

NEWS RELEASE
Uinta-Wasatch-Cache National Forest
Federal Building
125 South State Street
Salt Lake City, Utah 84138



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Kathy Pollock 801-558-8016

Uinta-Wasatch-Cache National Forest
Roads Close for Winter Season

SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH, December 2, 2008 – The Uinta-Wasatch-Cache National closed gates on some forest roads as a protective measure against the impacts of wet weather travel. The closures signal the Uinta-Wasatch-Cache National Forest Ranger District’s transition to the Winter Travel Plan.

“We close the gates to decrease the damage inherently caused by motorized-wheeled vehicles traveling in wet and muddy conditions” said Brian Ferebee, Forest Supervisor. “In turn, it means we’ll spend less time and money repairing the roads next spring.” The closures also act as a safety measure by preventing motorists from getting stuck in the mud on isolated back roads. Snow machines, such as snowmobiles, snow cats or trucks outfitted with tracks, can travel on some of these roads once enough snow accumulates to provide cover and protection for ground vegetation, as prescribed by the Ranger District’s Winter Travel Plan. Back-country skiers, hikers, and other non-motorized users will be allowed to travel on all the closed roads throughout the winter season.

The road closures and Winter Travel Plans are part of the Forest-wide effort to balance multiple recreation uses with preservation of its watersheds, grasslands, and forests. “We’re requesting that all motorists respect these road closures,” Ferebee added. Motorized-wheeled vehicles, including ATVs, motorcycles and trucks, traveling on any portion of a closed road, regardless of the point of access, are violating a forest closure order and subject to citations and fines. Access at the side of the closed gates is limited to snow machines and only after a protective snow base has been established.

(MORE)

For more information on road closures, Winter Travel Plans, and travel maps contact the Ranger Districts listed below.

Logan Ranger District
(435) 755-3620

Ogden Ranger District
(801) 625-5306

Evanston/Mt. View Ranger Districts
(307) 789-3194 or (307) 782-6555

Heber-Kamas Ranger District
(435) 654-0470 or (435) 783-4338

Spanish Fork Ranger District
(801) 798-3571

Pleasant Grove Ranger District
(801) 785-3563

Salt Lake Ranger District
(801) 466-6411

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