



State of New Mexico

Michelle Lujan Grisham
Governor

EXECUTIVE ORDER 2025-210

DECLARING A DROUGHT AND SEVERE FIRE CONDITIONS THROUGHOUT THE STATE AND URGING MUNICIPAL AND COUNTY GOVERNMENTS TO IMPOSE WATER USE RESTRICTIONS AND FIREWORK BANS

WHEREAS, New Mexico is currently experiencing some of the worst drought conditions ever recorded and climate predictions indicate future conditions could result in a loss of up to 25 percent of available water supply over the next 50 years;

WHEREAS, New Mexico's 50-Year Water Action Plan calls on all New Mexicans to take action to help address the reality of a reduced water supply now and in the future;

WHEREAS, according to the United States Drought Monitor, 96.21 percent of New Mexico is abnormally dry, 86.55 percent is experiencing drought conditions and approximately half of the State is in the extreme to exceptional drought classification status;

WHEREAS, New Mexico's river basins have received below average levels of precipitation during 2025, and current water storage in New Mexico's reservoirs reflect some of the lowest levels on record, which will lead to reduced water supplies for New Mexico's communities and reduced flows in New Mexico's rivers and streams;

WHEREAS, current and projected drought conditions will continue to negatively affect soil moisture in farmlands, rangelands, and forests;

WHEREAS, New Mexico is susceptible to numerous natural disasters associated with drought, including agricultural loss, severe wildfires, and flooding after severe wildfires;

WHEREAS, in recent months, fire danger has increased throughout the State due to warmer temperatures, lower humidity, high winds, and an abundance of dry, fine fuels;

WHEREAS, despite receiving some precipitation this spring, significant fire danger and prevailing drought conditions create the possibility for numerous natural disasters, including severe wildfires, flooding due to severe wildfires, and crop production loss;

WHEREAS, the State has experienced multiple large wildfires, including the South Fork and Salt Fires, Hermits Peak Calf Canyon Fire, McBride Fire, Black Fire, and many other wildfires that threatened communities and water sources;

WHEREAS, the state forester has imposed fire restrictions on non-municipal, non-federal, and non-tribal lands statewide prohibiting smoking, fireworks, campfires, open burning and open fires;

WHEREAS, federal authorities have enacted early measures to respond to increased fire danger in the State by issuing Stage I and Stage II fire restrictions on federal lands;

WHEREAS, tribal governments have also imposed fire restrictions on their lands;

WHEREAS, New Mexico's communities can implement water conservation measures and requirements to protect the available supplies of water, including but not limited to water use restrictions, water recycling and reuse measures, and increased education about the source of New Mexico's water supplies;

WHEREAS, financial resources to respond to drought conditions exist within state, federal and local entities, including appropriations totaling approximately \$400 million from the New Mexico legislature during the 2025 session in new nonrecurring funding relating to water and natural resource issues; and

WHEREAS, extraordinary measures may be necessary to protect public health, ensure public safety and well-being, and provide for the economic stability of New Mexico.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Michelle Lujan Grisham, Governor of the State of New Mexico, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the laws of the State of New, do hereby **DECLARE** drought and severe fire conditions exist throughout New Mexico and **URGE** New Mexico's counties, municipalities, and local governments to consider implementing appropriate firework bans pursuant to the Fireworks Safety and Licensing Act, NMSA 1978, §§ 60-2C-1 to -11, as well as any other appropriate fire prevention measures that they may legally enact.

I FURTHER ORDER and DIRECT as follows:

1. The New Mexico Drought Task Force shall:

A. Meet before May 30, 2025, and thereafter take all necessary actions to ensure that New Mexico's communities receive all available information and resources to enable them to respond to drought conditions and conserve and protect New Mexico's water supplies;

B. Review current and ongoing drought mitigation activities across the State of New Mexico and recommend actions to the Governor and to other appropriate governing bodies, with a focus on making near-term action recommendations no later than July 31, 2025; and

C. Coordinate with the member agencies to compile and disseminate recommended sources of emergency or other available funding to assist individuals, Nations, Tribes, and Pueblos, and all New Mexico communities in responding to current and future drought conditions.

2. This Order supersedes any previous orders, proclamations, or directives to the extent they are in conflict.

3. This Order shall take effect immediately and shall remain in effect until renewed, modified, or rescinded.

ATTEST:

Maggie Toulouse Oliver

MAGGIE TOULOUSE OLIVER
SECRETARY OF STATE



DONE AT THE EXECUTIVE OFFICE
THIS 22ND DAY OF MAY 2025

WITNESS MY HAND AND THE GREAT
SEAL OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO

Michelle Lujan Grisham

MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM
GOVERNOR