



**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
FOREST SERVICE  
TONTO NATIONAL FOREST**

***STAGE I FIRE RESTRICTIONS***

**PROHIBITIONS**

Pursuant to 16 U.S.C. § 551 and 36 C.F.R. § 261.50(a), the following acts are prohibited on all National Forest System lands as described in this Order (the “Restricted Area”) and as depicted on the attached map, hereby incorporated into this Order as Exhibit A, within the Tonto National Forest in, Maricopa, Gila, Yavapai, and Pinal Counties, State of Arizona.

1. Igniting, building, maintaining, attending or using a fire, campfire, or stove fire, including charcoal and briquettes, outside a fire structure that is provided by the Forest Service within a designated area. **36 C.F.R. § 261.52(a).**
2. Smoking, except within an enclosed vehicle or building, a developed recreation site, or while stopped in an area at least three (3) feet in diameter that is barren or cleared of any flammable material. **36 C.F.R. § 261.52(d).**
3. Discharging a firearm, air rifle, or gas gun. **36 C.F.R. § 261.58(m).**

**EXEMPTIONS**

Pursuant to 36 C.F.R. §261.50(e), the following persons are exempt from the provisions in this Order:

1. Persons using a device solely fueled by liquid petroleum or LPG fuels that can be turned on and off. Such devices can 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. Any Federal, State, or local officer, or member of an organized rescue or firefighting force in the performance of official duty.
3. Persons with a written Forest Service authorization specifically exempting them from the effect of this Order.
4. Persons engaged in legal hunting activity pursuant to state, federal, or tribal laws and regulations are allowed to discharge a firearm while taking wildlife.

**RESTRICTED AREA**

All National Forest System lands, roads, and trails within the exterior boundaries of the Tonto National Forest, as depicted on the attached map at Exhibit A.

**PURPOSE**

The purpose of this Order is to provide for the public’s health and safety and to protect National Forest System lands, resources, and facilities during the current period of high fire danger. An emergency situation exists due to the high levels of continuous fine fuel loading, fire danger indices, and extreme weather conditions. These factors have created an environment in which ignitions from human-caused activities can occur at a much higher rate than normal. Further, wildfires from such ignitions have the propensity to spread extremely quickly, presenting a significant risk to the public, as well as substantial obstacles to firefighters in the implementation of wildfire suppression strategies.

**IMPLEMENTATION**

1. This Order will be in effect at 8:00 AM on Thursday May 5, 2022, and shall remain in effect until September 30, 2022 or until rescinded, whichever occurs first.
2. A map identifying the Restricted Area is attached and made part of this Order as Exhibit A. For a digital version of the Order map for the Prescott National Forest, navigate to <https://www.fs.usda.gov/alerts/tonto/alerts-notice>.
3. A list of “Definitions” is attached and made a part of this Order as Exhibit B.
4. Any violation of this prohibition is punishable as a Class B misdemeanor by a fine of not more than \$5000 for an individual or \$10,000 for an organization, or by imprisonment for not more than six (6) months, or both (*see* 16 U.S.C. § 551, 18 U.S.C. § 3571(b)(6), 18 U.S.C. § 3581(b)(7)).
5. Further information regarding this Order may be obtained at the Tonto National Forest Supervisor’s Office located in Phoenix, AZ, telephone number (602) 225-5200.

Done at Phoenix, AZ this 29th day of April 2022.

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**NEIL BOSWORTH**  
Forest Supervisor  
Tonto National Forest

Tonto National Forest

**EXHIBIT B**

**EMERGENCY STAGE I FIRE RESTRICTIONS**

**DEFINITIONS:**

**DESIGNATED AREA:** Developed recreation sites such as campgrounds and picnic areas that are maintained and administered by the Forest Service, shown on the current Forest visitor maps, and are equipped with permanent fire structures.

**FIRE STRUCTURE:** A permanent metal or concrete structure, which is specifically designed for the purpose of containing a campfire or cooking fire that has been installed and maintained by the Forest Service or equivalent.

**STOVE FIRE:** A fire built inside a fully enclosed metal stove, grill, or sheep herder type stove, which is outfitted with a chimney that is at least five (5) feet in length and is equipped with a spark arrestor consisting of a mesh screen with a screen opening of ¼ inch or less.  
For further definitions or clarification of definitions, refer to 36 C.F.R. § 261.2.