RESOLUTION NO. 2016 – 26
PARTIAL CLOSURE TO USE
ESTABLISHING FIRE RESTRICTIONS FOR PARK COUNTY

WHEREAS, based upon recommendation of the County Fire Warden, the Board of County Commissioners of Park County, Wyoming is empowered by Wyoming State Statute § 35-9-301 through 35-9-304 to close areas to fire when fire danger in the county is extreme because of drought, the presence of any excessive amount of flammable material or for any other sufficient reason; and

WHEREAS, the County Fire Warden has recommended a partial closure of all state and private land; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners of Park County, Wyoming finds there is an extreme danger of fire throughout Park County because of drought conditions and there is a presence of excessive amounts of flammable materials and the high fire danger is aggravated by open burning and the use of incendiary devices; and

WHEREAS, it has been brought to the attention of the Board of County Commissioners of Park County, Wyoming that agricultural burns conducted on private lands with the permission of the local fire department should be permitted since agricultural burns may be necessary to the livelihood of local farmers.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF PARK COUNTY, WYOMING:

1. Effective August 17, 2016 at 10:00 a.m., until further notice of this Board, any open fire or discharge of any Class A, B, and/or C fireworks is prohibited on all unimproved state and private land including, but not limited to, all lands owned by Park County or in which Park County holds or owns an interest, including county roads, easements and rights-of-way in Park County. The prohibition is subject to the following exceptions:
    a. Trash or refuse burned between the hours of 6:00 p.m. and 8:00 a.m. inside containers equipped with spark arresters and are located within a cleared area that has at least ten (10) foot radius, and comply with all other laws and requirements.
    b. Campfires contained within an established fire ring at an established campground provided the fire is in compliance with BLM, Forest Service, and National Park Service regulations in effect at the time.
    c. Charcoal fires within enclosed grills.
    d. Use of acetylene cutting torches or electric arc welder provided the torches or welders are used within cleared area with at least a ten (10) foot radius.
    e. Propane or open fire branding activities provided the branding activities are conducted within a cleared area with at least a ten (10) foot radius.
    f. Use of chain saw provided the chain saw has spark arresters properly installed and functioning.
    g. Federal, state or local fire or law enforcement officers participating in fire, emergency, and law enforcement activities.
    h. Public-sponsored firework displays, which are coordinated with the County Fire Warden or his designee.
    i. Agricultural burns conducted on private lands with notification to the local fire department are permitted. Notification should be made for agricultural burns in the Cody, Clark or Meeteetse areas by calling 527-8700. For notification in the Powell area, call 754-2212.
2. Unimproved land is defined to mean cropland, agricultural land and undeveloped land which predominately remains in the natural forested or range condition.
3. The County Fire Warden shall promptly notify the Board of County Commissioners of any changes in the severity of the fire danger.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that penalties provided in W.S. § 35-9-304 may be imposed for violations of this resolution; specifically, a fine not to exceed one hundred dollars ($100.00) or imprisonment not to exceed thirty (30) days or both to which may be added cost of restitution.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the County Fire Warden shall immediately notify the Wyoming State Forester of the limitation provided for by this Resolution, as well as any and all Commissioners' Rules and Regulations and shall assist in public notification by posting the order and circulating it to all local media.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 17th day of August, 2016.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
PARK COUNTY, WYOMING

Tim A. French, Chairman

Lee Livingston, Vice Chairman

Bucky Hall, Commissioner

Loren Grosskopf, Commissioner

Joseph E. Tilden, Commissioner

(SEAL):
(ATTEST):

STATE OF WYOMING COUNTY CLERK PARK COUNTY

Colleen Renner, County Clerk