UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOREST SERVICE
APACHE-SITGREAVES NATIONAL FORESTS

STAGE I FIRE RESTRICTIONS

PROHIBITIONS:

Pursuant to 16 U.S.C. 551 and 36 CFR 261.50(a) the following acts and omissions are prohibited within the area of the Apache-Sitgreaves National Forests, in the state of Arizona as described in this Order and depicted on the attached map hereby incorporated into this Order as Exhibit A.

1. Building, maintaining, attending or using a fire, campfire, or stove fire. **36 CFR 261.52(a)**
2. Smoking. **36 CFR 261.52(c)**
3. Possessing, discharging, or using any kind of firework or other pyrotechnic device. **36 CFR 261.52(f)**
4. Welding, or operating acetylene or other torch with open flame. **36 CFR 261.52 (i)**

EXEMPTIONS:

Pursuant to 36 CFR 261.50(e) the following persons are exempt from this order:

1. Persons with a permit specifically exempting them from the effect of this Order.
2. Any Federal, State, or local officer, or member of an organized rescue or fire fighting force in the performance of an official duty.
3. Exceptions to Prohibition # 1 above. Fires may be permissible provided that one of the following criteria are met:
   A. The fire is within a Forest Service provided metal fire ring or grill in developed campsites or picnic area listed within Exhibit B.
   B. Fires within propane or pressurized gas fueled stoves, lanterns, portable fire pits, or other heating devices which meet the fire underwriter specifications for safety and can be turned on/off AND operated only in areas that are barren or cleared of all overhead and surrounding flammable materials within 3 feet of the device.
4. Resident owners and lessees of land and holders of Forest Service recreation special use authorizations (as listed in Exhibit B) may build, maintain, attend,

or use a fire within the restricted area, provided such fires are within a permanent structure. This exception does not include permanent outdoor barbecues or fire pits.

5. Exceptions to Prohibition # 2 above. Smoking may be permissible provided that one of the following criteria are met:
   A. Smoking in an enclosed vehicle.
   B. Smoking in an enclosed building.

RESTRICTED AREA:

The Restricted Area includes all National Forest lands within the boundaries of the Apache-Sitgreaves National Forests as shown on the attached map (Exhibit A).

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this Order is to provide for public safety and protection of public and private properties within and adjacent to National Forest lands.

IMPLEMENTATION:

1. This Order will be in effect when signed and shall remain in effect until December 31, 2016 or rescinded, whichever event occurs first.
2. Violation of this prohibition is punishable by a fine of not more than $5,000.00 for individual or $10,000.00 for organizations or imprisonment for not more than six (6) months or both. [Title 16 USC 551, Title 18 USC 3559, 3571 and 3581].
3. This Order supersedes, rescinds, and replaces any previous order prohibiting the same acts covered by this Order

Done at Springerville, Arizona, this 15th day of June, 2016.

M. STEPHEN BEST
Forest Supervisor
Apache-Sitgreaves National Forests

Needs and Assessments
Stage 1 Fire Restrictions
Apache-Sitgreaves National Forests

Background: Due to an abnormally dry and warm winter and spring, the Apache Sitgreaves National Forests, hereafter referred to as "the Forest", has been experiencing high to extreme fire danger. These conditions are not expected to change until monsoon moisture arrives in the summer.

Purpose: To reduce fire risk, prevent human-caused wildfires, protect property, and to protect public health and safety during periods of high or extreme fire danger.

Scope: All National Forest System Lands within the proclaimed boundaries of the Forest, which are located within the State of Arizona. This Order will go into effect once Fire Management Officials and Line Officers determine that the fire behavior indicator thresholds have been met and will be in place until December 31, 2016 or when rescinded due to abatement of hazardous fire conditions.

NEPA compliance: Special closures for public health and safety are covered under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) provision FSH 1909.15, 31.12 (1), "Categories Established by the Chief; Categories for Which a Project or Case File Are Not Required; Orders issued pursuant to 36 CFR Part 261 - "Prohibitions to provide short-term resource protection or to protect public health and safety".

I have determined this action does not individually or cumulatively have a significant effect on the quality of the human environment and therefore can be categorically excluded from further documentation in an Environmental Impact Statement or Environmental Assessment.

Notice: When approved, the Forest will coordinate the implementation and rescinding of the proposed Order with other agencies of jurisdiction including, but not limited to the Arizona State Lands Department, local fire districts, adjoining county governments, San Carlos Apache Tribe, White Mountain Apache Tribe, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Bureau of Land Management, and adjoining National Forests.

Potentially affected individuals and other Forest users will be notified of this closure with the issuance of a press release, which will be routed through appropriate media outlets. Furthermore, the Order will be posted on the Forest website, at the Forest Supervisor's Office, and at all ranger district offices on the Forest. When implemented, the prohibitions listed in the Order will be posted in reasonable locations including, but not limited to: fire danger signs, electronic reader boards, day use areas, developed campgrounds, visitor centers, and some dispersed camping areas.

