



Burleigh County Emergency Management
221 N 5th St
Bismarck ND 58501
(701) 222-6767
www.burleighco.com



Morton County Emergency Management
210 2nd Avenue NW
Mandan, ND 58554
(701) 667-3307
www.co.morton.nd.us

NEWS RELEASE FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contact: Mary Senger, Burleigh County Emergency Manager, 701-222-6727
Tom Doering, Morton County Emergency Manager, 701-667-3307

Idle Only Restriction in Effect on Burleigh and Morton County Shorelines

Bismarck & Mandan, ND—The ND Game and Fish Department has implemented an “Idle Only Restriction” effective within 200’ of the shoreline at the request of Burleigh and Morton County Officials to help reduce the impact of soil erosion. Burleigh and Morton County have each declared a “Soil Erosion Emergency” due to severe damages to public and private erosion from the Missouri River current, coupled with high winds, as well as vessels causing wakes.

- “Idle Only”: Defined as operating a boat or other watercraft at the slowest possible speed necessary to maintain steerage
- Restriction Location: The power lines approximately 1,000 feet south of Steckel (Wilton) boat ramp, about 23 river miles north of Bismarck. The southern boundary is MacLean Bottoms Wildlife Management Area boat ramp, about 19 miles south of Bismarck.

On the Heart River, starts at the confluence of the Heart and Missouri south of Mandan, and extends upstream to the ND Highway 6 bridge.

- Violation: Non-criminal with a \$200 fee.
- Duration: Restriction will be removed when the Missouri River gage at Bismarck is 10.5’.

The current Missouri River gage reading at Bismarck is 13.2’. Burleigh and Morton Counties continue to have resources committed to the response actions within their respective Flood Plan.

SAFETY ISSUES: Due to the increased discharges, the Missouri River current is faster and stronger and bringing large debris (including whole trees) down the system—take necessary precautions (life jackets, debris spotters) and maintain awareness of current conditions while recreating on the Missouri River.

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