
Lewis and Clark National Forest
1101 15th Street North
Great Falls, MT 59401 or
PO Box 869
Great Falls, MT 59403
Voice (406) 791-7754/Fax (406) 731-5302
www.fs.fed.us/r1/lewisclark



News Release

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 For Immediate Release
Released by _____ Jane Weber, Acting Public Affairs Officer

Stage Two Restrictions Start Friday on the Jefferson Division of the National Forest

GREAT FALLS – Due to extreme conditions, the Lewis and Clark National Forest has entered Stage II fire restrictions effective at 12:01 a.m. Mountains Daylight Time, on Friday August 10, 2007. These restrictions apply to the Jefferson Division of the National Forest in the following mountain ranges: Little Belt Mountains, Highwood Mountains, Castle Mountains, Crazy Mountains and Big and Little Snowy Mountains. According to Jane Weber, spokesperson for the Lewis and Clark National Forest, “the continued hot, dry weather has created extreme fire conditions throughout the entire Forest.” Stage II Restrictions are already in effect on portions of the Rocky Mountain Ranger District.

Stage II Fire Restrictions prohibit the use of campfires throughout the National Forest. Only camp stoves fueled solely by liquid petroleum or LPG fuels may be used. Smoking is only allowed within an enclosed vehicle or building or while stopped in an area where at least a three foot diameter is barren and cleared of all flammable material. All smoking materials must be fully extinguished and properly packed out. Also, operating a chainsaw or other equipment powered by an internal combustion engine, blasting, welding or operating an acetylene or other torch that generates flame or flammable material are prohibited between 1:00 p.m. to 1:00 a.m. Most importantly, anyone operating equipment is required to patrol their work area for two hours following cessation of their Forest activity. All motorized vehicles must remain on designated roads and trails.

For more information call your Lewis and Clark National Forest at 406-791-7754 or 406-791-7700. You can also visit the forest’s website at www.fs.fed.us/r1/lewisclark/ or www.inciweb.org. For fire information, you can also visit the National Interagency Fire Center’s website at www.nifc.gov.

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