



Riverside County Fire Department in Cooperation with CAL FIRE

NEWS RELEASE



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Bill Weiser, Fire Chief



www.rvcfire.org

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RIVERSIDE COUNTY FIRE CHIEF CLOSES HAZARDOUS FIRE DANGER HIKING AREAS

PERRIS, CA – Riverside County Fire Chief Bill Weiser received approval from the Riverside County Board of Supervisors to immediately close six hazardous hiking areas throughout the region effective Saturday, June 1st, 2024. The closures will remain in effect until further notice in the following areas:

- Eagle Canyon/Tin Mine (east of Corona)
- Steel Peak (north of Lake Elsinore)
- Bautista Canyon (southeast of Hemet)
- North Mountain (south of Banning, north of San Jacinto)
- Whitewater Canyon (east of Cabazon)
- Ramona Bowl (south of Hemet) *Open daily from sunrise until 12:00 P.M.

“Riverside County experienced another season of heavier rain than usual, resulting in a more abundant grass crop.” Stated Bill Weiser, Riverside County Fire Chief. “This increased vegetation poses a heightened risk of severe wildfires. I urge all residents and visitors to exercise caution and adopt fire-smart practices while enjoying the county’s outdoor recreation areas. Your attentiveness and proactive approach play a crucial role in safeguarding our communities and firefighters.”

Riverside County Ordinance 787.9 restricts public access to these identified hazardous fire areas unless private party access is required. Public roadway travel is permitted; providing travel is confined to those surfaces within hazardous fire areas. Those violating the ordinance may be subject to a minimum fine of \$100 for first-time offenses.

Future closures may be implemented based upon weather conditions, fuel moisture and increased fire threat. Maps for each of the affected areas can be located at <https://tinyurl.com/hikingclosures>.

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