RESOLUTION 2025-04

A RESOLUTION OF THE SAN JUAN COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS IMPLEMENTING AN IMMEDIATE STAGE TWO FIRE BAN

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners of San Juan County is empowered under C.R.S. 30-11-107 (1) (e), to provide for the management of the business and concerns of the County; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to C.R.S. 30-15-401 (n.5), the Board of County Commissioners of San Juan County has the power to adopt an ordinance to ban open fires to a degree and in a manner that is deemed necessary to reduce the danger of wildfires; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners of San Juan County has received competent evidence that there exists within the unincorporated areas of San Juan County a high danger of forest of grass fires; and

WHEREAS, the criteria for a Stage II Fire Restriction is set forth in the "Wildland Fire Operating Plan"; and,

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners of San Juan County have received a request from the San Juan County Sheriff acting as the Fire Marshall to impose a county-wide fire ban; and

WHEREAS, the enactment of this Resolution is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public health, safety and welfare.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF SAN JUAN COUNTY, COLORADO;

- 1. That a fire ban is necessary to reduce the danger of wildfires within all private land in the unincorporated areas of San Juan County.
- 2. That a fire ban prohibiting open burning within all private land in the unincorporated areas of San Juan County and within all land owned by San Juan County is hereby enacted.
- 3. That Stage II Fire Restrictions is hereby proclaimed to be implemented on August 13, 2025 to prohibit the follow acts:
 - I. Building, maintaining, attending an open flame, including campfire, stove fire, charcoal grills and barbeques, coal and wood burning stoves, open flame propane fire pits and devices using liquid fuel such as white gas or kerosene. Mechanical stoves and appliances fueled by bottled or liquid gas which allow the operator to control and extinguish the flame with a valve are permitted provided that such devices are approved by Underwriters Laboratory Inc. and are located in an area barren or cleared of all flammable materials within three feet of the device.
 - II. Smoking. Except: Within an enclosed vehicle, trailer, or building.

- III. Welding or operating acetylene or other torch with an open flame except within an enclosed building.
- IV. Using an explosive. This includes but is not limited to fuses or blasting caps, fireworks, rockets, exploding targets, and tracers or incendiary ammunition.
- V. Operating or using any internal combustions engine including but not limited to chainsaws, generators, or OHVs, without a spark arresting device properly installed, maintained and in effective working order meeting either:
 - a. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service Standard 5100-1a; or
 - b. Society of Automotive Engineers (SAE) recommended practice J335 (b) and J350 (a).
- VI. Operating a chainsaw without a chemical pressurized fire extinguisher of not less than 8 ounces capacity by weight, and one size 0 or larger round pointed shovel with an overall length of at least 36 inches. The extinguisher shall be with the chainsaw operator. The shovel may be kept with the fueling supplies but readily available.
- VII. Possessing or using a motor vehicle off established roads, motorized trails or established parking areas, except when parking in an area devoid of vegetation within 10 feet of the vehicle.
- 4. Exemptions shall include:
 - A. Persons with a written permit specifically authorizing the otherwise prohibited act or omission.
 - B. Any Federal, State or local officer or member of an organized rescue or firefighting force in the performance of an official duty.
- 5. That the fire ban shall remain in effect until the following occurs:

The Sheriff, acting as Fire Marshall, or the Fire Chiefs of the affected districts shall request in writing that the fire ban be removed from all or part of their various jurisdictions.

READ, PASSED AND ADOPTED this 13th day of August, 2025 by the Board of Commissioners of San Juan County, Colorado.

Austin Lashley, Chair

Scott Fetchen

Pete Marse

Attest:

Ladonna L. Jaramillo

Clerk and Recorder