

NEWS

*United States
Department of
Agriculture*

*Apache-Sitgreaves NFs
Public Affairs Office
30 S. Chiricahua Drive
Springerville, AZ 85938*



For Immediate Release
July 7, 2011

Contacts: Pamela Baltimore (928) 231-7520

Apache-Sitgreaves National Forests Announces Sitgreaves Open for Recreation portions of Apache opening Friday

Springerville, AZ (July 7, 2011)—The Apache-Sitgreaves National Forests is happy to announce the openings as they occur.

Opening on Sitgreaves National Forest

Lakeside and Black Mesa Ranger districts will be open their recreation areas. All previous orders will be rescinded as of 12:01 a.m. Friday, June 8, and stage II fire restrictions will be moved to Stage I restrictions on the Sitgreaves forest, which means fires and charcol will be allowed in developed campgrounds with fire rings. **No fires will be allowed for dispersed camping.** Campers can begin making reservations by calling 1-877-444-6777 on their website beginning Friday, July 8.

Strong winds are predicted for Monday with gust as high as 34 mph. Please check for RED FLAG conditions and updates by dialing 593 or 928-333-3412 or on the website 593info.org or the ASNFs website at: <http://www.fs.fed.us/r3/asnf/>

The Forest Service continues to promote safety messages to those visiting any national forest. As dry conditions exist, please use extreme caution if camping on the A-S or any national forest. There are no fire restrictions currently on the A-S, but check prior to heading out to camp to check if there are any restrictions in place or Red Flag Warnings.

Safety tips to follow when visiting public lands or other areas:

- When finished with the use of a campfire, completely extinguish your campfire by drowning the fire, stirring it, and drowning it again. Never leave a campfire unattended!
- Be careful with gas lanterns, barbeques, gas stoves, and anything that can be a source of ignition for a wildfire.
- Park vehicles away from dry grass and avoid driving through tall grass.
- Dispose of a lit cigarette or other smoking materials appropriately.

#