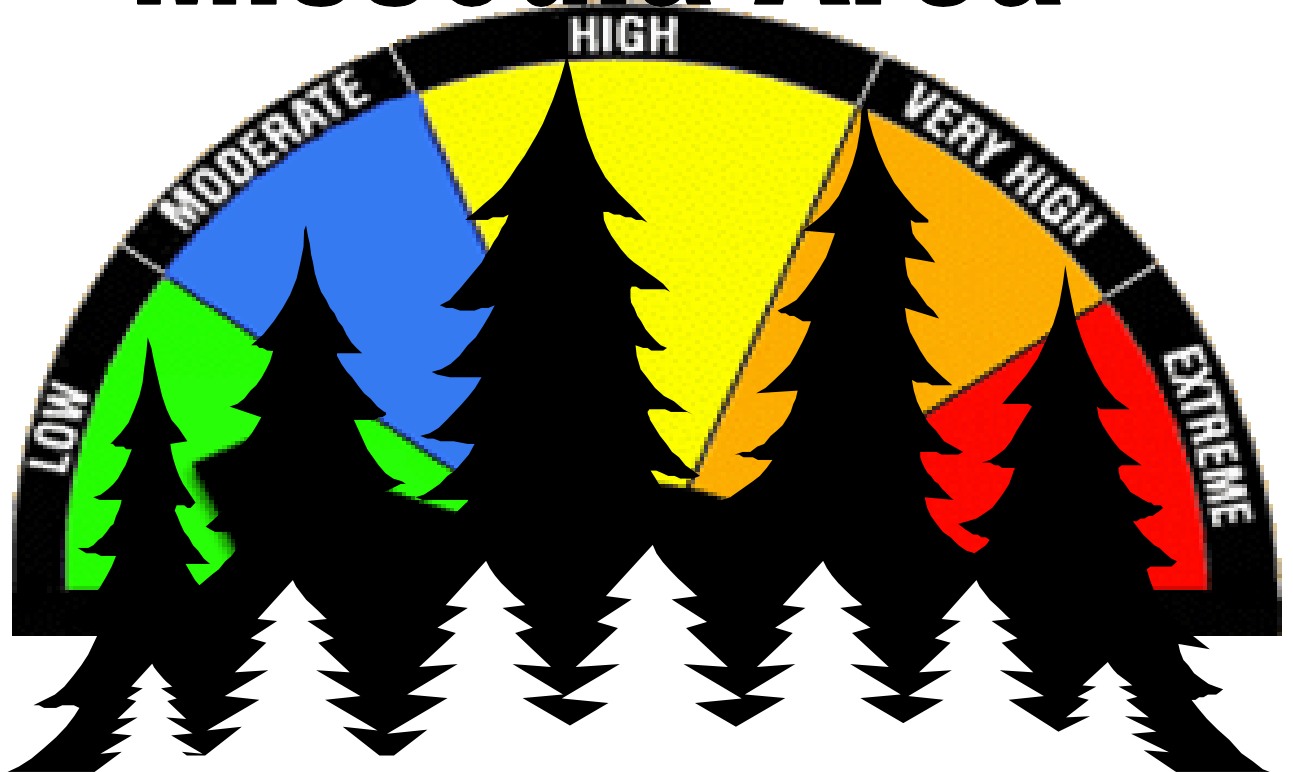


2020-2022

# RESTRICTIONS AND CLOSURES

## Missoula Area



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# **FIRE RESTRICTIONS AND CLOSURES PLAN**

## **MISSOULA AREA**

### **I. Introduction**

This Fire Restriction and Closure Plan is a localized action plan tiered to the Northern Rockies Coordinating Group Restriction and Closure Procedures (dated June 1, 2001, updated July 2004, updated May 2007, updated May 2013, updated May 2017, [updated 2020](#)). The Missoula Area Fire Restriction and Closure Plan details the coordination and decision-making process used to implement fire restrictions and closures in the Missoula Area.

By their nature, fire restrictions and closures impose limitations on the general public, private industry, and enforcement agencies, and should be implemented only after most other prevention measures have been taken. In general, fire restrictions should be considered when high to extreme fire danger exists and is predicted to persist. The implementation and enforcement of any restrictions usually results in an increased workload for agency and local government resources and should be taken into account. Other considerations are: the number of human-caused fire starts, the number and types of firefighting resources (both committed and available), potential high-risk occasions (4th of July, etc.), and large fire activity occurring on a unit. Fire restrictions should be one of the last prevention tools to be used.

Area (small- and large-scale) closures are larger than incident-specific closures and have a large negative impact on the public, forest landowners, industrial operators, and fire agencies. They are implemented only under the most severe conditions, usually when fire danger and fuel conditions are such that firefighter and public safety can no longer be adequately secured. Incident-specific closures are reported by individual agencies and are not covered in this plan.

### **II. Objectives**

- A. This plan will provide clear direction and responsibility for the coordination and implementation of fire restrictions and area closures within the Missoula Area.
- B. This plan will provide standardized wording, criteria, and process for implementing and rescinding fire restrictions and small-scale closures.

### **III. Cooperators**

NRCG member agencies, governmental entities, and tribes included in the Missoula Area will be referred to as the “Cooperators” throughout this document. The Cooperators include:

- USDA Forest Service: Lolo and Bitterroot National Forests
- Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation Southwestern and Northwestern Land Offices
- USDI Bureau of Land Management: Missoula Field Office
- Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes
- USF&WS: National Bison Range and Lee Metcalf National Wildlife Refuge
- Counties: Flathead, Granite, Lake, Mineral, Missoula, Powell, Ravalli, and Sanders

This plan will be updated for accuracy and distributed by June 1<sup>st</sup> of every third year, and will remain valid for a period of 3 years after signature. Any signatory to this plan may withdraw their participation for the following year by providing written notification to the Area Restrictions Coordinator by December 31.

## **IV. Authorities**

### **Fire Restrictions:**

The authority to implement fire restrictions lies with the Agency Administrators / Tribal Chairperson for each of the Cooperators within the Missoula Restrictions Area. When fire managers for the Cooperators within the Missoula Area reach consensus that restrictions are needed, they will inform their respective Agency Administrator / Tribal Chairperson that the thresholds for implementing fire restrictions have been reached. Working with the Area Restrictions Coordinator, the Cooperators will coordinate the implementation and rescission of restrictions and small-scale closures, as well as the preparation of press releases for media use.

