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## Saguaro National Park News Release

11-7

*For Immediate Release*

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### **FIREWORKS PROHIBITED ON NATIONAL PARK LANDS Dry Conditions Persist at Saguaro National Park**

TUCSON, AZ – Although the sale of ground and hand-held fireworks and their use in some locations is now legal in Arizona, the use or possession of all fireworks is prohibited on all National Park Service lands, including Saguaro National Park. Regulations are enforced, and violations are punishable as a misdemeanor by a fine of not more than \$5000, or imprisonment of not more than six months, or both.

“Fireworks are prohibited on National Park Service lands year-round, regardless of weather conditions or holidays,” said Saguaro Superintendent Darla Sidles. “Fireworks in park wildlands can serve as ignition sources for wildfire, which can result in damage to or loss of native vegetation, and may threaten adjacent private property.”

The fire danger rating at Saguaro is currently at “High”, due to above average temperatures and a lack of seasonal precipitation. Campers in the Rincon Mountains are reminded to obtain Camping Permits for the park’s six backcountry campsites. Permits can be obtained at the Rincon Mountain District Visitor Center (on Old Spanish Trail). Campfires are permitted only in designated campsites and picnic areas, where metal fire rings or grills are provided. Visitors to the Park are also required to extinguish all campfires, ensuring that campfires are cold to the touch before leaving them for any amount of time.

For further information please contact the Rincon Mountain District Visitor Center at 733-5153.

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