



# South Fork Fire & Rescue

**“Serving with Honor and Compassion”**

**For Immediate Release  
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## **Stage 2 Fire Restrictions Fireworks Show Cancelled**

Today, June 29, 2020 Stage 2 Fire Restrictions were put into effect for Rio Grande County, West of County Road 18, within the South Fork Fire Protection District, by Sheriff Don McDonald. With the new fire restrictions put into place, the firework show scheduled for July 3rd in South Fork has been cancelled.

While Stage 2 Fire Restrictions are in place you may use a gas or pellet grill that has an off switch. The restriction also applies to residents within city limits of South Fork, that have previously obtained a burn permit.

Fire Restrictions for South Fork Fire Protection District can also be found online at [www.southforkfirerescue.com/fire-restrictions](http://www.southforkfirerescue.com/fire-restrictions).

Stage 2 Restrictions are as follows:

1. Building, maintaining, attending or using a fire, campfire, charcoal, coal, or stove fire, except within a developed recreation site, or improved site; 36 CFR § 261.52(a).
2. Smoking; 36 CFR § 261.52(c).
3. Using an explosive; 36 C.F.R. § 261.52(b).
4. Discharging a firearm, air rifle or gas gun; 36 C.F.R § 261.58 (m)
5. Operating a chainsaw, or other equipment powered by an internal combustion engine, is prohibited from times designated in the specific closure order 36 C.F.R. § 261.52(h).
6. Operating or using any internal or external combustion engine without a spark arresting device properly installed, maintained, and in effective working order meeting either:

- o Department of Agriculture, Forest Service Standard 5100-1a; or
  - o Appropriate Society of Automotive Engineers (SAE recommended practice J335 (b) and J350 (a); 36 C.R.R. § 261.52(j)
7. Welding or operating acetylene or other torch with open flame; 36 C.F.R. § 261.52(i).
  8. Possessing or using a motor vehicle off National Forest System roads, except when parking in an area devoid of vegetation within 10 feet of the roadway; and except for parking overnight in Forest Service developed campgrounds and trailheads. 36 C.F.R. § 261.56,
  9. Violating any state law, specifically [*reference actual state [not county] statute or Order*], concerning burning, fires, or which is for the purpose of preventing or restricting the spread of fire; 36 C.F.R. § 261.52. (k).

**Exemptions** - Pursuant to 36 CFR § 261.50(e), the following persons are exempt from this order:

1. Persons with a Forest Service permit specifically authorizing the prohibited act or omission.
2. Any Federal, State or Local Officer or member of an organized firefighting force in the performance of an official duty.
3. Resident owners and lessees of land, and holders of Forest Service recreation special use authorizations, within the restricted area exempt from Restriction No. 1 above, provided such fires are within a permanent structure.
4. Residents in the area.
5. Persons occupied in a business, trade or occupation in the area.
6. Persons utilizing petroleum-fueled stoves, lanterns or heating devices providing such devices meet the fire underwriter's specifications for safety.

Attachments: South Fork Fire Protection District Map

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