### **Area (Small-Scale) Closures:**

The authority to implement Area closures lies with the Agency Administrator / Tribal Chairperson whose land requires the closure. Small-scale closures are used for isolated areas where public and firefighter safety is a concern. When a single jurisdiction is involved, the Agency Administrator / Tribal Chairperson will inform the Area Restrictions Coordinator, who will then inform the other agencies / tribes within the Missoula Restrictions Area. When more than one jurisdiction is involved, the Area Restrictions Coordinator is responsible for overseeing the necessary coordination.

### **Area (Large-scale) Closures:**

The authority to implement large-scale closures lies with the Geographic Agency Administrators in the Northern Rockies Coordinating Group (as listed in Appendix B). Because of the disruption they cause, they are instituted only during extended periods of extreme fire danger and fire activity. Such closures have in the past included all lands managed by one or several agencies across the State of Montana. Large-scale closures have required stationing National Guard troops at forest access road sites to enforce the closure. More information may be found in the “NRCG Restriction and Closure Procedures (June 1, 2001 updated July 2004, updated May 2007, updated May 2013, updated May 2017, [updated 2020](#))”.

## **V. Enabling Documents**

### US Department of the Interior:

- BLM Lands: Fire restrictions and small-area closures are invoked and rescinded by “Fire Prevention Order” signed by the Field Office Manager
- BIA Lands: Covered by tribal order (see below)

### US Fish and Wildlife Service:

- National Bison Range: Fire restrictions and small-area closures are invoked and rescinded by “Special Order” signed by the Project Leader
- Lee Metcalf NWR: Fire restrictions and small-area closures are invoked and rescinded by “Special Order” signed by the Refuge Manager

USFS Lands:

Fire restrictions and small-area closures are invoked and rescinded by “Special Order” signed by the Forest Supervisor or Regional Forester.

Tribal Trust and Tribal Fee Lands:

Fire restrictions and small-area closures are invoked and rescinded by “Tribal Order” signed by the Tribal Chairperson.

Confederated Salish & Kootenai Tribes and Flathead Agency

Forest restrictions and closures are issued by the Tribal Chairperson and Agency Superintendent.

State and Private Forested Lands:

Fire restrictions and small-area closures are invoked and rescinded by “Proclamation” signed by the Montana State Forester. Statewide forest closure requires a proclamation by the governor of the State of Montana.

State of Idaho

Using ICA 38-115 as the authority, the State Board of Land Commissioners developed supplemental rules and regulations that the Director of the Department of Lands is responsible to apply.

State of Montana

The parent law for the regulations is Montana Code Annotated (MCA) 76-13-104. Under these regulations, the Administrator of the Forestry Division may invoke fire restrictions by issuing a proclamation. The Governor must enact a closure under these regulations, not the Administrator, and the regulations provide for the issuance of entry permits. The Montana Governor may also use part of the Military Affairs and Disaster and Emergency Services laws to close an area

Montana Counties

The Montana constitution, as well as Montana Code Annotated, provides counties in Montana the authority to impose restrictions and closures.

Non-Forested Lands (not within a city boundary and not listed above):

Fire restrictions and small-area closures are invoked and rescinded by “Resolution” signed by the County Commissioners.

## VI. Area Location

The Missoula Restrictions Area includes the following counties:

- All lands within Mineral, Missoula, and Ravalli Counties, excluding the Anaconda-Pintler Wilderness
- Sanders County lands that are southeast of the Kootenai National Forest
- Powell County lands that are south of the Flathead National Forest boundary, west of the Helena National Forest, north of Interstate 90, and north of MT Hwy 12
- Lake and Flathead County lands lying within the Flathead Indian Reservation
- Granite County lands east of the Lolo National Forest Boundary and north of Interstate 90
- In Idaho, those parts of Idaho County that fall on the Bitterroot National Forest

## VII. Responsibilities (see Appendices B, C, D, E for list of names)

**Area Restrictions Coordinator:** a person chosen by the Cooperators in each restriction area. This person is responsible for coordination of the fire restriction/closure process and implementation of this Plan. Duties include: monitoring the fire restriction guidelines; gathering information from each Cooperator needed to make informed decisions; monitoring fire activity, ERC levels, and prevention efforts; notifying the NRCG of the Area's impending restrictions or rescinding of restrictions; communicating with neighboring areas on their activity; coordinating restriction orders/rescinding orders and date of implementation; and working closely with the media coordinator on public notification.

**Lead Agency Administrator:** may be a Forest Supervisor, DNRC Area Manager, Field Office Manager, Tribal Chairperson, etc. or a designee. The Lead Agency Administrator is responsible for ensuring that all Agency Administrators/Tribal Chairperson and local government are discussing restrictions and resolving issues within the Missoula Restrictions Area that can't be resolved by the agency/tribal representatives.

**Agency/Tribal Fire Manager:** usually the agency / tribal Fire Management Officer or designee, these individuals are responsible for monitoring the local fire danger, informing Agency Administrators / Tribal Chairperson, notifying the tribal DES Coordinator and Area Restrictions Coordinator as conditions indicate the need for fire restrictions, and assist as needed to ensure public/agency notification of restrictions.

**DNRC Representative:** a DNRC employee representative that serves as the State Liaison within the Missoula Restrictions Area. This person is responsible for making appropriate contacts with the Montana Fish Wildlife and Parks, and notifying the SWLO and Units, and other state political offices of impending restrictions within the Missoula Area Restrictions and Closures area.

**Local Government Representative(s):** contact(s) for counties within the Missoula Restrictions Area, keeps County DES and Fire Wardens informed, liaison for the county commissioners and city councils.

**Media Coordinator:** provides media contacts and cooperators with fire restriction press releases and keeps the Media Contact List updated. This person works closely with the Area Restrictions Coordinator to provide adequate and timely public notification of restrictions and closures.

## VIII. Decision Criteria

The Cooperators in the restrictions area will continuously monitor weather, fuel conditions and other factors that will indicate when restrictions or closures are warranted. The decision criteria are a combination of all values, not just one or two. The primary criteria are as follows:

<b>CRITERIA</b>	<b>STAGE I</b>	<b>STAGE II</b>	<b>CLOSURE</b>
ERC (3-day average)	<b>90-94<sup>th</sup> percentile</b>	<b>95-97<sup>th</sup> percentile</b>	<b>98<sup>th</sup>+ percentile</b>

### Other Criteria

- High number of human-caused fire starts including operations fires
- Some significant events are occurring or are about to occur: (hunting season, etc.)
- Unusually high visitor use
- Initial attack resources are at draw-down level
- Status and availability of adjacent fire resources are at or reaching draw-down level
- Regional/Area preparedness level rises
- Adverse fire weather conditions and risks are predicted to continue
- Life safety is jeopardized

## **IX. Implementation Procedures**

### **STEP ONE: FIRE PREVENTION MEASURES**

When fire managers see that the above-mentioned criteria are being approached, specific prevention measures designed to mitigate human-caused fires will be implemented. The area coordinator will contact NRCG SW Zone Prevention Coordinator to coordinate a targeted prevention campaign amongst zone fire prevention/education personnel and interagency fire managers.

