

RESOLUTION 2026 - 34

ESTABLISHING OPEN FIRE RESTRICTIONS AND FIREWORKS RESTRICTIONS FOR PARK COUNTY

WHEREAS, a potentially severe to extreme fire situation exists throughout Park County created by a heavy fuel load and dry spring and summer conditions that could create situations that over-extend the firefighting capability of local governments; and

WHEREAS, Wyoming Statute 35-9-301 through 304 provides that upon the recommendation of the County Fire Warden, the Board of Park County Commissioners may close areas to any form of use by the public, or limit such use, which includes the prohibition of any type of open fire for such periods of time as the Board may deem necessary and proper; and

WHEREAS, the County Fire Warden has recommended that Stage 1 open burning restrictions be imposed throughout the County by closing areas to forms of use and/or limiting such use; and

WHEREAS, Wyoming statutes 35-10-201 through 208 allow for the regulations of fireworks and the Fire Warden has recommended the non-use of all fireworks at this time due to the extreme fire situation; and

WHEREAS, all State owned land is already subject to open burn restrictions as well as fireworks restrictions; and

WHEREAS, the Board finds that agricultural burns conducted on private lands with the permission of the local fire department should be permitted since these burns may be necessary to the livelihood of local farmers; and

WHEREAS, any violation of this resolution may be in violation of W.S. 35-9-304 punishable by up to 30 days in jail and up to a \$100.00 fine or both together with possible restitution for the cost of fire suppression and damages to others caused by the violation of this resolution; and

WHEREAS, upon the recommendation of the Fire Warden, this open burning restriction and ban on the use of fireworks would begin July 7, 2026, and be in effect until further notice of the Board.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Park County Commissioners hereby implement the following restrictions, effective July 7, 2026, with said restrictions to remain in effect until further notice of the Board.



Stage 1 Restrictions:

- i. Any ignition or discharge of any firework and all outdoor open fires are prohibited in unimproved areas of Park County (except as provided below), which areas include all County land and private land, including but not limited to all lands owned by Park County or in which Park County holds or owns and interest, including County roads, easements and rights of way.:
- ii. Only campfires at residences or campsites, within a fire ring centered within a minimum of a 15 ft. cleared radius of burnable materials are permitted.
- iii. Trash or refuse fires between the hours of 6:00 p.m. and 8:00 a.m., inside containers provided with a spark arrester and located within a cleared radius of a minimum of 15 ft. of burnable materials are permitted.
- iv. Charcoal fires within enclosed grills and enclosed propane grills are permitted.
- v. Use of acetylene cutting, electric arc welders, or metal grinding in a cleared radius of 15 ft. of burnable materials is permitted.
- vi. The use of portable stoves, lanterns using gas, jellied petroleum, pressurized liquid fuel or fully enclosed (shepherd type) stove and open fire branding activities in a cleared radius of 15 ft. of burnable materials is permitted.

The following persons are exempt from the restrictions imposed in Stage 1 Restrictions:

- (a) Any federal, state, or local officers engaged in fire, emergency, and law enforcement activities.
- (b) Any member of a rescue or firefighting force engaged in the performance of an official duty.
- (c) Exceptions to these restrictions and closures can be made in writing by the Park County Commissioners.
- (d) Persons conducting agricultural burns on private lands, but only with notification to the Park County Sheriff's Department when beginning and ending the burn.
- (e) Park County Landfill exemption to conduct their scheduled burns with the stipulation to place a call to Park County Dispatch before they burn at the Park County designated landfills.



Unimproved land is defined to mean cropland, agricultural land and undeveloped land which predominately remains in the natural forested or range condition.

These restrictions do not include the areas within incorporated cities and towns in Park County or federal lands, as these entities may impose more or less restrictive regulations.

The Fire Warden shall promptly notify the Board of County Commissioners of any changes in the severity of the fire danger.

The County Sheriff and the State Forester will be provided a copy of this Resolution when it has been processed.

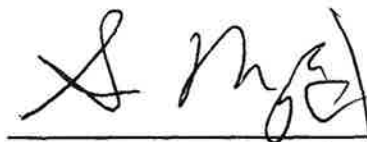
**MADE, DETERMINED AND RESOLVED THIS 19th day of August
2025. BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, PARK COUNTY,
WYOMING**


Scott Steward, Chairman

Absent
Lloyd Thiel, Vice-Chairman


Kelly Simone, Commissioner


Dossie Overfield, Commissioner


Scott Mangold, Commissioner




Colleen Renner, Park County Clerk

