BEFORE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
Klickitat County, Washington

IN THE MATTER OF
ESTABLISHING OUTDOOR BURNING
RESTRICTIONS WITHIN THE UN-
INCORPORATED AREAS OF
Klickitat County

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners, meeting in regular session, and having before it the need to establish outdoor burning restrictions within the unincorporated areas of Klickitat County; and

WHEREAS, Klickitat County Code Chapter 8.24 (Ordinance #041194) adopted April 11, 1994, provides a procedure for regulating outdoor burning ("outdoor burning" means combustion of any type in an open fire or open container) within the unincorporated areas of Klickitat County which allows flexibility and coordination between the various fire authorities; and

WHEREAS, the Klickitat County Board of Commissioners ("Board") is the primary fire control authority in those areas of Klickitat County outside the corporate limits of any city or town; the boundaries of any fire district, the jurisdiction of the Yakama Indian Nation; and the jurisdiction of the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission; and

WHEREAS, the Board may, by resolution, restrict outdoor burning in the areas of its primary authority in any manner the Board, in its sound discretion, determines reasonable; and

WHEREAS, the Board is the secondary fire control authority in all areas of Klickitat County outside the corporate limits of any city or town where the Board is not the primary authority. In any secondary authority area where the Board finds that the public safety is threatened by unrestricted outdoor burning and the primary authority in that area has not restricted burning or where the primary authority has requested that the Board act, the Board may restrict outdoor burning in any manner the Board, in its sound discretion, determines reasonable; and

WHEREAS, Due to expected fire behavior for this region according to the National Interagency Fire Center Predictive Services and its National Significant Wildland Fire Potential Outlook, and based on the Klickitat County Fire Districts #4, 5, 6, 7, 11, 12, 14 and 15 request for a County ban on outdoor burning be adopted within Klickitat County Burn Ban Zone Two.
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of County Commissioners of Klickitat County hereby places into effect a ban on outdoor burning within **Klickitat County Burn Ban Zone Two**, defined as lands between the Klickitat County Fire District #7 eastern boundary west to the western boundaries of Klickitat County Fire Districts #4, 12 and 15 then north on the Klickitat River to the north county line, to include but not limited to Klickitat County Fire Districts #4, 5, 6, 7, 11, 12, 14 and 15; outside the corporate limits of any city or town; the jurisdiction of the Yakama Indian Nation; and the jurisdiction of the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission and prohibiting the issuance of burning permits except for authorized agricultural burning. Residential barbecues will be allowed. At the discretion of the Fire Chief, Fire Protection Districts are exempt from this ban for the purposes of live fire training activities. Said ban on outdoor burning shall be in full force and effect from **May 15, 2021 through September 30, 2021**. The public is directed to check with the appropriate authorities concerning burning restrictions within the corporate limits of any city or town.

DATED this 27th day of April, 2021.

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**  
Klickitat County, Washington

[Signature]

David M. Sauter, Chairman

[Signature]

Jacob Anderson, Commissioner

[Signature]

Dan Christopher, Commissioner

ATTEST:

Clerk of the Board

[Signature]

in and for the County of Klickitat, State of Washington

Resolution #: 05221
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BEFORE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
Klickitat County, Washington

IN THE MATTER OF )
EXTENDING OUTDOOR BURNING ) RESOLUTION # 09921
RESTRICTIONS WITHIN THE UN- )
INCORPORATED AREAS OF )
KLICKITAT COUNTY )

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners, meeting in regular session, and having before it the need to extend outdoor burning restrictions within the unincorporated areas of Klickitat County; and

WHEREAS, Klickitat County Code Chapter 8.24 (Ordinance #041194) adopted April 11, 1994, provides a procedure for regulating outdoor burning ("outdoor burning" means combustion of any type in an open fire or open container) within the unincorporated areas of Klickitat County which allows flexibility and coordination between the various fire authorities; and

WHEREAS, the Klickitat County Board of Commissioners ("Board") is the primary fire control authority in those areas of Klickitat County outside the corporate limits of any city or town; the boundaries of any fire district, the jurisdiction of the Yakama Indian Nation; and the jurisdiction of the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission; and

