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No. 728

31 May 2002

PROHIBITION ON THE MAKING OF FIRES IN THE OPEN AIR, THE DESTRUCTION BY BURNING OF SLASH AND CLEARING OR MAINTENANCE OF FIRE BELTS BY BURNING AND THE EXECUTION OF BLOCK-BURNS

SOUTPANSBERG AREAS:

GAANDRIK 2230 CB SIBASA 2230 CD THENGWE 2230 DA TZANEEN 2330 CC LOUIS TRICHARDT 2329 BB NZHELELE 2230 CC MAKONDE 2230 DC AND RATOMBO 2330 AA

I, Arnold Michael Muller in my capacity as the Director-General of the Department of Water Affairs and Forestry, hereby declare in terms of section 25 (1), (2) and (3) of the Forest Act, 1984 (Act No. 122 of 1984), that in my opinion State Forests in the areas the boundaries of which are indicated in Schedule A hereto are subject to an extraordinary fire hazards. I therefore-

- (1) direct that in the said areas, no person shall from 1 August 2002 up to and including 31 October 2002 make a fire in the open air, or, if such a fire has been made, allow it to burn or add fuel thereto, otherwise than-
 - fires made within a demarcated picnic or camping area or caravan park, or holiday resorts, but only at
 places within such an area which have been specifically prepared and maintained for that purpose:
 Provided that such fires are properly extinguished with water and/or sand;
 - (b) fires for the preparation of food on residential stands;
 - (c) fires made on residential and industrial stands in proclaimed townships;
 - (d) burning of harvest residue on cultivated crop fields: Provided that such fires may be made from 15:00 to 24:00 only on days when the average Fire Danger Index (FDI) at 14:00 for the fire region, as determined by the Forest Fire Association, is less than 45, except on Fridays, Saturdays, Sundays and public holidays, when no burning may be undertaken, subject to directions in terms of regulation 12 of the Conservation of Agricultural Resources Act, 1983 (Act No. 43 of 1983); in consultation with local interested parties and the implementation of reasonable precautions to ensure that fires do not spread in the area;
 - (e) fires made for initiation school purposes, but only at places, which have been specially prepared and maintained for that purpose to prevent fires from spreading;
- (2) hereby direct that in the said areas no person shall from 1 June 2002 up to and including 31 October 2002 destroy by burning slash originating from any timber plantation or self-sown exotic trees;
- (3) hereby direct that in the said areas no person shall from 1 August 2002 up to and including 31 October 2002 clear or maintain a fire belt by burning, or execute block burns: Provided that veid for range land management may be burnt from 15:00 to 24:00 only on days when the Average Fire Danger Index at 14:00 for the fire region, as determined by the Forest Fire Association, is less than 45, except on Fridays, Saturdays, Sundays and public holidays and the day before a public holiday when no burning may be undertaken, subject to the directions in terms of regulation 12 of the Conservation of Agricultural Resources Act, 1983 (Act No. 43 of 1983), in consultation with the local interested parties and the implementation of reasonable precautions to ensure that fires do not spread in the area.

Arnold Michael Muller Director - General

SCHEDULE A

SIBASA 2230 CD

FROM: Wyliespoort Farm 126 MT:

Sibasa eastwards along the road to Tshixwadza 296 MT, and along the road to Matavhela 233 MT and from Tshixwadza to Rambuda (Ramputla 196 MT through to Sibasa).

DISCRIPTION OF THE AREAS

From Wyliespoort 2800 along the main road to Siloam, including the surrounding farms, Beaconsfield 4206, Makuleni 4400, Tshixwadza 3600, from Tshixwadza northwards to Gogogo 4184, Tshamulungwi, Luyhada 4316 to Matayhela.

Eastwards from Tshixwadza 3200 through Luheni 3405 to Dzimauli 1430 (196 MT). From Dzimauli northeast to Matavhela 2936, including the following areas: Tshaanda 3560, Mazhenga 3006, Helula 3274, HaMabila 3116 and Ngalavhani 3225.

These areas shall include areas along Mufongodi River, Tshikalavhe, Nwanedi River and Savhani. The areas at Luheni will also include Matale River, Tshala and Tshiombedi.

GAANDRIK 2230 CB (North and West Sibasa)

From Tshamulungwi 3600, 3816, 3809, 3766 and 3765 to Chikovhakraal 3555 proceeding to Thengwe MT22 with both grassland areas at Tshanuwa 3513.

CENTRAL SIBASA AND THE SURROUNDING AREAS 213 MT

From Siloam 3199 to Tshikombani, Mandala 197 MT, 3200, Fondwe 3400 around Tate Vondo State Forest and the surrounding plantations, Fondwe 1000, Lwangululu 3220, Nwanam 2000 through Tate Vondo 4400 along the fire belt to Tshidzivhe 5200, Makwarani 3060 to Muhuyu 3220.

From Goodville 2400, Tshilapfene 2200, Murangoni and Vondo 3400 through to old Matondoni 3250. From Siloam along the main road through Phiphidi (213 MT) 2650 to Sibasa.

EASTERN SIBASA

From Thohoyandou and the surrounding areas 2640, that is Mphaphuil 278 MT, 2510, including Beauster 1281, along Punda Maria Road, including Tshiffif 2396 State Land 13201 and 13209 all included.

From Chibase 213 MT 2000 including Natal House 2137, 2100 to Tshivhilivi 268 MT 1700 and 1718, Tshidzini 1181, Tshifudi 1980 to Punda Maria, Phaswana 257 MT 1598 and 1600.

From Tshiulungoma 1994 to Mpondi 2012, Mangondi 1882 (279 MT) through Tshivhonza 1749, Tshivhazwaulu 1700, HaMatsika 1600, to the farm Ross 265 MT. This will include around Luvuvhu River, Xigalo 266 MT 1261 and farm 276 MT Graham.

The following farms are included: Segalo 1750, Roodhuis 285 MT 1786, Viljoen 284 MT 1799, Morgan 283 MT 1808, Bennett 282 MT 1780 and Mayambe 281 MT 1776 through to Punda Maria.

AREA ALONG KRUGER NATIONAL PARK

From Mabyeni 386 to Tshamavhudzi 652, Lukalo 765, Shambila near Punda Maria Gate 585. From Punda Maria Gate to Ntlhadeni 687 through to Gandlanani Grassland 688 to Silwana Location 719 MT, Musukhomu 622, and Leleni 441 to Phalaborwa Gate (Middelekop 446). This shall include areas around Grasslands 788 to Tzaneen 2330.