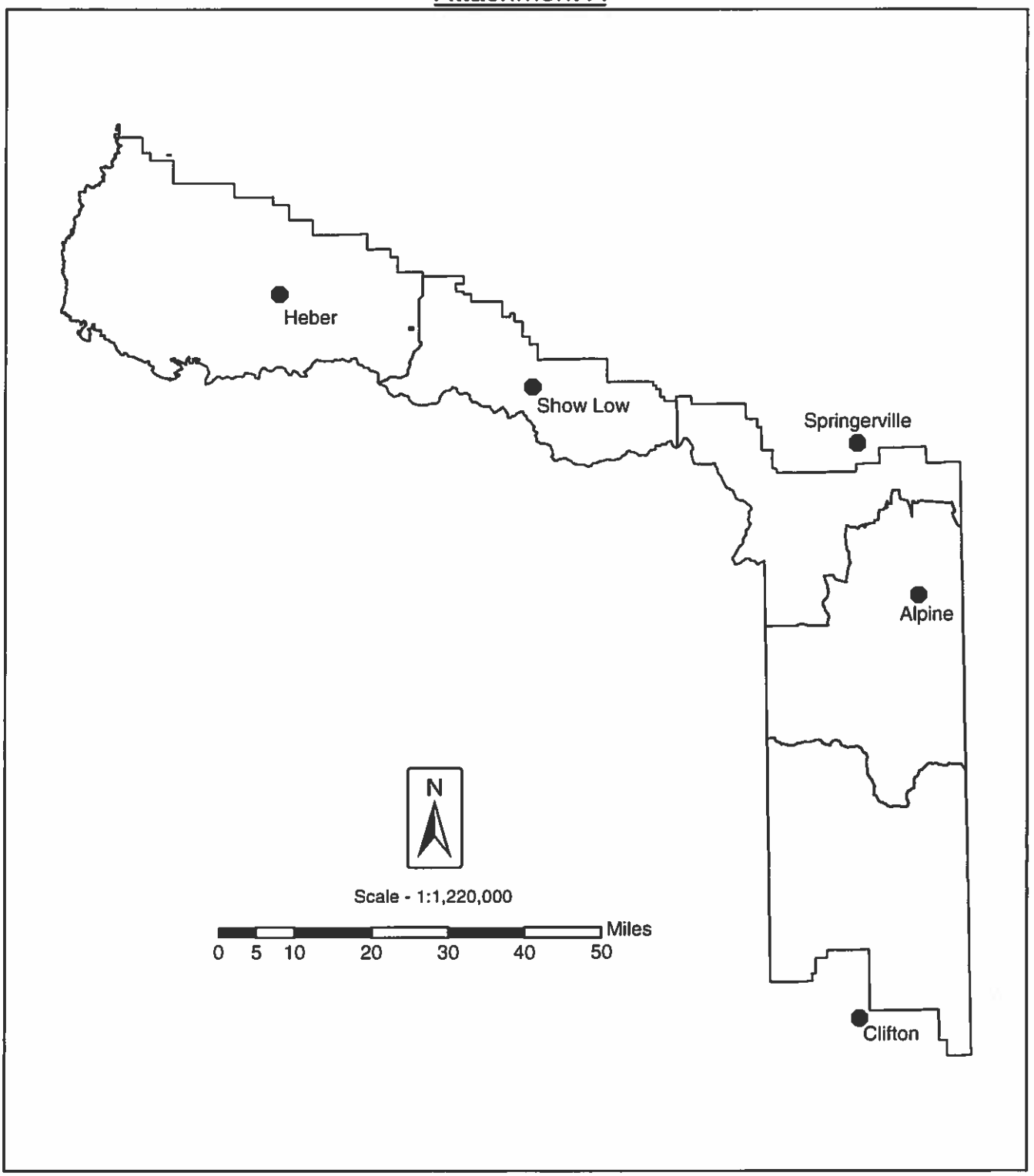
Implementation: This Order will go into effect once Fire Management Officials and Line Officers determine that the fire behavior indicator thresholds have been met and the Order shall be in place until December 31, 2016 or when rescinded due to abatement of hazardous fire conditions.

APACHE-SITGREAVES NATIONAL FORESTS

Stage 1 Fire Restrictions

Order # 01-16-590

Attachment A



Attachment B

Enforcement Plan
Stage 1 Fire Restrictions
Apache-Sitgreaves National Forests

This enforcement plan will be implemented on all National Forest System Lands within the proclamation boundaries of the Apache and Sitgreaves National Forests within the State of Arizona.

