



THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF THE COUNTY OF ROUTT, COLORADO

DECLARATION

Pursuant to Ordinance No. 2013-002, an ordinance to restrict fires in unincorporated portions of Routt County during periods of high fire danger, the Board of County Commissioners hereby declares a countywide Stage 1 Fire Restriction. This declaration shall be effective at 0:01 a.m. on Thursday, September 8, 2022, and will remain in force until rescinded.

The fire restriction applies to all private and state lands outside of municipal boundaries.

STAGE 1 RESTRICTION:

The following acts are prohibited on all private and state owned lands outside of municipal boundaries. This does not affect federal lands within Routt County.

1. Building, maintaining, attending or using any fire to burn trash, debris, fence rows, irrigation ditches or vegetation, any campfire, warming fire, charcoal grill, except in designated campgrounds, picnic areas or developed recreational sites.
2. Smoking, except within an enclosed vehicle or building, a developed recreational site, or while stopped in an area of at least (3) feet in diameter that is barren or cleared of all flammable material.
3. Operating a chainsaw without a USDA or SAE approved spark arresting device (muffler) properly installed and in effective working order, and a chemical pressurized fire extinguisher of not less than eight (8) ounce capacity by weight, and one (1) round pointed shovel with an overall length of at least 36 inches. The extinguisher will be with the chainsaw operator. The shovel may be kept with the fueling supplies but readily available for quick use.
4. Welding or operating acetylene or other torch with open flame; except within an area that is barren or cleared of all flammable material at least 10 feet on all sides from the equipment.
5. Using explosives requiring fuses or blasting caps.

Exemptions from Stage 1 Restriction:

1. Persons with a valid written permit which specifically authorizes the prohibited act: (a) from the fire protection district chief if subject land is within a fire protection district; (b) or Routt County Emergency Operations Director after consultation with the Routt County Sheriff if subject land is not within a fire protection district.
2. Any federal, state or local officer or member of an organized rescue or firefighting force in the performance of an actual duty.
3. Any fires contained within stoves, fireplaces within buildings, charcoal grill fires, recreational fires at private residences with valid permit from district chief, and permanent fire pits or fire grates in developed picnic grounds and campgrounds.
4. Burning of irrigation ditches located within and completely surrounded by irrigated farm lands where such burning is necessary for crop survival with proper permit from: (a) fire protection district chief if subject land is within a fire protection district; (b) or Routt County Emergency Operations Director after consultation with the Routt County Sheriff if subject land is not within a fire protection district.
5. Hot air balloon activities and the use of UL approved liquid-fueled or gas fueled "Camp Fire in a Can."
6. Campfires or bonfires required in religious ceremonies where a specific written permit has been granted in advance by: (a) the fire protection district chief if subject land is within a fire protection district; or (b) the Routt County Emergency Operations Director after consultation with the Routt County Sheriff if subject land is not within a fire protection district.

Fine Schedule and Penalty Assessment Procedure:

Any person who violates this order commits a class 2 petty offense and, upon conviction thereof, shall be punished by a fine of not more than six hundred dollars (\$600) for each separate offense. However, the following fine schedule shall apply:

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| First Offense | Not more than \$100 |
| Second Offense | Not more than \$200 |
| Third or Subsequent Offense | Maximum fine permitted by law – \$1,000 as of March 31, 2013 |

The penalty assessment procedure provided for in Section §16-2-201, C.R.S. may be followed by any law enforcement officer issuing a citation or making an arrest for a violation of this ordinance.

ORDERED this 7th day of September 2022.

THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF THE COUNTY OF ROUTT, COLORADO

By: _____
M. Elizabeth Melton, Chair

ATTEST:

By: _____
Jenny Thomas, Clerk & Recorder