



News Release

Medicine Bow-Routt National Forests &
Thunder Basin National Grassland
<http://fs.usda.gov/mbr>

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Medicine Bow-Routt National Forests and Thunder Basin National Grassland Enter Stage II Fire Restrictions

(LARAMIE, Wyo.) June 25, 2012 – Due to record high temperatures, exceptionally dry conditions and no forecasted relief from the weather, fire restrictions have been elevated to Stage II across the Medicine Bow-Routt National Forests and Thunder Basin National Grassland (MBRTB). This decision was made in coordination with multiple agencies at the federal, state and local level.

“With dry conditions persisting and the recent start of large fires on the MBRTB and within the region, it is important that we take additional precautions to reduce the potential for more new fires” said Rick Cooksey, Deputy Forest Supervisor for the MBRTB. “The public is reminded to do their part to reduce the potential for fires by following these restrictions while enjoying their public lands.”

Stage II fire restrictions mean the following acts are prohibited until further notice:

- Building or using an open fire, campfire, stove fire or charcoal grill. Exceptions are for using petroleum fueled stoves, grills, or lanterns in areas that have been cleared of all vegetation for three feet on all sides;
- Smoking, except within an enclosed vehicle or building;
- Possessing or using fireworks or other pyrotechnic devices, including tracer ammunition;
- Using explosives, including targets that could explode;
- Using any internal or external combustion engine (e.g. chainsaws) without a properly working spark arrester;
- Possessing or using a vehicle off road, except when parking in areas cleared of vegetation and as allowed on the applicable Motor Vehicle Use Map;
- Welding, or operating an acetylene or torch with open flame.

Violation of these regulations is punishable as a class B misdemeanor, by a fine of not more than \$5000 for an individual or \$10,000 for an organization, or imprisonment of not more than 6 months, or both. Anyone negligently or willfully starting a wildland fire could also be held responsible for the costs of that fire.

For more information contact the following Forest Service Offices, visit our website at <http://fs.usda.gov/mbr>, or follow the MBRTB on Twitter, @MBRNFsTBNG.

- Brush Creek-Hayden Ranger District, 2171 Highway 130, Saratoga, WY, (307) 326-5258
- Douglas Ranger District, 2250 E. Richards Street, Douglas, WY, (307)358-4690
- Hahns Peak-Bears Ranger District, 925 Weiss Drive, Steamboat Springs, CO, (970) 870-2299
- Laramie Ranger District, 2468 Jackson Street, Laramie, WY, (307)745-2300
- Parks Ranger District, 100 Main Street, Walden, CO, (970) 723-2700
- Yampa Ranger District, 300 Roselawn Avenue, Yampa, CO, (970)638-4516

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