

**Press Release**

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**Routt County Commissioners Rescind  
Stage 1 Fire Restriction**

STEAMBOAT SPRINGS, CO, September 20, 2022 – Pursuant to Ordinance No. 2013-002, an ordinance to restrict fires in unincorporated portions of Routt County during periods of high fire danger, the Routt County Board of County Commissioners voted unanimously to rescind Stage 1 Fire Restriction **effective at 12:01 am, Friday, September 23, 2022.**

Fire restrictions are considered when High, Very High or Extreme fire danger exists and is predicted to persist. This determination is based upon current weather conditions, weather forecasts, and the status of existing fuels, typically moisture content, which creates the potential for uncontrollable fires.

“Federal, state, and local partners throughout the region study and discuss weekly several factors to determine when restrictions are recommended or necessary, such as moisture content of the fuels, current and forecasted weather conditions, and availability of suppression resources throughout the region. These factors and the associated criteria that are measured provide a more scientific and accurate process for determining when fire restrictions are necessary.” Mo DeMorat, Routt County Emergency Manager, noted that while not every agency in the region will enter or exit fire restrictions together, they work to present a cohesive, coordinated approach to the action, ensuring geographic predictability across federal, state, county, and other unincorporated lands.

“The data collected and presented at the weekly meeting on Monday, September 19, showed increased moisture levels, decreased Energy Release Component, and overall wildfire hazard assessment of Moderate throughout the region, and a weather pattern forecasted with increased percentages and levels of precipitation. All those in attendance at this meeting agreed that fire restrictions are no longer warranted,” said DeMorat.

Should you have any questions, please call your Fire Protection District Chief or the Routt County Office of Emergency Management at (970) 870-5551. Find the Declaration attached.

**North Routt Fire Protection District**  
Mike Swinsick – (970) 879-6064

**West Routt Fire Protection District**  
Trevor Guire – (970) 276-3511

**Oak Creek Fire Protection District**  
Brady Glauthier – (970) 736-8104

**Yampa Fire Protection District**  
Machia ‘Ky’ Cox – (970) 846-2169



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**Steamboat Springs Fire Rescue**  
Chuck Cerasoli – (970) 879-7170

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