# Fire Prevention Order: Mother Lode Field Office

CND-170-23-05

Due to dry conditions and high fire danger, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Mother Lode Field Office is prohibiting the following acts under the authority of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA) of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1701, *et seq.*) and pursuant to 43 C.F.R. §9212.2, the following acts are prohibited on BLM-managed public lands, areas, roads, waterways, and trails in the Mother Lode Field Office, starting June 28, 2023 and until rescinded by the Mother Lode Field Manager. This order is in addition to and includes acts already prohibited year-round under 43 C.F.R. § 9212.1, BLM-California Fire Order CA910-2020-001, and/or certain California state laws.

In the interest of wildfire prevention, public safety, and in compliance with 43 C.F.R. §9212.2, these BLM actions complement and support state and local wildfire prevention laws and regulations, which apply to all BLM-managed lands within California.

## Acts prohibited and defined under this order:

## Campfire/Cooking fire

- Building, attending, maintaining, or using a campfire or open flame of any kind is prohibited, except campfires within approved fire pits and grills already provided in developed recreation sites (such as developed campgrounds) with a valid California campfire permit;
- 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 State of California campfire permit.

State of California campfire permits are available for free at all BLM, USFS and CAL FIRE offices or at <a href="https://www.readyforwildfire.org/prevent-wildfire/campfire-safety/">https://www.readyforwildfire.org/prevent-wildfire/campfire-safety/</a>

# **Smoking**

• Smoking is prohibited, except within an enclosed vehicle or camp trailer, or while in a designated developed campground with a three-foot diameter area barren or cleared of all flammable materials and away from federal facility doors, windows and air ducts. State or local laws apply.

#### **Internal Combustion Engine**

• Operating or using any internal combustion engine (e.g., chainsaws, generators, portable tools, OHVs) off BLM-designated roads and trails is prohibited. All internal combustion engines, with the exception of registered street legal vehicles, must be equipped with a properly functioning and maintained spark arresting device.

## **Welding & Acetylene Device**

• The possession or operating of any welding, acetylene device or other open flame torch that uses oxygen and fuel gases to weld and cut steel or metallic components is prohibited. Welding and torch definitions and direction pursuant to 43 CFR §912.2, U.S. Department of Labor Occupational Safety and Health Administration 1910.252(a).

## **Firearms**

• All recreational target shooting is temporary prohibited under this order. Visit www.wheretoshoot.org for alternative recreational target shooting locations. See hunting exception below.

#### **Exemptions**

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

- Persons with a permit, contract or letter of authorization from the appropriate BLM District or Field Office specifically authorizing the above prohibited act or omission within that specific management area.
- Any Federal, State, or local officer or member of an organized rescue or fire fighting force in the performance of their official duty.
- Persons with a valid State of California hunting license actively engaged in the legal take/pursuit of Game/Non-Game species in accordance with the current California hunting regulations.

# **Red Flag Warnings**

During the issuance of Red Flag Warnings and Fire Weather Watches, as determined by the National Weather Service (NWS), all use of campfires is temporarily suspended to reduce the potential of unintended wildland fire ignitions for the period of the event.

#### **Duration of this Order**

This order begins on June 27 at 12:01 A.M. and ends when rescinded by the Mother Lode Field Manager unless terminated sooner.

#### **Penalties for violating this order:**

Anyone who is found guilty of violating a fire prevention order, which may be classified as a Class A Misdemeanor Offense under 43 USC 1733(a) FLPMA, 18 USC 3559, and 18 USC 3571 Sentence of Fine - Sentencing Reform Act, Oct. 12, 1984, that does not result in death, may be fined not more than \$100,000 and/or imprisonment for not more than 12 months, or in accordance with the applicable provisions of 18 USC 3571. Restitution for total fire suppression and damage costs incurred may be borne by the trespasser.

## **Additional Information**

- A map of current restrictions and active fire prevention orders are available online at: https://go.usa.gov/xmUEG.
- Fire weather forecasts are available through the National Weather Service at, <a href="https://www.weather.gov/fire/">https://www.weather.gov/fire/</a>
- For information regarding the restrictions, call the Mother Lode Field Office Monday to Friday 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM. 916-841-3101.

Issued in Mother Lode, California on June 22, 2023, and will begin on June 28, 2023.



Jeff Horn

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