

RESOLUTION #2013-7

**RESOLUTION CLOSING PLATTE COUNTY
DUE TO FIRE DANGER**

WHEREAS, the Platte County Fire Warden has recommended on this day a partial closure of all of Platte County, Wyoming, to use of open fires and the use of incendiary devices, for an indefinite period; and

WHEREAS, Platte County, Wyoming is currently under an extreme extended drought condition, and the fire danger index is rated at moderate to extreme; and

WHEREAS, the fire danger in Platte County is acute due to limited precipitation, low humidity and high winds; and

WHEREAS, Wyoming Statutes §35-9-301, 35-9-302, and 35-9-303, give the Platte County Board of County Commissioners the authority, if certain conditions are met to "...close the area to any form of use by the public or may limit such use..", and

WHEREAS, it is uncertain how long the drought conditions may continue;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of County Commissioners of Platte County, Wyoming, that effective June 27, 2013, at 4:00 pm, all of the unincorporated areas within the boundaries of Platte County are subject to a partial closure and all outdoor fires and the discharge of all fireworks, including, but not limited to Class A, B, and C fireworks, are prohibited except as follows:

- (i) The Wyoming Military Department land within Platte County for National Guard activities with the following disclaimer;
 - (a) The lands under the Wyoming Military Department including Camp Guernsey are excluded for military related operations and/or training, including controlled burns, when approved by appropriate Wyoming National Guard Range Officials.
 - (b) Any costs and services associated with the extinguishing of out-of-control manmade burns caused by this exception will be provided and paid for by the Wyoming Military Department.
- (ii) Frontier Astronautics LLC is excluded for the purpose of testing rocket engines, flight vehicles, and their associated hardware at their testing facility located at 609 Windmill Road. All fire suppression costs associated with this exemption will be paid for by Frontier Astronautics.
- (iii) The Town of Wheatland is excluded to burn their wood refuse pile located at the Wheatland Landfill, 201 YO Road. All fire

suppression costs associated with this exemption will be paid for by the Town of Wheatland.

- (iv) Attended trash or refuse fires between the hours of 6:00 p.m. and 8:00 a.m., inside containers provided with spark arresters and located within a cleared area forty (40) feet in diameter devoid of vegetation down to mineral soil, are permitted. The fire will be manned at all times by an attendant with a charged hose at least $\frac{3}{4}$ inch diameter capable of reaching 100 feet on all sides of the fire.
- (v) Attended campfires contained within an established fire ring at an established campground are permitted within a cleared area ten (10) feet in diameter devoid of vegetation down to mineral soil. These fires must be attended at all times, and the attendant must have water container of at least 5 gallons within reach as well as a firefighting hand tool. All fires must have the water applied and stirred into the remaining ashes before being left unattended.
- (vi) Attended charcoal fires and propane fires within enclosed grills within arm's reach of operator are permitted. These fires must be attended at all times, and the attendant must have a water container of at least 5 gallons within reach as well as a firefighting hand tool.
- (vii) Use of acetylene cutting torches or electric arc welders in cleared areas forty (40) feet in diameter devoid of vegetation down to mineral soil is permitted. A water container of at least 5 gallons must be within reach as well as a firefighting hand tool.
- (viii) Propane or open fire branding activities in cleared areas forty (40) feet in diameter devoid of vegetation down to mineral soil are permitted. A water container of at least 5 gallons must be within reach as well as a firefighting hand tool.
- (ix) Smoking cigarettes is prohibited, except within a fully enclosed vehicle, building, or within a cleared area at least ten (10) feet in diameter devoid of vegetation down to mineral soil.
- (x) All firefighters are excluded from this resolution while using firing practices in the scope of their duties during an ongoing fire.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the penalties, pursuant to W.S. §35-9-304, a \$100.00 fine, thirty (30) days in the Platte County Jail, or both, may be imposed for violation of the Resolution. The Platte County Fire Warden shall promptly notify the Board of Platte County Commissioners when the fire danger has decreased, and upon such notice the closing may be modified.

Notice of fire closure shall be transmitted to the Wyoming State Forester, Bill Crapser, 5500 Bishop Boulevard, Cheyenne, Wyoming 82002.

PRESENTED, READ AND ADOPTED this 27th day of June 2012.


BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS



Tim Millikin, Commissioner



Steve Shockley, Commissioner



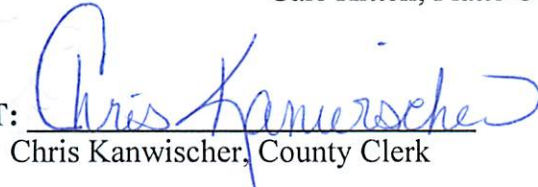
Sandy Kontour, Commissioner



Gale Kittell, Platte County Fire Warden



ATTEST:



Chris Kanwischer, County Clerk