WHEREAS, the Board may, by resolution, restrict outdoor burning in the areas of its primary authority in any manner the Board, in its sound discretion, determines reasonable; and

WHEREAS, the Board is the secondary fire control authority in all areas of Klickitat County outside the corporate limits of any city or town where the Board is not the primary authority. In any secondary authority area where the Board finds that the public safety is threatened by unrestricted outdoor burning and the primary authority in that area has not restricted burning or where the primary authority has requested that the Board act, the Board may restrict outdoor burning in any manner the Board, in its sound discretion, determines reasonable; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners established outdoor burning restrictions pursuant to Klickitat County Resolution #05221 adopted April 27, 2021 effective May 15, 2021 through September 30, 2021; and

WHEREAS, due to the high wildfire hazard conditions experienced this summer and continued lack of sufficient precipitation, Klickitat County Fire Districts #4, 5, 6, 7, 11, 12, 14, and 15 have requested that an extension of the County ban on

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outdoor burning be adopted within Klickitat County Burn Ban Zone Two to October 15, 2021.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of County Commissioners of Klickitat County hereby places into effect an extended ban on outdoor burning within Klickitat County Burn Ban Zone Two, defined as lands between the Klickitat County Fire District #7 eastern boundary west to the western boundaries of Klickitat County Fire Districts #4, 12 and 15 then north on the Klickitat River to the north county line, to include but not limited to Klickitat County Fire Districts #4, 5, 6, 7, 11, 12, 14 and 15; outside the corporate limits of any city or town; the jurisdiction of the Yakama Indian Nation; and the jurisdiction of the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission and prohibiting the issuance of burning permits except for authorized agricultural burning. Residential barbecues will be allowed. At the discretion of the Fire Chief, Fire Protection Districts are exempt from this ban for the purposes of live fire training activities. Said ban on outdoor burning shall be in full force and effect through October 15, 2021. The public is directed to check with the appropriate authorities concerning burning restrictions within the corporate limits of any city or town.

DATED this 2/5 day of September, 2021.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
Klickitat County, Washington

David Sauter, Chairman

Jacob Anderson, Commissioner

Dan Christopher, Commissioner

ATTEST:

Clerk of the Board

in and for the County of Klickitat, State of Washington
Executive Summary

The significant wildland fire potential forecasts included in this outlook represent the cumulative forecasts of the ten Geographic Area Predictive Services units and the National Predictive Services unit.

Fire activity continued at very high levels through August. Significant fire activity moderated across Idaho and Montana the latter half of August, but increased significantly across the Northwest, northern California, and Minnesota. The national preparedness level remained at five through August. At 71 days, the current streak at preparedness levels four and five are tied for the third longest period ever with 2020. Only 2017 at 75 days, and 2002 at 88 days, were longer.

Drought remains across more than 95% of the West with more than half of the West in the highest two categories of drought. Drought intensified across the northern Plains and much of Minnesota, but relief in drought continued across the Southwest, southern Great Basin, and Colorado Rockies. Above normal temperatures continued in California, Oregon, Washington, and Minnesota but were closer to average across the Southwest, Great Basin, and Rockies. Strong monsoon surges brought above normal rainfall to much of the Great Basin and Northern Rockies. However, rainfall was well below average for the West Coast, Nevada, and northeast Minnesota.

Climate outlooks indicate warmer than normal conditions are likely for much of CONUS through fall. Wetter than average conditions are likely across western Washington for the fall with below normal precipitation likely across the Southwest, Great Basin, central Rockies, and much of the Plains. The Southeast is forecast to have near normal precipitation through October but turn drier in late fall and early winter.

Much of Southern Area and areas south of the Ohio River are likely to have below normal significant fire potential in September, but much of the southeast US and Mid-Atlantic is forecast to have above normal fire potential in October and November. Normal significant fire potential is forecast for Alaska along with most of Eastern Area through the period. The entire US is forecast to have normal fire potential in December.

