

Las Animas County



Board of County Commissioners

Luis A Lopez II
Commissioner

Mack R Louden
Commissioner

Dean A Moltrer
Commissioner

**A Resolution of the Board of County Commissioners
of Las Animas County, Colorado,
upholding a STAGE 2 FIRE RESTRICTION within unincorporated Las
Animas County with no open fires and appending conditions to require
added fire suppression resources during fire mitigation and large scale
construction activities**

Resolution No. 18-019

- Whereas,** Pursuant to C.R.S. 30-14-401(n.5), the Las Animas County Board of Commissioners has the general power and authority to adopt a resolution as deemed necessary for the control of open fires and to establish restrictions that may be necessary to protect the health, safety and general welfare of the citizens of Las Animas County; *and*
- Whereas,** Due to successive years of drought conditions, Las Animas County is markedly susceptible to wildfire incidents which are prone to occur in such dry conditions; *and*
- Whereas,** Las Animas County has experienced lower than normal seasonal precipitation during preceding months which has increased the threat of fire danger; *and*
- Whereas,** the Fire Behavior Research Department of U.S. Forest Service has declared that Las Animas County exists adjacent to and lies partially within an area presently classified to be at an “above normal” risk of “Significant Fire Potential”; *and*
- Whereas,** County Sheriff James Casias, in his capacity as County Fire Warden, is authorized under provisions of C.R.S. 30-10-512 and C.R.S. 30-10-513 to assume forest and /or prairie fire management, *and*
- Whereas,** Changing fire conditions require that restrictions be established and implemented as to mitigate, as much as possible, the threat of fire to the citizens of Las Animas County; *and*

Whereas, Las Animas County Fire Chiefs Association voted unanimously to move into a stage 2 fire restriction recommendation to the Board of County Commissioners on March 30, 2018; *and*

Whereas, The Las Animas County Board of Commissioner believe that, based on the Wildland Fire Outlook rating recently established by the National Interagency Fire Center Predictive Services, it is necessary and prudent to establish a **STAGE 2 fire restriction** with no open fire allowances in an attempt to reduce the risk of forest and /or prairie fire to Las Animas County.

Now, therefore, be it Resolved by the Board of Commissioners of Las Animas County, Colorado, that:

1. Las Animas County hereby **RESTRICTS** all open fires within Las Animas County thereby establishing a formal **STAGE 2 FIRE RESTRICTION** with the following conditions:
 - a) LP gas or liquid fueled stoves and appliances which allow the operator to turn the flame on and off;
 - b) Fireplaces within an enclosed building which are equipped with adequate spark arrestors;
 - c) Combustion engines, all-terrain vehicles and/or chainsaws with adequate spark arrestors and all types of welders with a spotter, provided that the operator has with him/her a pressurized chemical fire extinguisher of no less than five (5) pounds of capacity, a size 0 (or larger) round-pointed shovel with an overall length of no less than thirty-six (36) inches, and a container of water no less than one-hundred (100) gallons. The use of combustion engines, chainsaws, and welders shall conclude a minimum of one (1) hour prior to leaving the work site.
 - d) No smoking of tobacco products or other smoked products in open non-combustible areas and in conformance with other applicable laws (including the Clean Indoor Air Act of 2006) to include only indoors of private residents or personal vehicle and proper disposal of all butts or stubs.
 - e) Burning of vegetative waste is permitted **ONLY UPON** the issuance of valid Controlled Burn Permit issued by the Las Animas County Fire Warden or authorized fire protection district;
 - f) Fire suppression activities undertaken by fire suppression agencies utilizing any or all types of fire controls to mitigate fire dangers and/or combat wildfires as determined prudent and necessary; and
 - g) Any large scale fire mitigation and/construction-related project, or any activity that will require the use of large equipment is expected to use extreme caution at the project site and arrange for fire suppression through that associated fire protection district or arrange for an on-site, district-approved outside fire suppression source (private contractor)
2. In addition to open fires, the following items are expressly prohibited:

- a. Campfires, warming fires, and charcoal fires, whether or not contained within fire pits or rings
 - b. Pile burning of material in conjunction with irrigation ditch cleaning; and
 - c. Exploding targets
3. The use of cracker shells and screamers provided by the Colorado Park and Wildlife (CPW), for use on irrigated land is allowed with prior approval from Las Animas County Fire Warden or authorized fire protection district.

Upon motion made and seconded, and an affirmative vote, the Resolution was adopted this 17th day of April, 2018

By Order of the Board of County Commissioners of Las Animas County, Colorado.



Mack Loudon, Commissioner



Luis Lopez II, Commissioner



Dean Moltre, Commissioner

Attest:


Patricia M. Vigil, Las Animas County Clerk & Recorder