



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



Media Contacts:

Kimberlee Phillips
(970) 874-6717

kjphillips@fs.fed.us

Dylan Peters
(970) 874-6625

dylanpeters@fs.fed.us



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Uncompahgre Plateau and Grand Mesa Transition Back to Stage 1 Fire Restrictions

Delta, Colorado, August 17, 2018 – Beginning at 12:01 p.m. on Friday, August 17, 2018 the Plateau Division, north of Highways 62, 141 and 145, of the Uncompahgre National Forest, and the Grand Mesa National Forest, including the Fruita Division will transition back to Stage 1 Fire Restrictions. 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. The present state of the Bull Draw Fire indicate that current conditions on the plateau represent a high-level of fire danger. These restrictions will remain in place until further notice.

Stage 1 Fire Restrictions 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.

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.

-USDA-

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer and lender.

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

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/>

####

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.

-USDA-

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer and lender.