



# KOOTENAI COUNTY FIRE PREVENTION CO-OP

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **EXTREME fire danger and Stage 2 Restrictions**

July 12, 2021, at 00:01 a.m., Stage 2 Fire Restrictions will go into effect throughout the public lands and incorporated cities within the Mica Fire District of the Idaho Department of Lands. This fire district includes all of Kootenai County.

Due to our current drought conditions and our current fuel moisture levels our current fire danger level is also being raised to **EXTREME**, throughout the Mica Fire Protection District.

We have also seen a local and national increase to Preparedness Level 4 (PL4) recently. This means several geographic areas are experiencing large, complex wildfires, suppression resources are spread thin, and the majority of other firefighting personnel are committed to wildland fire incidents throughout the region.

Stage 2 Fire Restrictions include the following restrictions:

### **Prohibited**

- Open burning including campfires, stove fires, recreational fires and Chimineas.
- Smoking except within an enclosed vehicle, building, designated recreation site or while stopped in an area at least three feet in diameter that is cleared of all flammable materials and vegetation.
- Operating motorized vehicles off designated roads and trails in accordance with existing travel management plans for non-commercial purposes including ATVs, UTVs, and pickups.
- **The following acts are prohibited from 1:00 p.m. to 1:00 a.m.:** (A patrol is required for one hour following cessation of all work as described in a, b, and c below.)
  - a. Operating a chainsaw or other equipment powered by an internal combustion engine for felling, bucking, skidding, processing, log loading and hauling, road building and woodcutting or any other activity employing the use of an internal combustion engine or off-road activity associated with industrial operations or fire wood gathering.
  - b. Blasting, welding, or other activities that generate flame or flammable material.
  - c. Using an explosive.

## **Allowed**

- Fires fueled solely by LPG including propane campfires as long as the area around the LPG campfire is cleared of flammable material, down to mineral soil.
- Use of charcoal or propane BBQ on their own private land.
- Persons conducting activities in those designated areas where the activity is specifically authorized by written posted notice.
- Any federal, state or local office of an organized rescue or firefighting force in the performance of an official duty (i.e. back burning or backfiring)

## **Allowed with special permit**

- Persons with a written permit by the AHJ that specifically authorizes the otherwise prohibited act.

Please contact your local fire jurisdiction if you have any questions.

*Craig Etherton*

Craig Etherton - President