

Order Number CAD-000-2017-03  
Fire Prevention Orders  
Bureau of Land Management  
California Desert District

It is the policy of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) to take all necessary actions to protect human life, the public lands, and resources and improvements thereon through the prevention of wildfires. Wherever possible, the BLM will comply with **Title 43 Code of Federal Regulations, Section 9212.2**, requiring the BLM to establish fire prevention orders to assist with wildland fire prevention efforts throughout the geographical area. This geographical area consists of public lands within the California Desert District (CDD) in Inyo, Imperial, Kern, Mono, Los Angeles, San Bernardino, San Diego and Riverside counties.

Under the authority of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (**43 U.S.C. 1701 et. Seq.**) and pursuant to **43 CFR §9212.2**, the following fire prevention orders are issued:

As of October 5, 2017, all BLM-managed public lands listed below within the California Desert District shall be under Stage I restrictions:

- All public lands in Mono, Inyo and Imperial counties.
- All public lands in Kern County north of California Highway 58.
- All public lands in San Bernardino County managed by the Barstow and Needles Field Offices.

As of October 5, 2017, all BLM-managed public lands listed below within the California Desert District shall be under Stage II restrictions:

- All public lands in Riverside County east of California Highway 62.

As of October 5, 2017, all BLM-managed public lands listed below within the California Desert District shall be under Stage III restrictions and will continue until enough moisture has been received in the winter to significantly reduce the fire threat:

- All public lands in San Diego, Orange and Los Angeles counties.
- All public lands in Kern County, south of California Highway 58.
- All public lands in Riverside County, west of California Highway 62.
- All public lands in San Bernardino County, managed by the Palm Springs Field Office.

**Seasonal Fire Restrictions**

Stage Restriction definitions:

1. Stage I Restrictions – Campfires, barbecues and gas stoves are allowed with a valid California Campfire Permit. Smoking is also allowed on such lands.
2. Stage II Restrictions – Setting, building, maintaining, attending, or using open fire of any kind is prohibited, except for campfires within approved fire pits and grills within developed

recreation sites. Controlled flame devices such as portable stoves and lanterns with *shut-off* valves, using gas, jellied petroleum, or pressurized liquid fuel are allowed. A valid California Campfire Permit is required. Smoking is only permitted within an area that is clear of any vegetation for a minimum of 5 feet in all directions.

3. Stage III Restrictions – Setting, building, maintaining, attending, or using open fire of any kind is prohibited. Controlled flame devices such as portable stoves and lanterns with *shut-off* valves, using gas, jellied petroleum, or pressurized liquid fuel are allowed with a valid California Campfire Permit. Smoking is only permitted within enclosed vehicles or camp trailers.

*Note: Please check with local field offices for additional area restrictions.*

### **Exemptions**

Pursuant to **Title 43, CFR §9212.2**, the following persons are exempt from this order:

- a. Persons with a valid permit from the BLM or contract with the BLM that specifically authorizes the otherwise prohibited act.
- b. Any Federal, State, or local officer, or member of an organized rescue or fire fighting force in the performance of an official duty.

**Title 43 CFR §9212.4** provides that any person who knowingly and willfully violates the regulations of 9212.1 of this title shall upon conviction, be subject to a fine of not more than \$1,000, or to imprisonment of not more than 12 months or both. These prohibitions are in addition to the general prohibitions in **Title 43 CFR §9212.1**.

### **Year-round Fire Restrictions**

The following restrictions shall apply to all public lands within the California Desert District regardless of stage restrictions and are applicable year round. These prohibitions are in addition to the general prohibitions in **Title 43 CFR §9212.1**. They include:

### **Fireworks, Ammunition and Targets**

Prohibited acts:

1. The possession or use of all fireworks, including “safe and sane,” on all public lands of the California Desert District.
2. The possession or use of any steel jacketed, steel core, or armor-piercing ammunition of any caliber. This would include handgun, rifle, and shotgun ammunition.
3. The possession or use of any tracer and/or incendiary ammunition of any caliber.
4. The possession or use of any explosive or incendiary device, including chemical devices.
5. The possession or use of any pyrotechnic device not listed under numbers 2-4 directly above. This includes, but is not limited to, such devices as exploding or chemically reactive targets, or items that are detonated when struck by a projectile such as a bullet from a firearm.

