FIRE EMERGENCY DECLARATION
BURN RESTRICTION PROCLAMATION

SIOUX COUNTY, NORTH DAKOTA
Dated: April 14, 2026

WHEREAS, Sioux County, North Dakota has and is expected to endure periods of abnormally dry conditions during spring, summer, and fall;

WHEREAS, Sioux County, North Dakota has sustained or been threatened with rural fires annually and Sioux County Emergency Management has been in consultation with local fire departments; and

WHEREAS, all available resources remain committed to protecting life and property; and

WHEREAS, the impact of fires could threaten the economic vitality of Sioux County, and the health, well-being and safety of citizens; and

WHEREAS, the cost of response and the inordinate equipment wear may be in excess of county resources; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Sioux County Commissioners declares a Fire Emergency and Burn Restriction to include a total ban on the ignition of campfires, agriculture or cropland, patio fireplaces and chimineas burning organic material, aerial/ground fireworks, garbage/pit burning, gas camp stoves, charcoal grills/smokers, smoking, and unnecessary off-road motorized travel when the North Dakota Rangeland Fire Index is in the **High, Very High, or Extreme category and/or a Red Flag Warning** has been issued for Sioux County until further notice.

Additionally, controlled burns are restricted entirely until approval by the local fire response authority that has jurisdiction over the designated area has been granted.

ANY INDIVIDUAL WHO WILLFULLY VIOLATES THE BURN RESTRICTOIN IS GUILTY OF A CLASS B MISDEMEANOR (NDCC 31-17.1-10): MAXIMUM SENTENCE OF UP TO 30 DAYS IN JAIL AND A $1,500 FINE (NDCC12.1-32.01)

Dated at Fort Yates, Sioux County, ND this 14 day of April, 2026, until further notice.

Larry Silbernagel

Larry Silbernagel, Chairperson
Sioux County Commission