

SOUTHEAST ZONE - ARIZONA FIRE RESTRICTIONS & CLOSURE DECISION CHECKLIST

Call Number: 1-888-844-9904
Access Code: 1262235#
Schedule: 0930-1030, every other Thursday

Date: 6/26/2014

Call Attendees:

<u>Lathe Evans - BLM</u>	<u>Pete Schwab -CNF</u>
<u>Andrew Atkinson -BLM</u>	<u>Norm Sturm - Cochise County</u>
<u>John Thornburg - NPS</u>	<u>Ray Sayre - Santa Cruz County</u>
<u>Michelle Fidler - NPS</u>	<u>Brian Douglas - Graham County</u>
<u>Kristy Lund - CNF</u>	<u>Steve Rutherford - Greenlee County</u>

Scan and E-mail completed checklist to Dolores Garcia at dagarcia@blm.gov (AZ State Restrictions Coordinator).

The following are questions to be considered when contemplating a fire restriction and/or closure. The factors that form the basis for the decision should be documented.

1. What is the predicted fire potential for the next several weeks?

- Is the Southwest Area 7 Day Significant Fire Potential Outlook showing consistently 'Very Dry' fuels (brown color) or more than one 'High Risk' day (orange or red color) per week?
 YES NO

The Southwest Area 7 Day Significant Fire Potential Outlook shows "Very Dry" from June 25th through June 30th with one 'High Risk' day on July 1 on for SW06S.

- Is the Southwest Area Monthly Outlook showing 'Above Normal' Significant Fire Potential (red color) over or near the unit(s) under consideration?
 YES NO

The Southwest Area Monthly Outlook shows "Above Normal Potential" for all of the units in SEZ.

<http://gacc.nifc.gov/swcc/predictive/outlooks/outlooks.htm>

2. Are restrictions/closures being considered for the whole Zone or specific Fire Danger Rating Areas (FDRA)?

- Sonoran FDRA Basin & Range Low FDRA
- Basin & Range High FDRA

Fire Restrictions are in place for the entire SEZ. Exceptions USFWS and BIA lands.

- What are the current and expected ERC values as compared to the historical values?

ERC Values as of
are:

	Actual June 25, 2014	Predicted June 19, 2014
Sonoran FDRA-	101	101
Basin & Range Low -	94	93
Basin & Range High -	89	89

ERC Values for the SW06S SIG are above the 90th Percentile.

3. Is there an increase in number of fire starts? (Human vs. Natural) (Human – Cause Category)

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- # of Human Starts: 12 Major Cause Category (2-9): _____
- # of Natural Starts: _____
These have been mostly roadside fires/equipment use caused fires. There has been an increase in natural ignitions in the zone

4. What is the daily fire occurrence situation?

- Are there multiple starts?

YES NO

Very few Unit specific multi-start days reported.

- Are fire occurrences and associated control problems increasing or decreasing?

INCREASING DECREASING

Fire occurrences are steady with control problems steady to increasing as ERC values increase into the fire season. There has been a significant increase in the acres burned within the Zone in the past week.

5. Are adequate fire resources available by Agency/Zone?

YES NO

Adequate resources are available for Initial Attack within the zone. Extended Attack resources are available within the GACC.

What are the current and expected Preparedness Levels for:

- Sonoran FDRA 3
- Basin & Range Low FDRA 3
- Basin & Range High FDRA 3

What are the current and expected Adjective Fire Danger Rating Levels for:

- Sonoran FDRA Extreme
- Basin & Range Low FDRA Extreme
- Basin & Range High FDRA High

6. Are severity resources or funds requested/approved for local/zone agencies?

YES NO

The Coronado National Forest, Gila District BLM, NPS and AZ State Forestry Division all have approved severity. Severity resources are available daily.

- What are the current and expected Staffing Levels for:

Sonoran FDRA 4+
 Basin & Range Low FDRA 3+
 Basin & Range High FDRA 3+

7. Is an increase/decrease in recreational visitor days, (i.e., holidays and special events, expected)?

YES NO

There has been a decrease in visitation in the lower elevations, some units are experiencing an increase in visitor use now that school is out and higher temperatures are pushing visitors up to higher elevations. There is an expected increase in visitation for the Fourth of July Weekend.

8. Are social, political or economic impacts expected?

YES NO

The lack of precipitation over the winter and spring months has resulted in above average public concern in relation to fire season potential and fire restrictions. There is an above normal media interest in wildland fire incidents this year. The Slide Fire on the COF has generated additional interest and concern. The Oak fire was visible from Globe, Tucson, and Sierra Vista yesterday (June 25). This has increased the public interest in wildfire.

9. Are there preparations for the next phase, whether that would be a higher level of restrictions, closures, or rescissions of an order?

YES NO

10. Have you contacted the following individuals concerning area fire restrictions?

- Fire Prevention Officers: _____
- Public Affairs/Public Information Officers: _____
- Law Enforcement/Special Agents: _____
- Agency Administrators: _____
- Adjoining Zone(s) Board Chairs: _____

Each Agency/Unit is in conversation with their respective Agency Administrator, Fire Prevention Officers, Public Affairs/PIO, and Law Enforcement. Adjoining Zone Board Chairs are sharing information as it relates to fire season potential and fire restrictions.

11. The following decision is based on the above criteria and Interagency discussions:

ZONE PARTNERS HAVE DECIDED NOT TO GO INTO RESTRICTIONS AT THIS TIME.

Additional notes: _____

ZONE PARTNERS WILL GO INTO (CHECK/MARK THE APPROPRIATE Restrictions or Partial/Full Closures)

Restrictions

Partial Closure

Full Closure

On: June 5, 2014
Date

List Participating Units:

AZ State Forestry Division entered into Stage II restrictions effective 5/30/2014

All NPS Units in SEZ entered into Stage II Restrictions effective 6/5/2014

All units of the Coronado National Forest entered into Stage II Restrictions effective 6/5/2014

The BLM entered into Stage II Restrictions effective 6/5/2014

Each agency PAO will forward a copy of their restriction notice to wtefft@publiclands.org for posting on the PLIA website for AZ restrictions. A consolidated Interagency Zone news release will be prepared by (designate lead PAO) _____ and forwarded to agencies involved for approval on:

_____, **to be released to the media on** (date – preferably mid-week):
(Date)

(Date)

Additional notes: The Zone Board validated entering into Stage II Fire Restrictions.

The next call will be on July 3, 2014 @ 0930. We will utilize the TIFC call in line again.

Zone Board Members' Initials:

_____ Kristy Lund, USFS Coronado NF

_____ Guy Acuña, Tohono O'odham Nation

_____ Rod Lopez, Buenos Aires NWR

_____ John Thornburg, NPS, Saguaro National Park

_____ Damon McRae, BLM, Gila District

_____ Gene Beaudoin, AZSF, Tucson District