



Office of the Governor

MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Nora Meyers Sackett
Press Secretary, Office of the Governor
nora.sackett@state.nm.us
(505) 690-7313

April 25, 2022

Governor urges local restrictions on fireworks due to wildfires, drought conditions

SANTA FE – Gov. Michelle Lujan Grisham on Monday signed an executive order urging New Mexico municipalities and counties to ban the retail sale of fireworks in their communities. The request for additional preventative action comes as numerous wildfires burn throughout New Mexico and severe drought conditions persist across the state. The executive order is attached.

While state statute does not enable the executive to implement a statewide ban on fireworks, the executive order follows the implementation of statewide fire restrictions prohibiting fireworks, outdoor smoking, campfires and open burning for all non-municipal, non-federal and non-tribal lands.

“Fire conditions across New Mexico remain extremely dangerous – it’s essential that we mitigate potential wildfires by removing as much risk as possible,” said **Gov. Lujan Grisham**. “While many of us like to celebrate with fireworks, no momentary display is worth causing a wildfire that could threaten the lives and property of your neighbors.”

Strong winds, dry fuels and low humidity around the state has resulted in over 160,000 acres across New Mexico burning in recent weeks. According to the United States Drought Monitor, over 70% of New Mexico is experiencing extreme to exceptional drought conditions, with 93% of the state experiencing at least severe drought conditions. Multiple counties and tribal nations across New Mexico have recently implemented burn bans, in addition to federal authorities imposing Stage I and Stage II fires restrictions on federal lands throughout the state.

###



State of New Mexico

Michelle Lujan Grisham
Governor

EXECUTIVE ORDER 2022-022

DECLARING SEVERE DROUGHT AND FIRE CONDITIONS THROUGHOUT THE STATE AND URGING MUNICIPAL AND COUNTY GOVERNMENTS TO CONSIDER FIREWORK BANS UNDER THE FIREWORKS LICENSING AND SAFETY ACT

WHEREAS, in recent weeks, fire danger has increased throughout the State due to warmer temperatures, lower humidity, high winds, and an abundance of dry, fine fuels;

WHEREAS, according to the United States Drought Monitor, approximately 93% of New Mexico is experiencing severe drought conditions, while more than 70% the State is experiencing extreme to exceptional drought conditions;

WHEREAS, significant fire danger and prevailing drought conditions create the possibility for numerous natural disasters, including severe wildfires, flooding due to severe wildfires, and crop production loss;

WHEREAS, the State is experiencing, or recently experienced, multiple large wildfires, including the Hermits Peak Fire, the McBride Fire, the Nogal Fire, the Calf Canyon Fire, the Cooks Peak Fire, and the Big Hole Fire;

WHEREAS, federal authorities have recently enacted early measures to respond to increased fire danger in the State by issuing Stage I and Stage II fire restrictions on federal lands; and

WHEREAS, tribal governments have also imposed fire restrictions on their lands.

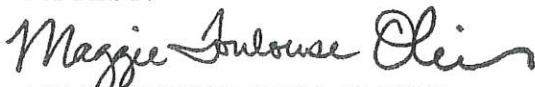
NOW, THEREFORE, I, Michelle Lujan Grisham, Governor of the State of New Mexico,

by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the laws of the State of New Mexico do hereby **DECLARE** severe drought and fire conditions exist throughout New Mexico and **URGE** New Mexico's counties, municipalities, and local governments to consider implementing appropriate firework bans pursuant to the Fireworks Safety and Licensing Act, NMSA 1978, §§ 60-2C-1 to -11, as well as any other appropriate fire prevention measures that they may legally enact.

I FURTHER ORDER and DIRECT as follows:

1. This Order supersedes any previous orders, proclamations, or directives to the extent they are in conflict.
2. This Order shall take effect immediately and shall remain in effect until renewed, modified, or rescinded.

ATTEST:



MAGGIE TOULOUSE OLIVER
SECRETARY OF STATE

DONE AT THE EXECUTIVE OFFICE
THIS 25TH DAY OF APRIL 2022

WITNESS MY HAND AND THE GREAT
SEAL OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO



MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM
GOVERNOR