6. The use of Chinese lanterns, floating sky lanterns, fire balloons, or acetylene balloons.
7. During the issuance of Red Flag Warnings and Fire Weather Watches, as determined by the National Weather Service (NWS), all recreational shooting and use of campfires, regardless of stage restrictions, will be temporarily suspended to reduce the potential of unintended wildland fire ignitions for the period of the event.

***Pyrotechnic device:*** Means any device manufactured or used to produce a visible or audible effect by combustion, deflagration, or detonation.

***Explosive, chemical, or incendiary device:*** Includes, but is not limited, to an incendiary bomb, grenade, fire bomb, chemical bomb, or similar device, which consists of or includes a breakable or non-breakable container including a flammable liquid or compound, or any breakable container which consists of, or includes a chemical mixture that explodes with fire or force and can be carried, thrown, placed, or shot with a firearm.

***Chinese lantern:*** A decorative collapsible lantern of thin, brightly colored paper, that once a heat source is ignited, is intended to slowly float away like a hot air balloon.

***Steel Jacketed:*** Having a steel ferrous jacket over a non-ferrous soft metal core of the bullet.

***Steel Core:*** The core or center of the bullet is steel or other ferrous metal composition.

***Tracer:*** A bullet that contains a chemical tracer and leaves a path of light, smoke, or fire.

**It is recommended that all target shooters carry a fire extinguisher and/or shovel in the event of an unintentional fire start.**

### **Burning**

No person shall burn, ignite, or cause to burn any tire, petroleum product, wires, magnesium, waste, or any other hazardous or explosive materials.

### **Spark Arresters**

All off-road vehicles being operated on public lands must be equipped with a properly installed spark arrester pursuant to **43 CFR §8343.1(c)** and California Vehicle Code 38366(a). The spark arrester must meet either the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service standard 5100-1a, or the 80 percent efficiency level standard determined by the Society of Automotive Engineers (SAEs) recommended practices J335 or J350.

### **Permits**

Campfire permits are required on all BLM-managed public lands year round and may be obtained, free of charge, at any local field office, fire, or law enforcement patrol personnel, or at any BLM fire station. Campfire permits can also be found online at [www.preventwildfireca.org/Permits](http://www.preventwildfireca.org/Permits). Permits are required during stage I, II, and III restrictions. Campfire permits will only be issued for controlled flame devices, such as portable stoves fueled by petroleum, or liquid petroleum gas (LPG) products that are permitted during Stage III Restrictions. See above for permit requirements.

For information regarding the restrictions, call the nearest BLM field office from Monday to Friday, 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM.

California Desert District	(951) 697-5200
Ridgecrest	(760) 384-5400
Barstow	(760) 252-6000
Needles	(760) 326-7000
Palm Springs	(760) 833-7100
El Centro	(760) 337-4400

Map of current restrictions available at:

[www.arcgis.com/apps/View/index.html?appid=a330d77fe184408ab7c3b9a8035c37fb](http://www.arcgis.com/apps/View/index.html?appid=a330d77fe184408ab7c3b9a8035c37fb)

It is the responsibility of the public to understand the Fire Prevention Orders. They are available online at [www.blm.gov/programs/public-safety-and-fire/fire-and-aviation/regional-info/california/fire-restrictions](http://www.blm.gov/programs/public-safety-and-fire/fire-and-aviation/regional-info/california/fire-restrictions). Fire weather forecasts are available through the National Weather Service at [www.srh.noaa.gov/ridge2/fire](http://www.srh.noaa.gov/ridge2/fire).



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