

THE NAVAJO NATION

JONATHAN NEZ | PRESIDENT MYRON LIZER | VICE PRESIDENT



EXECUTIVE ORDER

STAGE 2 FIRE RESTRICTION

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 NNC § 1005 (C) (14)

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

WHEREAS, the Navajo Forestry Department, the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Navajo Region, Branch of Wildland Fire and Aviation are recommending that this Fire Restriction be put in place in preparation of an active fire season due to the dangerous combination of inadequate precipitation, abundant dry fuels, high winds, high temperatures and low humidity.

WHEREAS, to protect the public and to mitigate and keep our firefighters safe from potential COVID-19 transmission in the course of the work responding to wildland fires.

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

THEREFORE, I, **JONATHAN NEZ**, President of the Navajo Nation, and I, **MYRON LIZER**, Vice President of the Navajo Nation, and I, **BARTHOLOMEW STEVENS**, Navajo Regional Director for the Bureau of Indian Affairs, **HEREBY ORDER** of **STAGE 2 FIRE RESTRICTIONS** on the Navajo Nation, effective this day, May 15, 2020. The **ORDER OF STAGE 2 FIRE RESTRICTIONS** shall remain in effect until this order is rescinded.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. Discharging a firearm except while engaged in a lawful hunt pursuant to State, Federal, or tribal laws and regulation.
5. Mechanical and Industrial Prohibitions:
 - a. The use and operation of chainsaws or any other internal combustion engines between the hours of 1 p.m. and 7 p.m.
 - b. Welding or operating acetylene or other torch with open flame.

The following uses must use EXTREME CAUTION:

1. Smoking, which is recommended only in permitted areas, within an enclosed vehicle, traditional and ceremonial uses.

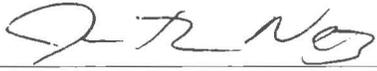
The following uses are PERMITTED:

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. Mail: NN Air Quality, PO Box 529, Fort Defiance, AZ 86504, FAX: (928) 729-4323 or email: aizzo@navajonnsn.gov.
3. Public firework displays approved and permitted, pursuant to 17 NNC 2735, by the Navajo Nation Fire Department.
4. Persons with a valid written permit/bonding/license that specifically authorizes the otherwise prohibited act.
5. Persons conducting activities in those designated areas where the activity is specifically authorized by written posted notice.
6. Any Federal, State, or local officer or member of an organized rescue or firefighting force in the performance of an official duty.
7. The implementation of Low Complexity Prescribed Fire which meet prescriptions approved by the Agency Administrator under an approved Burn Plan.

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 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 wildland fire to the B.I.A. Fire Dispatch at (928) 729-2307. Questions regarding this Order may be directed to the Navajo Forestry Department at (928) 729-4007.



Jonathan Nez, President
THE NAVAJO NATION

Myron Lizer, Vice President
THE NAVAJO NATION

**BARTHOLOMEW
STEVENS**

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BARTHOLOMEW STEVENS
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Bartholomew Stevens, Navajo Regional Director
BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS