

Carson National Forest

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News

Carson National Forest Goes to Stage I Fire Restrictions

Taos, N.M., June 7, 2012 - Several forests in the Southwest are experiencing multiple wildfire starts as the winds, warm temperatures and dry conditions continue. Although the east side of the Carson National Forest has received more rainfall than other areas, rain has been spotty. These high-fire-danger conditions have prompted the Carson National Forest to implement Stage I Fire Restrictions effective at 8:00 a.m., Friday, June 8, 2012.

Stage I fire restrictions prohibit the following:

1. Building, maintaining, attending or using a fire, campfire, wood or charcoal burning stove fire, except within a developed recreation site or grills provided by the Forest Service.
2. Smoking, except within 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 material.
3. Possessing, discharging or using any kind of fire work or other pyrotechnic device.

White gas (Coleman fuel) and propane stoves, lanterns or heating devices are permitted anywhere in the forest provided such devices meet UL safety specifications.

Violation of these prohibitions is punishable by a fine of not more than \$5,000 for individuals and \$10,000 for organizations, imprisonment for not more than six months, or both.

The public can still visit, hike, and camp on the Carson National Forest provided they observe all Stage I Restrictions. As these high-fire danger levels persist, campers should ensure campfire safety by making sure your fire is cold to the touch, or dead out.

For more information call 1-877-864-6985 or visit www.fs.fed.us/r3/carson or www.nmfireinfo.com for all State and Federal recreation sites in New Mexico.