



Flathead National Forest

Media Release

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Trail Restrictions in the Bob Marshall Wilderness Complex

Several trails, or sections of trails, are temporary closed in the Bob Marshall Wilderness Complex on the Flathead National Forest due to fire activity. Wilderness visitors, specifically hunters, are encouraged to contact the Spotted Bear District at 758-5376, prior to traveling on the district. Currently there are 16 fires in the Bob Marshall Wilderness Complex on the Flathead National Forest that are being managed as fire-use fires.

Spotted Bear District Ranger Deb Mucklow said, "Safety is a priority and currently the fire activity does not allow for safe access on a few of our trails. I anticipate this will be short-term with the weather that is predicted later this week."

-Little Salmon Trail, Forest Trail #29, is closed from the junction with Palisade Lake Trail, #25, to Two Mile Meadow

-Blackfoot Divide Trail, Forest Trail #278, is closed from Youngs Pass north eight miles to Hahn Creek Pass

-Jenny Creek Trail, Forest Trail #141, is closed from Youngs Pass to Youngs Creek Trail

-Big Salmon Creek Trail, #110, is closed from Shaw Creek east to Brownie Creek (trail over Pendent Pass remains open)

-Red Plume Lookout Trail, #340, is closed

The two largest fire-use fires on the Spotted Bear District are the Tango Point Fire, approximately 550 acres, and the Jenny Creek Fire, approximately 520 acres. The Brush Shack Creek Fire is approximately 180 acres and the Highrock Creek Fire is approximately 65 acres. Locations of the fires and more information are available on the forest's website at www.fs.fed.us/r1/flathead.

Wildland fire use is the management of naturally ignited fires to achieve resource benefits, where fire is a major component of the ecosystem. Many natural resource values can be enhanced by allowing fire to plan its natural role where private property and social values can be protected.

For more information contact the Spotted Bear District at 758-5376 or visit www.fs.fed.us/r1/flathead.

Stage I fire restrictions are still in effect across Northwest Montana, including the Bob Marshall Wilderness Complex. Restrictions may be lifted later in the week if significant moisture is received.

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