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(Neb.)-Fire Restrictions Eased On Grasslands And In Forest Areas

By: Chris Fankhauser Posted at: 11/08/2012 10:20 AM

(Chadron)-Due to changes in weather and conditions the Nebraska National Forests & Grasslands has eased fire restrictions from Stage II down to Stage I on Forest System lands. The changes will lessen some restrictions but will keep others in place.

Moving to Stage I Fire Restrictions on National Forest System Lands means that visitors may now have campfires in developed campgrounds or improved sites, but campfires are still not allowed outside of developed sites. Smoking is only allowed in a vehicle or building, a developed recreation site, or in an area at least three feet in diameter that is cleared of flammable vegetation.

According to Tristan Fluharty, Fire Management Officer for the Nebraska National Forests & Grasslands, the shorter days and cooler temperatures have lessened the fire danger but there is still the potential for a wildfire. He said that even with the reduced fire restrictions, they are still asking for people to be careful with fire.

The Nebraska National Forests & Grasslands cover five districts, two in Nebraska and three in South Dakota. The Nebraska Districts includes Pine Ridge Ranger District near Chadron. The South Dakota Districts includes Fall River District near Hot Springs. For more information visit our website at www.fs.fed.us/r2/nebraska.

(Story courtesy of Nebraska National Forests and Grasslands)