

Special Notice:

Beginning in August of 1943, the military used the area for maneuvers and mountain training for World War II. Many of the artillery and mortar shells shot into the area for practice still exist. In 1997, a highly trained crew surveyed the trail locations and known campsites for shells. They found 15, some of which were still live. All were exploded on site. Many more may exist and they are dangerous. Since it is impossible to survey every acre of the wilderness, we ask that you follow the recommendations below for your own safety.

- Stay on designated trails.
- Do not create new trails
- Camp at existing campsites. These usually have a fire ring and show bare ground around them.
- If you camp at a place without a fire ring DO NOT create one. Use a backpacker-type stove for your cooking needs and enjoy a night without a campfire.

If you find an Unexploded Ordnance

- Do not touch, move or dig near or around the suspected ordnance.
- Identify the area on a map or by terrain feature. On the ground, from a distance away, you can point out the location by making an arrow using rocks or sticks, or hanging a bandana.
- Walk away in the direction you came.
- Immediately contact the Forest Service:
Cheat-Potomac Ranger District, Petersburg
Monday-Friday 304 257-4488
Monongahela National Forest
Weekends, after hours 888 283-0303



For additional information, contact:

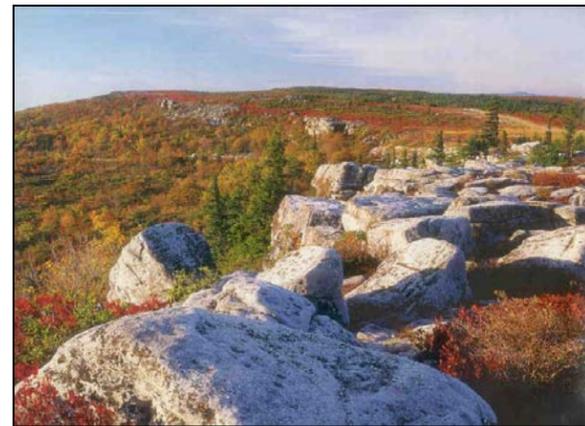
Cheat-Potomac Ranger District,
HC59, Box 240
Petersburg WV 26847
(304) 257-4488, Extension 0.

<http://fs.usda.gov/mnf/>



Monongahela National Forest
200 Sycamore Street
Elkins, West Virginia 26241
(304) 636-1800 Telephone/TTY

Dolly Sods Wilderness



Description: The 17,371 acre Dolly Sods Wilderness in the Monongahela National Forest is part of the National Wilderness Preservation System. It is located in Grant, Randolph and Tucker Counties, West Virginia. The Dolly Sods Wilderness contains much of the Red Creek drainage and contains bog and heath eco-types, more commonly typical to southern Canada. Elevations range from 2,500 to over 4,700 feet.

Nondiscrimination Statement
The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, or marital or family status. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD).

LARGE PRINT AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST

Location

From Petersburg follow WV 28/55 south to Jordan Run Road. Turn right and go 1 mile to Forest Road 19. Turn left and follow FR 19 six miles to the Dolly Sods Scenic Area. The wilderness is directly ahead of you at the intersection with FR 75. Turn right for Wildlife and Fisher Spring trailheads; turn left for Rohrbaugh and Red Creek trailheads.

From Canaan Valley: follow WV 32 south to the Laneville Road (WV 45). Turn left and go approximately 6 miles to the Red Creek Bridge, where the road changes from pavement to gravel and is now Forest Road 19. Red Creek trailhead is on the left behind the Laneville wildlife management cabin. Continue on FR 19 to get to Rohrbaugh trailhead and FR 75.

Weather Considerations:

The Dolly Sods area ranges from 2500 to 4700 feet above sea level. Freezing temperatures can occur anytime of the year. Snow can be expected anytime from October through April. Forest Roads are not maintained during the winter.

Area Rules:

- Groups over 10 persons are prohibited in the Wilderness.
- Camping and open campfires are prohibited within 300 feet of Forest Road 19 and Forest Road 75 except at Red Creek Campground.
- Pets must be under your control at all times.
- Motor vehicles are restricted to roads and parking areas.
- Mountain bikes and mechanical devices such as carts are not allowed on Wilderness trails.
- Stock is not permitted in the Red Creek campground.

Trail System:

Dolly Sods Wilderness has 47 miles of trails, many of which follow old railroad grades and logging roads. Listed below are several possible loop hikes. Fords indicate streams that may be a problem to cross during high water events. There may be additional small stream crossings.

- Practice Leave No Trace outdoor ethics: do not build a camp within 200 feet of roads, streams and trails.
- Trails can be muddy and wet so be prepared to get your feet wet.
- Dress for the weather. Be prepared for sudden changes.
- Wear proper footwear.
- Bring drinking water; otherwise, treat water from streams and springs before drinking to kill harmful pathogens.
- During hunting seasons, hikers are encouraged to wear high visibility clothing.

Fisher Spring – Rohrbaugh – Wildlife – FR 75

Trails: 510 – 508 – 560 – 75
Starts at: Fisher Spring trailhead
Length of loop: 5.6 miles
Fords: 0

Rohrbaugh – Wildlife – FR 75 – FR19

Trails: 508 – 560 – 75 – 19
Starts at: Rohrbaugh trailhead
Length of loop: 7.7 miles
Fords: 0

Red Creek – Little Stonecoal – Dunkenbarger – Big Stonecoal – Red Creek

Trails: 514 – 552 – 558 – 513 – 514
Starts at: Laneville Cabin
Length of loop: 7.5 miles
Fords: 4

Red Creek – Rocky Point – Big Stonecoal – Red Creek

Trails: 514 – 554 – 513 – 514
Starts at: Laneville Cabin
Length of loop: 8.5 miles
Fords: 4

Fisher Spring – Red Creek – Big Stonecoal – Rocky Point – Red Creek – Fisher Spring

Trails: 510 – 514 – 513 – 554 – 514 – 510
Starts at: Fisher Spring trailhead
Length of loop: 10 miles
Fords: 2

Red Creek – Breathed Mountain – Big Stonecoal – Red Creek

Trails: 514 – 553 – 513 – 514
Starts at: Laneville Cabin
Length of loop: 13.5 miles
Fords: 4

Red Creek – Little Stonecoal – Dunkenbarger – Big Stonecoal – Breated Mountain – Red Creek

Trails: 514 – 552 – 558 – 513 – 553 – 514
Starts at: Laneville Cabin
Length of loop: 15 miles
Fords: 4

Blackbird Knob – Rocky Ridge – Harman

Trails: 511 – 524 – 525
Starts at: Blackbird Knob trailhead
Length of Loop: 9.2 miles
Fords: 6

Bear Rocks – Raven Ridge – Dobbin Grade

Trails: 522 – 521 – 524 – 526
Starts at: Bear Rocks trailhead
Length of Loop: 9.6 miles
Fords: 5

Beaver Dam – Dobbin Grade – Beaver View – Raven Ridge

Trails: 500 – 526 – 523 – 521
Starts at: Beaver Dam trailhead
Length of Loop: 5.6 miles
Fords: 3