



**Pike & San Isabel National Forests  
Cimarron & Comanche National Grasslands**

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# News Release

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## **FIRE RESTRICTIONS BEGIN FOR THE PIKE NATIONAL FOREST**

**PUEBLO, Colo., July 12, 2017...**Beginning immediately, Stage 1 fire and smoking restrictions are in place on public lands managed by the U.S. Forest Service (USFS), Pike National Forest located in Clear Creek, Douglas, El Paso, Jefferson, Park, and Teller Counties, Colorado. Restrictions will remain in effect until they are rescinded.

Fire danger is very high and unless the U.S. Forest Service sees a change in the weather patterns, we will experience a high potential for large fires.

### **FIRE RESTRICTIONS**

- 1) Building, maintaining, attending, or using a fire, campfire, barbecue, grill or stove fire. 36 CFR § 261.52(a).

**EXCEPT:** Building, maintaining, attending or using a fire in constructed, permanent fire pits or fire grates within developed recreation sites and the use of portable stoves, lanterns using gas, jellied petroleum, pressurized liquid fuel or a fully enclosed (shepherd type) stove with a ¼" spark arrester type screen is permitted.

- 2) Smoking, except in 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 materials. 36 CFR § 261.52(d).
- 3) Operating a chainsaw without a USDA or SAE approved spark arrester properly installed and in effective working order, a chemical pressurized fire extinguisher with a minimum rating of 2A kept with the operator and one round point shovel with an overall length of at least 35 inches readily available for use. 36 CFR § 261.52(h).
- 4) Welding or operating acetylene or other torch with open flame except in cleared areas of at least 10 feet in diameter and in possession of a chemical pressurized fire extinguisher with a minimum rating of at least 2A. 36 CFR § 261.52(i).

5) Using an explosive. 36 CFR § 261.52 (b).

Even with the restrictions, visitors should be aware of weather conditions and be careful with the use of fire outdoors. Visitors should check with their local U.S. Forest Service office or go to the web at: <http://www.fs.usda.gov/psicc/> Fire Information to learn about specific restrictions.

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