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Melanie A. Kenderdine, Cabinet Secretary
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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State Forester ends fire restrictions

Rain reduces wildfire threat; public urged to remain cautious in handling fire

SANTA FE – Today, the New Mexico State Forester is rescinding fire restrictions in the following counties: Catron, Chaves, Cibola, De Baca, Dona Ana, Eddy, Grant, Hidalgo, Lea, Lincoln, Luna, Otero, Roosevelt, Sierra, Socorro, Torrence, and Valencia.

The rescission comes in response to recent precipitation which has reduced the wildfire threat in these areas.

“Precipitation throughout the monsoon season has helped mitigate drought conditions,” said **State Forester Laura McCarthy**. “However, the public should continue to take steps to prevent human-caused wildfires.”

Humans account for 80% of wildfire starts in the state. The top three ways humans cause wildfires in New Mexico include debris and open burning, campfires and outdoor recreation, and equipment use, including working outside with welding or cutting tools.

To help [prevent](#) these starts, always carry extra water when camping to extinguish campfires; maintain spark arresters on mechanical tools when working outside; keep tow chains tight to avoid dragging on concrete and avoid parking over tall grasses along the side of the road. More information is available on the Forestry Division’s [Fire Prevention webpage](#).

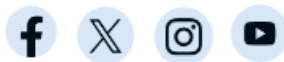
More than [900 wildfires](#) have burned over 197,000 acres across New Mexico this year. Catron, San Juan, and Rio Arriba counties are among the areas that have experienced the most starts.

Link to the order rescinding fire restrictions is available [here](#).

Link to this press release available [here](#).



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