

# **Forest Lakes NEWS**

**Your E-Blast Information Station for**  
News Flashes—Events  
Activities—Announcements



*June 10, 2021*

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## **STAGE 2 FIRE RESTRICTIONS GO INTO EFFECT ACROSS COCONINO COUNTY AND THE APACHE-SITGREAVES NATIONAL FOREST ON FRIDAY, JUNE 11 AT 8 AM**

*For Clarification to Forest Lakes residents:*

*We follow the Coconino County Stage 2 Fire Restrictions. There might be slight differences between County and Forest, but please follow the County rules within the subdivision. THANK YOU!.*

### **COCONINO COUNTY STAGE 2 FIRE RESTRICTIONS NEWS RELEASE--- JUNE 11**

Fire restrictions are to help protect public health by reducing the number of human-caused wildfires.

The County has been in Stage 1 fire restrictions since May 14. The County is enacting Stage 2 restrictions due to forecasted weather and very high fire danger. Restrictions are in coordination with Coconino and Kaibab National Forests and other agencies in the area.

The following restrictions apply on County public lands, as well as private lands in the unincorporated areas of the County. During Stage 2, the only combustion open fire and campfire allowed are listed below:

1. By persons with a written permit or variance.
2. For personal use of cigarette or other tobacco smoking medium when used inside an enclosed vehicle only.

3. For emergency repair of public utilities and railroads and other health and safety mitigation measures when operated by a public utility or railroad and implemented in accordance with an approved agency plan.
4. By any Federal, State or local officer or member of an organized rescue or firefighting entity in the performance of an official duty.
5. By persons whose open fire is the result of a device manufactured for the purpose of cooking of food, fueled by liquid petroleum or LPG fuels that can be turned on and turned off (for example a gas grill) when used in an area that is free of combustible materials and vegetation. This does not include Liquid fuel or LPG fire rings.
6. By persons operating internal combustion engines with spark arresting devices when the use is for common household-only activities such as landscaping and property maintenance and repair.
7. By persons operating generators or pumps with an approved spark arresting device in an area that is barren or cleared of all overhead and surrounding combustible materials within three (3) feet of the device.

Unless allowed by an exception above, in addition to Stage 1 prohibited activities, prohibitions now include all open fires, campfires, open smoking, outdoor mechanical and industrial operations such as welding and use of acetylene, and operating motorized vehicles off designated trails and roads.

#### **APACHE-SITGREAVES NATIONAL FOREST NEWS RELEASE ---**

The following are prohibited starting June 11, 2021, at 8 a.m.:

Igniting, building, maintaining, or using a fire, including charcoal and briquettes.

Smoking, except within an enclosed vehicle or building, a developed recreation site, or while stopped in an area at least three (3) feet in diameter that is barren or cleared of any flammable material.

The following acts are prohibited from 9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.:

Operating a generator, chainsaw or other equipment powered by an internal combustion engine for felling, bucking, skidding, processing, road building and woodcutting during industrial operations or fire wood gathering capable of igniting a fire.

Using an explosive.

Blasting, welding, or operating any acetylene or other torch with an open flame.

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**KNOW ABOUT READY-SET-GO AND ALSO HOW TO SIGN UP  
FOR COCONINO COUNTY EMERGENCY NOTIFICATION**

## SYSTEM

Everyone should be informed about the READY-SET-GO Program in case of a fire emergency in the community. Please click [HERE](#) to get information about it. It's also worth your while to download and read the entire [READY\\_SET\\_GO Information Packet](#), too. With so many fires burning around our state of Arizona, let's all **BE PREPARED!**

We have many new property owners who might not know about the Emergency Notification System, as well as several property owners who have not signed up in the past. Let's all get signed up NOW!

When emergencies happen, be the first to know. The Coconino County Emergency Notification System uses Alerts powered by Rave Mobile Safety's Smart911 to send official, real-time alerts to the public with information about potentially life-saving actions you may need to take to keep you and your family safe.

### [REGISTER FOR ALERTS](#)

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## ARIZONA BRACES FOR ANOTHER TOUGH YEAR FOR WILDFIRES

June 2, 2021

*(This article is worth the read to know how our State is preparing for the wildfire season).*

A new wildfire season is here and it's early. That means it could be another record-breaking summer due to excessive drought, fire officials warn.

Arizona is already experiencing record-shattering dry conditions due to the drought, which has dragged on for more than two decades. Currently, the U.S. Drought Monitor is designating most of Arizona under the two highest categories, "extreme" and "exceptional" drought.

Windy conditions make fires more likely to spark. Public officials, fire agencies and private organizations are taking steps to prevent disasters and calling on everyone to be extra cautious this year.

