

MEDIA CONTACT:

Justin Caporusso/Caporusso Communications justin@caporussocommunications.com (916) 412-0571

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Mono County Urges Visitors to "Camp Like a Pro" This Summer

MONO COUNTY, CA – June 16, 2025 – Planning a trip to the Eastern Sierra this summer? Mono County wants to remind everyone to "Camp Like a Pro." The Inyo National Forest will enter stage 1 fire restrictions on June 16, which prohibit dispersed campfires on the ground and allow for fires and portable stoves only in developed recreation sites.

Each year our magnificent landscapes are impacted by trash, human waste, increased wildfire threats, and destruction of vegetation caused in part by irresponsible camping practices. The interagency Camp Like a Pro campaign encourages visitors to enjoy the Eastern Sierra responsibly and sustainably by providing resources such as legal camping and route information, tips on how to properly "pack it in, pack it out", and to help campers determine if campfires are appropriate (or even allowed!) during their trip.

This spring, Camp Like a Pro launched its new website, <u>Camplikeapro.org</u>, along with updating the popular Camp Like a Pro app (also known as the "Eastern Sierra Camping" app). Both the new website and updated app boast the same awesome features as before, including an interactive geolocated map, guidance on where to legally camp, up-to-date alerts regarding public lands camping and fire restriction information and direct links to campfire permits.

Campers who already have the app are encouraged to update it for the latest features and information. The app is available for both iPhone and Android users.

Further enhancing the "Camp Like a Pro" resources, Mono County has partnered with Whitebark Institute and Mammoth Lakes Tourism to produce the newest <u>video</u> in the series, which focuses on campfire awareness and safety. The video aims to educate visitors about the rising threat of wildfire throughout the region and how not having a campfire or being more mindful about campfire safety can help protect this awesome place they came to enjoy.

"As we welcome visitors to our beautiful Eastern Sierra this summer, it's crucial that everyone understands and practices responsible camping," said Lynda Salcido, Chair of the Mono County Board of Supervisors, District 5. "The 'Camp Like a Pro' initiative, with its updated website and app, provides invaluable resources to help campers protect our natural treasures. We urge everyone to utilize these tools, camp mindfully, and help us preserve this incredible environment for generations to come."

All campers planning to visit the Eastern Sierra are encouraged to utilize the "Camp Like a Pro" resources and do their part in preserving the natural beauty of the region.

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