



RESOLUTION NO. 2022- 27

A RESOLUTION TO PROCLAIM EXTREME OR SEVERE DROUGHT CONDITIONS WITHIN TORRANCE COUNTY AND TO BAN THE USE OF CERTAIN FIREWORKS IN THE UNINCORPORATED PORTIONS OF THE COUNTY AND WITHIN WILDLANDS IN THE COUNTY

WHEREAS, Governor Lujan Grisham issued Executive Order 2022-022 urging municipal and County governments to consider firework bans; and

WHEREAS, in recent weeks, fire danger has increased within Torrance County (the County) due to warmer temperatures, lower humidity, high winds, and an abundance of dry, fine fuels; and

WHEREAS, there are wildfires in surrounding counties resulting from the drought conditions, including the Calf Canyon Fire immediately to the North of Torrance County which has already burned in excess of 145,000 acres; and

WHEREAS, current drought indices indicate extreme, exceptional or severe drought conditions; and

WHEREAS, an immediate and present danger of range fires, brush fires, grass fires, forest fires and structure fires exist within the County due to persistent drought; and

WHEREAS, given these circumstances, the probability of ignition of materials and the spread of fire poses a severe threat to persons and property; and

WHEREAS, the health, safety and welfare of citizens are in danger as a result of such conditions; and

WHEREAS, NMSA 1978, Section 60-2C-8.1(E) provides that the Board of County Commissioners of the County of Torrance may, after hearing, declare that extreme or severe drought conditions exist, and proclaim certain restrictions on the use of fireworks.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of County Commissioners hereby resolves and proclaims as follows:

1. There currently exists within the unincorporated portions of the County extreme or severe drought conditions, creating a significant and immediate threat to the life, safety, health and welfare of residents of the County, and to public and private property located within the County.
2. The use of missile-type rockets, helicopters, aerial spinners, stick-type rockets and ground audible devices are banned within the affected drought area, which includes all unincorporated portions of the County.
3. The use of fireworks not listed in Paragraph 2 above is limited to areas that are paved or barren or have a readily accessible source of water for use by the homeowner or general public.
4. The use of all fireworks within wildlands in the County is banned, the State Forester having been consulted as required by statute and having concurred with such ban.
5. The use of display fireworks is banned within the unincorporated portions of the County.
6. Public displays of fireworks, as approved by the Torrance County Fire Chief shall be permitted.
7. This Resolution shall be effective for 30 days from the date below but may be reissued by the Board of County Commissioners if severe or extreme drought conditions warrant. Further, this Resolution may be modified or rescinded within the 30 days of its effectiveness if the Board of County Commissioners, after conducting an emergency hearing, determines that weather conditions have improved.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 11th day of May, 2022 by the Board of County Commissioners of the County of Torrance.

APPROVED AS TO FORM ONLY:

TORRANCE COUNTY COMMISSION



 John M. Butrick, County Attorney



 Ryan Schwebach, Chair

Attest:



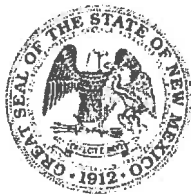
 Yvonne Otero, County Clerk

LeRoy Candelaria, Vice Chair



 Kevin McCall, Member





State of New Mexico

Michelle Lujan Grisham
Governor

EXECUTIVE ORDER 2022-022

DECLARING SEVERE DROUGHT AND FIRE CONDITIONS THROUGHOUT THE STATE AND URGING MUNICIPAL AND COUNTY GOVERNMENTS TO CONSIDER FIREWORK BANS UNDER THE FIREWORKS LICENSING AND SAFETY ACT

WHEREAS, in recent weeks, fire danger has increased throughout the State due to warmer temperatures, lower humidity, high winds, and an abundance of dry, fine fuels;

WHEREAS, according to the United States Drought Monitor, approximately 93% of New Mexico is experiencing severe drought conditions, while more than 70% the State is experiencing extreme to exceptional drought conditions;

WHEREAS, significant fire danger and prevailing drought conditions create the possibility for numerous natural disasters, including severe wildfires, flooding due to severe wildfires, and crop production loss;

WHEREAS, the State is experiencing, or recently experienced, multiple large wildfires, including the Hermits Peak Fire, the McBride Fire, the Nogal Fire, the Calf Canyon Fire, the Cooks Peak Fire, and the Big Hole Fire;

WHEREAS, federal authorities have recently enacted early measures to respond to increased fire danger in the State by issuing Stage I and Stage II fire restrictions on federal lands; and

WHEREAS, tribal governments have also imposed fire restrictions on their lands.

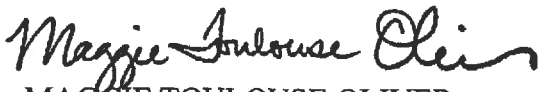
NOW, THEREFORE, I, Michelle Lujan Grisham, Governor of the State of New Mexico,

by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the laws of the State of New Mexico do hereby **DECLARE** severe drought and fire conditions exist throughout New Mexico and **URGE** New Mexico's counties, municipalities, and local governments to consider implementing appropriate firework bans pursuant to the Fireworks Safety and Licensing Act, NMSA 1978, §§ 60-2C-1 to -11, as well as any other appropriate fire prevention measures that they may legally enact.

I FURTHER ORDER and DIRECT as follows:

1. This Order supersedes any previous orders, proclamations, or directives to the extent they are in conflict.
2. This Order shall take effect immediately and shall remain in effect until renewed, modified, or rescinded.

ATTEST:



MAGGIE TOULOUSE OLIVER
SECRETARY OF STATE

DONE AT THE EXECUTIVE OFFICE
THIS 25TH DAY OF APRIL 2022

WITNESS MY HAND AND THE GREAT
SEAL OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO



MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM
GOVERNOR

