



U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management

Fire Prevention Order CA910-2020-001

California Year-round Fire Restrictions

Under the authority of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA) of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1701, *et seq.*) and pursuant to 43 C.F.R. § 9212.2, the following acts are prohibited on Bureau of Land Management (BLM) managed public lands, areas, roads, waterways, and trails in the state of California, starting April 29, 2020, and ending December 31, 2025. This order is in addition to and includes acts already prohibited under 43 C.F.R. § 9212.1 and/or certain California state laws.

In the interest of wildfire prevention, public safety, and in compliance with 43 C.F.R. § 9212.2, these BLM actions complement and support state and local wildfire prevention laws and regulations, which apply to all BLM-managed lands within California. This fire order does not supersede local BLM fire orders. BLM District or Field Offices may issue seasonal fire restrictions through a fire prevention order, and may rescind those seasonal restrictions, as necessary.

Acts prohibited under this order:

- Building, attending, maintaining or using a campfire, charcoal, coal or wood stove outside of a developed campground without the following criteria being met. A developed campground is one that has been designated, developed, and maintained by the BLM, which is posted as open for public use, and where campfires are contained within an existing pit or ring constructed with steel or rock and mortar. Criteria includes:
 - a five-foot diameter area cleared to bare mineral soil and free of any overhead flammable materials in all directions around the campfire, and
 - possession of a functioning round-point shovel, with an overall length of at least 35 inches that can be easily accessed within a reasonable amount of time in response to a fire ignition, and with a responsible adult in attendance. A responsible adult is defined as a person eighteen (18) years or older, who has been delegated authority and responsibility to make decisions, and to take actions to manage the safety and well-being of children [assigned to their care], and
 - possession of a valid California Campfire Permit, available free at any BLM, U.S. Forest Service, and CalFire offices or online at www.readyforwildfire.org/permits/campfire-permit/.
- Leaving a campfire, barbeque, wood stove or open flame device without fully extinguishing all visible flames and all heat within coals, except to report it, if it has spread beyond control.
 - Note: Extinguish campfires using water, shovel, and the drown, stir, and feel method.
- Possessing, discharging or using fireworks or pyrotechnic devices (including California Fire Marshal-labeled “Safe and Sane” fireworks).
 - Fireworks include, but are not limited to, any device which produces noise, smoke, showers of sparks or movement by combustion or explosive materials. Pyrotechnic device means any device manufactured or used to produce a light or sound effect by combustion, deflagration or detonation. Explosives are defined by the U.S. Department of Transportation in 49 C.F.R. § 173.
- Possessing or using tracer, explosive, steel core or incendiary ammunition, explosive chemical devices or binary exploding targets defined by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives in 27 C.F.R. § 555. These include, but are not limited to:
 - A bullet that contains a chemical tracer and leaves a path of light, smoke or fire.
 - An incendiary bomb, grenade, fire bomb, chemical bomb or similar device, which consists of or includes a breakable or non-breakable container, including a flammable liquid or compound or any breakable container which consists of or includes a chemical mixture that explodes with fire or force and can be carried, thrown, placed or shot with a firearm.

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- Binary exploding targets include, but are not limited to, pre-packaged products consisting of two separate components, usually an oxidizer, such as ammonium nitrate and a fuel, such as aluminum or another metal.
- Igniting or causing to burn any tire, petroleum product, wires, magnesium, waste or any other hazardous or explosive materials.
- Using or operating internal combustion engines, such as off-road vehicles or chainsaws not equipped with properly functioning spark arresters. Spark arresters are defined pursuant to **43 C.F.R. § 8343.1(c)**, California Vehicle Code 38366(a), and meeting either the U.S. Department of Agriculture, U.S. Forest Service standard 5100-1a or the 80 percent efficiency level standard determined by the Society of Automotive Engineers (SAEs) recommended practices J335 or J350.
- Releasing or causing to be released any sky lanterns, Chinese lanterns, airborne paper lanterns, and fire balloons that contain a candle or fuel cell composed of a waxy flammable material that are lit and rise into the air, as defined and prohibited under the California Health and Safety Code (13100.1 and 13105), T-19 Public Safety Code, the Public Resources Code, and the International Fire Code.

Persons exempted from this order:

- Persons with a permit, contract or letter of authorization from the appropriate BLM District or Field Office specifically authorizing the above prohibited act or omission within that specific management area.
- Any Federal, State or local officer or member of an organized rescue or fire fighting force in the performance of their official duty.

Penalties for violating this order:

Anyone who is found guilty of violating a fire prevention order, which may be classified as a Class A Misdemeanor Offense under 43 U.S.C. § 1733(a) FLPMA, 18 U.S.C. 3559, and 18 U.S.C. 3571 Sentence of Fine - Sentencing Reform Act, Oct. 12, 1984, that does not result in death, may be fined not more than \$100,000 and/or imprisonment for not more than 12 months or in accordance with the applicable provisions of 18 U.S.C. 3571. Restitution for total fire suppression and damage costs incurred may be borne by the trespasser.

For questions, please call (916) 978-4680, Monday–Friday, 8:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m., or visit the BLM California Fire Restrictions webpage at www.blm.gov/programs/public-safety-and-fire/fire-and-aviation/regional-info/california/fire-restrictions.

**KAREN
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Karen E. Mouritsen
State Director

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