

Subject: Wood burning stoves in the BWCAW

Hello Cliff. Thanks for contacting us. Yes, we are very familiar w/ those stoves and I used one for many years elsewhere. Those are just fine as they use less wood than a big campfire, cause less damage overall, and you don't have to carry extra fuel. Although, if it pours the entire time you're here you may be reaching for those granola bars....use the wood burning stove on or directly near the fire grate - the idea being to keep it away from fine fuels that could spark from your stove. So often the area around the fire grate is so compacted w/out vegetation anyway that setting the stove next to the grate works well too.

The only difference in legalities between a liquid/gas fuel stove or the wood burning stove is that during certain fire restrictions, the wood burning stove would not be allowed when regular campfires aren't allowed. Just check the conditions/restrictions with the FS you before you go on your trip to make sure you have a stove you can use. This question comes up often during fire restrictions, and again, the wood burning stove is considered the same as a campfire during these dry times.

Quetico has several regulations that differ from the Superior National Forest and we just have to tell visitors what our restrictions are and let them go from there. If you have any more questions, feel free to contact me directly. Thanks!

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