### **STEP TWO: FIRE RESTRICTIONS MEASURES**

If prevention measures don't achieve desired results, discussions on the need for restrictions will be initiated by the Area Restrictions Coordinator. Fire restrictions require a higher degree of coordination among all levels. The Area Restrictions Coordinator will initiate a discussion between interagency fire managers, with neighboring Area Restrictions Coordinators, and the NRCG Restrictions Coordinator. This process must be continuous from the time targeted prevention measures don't achieve a reduction in human-caused fires or when restrictions are first proposed, through the period of implementation, and until the rescinding of all restrictions or closures. Continued use of a zone interagency prevention team throughout the duration of all restrictions/closures should be strongly considered.

### **RESTRICTIONS PROCESS**

When trends indicate the need for restrictions, fire managers from each agency will advise their **Agency Administrators** and Public Information Officers, and alert outlying offices of impending restrictions to provide enough lead time for prevention signing and for public notification.

The Area Restrictions Coordinator will organize a meeting to allow discussion and a roll call of agency fire managers regarding their unit's preference for implementation of restrictions. Each agency has the authority to implement or rescind fire restrictions and closures unilaterally; there has been past value to unilateral, small group, and area-wide implementation of restrictions. Current conditions will drive the utility of each.

Many small community newspapers are only printed once a week. Their deadlines need to be considered. If at all possible, decisions should be made by Tuesday at noon if restrictions are expected to be invoked or canceled by the upcoming weekend. Restrictions should not be implemented during the weekend unless there is an emergency.

If one or more Cooperators within the restriction area are considering implementing fire restrictions, they will contact the Area Restrictions Coordinator who will call a meeting of all Cooperators within the area to talk about the need to start the restriction process. The decision to go into restrictions will be coordinated with adjacent restriction areas/agencies. The NRCG will be kept informed.



## AREA CLOSURES

In addition to the above criteria for preventative measures and fire restrictions, the following additional criteria need to be evaluated whenever an area closure is being considered.

- Potential for extreme or blowup fire behavior
- Potential loss of life or property due to extreme fire conditions
- Stage II restrictions are not effective in reducing the number of human-caused fires
- Resources across the geographic area are at a critical shortage level.

*Small-scale closures* may be necessary for isolated areas where public and firefighter safety is a concern. One example is an area around an ongoing incident. Another example is an area of hazardous fuels that is heavily used by the public. Area administrators / Tribal Chairpersons from the land where the fire is located will make that decision and coordinate with adjacent agencies/tribes through the Restrictions Coordinator. NRCG will be kept informed throughout the process.

*Large-scale closures* are implemented and coordinated by the Geographic Area Administrators. However, there are no established thresholds for initiating them. The GAA assess the situation in a given area or areas, evaluate the impacts of human-caused fires, critical resources, current and expected fire weather and fire behavior. They also consider the economic, social, and political impacts of implementing a large-scale closure.

When one or more of the Cooperators determine that restrictions should be implemented or that the current restriction stage be raised, the Area Restrictions Coordinator is contacted and immediately organizes a meeting or conference call. Those required to participate include the Missoula Area Fire Managers (as listed in Appendix D). It is desirable to obtain input from County Fire Wardens and DES coordinators (as listed in Appendices D&E), so they are also invited to participate. Although the authority to implement fire restrictions lies with each Agency Administrator or Tribal Chairperson, it is customary that their designee attend restrictions coordination meetings.

During this meeting or conference call, the Fire Managers determine what restriction stage is necessary and a target date for implementation. They have the flexibility to decide if all or only a portion of their administrative area needs to be placed under restrictions. Not all of the Southwest Montana Area must move into restrictions at the same time or be in the same restriction stage but the other cooperators need to be aware of the difference. This situation should be avoided if possible. The public should be able to easily understand the location of the areas put under restrictions or closure.

Since the Bob Marshal Complex and the Selway-Bitterroot/Frank Church Wildernesses are in more than one restriction area, each can be treated as a separate area as agreed to by the National Forests and restriction areas involved.

The decision to implement small-scale closures lies with the Agency Administrator or Tribal Chairperson whose land requires the closure. Where more than one jurisdiction is involved, the Agency Administrators / Tribal Chairpersons involved will coordinate these closures. The Area Restrictions Coordinator will immediately be informed of the decision and will inform the other Cooperators within the restriction area and adjacent agencies and restriction areas. NRCG will be kept informed during the decision making process.

Geographic Area Agency Administrators will implement large-scale closures.

The time frame for moving in and out of restrictions and closures should be sufficient to allow for public and agency notification. Enough time must be given in order to allow for preparation and coordinated issuance of the enabling documentation, exemptions, prevention signing, public notification, etc. For restrictions, three days is usually a minimum. Small-area closures are usually implemented (and lifted) in a more rapid fashion as the situation dictates.

Coordination with adjacent areas and other affected agencies in the restriction area that will be impacted (Disaster and Emergency Services, law enforcement entities, etc.) is essential. The Area Restrictions Coordinator will notify other areas/agencies of the decision in order to coordinate prevention signing and public information. The Coordinator will also notify large landowners such as Plum Creek as well as utility companies for whom operations may be affected by restrictions and closures.

Fire prevention signing must be coordinated so the message is in line with the restrictions as they are implemented. Signing will be done by the agency responsible for fire protection.

After the decision has been made to go into restrictions or closures, all employees of all restriction area Cooperators should be notified immediately by their agency. The affected political offices (state and county) should also be contacted immediately. This will be the responsibility of the DNRC and local government representatives.

The next step is to issue the appropriate enabling documentation. To provide for interagency standardization across various ownerships, the wording for the two restriction stages as set forth in the “NRCG Restriction and Closure Procedures” will be used in all restriction orders (See Appendix G). Each agency shall have enabling documentation pre-written with the standardized wording. The Agency Administrator or Tribal Chairperson is responsible for signing the restrictions and small-scale closure documents and the NRCG Agency Administrator or BIA Representative is responsible for signing the large-scale closure documents.

