

Date: September 24, 2004 Contact: Ann Boucher, 406-896-5011 Lisa Osborn, 406-657-6205, ext. 224

Fire Restrictions Rescinded

All fire restrictions in south central Montana have been rescinded due to additional rainfall, higher humidity and cooler temperatures.

Restrictions were placed on private, state and Bureau of Land Management lands in Carbon, Musselshell, Stillwater, Sweet Grass, Treasure, and Yellowstone counties this summer to help prevent human-caused wildland fires.

Although restrictions have been rescinded, fire danger persists. Please be cautious when working and recreating outdoors: make sure chainsaws and vehicles have spark arresters in place; stop and park only in areas cleared of vegetation; ensure that your campfire is dead out before you leave; and always carry a shovel, bucket and fire extinguisher. Anyone who causes a wildland fire intentionally or through negligence may be held accountable for damage and suppression costs.

A burn permit is still required for any open burning other than campfires. Additional restrictions may also exist in certain areas. Before burning such things as slash piles, ditches, or fields, please contact your local fire department or sheriff's office for more information and to obtain any necessary permits.

For more information about fire prevention, please contact the Custer National Forest at 406-657-6200; Bureau of Land Management at 406-896-5013; Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation at 406-247-4400; Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks at 406-247-2940; Carbon County at 406-446-1595; Stillwater County at 406-321-0204; Sweet Grass County at 406-932-5143; or your local fire department or sheriff's office.

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