

News Release



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Fire Restrictions in North Central Montana

Stage 1 fire restrictions will be implemented Friday, July 28, at 0001, for all Lewis and Clark National Forest lands and members of Great Falls Fire Restrictions Division including Lewis and Clark, Cascade, Meagher, Teton, Pondera, Toole, Liberty and Glacier counties. These restrictions apply to private, state, tribal and federal lands within the division.

Under Stage 1, fires are prohibited except within developed recreation sites, and smoking is allowed only in areas cleared of flammable materials, or within a vehicle or building. Exemptions include fires fueled solely by liquid petroleum or LPG, or other activities for which there is a permit or written authorization.

Hot windy weather and the presence of numerous large fires all over Montana mean that fire danger ranges from very high to extreme, and fire fighting resources are in short supply. Campers are urged to use extra caution by carrying a bucket and shovel, and ensuring that campfires are dead out. **Anyone who causes a wildland fire intentionally or through negligence may be held accountable for damage and suppression costs.**

These restrictions will remain in effect until rescinded or revoked.

For more information, call Lewis and Clark National Forest offices in Great Falls 791-7700; Choteau, 466-5341; Augusta, 562-3247; White Sulphur Springs, 547-3361; Neihart, 236-5511; Harlowton, 632-4391; and Stanford, 566-2292; Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation at 458-3500; local offices of Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks or local fire departments or sheriff's offices.

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