



Carson National Forest

208 Cruz Alta Road

Taos, NM 87571

Voice: 575-758-6200

Web: www.fs.usda.gov/carson

Facebook: www.facebook.com/CarsonNF/

Twitter: [@CarsonNF](https://twitter.com/CarsonNF)

News Release



Carson National Forest Transitioning to Stage 2 Fire Restrictions

Taos, NM (July 9) - For Immediate Release. Effective Tuesday, July 10, 2018 at 8:00 am, the public will be allowed entry to all Carson National Forest lands including trails, day-use areas, campgrounds and forest roads. This access will be subject to Stage 2 fire restrictions. The area surrounding the Sardinias Canyon Fire will remain closed for public and firefighter safety. Fire and area closure restrictions will be strictly enforced on the Forest.

“We looked at the predicted weather patterns, forest-wide fuel moisture, and available firefighting resources,” said Forest Supervisor James Duran. “Given that we received rain and higher humidity, the potential for large wildfires has been reduced. I am comfortable with Stage 2 restrictions.”

Stage 2 fire restrictions prohibit the use of:

- open flames, including campfires, fires, and wood, coal or charcoal stoves
- all forms of smoking
- firearms
- explosives
- chainsaws
- welding
- Vehicles are required to have spark arresters, stay on roads, and not park over vegetation.

The area around the Sardinias Canyon fire will remain closed due to ongoing fire activities and for the safety of the public. This closure will include the southern portion of Forest Service Road 76 and the La Junta, Duran and Upper La Junta campgrounds.

Violation of these restrictions carries a mandatory appearance in federal court, consequent fines up to \$10,000, and possible jail time.

Complete fire restriction and area closure information can be found on the Carson National Forest website, <http://www.fs.usda.gov/Carson>.

“I want to thank the public for their compliance, awareness and patience during these drought conditions,” said Duran. “Remember, we are still in fire season and under fire restrictions. I ask that you remain vigilant.”

###

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer and lender.