



# News Release

**USDA Forest Service**  
**Cibola National Forest and Grasslands**  
**Magdalena Ranger District**  
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## For Immediate Release

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## ***Cibola National Forest's Magdalena Mountain area enters Stage II Fire Restrictions; Forest Road 235 reopens***

**Magdalena, NM. July 3, 2012** – Cibola National Forest and Grasslands Forest Supervisor Nancy Rose announced that the Magdalena Ranger District's Magdalena Mountain area will begin Stage II fire restrictions effective Tuesday, July 3, 2012 at 8:00 a.m. The Gallinas and Bear Mountain areas will stay in Stage I. The San Mateo and Datil Mountain areas have been in Stage II fire restrictions since June 22, 2012.

In addition, Forest Road 235 has reopened. It was closed during the Sawmill fire, which is now 90 percent contained.

Current Fire Restrictions for the Cibola National Forest and Grasslands are:

- **Black Kettle and McClellan Creek National Grasslands** have no restrictions; fire conditions are currently moderate.
- **Kiowa and Rita Blanca National Grasslands** have no restrictions; fire conditions are currently high.
- **Magdalena Ranger District** is in Stage II Fire Restrictions for all areas except the Gallinas and Bear Mountain areas. Fire conditions are currently very high.
- **Mountainair Ranger District** is in Stage II fire restrictions. Fire conditions are currently very high.
- **Mt. Taylor Ranger District** is in Stage II Fire Restrictions. Wood cutting permits are suspended. Fire conditions are currently extreme.
- **Sandia Ranger District** is in Stage II fire restrictions. Fire conditions are currently very high.

"Although there has been some precipitation over the area, it hasn't been widespread enough to change restrictions yet," said Rose. "We will continue to closely monitor conditions on our districts," she added.

Stage II fire restrictions include:

1. Building, maintaining, attending or using a fire, campfire, charcoal, coal, or stove fire. Exception: The use of petroleum-fueled stoves, lanterns, or heating devices is allowed, provided such devices meet the fire underwriter's specifications for safety.
2. Smoking except within an enclosed vehicle or building.
3. Using an explosive.
4. Discharging a firearm, air rifle or gas gun.
5. Operating a chainsaw or other equipment powered by an internal combustion engine between 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
6. Operating or using any internal or external combustion engine without a spark arresting device that is properly installed, maintained and in effective working order. They must meet either USDA Forest Service or appropriate Society of Automotive Engineers (SAE) recommended practice
7. Welding or operating acetylene or other torch with an open flame
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 overnight parking in Forest Service-developed campgrounds and trailheads.

**The following 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. Generators that are specifically designed by the manufacturer and used within an enclosed recreational vehicle such as a motorhome or a travel trailer.

The current Fire Restriction orders can be found on the Cibola's web site: <http://www.fs.usda.gov/cibola> in the "Alerts and Notices" section.

**Useful fire websites:**

- **Southwest Coordination Center:** <http://gacc.nifc.gov/swcc/>
- **National Interagency Fire Center:** [www.nifc.gov](http://www.nifc.gov)
- **National Incident Information Center:** [www.fs.fed.us/news/fire](http://www.fs.fed.us/news/fire)
- **FireWise:** [www.firewise.org](http://www.firewise.org)