



**Pike & San Isabel National Forests
Cimarron & Comanche National Grasslands**

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News Release

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LEADVILLE RANGER DISTRICT BEGINS STAGE 1 FIRE RESTRICTIONS

PUEBLO, Colo., June 13, 2018 – As of June 13, 2018 Stage 1 Fire and Smoking Restrictions were placed on public lands managed by the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) located on the Leadville, Ranger District of the Pike and San Isabel National Forests, Cimarron and Comanche National Grasslands (PSICC).

Fire danger is very high across sections of the PSICC. This area will experience a high potential for large fires unless the U.S. Forest Service sees a significant change in the weather patterns.

The Order will be in effect until December 31, 2018 or, until rescinded.

SUMMARY for FIRE AND SMOKING RESTRICTIONS

The following acts are prohibited on U.S. Forest Service lands managed under Pike and San Isabel National Forests for a Stage 1 Fire Restriction Order located on the Pikes Peak, South Park, South Platte and Leadville Ranger Districts within Chaffee, Clear Creek, Douglas, El Paso, Jefferson, Lake, Park, and Teller Counties in Colorado. (See website for detailed maps <https://www.fs.usda.gov/psicc>):

1. Building, maintaining, attending or using a fire, campfire, or stove fire. (This prohibition includes, but is not limited to, charcoal grills, hibachis, and coal or wood-burning stoves.)

EXCEPTIONS: Campfires are permitted in U.S. Forest Service-developed campgrounds and picnic grounds, and only in U.S. Forest Service-provided, manufactured fire grates and grills. Petroleum fueled stoves, lanterns, or heating devices are allowed on all National Forest System lands, provided such devices meet the Underwriters Laboratories specifications for safety.

2. Smoking, except within an enclosed vehicle or building, in a developed recreation site or while stopped in an area at least 3 (three) feet in diameter that is barren or cleared of all flammable material.

Actions Permitted:

1. Persons with a U.S. Forest Service permit specifically authorizing the otherwise prohibited act or omission.
2. Resident owners, lessees of land, and holders of U.S. Forest Service recreational use authorizations, within the restricted area are exempt from Prohibition 1 (one) above, provided such fires are within a permanent structure.
3. Any Federal, state, or local officer, or member of an organized rescue or firefighting force in the performance of an official duty.

Even with the restrictions, visitors should be aware of weather conditions and be careful with the use of fire outdoors. Visitors should check with their local U.S. Forest Service office or go to the web to learn about specific restrictions.

Fire Safety Message

- Know before you go - understand and follow all fire bans, restrictions and closures. Visit www.coemerency.com for current fire restrictions across the State of Colorado

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