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Use Caution in Fire Areas on Flathead National Forest

Forest users are reminded to use extreme caution when in burned areas of the Flathead National Forest from the 2007 fire season.

The Brush Creek Fire, located about 20 miles west of Whitefish, burned approximately 30,000 acres. Hazard trees were removed along roads and trails, although other standing trees may fall with changing weather conditions. In severely burned areas, tree roots are not secure, soils may be saturated with recent moisture, and the danger of flooding is always present. Wind events, even breezy days, will cause snags to fall, as well as tops and large branches. Extreme caution should be used if in this area!

The Brush Creek Fire area is closed to firewood gathering and cutting due to salvage activities. Citations will be issued for anyone gathering or cutting firewood in the Brush Creek Fire area.

For more information about the Brush Creek Fire area contact the Tally Lake District Office at 863-5400.

The main line trails on the Spotted Bear Ranger District in the areas of the Fool Creek, Corporal and Raily Mountain Fires are open. Several secondary trails are not cleared and wilderness users should be prepared for additional windfall of trees. All users are encouraged to carry an ax and hand saw. Recent moisture is contributing to some slippery and muddy conditions on roads and trails on the Spotted Bear Ranger District. Caution should be used and please plan on slower travel times.

Stock users, as well as all users, are encouraged to contact the Spotted Bear Ranger District at 758-5376 for specific information regarding road and trail access and conditions.

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