



## McKINLEY COUNTY

### PRESS RELEASE

September 9, 2025

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

#### Change in fire restrictions for McKinley County

During the regular McKinley County Board of Commissioners Meeting held on Tuesday, September 9, 2025, at the request of McKinley County Fire and Rescue, the Commission rescinded the Burn Ban that has been in place since March of this year. In its place, Stage 1 Fire Restrictions are now in effect for the County as allowed in the Open Burning and Unattended Fires Ordinance No. 2025-JUN-002. These restrictions still ban open burning, including charcoal and briquette fires, and smoking outside. Exceptions include using gas stove or grill fueled by LPG, a campfire meeting guideline in Section II C of the ordinance, and smoking in a vehicle or building.

McKinley County is still under severe and extreme drought conditions. Even though the county has been receiving some rain, the rains have not been widespread enough to help the overall drought condition. An increase in humidity in the evenings and lower temperatures have prompted this change.

If having a campfire, please follow these guidelines: Campfire means a fire set for cooking, warming or ceremonial purposes which is not more than three (3) feet in diameter by three (3) feet high and has the ground five (5) feet from the base of the fire cleared of all combustible material. The campfire shall be in a steel or stone structure.

McKinley County Fire and Rescue thanks the citizens of McKinley County for their cooperation these last few months and asks for continued support during this period of drought.

###

#### FIRE & EMS

413 BATAAN VETERANS ST. GALLUP NM 87301

P.O. BOX 5210 GALLUP NM 87305

T: 505.863.3839 F: 505.863.1439