

Press Release

**Utah Department of Natural Resources
Division of Forestry, Fire and State Lands**



Contact: Inquiries: Jason Curry (801) 703-0225
 Interview Scheduling: Todd Royce (801) 556-8261

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 9, 2021

STATE ISSUES STATEWIDE FIRE RESTRICTIONS

Salt Lake City, UT – With record low fuel moisture, widespread drought conditions and extreme fire danger, the State of Utah, Department of Natural Resources, Division of Forestry, Fire & State Lands is enacting statewide stage 1 fire restrictions for all State Lands and all private lands outside of city/town borders. The order is effective starting at midnight tonight, June 10, 2021.

Stage 1 restrictions include a tight limit on where open fires are allowed, and puts constraints on other activities including welding & cutting metal, smoking, etc. (See attached order for specifics)

“As we’ve seen these most recent wildfires, it is clear that fire danger is higher than in any year in recent memory, said Interim Division Director, Jamie Barnes, “although it’s unprecedented and comes earlier than any time in the past several years, it’s absolutely necessary now because current conditions are more indicative of what we’d see during late summer months.”

This order comes following a statewide fireworks restriction issued Tuesday for all state and unincorporated lands. The Division is calling on the public to adhere to the restrictions, bring awareness to them, and report any violations to local law enforcement.

In addition to fire restrictions, the Division and its federal partners are promoting wildfire prevention in a campaign called “Fire Sense”. The campaign focuses on adding a greater sense of fire danger to overall common sense. For information on Fire Sense or for further information on this or other fire restrictions in Utah, visit www.utahfiresense.org.

MEDIA AVAILABILITY

Interim director of the Utah Division of Forestry, Fire & State Lands, Jamie Barnes will be available tomorrow afternoon for interviews and to clarify anything for members of the news media.

WHEN: Tomorrow, June 10 from 1:30 TO 2:30 p.m.

WHERE: Utah Department of Natural Resources (1594 W. North Temple, Salt Lake City, UT)

###



SPENCER J. COX
Governor
DEIDRE M. HENDERSON
Lieutenant Governor

State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

BRIAN C. STEED
Executive Director

Division of Forestry, Fire and State Lands

JAMIE BARNES
Interim Director

ORDER # UTCLO2105

Fire Restriction Order

Due to current and forecasted weather conditions coupled with the record dry vegetation conditions and extreme fire danger throughout Utah, the State Forester has determined that measures must be taken to prevent the ignition of forest and rangeland fires. Therefore, pursuant to Utah State Law, Section 65A-8-212, the following acts (also known as "Stage 1 Fire Restrictions") are prohibited **in the areas described below** until rescinded by the Utah State Forester:

1. No open fires of any kind except within established facilities in improved campgrounds or day-use areas on **public lands**. -OR- In permanently constructed fire pits at **permanent private dwellings** served by pressurized running water.
2. Smoking, except within an enclosed vehicle, trailer or building, a developed recreation site or while stopped in an area that is paved or free from dry vegetation.
3. Cutting, welding or grinding metal in areas of dry vegetation.
4. Operating a motorcycle, chainsaw, ATV, or other small internal combustion engine without an approved and working spark arrestor.

Area Description: All state lands –AND- all unincorporated private lands within the state of Utah. This order does not affect private lands within incorporated towns or city limits.

The following persons are exempted from the above prohibitions:

1. Persons with a permit or waiver issued by the Division, specifically authorizing a specified act at a specific location. A waiver does not relieve the permittee of liability if a fire does occur.
2. Any on-duty firefighter in the performance of an official duty.

Any of the above acts is a violation of state law and is punishable by up to 6 months in jail and a fine of up to \$1,000. These restrictions will be enforced by county law enforcement.

Effective Date: 12:01 a.m., on the 10th day of June, 2021

Brett Ostler

Brett Ostler (Jun 9, 2021 15:42 MDT)

Brett Ostler, State Fire Management Officer

Jamie Barnes

Jamie Barnes (Jun 9, 2021 15:52 MDT)

Jamie Barnes, Interim Director

Gerry Gray

Gerry Gray (Jun 9, 2021 16:23 MDT)

Gerry Gray, Acting State Forester





SPENCER J. COX
Governor

DEIDRE M. HENDERSON
Lieutenant Governor

State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

BRIAN C. STEED
Executive Director

Division of Forestry, Fire and State Lands

JAMIE BARNES
Interim Director

ORDER # UTCLO2102

Fire Restriction Order

Due to current and forecasted weather conditions coupled with the dry conditions and extreme fire danger throughout Utah, the State Forester has determined that measures must be taken to prevent the ignition of forest and rangeland fires. Therefore, pursuant to Utah State Law, Section 65A-8-212, the following acts are prohibited in the areas described below until rescinded by the Utah State Forester:

1. Discharging or using any kind of fireworks

Area Description:

All state-owned lands -AND- all unincorporated private lands within the state of Utah.

The following persons are exempted from the above prohibitions:

1. Persons with a "Display Operator" license issued by the Utah State Fire Marshal's Office AND any local permits required where the display is to take place.

Effective Date:

12:01 a.m., Wednesday, June 9, 2021

Brett Ostler (Jun 8, 2021 10:47 MDT)

Brett Ostler
State Fire Management Officer

Jamie Barnes (Jun 8, 2021 10:52 MDT)

Jamie Barnes
Interim Director

Gerry Gray (Jun 8, 2021 11:11 MDT)

Gerry Gray
Acting State Forester

