UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOREST SERVICE
GILA NATIONAL FOREST
STAGE II FIRE RESTRICTIONS
(Revised)

PROHIBITIONS

Pursuant to 16 U.S.C. § 551 and 36 C.F.R. § 261.50(a) and (b), the following acts are prohibited within all National Forest System lands as described in this Order (the “Restricted Area”) and as depicted on the attached map, hereby incorporated into this Order as Exhibit A, within the Gila National Forest, Catron, Grant, Hidalgo, and Sierra Counties within the State of New Mexico.

1. Building, maintaining, attending, or using a fire, campfire, or stove fire, including charcoal and briquettes. 36 C.F.R. § 261.52(a).

2. Smoking, except within an enclosed vehicle or building, a developed recreation site, or while stopped in an area at least three (3) feet in diameter that is barren or cleared of any flammable material. 36 C.F.R. § 261.52(d).

3. Blasting, welding, or operating an acetylene or other torch with open flame. 36 C.F.R. § 261.52(i).

4. Using an explosive. 36 C.F.R. § 261.52(b).

5. 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.

THE FOLLOWING ACTS ARE PROHIBITED FROM 9:00 A.M. TO 6:00 P.M.:

1. Operating a chainsaw or other equipment powered by an internal combustion engine. 36 C.F.R. § 261.52(h), (j).
EXEMPTIONS

Pursuant to 36 C.F.R. §261.50(e), the following persons are exempt from the provisions in this Order:

1. Persons operating generators with an approved spark arresting device in an area that is barren or cleared of all overhead and surrounding flammable materials within three (3) feet of the generator.

2. Any Federal, State, or local officer, or member of an organized rescue or firefighting force in the performance of official duty.

3. Persons with a written Forest Service authorization specifically exempting them from the effect of this Order.

RESTRICTED AREA

All National Forest System lands, roads, and trails within the exterior boundaries of the Gila National Forest, as depicted on the attached map at Exhibit A.

PURPOSE

To reduce the risk of human-caused wildfires during periods of high fire danger and severe fire weather conditions.

IMPLEMENTATION

1. This Order will be in effect at 8:00AM on Tuesday, May 24th, 2022, and shall remain in effect until December 31, 2022, or until rescinded, whichever occurs first.

2. A map identifying the Restricted Area is attached and made part of this Order as Exhibit A. For a digital version of the Order map for the Gila National Forest, go to https://www.fs.usda.gov/alerts/gila/alerts-notices.

3. Any violation of the prohibitions in this Order is punishable as a Class B misdemeanor by a fine of not more than $5000 for an individual or $10,000 for an organization, or by imprisonment for not more than six (6) months, or both (see 16 U.S.C. § 551, 18 U.S.C. § 3571(b)(6),18 U.S.C. § 3581(b)(7)).

4. Further information regarding this Order may be obtained at the Gila National Forest Supervisor’s Office in Silver City, NM, telephone number 575-388-8201.

5. This Order supersedes any previous Orders prohibiting the same acts covered by this Order.

Done at Silver City, New Mexico this 23rd day of May 2022.

MICHAEL MARTINEZ
Digitally signed by MICHAEL MARTINEZ
Date: 2022.05.24 09:50:11 -06'00'

Michael Martinez, Acting Forest Supervisor, Gila National Forest