News Release



For Immediate Release Contact: Julie Shea 587-6706 or Marianne Baumberger

522-2549

Date: September 4, 2006

BOZEMAN,MT— Due to continued "very high" to "extreme" fire conditions and high fire activity throughout the area, forest officials on the Gallatin National Forest are implementing Stage 2 fire restrictions early Wednesday morning (00:01 A.M.), September 6, 2006. Under Stage 2 fire restrictions, no open flames are allowed and the use of chainsaws or internal combustion engines are prohibited between 1:00 P.M. and 1:00 A.M. The Stage 2 restrictions apply to the entire Gallatin National Forest that is not already closed to the public.

- All Open flame fires are prohibited. This includes campfires within metal
 campfire rings or rock rings, charcoal fires or sheepherder-type wood stoves.
 Fires burning in wood stoves with screens or spark arrestors situated within a
 structure (a cabin, not canvas wall tents) are allowed. Enclosed gas, propane or
 butane-type camping stoves are still allowed.
- **Smoking** is only allowed in an enclosed vehicle or building, a developed designated recreation site or campground, or when stopped in an area at least 3 feet in diameter that is cleared of flammable material (such as a road).
- Certain activities are <u>not</u> allowed from 1:00 PM to 1:00 AM, daily. They
 include the use of chainsaws or internal combustion engines (includes
 generators or gas powered drills). No welding or blasting allowed, which



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includes using any fireworks or other pyrotechnic devices. A patrol is required for one hour following completion of all work as described above.

Operating motorized vehicles off designated roads and trails is prohibited.

The Gallatin National Forest would like to remind forest visitors that the potential for human caused fires has increased and extra care should be exercised when visiting National Forest lands.

For further information on fire danger and fire restrictions please contact your local ranger district office.

Big Timber Ranger District—(406) 932-5155
Livingston Ranger District—(406) 222-1892
Gardiner Ranger District—(406) 848-7375
Hebgen Lake Ranger District—(406) 823-6961
Bozeman Ranger District—(406) 522-2520

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