

U.S. Department of Agriculture, U.S. Forest Service Apache-Sitgreaves National Forests

Stage 1 Fire Restrictions

PROHIBITIONS

Pursuant to 16 U.S.C. § 551 and 36 C.F.R. § 261.50 (a) and (b), the following is prohibited on the National Forest System (NFS) lands in the Apache-Sitgreaves National Forests, described below and shown on the attached map incorporated into this Order as Exhibit A (the "Described Area"):

- Building, maintaining, attending, or using a fire, campfire, or stove fire, including charcoal and briquettes, outside a fire structure that is provided by the Forest Service within a Designated Area (Designated Areas are listed in Exhibit B). 36 C.F.R. § 261.52(a).
- 2. Smoking, except within an enclosed vehicle or building, a developed recreation site, or while stopped in an area at least three (3) feet in diameter that is barren or cleared of all flammable material. **36 C.F.R. § 261.52(d).**

EXEMPTIONS

Pursuant to 36 C.F.R. § 261.50(e), the following persons are exempt from this Order:

- 1. Holders of Forest Service Special Use Authorizations are exempt from Prohibition #1 above, provided such fires are within a fire structure and they are within their permitted area.
- 2. As to Prohibition #1 above, persons using a stove or grill that is solely fueled by pressurized liquid petroleum or pressurized liquid petroleum gas (LPG) fuels. Such devices can only be used in an area that is barren or cleared of all overhead and surrounding flammable materials within 3 feet of the device.
- 3. Persons with Forest Service Permit No. FS-7700-48 (Permit for Use of Roads, Trails, or Areas Restricted by Regulation or Order), specifically exempting them from this Order or a written determination by a Forest Service authorized officer that a permit is not required under 36 C.F.R. § 251.50(e)(1) or (2).
- 4. Any Federal, State, or Local Officer, or member of an organized rescue or firefighting resource in the performance of an official duty.

DESCRIBED AREA

All National Forest System lands, roads, and trails within the boundaries of the Apache-Sitgreaves National Forests, as specifically depicted in Exhibit A.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this Order is to protect public health and safety, as well as National Forest System lands, resources, and facilities, by reducing the risk of human-caused wildfires during the current period of high fire danger and severe fire weather conditions.

IMPLEMENTATION

- 1. This Order shall be in effect from Friday, February 28, 2025, at 3:00 PM through September 30, 2025, at 8:00 AM, unless rescinded.
- 2. A map identifying the Described Area is attached and made part of this Order as Exhibit A. For a digital version of this Order and Exhibit A, go to <u>https://www.fs.usda.gov/alerts/asnf/alerts-notices.</u>
- 3. Unless otherwise expressly defined in this Order, the terms used in this Order are defined by the regulations of the Secretary of Agriculture, 36 C.F.R. Chapter II, Parts 200-299. If there are terms in this Order that are not expressly defined in the Order or 36 C.F.R. Chapter II, Parts 200-299, their meaning shall be determined by their plain language definitions.
- 4. A violation of the above prohibitions is punishable as a Class B misdemeanor by a fine of not more than \$5,000 for individuals and \$10,000 for organizations, or by imprisonment for not more than six months, or both. 16 U.S.C. § 551; 18 U.S.C. §§ 3559, 3571, and 3581.
- 5. Contact the Apache-Sitgreaves National Forests Supervisor's Office in Springerville, AZ, (928) 333-6280, for more information about this Order.
- 6. This Order supersedes any previous Orders prohibiting the same or similar acts in the same Described Area.

Signed and issued on this 28th day of February, 2025.

ROBERT LEVER Forest Supervisor Apache-Sitgreaves National Forests

EXHIBIT B

THE FOLLOWING DESIGNATED AREAS HAVE APPROPRIATE OR APPROVED FACILITIES (FIRE STRUCTURES) UNDER STAGE 1 RESTRICTIONS:

Many campgrounds are closed in the winter, and will open during summer months.

ALPINE RANGER DISTRICT

- Buffalo Crossing Campground
- Horse Springs Campground
- Aspen Campground
- Diamond Rock Campground
- Alpine Divide Campground
- Luna Lake Campground
- Luna Lake Group Campground
- Hannagan Campground
- Deer Creek Campground
- Raccoon Campground
- Hannagan Lodge

BLACK MESA RANGER DISTRICT

- Camp Shadow Pines
- Black Mesa RD Compound

Planned to open April 26th, 2025

- Black Canyon Rim Campground
- Canyon Point Campground
- Sinkhole Campground
- Rim Campground
- Crook Campground
- Woods Canyon Group
 Campground
- Spillway Campground and Group Site
- Aspen Campground
- Woods Canyon Administrative
 Site

CLIFTON RANGER DISTRICT

- Strayhorse Campground
- Honeymoon Campground
- Lower Juan Miller Campground
- Granville Campground
- Black Jack Campground
- Coal Creek Campground
- Bear Track Campground

LAKESIDE RANGER DISTRICT

- Los Burros Campground
- Lewis Canyon Campground

SPRINGERVILLE RANGER DISTRICT

- Rainbow Campground
- Cutthroat Campground
- Brook Char Campground
- Grayling Campground
- Apache Trout Campground
- Winn Group Campground
- Winn Campground
- Rolfe C. Hoyer Campground
- Benny Creek Campground

EXHIBIT C

STAGE 1 FIRE RESTRICTIONS

DEFINITIONS

DESIGNATED AREA: Developed recreation sites such as campgrounds and picnic areas that are maintained and administered by the Forest Service, shown on the current Forest visitor maps, and are equipped with permanent fire structures.

<u>FIRE STRUCTURE</u>: A permanent metal or concrete structure, which is specifically designed for the purpose of containing a campfire or cooking fire that has been installed and maintained by the Forest Service or equivalent.

For further definitions or clarification of definitions, refer to 36 C.F.R. § 261.2



Forest Service U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Stage 1 Fire Restrictions

Exhibit: A

