FIRE PREVENTION ORDER# NMLC00000-22-01

Pursuant to 43 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) §9212.1-2, the following acts are prohibited on all lands administered by the BLM Las Cruces District within the counties of Dona Ana, Sierra, Grant, Luna, Hidalgo, and Otero.

This order shall go into effect at 12:01 a.m., MDT, May 02, 2022, and will remain in effect until further notice.

Prohibited Acts:

1. Building, maintaining, attending, or using a fire, campfire, charcoal, coal, or wood stove, including in campgrounds and picnic areas. Allowed: The use of stoves fueled by pressurized liquid or gas (can be turned off) within areas cleared of flammable materials at least 10 feet in diameter.

2. Smoking except within an enclosed vehicle or building, developed sites and areas, or while stopped in an area at least 3 feet in diameter that is barren or cleared of all flammable materials.

3. Operating a chainsaw or any other internal or external combustion engine without a USDA or SAI approved spark arrester properly installed and working, a chemical pressurized fire extinguisher of not less than 8 ounces capacity by weight, and one round point shovel with an overall length of at least 36 inches.

4. Possessing or using a motor vehicle off roads, except routes in areas open to OHV travel and except when parking in an area devoid of vegetation within 10 feet of the roadway.

5. Any “hot work” conducted by authorized contractors or permits for, by, or on BLM will follow established stipulations provided by the BLM.

Fireworks and exploding targets are prohibited year-round on all BLM lands in NM under Fire Prevention Order #NM910-22-01.

Exempted:

Any federal, state, local and/or military employee acting within the scope if his/her duties; members of any organized rescue or firefighting force performing official duty; and persons, agencies, municipalities or companies with a written permit that specifically authorizes the otherwise prohibited act. An exemption does not absolve an individual or organization from liability or responsibility for any fire started by an exempted activity.

Penalties:

Pursuant to Title 43 CFR §9212.4, any violation of this order is subject to punishment by a fine of not more than $1,000 or imprisonment of not more than 12 months or both. Restitution for total costs of fire suppression or damage will be borne by the violator.

Information:

Additional information regarding these fire restrictions may be obtained by calling the Las Cruces District Office at (575) 525-4300. All BLM NM Fire Prevention Orders are posted at: https://www.blm.gov/programs/public-safety-and-fire/fire-and-aviation/regional-info/new-mexico/fire-restrictions.

Monitor the BLM New Mexico social media pages: Twitter @BLMNewMexico, Facebook: BLMNewMexico and interagency fire information at Blogspot: NMFireInfo.com.

Dated this 27th day of April 2022, at Las Cruces, New Mexico.

Dave Wallace
Las Cruces Assistant District Manager
USDI Bureau of Land Management