BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF THE COUNTY OF HINSDALE, STATE OF COLORADO

RESOLUTION NO. 12, SERIES 2022

A RESOLUTION IMPLEMENTING STAGE ONE FIRE RESTRICTIONS IN THE UPPER PIEDRA AND RIO GRANDE REGIONS OF UNINCORPORATED HINSDALE COUNTY

WHEREAS, pursuant to § 30-15-401(1)(n.5), C.R.S., on July 2, 2012, the Board of County Commissioners of Hinsdale County, Colorado ("Board") adopted "An Ordinance Establishing a Permanent Process to Periodically Ban Open Fires Within Unincorporated Areas of Hinsdale County, Colorado ("Fire Ban Ordinance"); and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Fire Ban Ordinance and Colorado law, the Board has the authority at any meeting, by resolution, to ban open fires to a degree and in a manner that the Board deems necessary to reduce the danger of wildfires within those portions of unincorporated Hinsdale County where the danger of forest or grass fires is found to be high based on competent evidence; and

WHEREAS, Hinsdale County Sheriff Chris Kambish and Hinsdale County Emergency Manager Phil Graham have reported to the Board that the current danger of forest and grass fires is high in all areas of unincorporated Hinsdale County; and

WHEREAS, Rio Grande National Forest instituted Stage 1 Fire Restrictions on May 20, 2022, and San Juan National Forest instituted Stage 1 Fire Restrictions on May 25, 2022. San Luis Valley Bureau of Land Management entered into Stage 1 Fire Restrictions on May 6, 2022, including lands adjacent to Hinsdale County in Mineral County; and

WHEREAS, the Board has determined that the danger of forest and/or grass fires in the Piedra and Rio Grande regions of unincorporated Hinsdale County is high at this time and Stage 1 fire restrictions are necessary and appropriate in said regions based on competent evidence from the Hinsdale County Sheriff and other sources; and

WHEREAS, this Resolution is necessary for the preservation of public health, safety and welfare.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of County Commissioners of Hinsdale County, Colorado that as of Friday, May 20, 2022 at Noon, Stage 1 fire restrictions shall be in place in the Upper Piedra and Rio Grande regions of unincorporated Hinsdale County until further notice, as follows:

1. The following activities are prohibited:

a. Building, maintaining, attending, or using a fire, campfire, charcoal barbecues/grills or stove fires;

EXCEPTION: Building, maintaining, attending or using a fire, including charcoal, in constructed, permanent fire pits or fire grates within developed recreation sites or on private property is permissible. The use of portable stoves, lanterns using gas, jellied petroleum, pressurized liquid fuel or a fully enclosed (sheepherder type) gas stove or grill with a ¼" spark arrester type screen is also permitted.

- b. Using explosive materials, including but not limited to, fireworks;
- c. Smoking, except in an enclosed vehicle, trailer, building or tent, a developed recreation site, or while stopped in an area at least three feet in diameter that is barren or cleared of all flammable material;

2. The following activities are permitted:

- a. Cooking on manufactured liquid fuel and propane grills;
- b. Campfires in pre-fabricated concrete/metal fire enclosures in established campgrounds (USFS, NPS, privately owned);
- c. Fires in chiminea type manufactured enclosures on private property; and
- d. Public fireworks displays authorized by Hinsdale County.

3. The following persons are exempt from the prohibitions of this Resolution:

- a. Any local, state, or federal officer, or member of an organized emergency operation (i.e. Fire Department, search and rescue, law enforcement, etc.); and
- b. Persons with a permit from the Hinsdale County Sheriff's Department specifically authorizing the otherwise prohibited activity.
- 4. Violations of this Resolution shall be punishable according to the penalty and fine provisions contained in the Fire Ban Ordinance.

ADOPTED AND APPROVED this 18th day of May, 2022.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF HINSDALE COUNTY, COLORADO

Kristie Borchers Chair

ATTEST:

Jean Roberts, Hinsdale County Clerk

