

**FINDING OF THE TOWN MANAGER OF THE TOWN OF RIDGWAY -
ENACTING A TOWN WIDE FIRE BAN**

WHEREAS, pursuant to Ridgway Municipal Code (RMC) Section 12-2-1(C), in times of significant drought, the Town Manager may promulgate emergency restrictions on burning and fires within the Town of Ridgway; and

WHEREAS, on June 16, 2021, Ouray County imposed Stage 1 fire restrictions, which prohibits burning and fire in a manner similar to that contemplated herein, and other surrounding counties and federal agencies have also imposed similar and more restrictive restrictions on public lands; and

WHEREAS, the Town Manager finds that the conditions are extreme and unpredictable, making individual actions by Council on decisions related to fire restrictions and the uses and operation of the Town property impractical; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the authority granted under RMC Section 12-2-1(c), the Town Manager of the Town of Ridgway finds that it is a time of significant drought and the fire danger and fire risk are high.

NOW THEREFORE, pursuant to the authority granted to the Ridgway Town Manager, the following activities are banned within the Town of Ridgway:

- Building, maintaining, attending or using a campfire except in designated and signed campgrounds or developed recreation sites with provided fire grates
- Open burning of any kind including burning of trash or debris, burning of ditches, open charcoal or wood fires
- Fireworks or the use of explosives;
- Smoking on public property, except in an enclosed vehicle or building;
- Disposal of any cigarette anywhere outdoors;
- Operating any chainsaw, except with a fire extinguisher and shovel kept within immediate reach;
- Welding or use of torch with open flame, unless inside an enclosed structure and as an allowable use in the zoning district.
- Other activities determined to be of high risk in creating a wildfire and potential for loss of life or significant damage to personal property.

These restrictions shall remain in effect, unless or until modified or revoked by further order of the Town Council.

EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY THIS 17th day of June, 2021.



Preston Neill, Town Manager