



News Release

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Dry conditions trigger fire restrictions in central and western Arizona

PHOENIX – Effective Friday, May 23, at 8 a.m. the Arizona Department of Forestry and Fire Management and the Bureau of Land Management Colorado River District and Phoenix District will implement seasonal Stage 2 fire restrictions in central and western Arizona.

Restrictions on **State Lands** include Gila, La Paz, Maricopa, Mohave, Yavapai, and Yuma counties.

Restrictions on **BLM-managed lands** include La Paz, Maricopa, southern Mohave, northern Pinal, western Pima, Yavapai and Yuma counties.

Fire managers have reported an increase in wildfire activity, which is anticipated to peak as the weather continues to get hotter and drier in the coming months. Fire restrictions help to limit activities on public lands that are known to be the most common causes of wildfires.

Beginning Friday, May 23, at 8 a.m., these activities are prohibited:

- Building, maintaining, attending, or using a fire, campfire, charcoal, coal, or wood stove fire, except within a developed recreation site, or improved site.
- Smoking, except within an enclosed vehicle or building. Smoking is prohibited in all federal buildings.
- Operating any internal combustion engine, such as a chainsaw or similar tool.
- Discharging a firearm, air rifle or gas gun, except while engaged in a lawful hunt pursuant to state, federal, or tribal law, and regulations.
 - This restriction also includes the BLM Phoenix District's developed [recreational shooting sites](#): Baldy Mountain, Box Canyon, Church Camp Road, and Saddleback Mountain.
- Welding or the use of any torch or metal cutting or grinding implement.

Fireworks and exploding targets are prohibited year-round on federally managed lands in Arizona.

Fireworks and target shooting are prohibited year-round on Arizona State Lands.

Pressurized liquid or gas stoves, lanterns and heaters possessing shut-off devices are allowed. When using a portable stove, make sure the area is clear of grass and other vegetation and on a stable surface to prevent stoves from tipping and starting a fire.

Residents and visitors should check with respective county and municipal governments for information on fire restrictions in those jurisdictions.

Fire conditions as well as localized closures and restrictions are subject to change. Tribal, federal, state, and local mandates are different, they may have some differences in their restriction notices. Variations are possible, and visitors should check with the most local office for area-specific restrictions and regulations.

Violation of restrictions is punishable by fine, imprisonment or both. Violators may also be held personally responsible for reimbursement of fire suppression costs.

To further help to prevent wildfires, never throw cigarettes out of a vehicle window. Use an ashtray instead. Never park a vehicle over dry grass as the underside of a vehicle can get hot enough to ignite the vegetation. Make sure your vehicle is in good operating condition, tires are well inflated, and check for any dragging metal or chains from towed trailers.

Fire restrictions are already in effect in other parts of Arizona. For detailed explanations concerning agency restrictions and fire information in general, please contact the nearest land management agency office where you plan to work or play or visit <https://wildlandfire.az.gov>.

Additional Useful Links/Resources:

Fire Restrictions Map for Arizona and New Mexico: <https://wildlandfire.az.gov/fire-restrictions>
Use this Interactive Map to help determine who manages the lands where you plan to recreate.

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The BLM manages more than 245 million acres of public land located primarily in 12 western states, including Alaska, on behalf of the American people. The BLM also administers 700 million acres of sub-surface mineral estate throughout the nation. Our mission is to sustain the health, diversity, and productivity of America's public lands for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations.