

Official News Release



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FIRE RESTRICTION CHANGES IN EASTERN MONTANA – NO CAMPFIRES

Stage 1 fire restrictions are currently in place for lands within the Miles City Restrictions Area. This includes Custer, Carter, Dawson, Fallon, Garfield, McCone, Powder River, Prairie, Richland, Rosebud and Wibaux Counties. Effective this Friday, August 4 at 1:00 a.m. no campfires will be allowed, even within a designated area, in any of the previously mentioned counties. In addition, all federal, state, and private lands in Dawson, Fallon, Garfield, McCone, Powder River, Prairie, Richland and Wibaux counties have implemented an open burn ban. For specific restrictions and implementation times please call your local volunteer fire department or county or federal agency.

Under current restrictions, campfires are prohibited. Smoking is allowed only in areas cleared of flammable materials, or within a vehicle or building. Exemptions include fires fueled solely by liquid petroleum or LPG, or other activities for which there is a permit or written authorization. Check with your local county fire department for specific restrictions.

These restrictions will remain in effect until rescinded or revoked.

Fire danger is very high in Eastern Montana and fire fighting resources are in short supply. Using common sense and taking some simple steps to minimize the danger of starting of a fire while recreating in the outdoors can save everyone a lot of time, effort and expense. Carry fire suppression equipment in your vehicle such as a bucket, water, a shovel and a fire extinguisher. **Remember, anyone who causes a wildland fire intentionally or through negligence will be held accountable for damage and suppression costs.**

For more information please contact the Custer National Forest, Ashland Ranger District at 406-784-2344 or the Sioux Ranger District at 605-797-4432; Bureau of Land Management at 406-233-2900; Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation at 406-232-2034; Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks, Region 7 at 406-234-0900; Charles M. Russell National Wildlife Refuge at 406-538-8706; or your local fire department or sheriff's office.