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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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## Fort Fright Canceled for 2021

MACKINAW CITY, MICH. — Fort Fright, a popular event held at Colonial Michilimackinac in Mackinaw City scheduled for October 8-9, has been canceled for 2021.

A number of factors – the continued Covid-19 pandemic, rising cases of the Delta variant in the area, breakthrough infections of vaccinated individuals, staffing challenges, and concerns with housing volunteers chiefly among them – went into making this decision. The safety of MSHP’s guests, staff, and volunteers is priority one. The execution of Fort Fright requires more than 50 staff and volunteers, with many requiring housing at MSHP facilities.

Furthermore, MSHP staff did want to put on a modified, or potentially lesser, event trying to utilize outdoor spaces and losing some of the more beloved elements of the event.

“This was a difficult decision for us. Fort Fright has grown into one of our most popular and most attended events, and it is a staff favorite to put on each year,” said Steve Brisson, Mackinac State Historic Parks Director. “As a matter of public safety, as well as the safety of our staff, we feel this is the right decision. We look forward to hosting this event in 2022.”

Fort Fright is drawn from a book called *Were-Wolves and Will-o-the-Wisps: French Tales of Mackinac Retold* by Dirk Gringhuis. The collection of short stories, published by Mackinac State Historic Parks, is based on French-Canadian folktales brought to the Mackinac Straits area by the voyageurs during the height of the French fur trade. It is available at all Mackinac State Historic Parks museum stores.

More information can be found on [mackinacparks.com](http://mackinacparks.com) or by calling (231) 436-4100. A downloadable version of this release can be found here. Pictures available upon request.

*Mackinac State Historic Parks, a family of living history museums and parks in northern Michigan's Straits of Mackinac, is an agency within the Michigan Department of Natural Resources. Its sites—which are accredited by the American Alliance of Museums—include Fort Mackinac, the Biddle House, The Richard and Jane Manoogian Mackinac Art Museum, Historic Downtown Mackinac, and Mackinac Island State Park on Mackinac Island, and Colonial Michilimackinac, Old Mackinac Point Lighthouse, Historic Mill Creek Discovery Park and Michilimackinac State Park in Mackinaw City. Mackinac State Historic Parks is governed by the Mackinac Island State Park Commission, established in 1895 to protect, preserve and present the parks' rich historic and natural resources for the education and recreation of future generations. Visitor information is available at (231) 436-4100 or on the web at [www.mackinacparks.com](http://www.mackinacparks.com).*

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