

## **Frequently Asked Questions and Answers for Stage I Fire Restrictions**

### **General:**

#### **What lands are covered under the restrictions?**

Lands covered under the restriction include Federal, State, Tribal and private lands (outside of city limits and incorporated areas), which lie within the restriction area boundary. (See Map)

#### **What are the penalties or fines for violating a restriction order?**

The maximum penalty for violating a fire restriction order may differ depending on the enforcement agency:

Forest Service: The maximum penalty for violating a restriction order is \$5,000 for individuals and \$10,000 for corporations and/or 6 months imprisonment. The maximum penalty would be imposed by the Federal Magistrate following a court appearance.

If violating a fire restriction order results in a wildfire, the violator will also be liable for any and all suppression costs resulting from the wildfire and damage to property and resources. Criminal charges may also be imposed.

#### **Are the public lands closed due to the fire restrictions?**

No, your public lands remain open for use. However, in the event of a fire, there may be temporary road or area closures associated with the incident in order to provide for public and firefighter safety.

## **Campfires:**

### **Under Stage 1 fire restrictions where can I have a campfire?**

Campfires are allowed in developed recreation sites with owner provided fire structures. Owner provided fire structures relate to the owner of the land, so personally owned charcoal grills, fire pans, wood or charcoal fueled “sheep herder” stoves etc. **are restricted** when we are in stage 1 fire restrictions.

### **What is a developed recreation site?**

A developed recreation site is an area that has been improved or developed for recreation. A developed recreation site is signed as a privately owned commercial campground, tribal or agency owned campground or picnic area. For specific locations, see “Forest Service and BLM Approved Campground” list located on the Internet at [www.idahofireinfo.blm.gov/east/](http://www.idahofireinfo.blm.gov/east/) and click on “fire information” then "fire restrictions".

### **I have a privately owned summer home on land leased to me by a federal agency, am I restricted from having a campfire at my summer home?**

Yes, your summer home lease probably is included in the restriction because your leased lot is not a designated recreation area under the definition listed above. It is not signed as a commercial campground or picnic area and the owner of the land (federal) in all likelihood did not provide your fire structure.

### **I have a privately owned cabin on private land. Can I have a campfire on my own land?**

If your privately owned land is outside of a city limit or incorporated area you are restricted from having a campfire under state statutes. These types of lands do not meet the definition of a developed recreation site.

### **I am an outfitter/guide/contractor who has a permit or contract to conduct business on federal, state and/or tribal lands. Am I exempt from these restrictions?**

No, your activities are restricted the same as the general public unless you have a written permit signed by the appropriate agency official granting a specific exemption from the prohibited activity.

## **Stove Fires:**

### **Under Stage 1 Fire Restrictions, are stoves allowed and if so what kind?**

Any stove fueled solely by liquid petroleum (i.e. gas, white gas fuel etc.) or liquid petroleum gas (LPG) (i.e. propane, etc.) fuel is OK under both stage 1 and stage 2. Stoves fueled by wood that are not being used in a building or vehicle are prohibited under both stage 1 and stage 2.

### **Why can't I use my "shepherd" stove in my wall tent, it has a spark arrestor and is fully enclosed?**

Sheep herder stoves are prohibited in wall tents because they are not being used in a building or vehicle and since they burn wood or charcoal are considered the same as a campfire. They are also usually not used in developed recreation sites, and even if they are, the stoves are not considered owner provided fire structures. There is potential for these stoves to cause wildfires both while in use and when users discard the ashes.

### **Why are portable charcoal grills restricted?**

Charcoal is OK to use under Stage 1 Fire Restrictions in developed recreation sites in owner provided fire structures. This is because the owner provided structure is generally permanently mounted in a fixed position and cannot be easily tipped over. Charcoal grills can easily cause wildfires because they tend to hold heat for a relatively long period of time and users usually discard the ashes. Portable charcoal grills can also easily be tipped over and can produce blowing embers which can easily ignite a wildfire during extreme fire conditions.

### **Why are LPG and liquid fueled stoves OK?**

Using liquid or gas fuel helps reduce the likelihood that individuals might discard or leave ashes or hot charcoal briquettes before they are completely extinguished. These types of stoves also do not produce blowing embers further reducing the wildfire potential.

### **Can I use my Dutch oven?**

Dutch Ovens in and of themselves are not restricted. They can be used anywhere at anytime utilizing stoves fueled by liquid petroleum or liquid petroleum gas. During Stage 1 fire restrictions they may be used with wood or charcoal as a heat source in developed recreation sites in owner provided fire structures only.

## **Motorized vehicles:**

### **Are there any restrictions on motorized vehicles?**

Under Stage 1 fire restrictions, motorized vehicle use is not restricted due to wildfire issues. Visitors are reminded however to consult agency travel plan maps because there are identified roads and trails that are closed to motorized travel either seasonally or year round. Some agencies also may have restrictions which require users to stay on designated roads and trails year round regardless of whether there is fire restriction in place or not.

During the period between May 10<sup>th</sup> and October 20<sup>th</sup> regardless of whether there is a fire restriction in place, all internal combustion engines must be equipped with properly installed, maintained and effectively working spark arrestors. Additionally, all operators of motorcycles, trail bikes and all terrain vehicles and similar type motorized vehicles are required to carry one serviceable shovel and one (1 gallon minimum) water container.

### **Are there any restrictions on the use of chainsaws or generators?**

Under Stage 1 fire restrictions there are no restrictions on the use of chainsaws or generators which are related to wildfire issues. However, users are reminded that personal use and/or commercial use firewood gathering permits are still required and many federal and state land agencies have identified designated areas where these activities are allowed and other areas where wood gathering is prohibited. Generators are not restricted.

During the period between May 10<sup>th</sup> and October 20<sup>th</sup> regardless of whether there is a fire restriction in place, all internal combustion engines must be equipped with properly installed, maintained and effectively working spark arrestors.

## **SMOKING:**

### **What are the restrictions on smoking?**

Under Stage 1 fire restrictions, smoking is not allowed except within an enclosed vehicle or building, a developed recreation site or while stopped in an area at least 3 feet in diameter that is barren or cleared of all flammable materials.

## **FIREWORKS:**

### **Where are fireworks allowed?**

Fireworks are always illegal on all federal and state lands. Even possession of fireworks is illegal on these lands. Prior to igniting fireworks on privately owned lands, consult

your local fire department since this activity may be illegal under city and/or county ordinances.