Above normal significant fire potential is forecast to continue for September across much of the Northwest and portions of the Great
Basin, Northern Rockies, and Rocky Mountain Geographic Areas. Most of these areas will return to normal fire potential in October and November except for portions of Wyoming, northwest Colorado, and the Black Hills, which will remain above normal into October. Much of northern California is forecast to have above normal potential through November with leeside locations in Hawaii likely to have above normal significant fire potential into October.

**Past Weather and Drought**

More than 95% of the West remains in drought with over half the region in extreme to exceptional drought. This represents the most expansive and intense drought for the West this century according to the US Drought Monitor. Drought continues to intensify across portions of northern California, the Northwest, northern Plains, and Minnesota. However, some improvement in the drought was observed over the Southwest, Utah, Colorado, and Wyoming due to a continued strong monsoon. Drought was alleviated in the rest of the Great Lakes and Northeast due to continued precipitation events in August.

Temperatures were above normal across California, Oregon, Washington, Minnesota, the Great Lakes, and Northeast in August. The hot and dry conditions contributed to the Dixie and Caldor Fires crossing the Sierra Crest, the first time in recorded history this has occurred. Mostly near normal temperatures were observed in the Southwest, Rockies, Great Basin, and Southeast. Above average precipitation was observed across Utah, southern Idaho, western Wyoming, and much of Montana in August. Above normal rainfall was also observed across much of the Mid-Atlantic, southern New England, and Southeast. While southern Arizona and New Mexico recorded above normal precipitation, rainfall was below normal across northern Arizona, northern New Mexico and into Colorado. Rainfall was also well below average for California, Oregon, and southern Washington. Alaska observed temperatures near to below average for August with above normal precipitation for much of the Interior.

Lightning activity continued across much of the West in August but decreased across Alaska. A round of thunderstorms in late July into early August ignited numerous large fires across northwest California into the Oregon and Washington Cascades. This lightning episode was also followed by periods of hot and dry weather into mid-August. A strong surge of monsoon moisture brought beneficial rainfall to Utah, western Colorado, southeast Idaho, western Wyoming and much of Montana. The monsoon continued across the Southwest through August while the Southeast continued to see above normal rainfall. The tropical Atlantic was active with Tropical Storm Henri making landfall in Rhode Island on August 22, and Hurricane Ida in Louisiana on August 29.
Weather and Climate Outlooks

ENSO-neutral conditions are present with near-to-below average sea surface temperatures (SSTs) over much of the equatorial Pacific Ocean. Other teleconnection patterns, like the Madden-Julian Oscillation, are likely to play bigger roles in shaping the weather and climate patterns during ENSO-neutral conditions. The Climate Prediction Center (CPC) forecasts ENSO neutral conditions will continue through September with 70% chance of La Niña conditions developing late fall into winter (November through January).

Geographic Area Forecasts

Alaska: Normal fire potential is expected in Alaska through the fall and into the first part of winter.

Weather over Alaska through the end of August has not featured any serious bouts of heat and drought necessary to facilitate extreme wildfire behavior. Many areas received heavy rainfall in August, with the far eastern Interior being the only notable exception. The US Drought Monitor no longer shows any regions of Alaska as being in moderate drought, although portions of the Interior and south-central Alaska remain abnormally dry from a short-term perspective.

Solar heating will continue to weaken, and weather that would support significant wildfire behavior is unlikely in September. The winter’s permanent snowpack is typically established across most of the state in late October, putting Alaska out of season for the long winter.

Wildfire activity has been minimal through the end of August, and the 2021 wildfire season in Alaska is effectively over. Fuels are wet statewide except for the far southeastern Interior where conditions are moderately damp.

Fuels are extremely wet with little hope of any substantial warming and drying due to decreasing sun angle and daylight hours. Snow is already falling across low elevations in the Interior and higher elevations in the south. Alaska is moving out of fire season with normal fall weather expected to establish the winter snowpack across the state in the next two months. Fire potential is expected to be normal for this period.

Northwest: The potential for significant fires remains above normal in central and southwest Oregon and central Washington for September.

