e).

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

1. Persons with a Forest Service permit that specifically authorizing the otherwise prohibited act or omission.
2. Any federal, state or local officer or member of an organized rescue or firefighting force in the performance of an official duty.
3. Any other person meeting exemption requirements specified in the order.