



## FACT SHEET

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### SIERRA FRONT FIELD OFFICE

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### Dispersed Camping on Public Lands

#### Where can I camp?

Camping on public lands away from developed recreation facilities is referred to as dispersed camping. Most public lands in the Sierra Front Field Office are open to dispersed camping, if it does not conflict with other authorized uses or in areas posted "closed to camping." Please use existing sites to avoid creating new disturbances. To further protect your public lands, campers must not dispose of any refuse, hazardous materials, sewage, or in any manner pollute the surrounding area. Dispersed campers are asked to follow the "Leave No Trace" land use ethics, which can be found at <https://lnt.org/why/7-principles>

#### Are any areas closed to camping?

Due to resource damage and public health and safety concerns caused by continual, concentrated use of specific areas, a portion of the Sierra Front Field Office is closed to camping. You can find an updated map of areas closed to camping at <https://www.blm.gov/office/carson-city-district-office>

#### How long can I camp?

In areas open for dispersed camping, a person may occupy undeveloped public lands or designated sites or areas for up to 14 days within a 28 consecutive day period. Following the 14 days, a person and their personal property must relocate to a site outside of at least a 25-mile radius from the occupied site for a period of 14 days.

#### Can I have a campfire?

Before each visit check with the local BLM office for current campfire restrictions, regulations, and campfire and camp stove permit requirements. Regulations governing campfires are specific to each area and change with elevation, weather, and seasons. **If you build a campfire remember to:**

- Ensure campfire is at least 5 feet away from existing vegetation; remove any burnable material within a 5-foot minimum radius in all directions.
- Build campfires away from overhanging branches, steep slopes, rotten stumps or logs, meadows, dry grass, and leaves.
- Reuse existing fire rings or use a fire pan to contain coals and minimize fire scars.
- Keep the fire small.
- Never leave a fire unattended; even a small breeze could quickly cause the fire to spread.
- Do not use a campfire to burn foil, plastic, or other trash; pack it out.
- Drown your fire with water to extinguish it. Thoroughly stir the mix to cool it off, then using the back side of your bare hand, slowly move hand closer to fire pit to detect heat from sticks, charred materials, coals, and ashes to make sure the fire is completely out. Remove any trash, foil, etc. from ashes and pack out.