Temperature varied significantly across the region through August. A cooling trend arrived during the first week of the month that pushed temperatures below normal everywhere except southern Oregon. A significant warming and drying trend followed that pushed temperatures to record values for the middle of August. Another cooldown occurred during the last half of the month with below average temperatures.

Rainfall varied across the region during August. The western two-thirds of Oregon and much of southwest Washington received well below normal amounts. However, the eastern third of Oregon and the
northeastern third of Washington observed well above normal rainfall from thunderstorms associated with a surge of monsoonal moisture. Rainfall was also boosted by the arrival of incoming troughs from the Pacific, which enhanced precipitation. However, precipitation observed during August over eastern Washington and eastern Oregon was insufficient to affect the severity of the exceptional drought depicted in the US Drought Monitor.

The geographic area continued to see an increase in large fire activity, which produced rounds of lightning activity over western Oregon and northern Washington. Early in the month Oregon received lightning, which generated several new large fires along the west slopes of the Cascades from the Mount Hood area down to the Umpqua Divide as multiple new starts were merged into four complexes. New large fires were also observed in north-central Washington during the middle of the month.

The weather events that produced new ignitions also resulted in growth on existing large fires in some areas where favorable terrain and wind conditions aligned. Following the second round of new large fires in the geographic area in mid-August, a cooling trend slowed initial attack and perimeter growth on the large fires. Over the latter half of the month, significant rainfall was observed over north-central Washington, the Olympics, the north Cascades, and the Blue Mountains. While lightning also was observed with the storms, rainfall kept initial attack light and helped suppress growth on existing large fires. Significant rain did not fall over western and south-central Oregon where dry fuels continued to result in growth on large fires through the end of the month. Cloudy conditions along with local and regional smoke production also lowered fire behavior over the Oregon fires temporarily and to a lesser extent on the Washington fires.

The hot and dry trend in early August continued to impact live and dead fuels. Heavy dead fuel moisture was well below average for most PSAs through mid-August with a few locations near record low fuel moisture values. Fire danger indices also reached maxima in several areas. Drought deepened through the central part of the geographic area with extreme and exceptional drought over many areas. Lightning ignition efficiency was very high as thunderstorms moved through and holdovers plagued resources in areas received light rainfall in western Oregon. The very dry fuels were evident as fires exhibited a high resistance to control. By the middle of the month, overnight humidity recovery began to reach normal levels as marine air began to reach east of the Cascades and monsoon moisture occasionally traversed the eastern part of the geographic area. With cooler and more moist conditions at the end of the month, fuel moisteres began to return to more seasonal values and new ignitions decreased. Despite the cooldown, south-central Oregon had a fuels and fire behavior advisory extended for the third time with another new large fire starting during the
middle of August. Live fuels are now cured in the geographic area at lower and middle elevations, while high elevations have not fully cured, with fires exhibiting some resistance to spread on north slopes and through riparian areas.

Long range outlooks from NOAA and other sources suggest September will be warmer and drier than typical for the Northwest Geographic Area. For October through December, outlooks are mixed but suggest wetter than normal conditions are most likely for much of the geographic area.

The potential for significant fires remains elevated in central and southwest Oregon and central Washington for September. For October through December, significant fire potential is forecast to be normal across the entire geographic area. It is important to note that it is rare for significant new fire starts after September, even during dry falls.

**Outlook Objectives**

The National Significant Wildland Fire Potential Outlook is intended as a decision support tool for wildland fire managers, providing an assessment of current weather and fuels conditions and how these will evolve in the next four months. The objective is to assist fire managers in making proactive decisions that will improve protection of life, property, and natural resources, increase fire fighter safety and effectiveness, and reduce firefighting costs.

For questions about this outlook, please contact the National Interagency Fire Center at (208) 387-5050 or contact your local Geographic Area Predictive Services unit.

**Note:** Additional Geographic Area assessments may be available at the specific GACC websites. The GACC websites can also be accessed through the NICC webpage at:
http://www.nifc.gov/nicc/predictive/outlooks/outlooks.htm