Appendix G contains the standardized wording for the two restriction stages as found in the “NRCG Restriction and Closure Procedures.”

News releases will be issued immediately so the public has as much advance notice as possible, one day at minimum. This is the responsibility of the Missoula Area Media Coordinator. News releases, brochures, PSAs, etc. will be prewritten and agreed upon by all agencies in the restriction area. The use of a fire information/media team to coordinate restriction press releases could be employed if deemed necessary.

All Cooperators in the restrictions area will send a **signed** copy of their restriction orders, with designated campfire sites attached, by FAX or e-mail to the Area Restrictions Coordinator as soon as they are signed. The Coordinator will e-mail copies to all Cooperators. If Cooperators go into closure, a list of exemptions will be attached to the Closure document and sent to the Restrictions Coordinator. The Restrictions Coordinator will update the NRCG restrictions web site: [www.firerestrictions.us](http://www.firerestrictions.us)

The Restrictions Coordinator will distribute (via email) minutes of conference calls and summaries of decisions made by the coordinating group and the proposed timetable for implementing restrictions and small-scale closures.

## **X. Rescission Procedures**

As with the implementation procedures, when one or more of the cooperators determine that restrictions should be rescinded or that the current stage be reduced, the Restriction Coordinator will be contacted, and they will organize a meeting and /or conference call.

When conditions subside, the same decision criteria used to implement the restrictions will be used and discussed to rescind the standing order(s), proclamation(s) and resolution(s).

The rescission of fire restrictions or closures requires rescinding documentation similar to that identified above in **V. Enabling Documentation**. The Restriction Area should plan implementation and rescission of restrictions for predicted long-term conditions and should be based upon the best available science. Care should be taken to not react to every small fluctuation in risk, weather, and fire danger; thus avoiding an up-down, up-down syndrome which could result in confusion and lack of support from our publics.

## **XI. Communications Plan**

Notification of key contacts and the general public concerning the implementation of Fire Restrictions or Closures is essential and should be accomplished immediately so as to avoid confusion. Contacts need to be told why, when, and to what degree they will be affected.

When weather conditions or special circumstances indicate a very high potential for devastating fires to occur, fire restrictions or closure will likely be imposed. When conditions warrant fire restrictions be implemented or changed, each Agency/Tribal Representative will advise their supervisors. All employees should be advised of the situation. The special order will be prepared and signed with enough lead-time to provide proper notifications and make preparations for appropriate prevention signing. The Area R&C Coordinator will ensure that orders are published

NRCG Restrictions and Closures website:

[www.firerestrictions.us](http://www.firerestrictions.us)

The Missoula County Fire Protection Association (MCFPA.org) or other approved cooperator associations (BFPA, FiresafeMT.org, etc.) may also publish information on fire restrictions and closures. Key contacts will be advised in a timely manner about decisions concerning implementation or rescission of restrictions or closure, see Appendix E (Contact List). This can best be handled through group e-mail process.

Each cooperator is responsible for notifying special use permittees and contractors such as outfitters and timber companies doing business on their land. The DNRC will notify state offices and the local government representative will notify county offices.

The general public will be notified through a combination of media news releases, PSAs, prevention signing, and personal contacts. The Missoula Area Media Coordinator will notify all surrounding media outlets to solicit their help in notification of the public about the current situation.

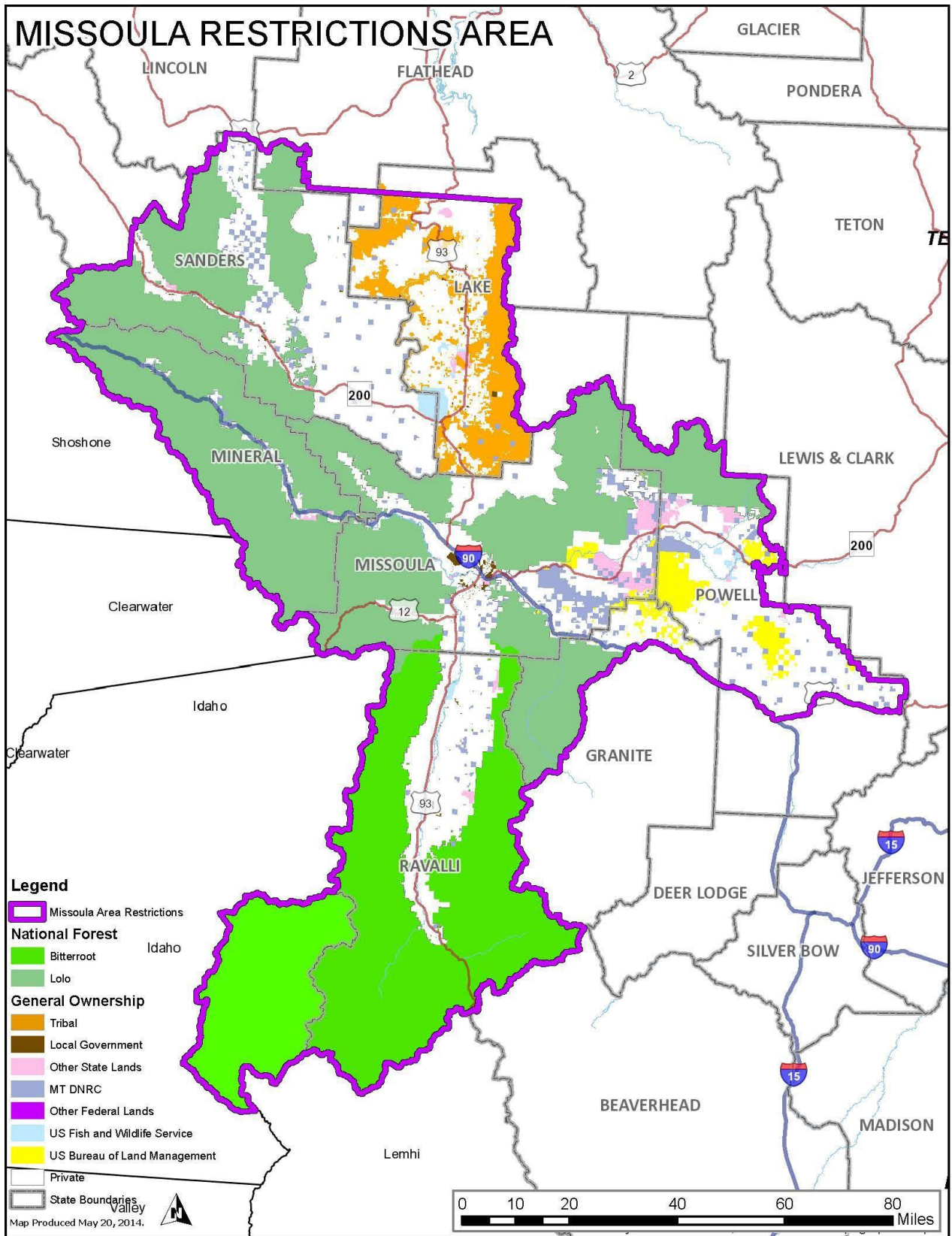
The Area Media Coordinator will have all press releases available in template format before the start of the fire season. Press releases will be sent to all cooperators for approval before they are sent to the media. Only one press release will be written for the Missoula Area. All press releases will go through the Area Media Coordinator unless other arrangements have been made ahead of time.

