
Gallatin National Forest News Release



For Immediate Release
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Contacts: Marna Daley (406) 587-6701
Marianne Baumberger (406) 522-2549

Campfire and Smoking Restrictions Effective July 28, 2006

Bozeman, MT -- Effective Friday, July 28, at 12:01 a.m., Stage I fire restrictions will be implemented on portions of the Gallatin National Forest and BLM lands within Gallatin and Park Counties. The restrictions will limit campfires to metal fire grates within developed recreation sites and charcoal fires to metal fire grates or BBQ's within developed recreation sites. Fires within rock fire rings and the use of wood burning stoves in canvas wall tents are NOT authorized. These fire restrictions will apply to all areas within the forest with the exception of the Absaroka-Beartooth and Lee Metcalf Wilderness Areas. *The use of gas, propane or butane type stoves is still permitted.*

In addition, smoking within the Gallatin National Forest and BLM lands within Gallatin and Park Counties will be restricted to the following areas:

- Within an enclosed vehicle or building.
- At a developed recreation site.
- In an area at least 3 feet in diameter that is barren or cleared of all flammable materials.

Becki Heath, Gallatin National Forest Supervisor stated, "Over the past few weeks this area has experienced higher than normal temperatures and thunderstorms with spotty to little moisture. This has produced several lightening and human caused fires within the Gallatin Forest and across Montana. Given this situation, we are seeking the public's cooperation in adhering to the campfire and smoking restrictions, helping to minimize the chance of human caused fire starts."

While most of Montana is experiencing hot and dry conditions at this time, restrictions may vary according to fire protection jurisdiction. If you have questions, please contact your local Forest Service Ranger Station or local county fire department.