



IN REPLY REFER TO:  
Fire Management

## United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

Southern Ute Agency

P.O. Box 315

Ignacio, Colorado 81137-0315

### NEWS RELEASE

## SOUTHERN UTE RESERVATION RESCINDS STAGE I FIRE RESTRICTIONS

Ignacio, CO, August 4, 2022

Due to recent rains and moderating fuel conditions, Stage I Fire Restrictions have been rescinded for all trust lands throughout the Southern Ute Indian Reservation. Everyone on reservation land is still asked to be cautious and use common sense with fire, as conditions may dry out and Fire Restrictions may again be implemented.

Since May, Southern Ute Agency Fire Management has responded to approximately 30 fires on the reservation with the largest being the 89-acre Bear Dance fire. Firefighters were able to keep all other fires under 11 acres with no injuries or accidents.

For more information regarding Fire Restrictions, please contact Southern Ute Agency Fire Management at (970) 563-4571.

**The Restrictions will be rescinded at 06:00 AM, August 8, 2022.**



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**FIRE RESTRICTIONS**

The Bureau of Indian Affairs recommends the following attached Stage I fire restrictions effective May 20, 2022 at 0600 hours until further notice.

This action is necessary due to high fire danger, resulting from the prolonged hot and dry conditions we are experiencing.

Any exemptions to the fire restrictions must be requested in writing to the Superintendent, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Southern Ute Agency.

**Stage I Restrictions implemented:**

**Date: May 20, 2022**

*M. J. Butler*

Chairman, Southern Ute Indian Tribe

*5/18/2022*

Date

PRISCILLA  
BANCROFT

Digitally signed by PRISCILLA  
BANCROFT  
Date: 2022.05.17 15:38:31 -06'00'

Superintendent, Southern Ute Agency

Date

**Restrictions Rescinded:**

**Date: 8/8/2022**

*Ramon Z. Engle*

Chairman, Southern Ute Indian Tribe

*08/05/2022*

Date

*Priscilla Bancroft*

Superintendent, Southern Ute Agency

*8/4/2022*

Date

## Southern Ute Agency Fire Restriction Assessment Worksheet

Criteria		Current	Trigger		Criteria Met
1	1000 Hr fuels <12%	16	No	→	No
2	ERC is > 80%	21	No	→	No
	Mesa Mountain	35	No		
		32	No		
	ERC is > 80%	17	No		
	Sandoval Mesa	33	No		
		27	No		
3	Three Day Mean BI>80%	42	No	→	No
	Mesa Mountain	32	No		
		27	No		
	Three Day Mean BI>80%	38	No		
	Sandoval Mesa	40	No		
		34	No		
4	Ignition Component>80%	5	No	→	No
	Mesa Mountain	7	No		
		9	No		
	Ignition Component>80%	4	No		
	Sandoval Mesa	7	No		
		12	No		
5	Fire Danger adjective class is very high or extreme				No
6	Fire occurrence is impacting available resources				No
7	Local Preparedness level is 3 or above				No
8	Local area is receiving a high occurrence of fires and human caused risk is expected to increase				No
9	Adverse weather conditions and risks are precidented to continue				No
10	Implementation of existing fire restrictions are not adequately reducing human-caused fires				No
Criteria Met					0
Criteria NOT Met					10
<p><b>Rationale:</b> Due to recent robust moisture and forecasted moisture it is recommended that all fire restrictions be rescinded. Assessment included new NFDRS16 Fuel models X-Brush &amp; Z-Slash per new Durango Zone Fire Danger Operating Plan. Maintained Fuel Model G-Timber as known legacy fuel model.</p>					

Prepared by   
*Howard Richards Jr., (Acting) Fire Management Officer, Southern Ute Agency*

Date 8/4/2022