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News Release

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Fire Restrictions Begin on Tonto National Forest, Tuesday, May 23

*Target shooting is prohibited while fire restrictions are in place,
fireworks and explosives are prohibited year-round*

PHOENIX, May 19, 2017 - For Immediate Release. Hot temperatures and increased fire danger have prompted fire officials to implement fire restrictions for the Tonto National Forest beginning at 8 a.m., Tuesday May 23, 2017. Most types of fire or fire-causing activities are prohibited across the entire Tonto National Forest.

Building, maintaining, attending or using a fire, campfire or charcoal-burning device is prohibited outside of metal fire rings and metal pedestal grills provided by the Forest Service in developed recreation sites (see attached list). The use of petroleum-fueled stoves, lanterns, and heating devices are allowed.

Restrictions also apply to operating internal combustion power tools, using welding equipment or torches with open flames, operating combustion engines without spark-arresting devices in effective working order and meeting either USDA or SAE (Society of Automotive Engineers) standards.

Discharging a firearm is prohibited, except for taking game in accordance with Arizona hunting laws.

Smoking is prohibited except within an enclosed vehicle or building, or a developed recreation site. Please deposit the remains in an ashtray or inside a building. Do not toss or discard on the ground.

“Temperatures are climbing back above 100 degrees, drying out grasses and leaves, and raising the fire danger” said Tonto National Forest Fire Staff Don Nunley. “These precautionary measures will help prevent human-caused wildfires, decreasing unnecessary exposure to firefighters.”

“We are reminding the public that fireworks and the use of exploding targets are always prohibited on the Forest,” emphasized Nunley.

Violation of these fire restrictions is punishable by a fine of up to \$5,000 and imprisonment for up to six months.

For more information regarding forest recreation sites and fire restrictions on the Tonto National Forest, contact the Tonto National Forest at (602) 225-5200, or online at www.fs.usda.gov/tonto.

For information on current fires burning in Arizona visit [Inciweb](#), and visit the [Arizona Fire Restrictions](#) website to view all fire restrictions in Arizona.

Campfires are allowed in metal fire rings and metal pedestal grills provided by the Forest Service in the following developed recreation sites:

Cave Creek Ranger District

Bartlett Lake Recreation Area

- Bartlett Lake Marina
- Rattlesnake Cove
- SB Cove parking lot ramadas with metal charcoal pedestals grills
- Yellow Cliff parking lot ramadas with metal charcoal pedestals grills
- Seven Springs Recreation Area
- Springs Group Site
- CCC Campground

Lower Verde Recreation Area

- Needle Rock Day Use Picnic Area

Globe Ranger District

- Timber Camp Equestrian Group Site
- Timber Camp Campground – Brundrett #1 and Brundrett #2
- Jones Water Campground
- Oak Flat Campground
- Kellner Group Recreation Site (once Pinal Fire Area Closure is lifted)
- Icehouse CCC Picnic Site (once Pinal Fire Area Closure is lifted)
- Sulphide Del Rey Campground
- Pinal Campground (once Pinal Fire Area Closure is lifted)
- Upper Pinal Campground (once Pinal Fire Area Closure is lifted)
- Pioneer Pass Campground (once Pinal Fire Area Closure is lifted)

Mesa Ranger District

- Saguaro Del Norte
- Butcher Jones
- Acacia
- Boulder
- Laguna
- Palo Verde
- Granite Reef
- Phon D Sutton
- Coons Bluff
- Saguaro Lake Marina
- Canyon Lake Marina
- Pebble Beach
- Blue Point
- Sheep's Crossing
- Water Users
- Larry Forbis Group Site

Payson Ranger District

- Houston Mesa Campground
- Houston Mesa Horse Camp
- Ponderosa Campground
- Christopher Creek Campground
- Sharp Creek Campground
- Tonto Creek Campground
- Tonto Creek Walk-In

Pleasant Valley Ranger District

- Colcord Campground
- Airplane Flat Campground
- Upper Canyon Creek Campground

Tonto Basin Ranger District

- Apache Lake Marina
- Vineyard Picnic Site
- Frazier Campground
- Frazier Group Site
- Windy Hill Campground
- Cholla Campground
- Grapevine Campground
- Cottonwood Picnic Site
- Schoolhouse Campground
- Burnt Corral Campground