



# United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
PO Box 168  
Yellowstone National Park  
Wyoming 82190

IN REPLY REFER TO:

W42/10.D.(YELL)

**AUG 20 2025**

## Memorandum

To: File

From: Superintendent, Yellowstone National Park

Subject: **COMPENDIUM AMENDMENT**  
CA 25-04 Conditions on a Use or Activity Parkwide (Stage 1 Fire Restrictions)

## AUTHORITY

Under the authority of 54 U.S.C. §100751(a) and Title 36 Code of Federal Regulations §1.5(a)(2) the Superintendent is imposing the following activity restriction for all public use. This restriction is necessary for one or more of the following reasons:

- Maintenance of public health and safety
- Protection of environmental or scenic values
- Protection of natural or cultural resources
- Aid to scientific research
- Implementation of management responsibilities
- Equitable allocation and use of facilities
- Avoidance of conflict among visitor use activities

## ACTIVITY RESTRICTION

**Stage 1** fire restrictions go into effect Aug. 12, 2025, throughout Yellowstone National Park due to the VERY HIGH fire danger level.

### Backcountry and trails

- Prohibited: Charcoal and wood campfires in the backcountry, including those in established fire rings.

### Front country and developed areas

- Prohibited: Smoking, except in an enclosed vehicle, single-family dwelling, developed campground, day-use picnic area, or within a 3-foot diameter area that is barren or cleared of all flammable material.

*Retain Original in Chief Ranger's Office*

### Always prohibited

- Discharging fireworks or firearms
- Using explosives or pyrotechnic devices
- Abandoning or failing to attend a campfire
- Driving vehicles off-road
- Smoking in thermal areas and all posted and designated areas such as trails
- Wood campfires at the Fishing Bridge RV Park, Shoshone Lake backcountry campsites or any backcountry campsite without a rock or metal fire ring to contain the spread of the fire.

### **Exceptions:**

#### *Front country and developed areas*

- Permitted: Campfires in designated fire rings in front country developed campgrounds (Madison, Mammoth, Slough Creek, Tower Fall, Canyon, Indian Creek, Lewis Lake, Grant Village and Bridge Bay) and day-use picnic areas. All campfires must be attended. Charcoal and ash must be soaked, stirred, extinguished, and cold to the touch prior to leaving a campfire unattended. Soak, stir, feel, repeat.
- Permitted: Stoves and lanterns that use pressurized liquid, jellied petroleum, or gas fuel, and fully enclosed, sheep-herder type stoves with a ¼-inch spark-arrestor screen in areas which are barren or cleared of all overhead and surrounding flammable materials within 3 feet of the device.
- Permitted: Self-contained gas and charcoal grills.

#### *Backcountry and trails*

- Permitted: Stoves and lanterns that use pressurized liquid, jellied petroleum, or gas fuel, and fully enclosed, sheep-herder type stoves with a ¼-inch spark-arrestor screen in areas which are barren or cleared of all overhead and surrounding flammable materials within 3 feet of the device.
- Permitted: Smoking only in areas adjacent to the provided fire ring in designated campsites or within a 3-foot-diameter area barren of all flammable material. Smokers must ensure that all cigarette butts are extinguished.

### **DETERMINATION**

The orders are initiated for emergency fire prevention purposes based on the following factors:

- Sampled 1,000-hour fuel moisture content is below threshold for active fire behavior across multiple monitoring sites in the park.
- Seven-day Energy Release Component (ERC) is at or above the 90<sup>th</sup> percentile value in the Yellowstone fire danger rating area.

- Locally and nationally, we are at very high Preparedness Levels (PL 4 currently) indicating local and national resources are in high demand for active fires throughout the western region of the United States.
- Seasonal drought outlooks show northwestern Wyoming currently in severe drought which is forecast to persist through the August/September forecast period.
- All outlooks indicate continued hotter and drier conditions than normal for the remainder of the summer season.

The nature, magnitude and duration of this temporary closure will not:

- Result in a significant alteration in the public use pattern of this area;
- Adversely affect the park's natural, aesthetic, scenic or cultural values;
- Require a long-term or significant modification in the resource management objectives;
- Furthermore, this closure is not of a highly controversial nature.

Based on the short-term closure in an area with an overall low volume of use, the National Park Service determines publication as rulemaking in the Federal Register is unwarranted under 36 CFR §1.5.

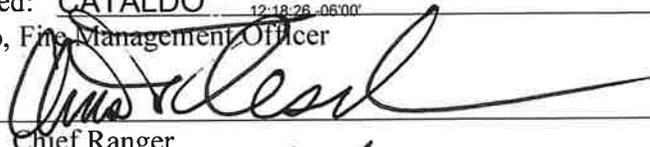
#### PUBLIC NOTICE STRATEGY

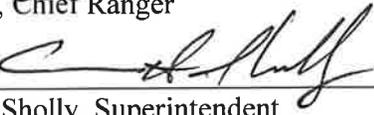
Pursuant to 36 CFR §1.7 notice of this temporary and partial closure and public use limitation will be made through the following means:

- Signs posted at conspicuous locations.
- Maps available in the Office of the Superintendent.
- Publication in a newspaper of general circulation in the affected area.
- Other methods (may include use of electronic media, park brochures, maps and handouts).

This closure and/or public use limitations are in effect when signed by the Superintendent and remain in effect until rescinded.

Recommended: JOHN CATALDO Digitally signed by JOHN CATALDO  
Date: 2025.08.20 12:18:26 -06'00' Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
John Cataldo, Fire Management Officer

Reviewed:  Date: 8/20/25  
Chris Flesch, Chief Ranger

Approved:  Date: 8/20/25  
Cameron H. Sholly, Superintendent

Rescinded: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_