

US Forest Service

San Bernardino National Forest

602 S. Tippecanoe Ave San Bernardino, CA 92408



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Fire Restrictions Increasing on National Forest

SAN BERNARDINO, Calif., July 16, 2010 – Higher temperatures and rapidly drying vegetation have prompted the San Bernardino National Forest to increase fire restrictions on Monday July 19, 2010.

Forest officials are taking these steps to prevent human-caused fires and raise public awareness as the summer continues to get warmer and dryer. Most wildfires on the San Bernardino National Forest are human-caused and increased restrictions are designed to reduce wildland fires.

Forest visitors are reminded to exercise caution when visiting the National Forest and maintain a higher level of awareness with the increased fire risk. Travelers through the Forest should remain on designated roads and never park on dry brush or grass.

“We have had very favorable weather conditions so far this season but now things are changing.” said Fire Chief Kurt Winchester. “We are asking that people be aware of these changes and help us keep our forests green for all to enjoy.”

Fire restrictions and guidelines effective July 19, 2010 on the San Bernardino National Forest are as follows:

- Wood and charcoal fires are permitted only in campgrounds and picnic grounds and within agency provided fire rings or camp stoves.
- Campfire permits are required for propane and gas stoves and lanterns used outside of developed recreation sites.
- An approved spark arrester is required for any internal combustion engine operated on designated forest routes. These include chainsaws, generators, motorcycles, and off-highway vehicles.
- Smoking is limited to enclosed vehicles, developed recreation sites, and areas cleared of vegetation three feet in diameter.
- Fireworks are always prohibited on the San Bernardino National Forest. Tracer, armor piercing, steel core, and Teflon ammunitions are also prohibited, as is discharging a firearm at any exploding target.

The US Forest Service will be aggressively citing those who do not comply with the posted restrictions. Violation of these prohibitions is subject to punishment by a fine of not more than \$10,000 or imprisonment for 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 they are found liable for causing a wildfire.

Forest visitors are encouraged to “***Know Before You Go***” and call ahead to the local Ranger Station to check on location conditions and restrictions.

Cajon Ranger Station	909-382-2850
Arrowhead Ranger Station	909-382-2758
Big Bear Ranger Station & Discovery Center	909-382-2790
Cajon Ranger Station	909-382-2850
Idyllwild Ranger Station	909-382-2922
San Geronio Ranger Station	909-382-2881
Santa Rosa & San Jacinto Mountains National Monument	760-862-9984

For additional information about the San Bernardino National Forest, please visit:

<http://www.fs.fed.us/r5/sanbernardino/>

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