"To help prevent wildfires, it is important that Arizonans enjoy our beautiful outdoors responsibly," Gov. Doug Ducey said. "There are many common sense precautions we can all take to minimize fire risk, including making sure campfires are out cold before walking away. My sincere thanks to the firefighters, safety officials and everyone working to protect lives, pets and property this season."

A typical fire season runs from May to July. This year, the season started in March with the Punkin Fire northwest of Roosevelt Lake where about 350 acres burned. So far this year, Arizona fire crews have battled around 100 wildfires.

As of Tuesday, there were more than 40 fires across the state including 11 active fires

involving more than 1,000 acres, according to the tracking website, the Fire, Weather and Avalanche Center.

### **State and feds investing in resources to help**

State and federal officials have been preparing for an intense fire season.

In Arizona, Gov. Ducey successfully pushed for \$24 million to increase workforce and partnerships through the Arizona Healthy Forest Initiative, initiating new funding for programs and public-private partnerships to clean up hazardous fuels, thin out forests and attract forest industries to the state.

### **More inmates trained to fight wildfires**

Part of the initiative is funding to expand a program to train and deploy low-risk inmates to fight wildfires, learn job skills in the process, and transition to work upon release. This year, about 700 inmates can participate in the program.

### **Arizona's congressional members push for more firefighters**

Arizona's U.S. congressional delegation members have also pushed for legislation to fund wildfire assistance, including funding from federal pandemic recovery packages.

Arizona U.S. Senator Kyrsten Sinema, for example, worked to get the Government Accountability Office to assess the hiring and retention of federal wildland firefighters for effective fire management and issue recommendations to strengthen Arizona's federal firefighting force.

"Wildfires in Arizona and across the west are a near-constant threat," Sinema said. "I am glad the federal government listened to our calls to take common sense steps to better protect Arizona communities from dangerous wildfires."

### **Forest mechanical thinning industries wanted \*\***

To address the huge need for forest thinning industries in Arizona, a unique public-private partnership, known as 4FRI (the Four Forest Restoration Initiative), whose ultimate goal is working to achieve an ultimate goal of thinning 2.4 million acres of forest land. 4FRI is a collaboration between the U.S. Forest Service, other public agencies and private and non-profit organizations.

As part of the project, the U.S. Forest Service is soliciting bids for one of the largest forest thinning initiatives ever issued. To attract bidders, the RFP is the first 20-year contract in the agency's history.

It calls for awarding contracts to companies to mechanically thin 605,000 to 818,000 acres of forests in Northern Arizona. The RFP is available to both small and large businesses and seeks proposals that are "sustainable, innovative, feasible, and cost-effective to increase the pace and scale of forest restoration."

The Forest Service plans to spend \$550 million over the next 20 years to work in four national forests: Apache-Sitgreaves, Coconino, Kaibab and Tonto. Business and industry

will play a key role in this effort by harvesting, processing, and selling wood products.

### **Humans are first line of defense**

Most fires are caused by human activity. State leaders and fire officials are encouraging citizens to be more aware this summer. Here some tools:

–A free fire info app that offers citizens access to real-time wildfire information. They can also send in tips and sign up for alerts. Download the app from iTunes or Google Play by searching for: Arizona Department of Forestry and Fire Management.

–Current fire restriction websites Currently, all 13 counties in Arizona are under fire restrictions. For a listing, visit: Arizona Fire Restrictions

### **Simple tips to practice:**

- Always extinguish campfires
- Dispose of cigarettes and matches properly
- Never drag chains on the roadway
- Never fly drones in or around an active wildfire area

Gary Roberts  
North Zone Fire Prevention Officer  
gary.roberts@usda.gov  
1009 E. Hwy. 260  
Payson, Arizona 85541  
www.fs.fed.us  
Tonto National Forest  
USDA Forest Service\

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**Ever wish you had kept past copies of a news email?** You can find them on the FLOA website at [www.floa.club](http://www.floa.club) and click on "Latest Email Blasts" on the left side bar Menu.

### **Did you know?**

There are several websites with Forest Lakes information to check out! They are:

**FLOA Website:** [www.floa.club](http://www.floa.club)

**Fire District:** [www.flfdaz.com](http://www.flfdaz.com)

**Fire District Auxiliary**

**Water District:** [www.fldwid.org](http://www.fldwid.org)

**General Forest Lakes information:** [www.forestlakesaz.com](http://www.forestlakesaz.com)

**Weather Station/Snow Stick**

Facebook Group Pages

[Forest Lakes Bulletin Board](#)

[Forest Lakes Community Social Spot](#)

Forest Lakes NEWS Editor  
Judy Nelson  
judynelson717@gmail.com

602-739-4369

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