



# BLM News Release

**For Immediate Release: June 15, 2011**  
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## *BLM to initiate Stage 2 fire restrictions*

**CAÑON CITY, Colo.** – The Bureau of Land Management Royal Gorge Field Office will initiate Stage 2 fire restrictions tomorrow morning for BLM lands within counties along the Front Range and in southeaster Colo. These restrictions will remain in effect until rescinded.

“Areas from the low to mid-elevations along the Front Range and throughout southeastern Colo. continue to experience very high fire danger levels due to prolonged high temperatures and windy conditions. In light of current fast-spreading wildfire activity and the potential for new wildfire starts, Stage 2 fire restrictions will be necessary. Your cooperation with these restrictions is sincerely appreciated,” said Keith Berger, field manager.

The restrictions affect BLM lands within the following counties: Custer, Chaffee, El Paso, Fremont, Huerfano, Las Animas, Park, Pueblo, Teller, Baca, Bent, Crowley, Kiowa, Otero and Prowers counties. Please be sure to check with the local county sheriff’s department regarding any additional restrictions that the county may have implemented.

### **Restrictions include:**

- Building, maintaining, attending or using a fire, campfire or open fire of any type. This includes, but is not limited to, charcoal grills, hibachis, and coal or wood burning stoves.
- Possessing, discharging or using any type of fireworks.
- Smoking is only permitted in an enclosed vehicle or building.
- Welding or operating acetylene or any torch which produces an open flame capable of igniting flammable material.
- Operating an internal combustion engine without a spark arresting device approved by either USDA Standard 5100-1a or the Society of Automotive Engineers.
- Operating a chainsaw without a chemical pressurized fire extinguisher, at least eight ounces capacity by weight, and a shovel at least three feet in length. The extinguisher must be with the chainsaw operator.

**What’s allowed:** Cooking stoves and other appliances fueled by liquid petroleum or bottled fuels that are equipped with a valve, which allows the operator to turn the flame on or off.

The full text of the Order for the Royal Gorge Field Office is posted at [www.blm.gov/co/st/en/fo/rgfo.html](http://www.blm.gov/co/st/en/fo/rgfo.html).

For more information contact the Royal Gorge Field Office at 719-269-8500.