

Michelle Lujan Grisham, Governor
Sarah Cottrell Propst, Cabinet Secretary
Todd E. Leahy, JD, PhD, Deputy Cabinet Secretary
Laura McCarthy, Forestry Division Director

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Contact: Wendy Mason
Wildfire Prevention & Communications Coordinator
wendy.mason@state.nm.us
505-690-8210



August 01, 2022

New Mexico State Forester lifts statewide fire restrictions due to increased precipitation from the monsoon

The rescission applies to all non-municipal, non-federal, and non-tribal lands

Santa Fe, NM – The Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department (EMNRD) Forestry Division announces the rescission of the current Fire Restrictions Order #2022-02 prohibiting smoking, fireworks, campfires, and open fires on all non-municipal, non-federal, and non-tribal lands **effective August 01, 2022 at 12:01 p.m.**

Fire restrictions were put in place on April 22 due to the extreme fire danger the state was experiencing. Weeks of Red Flag conditions fueled multiple large wildfires, two of which became New Mexico's largest in state history. Hundreds of homes were destroyed or damaged, and tens of thousands of people were forced to flee, many ending up in evacuation shelters for days.

"New Mexicans are living through historic climate change that is becoming our new normal," said State Forester Laura McCarthy. "While the monsoon is bringing relief, we are not out of danger. Parts of the state continue to be very dry, and we encourage New Mexicans and visitors to use caution with any use of fire, including fireworks, and to follow all local, federal, or tribal restrictions that remain in place."

The Forestry Division and its partners will continue to monitor the environmental conditions statewide and may implement fire restrictions again if dry conditions return.

A copy of the Rescind Order is available [here](#). For more information regarding fire restrictions and tips on wildfire prevention in New Mexico, log onto <https://www.emnrd.nm.gov/>.

###

The Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department provides resource protection and energy resource development services to the public and other state agencies.

<http://www.emnrd.nm.gov>

State of New Mexico
Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department

Michelle Lujan Grisham
Governor

Sarah Cottrell Propst
Cabinet Secretary

Todd E. Leahy, JD, PhD
Deputy Cabinet Secretary

Laura McCarthy
Division Director, State Forester
Forestry Division



2022-03

ORDER TO RESCIND

SMOKING, FIREWORK, CAMPFIRE AND OPEN FIRE RESTRICTIONS FOR NEW MEXICO

Because recent precipitation has reduced fire danger in New Mexico, the Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department (EMRD) Forestry Division hereby rescinds the fire restrictions that were imposed on April 22, 2022, for all non-municipal, non-federal, and non-tribal lands in New Mexico. This order becomes effective at 12:01 p.m., Monday, August 1, 2022.

The EMNRD Forestry Division may reinstate fire restrictions if climatic conditions, drought, fire danger or other factors present a fire threat to forests, rangelands, watersheds, personal property or public safety. The public is urged to use fire cautiously and safely.

DONE THIS 1st DAY OF AUGUST, 2022

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Laura F. McCarthy", is written over a horizontal line.

Laura McCarthy, State Forester
EMNRD Forestry Division

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sarah Cottrell Propst", is written over a horizontal line.

Sarah Cottrell Propst, Cabinet Secretary
Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department

###