## **Appendix A**

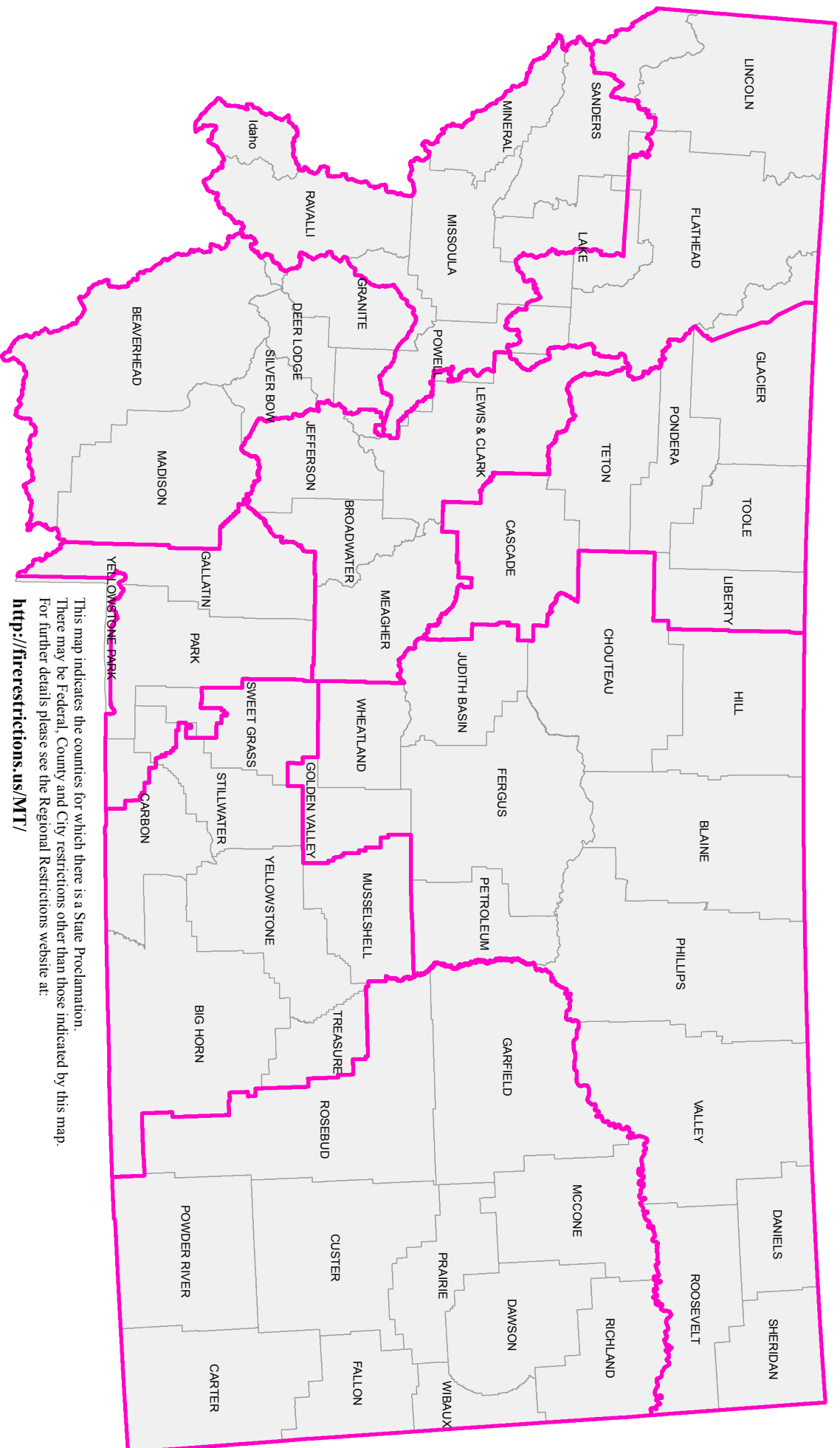
### **MAPS**

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# MISSOULA RESTRICTIONS AREA



# NRCG Montana Restriction Areas 2020-2022



This map indicates the counties for which there is a State Proclamation. There may be Federal, County and City restrictions other than those indicated by this map. For further details please see the Regional Restrictions website at: <http://firerestrictions.us/MT/>

- Legend**
- Restriction Areas
  - Montana Counties



## APPENDIX B

### MISSOULA AREA AGENCY ADMINISTRATORS / REPRESENTATIVES

#### NORTHERN ROCKIES COORDINATING GROUP (NRCG) AGENCY ADMINISTRATORS

<i>AGENCY ADMINISTRATOR</i>	<i>AGENCY/TRIBE</i>	<i>PHONE NUMBER</i>
Dan Ryan	Fire Chief's Association (Kootenai County)	208-676-8739 ext 106
Robert LaPlant	Bureau of Indian Affairs (Billings Area Office)	406-247-7949
Mike DeGrosky	Montana DNRC	406-542-4304
Cory Winnie	Bureau of Indian Affairs (Portland Area Office)	503-231-6759
Ralph Rau	USFS R1 Fire & Aviation Mgmt (Missoula)	406-329-3402
Aaron Thompson	Bureau of Land Management, Montana State Off. (Billings)	406-896-2919
Michael Davin	National Park Service	303-969-2951
Delila Bruno	Montana DES-Division Administrator	406-324-4766
Jake Ganieany	Montana DES-Bureau Chief (Response)	406-324-4776
Rick Seidlitz	Montana Fire Wardens Association (White Sulphur Springs)	406-547-4290
Sarah Tunge	North Dakota Forest Service	701-328-9985
Brian Shiplett	Idaho Department of Lands	208-769-1525
Mike Granger	US Fish & Wildlife Service (Lewistown)	406-535-2800
Chris Hoffman	Montana Sheriff's and Peace Officers Association	406-523-4810
	NRCG Executive Secretary	

