

Glenda Wiles

From: Erik S. Hoover
Sent: Tuesday, July 25, 2017 3:17 PM
To: Zae Hudson; Glenda Wiles; Amy Mohn
Subject: FW: Missoula Area STAGE II (Federal & Tribal Lands)
Attachments: Missoula_Area_Stage_II_Fed_Tribal.pdf

From: Johnson, Chris M -FS [mailto:chrismjohnson@fs.fed.us]
Sent: Tuesday, July 25, 2017 15:13
Subject: Missoula Area STAGE II (Federal & Tribal Lands)

For immediate release.

As fire season progresses, please reference <http://firerestrictions.us/mt> for up-to-date information.

A separate release will detail State and Private information, and will forthcoming.

Federal, Tribal, and State land management agencies in the Missoula Area will implement Stage II Fire Restrictions per the press release below.

Private, non-forested property in Powell County will be exempt from this order.

Northern Rockies Coordination Group Missoula Area

**For Immediate Release
For Information, contact:
Chris Johnson (406)529-7751**

Agencies to Implement STAGE II Fire Restrictions

Effective: July 27, 2017

Stage II fire restrictions will go into effect on Federal, Tribal, State, and Private lands in the Missoula Area at 12:01 AM on Thursday, July 27th. A separate release will detail State and Private information.

Find up-to-date information as conditions change @ <http://firerestrictions.us/mt>

The purpose of Stage II is to reduce the risk of human-caused fires during periods of extreme fire danger. Critical fire conditions: dry fuels, hot temperatures, low humidity, and high winds are expected to persist. Current initial attack activity remains heavy, and local agencies are working together to catch most new starts. Several large fires in challenging terrain have grown large in full view of our communities. Any new ignition puts firefighters and local communities at risk. Firefighting resources and support personnel from around the country are in place to help and more are on the way.

Campfires will be prohibited when the order takes effect. More prohibitions are listed below. Federal agencies where the restrictions will be enacted are identified on the attached map:

- Bitterroot National Forest
- Lolo National Forest
- Flathead Indian Reservation
- Missoula Field Office BLM
- US Fish and Wildlife Service

Under STAGE II the Following Acts are prohibited:

1. Building maintaining, attending, or using a fire or campfire.
2. Smoking, except within an enclosed vehicle or building, a developed recreation site or while stopped in an area at least three feet in diameter that is barren or cleared of all flammable materials.
3. The following acts are prohibited from 1:00 p.m. to 1:00 a.m. except as otherwise described in this Order below:
 - a. Operating any internal combustion engine.
 - b. Welding, or operating acetylene or other torch with open flame.
 - c. Using an explosive.

Also, a one-hour foot patrol in the work area is required following the cessation of all activities as identified in #3 above.

4. Operating motorized vehicles off designated roads and trails.

Exemptions to Stage II Restrictions

1. Persons with a written permit specifically authorizing the otherwise prohibited act.
2. Persons using a device solely fueled by liquid petroleum or LPG fuels that can be turned on and off. Such devices can only be used in an area that is barren or cleared of all overhead and surrounding flammable material within three feet of the device.
3. Operating generators with an approved spark arresting device within an enclosed vehicle or building or in an area that is barren or cleared of all overhead and surrounding flammable materials within three feet of the generator.
4. Operating motorized vehicles on designated roads and trails.
5. Emergency repair of public utilities and railroads.
6. Persons conducting activities in those designated areas where the activity is specifically authorized by written posted notice.
7. Any Federal, State, or local officer, or member of an organized rescue or firefighting force in the performance of an official duty.
8. Other exemptions unique to each agency/tribe.

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MISSOULA RESTRICTION AREA

