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For Immediate Release

Contact: Jordan Koppen, 210-1160

Fire Danger EXTREME in Missoula County

Outdoor Permit Burning Remains CLOSED

June 29, 2015, 4:00 PM- Missoula, Montana – Interagency wildland fire officials with the Missoula County Fire Protection Association (MCFPA) have determined fire danger within Missoula County to be EXTREME.

Recent days have been extremely hot and dry with little to no moisture causing vegetation and grasses to cure. This fine, dead fuel is the primary carrier of fire in the wildland, and when fires get established in this fuel type they spread out of control rapidly. Temperatures are expected to very hot this weekend causing conditions to dry out even further. All fuels both live and dead have dried to the point that fires will become very active quickly.

We can't afford for anyone to be careless during activities that have the potential to start a fire, so we urge the public to be extremely cautious with fire. We also encourage the public to be extremely cautious while operating equipment that can produce sparks. Chainsaws and lawn mowers have already caused a few fires this year. We also advise travelers to inspect and keep up on trailer maintenance. **Keep tow chains from dragging** when you're getting ready to travel to recreational destinations. Visit <http://firesafemt.org/> for more information. Missoula County residents need to know that our wildland firefighters face a long, arduous fire season even without having to respond to human-caused fires. The more careful we are with fire, the less danger our first responders will face.

We recommend all residents that live near or in woodland areas in Missoula county sign up for SMART 911 by visiting smart 911.com. You must register to receive these alerts to receive emergency alerts at via text, email, or a phone call.

Folks can also like the Missoula County Fire Protection Association on Facebook, and get information on our webpage: www.mcfpa.org.

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