

SECTION 35—FOREST (FIRE PREVENTION) REGULATIONS

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*Legal Notice No. 122 of 1972*

*Short title*

1. These Regulations may be cited as the Forest (Fire Prevention) Regulations.

*Application*

2. These Regulations shall apply to—
  - (a) all reserved forests, nature reserves and government controlled plantation areas in the provinces of Ba, Bua, Kadavu, Macuata, Nadroga and Navosa and Ra, and in the tikina of Vaturova in the province of Cakaudrove;
  - (b) all parcels of land any part of the boundaries of which is within one mile of a boundary of a reserved forest, nature reserve or government controlled plantation area;
  - (c) such other land as the Minister may from time to time specify by order.

*Fire licences*

3. Upon application made in writing not more than 48 hours before it is intended to start a fire outdoors, any forest officer may issue to an applicant a fire licence, which may be limited as to duration and area and may contain such terms and conditions as the forest officer issuing such licence may deem necessary.

*Licences required*

4.—(1) No person other than the holder of a fire licence shall at any time start or cause to be started a fire outdoors.

(2) No person being the holder of a fire licence shall at any time start or cause to be started a fire outdoors contrary to any terms or conditions upon which such licence was issued.

*Cancellation or suspension of licences*

5. Any Conservator, or Assistant Conservator may at any time cancel or suspend a fire licence.

*Clearing land*

6. Every person clearing land shall, subject to compliance with the provisions of these Regulations, pile and burn all brush, debris, non-merchantable timber and other inflammable material cut or accumulated on such land.

*Camps, mines, etc.*

7. Every person having charge of a camp, mine, mill for the purpose of manufacturing timber, garbage dump or such other class of premises as the Minister may notify by order shall keep all land within 20 feet or such further reasonable distance as a forest officer may specify of such camp, mine, mill or premises, cleared of inflammable material.

*Dangerous conditions*

8.—(1) Any forest officer who is aware of any condition on any land, building, structure or equipment which in his opinion may cause danger from fire to life or property may order the owner or person in control of or the person who has caused such condition to take forthwith such action as the forest officer may deem necessary to remove or reduce such danger and in default the forest officer may himself take such action.

(2) The cost of any action taken by a forest officer under paragraph (1) shall be recoverable from the owner or person in control of the relevant land, building, structure or equipment as a civil debt.

*Extinction of fires*

9. A forest officer may at any time extinguish any fire or order any male person between the ages of 18 years and 60 years who is in the vicinity to do so.

*Reporting fires*

10. Every person who has started or is in charge of an outdoor fire which has escaped from the area to be burned shall forthwith report such fire to a forest officer.

*Fire-arms*

11. No person who discharges a fire-arm shall leave unextinguished any residue from the discharge.

*Notices and signs*

12. No person shall, without lawful authority, tear down, remove, damage, deface or interfere with any notice or sign erected, posted or placed by or with the authority of any forest officer for the purpose of drawing attention to fire prevention.

*Damage to equipment, etc.*

13. No person shall, without lawful authority, tear down, remove, damage, deface or interfere with any equipment, building or structure placed in a forest for the purpose of protecting the forest.

*Injury to persons and property*

14. No person shall wilfully and without lawful authority place inflammable material or do any other act in any place so as to cause or be likely to cause a fire and thereby injure any person or damage any property.

*Offences*

15. Any person contravening any of the provisions of these Regulations shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$200.

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 SECTION 35—FOREST GUARDS REGULATIONS
 

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