

## TAOS COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

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### Press Release

#### Stage 3 Fire Restrictions for Taos County

Hello Taos County,

Starting today, Thursday May 19th, 2022, The Carson National Forest in Taos County, will set in place Stage 3 Fire Restrictions. Carson National Forest will also implement a forest-wide closure. Fire danger remains extreme with record conditions only expected to worsen over the foreseeable future. The closure will be rescinded after significant moisture has been received and overall conditions improve.

With these restrictions, there will be no entry into the forest area, no hiking, biking, camping, no motorized vehicles, and absolutely no fires. Taos County Sheriff deputies will be on regular patrols, if you have an emergency or need to report a violation, please call the Taos County Emergency Dispatch at (575) 758-2217 or dial 911.

Below is the link to the evacuation map showing established possible evacuation zones. These established zones represent areas of concern should a wildfire or structure fire start, and we highly recommend you exercise fire preparedness.

<https://nifc.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=bf95b09412840c0afd99626ea2bee4f>

I would like to stress the importance of preparing the areas around your home and structures immediately. I continue to ask for all residents to make your home more defensible by cutting tall grass/weeds, removing brush, moving firewood and other combustible materials away from your home. Collecting your valuables, keepsakes, important documents, family photos, and doing a video/photo inventory are some best practices in wildfire preparedness.

I would like to thank you for your cooperation and understanding. Together, Taos County we will overcome.

Sheriff Jerry Hogrefe