



# News Release

## U.S. Forest Service

Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre & Gunnison National Forests  
2250 S. Main St.  
Delta, CO 81416  
(970) 874-6600  
[www.fs.usda.gov/gmug](http://www.fs.usda.gov/gmug)



**Media Contacts:**  
Kimberlee Phillips  
(970) 874-6717  
[kjphillips@fs.fed.us](mailto:kjphillips@fs.fed.us)  
Dylan Peters  
(970) 874-6625  
[dylanpeters@fs.fed.us](mailto:dylanpeters@fs.fed.us)



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### Grand Mesa National Forest to Implement Stage 1 Restrictions

**Grand Junction, Colorado, June 29, 2018** – At 12:01 am on Monday, July 2, 2018, Stage 1 Fire Restrictions will be implemented on the Grand Mesa National Forest.

Fire managers base decisions about fire restrictions on specific fuel moisture measurements in vegetation and other risk factors such as predicted weather and amount of current fire activity. Fire danger is increasing and these restrictions will be implemented to protect public health and safety due to the current and anticipated elevated risk of wildfire. Fire restrictions on these lands will be in place until further notice.

Stage 1 Fire Restrictions on the Grand Mesa National Forest means that the following are **PROHIBITED**:

**FIRES, CAMPFIRES, OR STOVE FIRES**, including, but not limited to, **CHARCOAL GRILLS**, hibachis, and coal or wood-burning stoves.

Exceptions allowed:

- Campfires in Forest Service-provided, manufactured fire grates and grills within Forest Service developed campgrounds and picnic grounds.
- Petroleum fueled stoves or lanterns that use gas, jellied petroleum, or pressurized liquid fuel.
- Fully enclosed (shepherd type) stove with a ¼” spark arrester type screen.

**SMOKING**, except within an enclosed vehicle or building, or 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 materials.

**CHAINSAWS** without a Forest Service or SAE approved spark arrester. Operators must be in possession of a chemical pressurized fire extinguisher with a minimum rating of 2A and a round-pointed shovel with an overall length of at least 35 inches.

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**WELDING** or operating acetylene or other torch with open flame, except in cleared areas of at least 10 feet in diameter and in possession of a chemical pressurized fire extinguisher with a minimum rating of 2A.

**EXPLOSIVES**, including fireworks, tracer bullets, and exploding targets.

For up to date Grand Mesa National Forest fire restriction information please contact the Grand Valley Ranger District 970-242-8211

For more information on prescribed burns, wildfires and fire restrictions on National Forest System lands please call our Fire Information line at 970-874-6602 or visit our website:  
<http://bit.ly/GMUGFireRestrictions>

For more fire-related information on Colorado's Western Slope please visit:  
<http://www.WestSlopeFireInfo.com/>

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*The Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre & Gunnison National Forests manage approximately 3 million acres of land in Southwest Colorado within Delta, Garfield, Gunnison, Hinsdale, Mesa, Montrose, Ouray, Saguache, San Juan and San Miguel counties.*

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