



## Northwest Colorado Fire Management Unit



For Immediate Release  
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### **FIRE RESTRICTIONS LIFTED IN MANY AREAS**

Craig, CO – Conditions have moderated in many sections of northwest Colorado as a result of widespread moisture and wetting rains.

Areas lifting fire restrictions effective Wednesday, August 15: Grand, Jackson, Routt and, Rio Blanco counties; Routt National Forest; Dinosaur National Monument; Browns Park Wildlife Refuge; and Bureau of Land Management Kremmling, Little Snake, and White River Field Offices.

Remaining under fire restrictions are all state and private lands within Moffat County.

“Current circumstances allow for lifting fire restrictions in many areas,” said Northwest Colorado Fire Management Officer Cliff Hutton. “This doesn’t mean there is no fire danger in these areas, it just means the very extreme conditions have somewhat moderated. We are urging outdoor enthusiasts to use care with all fires when working or recreating on public and private lands.”

Please observe these precautions:

- Never, ever leave a campfire unattended, even to go for a short hike. The wind can blow sparks and cause a wildfire.
- Build only a small fire on bare soil with brush cleared away, and try to use an existing fire ring.
- Pour water on the ashes and stir them, making sure the ashes and any unburned wood are cold to the touch before leaving.

County, state, and federal land managers, sheriffs and fire officials meet on a weekly basis to discuss and compare fire conditions in their respective areas. These conference calls allow the counties and agencies to share information and coordinate restrictions where and when it is applicable.

The criteria used to determine when to implement fire restrictions include: moisture

content in fuel (vegetation) both live and dead; Energy Release Component (ERC) or the intensity at which a fire will burn; are there adequate resources to handle fires; adverse weather conditions; Palmer drought index; and number of human caused fires.

Enjoy the outdoors while recreating and remember to contact your local county sheriffs department, emergency manager, or land management office as many areas still have fire restrictions in effect.

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*Note: Please contact your local county sheriff's department, emergency manager, or public land management agency for more details.*