



# News Release

USDA Forest Service

Cibola National Forest and Grasslands

2113 Osuna Rd. NE ■ Albuquerque, NM 87113-1001



**For Immediate Release**

Contact: Ruth Sutton, Public Affairs Officer

Phone: 505.346.3900; e-mail: [rsutton@fs.fed.us](mailto:rsutton@fs.fed.us)

Twitter: [http://twitter.com/CIBOLA\\_NF](http://twitter.com/CIBOLA_NF)

Web: <http://www.fs.usda.gov/cibola>

## ***Cibola National Forest's Sandia and Mountainair Ranger Districts to Begin Stage II Fire Restrictions***

**Albuquerque, NM. June 19, 2012** – Cibola National Forest and Grasslands Forest Supervisor Nancy Rose announced that the Sandia and Mountainair Ranger Districts will begin Stage II fire restrictions on Friday, June 22, 2012 at 8:00 a.m. “Due to increasing fire danger, I believe these restrictions are necessary to prevent human-caused wildfires and to protect public health and safety,” said Rose.

Current Fire Restrictions for the Cibola National Forest and Grasslands are:

- **Mountainair Ranger District** will begin Stage II fire restrictions on June 22, 2012. Fire conditions are currently very high.
- **Sandia Ranger District** will begin Stage II fire restrictions on June 22, 2012. Fire conditions are currently very high.
- **Magdalena Ranger District** is in Stage II Fire Restrictions for the Datil and San Mateo Mountains; the rest of the district will stay in Stage I restrictions. Fire conditions are currently high.
- **Mt. Taylor Ranger District** is in Stage II Fire Restrictions. Wood cutting permits are suspended. Fire conditions are currently extreme.
- **Black Kettle and McClellan Creek National Grasslands** have no restrictions; fire conditions are currently low.
- **Kiowa and Rita Blanca National Grasslands** have no restrictions; fire conditions are currently moderate.

Stage II fire restrictions include:

1. Building, maintaining, attending or using a fire, campfire, charcoal, coal, or stove fire. Exception: The use of petroleum-fueled stoves, lanterns, or heating devices is allowed, provided such devices meet the fire underwriter's specifications for safety.
2. Smoking except within an enclosed vehicle or building.
3. Using an explosive.
4. Discharging a firearm, air rifle or gas gun.

5. Operating a chainsaw or other equipment powered by an internal combustion engine between 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
6. Operating or using any internal or external combustion engine without a spark arresting device that is properly installed, maintained and in effective working order. They must meet either USDA Forest Service or appropriate Society of Automotive Engineers (SAE) recommended practice
7. Welding or operating acetylene or other torch with an open flame
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 overnight parking in Forest Service-developed campgrounds and trailheads.

**The following 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. Generators that are specifically designed by the manufacturer and used within an enclosed recreational vehicle such as a motorhome or a travel trailer.

The current Fire Restriction orders can be found on the Cibola's web site: <http://www.fs.usda.gov/cibola> in the "Alerts and Notices" section.

**Useful fire websites:**

- **Southwest Coordination Center:** <http://gacc.nifc.gov/swcc/>
- **National Interagency Fire Center:** [www.nifc.gov](http://www.nifc.gov)
- **National Incident Information Center:** [www.fs.fed.us/news/fire](http://www.fs.fed.us/news/fire)
- **FireWise:** [www.firewise.org](http://www.firewise.org)