

**PROHIBITION OF OUTDOOR BURNING
IN THE UNINCORPORATED AREAS OF EL PASO COUNTY**

WHEREAS, El Paso County is under extreme threat of severe damage, injury, or loss of life or property resulting from the threat of wildfires due to the winter dry grass conditions and gusty winds that occur during the spring season, and

WHEREAS, Drought conditions in El Paso have not improved, in fact they have worsened. As of Friday, February 3, 2012, the Keetch-Byram Drought Index (KBDI) for El Paso was at 596, with a 14-day forecast predicted between 600-700. The highest point on the scale is 800; and

WHEREAS, the El Paso County Commissioners Court finds that the conditions herein described persist in all of the unincorporated areas of El Paso County, Texas and these conditions create a public safety hazard that would be exacerbated by outdoor burning; and

WHEREAS, the El Paso County Commissioners Court is acting under the authority codified at Section 352.081 of the Texas Local Government Code in adopting the following Commissioners Court Order:

BE IT THEREFORE ORDERED that all outdoor burning is prohibited in the unincorporated areas of El Paso County, Texas, excepting activities specifically authorized and permitted by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality for firefighter training, public utility, natural gas pipeline, or mining operations, planting or harvesting of agriculture crops, and prescribed burn management pursuant to Texas Local Government Code Section 352.081(f); and

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that a violation of this Order are defined and punishable as described in Section 352.081(h) of the Texas Local Government Code as a Class C Misdemeanor; and

IT IS LASTLY ORDERED that this order shall be effective on February 6, 2012 and shall continue for a period of 90 days until repealed or expired in accordance with state law.

ADOPTED AND ORDERED this, the 6th day of February, 2012, by the El Paso County Commissioners Court.

ATTEST:

THE COUNTY OF EL PASO, TEXAS



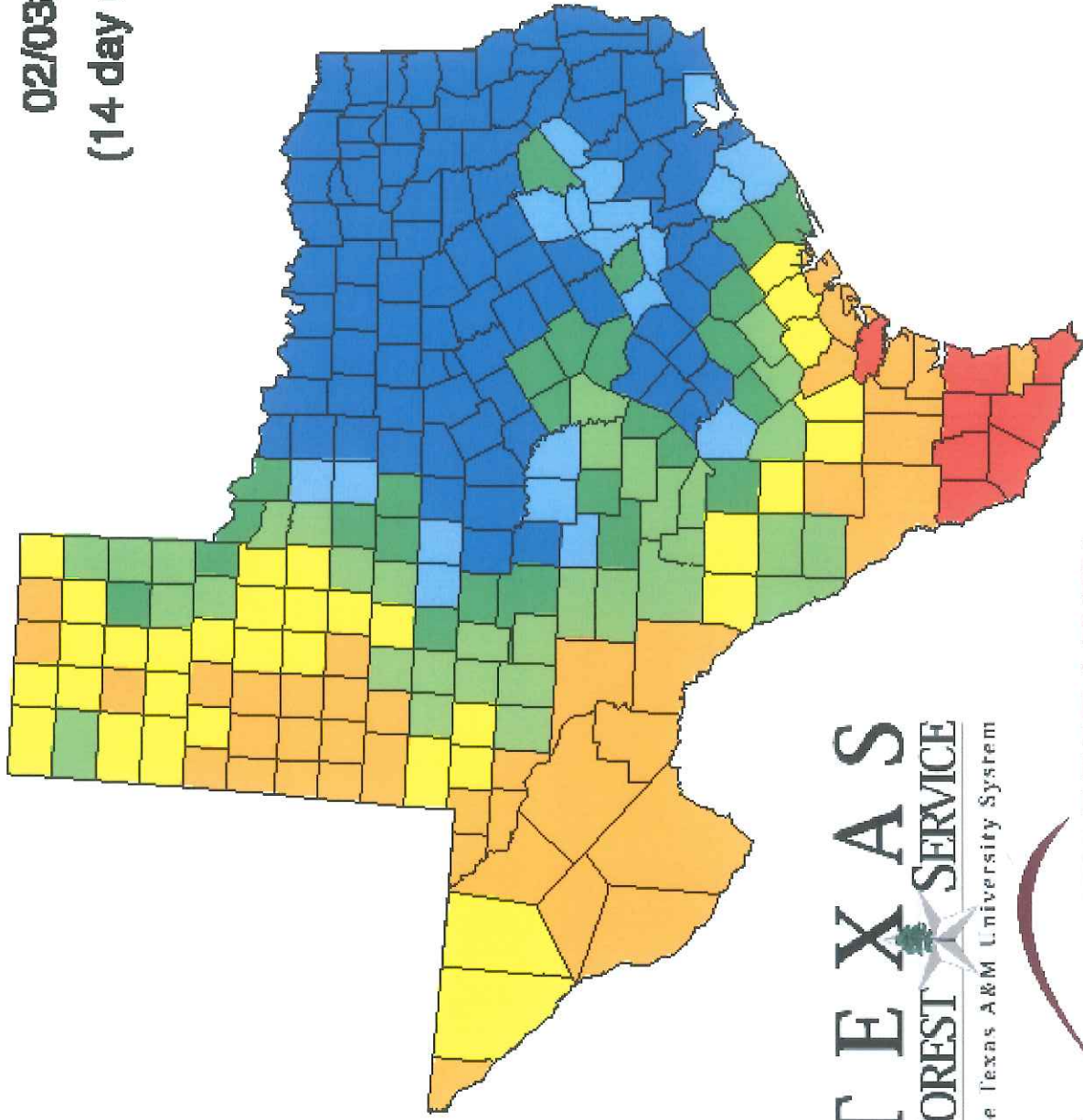
County Clerk Delia Briones

By 

County Judge Veronica Escobar

Keetch-Byram Drought Index

02/03/2012
(14 day outlook)



TEXAS
FOREST SERVICE
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Spatial Sciences Laboratory

DATA SOURCES: NEXRAD and NWS