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# Livingston Ranger District News Release



For Immediate Release  
Date: May 23, 2008

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## Mill Creek Road opening for summer season

Livingston, MT... The Livingston Ranger District of the Gallatin National Forest has opened the lower gate on Mill Creek Road #486 for the summer season. Please be aware that the Wicked Creek fire of 2007 has impacted many areas in the drainage. The fire, in combination with a robust snowpack and recent rainfall, has increased the risk of flooding, landslides, and falling trees. Please travel with caution and be aware of potential hazards.

The upper gate, at approximately the 11 mile marker, will remain closed until June 1<sup>st</sup> or beyond depending on current road conditions at that time. According to District Ranger Ron Archuleta "We are anticipating further road damage which may impede motorized access in this area. The upper Mill Creek Road will remain closed until such time we can make it safe for public travel."

Many fire restoration projects including trail, bridge and road work, and hazard tree removal will be occurring through out the summer in the Mill Creek drainage. Mill Creek Road #486 will need to be closed periodically to accommodate these projects. Efforts will be made to maintain as much public access as possible for mushroom gatherers, campers, and backcountry users.

In addition the West Fork of Mill Creek Road #3271 has landslides blocking access. Road crews are working to clear these slides as they occur. The East Fork of Mill Creek Road #3280 will remain unaffected.

For current updates please contact the Livingston Ranger District at (406) 222-1892.

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