

KITTITAS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
RESOLUTION 2013- 094

A RESOLUTION DECLARING AN EMERGENCY BAN ON OUTDOOR BURNING

WHEREAS, the Commissioner of Public Lands (Department of Natural Resources) has implemented a burn ban effective July 1, 2013 through September 30, 2013; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Natural Resources requires a burn ban in DNR protected lands outside of a fire district, with the exception of designated campgrounds with approved fire pits; and

WHEREAS, Kittitas County is currently experiencing severe dry conditions, high energy release components for fuel models, and lowering 1,000-hr fuel moisture contents; and

WHEREAS, the Kittitas County Fire Marshal's Office has alerted the citizens of Kittitas County to the extent that the severe dry conditions are creating a dangerous fire hazard; and

WHEREAS, different fire danger levels exist within the fire districts due to topography and vegetation; and

WHEREAS, agricultural burning is an integral part of our rural environment and shall be allowed consistent with Department of Ecology agricultural burning regulations and permitting requirements; and

WHEREAS, Fire District 1, Kittitas Valley Fire and Rescue, Fire District 3, Fire District 6, Fire District 7 and Fire District 8 require a full burn ban to include recreational fires and BBQ briquettes; and

WHEREAS, Snoqualmie Pass Fire and Rescue requires a burn ban which prohibits all burning other than recreational cooking fires less than 2' x 2'; and

WHEREAS, Kittitas Valley Fire and Rescue requires a burn ban which prohibits all burning other than recreational cooking fires less than 2' x 2' and approved Department of Ecology agriculture burning; and

WHEREAS, the Kittitas County Fire Marshal has determined that it is in the best interest of the County to implement the burn ban; and

WHEREAS, State statutes give the counties authority to issue emergency declarations;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Kittitas County Board of Commissioners, in the interest of the public health, safety and welfare of the citizens of Kittitas County, and in response to the continued threat of fire, declare an immediate burn ban until further notice:


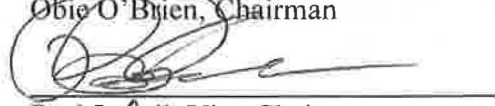
THE OPEN BURNING BAN shall include, but not be limited to: Burning wood, brush, weeds and other ground cover not exempt pursuant to a valid agricultural burning permit, bonfires, or the open burning of any materiel or fuel for any purpose that creates a fire hazard; or, for Fire Districts 1, 3, 6, 7, and 8, wood, coal, or charcoal briquette camp fires or cook fires:

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this declaration shall be effective immediately upon signature by the Board of County Commissioners of the County of Kittitas, Washington; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this resolution will be available from the Clerk of Kittitas County at the Kittitas County Board of Commissioner's office at 205 W. 5th Street, Ellensburg, Washington.

PASSED, ADOPTED AND APPROVED THIS DAY 16th, July, 2013

KITTITAS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS


Obie O'Brien, Chairman

Paul Jewell, Vice Chairman

Gary Berndt, Commissioner

ATTESTED BY:

Julie Kjorsvik
Kittitas County Clerk







KITTITAS COUNTY FIRE MARSHAL'S OFFICE

411 N. Ruby St., Suite 2, Ellensburg, WA 98926

Office (509) 962-7657 Fax (509) 962-7682

MEMORANDUM

To: Board of County Commissioners
From: Brenda Larsen, Fire Marshal
Subject: Burn Ban
Date: July 10, 2013

An extreme fire hazard currently exists due to high temperatures, lowering relative humidity and low fuel moisture content of 1,000 hr fuels. As Fire Marshal of Kittitas County I am imposing a prohibition against open burning and recreational fires in the following fire districts: Fire District 1, Fire District 3, Fire District 6, Fire District 7, Fire District 8, private land and campgrounds outside of fire districts and the properties under the authority of the Department of Natural Resources which are outside of an approved campground. Open burning is prohibited in Snoqualmie Pass Fire and Rescue and Kittitas Valley Fire and Rescue, however, recreational fires no larger than 2'x2' in diameter may be allowed with Fire Chief approval. Agricultural burning approved and permitted through the Department of Ecology is allowed.

Open Burning. The burning of materials wherein products of combustion are emitted directly into the ambient air without passing through a stack or chimney from an enclosed chamber, and is not defined within the parameters of a recreational fire.

Recreational Fire. Outdoor burning of materials other than rubbish where the fuel being burned is contained in an incinerator, outdoor fireplace, chimera, barbeque grill or barbeque pit and has a total fuel area of 3 feet (914mm) or less in diameter and 2 feet (610mm) or less in height, used for pleasure, religious, ceremonial, cooking, warmth or similar purposes.

The Department of Natural Resources has issued similar actions on properties under their authority. All fire districts within Kittitas County have been notified of this action. **The burn ban does not include areas within the boundaries Fire District 4 (Vantage) or within incorporated cities.**

This burn ban does not preclude the rights of the individual fire districts to implement a burn ban at any time.

This burn ban is in effect as of 12:00 pm on Thursday, July 11, 2013.

