STAGE 2 FIRE RESTRICTION

EXECUTIVE ORDER No. 11-2008

June 11, 2018

WHEREAS, the President of the Navajo Nation serves as the Chief Executive Officer for the Executive Branch of the Navajo Nation government with the full authority to conduct, supervise, and coordinate personnel and program matters. 2 N.N.C. § 1005 (A).

WHEREAS, the President shall have the enumerated power of issuing Executive Orders for the purpose of interpreting, implementing or giving administrative effect to statutes of the Navajo Nation in the manner set forth in such statutes. 2 N.N.C. § 1005 (C) (14).

WHEREAS, an Executive Order shall have the force of law upon the recipient. Id.

WHEREAS, on May 1, 2018, an ORDER of STAGE 1 FIRE RESTRICTION was issued due to a number of fires across the Navajo Nation that caused significant damage to our natural resources and, additionally, threatened personal and commercial building structures.

WHEREAS, the Navajo Forestry Department, the Bureau of Indian Affairs-Navajo Region, and the Wildland Fire and Aviation have recommended that Stage 2 Fire Restrictions be imposed throughout the Navajo Nation due to the high fire danger caused by a combination of inadequate precipitation, high-wind conditions, high temperatures and low humidity.

WHEREAS, to reduce the risks of wildland fires, and to protect the public, first responders, infrastructure and natural resources, the Navajo Nation is requesting that the public exercise extreme caution on Navajo lands and surrounding areas.

THEREFORE, I, RUSSELL BEGAYE, President of the Navajo Nation, and I, JONATHAN M. NEZ, Vice President of the Navajo Nation, and I, SHARON PINTO, Navajo Regional Director for the Bureau of Indian Affairs, HEREBY ORDER STAGE 2 FIRE RESTRICTIONS on the Navajo Nation, effective this day, June 11, 2018. The ORDER STAGE 2 FIRE RESTRICTIONS shall remain in effect until this order is rescinded.

The following uses within the Navajo Nation are PROHIBITED:

1. Possession, manufacturing, sale or use of FIREWORKS or other pyrotechnic devices pursuant to 17 N.N.C. § 2733;
2. All debris (trash) and field-clearing burning;
3. All wood-burning, charcoal fires, campfires, warming fires, and charcoal barbecues;
4. Use of firearms and incendiary devices without a valid permit; and
5. The use and operation of chainsaws or any other internal combustion engines between the hours of 1 p.m. and 7 p.m.

The following uses must exercise **EXTREME CAUTION:**

1. Smoking, which is recommended only in permitted areas and in enclosed vehicles, for traditional and ceremonial uses.

The following uses are **PERMITTED:**

1. *Only* propane, gas or other petroleum-fueled stoves will be allowed for livestock branding. Such devices may only be used in an area that is barren or cleared of all overhead and surrounding flammable materials within 3 feet of the device;

2. Ceremonial fires, properly registered and permitted by the Navajo Nation Environmental Protection Agency ("NNEPA") through a Navajo Nation EPA Burn Registration, five (5) days prior to ceremony. To obtain a Burn Registration, please contact Navajo Nation EPA Air Quality at (928) 729-4156;

3. Public fireworks displays approved and permitted, pursuant to 17 N.N.C. § 2735, by the Navajo Nation Fire Department;

4. Persons with a valid written permit/bonding/license specifically authorizing an otherwise prohibited act;

5. Persons conducting activities in designated areas where the activity is specifically authorized by written posted notice; and

6. Any Federal, State, or local officer or member of an organized rescue or firefighting force in the performance of an official duty.

The Division of Public Safety, Division of Natural Resources, Environmental Protection Agency, Division of Community Development and the Bureau of Indian Affairs Wildland Fire and Aviation are hereby directed to fully enforce this Executive Order.

Any person(s) or parties found guilty of violating any provision of this **EXECUTIVE ORDER of STAGE 2 FIRE RESTRICTION** will be fined up to $5,000.

Report any wild land fires to the B.I.A. Fire Dispatch at (928) 729-2307. Questions regarding Order may be directed to the Navajo Forestry Department at (928) 729-4007.

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Russell Begaye, President
THE NAVAJO NATION

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Jonathan M. Nez, Vice President
THE NAVAJO NATION

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Sharon Pinto, Navajo Regional Director
BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS