

COUNTY OF WALLA WALLA
STATE OF WASHINGTON
OFFICE OF COMMISSIONER COURT

NEWSRELEASE

July 20, 2018

Walla Walla County Board of Commissioners
Walla Walla Public Health and Legislative Building
314 West Main/P. O. Box 1506
Walla Walla, WA 99362

509/524-2505

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

TEMPORARY COUNTY BURN BAN TO BE PARTIALLY MODIFIED

Walla Walla County imposed a temporary burn ban on July 12, 2018 due to weather conditions and high fire danger and has continued the ban during duration of a “Red Flag Warning”. The “Red Flag Warning” has now been removed; however, extreme caution is still essential. Certain agricultural producers in the southwest area of the county covered by Fire Protection District 6 have a need to burn some fields to prepare for the immediate planting of certain crops, and after receiving requests from farmers and reviewing information with the State Department of Ecology and Fire Chief Otis Garbe, County Commission Chair Jim Johnson has approved a partial modification of the burn ban to allow agricultural burning under very narrow constraints and only in that specific area. This decision is consistent with the conditional burn ban recently imposed in Umatilla County, which allows agricultural burning on days deemed to be appropriate for such. Stringent conditions and limitations will be imposed as part of the County’s modification, with one permitholder only per day allowed to burn and a limit of 100 acres per day will be considered for approval for any agricultural burning in the fire district boundaries, per Chief Garbe.

Other than the conditional approvals for ag burning, the temporary burn ban shall remain in place until further notice.

- end -

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