

F O R E S T R Y

THE DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY

**DECREE OF THE MINISTER OF FORESTRY
NO. 260/Kpts-II/95 ; DATED : MAY 16, 1995**

R E

GUIDELINE FOR EFFORTS TO PREVENT AND EXTINGUISH FOREST FIRES

THE MINISTER OF FORESTRY,

- Considering** :
- a. that on the basis of the stipulation in Article 10 of Government regulation No. 28 of 1985, provisions on efforts to prevent and extinguish forest fires shall be laid down in the regulations of First-Level regions with account taken of a guideline of the Minister of Forestry;
 - b. that the Guideline on Efforts to Prevent and Extinguish Forest Fires stipulated in the Decree of the Mminister of Forestry No. 195/Kpts-II/1986 is deemed no longer compatible with the development of circumstances so that it needs to be improved;
 - c. that in connection with the above-mentioned matter, it is deemed necessary to stipulate a Guideline on Efforts to Prevent and Extinguish Forest Fires in a Decree of the Minister of Forestry.

- Bearing in mind** :
- 1. Act No. 5 of 1967;
 - 2. Act No. 5 of 1974;
 - 3. Act No. 4 of 1982;
 - 4. Act No. 5 of 1990;
 - 5. Government Regulation No. 64 of 1957;
 - 6. Government Regulation No. 21 of 1970 jo. Government Regulation No. 18 of 1975;
 - 7. Government Regulation No. 33 of 1970;
 - 8. Government Regulation No. 28 of 1985;
 - 9. Government Regulation No. 6 of 1988;
 - 10. Government Regulation No. 13 of 1994;
 - 11. Government Regulation No. 18 of 1994;
 - 12. Presidential Decree No. 15 of 1984 jo. Presidential Decree No. 58 of 1993;
 - 13. Presidential Decree No. 32 of 1990;
 - 14. Presidential Decree No. 96/M/1993;
 - 15. Decree of the Minister of Forestry No. 677/Kpts-II/1993.

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14. Presidential Decree No. 96/M/1993;
15. Decree of the Minister of Forestry No. 677/Kpts-II/1993.

HAS DECIDED

To stipulate :

- FIRSTLY :** A Guideline on Efforts to Prevent and Extinguish Forest Fires as referred to in the attachment to this Decree.
- SECONDLY :** A Guideline as referred to in *FIRST* dictum shall constitute a *guideline* on efforts to prevent and extinguish forest fires and shall be valid all over Indonesia and shall be used for the drawing up of a Regulation of a First-Level Region on the Prevention and Extinguishing of Forest Fires.
- THIRDLY :** A Regulation of a First-Level Region which has existed and provides regulation on efforts to prevent and extinguish forest fires shall remain valid as long as it does not contradict the spirit of this Decree and shall be interpreted in accordance with it and or shall be brought in conformity with this Decree.
- FOURTHLY :** Regulation of First Level Regions which have not shall have to take this Decree as their guideline.
- FIFTHLY :** With the stipulate of this Decree, the Decree of the Minister of Forestry No. 195/Kpts-II/1986 and its attachment shall be declared null and void.
- SIXTHLY :** This Decree shall take effect as from the date of stipulation.

Stipulated in : Jakarta

Dated : May 16, 1995

THE MINISTER OF FORESTRY

TTD.

DJAMALUDIN SURYOHADIKUSUMO

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Attachment :

A GUIDELINE ON EFFORTS TO PREVENT AND EXTINGUISH FOREST FIRES

I. INTRODUCTION

1. Background

A forest is one of very potential biological natural resources to be utilized in the interest of National Development. However, in the process of utilization, forest conservation encounters threats, constraints and disturbances in both material and environmental terms. One of these takes the form of a forest fire, which has now become a national problem. In the effort to maintain and guarantee forest conservation, it is necessary to determine measures to prevent and extinguish forest fires.

On the basis of Article 15 of Act No. 5 of 1967 on Fundamental Stipulations on Forestry, efforts to protect the forests shall not constitute merely the Government's obligation but they shall also constitute the obligation of the entire community because the file of people at large is concerned and consequently the community shall have to take part in efforts to prevent and extinguish forest fires.

On the basis of Article 10 of Government Regulation No. 28 of 1985 on Forest Protection, the implementation of efforts to prevent and extinguish forest fires must be regulated in Regional Regulations.

To provide an answer to the problem of forest fires, which has now assumed greater complexity, there is now great urgency to replace the Decree of the Minister of Forestry No. 195/Kpts-II/1986 on a Guideline on Efforts to Prevent and Extinguish Forest Fires with the consequence that immediate adjustment be made to all existing Regional Regulations on the prevention and extinguishing of forest fires.

2. Definition

Referred to in this Decree as :

1. Forest Fire Control shall be all efforts to prevent and extinguish forest fires and save what is left in the aftermath a forest fire.
2. Forest Fire Prevention shall be all efforts, measures or activities carried out to prevent a forest fire or reduce the possibility of the outbreak of a forest fire.
3. Forest Fire Extinguishing shall be all efforts, measures or activities carried out to remove or extinguish a forest-burning fire.
4. Acts of Safety in the Aftermath of a Forest Fire shall be all efforts geared towards saving human beings, animals, plants and other objects in the event of a forest fire.
5. A fire shall be declared to have been put out if the sources of fire which may cause the recurrence of a fire (embers) are no longer found (no more smoke is found) in the area concerned.

