

NEWS RELEASE



USDA Forest Service Plumas National Forest

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News Release #08-36
June 20, 2008

Woodcutting & Fire Restrictions Effective June 24th

Woodcutting and fire restrictions will go into effect on June 24th on and around the Plumas National Forest (public land). Until the weather pattern changes to a cooling trend, usually later in the fall, these restrictions will remain in place. “All positive impacts from the last rainstorms are gone and we are in an almost unprecedented dry condition early in the season,” said Allan Setzer, Fire Management Officer. He asked that forest users keep a look-out for unattended fires as numerous abandoned campfires outside of designated areas have been discovered in the last two weeks. Setzer noted that further forest closures might be necessary if conditions worsened.

1) Woodcutting on the Plumas National Forest (public land)

Woodcutting restrictions will also go into effect on all of the Plumas National Forest after 1:00 pm (hoot-owl). Hot dry weather is expected to continue through summer and early fall resulting in increased fire danger. As the fire danger increases, woodcutting may be shut down across the Forest. Woodcutters are urged to cut firewood now while the Forest is still open.

2) Fire Restrictions on the Plumas National Forest (public land)

- No open fires, campfires or charcoal fires will be allowed outside of designated areas (see attached list) EVEN with a valid California Campfire Permit. However, lanterns and portable stoves using gas, jellied petroleum or pressurized liquid fuel are not restricted as long as the forest visitor has a valid California Campfire Permit. A list of designated areas is available at all Forest Service offices and on the internet at: <http://www.fs.fed.us/r5/plumas>.
- No smoking, except within an enclosed vehicle, building, or designated recreation site.
- Internal combustion engines are restricted to National Forest system roads, routes, trails, and areas as identified in the forest closure order effective December 1, 2007, <http://www.fs.fed.us/r5/plumas/projects/ohv/>. If fire danger worsens, additional road closures may be

necessary. Cross-country travel between roads, routes, trails, and areas is prohibited. Trail riders are urged to be careful.

Exemptions to these restrictions include persons who have a permit, contract, or Forest Service approved plans of operations specifically authorizing the otherwise prohibited act and any Federal, State, local officer, or member of an organized rescue or fire fighting force in the performance of an official duty. Other exemptions such as dredging may also apply. Contact local Forest Service offices with any questions about exemptions.

Information about private land fire restrictions that went into effect on June 4 may be found at <http://www.fs.fed.us/r5/plumas>.

3) Protecting Homes from Wildland Fire

Homes that have an area cleared of flammable material around them are far more defensible than homes that do not. A publication by the Plumas County Fire Safe Council, identifying the ways in which citizens may dramatically increase the fire safety of homes, is available on the internet at:

<http://www.plumasfiresafe.org/tips.htm>.

For more information on how to fireproof homes, to clarify what fire restrictions apply, and the most current woodcutting information, contact the local Forest Service, CAL-FIRE (CDF), BLM, City or Volunteer Fire Department office, or Fire Safe Council member. Information about firewood cutting and fire restrictions on the Plumas National Forest may be directed to local Forest Service offices or the Plumas National Forest website, <http://www.fs.fed.us/r5/plumas>.

Plumas National Forest offices:

Supervisor's Office, (530) 283-2050

Beckwourth Ranger District, (530) 836-2575

Feather River Ranger District, (530) 534-6500

Mt. Hough Ranger District, (530) 283-0555

Key Points:

- 1. The Plumas National Forest will be closed to woodcutting after 1:00 pm, starting July 2. Woodcutters are urged to obtain their firewood now while the forest is still open to woodcutting.**
- 2. Fire restrictions will go into effect on the Plumas National Forest (public land), on July 1, 2008. Campfires allowed in designated areas only.**
- 3. Contact the local fire department to inquire about fire restrictions.**

