



Fire Prevention Order CAD-060-2024-01 (Whitewater Fire Closure) California Desert District, Palm Springs-South Coast Field Office

Due to dry conditions and high fire danger, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Palm Springs-South Coast Field Office is prohibiting the following acts under the authority of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA) of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1701 *et. seq.*) and pursuant to 43 CFR 9212.2, on public lands in Whitewater Canyon within the Bureau of Land Management's Palm Springs-South Coast Field Office jurisdiction beginning June 1, 2024, at 00:01 A.M. and continuing until October 31, 2024, at 11:59 P.M.

The public lands, within the area described as the "Whitewater Canyon Fire Closure Area" and located within: Township 2 South, Range 3 East, Sections 15, 22, 23, 26, 27, 34 and 35 and Township 3 South, Range 3 East, Sections 2, 11 and 12, San Bernardino Base and Meridian are closed.

The following is prohibited on federal lands unless otherwise noted:

It is illegal to enter and be upon public lands that are described and identified as the "Whitewater Canyon Fire Closure Area" as described above, and identified on the attached map, made part of this order. Anyone who is found guilty of violating a fire prevention order, which may be classified as a Class A Misdemeanor Offense under 43 USC 1733(a) FLPMA, 18 USC 3559, and 18 USC 3571 Sentence of Fine - Sentencing Reform Act, Oct. 12, 1984, that does not result in death, may be fined not more than \$100,000 and/or imprisonment for not more than 12 months, or in accordance with the applicable provisions of 18 USC 3571. Restitution for total fire suppression and damage costs incurred may be borne by the trespasser.

A map of current restrictions and active fire prevention orders are available online at: <https://go.usa.gov/xmUEG>.

Exemptions

Pursuant to **Title 43 CFR §9212.2**, the following persons are exempt from this order.

- a. Persons with a permit from or contract with the BLM that allowing them access to these lands.
- b. Persons using the Whitewater Canyon Road as a means of accessing the Whitewater Preserve operated by the Wildlands Conservancy.
- c. Owners or lessees of land in the area for the purpose of accessing that land.
- d. Residents in the area for the purpose of accessing their residence.
- e. Persons engaged in a business, trade, or occupation in the area requiring passage thru or upon BLM land to conduct such business, trade, or occupation.
- f. Any Federal, State, or local Officer, or member of an organized rescue or fire fighting force in the performance of an official duty.
- g. Hikers utilizing the Pacific Crest Trail (PCT) and specified connector trails when in compliance with all other applicable fire restrictions and orders.
- h. **When actively engaged in the legal take/pursuit of game and non-game species in accordance with current California hunting regulations with a valid State of California hunting license.**

For more information call the Palm Springs-South Coast Field Office at: (760) 833-7100.

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