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State Forester Notice of Fire Restrictions On All State-Owned Lands Outside Incorporated Municipalities Effective May 18, 2012

Fire, smoking, and fireworks restrictions are being implemented by the Arizona State Forester on all State-owned and managed lands. The restrictions are effective May 18, 2012 at 0800 and will continue until further notice. (Authority: ARS 37-623 and ARS 37-623.02)

This Notice expands the May 07, 2012 State Forester Notice of Fire Restrictions. This Notice strengthens and standardizes fire restrictions across all unincorporated state-owned and managed lands in Arizona, including lands administered by the State Land Department, State Game and Fish Department, State Parks, and State Department of Transportation.

Fire restrictions are necessary due to existing extreme fire danger to prevent human caused wildfires and protect public health and safety. Contributing factors include high temperatures, low humidity, and continuous dry vegetation that provide conditions for rapid spread of wildfire.

These restrictions will apply to the following State-Owned and Managed Lands:

All State Trust Lands outside incorporated municipalities.

All Game and Fish Commission Wildlife Areas and Department properties outside incorporated municipalities.

All State Parks outside incorporated municipalities.

All Department of Transportation highway right-of-way property outside incorporated municipalities not owned by federal land management agencies.

The restrictions are as follows:

- Building, maintaining or using a fire, campfire, or charcoal burning device is **prohibited**. (Petroleum or propane fueled stoves, lanterns, heating and livestock branding devices are **exempt** from these restrictions.);

- Smoking is **prohibited unless**: it is within an enclosed vehicle, building, developed campground, or in an area at least 10 feet in diameter that is barren or cleared of all flammable materials;
- Welding or operating acetylene or other torch device with an open flame is **prohibited**;
- The use of consumer fireworks, display fireworks, fireworks, and permissible consumer fireworks as defined in ARS 36-1601 is **prohibited**;
- If local agencies have imposed stronger restrictions than above, those restrictions shall apply;
- All exemptions to these restrictions must be approved by the State Forester.

These restrictions apply to all permit and lease holders, and other authorized users of State managed lands. Any State, Federal, and local fire and/or law enforcement officers, as well as members of organized fire fighting forces, and other authorized personnel are **exempt** from these prohibitions while in the performance of official duties.

Scott Hunt, Arizona State Forester

Date