#### SOUTHWEST MONTANA ZONE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

<i>BOARD MEMBER</i>	<i>AGENCY/TRIBE</i>	<i>WK #</i>	<i>CELL #</i>	<i>Email</i>
John Thompson	BLM Western Montana District	533-7611	490-1123	j75thomp@blm.gov
Mark Wilson	Bitterroot National Forest	375-2610	360-1154	mark.e.wilson@usda.gov
Colt Mortenson	Lolo National Forest	329-1089		william.mortenson@usda.gov
Mike Granger	Fish Wildlife Service Region 6	535-2800	366-1760	mike_granger@fws.gov
Adriane Beck	Missoula County OEM Representative	258-4469	830-0974	abeck@missoulacounty.us
Karl Nikoleyczik	MT DNRC, Southwestern Land Office	542-4263	240-4973	karl.nikoleyczik@mt.gov
Dylan Koptizke	MT DNRC, Northwestern Land Office	751-2247	549-9549	dkopitzke@mt.gov
Ron Swaney	Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes	676-2550 x6405	531-9777	ron.swaney@cskt.org
Kate Holsapple	Missoula Dispatch Center Manager	829-7050	805-621-2161	kate.l.holsapple@usda.gov

## Appendix C

### MISSOULA RESTRICTIONS AREA - AGENCY ADMINISTRATORS

<i><b>AGENCY / TRIBAL ADMINISTRATOR</b></i>	<i><b>AGENCY / TRIBE</b></i>	<i><b>PHONE</b></i>	<i><b>CELL</b></i>	<i><b>EMAIL ADDRESS</b></i>
Carolyn Upton, Forest Supervisor	Lolo National Forest	329-3797		carolyn.upton@usda.gov
Matt Anderson, Forest Supervisor	Bitterroot National Forest	363-7121		matthew.anderson3@usda.gov
Waylon Denny, Superintendent (Acting)	Bureau of Indian Affairs	675-2700		waylon.denny@bia.gov
Greg Poncin, Area Manager	Montana DNRC NWLO	751-2242	250-4439	gponcin@mt.gov
Mike O'Herron, Area Manager	Montana DNRC, SWLO	542-4261	240-4199	moherron@mt.gov
Maggie Ward, Acting Field Manager	BLM, Missoula Field Office	329-3914		mlward@blm.gov
Tom Reed, Refuge Manager	USF&WS Lee Metcalf NWR	777-5552		tom_reed@fws.gov
Jeff King, Refuge Manager	USF&WS, Natl. Bison Range	644-2211 x204		jeff_king@fws.gov



## Appendix D

### MISSOULA RESTRICTIONS AREA MANAGEMENT – AGENCY / TRIBAL FIRE MANAGERS

<b>AGENCY / TRIBE</b>	<b>AGENCY REPRESENTATIVE</b>	<b>PHONE</b>	<b>CELL</b>	<b>EMAIL ADDRESS</b>
Conf. Salish and Kootenai Tribes	Ron Swaney, Fire Management Rob McDonald, PR Approval	676-2550 x6405	531-9777	rons@cskt.org robertmc@cskt.org
Flathead County	Lincoln Chute, Fire Warden	758-5563	270-5634	lincoln.chute@flatheadoes.mt.gov
Granite County	Sean O'Connor, Fire Warden		949-0468	oconnor59832@gmail.com
Lake County	Stephen Stanley, Fire Warden	883-7253	249-2893	lakeoem@lakemt.gov
Mineral County	Mary Jo Lommen, Fire Warden	822-2500		maryjlommen@gmail.com
Missoula City	Gordy Hughes, Wildland Manager	552-6210		firewildland@ci.missoula.mt.us
Missoula County	Adriane Beck, Fire Warden		830-0974	abeck@missoulacounty.us
W. MT DES	Jake Ganieany Delila Bruno	324-4766 324-4766		jake.ganieany@mt.gov dbruno@mt.gov
<b>MT DNRC</b> NWLO SWLO	Dylan Kopitzke, FMO Karl Nikoleyczik, FMO Shawn Bradshaw, AFMO	751-2247 542-4263 542-4216	250-4599 240-4973 370-4718	dkopitzke@mt.gov karl.nikoleyczik@mt.gov shawn.bradshaw@mt.gov
Montana DFWP	Vivaca Crowser, Information Officer Randy Arnold, Region 2 Sup	542-5518 542-5504	240-2004 552-8708	vcrowser@mt.gov rarnold@mt.gov
Powell County	Earl Hall, Fire Warden Andy Scharf, Chief Deerlodge FD		241-8440	earlc.hall@gmail.com ascharf@cityofdeerlodgemt.gov
Ravalli County	Brad Mohn, Fire Warden		360-4379	bmohn@cityofhamilton.net
Sanders County	Bill Naegeli, Fire Warden	827-6955	249-6100	bnaegeli@co.sanders.mt.us
<b>USFS</b> Bitterroot NF	Mark Wilson, FFMO Greg Jacobson, AFMO Tod McKay	375-2610 363-7163 363-7122 363-7133	360-1154	mark.e.wilson@usda.gov gregory.jacobson@usda.gov tod.mckay@usda.gov
Lolo NF	Colt Mortenson, FFMO Chris Johnson (Area Coordinator)	329-1089 329-3862	529-7751	william.mortenson@usda.gov chris.m.johnson@usda.gov
<b>USDI</b> Missoula Field Office-BLM	Maggie Ward, Acting FM Chuck Bridgeman, alternate	329-3914 329-3914		mlward@blm.gov cbridgeman@blm.gov
US Fish & Wildlife Service	Kevin Beck			kevin_beck@fws.gov