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6. Direct Extinguishing shall be an extinguishing effort aimed directly at the flame of fire.
7. Indirect Extinguishing shall be an effort to extinguish a forest fire implemented by means of counter-burning and the making of the spreading course of the main fire with the burning fire.
8. A Command Post (Posko) shall be a place where a forest fire is monitored and controlled.
9. Evacuation and Safety shall be efforts to take away and save human casualties and objects owing to the outbreak of a forest fire.

II. EFFORTS TO CONTROL FOREST FIRES

Efforts to control Forest Fires shall be implemented in a condition prior to the outbreak of a forest fire, at the time when a forest fire is raging and after a forest fire is over.

A. Activities in a condition where there is no occurrence of a forest fire shall encompass:

1. Forest Fire Control Planning as follows :

- a. The drawing up of map showing forest-fire-prone areas;
- b. The drawing up of statistical data;
- c. Supplies of extinguishing personnel and equipment;
- d. Monitoring of the weather, fuel accumulation and fire-prone indications;
- e. The construction of fire partitions, a multi-purpose dam, a fire control tower, guard posts and the preparation of transportation and communication facilities;
- f. The drawing up of software;
- g. Education and training;
- h. Coordination with relevant agencies and the general public;
- i. The setting up of fire-extinguishing organizations;
- j. Other efforts related to forest-fire control planning.

2. Early Detection of a Forest Fire

This activity is aimed at learning early of the possibility of a forest-fire outbreak so that proper measures may be taken to deal with it.

To detect the possibility of an outbreak of a forest fire, the following activities, among other things, are carried out :

- a. Setting up a forest-fire control tower with a fairly distant visibility extent, equipped with detection facilities (a telescopes and a distance-measuring device) and proper communications facilities in extensive and highly-potential forest areas, forests around which a dense population is found, places where forest fires are estimated to be easy to break out.

- b. Undertaking patrols to detect the possibility of a forest fire outbreak by mobilising Forest Safeguarding Personnel and Field Executors. This activity must be well regulated through Executing Units and must as far as possible be equipped with mobility and telecommunications facilities.
- c. Construction and making efficient use of guard posts at roads of entrance and control roads at plantation forest areas, tourism and so forth, in order to receive and pass on reports from the community or from tourists thinking that they may be an outbreak of a forest fire to government agencies responsible for forest fires.
- d. Utilising flight information and satellite data useful for early detection of a forest fire.

3. Counselling

Counselling shall be provided to the broad community and local community living within and enclave and around forest areas, particularly towards and during the dry season.

The method resorted to shall be direct contact with the community through school education, Non- Governmental Organisations (NGOs) and indirectly contact through the mass media, the posters and warning signs put up along roadsides and in the forest and forest-fire warning devices.

4. Education and Training

Education and Training shall be provided to Forest Safeguarding Personnel (Forest Rangers, PPNS and Forest Safeguarding Security personnel) and community members chooses as core personnel for the control of forest fires. Forest fire core personnel shall be obligated to share their knowledge with the surrounding community and dedicate their ability to them. Forest fire training shall be stratified into the elementary level, the intermediate level and the advanced level. This education and training shall be implemented by the Ministry of Forestry, which in this respect shall involve other government agencies and equal partners of the Ministry of Forestry.

5. Raising the level of alertness.

The act of raising the level of alertness must be done by all apparatuses involved in efforts to control forest fires, starting at the beginning of the dry season and ending at the beginning of the wet season. Things must be made ready when raising the level of alertness shall include among other things the following:

Forest-fire controlling centre and executive units must be established and well nurtured with the command structure being clear, the task and responsibility of each officer at each level being well understood and all being operationally ready.

- b. All officers involved in activities to control forest fires must always be ready and alert during the season when fires are very likely to break out.
 - c. All equipment to be used to extinguish forest fires and communications and mobility facilities must be well maintained and ready for use.
- 6. Reducing the likelihood of the outbreak of a forest fire shall entail the following :**
- a. Welfare approach with respect to the community around the forest;
 - b. Controlling migrant farmers by means of :
 - Resettling migrant farmers through a transmigration project;
 - Settling Farming Undertakings (UPM).
 - c. Tight requirements for and control over the implementation of land cleaning through burning with regard to both forestry and non-forestry development efforts.
 - d. Tight requirements for and control over people entering forest areas, particularly reforestation areas, Plantation Forests and Tourism Forests during the dry season.
 - e. Making and taking good care of burning partitions towards the dry season and during the cleaning of control roads, roads for the transportation of forest produce, both sides of a pathway and combustibles.
 - f. Conducting controlled burning of the forest by means of burning waste matter, weeds and twigs to reduce the number of combustible materials.
7. An area shall be determined to be fire-prone on the basis of the climate, the type of combustible fuel, the behaviour of local people and other likely influential variables.
8. The construction dams to contain water at strategic places to meet the demand for water in conjunction with the act of extinguishing forest fires with the number of the dams and their meassizes being brought in conformity with the demand and the site condition.
9. The preparation of fores-fire extinguishing equipment comprising individual equipment (clothing, footwear and so forth) and manual equipment which shall be placed at the forefront (within the area); group equipment at Second-Level Region Forestry Agency; supporting equipment at First-Level Regions (Provinces) and supporting equipment from the Central Government. The types and forms of the equipment shall be determined by the Director general of Forest Protection and Nature Conservation.

