RESOLUTION NO. 20-100395B

ORDER OF PARTIAL CLOSURE DUE TO EXTREME FIRE RISK

WHEREAS, portions of Sublette County, Wyoming are currently suffering from abnormally dry conditions as denoted on the National Fuel Moisture Database\(^1\) and the National Fire Danger Rating System\(^2\), and there exists the presence of an excessive amount of inflammmable materials and fuel sources including, but not limited to, cured grasses, shrubs, sagebrush, standing dead trees and deadfall, and the risk of difficult to control wildland and uncontained fires is presently extremely high, and;

WHEREAS, the elevated fire danger in Sublette County, Wyoming warrants restrictions regarding open burning and the use of incendiary devices to decrease the extreme risk of human-caused wildland fires occurring within Sublette County and;

WHEREAS, Wyoming Statutes § 35-9-301, § 35-9-302, and Board Of Land Commissioners Rules and Regulations Chapter 9 governing fire danger closures, provide authority to Boards of County Commissioners in the State of Wyoming, if certain conditions are met, to close the area to any form of use of fire by the public or may limit such use upon the recommendation of the County Fire Warden and;

WHEREAS, Shad Cooper, Sublette County Fire Warden, has advised the Sublette County Board of Commissioners that a partial closure as set forth within this Resolution is necessary based upon his determination that an extreme fire danger presently exists within and throughout Sublette County.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of County Commissioners in Sublette County, Wyoming, that the entire geographic area within Sublette County, Wyoming, because of drought and the presence of an excessive amount of inflammmable material, is declared to be an extreme fire danger area warranting a partial closure pursuant to Wyoming Statute § 35-9-301, Wyoming Statute § 35-9-302, and Board Of Land Commissioners Rules and Regulations Chapter 9. Commencing August 22, 2020 at 12:01 a.m., the following actions are hereby prohibited within the entire boundaries of Sublette County, Wyoming:

Open burning of all fires, including, but not limited to:
- burning of slash piles,
- burning of weeds or brush,
- campfires,
- use of fireworks, and
- use of any incendiary device.

The following open fires are exempt from this prohibition:

1. Trash or refuse fires between the hours of 6 p.m. and 8 a.m., when no wind is present, inside containers provided with spark arresters, and located within a cleared area ten (10) feet in radius.
2. Campfires and residential outdoor fires contained within an established fire ring when no wind is present. For the purposes of this Resolution, an established fire ring is:
   An enclosure made of non-combustible materials surrounded by ground that is free of all combustible materials (grass, weeds, brush, wood, trees) for a radius of ten (10) feet from the enclosure.
3. Charcoal, propane, and natural gas fires within enclosed grills.
4. Use of acetylene cutting torches or electric arc welders in cleared areas, ten (10) feet in radius. Operators must also carry a fire extinguisher and ashovel.

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\(^2\) [https://www.predictiveservices.nifc.gov/fuels_fire-danger/fuels_fire-danger.htm](https://www.predictiveservices.nifc.gov/fuels_fire-danger/fuels_fire-danger.htm)
5. Propane or open fire branding activities in cleared areas, ten (10) feet in radius. Operators must also carry a fire extinguisher and a shovel.

FURTHER, the Sublette County Fire Warden shall promptly notify the Board of County Commissioner when the elevated fire danger has decreased to a level warranting the lifting of all, or a portion of, the limitations set forth in this Resolution, and upon such notice the Board of County Commissioners shall determine, based upon conditions present and forecasted projections whether the closing and limitations contained herein should be continued, modified, or rescinded.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the penalties provided in Wyoming Statutes § 35-9-304 may be imposed for violations of this Resolution, to wit: A fine not to exceed One Hundred Dollars ($100.00), imprisonment in the Sublette County Detention Center not to exceed thirty (30) days, or both.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Sublette County Fire Warden shall notify the Wyoming State Forester at 1100 West 22nd Street, Cheyenne, Wyoming 82002, of the partial closure and limitations provided for in this Resolution, as well as, any and all subsequent modifications hereto and/or rescission hereof, as the case may be.

ADOPTED BY RESOLUTION, this 21 day of August, 2020.

[Signatures to Follow]