**APPENDIX E**  
**MISSOULA AREA ADDITIONAL CONTACTS**

<i>AGENCY / TRIBE</i>	<i>NAME</i>	<i>PHONE</i>	<i>CELL</i>	<i>EMAIL ADDRESS</i>
BLM Area Restrictions Representative	Terina Goicoechea	533-7665	422-2615	tgoicoechea@blm.gov
Dillon Area Fire Restrictions Coordinator	David Mosher	683-3991	491-0346	david.mosher@usda.gov
CS & K Tribes	CT Camel Dale Nelson	676-2550 x6414	370-8911	charlesc@cskt.org dalesn@cskt.org
Disaster & Emergency Services County Coordinators				
Flathead	Rick Sacca			rick.sacca@flatheadoes.mt.gov
Granite	Rick Day		360-584-5289	rday@co.granite.mt.us
Lake	Mark Clary	883-7253		mclary@lakemt.gov
Mineral	MJ Lommen		544-4058	maryjlommen@gmail.com
Missoula	Adriane Beck	722-2006	240-9395	abeck@missoulacounty.us
Missoula (Alt)	Ken Parks	258-4469	493-8401	kparks@missoulacounty.us
Powell	Ruth Koehler	846-9718	531-1527	rkoehler@powellcountymt.gov
Ravalli	Erik Hoover	375-6657	207-8039	ehoover@rc.mt.gov
Sanders	Bill Naegeli	827-6955	827-2227	bnaegeli@sanderscounty.mt.gov
Dispatch Centers				
Bitterroot Dispatch Center	BRC	363-7133		MTBRC@fs.fed.us
Missoula Dispatch Center	MDC	829-7070		MTMDC@fs.fed.us
Missoula Rural Fire Department	Chris Newman, Chief	549-6172	239-6536	cnewman@mrfdfire.org
Missoula County Fire Protection Association	Ken Parks, Chair		493-8401	kparks@missoulacounty.us
Montana DNRC				
Central Land Office	John Huston	458-3524		jhuston@mt.gov
Northwestern Land Office Plains Unit	Doug Browning	826-4726		dbrowning2@mt.gov
Clearwater Unit	AJ Angelo		544-3715	amadeo.angelo@mt.gov
DNRC FPB	Kristin Sleeper		210-8122	kristin.sleeper@mt.gov
Missoula Unit	Ashleigh Burwick		542-4312	aburwick@mt.gov
Northern Rockies Coordinating Group Restrictions Coordinator	Rita Chandler	329-3409	370-0000	rita.chandler@usda.gov
Kalispell Area Fire Restrictions Coordinator	Keith VanBroeke Janette Turk (PAO)			keith.vanbroeke@usda.gov janette.turk@usda.gov
Northwestern Energy	Marc Paffhausen Gary Palm Steve Clawsen	Dispatch 497-2030		marc.paffhausen@northwestern.com gary.palm@northwestern.com stephen.clawsen@northwestern.com
Plum Creek Timber Company	Art Pencek	542-3271	207-1223	apencek@plumcreek.com
Missoula Electric Cooperative	Joe Smith			joes@meccoop.com
Asplundh	Jeff Harmon			jharmon@asplundh.com
Bozeman Area Restrictions Coordinator	Greg Coleman (Park County)	823-0823		gcoleman@parkcounty.org
Bob Marshall Complex Coordinator	Jim Flint (FNF-Spotted Bear)	387-3845	758-5376	jim.flint@usda.gov
Helena NF				
Fire Staff	Marty Mitzkus			martin.mitzkus@usda.gov
Public Affairs Officer	Kathy Bushnell			katherine.bushnell@usda.gov
Lolo NF				
Public Affairs Officer	Kate Jerman		552-7944	katelyn.jerman@usda.gov
Webpage	Kelsey McCartney			kelsey.mccartney@usda.gov
Forest Safety Officer	Kurt Kause			kurt.kause@usda.gov
Montana FSTS Daily Fire Blog				fstsdailylatest@montana.edu
Restrictions.US	Jim Edmonds			jim.edmonds@usda.gov

## Appendix F

### MEDIA CONTACTS

Updated: May, 2020

#### MISSOULA COUNTY

Media	Address	Contact	Phone	Fax	Deadline	Email
The Missoula Current	P.O. Box 2935 Missoula, MT 59806  Physical Address 1100 W. Kent Ave Missoula, MT 59801	Laura Lundquist, environmental reporter  Martin Kidston, editor	274-2426  830-5035		Flexible digital publication, 4 pm each day	<a href="mailto:environment@missoulacurrent.com">environment@missoulacurrent.com</a>  <a href="mailto:editor@missoulacurrent.com">editor@missoulacurrent.com</a>
Missoula Independent	P.O. Box 8275 115 S. 4 <sup>th</sup> St. W Missoula, MT 59807	Matthew Frank	543-4367	543-4367	Publishes every Thursday, stories need to be in a week ahead	<a href="mailto:btlyer@missoulanews.com">btlyer@missoulanews.com</a>
Missoulian	P.O. Box 8029 Missoula, MT 59807	Rob Chaney Kim Briggeman Patrick Reilly	523-5250 523-5253 523-5242 523-5240	523-5294	By 2230/2300, unless very urgent; flexible	<a href="mailto:newsdesk@missoulian.com">newsdesk@missoulian.com</a>
Seeley Swan Pathfinder	P.O. Box 702 Seeley Lake, MT 59868	Andi Bourne, editor	677-2022	677-2741 677-3300	Wednesday, Monday 1700	<a href="mailto:pathfinder@seeleylake.com">pathfinder@seeleylake.com</a>
KUFM 89 FM	Missoula, MT	Sally Mauk, Ed O'Brien, Nick Mott, environment	243-4931	243-3299		<a href="mailto:sally.mauk@umontana.edu">sally.mauk@umontana.edu</a> <a href="mailto:edward.obrien@umontana.edu">edward.obrien@umontana.edu</a> <a href="mailto:nick.mott@mtpr.org">nick.mott@mtpr.org</a> <a href="mailto:gm@kbg.org">gm@kbg.org</a>
KBGA 89.9 FM	Univer. Center 208 University of MT Missoula, MT 59812	Alanya Cherkas General Manager	243-6758	243-6428		
KYLT 1340 AM KZOQ 100.1 FM KXDR 92.7 FM KGGL 93.3 FM KGRZ 1450 AM	Cherry Creek Radio 1600 N. Ave. W. Missoula, MT 59801	No news but will do PSA's	728-5000	721-3020		<a href="mailto:bbreck@cherrycreekradio.com">bbreck@cherrycreekradio.com</a>
KMSO 102.5 FM Limited news coverage	725 Strand Ave Missoula, MT 59801	Carol Wolf	542-1025	541-4948		<a href="mailto:carolw@mtnbdc.com">carolw@mtnbdc.com</a> <a href="mailto:mountainmorningshow@mtnbdc.com">mountainmorningshow@mtnbdc.com</a>
KLCY 930 AM KYSS 94.9 FM KBAZ 96.3 FM KGVO 1290 AM	3250 South Reserve Suite 200 Missoula, MT 59801	Janette McDonald	728-9300	542-2329		<a href="mailto:kgvonewsroom@townsquaremedia.com">kgvonewsroom@townsquaremedia.com</a>
KPAX TV Channel 8/CBS	1049 W. Central Missoula, MT 59801	Joel Lundstad Newsroom	542-4400	543-7111		<a href="mailto:news@kpax.com">news@kpax.com</a>
KECI TV Channel 13/NBC	340 W. Main St. Missoula, MT 59801	Kevin Maki	721-5624	721-6791		<a href="mailto:news@keci.com">news@keci.com</a>  press releases <a href="mailto:ml-Missoula-KECI-News@sbgvtv.com">ml-Missoula-KECI-News@sbgvtv.com</a> <a href="mailto:newsroom@kfb.com">newsroom@kfb.com</a>
KTMF ABC Fox Missoula	2200 Stephens Ave. Missoula, MT 59801		453-4370			
MCAT Public TV			542-6228	721-6014		<a href="mailto:mcat@mcat.org">mcat@mcat.org</a>

