

Custer County Government
 Public Information Office
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Tuesday, August 1, 2023 - Small fire (few trees in rock croppings) located NE of CR 255 near mm 7 (Oak Creek Grade) on Bureau of Land Management (BLM) forest lands in Custer County. Wet Mountain Fire Protection District (WMFPD) and the Rocky Mountain BLM District have responded. BLM hand crews on scene. WMFPD stood ready with a water tanker truck at the electrical sub-station on CR 255. Chief Coleman reported the fire is under control and smoldering.

Reminder - BLM Forest Land and Custer County are in a Stage 1 Fire Ban. For additional information regarding Stage 1 Fire Restrictions, visit <https://wetmountainfire.com/> and <https://www.blm.gov/office/rocky-mountain-district> for additional information regarding Fire Restrictions.

Custer County Fire Restrictions	Stage 1	Stage 2	Stage 3	Red Flag Days
Campfires	No	No	No	No
Campfire in developed areas (designated fire rings)	Yes*	No	No	No
Trash Barrel	No	No	No	No
Open Fire in undeveloped area	No	No	No	No
Open fire in developed area	Yes	No	No	No
Agricultural Burn	Yes*	Yes*	Yes*	No
Slash Burn	No	No	No	No
In-door stoves (wood, coal, pellet) with NFPA spark arrestor	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Welding, grinding, use of torches without water supply/fire extinguisher, and a spotter.	No	No	No	No
Welding, grinding, use of torches with water supply/fire extinguisher, and a spotter.	Yes**	Yes**	Yes**	Yes**
Charcoal Grill	No	No	No	No
Propane grill/fire and pellet grill in developed area with water	Yes**	Yes**	Yes**	Yes**
Smoking inside a vehicle, building, or outside on a hard surfaced area free of flammables	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Smoking outside of a vehicle, building, or off of a hard surfaced area free of flammables	No	No	No	No
Operating any outdoor equipment or machinery with an internal combustion engines (ATVs, UTVs, Chainsaws, etc.) in undeveloped areas UNLESS equipment has a working spark arrestor.	No	No	No	No

*Allowed, but not advised.

**Use with greater discretion

Open Fire— Any outdoor fire, including, but not limited to, bonfires, campfires, warning fires, charcoal grill fires, fires in wood-burning stoves, the use of explosives, outdoor welding, or operating acetylene or other torch with open flame other than in an area cleared of flammable materials, fireworks, of all kinds of brands, burn barrels, the outdoor burning of trash and debris. No permit is required for open fires of these types

Open Burning— The intentional ignition of unwanted fuels, in place or collected, for the purpose of eliminating those fuels based on methods defined in the Open Burn Plan and permit process.

Agricultural Open Burning— The burning of cover vegetation for the purpose of preparing the soil for crop production, weed control, maintenance of water conveyance structures related to agricultural operations, and other agricultural cultivation purposes. The open burning of animal parts or carcasses is NOT agricultural open burning, nor is the open burning of household trash, wood, and yard debris on agricultural land.

Developed Area— a camping location (site) with a designated fixed/permanent structure such as a metal fire ring with grate for campfires and cooking or totally contained within a fireproof container. Also a maintained cleared space around it away from tents vehicles and parking areas.

Red Flag—No person shall initiate or continue an open fire in all areas of Custer County on a day identified by the National Weather Service as a "Red Flag Warning" period. Stage II restrictions shall be in place during Red Flag Periods.

***Rules/Regulations in the San Isabel National Forest, on the Bureau of Land Management, and in the Fremont County inclusion area may differ. ***

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