



Saguaro National Park News Release

For Immediate Release

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Contact: Bob Love at (520) 733-5110

Michelle Fidler at (520) 733-5136

FIRE RESTRICTIONS BEGIN AT SAGUARO NATIONAL PARK

Due to increased fire danger in southeast Arizona, Saguaro National Park will implement fire restrictions in both the Rincon and Tucson Mountain Districts, effective at 8:00 a.m. on Saturday, June 30, 2007. These restrictions coincide with similar restrictions going into effect this week-end on nearby federal lands.

The fire restrictions prohibit the following acts:

- Smoking, except within an enclosed vehicle or building, a developed recreation site, or while stopped in an area at least three feet in diameter and free of all flammable material.

The purpose of these restrictions is to ensure the safety of park visitors and employees, and for the protection of the park's natural and cultural resources. These restrictions are dependent upon extended fire and weather conditions, and will be evaluated daily. These restrictions are pursuant to the authority contained in Title 16 of the United States Code, Section 3, and Title 36 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Sections 1.5(a)(1) and 1.5(a)(3).

Building or using a fire, campfire, charcoal grill or stove fire is already prohibited, except in developed campgrounds and picnic areas where grills are provided, under Title 36 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Section 2.13(a)(1). Pressurized liquid or gas stoves, lanterns and heaters possessing shut-off devices are allowed.

The possession or use of fireworks at Saguaro National Park is already prohibited, under Title 36 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Section 2.38(b).

It is anticipated that these restrictions will remain in effect until the fire danger moderates. Violation of these restrictions is punishable by a fine of not more than \$5,000, or imprisonment for no more than six months, or both.

For local fire restrictions and fire information for Federal, Tribal and State lands in Arizona and New Mexico, as well as additional information on southeast Arizona public lands, visit <http://gacc.nifc.gov/swcc> or call the toll free Fire Restriction Hotline 1-877-864-6985.