



NEWS RELEASE

US DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR ■ BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
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BLM Socorro Issues Fire Restrictions Because of Extreme Fire Danger

Socorro, NM – With pre-summer high temperatures and continued high fire hazardous conditions, the BLM Socorro Field Office is issuing fire restrictions effective immediately. The Socorro Field Office is prohibiting fires on public lands it administers in Socorro and Catron Counties.

Fire restrictions include the following:

- The burning of solid fuels, except for inside established campfire rings and grills within campgrounds and picnic areas or when authorized by a permit. [Persons are allowed to use petroleum fueled stoves, lanterns, or heating devices that meet Fire Underwriters Laboratories' specifications in these areas.]
- Smoking, except within an enclosed vehicle or building. Using an explosive requiring fuse blasting caps. Operating a chainsaw without an approved spark arrester and without a chemical pressurized fire extinguisher of not less than 8 ounces capacity by weight, and one round point shovel. The extinguisher will be with the equipment operator. The shovel may be kept with fueling supplies but readily available for use.
- Welding, operating an acetylene or other torches with open flame, except within an area that is barren or cleared of all flammable materials at least 10 feet on all sides from equipment and as always the use of the fireworks is prohibited on Federal land.

Any violation of these restrictions or prohibitions is punishable by a fine of not more than \$1000.00 or imprisonment of not more than 12 months or both.

For more information about restrictions in the Socorro Field Office area of responsibility, contact the BLM at 505.838.0412.

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