



For Immediate Release

Date: June 6, 2003

Fire Restrictions Now In Effect

Contact list (alphabetical by agency)

Bureau of Land Management - Kirsten Cannon – (702) 515-5057

National Park Service - Roxanne Dey - (702) 293-8947

Nevada Division of Forestry - John Jones - (702) 486-5123

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service - Lee Nelson - (702) 515-5450

U.S. Forest Service - Victoria Shaffer - (702) 515-5404

Las Vegas - The Bureau of Land Management, National Park Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Forest Service and Nevada Division of Forestry issued a fire restriction notice in Southern Nevada effective Friday, June 6, 2003 due to the high potential for forest fire.

According to Acting Interagency Fire Management Officer, Mark Blankensop, “The recent Moapa/Logandale wildland fire outside of Las Vegas has underscored the extremely dry conditions that exist throughout the area. High temperatures, and extremely low humidities have made conditions ripe for fire.” The use of public lands including Lake Mead National Recreation Area, Desert National Wildlife Complex, Red Rock and the Spring Mountains National Recreation Area (Mt. Charleston) is still encouraged.

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The fire restrictions prohibit:

- Building, maintaining, attending or using a fire, campfire, or stove fire, except a portable stove using gas, jellied petroleum or pressurized liquid fuel, outside of a developed recreation site
- Smoking, except within an enclosed vehicle or at a hosted, developed recreation site.
- Welding, or operating an acetylene torch with open flames, except by permit.
- Using, or causing to be used, any explosive, except by permit.
- Using fireworks or firing a tracer – A reminder that fireworks of any kind are not allowed on public lands.

Affected areas include all areas, roads and trails on BLM Las Vegas Field Office managed lands, Spring Mountains National Recreation Area, Desert National Wildlife Refuge Complex, Lake Mead National Area and Mt. Charleston Fire Protection District in Clark County. The only exceptions are open campfires in hosted developed-recreation site (such as a campground where a host is present or fee is charged), private property owners using an approved cooking or heating device, people with a permit specifically authorizing an otherwise a prohibited act and/or any federal, state, or local officer, or member of an organized rescue or firefighting force in the performance of an official duty.

Violation of these prohibitions is subject to punishment by a fine of not more than \$10,000 or imprisonment of not more than six months or both, as Class B Misdemeanors under Federal law. Persons may also be responsible for resource damage, suppression costs, and any injuries that occur if found liable for causing a wildfire.

The public is urged to contact the local Forest Service office at (702) 515-5400, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service at (702) 515-5450, National Park Service at (702) 293-8947, the local BLM office at (702) 515-5000 or the Nevada Division of Forestry at 486-5123 if they have any questions or need clarification on the restrictions.

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