

UTAH INTERAGENCY FIRE

Statewide Interagency News Release



**Forestry, Fire
& State Lands**



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Fire Restrictions Expanded Across Utah as Stage 2 Takes Effect in Additional Areas

UTAH — Due to extreme fire danger, persistent hot and dry weather, and an increase in statewide fire activity, interagency fire officials are implementing Stage 2 Fire Restrictions beginning June 26, 2026, at 12:01 a.m. These restrictions apply to all state and unincorporated private lands in Utah, as well as multiple federal jurisdictions.

Note: Incorporated cities and towns are exempt from this order. Please check with local fire departments or county fire wardens for local regulations.

Affected Jurisdictions & Restriction Levels

State of Utah

- All state land and all unincorporated private lands in all 29 counties. (Includes Trust Lands, State Parks, and Wildlife Management Areas).

U.S. Forest Service

- Stage 2: Dixie and Fishlake National Forests.
- Stage 1: Manti-La Sal south zone; Stansbury and Vernon Management Areas (Tooele County).
- None: Ashley National Forest, Manti-La Sal National Forest northern zone, and Uinta-Wasatch-Cache lands east of I-15.

Bureau of Land Management

- All BLM-managed public lands in Utah.

National Park Service

- Arches, Bryce Canyon, Capitol Reef, Canyonlands, and Zion National Parks; Cedar Breaks, Dinosaur, Hovenweep, and Natural Bridges National Monuments; Glen Canyon National Recreation Area.

Restriction Guidelines

Applies to private residences in unincorporated state & private lands, and in agency-developed campgrounds.

What is PROHIBITED in Stage 2:

- **Open Fires:** Building, maintaining, attending, or using any fire, campfire, or stove fire. This includes charcoal grills, coal/wood stoves, and tent stoves—even in developed fire rings at campgrounds and at homes on unincorporated state lands.
- **Smoking:** Prohibited in nature. (Allowed only inside enclosed vehicles/trailers/buildings, at developed recreation sites, or while stopped in an area paved or cleared of flammable vegetation).
- **Fireworks & Targets:** Discharging or using fireworks, tracer ammunition, exploding targets, or other pyrotechnic devices.
- **Spark-Emitting Tools:** Cutting, welding, or grinding metal in areas with dry vegetation.
- **Off-Road/Equipment:** Operating motorcycles, chainsaws, ATVs, or other small internal combustion engines without an approved and functional spark arrestor.

What is ALLOWED in Stage 2:

Note: A pressurized water system must be in place on unincorporated state and private lands, including campgrounds.

- **Pressurized Fuel Devices:** Devices using pellets, pressurized liquid, or gas (stoves, grills, or lanterns) that include shutoff valves when used in an area at least three feet or more from flammable material such as grasses or pine needles.
- **Permitted Activities:** Actions conducted under a valid permit or waiver issued by the official land agency at designated locations.
- **Official Duties:** Any Federal, State, or Local Officer, or member of an organized rescue or firefighting service in the performance of an official duty.

Why the Restrictions?

"With Stage 2 fire restrictions now in place across much of Utah, we need compliance to prevent further disaster," said Brett Ostler, State Fire Management Officer for the Utah Division of Forestry, Fire and State Lands. "Our three largest fires this year have all been human-caused, burning more than 134,000 acres. Please honor these restrictions, use your Fire Sense, and help keep our communities safe."

"While we cannot control the weather, we can control the sparks that come from us," urged Chris Delaney, Fire Chief, Great Basin Geographic Area, U.S. Wildland Fire Service. "Extremely dry conditions and drought have already led to thousands of acres burned because of human-caused fires, leaving our resources stretched tight. With a long fire season still ahead of us, we need everyone to make responsible choices. The absolute best way to support our

frontline firefighters is to prevent the next fire."

The Cost of Restitution

To protect communities and natural resources, law enforcement officers are strictly enforcing the following penalties for those who ignore current fire bans:

- **State and Unincorporated Private Lands:**
 - Violations are classified as a Class B Misdemeanor. Offenders face up to six months in jail and fines of up to \$1,000 per incident, plus additional court surcharges.
- **Federal Public Lands**
 - (USFS): Violating restrictions on federal lands is a federal Class B Misdemeanor. Penalties include up to six months in federal prison and steep fines—up to \$5,000 for individuals and \$10,000 for organizations.
 - (BLM): Violating fire restrictions is a Class A Misdemeanor and, provided the violation does not result in death, anyone who violates this order may be fined not more than \$100,000 and/or imprisoned for not more than 12 months.
 - (NPS): Violation of these restrictions is punishable by a fine of up to \$5,000

Beyond criminal penalties, anyone whose actions cause a wildfire may be held financially responsible for the full cost of suppression, property damage, and natural resource rehabilitation. Those costs can quickly add up to millions of dollars.

Stay Informed & Promote Fire Safety

Fire restrictions can vary among different agencies, and these rules do not apply in incorporated cities. Always verify current restrictions with the relevant land management agency before your visit.

- **Maps & Restrictions:** UtahFireInfo.gov
- **Wildfire Updates:** Follow on social media at @UtahWildfire
- **Fire Prevention:** Local, state, and federal fire officials urge everyone to practice "Fire Sense" to prevent unwanted wildfires. Learn more about this interagency campaign at UtahFireSense.org.

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