



## Carson National Forest

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# News Release

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## Carson National Forest Lifts Fire Restrictions July 16

**Taos, NM (July 16, 2018) - For Immediate Release.** Fire restrictions on the Carson National Forest will be lifted, effective at 8 am on Monday, July 16, 2018.

The fire restrictions, which covered all districts, are no longer required because fire danger has been reduced to moderate. Due to increased humidity levels and widespread precipitation, campfires, smoking and chainsaw use are now allowed throughout the forest. Target shooting is allowed again in dispersed areas where it can be conducted safely. Fireworks are ALWAYS prohibited on National Forest System Lands.

The area around the Sardinias Canyon Fire will remain closed due to ongoing fire activities and for public safety. Forest Road 76, off Hwy 518, will be closed, including the La Junta Summer homes and the Duran and Upper La Junta campgrounds. Forest Road 442 at Gallegos Park is also closed. Forest officials will continue to evaluate when these roads can be re-opened for public use after the monsoons.

Although fire restrictions will be lifted starting July 16<sup>th</sup>, forest personnel want to encourage the public to practice fire safety. It is vital that all campfires be completely extinguished before leaving your campsite. Drown your fires with plenty of water and make sure they are cool to the touch.

Monsoon season brings strong storms with possible flooding and lightning. Stay informed about weather forecasts when visiting the forest and be prepared for dangerous conditions.

Forest managers request the public's patience as it may take time to remove barriers and open gates for forest access Monday. Fire updates are posted on the New Mexico Fire Information website at <https://nmfireinfo.com/>, <http://www.twitter/CarsonNF>, <https://www.facebook.com/CarsonNF/> or contact the Public Affairs Office at 575- 758-6303.

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