Forest Service Law Enforcement Officers, Forest Protection Officers, Sheriff Deputies, Fire Wardens, Fire Prevention Technicians, firefighting crews, and Arizona Game and Fish Department Officers will patrol the affected area to enforce as well as educate the public on the proposed fire restrictions order

Potentially affected individuals and other Forest users will be notified of this Order with the issuance of a press release, which will be routed through appropriate media outlets. Furthermore, the Order will be posted on the Forest website, at the Forest Supervisor's Office, and at all ranger district offices on the Forest. When implemented, the prohibitions listed in the Order will be posted in reasonable locations including, but not limited to: fire danger signs, electronic reader boards, day use areas, developed campgrounds, visitor centers, and some dispersed camping areas.

Attachment C

Civil Rights Impact Analysis

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Forest Service
Southwestern Region
CIVIL RIGHTS IMPACT ANALYSIS
Stage 1 Fire Restrictions
Apache-Sitgreaves National Forests
State of Arizona

Purpose: The purpose of developing a civil rights impact analysis is to provide the Forest Service decision maker with information concerning potential civil rights impacts of the proposed action. Civil rights impacts are those which could affect the Agency's ability to ensure equal opportunity in employment and in delivery of programs and services.

Scoping and Public Involvement: There have been no official scoping or public involvement for this proposed Order this year. However, similar orders have been in effect each year since the 1990s with the possible exception of some years where conditions thresholds were not met for temporary fire restrictions. The Forest and other local agencies and governments have been involved in weekly discussions regarding fire restriction implementations
Favorable Impacts: The proposed restriction would reduce fire risk, prevent human caused wildfires, protect property, and protect public health and safety during periods of high and extreme fire danger.

Unfavorable Impacts: The proposed Order would temporarily eliminate the use of campfires in dispersed camping areas. There is a potential impact to the public, as well as a small number of contractors, permittees, and summer home residents.

Mitigation measures: Individuals can request and be considered for the issuance of a permit exempting them from this restriction on a case by case basis. Exceptions to the prohibitions allow for the use of propane and gas appliances to provide for cooking, heating and aesthetic fires to further mitigate impacts to the public.

Social Impacts: The proposed action does not impose any unreasonable adverse impacts on the civil rights of individuals. The overall benefits are reasonable, as compared to the unfavorable impacts. The Order is temporary in nature and thus is not irreversible and will be subject to monitoring and evaluation in the future.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOREST SERVICE
APACHE-SITGREAVES NATIONAL FORESTS

STAGE I FIRE RESTRICTIONS

Attachment D

DEVELOPED RECREATION, ADMINISTRATIVE AND PERMITTED SITES WHERE FIRES ARE PERMITTED SO LONG AS WITHIN A FOREST SERVICE PROVIDED METAL FIRE RING OR GRILL.

- **Black Mesa Ranger District**
  - Exemption 3, A:
    - Spillway Group Campground
    - Spillway Campground
    - Aspen Campground
    - Woods Canyon Campground
    - Mogollon Campground
    - Crook Campground
    - Rim Campground
    - Sinkhole Campground
    - Canyon Point Campground
    - Black Canyon Rim Campground
  - Exemption 3, C:
    - Black Mesa Administrative Site
    - Chevelon Administrative Site
    - Camp Shadow Pines
- **Lakeside Ranger District**
  - Exemption 3, A:
    - Fool Hollow Lake Campground
    - Los Burros Campground
    - Scotts Reservoir Campground
  - Exemption 3, C:
    - Pinedale Administrative Site
    - Lakeside Administrative Site
- **Springerville Ranger District**
  - Exemption 3, A:
    - Rainbow Campground
    - Cutthroat Campground
    - Brook Char Campground
    - Grayling Campground
    - Apache Trout Campground
    - Winn Group Campground
    - Winn Campground

- Rolfe C. Hoyer Campground
- Benny Creek Campground

- **Alpine Ranger District**
  - Exemption 3, A:
    - Buffalo Crossing Campground
    - Horse Springs Campground
    - Aspen Campground
    - Alpine Divide Campground
    - Luna Lake Campground
    - Luna Lake Group Campground
    - Hannagan Campground
    - KP Cienega Campground
    - Deer Creek Campground
    - Raccoon Campgorund
  - Exemption 3, C:
    - Alpine Administrative Sites
    - Hannagan Lodge
- **Clifton Ranger District**
  - Exemption 3, A:
    - Strayhorse Campground
    - Honeymoon Campground
    - Lower Juan Miller Campground
    - Granville Campground
    - Black Jack Campground
    - Coal Creek Campground
  - Exemption 3, C:
    - Granville Summer Homes
    - Strayhorse Administrative Site
    - Trail Cabin Administrative Site
    - AZ Dept. of Transportation Maintenance Yard (located at mile marker 186 on US Hwy 191)

Net Civil Rights Impact: No negative civil rights impacts are anticipated due to implementation of mitigation measures described above.

Reviewed and Approved:

I have examined the Needs and Assessments, including the attached Enforcement Plan and Civil Rights Impact Analysis. Based on the limited scope and duration of the proposed order, I have determined a Forest Order is necessary to meet the needs as described above.

M. Stephen Best
Forest Supervisor
Apache-Sitgreaves National Forest