

**TOWN OF PAONIA, COLORADO  
RESOLUTION NO. 21-2025**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE TOWN  
OF PAONIA, COLORADO ENACTING STAGE 2 FIRE  
RESTRICTIONS WITHIN PAONIA TOWN LIMITS**

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Trustees, pursuant to C.R.S. §31-15-601 (j.5), and C.R.S. §31-15-401 (1) (q), is authorized to control and limit fires, including, but limited to, placing restrictions and regulations on where fires are permitted; and

**WHEREAS**, the Sheriff of Delta County, Colorado pursuant to C.R.S. §30-10-512 and C.R.S. §30-10-513, is authorized to act as fire warden of Delta County and is responsible for coordination of fire suppression efforts within the unincorporated areas of the County outside the boundaries of fire protection districts; and

**WHEREAS**, on Thursday, August 7, 2025, Delta County Sheriff Mark Taylor announced the decision to implement Stage 2 Fire Restrictions in Delta County effective Friday, August 8, 2025 at 12:01 am upon consultation with Emergency Management, fire protection districts, State and Federal land and wildfire management professionals; and

**WHEREAS**, Stage 2 Fire Restrictions will apply to all unincorporated lands within Delta County, state parks and wildlife areas and within the Town limits of any municipality within Delta County which elects by appropriate ordinance or resolution to have the provisions of Stage 2 Fire Restrictions apply within their jurisdiction; and

**WHEREAS**, the current danger of forest and/or grass fires in Paonia and Delta County is high due to ongoing drought conditions across the county with hot, dry, windy weather conditions, low fuel moisture levels, and a low availability of fire suppression resources within the region, which could cause fires to grow rapidly and threaten public safety and private property;

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE TOWN OF PAONIA, COLORADO, COUNTY OF DELTA, STATE OF COLORADO THAT:**

**SECTION 1.** As of August 12, 2025 at 7:30 P.M., Stage 2 Fire Restrictions will be implemented within Paonia.

**SECTION 2.** Stage 2 Fire Restrictions shall remain in effect until rescinded by Order of the Delta County Sheriff, or by Resolution of the Board of Trustees of the Town of Paonia, whichever happens first.

**SECTION 3.** The decision to implement Stage 2 Fire Restrictions also aligns with Montrose County, the Uncompahgre Field Office of the Bureau of Land Management and the National Park Service at the Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Park. While recent wildfires such

as the Leroux Fire have been natural ignitions from lightning, the conditions across Delta County are extremely hazardous right now and additional steps are needed to prevent human caused wildfires from spreading and causing impacts to public safety.

Federal fire restrictions may differ from Paonia's fire restrictions. It is the responsibility of individuals to know and adhere to restrictions. A complete listing of county and federal land fire restrictions can be found at: [www.WestSlopeFireInfo.com](http://www.WestSlopeFireInfo.com).

**SECTION 4.** Stage 2 Fire Restrictions implement additional safety measures to reduce the risk caused by human activity that could lead to a wildland fire. Under Stage 2 Fire Restrictions, the following activities are PROHIBITED:

- Building, maintaining, attending or using any fire, campfire or stove fire outside-- recreational fires of all kinds are prohibited;
- All open and agricultural burning of trash and/or debris;
- Fires in portable chimineas, charcoal BBQ grills, decorative or warming fire pits and tiki torches;
- Smoking outside in an area NOT void of combustible materials or the disposal of a lit cigarette butt from a moving vehicle;
- The use of explosives or fireworks of any kind as defined pursuant to C.R.S. § 30-15-401(1)(n.7) to include the use of exploding targets and tracer ammunition;
- Use of a motor vehicle/Off Highway Vehicle (OHV) outside the boundaries of an established road, motorized trail or parking in an area outside an established parking area that is NOT void of flammable vegetation within 10 feet of the vehicle;
- Operating a chainsaw or other internal combustion engine without a properly installed USDA or SAE approved spark arrestor;
- Welding or use of acetylene torches which produce a flame outside in an area that is NOT void of all combustible materials of at least 30 feet in all directions from the operating equipment while possessing a pressurized class 2A fire extinguisher.

**SECTION 5.** The following activities are ALLOWED during Stage 2 Fire Restrictions:

- Propane, natural gas, jellied petroleum or pressurized liquid fuels such as lanterns, BBQ grills, stoves or back-yard fire features when equipped with a shut-off valve when used in an area at least 3 feet in diameter from any flammable material;
- Use of a chainsaw or other internal combustion engine WITH a USDA/SAE approved spark arrestor properly installed and functioning while in possession of an eight (8)

ounce or greater chemical pressurized fire extinguisher and a rounded point shovel with an overall length of at least 35 inches readily available;


- Responsible target practice using normal ammunition non-tracer ammunition;
- Welding in a safe manner in an area void of combustible material within 30 feet and while possessing a chemical pressurized fire extinguisher with a minimum rating of 2A.

**INTRODUCED, READ, APPROVED AND ADOPTED** by a vote of \_\_\_\_ for and \_\_\_\_ against at a Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees on August 12, 2025, at 6:30 P.M., at the Paonia Town Hall, 214 Grand Avenue, Paonia, Colorado.

**TOWN OF PAONIA, COLORADO**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Paige Smith, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Samira M. Vetter, Town Clerk

