

Please Follow the Rules

This brochure contains a listing of federal regulations and special orders on the San Juan National Forest. Failure to comply with rules and regulations may result in citations and fines. These regulations are in place to ensure your safety and that of other Forest visitors and to protect natural resources. Check with our offices (listed on back) for more information.

Fire

- Remove all flammable material from the immediate vicinity before starting campfires.
- Campfires must be attended at all times and completely extinguished before left. (Don't leave a fire to burn out)
- No fireworks ever

Gathering Forest Products

- You must have a permit to cut or remove logs, firewood, transplants or other Forest products
- A validated load tag must be visibly posted and you must have a permit in your vehicle when you load, haul or remove logs or firewood.
- You are responsible for knowing the regulations on what you are allowed to remove and where.
- You must have written authorization from landowners to transport wood from private land across public lands.

Livestock

- Leave gates as you found them (open or closed) once you pass through.
- Only certified weed-free hay and feed can be brought onto the National Forest for stock animals.
- Do not tie pack animals directly to trees.

Property

- Do not damage any natural feature or public property.
- Do not excavate, disturb, damage or remove any prehistoric, historic, or archaeological structure or artifact.

Sanitation

- Do not deposit damaging substances or objects into toilets or plumbing.
- Do not place polluting substances in or near streams, lakes or other water.
- Garbage, sewage and waste water must be removed or deposited into appropriate receptacles
- It is illegal to dump refuse or debris
- Deposit and bury human waste in a hole dug at least 6" deep and 200 ft. from water. Pack out toilet paper

Disclaimer

Rules referenced in this brochure do not reflect the exact language of federal regulations and special orders. Specific language and legal terms are available from our offices and online.

This listing does not include all site specific closure orders on the San Juan National Forest.

Forest officers patrol the National Forest to help fulfill the U. S. Forest Service mission of "Caring for the Land and Serving People." Forest visitors who receive citations may end up in federal court and be subjected to fines.

Please respect the National Forest and other Forest visitors

San Juan National Forest Headquarters

Durango Colorado (970) 247-4874

Dolores Public Lands Office

Dolores, CO (970) 882-7296

Columbine Ranger District

Bayfield, CO (970) 884-2512

Pagosa Springs Ranger District

Pagosa Springs, CO (970) 264-2268

Online at <http://www.fs.usda.gov/SanJuan/>

Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/pg/SanJuanNF/>

San Juan National Forest Regulations



A quick guide to staying safe and legal!

As Revised 2018

Roads and Trails

- You must have written authorization to use any forest road for commercial hauling
- All activities that cause resource damage to roads and trails are prohibited
- Do not violate posted road closures
- Do not shortcut switchbacks.
- Do not block or interfere with the use of roads, trails or gates

Motor Vehicles

- Off-road and cross-country use of wheeled motorized vehicles is prohibited
- Drivers of motor vehicles must stay on roads and trails open to their type of use as indicated in Motor Vehicle Use Maps and on posted signs.
- Drivers of motor vehicles must comply with regulations on Motor Vehicle Use Maps and signs.
- Motor Vehicles can only be driven up to 300' off any open road to camp or retrieve forest products
- Motor vehicles must adhere to federal and state noise emission standards.
- All motor vehicles, including UTV's and ATV's must comply with state, local and federal laws, including registration requirements.
- Do not operate any vehicle under the influence of drugs or alcohol
- Do not operate a vehicle in a manner that may endanger any person or property.
- Do not operate a vehicle in a manner that damages or disturbs the land, wildlife or vegetation.

Occupancy and Use

- A permit is needed to construct or maintain a road, trail or facility.
- Cutting live trees is prohibited without a permit
- A permit is required to sell merchandise or work for pay or other compensation on FS Land.
- Do not park a vehicle or place an object in a location or manner that creates an impediment or hazard to the safety of others.
- Residential use of FS lands is PROHIBITED
- Personal property cannot be stored or cached on National Forest land.
- Pack it in, Pack it out. All trash and personal items must be removed from the Forest
- Camping on the National Forest is limited to no more than 28 days within any 60 day period
- After 14 continuous days in one location you must move greater than 3 miles
- Possession or use of marijuana is illegal on Federal land
- Do not park your vehicle in areas posted as off-limits to parking.
- Do not ride or restrain your horse in areas closed to livestock and horses.

Firearms

Firearms must be used in a safe manner. You cannot discharge a fire arm or any other weapon:

- ⇒ Within 150 of a building, campsite or other occupied area
- ⇒ On or across a road, trail or body of water
- ⇒ Into or inside a cave

- Targets must have a hillside or mound of dirt behind them.
- All shells and items used for target practice must be picked up and removed
- All firearms are prohibited in federal buildings
- Concealed weapons are regulated by State laws and those laws apply to National Forest
- Do not use trees or vegetation as targets.
- In motor vehicles, firearms must be fully unloaded and enclosed in a case.

Developed Recreation Sites

- No more than 8 people/two tents or two vehicles are allowed in a family campsite (group campsites allow more)
- Campfires are only allowed in provided fire rings or grills.
- No bathing or washing at hydrants or water faucets, unless otherwise posted.
- All pets must be physically restrained (leashed, cages or crated)
- Livestock and pack animals are allowed only in specified campgrounds. (Burro, Lower Hermosa, Palisades)
- Motor vehicles can only be used to enter or leave campsites. No joy riding
- You cannot save a campsite in advance of occupations. Reservations can be made at Recreation.gov for some campgrounds, others are first come, first serve.
- Human waste can only be deposited in receptacles provided for that purpose.
- Follow all current fire restrictions.
- Most campgrounds limit stays to 14 days with the following exemptions:

⇒ Burro Bridge, Cayton, House Ck., Mavreeso, McPhee, Target Tree, Transfer, West Dolores Campgrounds on Dolores R. D.

⇒ Bridge, Cimarrona, East Fork, West Fork and Ute Campgrounds on Pagosa R. D.

These campgrounds have a 28 day stay limit



Designated Wilderness

(Weminuche, South San Juan, Lizard Head, Hermosa Wilderness Areas)

All motorized equipment is prohibited

Hang gliders, bicycles, wagons, carts or any other mechanized vehicle are not allowed.

Landing of aircraft or helicopters is prohibited

No storing of equipment or personal supplies

The maximum group number must not exceed 15 people or 25 heart beats (people, dogs, horses)

Do not camp or build a campfire within 100' (35 adult steps) of streams, lakes or other water sources

Human waste and wash water must be disposed of at least 200' from any water source

Dogs must be leashed or under voice control and near you at all times.

Obey site specific regulations regarding fire restrictions, camping and livestock use

Do not collect Forest products for personal or commercial use outside of the wilderness area. It is OK to harvest plants and firewood for use and consumption while in the wilderness

Do not leave any permanent markers