Governor Bullock Issues Stay at Home Directive
Governor Steve Bullock today issued a Directive requiring Montanans to stay home and temporarily closes all nonessential businesses and operations to curtail the spread of COVID-19. The order, which goes into effect at 12:01 a.m. on March 28, will buy time for health care workers on the frontlines and seeks to limit long term impacts to the state’s economy.

The Directive will be in effect through Friday, April 10 and requires all businesses and operations in Montana, except for essential businesses and operations as defined in the directive, to stop all activities within the state.

Businesses deemed essential are required to comply with social distancing guidelines when possible including maintaining six feet of distance, having sanitizing products available, and designating hours of operation specifically for vulnerable populations.

LBM Dealers are deemed essential from the directive through several provisions.

Section 11, g.
Hardware and supply stores. Hardware stores and businesses that sell electrical, plumbing, and heating material;

Section 11, h.
Service providers who provide services that are necessary to maintaining the safety, sanitation, and essential operation of residences, Essential Activities, and Essential Businesses and Operations; *housing and other construction activities are included as essential in section 8 Essential Infrastructure.

Section 11 n.
Businesses that sell, manufacture, or supply other Essential Businesses and Operations with the support or materials necessary to operate

Section 11 s.
Manufacturing companies, distributors, and supply chain companies producing and supplying essential products…includes forest products and construction.

12. Social Distancing Requirements for Essential Businesses and Operations.
Essential Businesses and Operations and businesses engaged in Minimum Basic Operations must take proactive measures to ensure compliance with Social Distancing Requirements, including where possible:
   a. Designate six-foot distances. Designating with signage, tape, or by other means six-foot spacing for employees and customers in line to maintain appropriate distance;
   b. Hand sanitizer and sanitizing products. Having hand sanitizer and sanitizing products readily available for employees and customers;
   c. Separate operating hours for vulnerable populations. Implementing separate operating hours for elderly and vulnerable customers; and
   d. Online and remote access. Posting online whether a facility is open and how best to reach the facility and continue services by phone or remotely.

The WBMA Office is not classified as an essential business, however we are working remotely and available to return messages and phone calls. We will continue to monitor COVID-19 as it relates to the LBM industry and provide updates as they develop.