PLUMAS NATIONAL FOREST
DESIGNATED RECREATION SITES
EXHIBIT A

BECKWOURTH RANGER DISTRICT	MT. HOUGH RANGER DISTRICT	FEATHER RIVER RANGER DISTRICT
A-Tree Campground	Boulder Creek Campground	Black Rock Tent Campground
Big Cove Campground	Bradys Camp	Cascade Creek at Forest Rd. 22N62
Chilcoot Campground	Bucks Lake Wilderness Area	Feather Falls Trailhead
Conklin Park Campground	Deanes Valley Campground	Golden Trout Campground
Cottonwood Group Campground	Gansner Bar Campground	Little Beaver Campground
Cottonwood Springs Campground	Greenville Campground	Little North Fort at Forest Rd. 23N60
Crocker Campground	Grizzly Creek Campground	Little North Fork Campground
Frenchman Campground	Grizzly Forebay Boat-in Campground	Milsap Bar Campground
Frenchman Picnic Area	Hallsted Campground	Paradise Lake Picnic Area
Gold Lake 4x4 Campground	Hutchins Group Camp	Peninsula Tent Campground
Gold Lake Campground	Lone Rock Campground	Red Feather Campground
Gold Lake Picnic Areas (2)	Long Point Campground	Rogers Cow Camp
Goose Lake Campground	Long Point Group Camp	Running Deer Campground
Grasshopper Flat Campground	Lower Bucks Lake Campground	Sly Creek Campground
Grizzly Campground	Mill Creek Campground	South Fork Horse Camp
Haven Lake Campground	North Fork Campground	Strawberry Campground
Lakes Basin Campground	Queen Lilly Campground	Tooms Vehicle Camp
Laufman Campground	Red Bridge Campground	Wyandotte Campground
Lightning Tree Campground	Rock Creek Camp	
McRae Meadows Campsites	Silver Lake Campground	
Meadow View Campground	Snake Lake Campground	
Portola Picnic Area	Spanish Creek Campground	
Ross Camp	Sundew Campground	
Spring Creek Campground	Whitehorse Campground	

ORDER NO. 03-08
FIRE RESTRICTIONS
PLUMAS NATIONAL FOREST

Pursuant to 36 CFR 261.50(a) and (b), and to protect public safety, the following acts are prohibited within the Plumas National Forest. This order is effective from June 24, 2008, through the end of the official 2008 fire season.

1. Building, maintaining, attending or using a fire, campfire, or charcoal fire, except within the designated recreation sites listed in Exhibit A. 36 CFR 261.52(a).
2. Smoking, except within an enclosed vehicle or building, or within the designated recreation sites listed in Exhibit A. 36 CFR 261.52(d).
3. Welding, or operating an acetylene or other torch with an open flame. 36 CFR 261.52(i).
4. Using an explosive. 36 CFR 261.52(b).
5. Operating an internal combustion engine off National Forest system roads and trails. 36 CFR 261.52(h).

Pursuant to 36 CFR 261.50(e), the following persons are exempt from this order:

1. Persons with a permit from the Forest Service specifically authorizing the otherwise prohibited act or omission. A valid California Campfire Permit does not exempt the holder from the prohibitions listed above. However, persons with a valid California Campfire Permit are permitted to use a portable stove or lantern using gas, jellied petroleum, or pressurized liquid fuel.
2. Persons with a valid Forest Service firewood permit may use a chainsaw to cut firewood beginning at sunrise through 1:00 pm (hoot-owl).
3. Any Federal, State or local officer, or member of an organized rescue or fire fighting force in the performance of an official duty.
4. Persons may use suction dredges on water if authorized by a permit issued by the State of California.
5. Persons with a special use permit from the Plumas National Forest for a recreation residence are exempt from prohibitions Nos. 1, 2 and 5 while they are at their recreational residence.

These prohibitions are in addition to the general prohibitions found at 36 CFR Part 261, Subpart A.

Executed in Quincy, California, this 23 day of June, 2008



Alice Carlton
Forest Supervisor
Plumas National Forest

A violation of these prohibitions is punishable by a fine of not more than \$5,000 for an individual or \$10,000 for an organization, or imprisonment for not more than six months, or both. 16 USC 551 and 18 USC 3559, 3571, and 3581.

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