USDI BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS FORESTRY & WILDLAND FIRE MANAGEMENT

MESCALERO APACHE INDIAN RESERVATION

CLASS V / STAGE II - EXTREME FIRE DANGER RESTRICTIONS

EFFECTIVE: June 28, 2024 (Until rescinded or superseded)

CLASS V / STAGE II - FIRE RESTRICTIONS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

Firefighters are still working in and around the Salt Fire and South Fork Fire. Unimproved roads around the perimeter of the Salt Fire are closed, Turkey Springs Lake is closed. Due to the South Fork Fire. Cienigita Canyon past the stables is closed. Jose Second Canyon is closed past the Jose Second Lake. Also, Firman Lake is closed. Flash flooding is a concern around these fires.

No stopping or parking along US Highway 70 and State Road 244 or other paved reservation roads. UTV / ATV use on nonpaved / unimproved roads is not allowed. Travel is permitted to any permanent resident going to or from their place of residence or business. Travel is permitted for acquiring brush, teepee poles, etc., for ceremonial purposes only. No burning of slash or use of free running (broadcast) fires, at any time.

Use of charcoal grills and campfires are prohibited at all times. Gas burning or electrical cooking devices are permitted within Campgrounds and residential areas.

Smoking outdoors is prohibited except within an enclosed vehicle or area five (5) foot in diameter that is cleared of any flammable material.

Cooking fires and bonfires for ceremonial feast purposes are pre-authorized, if said ceremony is formally recognized by the Mescalero Apache Tribal Cultural Affairs Committee. Fire prevention recommendations will be provided for all other traditional use fires. Please notify the BIA Fire Management Office at (575) 464 – 4410 when planning to ignite a traditional use fire.

Forest related contract work, which includes, but not limited to the use of chainsaws and other mechanized equipment, is permissible only between the hours of midnight and 2:30 p.m. the following day. Precautionary measures and required fire equipment / handtools availability are required for all forest related contract work and will be monitored by contract administrators.

Outdoor welding or operating an acetylene or other torch with open flame is prohibited. The use of firearms is not permitted. Fireworks are not allowed, unless as part of an organized event.

These restrictions are a reflection of current wildland fire hazard conditions on the Mescalero Apache Indian Reservation and are being implemented for public safety. The above restrictions will remain in effect until rescinded under authority of Mescalero Apache Tribal Resolution No. 09-59. Personnel exempt from the above restrictions include Federal and Tribal employees, such as Tribal Resource Managers and Bureau of Indian Affairs Employees while in the performance of their official duties. These restrictions will be enforced by the Branch of Law Enforcement Services and the Tribal Conservation Department under authority Title 18, Sections 1855 and 1856 USC and Tribal Statutes 10-5-4, 10-5-5, 17-12-3 through 17-12-5.

PRESIDENT,

Mescalero Apache Tribe

SUPERINTENDENT,

BIA, Mescalero Agency