



THE NAVAJO NATION

EXECUTIVE ORDER No. 04-2026 AMENDED STAGE 2 FIRE RESTRICTIONS FOR THE NAVAJO NATION

WHEREAS:

1. The President of the Navajo Nation serves as the Chief Executive Officer for the Executive Branch of the Navajo Nation government with the full authority to conduct, supervise, and coordinate personnel and program matters. 2 N.N.C. § 1005 (A);
2. The President shall have the power to issue an executive order for the purpose of interpreting, implementing or giving administrative effect of statutes of the Navajo Nation in the manner set forth in such statutes. 2 N.N.C. § 1005 (C)(14);
3. The President may order any area of the Navajo Nation land closed to entry by the general public due to the danger of fire. 17 N.N.C. § 2701;
4. High fire danger exists on the Nation at this time due to an unfortunate convergence of high temperatures, inadequate precipitation, high wind conditions and low relative humidities;
5. To protect the public, natural resources, and reduce the risks of wildland fires, it is necessary for the public to exercise extreme caution on Navajo lands and surrounding areas;
6. An Executive Order shall have the force of law upon the recipient. 2 N.N.C. § 1005 (C)(14).

THEREFORE, I, DR. BUU NYGREN, President of the Navajo Nation, by the authority vested in me, hereby issue the following order:

1. The Stage 2 Fire Restrictions on the Navajo Nation forest and woodlands are effective immediately and shall remain in effect until this order is rescinded or amended.
2. The following uses within the Navajo Nation forest and woodlands are **PROHIBITED**:
 - A. Possession, manufacturing, sale or use of FIREWORKS or other pyrotechnic device pursuant to 17 N.N.C. § 2733.

- B. Open burning including but not limited to the burning of trash, burning of cropland, agricultural fields, rangeland, vegetative debris, slash piles, weeds, brush, crop residue or any other natural vegetative material.
 - C. Building, maintaining, attending, or using open fires, including wood, charcoal and coal fires outdoors; except propane, gas, or other petroleum fueled stoves in developed sites (e.g., developed fire pits at more developed recreational areas).
 - D. Using a firearm and incendiary devices, without a valid permit;
 - E. Mechanical and Industrial Prohibitions:
 - i. The use and operation of chainsaws or any other internal combustion engines between the hours of 10 a.m. and 8 p.m.
 - ii. Welding or operating acetylene or other torch with open flame.
3. The following activities must use **EXTREME CAUTION**:
- Smoking, which is recommended only in permitted areas, within an enclosed vehicle, traditional and ceremonial uses, and while stopped in an area at least six feet in diameter that is barren or cleared of all flammable materials.
4. The following activities are **PERMITTED on the Navajo Nation forest and woodlands**:
- A. Propane, gas, or other petroleum-fueled stoves will be allowed for livestock branding. Such devices may only be used in an area that is barren or cleared of all overhead and surrounding flammable materials within 3 feet of the device.
 - B. Ceremonial fires are permitted when properly registered and approved by the Navajo Nation Environmental Protection Agency Air Quality Program. Registrations must be submitted at least five (5) days before the ceremony. To obtain an Open Burn Registration, contact the Navajo Nation EPA Air Quality Program at (928) 729-4246 or by email at kaelynnmorgan@navajo-nsn.gov.
 - C. *Persons with written permission from the Navajo Forestry Department may perform otherwise prohibited acts if authorized, such as for public works or utility repairs. However, exemptions do not remove liability for uncontrolled fires or related suppression costs.*
 - D. Persons conducting activities in those designated areas where the activity is specifically authorized by written posted notice.
 - E. Any Federal, State, or local officer or member of an organized rescue or firefighting force in the performance of an official duty.

5. Any person or parties found guilty of violating the fire restrictions may be fined up to \$5,000 or be required to provide restitution. 17 N.N.C. § 523.
6. The Division of Public Safety, Division of Natural Resources, NNEPA, Division of Community Development and the U.S. Department of the Interior, Wildland Forest Service (USWFS) Subunit Navajo Fire are hereby directed to fully enforce this Executive Order.
7. **Anyone observing a wildland fire should report it to the DOI USWFS Subunit Navajo Fire Dispatch at (928) 729-2307.** Any questions pertaining to this Order should be directed to the Navajo Forestry Department at (928) 729-4007.

The provisions of this order shall be implemented consistent with the laws of the Navajo Nation and in a manner that advances the highest welfare of the People.

EXECUTED THIS 14th DAY OF JULY 2026.



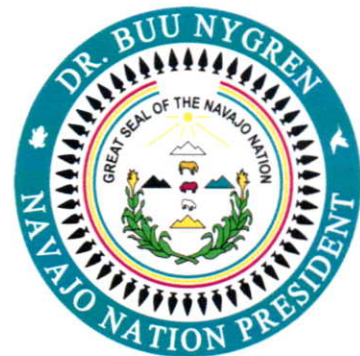
Dr. Buu Nygren, *President*
THE NAVAJO NATION

ATTEST:



Office of the Attorney General
NAVAJO NATION DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

CONCURRENCE:



Deborah Shirley, *Navajo Regional Director*
BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS