

## **Fort Collins Dispatch Zone Fire Restriction & Fire Ban Criteria**

The following criteria are used to determine the need for fire restrictions or fire bans. These criteria are based on calculated, quantifiable variables designed to be used within the typical wildfire season; April through October. Local political influences may also need to be considered.

**Instructions:** (Reference the Fire Restriction – Fire Ban Matrix):

1. Select Weather Stations (or representative locations of concern).
2. Obtain the following criteria information from the following sources:
  - **Energy Release Component:** National Fire Danger Rating System (NFDRS) or Fort Collins (FTC) Interagency Dispatch.
  - **1000 hour fuel moisture:** NFDRS, or FTC Dispatch.
  - **Live fuel moisture:** NFDRS and field sampled results from Arapaho-Roosevelt NF.
  - **FTC-Area Preparedness Level:** Daily afternoon radio broadcast or FTC web page; [http://gacc.nifc.gov/rmcc/dispatch\\_centers/r2ftc/](http://gacc.nifc.gov/rmcc/dispatch_centers/r2ftc/)
  - **Rocky Mountain Region Preparedness Level:** RMACC web page; <http://gacc.nifc.gov/rmcc/>
  - **Weather Trend** to determine if short and long-range trends are improving, stable or deteriorating: National Weather Service Fire Weather Forecasts from local Dispatch Center or <http://www.weather.gov/bou/firewxfstmap>
3. From the Matrix, determine the critical thresholds for each criterion.
4. From the charts below; determine the number of criteria that have reached or exceeded the threshold for either fire restriction or fire ban.

# of Criteria beyond threshold	<b>Fire Restrictions</b>
0 to 1	None
2 to 3	Consider
4 or More	Implement

# of Criteria beyond threshold	<b>Fire Ban</b>
0 to 2	None
3 to 4	Consider
5 or More	Implement

5. Coordinate with all applicable Agencies to initiate actions.
6. Continue to monitor conditions to evaluate status of fire restriction or fire ban, and elevate or suspend as necessary.

- *The need for fire restrictions or bans outside the typical fire season will be determined through consensus of cooperating Agencies. This requires judgment based on qualitative input, along with weather trends and historical patterns. Portions of the matrix are based on NFDRS data, and the fuels criteria are unavailable during the winter due to the nature of wildland fuels models in the western U.S. \**

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<b><u>Weather Station</u></b> <i>(Representative Location)</i>	<b>Elevation</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b>Energy Release Component</b>	<b>1000 hr. Fuel Moisture</b>	<b>Live Fuel Moisture</b>	<b>FTC - Area Preparedness Level</b>	<b>Rocky Mtn. Region Preparedness Level</b>	<b>Weather Trend</b>
<b><u>Red Feather</u></b> <i>(North Larimer County)</i>	8214'	<b>Restriction</b>	65	<12%	<120%	3	4	5 - 7 days
		<b>Ban</b>	75	<9%	<100%	4	5	7 - 14 days
<b><u>Estes Park</u></b> <i>(Rocky Mountain NP)</i>	7820'	<b>Restriction</b>	64	<12%	<120%	3	4	5 - 7 days
		<b>Ban</b>	73	<10%	<100%	4	5	7 - 14 days
<b><u>Redstone Canyon</u></b> <i>(Larimer County foothills)</i>	6160'	<b>Restriction</b>	70	<10%	<120%	3	4	5 - 7 days
		<b>Ban</b>	78	<8%	<100%	4	5	7 - 14 days
<b><u>Sugarloaf</u></b> <i>(Boulder County)</i>	6775'	<b>Restriction</b>	71	<10%	<120%	3	4	5 - 7 days
		<b>Ban</b>	80	<8%	<100%	4	5	7 - 14 days
<b><u>Pickle Gulch</u></b> <i>(Clear Creek &amp; Gilpin Counties)</i>	9380'	<b>Restriction</b>	62	<13%	<120%	3	4	5 - 7 days
		<b>Ban</b>	72	<11%	<100%	4	5	7 - 14 days
<b><u>Harbison</u></b> <i>(Grand County)</i>	8640'	<b>Restriction</b>	49	<14%	<120%	3	4	5 - 7 days
		<b>Ban</b>	59	<12%	<100%	4	5	7 - 14 days
<b><u>Corral Creek</u></b> <i>(Clear Creek &amp; Gilpin Counties)</i>	8080'	<b>Restriction</b>	61	<11%	<120%	3	4	5 - 7 days
		<b>Ban</b>	71	<9%	<100%	4	5	7 - 14 days