10. The stipulation of a standing procedure in the effort to extinguish a forest fire. For the sake of uniformity and good working mechanism, at the Central level it shall be stipulated by the Minister of Forestry and at the provincial level by the Head of a Regional Office of the Ministry of Forestry.

B. Activities when there is an outbreak of a forest fire shall encompass :

1. Extinguishing the forest fire directly and indirectly.
2. Finding the sources of the forest fire.
3. Mobilizing Task Force of Assistance in the form of personnel, facilities, infrastructures and funds to extinguish the forest fire.

C. Activities after the outbreak of a forest fire is over shall encompass :

1. Measuring forest area which has caught fire.
2. Calculating economic and ecological losses as a result of a forest fire.
3. Calculating and proposing the cost for the reforestation of a forest fire which has caught fire.
4. Reforesting the forest area which has caught fire.
5. Evaluating the implementation of the act of extinguishing a forest fire.

III. ORGANIZATION

1. A national-scale organization for the control over forest fires shall be set up in a separate Decree of the Minister of Forestry.
2. Organizations for the control over forest fires at the level of a province/first-level region and at the level of a district/municipality/second-level region shall be set up by virtue of a Decision of the Governor/Head of First-Level Region concerned.

IV. REPORTING

1. Reports on the outbreak of a forest fire and after the outbreak of a forest fire is over shall be made every month by forest-managing officers in their respective working areas.
2. The said reports shall contain :
 - the causes of the forest fire (human beings, nature or others);
 - the place and the time of the outbreak of a forest fire;
 - the extent of the forest area which has caught fire;
 - estimated losses as a result of a forest fire;
 - efforts to cope with a forest fire;
 - and so forth.

V. RESPONSIBILITY AND OBLIGATIONS

- A. Head of a Forestry Service, Head of a Unit of Perum Perhutani, Head of a National Park, Head of the Centre for the Conservation of Natural Resources/Sub-Centre of the Conservation of Natural Resources and Forest/Tourism-in-Nature Concessionaires shall be responsible for efforts to cope with forest fires in their respective working areas.
- B. The community shall be obligated to pay attention to, understand and comply with a guideline for the control over forest fires which they have obtained through counselling, education and training.
- C. The community residing around a fire-prone forest shall be obligated to remain on the alert and lend a hand to activities carried out to prevent a forest fire, both individually and through existing Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), and also observe the directives from authorized officers.
- D. The community residing around a forest which has caught fire shall be obligated to actively assist fire-extinguishing activities initiated by the fire-extinguishing Executive Unit (SATLAK), either individually or through existing Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs).

VI. FOREST FIRE CONTROL COORDINATION

- A. The Director General of Forest Protection and Nature Conservation through the National centre for the Control of Forest Fires shall establish coordination with representatives from the Ministry of Agriculture, the Ministry of Transmigration and the Settlement of Forest Trampers, the Ministry of Home Affairs, the Agency for the Control over Impacts on the Environment (BAPEDAL), the Meteorological and Geophysical Agency, the National Search and Rescue Agency (BASARNAS) and representatives from other agencies related to efforts to control forest fires.
- B. Head of a Regional Office of the Ministry of Forestry at a provincial level through the Regional Centre for the Control of Forest Fires shall establish coordination with Heads of Regional Offices of the Ministry of Agriculture and the Ministry of Transmigration and the Settlement of Forest Trampers, the administration of a first-level region, Head of the Bureau of Environmental Affairs at a provincial level and representatives from other agencies at the province/first-level region concerned.

VII. FINANCING IN THE FRAMEWORK OF FOREST FIRE CONTROL

- A. The budget required for efforts to control forest fires shall be charged to the budget of the Central Government, the budgets of regional administrations, the budgets of Forest/Tourism-in-Nature Concessionaires and shall also come from domestic and overseas aids.
- B. The overseas aid budget shall be geared towards supplies of instruments and equipment for the control of forest fires while the process shall comply with prevailing procedures and stipulations.

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- C. Overseas technical assistance shall be geared towards matters which still cannot be done at home.

VIII. EVACUATION AND RESCUE

- A. Community members who become victims in a forest fire shall be given handling priority, particularly victims who are still alive.
- B. Evacuation and rescue efforts shall be conducted by skilled and experienced officers with the support of adequate equipment.
- C. Assistance from the community and hospitals is a must in the framework of saving human lives and property.

THE MINISTER OF FORESTRY
signed

DJAMALUDIN SURYOHADIKUSUMO

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