



## Fire Restrictions and Closures September Roundup Notes

**September 11th @ 1000 Mountain Time 1-888-858-2144 Passcode: 3599209#**  
**Area Restrictions and Media Coordinators – Your Area must be represented; Agency Representatives**

**Please read and review:** Firerestriction.us 09/10/2013 Reference Guide  
[http://www.fs.fed.us/r1/fire/nrcg/Restrictions\\_and\\_Closures.htm](http://www.fs.fed.us/r1/fire/nrcg/Restrictions_and_Closures.htm)

### Objectives:

- Provide information needed for Restrictions and Closures
- Update on Firerestrictions.us
- Assessment of how Stage II Restrictions works
- Identify what needs to be done as restrictions are being lifted
- Update on status of Closures and Restrictions Working Groups
- Updates from your Area
- Assessment of needs: what your Area needs from others

**Participants:** listed below in Agenda; also attending – Crystal Beckman (MDNRC)

### Agenda

<b>Restrictions and Closures Toolbox</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Other items to include: what else would you like to see; is this useful?</li> <li>• Send Cathy items that you would like to see posted.</li> </ul>	Cathy Scofield
<b>Firerestrictions.us</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Uploading a Document:</i> feature has been added, instructions will be added to the reference guide; can upload a document and have it linked to any description box e.g. press release, area information, management unit</li> <li>• <i>Draft Restriction:</i> has been created to enable preloading of information; information can be found in the reference guide starting on page 17</li> <li>• <i>Reference Guide:</i> comments, changes, tips, additions are welcome; send to Cathy</li> <li>• <i>Usage</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Period of Sept. 1-7: 2016 visitors; 73.1% new visits; visitors – Bozeman 291, Missoula 143, Billings 102, Butte-Silver Bow 81, Helena 78, Kalispell 50; 2.43 pages/visit, 1.42 (min) average visit duration</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Curtis Phelps Cathy Scofield
<b>Stage II Restrictions – How did it Work?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Carbon County: County, BLM, State; implemented Stage II restrictions on August 30<sup>th</sup></li> <li>• Did not see information in the local newspaper- did we hit the media?</li> <li>• State: haven't heard any feedback</li> </ul>	Cathy Scofield
<b>Coming Out of Restrictions</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Those that stay in longer than the rest – as weekly calls are ceasing,</li> </ul>	Mike Dannenberg

<p>make sure coordination still occurs; as Restrictions Coordinators make sure to follow through with those agencies that remain longer, make sure the website is updated</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Preparing for 2014: fire season is winding down, we can't wait another 5 months to address restrictions; we need to start now</li> <li>• Start preparing for next year: look at your plan, who is going to be coordinators and alternates; essential that each Area does an AAR to prepare for next season</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Moving Into Fall and Winter</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• After Action Review (AAR) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Informal, what worked, didn't work, what can be improved</li> <li>○ Work groups are continuing to work on the items from last year's review; we need to have meetings/calls touch base on what is being done.</li> <li>○ Have a spring meeting (face to face) to summarize the changes that have come from the working groups.</li> <li>○ <b>Action Item(s):</b> Each Area will conduct an AAR with their partners, that information will be used as a foundation for a geographic AAR – send your information to Cathy; sometime in Nov. conduct a geographic AAR via conference call – Mike Dannenberg has agreed to lead.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Working Groups <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ There are items that were identified by Work Groups that were deferred to after the fire season.</li> <li>○ Need to identify what we need to do for 2014; the AARs will identify additional needs</li> <li>○ Need to see if we keep the same groups or establish others; the groups were established based on the subject areas of need identified through last year's AAR</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Training – when would be a good time <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Target: understanding the Restrictions and Closures Procedures, using the website</li> <li>○ Target Audience: Restrictions and Media Coordinators and alternates</li> <li>○ Target Time: Feb or March</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Fire Starts – what new starts/problems did you see? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Need to quantify vs. antidotal</li> <li>○ Need to identify the best mechanism to handle e.g. prevention and education, Agency permanent restriction, incorporating into the restrictions process</li> <li>○ <b>Action Item:</b> Areas to discuss and identify during their AARs.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	All
<p><b>Restrictions and Closure Working Group Updates</b> (5 min each)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• As you come up with ideas, discover things that need to be discussed, identify issues; if it pertains to one of the working group topics, send the lead a note, with a cc: to Cathy</li> <li>• This will be used as a starting point for an AAR</li> </ul>	



**ID:** Clearwater/Panhandle

- Not on call

Wilderness

- Not on call

**MT:** Billings/Miles City

- Not on call

Bozeman

- Not on call

Dillon

- Not on call

Great Falls, Helena

- Discontinuing weekly calls, call as needed
- AAR: have completed by end of Sept.
- Area Plan(s): complete by 2014

Kalispell

- AAR: have completed by end of Sept.
- Area Plan: finalize for 2014
- Weekly calls discontinued, call as needed

Lewistown

- Weekly calls discontinued; call as needed

Missoula

- Stage I restrictions will be rescinded Friday the 13<sup>th</sup> @ 0001; counties will be going to burn bans or restrict through their permitting process
- Area Restrictions Map: to show specifically where the restrictions are at a smaller scale; map would be countywide; out to Agencies for comment by end of month
- Issue: Some counties when they issue Stage I also include bans on burning, fireworks; gets tangled and confusing under Stage I
- AAR: have completed by end of Sept.
- Area Plan: last year of plan, utilize the AAR to provide input into updating the plan
- Coordinators: looking for non-fire folks; looking for others that can help out with press releases, inputting information to website
- Boundaries: will be looking at this winter; will be working with other Areas

Miles City

- See Billings Area

**ND:**

- No issues
- Have been working with counties and partner in the SW part of the state regarding restrictions and burn bans and the need to coordinate with each other

**SD:**

Marvin Carpenter

Manny Mendoza  
Wade Muehlhof

Linda Birdwell

CJ Johnson  
Cindy Super

Sarah Tunge

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Not on call</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Other Items</b></p> <p><b><i>Engaging Media to Air PSAs, tell your Story, etc.</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Methods from the Missoula Area included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Establishing relationships with reporters and weather person; have canned stories for them to use so when something happens they can make it their story</li> <li>○ Working with IMTs – Local agencies worked with IMTs to have them include a prevention message in their news releases</li> <li>○ Build upon what the reporters are already doing, e.g. Mark Heyka (KPAX weather person) had PSAs and talked about fire during his segment; give them information that they can add to their story</li> <li>○ Most local reporters and weather folks have their own social media sites; they will use your information and post it to their sites if it aligns with their story interest; provide them with your story and a link to something (Ad Council PSAs, PSAs created locally)</li> <li>○ PSA:, some were paid, but a lot of Channels did air their own; the prevention team met with stations to let them know what PSAs were available and how they could be used for their stories</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
<p><b>Follow up Items from August Call</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Website: Contact Information, Permanent Restrictions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ See User Reference Guide for standard formatting under the sections: Upcoming and Adding Restrictions, Press Release, and Area Information; and how to “Create a Draft Restriction”</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Area Plans <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Posted plans: ID – Panhandle, Clearwater and Wilderness; MT – West Central</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Cathy Scofield
<p><b>Touching Base</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Next Call:</b> November - Target: Geographic ARR</li> </ul>	Cathy Scofield