



BLM News Release

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BLM initiates Stage 1 fire restrictions

CAÑON CITY, Colo. – The Bureau of Land Management Royal Gorge Field Office initiated Stage 1 fire restrictions this morning for BLM lands within Custer, Chaffee, El Paso, Fremont, Huerfano, Las Animas, Park, Pueblo and Teller counties.

“Prolonged higher than normal temperatures and strong winds have created high fire danger levels in counties east of the Continental Divide and until we see a change in the weather patterns, Stage 1 fire restrictions will be necessary,” said Keith Berger, field manager. “We appreciate the public’s cooperation to abide by these restrictions while recreating on public lands.”

Restrictions: Building, maintaining, attending or using a fire, campfire or open fire of any type in undeveloped areas is prohibited. This includes, but is not limited to, charcoal grills, hibachis, and coal or wood burning stoves. All fireworks activity and use is also restricted.

Smoking is only permitted 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.

What’s allowed: Campfires are allowed in developed campgrounds and picnic grounds, and only in agency-provided manufactured fire grates and grills. The order allows 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.

Stage 1 restrictions initiated in April for BLM lands within southeastern Colo. Counties of Baca, Bent, Crowley, Kiowa, Otero and Prowers remain in effect.

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

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

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