

No. 515

2 June 2006

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 BLOCKBURNS: DISTRICTS OF (A) ERMELO, EERSTEHOEK, CAROLINA AND WATERVAL-BOVEN; (B) PIET RETIEF AND WAKKERSTROOM

I, Jabulani Isaac Sindane 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 Schedules A and B hereto are subject to an extraordinary fire hazard, I therefore

- (1) make a fire in the open air, or, if such a fire has been made, allow it to continue to burn or add fuel thereto, otherwise than
 - (a) 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: direct that in the said areas no person shall from 1 June 2006 up to and including 31 October 2006 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 and a day before a public holiday, when no burning may be undertaken, subject to directions in terms of regulation 12 of the regulation promulgated in terms 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 and where applicable, a burning permit must be obtained from the local fire protection association.
 - (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 2006 up to and including 31 October 2006 destroy by burning slash originating from any timber plantation or self-sown exotic trees unless in the possession of a burning permit;
- (3) hereby direct that in the said areas no person shall from 1 June 2006 up and including 31 October 2006 destroy by burning of harvest residue, cultivated crop fields and veld, clear or maintain a fire belt by burning, or execute block burns: Provided that such fires may be made 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 Regulations promulgated in terms 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 and where applicable, a burning permit must be obtained from the local fire protection association.

- (4) hereby direct that in areas where fire protection associations exist and are registered with the Department of Water Affairs and Forestry in terms of the National Veld and Forest Fire Act, No 101 of 1998, but such areas not falling within the boundaries stipulated in Schedules A and B, provisions (1), (2) and (3) above will apply to cover the entire boundaries of the registered associations.**

I saac Sindana
Director-General
08/05/06

SCHEDULE A**EASTERN BOUNDARY**

From a point where the Ngwempisi River enters Swaziland northwards along the Swaziland border to the Carolina/Barberton District boundary.

NORTHERN BOUNDARY

From the Swaziland border in a westerly direction along the Carolina/Barberton District boundary to the Badplaas/Barberton Road; thence in a westerly direction along the said road to the intersection with the Badplaas/Machadodorp Road on the property Kees Zyn Dooms 708 JT; thence in a northerly direction along the Machadodorp Road to a point where it crosses the northern boundary of the property Gemakstroom 398 TJ; Gemsbokhoek 397 JT, Gevonden 398 JT, Waterval 424 JT, Kranskloof 423 JT, Suikerboschfontein 422 TJ, Leeuwpoot 13 IT and N 14 IT to where the boundary of the last mentioned property crosses the Carolina/Badplaas Road; thence in a westerly direction along the said road to its junction with the Machadodorp/Ermelo Road (R36) and from there in a southerly direction to the junction with the Carolina/Hendrina Road (R38) including the reserve within the area; from there in a westerly direction along the Hendrina Road to a point where the road crosses the Ermelo District boundary on the eastern boundary of the farm Op Goedehoop 205 IS.

WESTERN AND SOUTHERN BOUNDARY

From the point where the Carolina/Hendrina Road (R38) crosses the Ermelo District boundary on the eastern boundary of the farm Goedehoop 205 IS, along the Ermelo District boundary in a southerly and later easterly direction to the point where the Ngwempisi river enters Swaziland, so as to include the entire District of Ermelo in the area.

SCHEDULE B**EASTERN BOUNDARY**

From the point where the Nwempisi River enters Swaziland, along the Swaziland border, in a southerly direction to the common boundary between the properties Berbice 23 HU and Bergplaats 25 HU; from there in the general south-westerly direction to the Mpumalanga/KwaZulu-Natal border along the eastern boundaries of the following properties, so as to include them in the area; Berbice 23 HU, Deift 22 HU, Agatha 41 HU and Gunsteling 45 HU.

SOUTHERN BOUNDARY

From the junction of the south-eastern boundary of the property Gunsteling 45 HU with the Mpumalanga/KwaZulu-Natal border; thence in a general westerly direction along the provincial border to the Piet Retief/Braunschweig Road on the property Zandlingspost 196 HT.

WESTERN BOUNDARY

From the junction of the Piet Retief/Braunschweig Road with the KwaZulu-Natal/Mpumalanga border on the property Zandlingspost 196 HT in an easterly direction along this road to the junction of the Ultgevalle Road on the property Tafelberg 186 HT; thence in a northerly direction traversing the property Tafelberg 186 HT along the last mentioned road to the Piet Retief/Ultgevalle/Annysspruit Road junction on the property Ultgevalle 175 HT; from there in a westerly direction along the Ultgevalle/Annysspruit Road to its intersection with the southern boundaries of the property Annysspruit 139 HT; thence in a westerly direction along the southern and western boundaries of the following properties, so as to include them in the area: Klipspruit 138 HT, Klipspruit 137 HT, Kaffir Locatie 24 HT, Grootspuit 23 HT, Roodekraal 21 HT, Maquassa 19 HT, Rookkop 18 HT, Witbank 380 IT, Prospectfarm 361 IT, Geelhoutboom 342 II and Leiden 340 IT to the Ermelo District boundary.

NORTHERN BOUNDARY

From the point where the Ngwempisi River enters Swaziland, along the Ermelo/Piet Retief and Ermelo/Wakkerstroom District boundaries in a westerly direction to the western corner of the property Leiden 340 IT.