

RESOLUTION 2024-11

A GRANITE COUNTY RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING STAGE I FIRE RESTRICTIONS FOR ALL PRIVATE LAND IN GRANITE COUNTY UNDER COUNTY JURISDICTION

WHEREAS, western Montana, including Granite County, Montana, is experiencing drought conditions and high fire danger as established by the State of Montana (DNRC) and United States Forest Service which warrants establishing Stage 1 Fire Restrictions; and,

WHEREAS, because of the current high fire danger, it is still necessary to restrict burning for designated high fire hazard areas on all private lands within Granite County that are not under the jurisdiction of a municipality or a state or federal agency; and

WHEREAS, the current fire danger and weather necessitate Stage I Fire Restrictions being set by the Board of Granite County Commissioners.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Granite County Commissioners hereby establishes Stage I Fire Restrictions for all private lands within Granite County, Montana that are not under the jurisdiction of a municipality or state or federal agency; and this current Resolution replaces and supersedes all previous Resolutions on point; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all activities are prohibited as set forth in attached Exhibit A, except as expressly allowed by law.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that any person or persons violating the Stage I Fire Restrictions as set forth in Exhibit A will be subject to the penalties stated in attached Exhibit A.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that notice of this Resolution shall be reasonably and promptly provided to local news media outlets as customary.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that this Resolution shall be effective immediately, and shall be effective until rescinded by the Board of Granite County Commissioners.

ADOPTED AND PASSED this 16 day of July, 2024, A.D.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF GRANITE COUNTY

Blanche McLure
Blanche McLure, Chairperson

Scott C. Adler, Commissioner

Charles L. Hinkle
Charles L. Hinkle, Commissioner

ATTEST: *Sarah Graham*
Sarah Graham, Clerk



APPROVED AS TO FORM AND CONTENT:

Blaine C. Bradshaw
Blaine C. Bradshaw, Granite County Attorney

EXHIBIT A

STAGE I FIRE RESTRICTIONS

Rules:

Under Stage I Fire Restrictions, the following activities are prohibited: 1. Building, maintaining, attending or using a fire or campfire except within a developed recreation site or improved site. 2. Smoking is prohibited, except within an enclosed vehicle or building, or a developed recreation site or while stopped in an area at least three feet in diameter that is barren or cleared of all flammable materials. The rules will remain in effect until there is a change in fire danger and a resolution is adopted rescinding these rules.

Exemptions:

Exemptions to Stage I Fire Restrictions: 1. Persons with a written permit that specifically authorizes the activities prohibited within the fire restrictions. 2. Person using a device solely fueled by liquid petroleum or LPG fuels that can be turned on and off. 3. Persons conducting activities prohibited within the fire restrictions that possess written authorization from the appropriate land management agency. 4. Any Federal, State or local office or member of an organized rescue or firefighting force in the performance of an official duty. 5. All lands within a town or city boundary are exempted. 6. All lands subject to jurisdiction of a separate government agency. An exemption stated above does not absolve an individual or organization from liability or responsibility for any fire started by the exempted activity.

Violation Penalties:

Any person or persons violating these Stage I Fire Restrictions set forth herein may be fined up to \$5,000 individually, or \$10,000 for an organization; and imprisoned up to six (6) months for violating such restrictions and closures.

Persons could be held liable for all suppression costs and damages caused by violating such Stage I Fire Restrictions set forth above.

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