## GRANITE COUNTY

Media	Address	Contact	Phone	Fax	Deadline	Email
Phillipsburg Mail	Phillipsburg, MT	Michael Stafford, Editor	859-3223	859-3690	Monday 1700	news@pburgmail.com

## LAKE COUNTY

Media	Address	Contact	Phone	Fax	Deadline	Email
Lake County Leader	213 Main St. Polson, MT	Lisa Broadt	883-4343	883-4349	Thursday, Monday 1200	reporter3@leaderadvertiser.com editor@leaderadvertiser.com
Char-Koosta News	Pablo, MT	Kim Swaney	675-3000	675-3001	Thursday, Tuesday 1630	charkoosta@cskt.org
Daily Interlake	Kalispell, MT	Matt Baldwin, Managing Editor Lynette Hintze, News Editor Scott Shindledecker, Outdoors	758-4447	752-6114		mbaldwin@dailyinterlake.com lhintze@dailyinterlake.com sshindledecker@dailyinterlake.com
KQRK 92 FM KERR 750 AM	581 N. Reservoir Polson, MT	Dean August	883-5255	883-4441		dean@750kerr.com

## MINERAL COUNTY

Media	Address	Contact	Phone	Fax	Deadline	Email
Mineral Independent	Plains, MT	Cheri Minemyer Laurie Ramos, General Manager	826-3402	826-5577	Monday 1200	editor@vp-mi.com lramos@leaderadvertiser.com

## POWELL COUNTY

Media	Address	Contact	Phone	Fax	Deadline	Email
Silver State Post	Deer Lodge, MT	Steve Waggener	846-2424	846-2453	Friday 1700	sspeditor@bresnan.net
KQRV FM radio	Deer Lodge, MT	Bob Toole	846-1100	846-1636		riverradio@bresnan.net

## RAVALLI COUNTY

Media	Address	Contact	Phone	Fax	Deadline	Email
Ravalli Republic Newspaper	232 W. Main St. Hamilton, MT 59840	Perry Backus	363-3300	363-1767	Three days in advance	editor@ravallirepublic.com
Bitterroot Star	215 Main St Stevensville, MT 59870	Michael Howell	777-3928	777-4265	Mondays	editor@bitterrootstar.com
KLYQ AM KBMG	3250 South Reserve Missoula, MT 59801	Steve Fullerton	363-3010	363-6436		stevefullerton@townsquaremedia.com

## SANDERS COUNTY

Media	Address	Contact	Phone	Fax	Deadline	Email
Sanders County Ledger	Thompson Falls, MT	Tom Eggensperger	827-3421	827-4375	Thursday, Tuesday 1030	ledgemews@blackfoot.net
Clark Fork Valley Press	P.O. Box 667 Plains, MT 59859	Cheri Minemyer Office Manager	826-3402	826-5577	Monday 1200	editor@vp-mi.com cminemyer@vp-mi.com

## OTHER MEDIA

Media	Address	Contact	Phone	Fax	Deadline	Email
Associated Press	Helena, MT		442-7440	442-5162		apmontana@ap.org
Spokesman Review	Spokane, WA		(509) 459-5000	(509) 459-5482		danh@spokesman.com

## Appendix G

### STAGE I FIRE RESTRICTIONS

#### **The Following Acts Are Prohibited Until Further Notice:**

1. Building, maintaining, attending, or using a fire or campfire unless as noted in the exemptions below.
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.

#### **Stage I Exemptions:**

1. Persons with a written permit that specifically authorizes 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 materials within three feet of the device.
3. Persons conducting activities in those designated areas where the activity is specifically authorized by written posted notice.
4. Any Federal, State, or local officer or member of an organized rescue or firefighting force in the performance of an official duty.
5. All land within a city boundary is exempted.
6. Other exemptions unique to each agency/tribe.

#### **Violations:**

- You could be fined up to \$5,000 individually or \$10,000 for an organization and imprisoned up to 6 months for violating restrictions and closures.
- You can be held liable for all suppression costs and damages if you start a fire.

## **STAGE II RESTRICTIONS**

### **The Following Acts Are Prohibited Until Further Notice:**

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.:
  - a. Operating any internal combustion engine.
  - b. Welding, or operating acetylene or other torch with open flame.
  - c. Using an explosive

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.

### **Stage II Exemptions:**

1. Persons with a written permit that specifically authorizes 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 materials within 3 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 as per attached conditions
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. All land within a city boundary is exempted.
9. Other exemptions unique to each agency/tribe.

### **Violations:**

- You could be fined up to \$5,000 individually or \$10,000 for an organization and imprisoned up to 6 months for violating restrictions and closures.
- You can be held liable for all suppression costs and damages if you start a fire.

## **SMALL-SCALE CLOSURE**

### **The following acts are prohibited until further notice:**

Going into or being upon the following described areas without a written permit:  
(Description of area)

#### **Exemptions:**

1. Actual residents going to or from their home.
2. Persons traveling on paved and numbered highways.
3. Persons occupying designated improved campgrounds immediately adjacent to such highways.
4. Any Federal, State, or local official, or member of an organized rescue or firefighting force in the performance of an official duty.