

FOREST SUPERVISOR CLOSURE ORDER

USDA, FOREST SERVICE, HELENA-LEWIS AND CLARK NATIONAL FOREST: BELT CREEK - WHITE SULPHUR SPRINGS, JUDITH - MUSSELLSHELL, AND TOWNSEND RANGER DISTRICTS

Pursuant to 36 Code of Federal Regulations 261.50 (a) and (b), the following restriction is in effect in all Developed Campgrounds on the Belt Creek - White Sulphur Springs and Judith - Musselshell Ranger Districts of the Lewis and Clark National Forest. This restriction is in addition to those enumerated in Subpart A, Part 261, Title 36, Code of Federal Regulations and becomes effective when signed, and shall remain in effect until rescinded or revoked. This Order is effective from March 1 to December 1 annually until amended or rescinded. The purpose of this order is to minimize bear-human and other wildlife conflicts and, thereby, provide for visitor safety.

This Order supersedes and replaces Forest Supervisors Order LC 06-02 (amendment 3) dated May 18, 2007.

Restriction: Possessing or storing any food, refuse or other attractants as specified in the order [36 CFR 261.58(cc)] in the following developed campgrounds, including named Smith River boat camps, on the Belt Creek -White Sulphur Springs, Townsend, and Judith-Musselshell Ranger Districts of the Helena-Lewis and Clark National Forest.

Judith – Musselshell Ranger District: Crystal Lake Campground and group site, Dry Wolf Campground and group site, Russian Flat, Indian Hill, Hay Canyon and Thain Creek Campgrounds, Timber Creek, Jellison, Haymaker, Daisy Dean, Spring Creek, Forest Lake, Basin Creek, Whitetail, Hunters Camp, Upper and Lower Lion Creek.

Belt Creek-White Sulphur Springs Ranger District: Jumping Creek, Moose Creek, Grasshopper, Richardson Campgrounds, Logging Creek, Aspen, Many Pines and Kings Hill Campgrounds.

Smith River Boat Camps:

Townsend Ranger District: Upper Indian Springs, Middle Indian Springs, Lower Indian Springs, Upper Rock Garden, Lower Rock Garden, Mouth of Rock Creek, Upper Scotty Allen's, Middle Scotty Allen's, Lower Scotty Allen's.

Belt Creek-White Sulphur Springs Ranger District: Canyon Depth, Two Creek, Sheep Wagon, Upper Cow Coulee, Middle Cow Coulee, Lower Cow Coulee, Upper Sunset Cliff, Middle Sunset Cliff, Lower Sunset Cliff, County Line, Upper Bear Gulch, Lower Bear Gulch, Upper Table Rock, Middle Table Rock, Lower Table Rock, Upper Fraunhofer, Middle Fraunhofer, Lower Fraunhofer, Upper Parker.

Also attached and hereby made part of this order is **Exhibit A:** "Food Storage Special Order Information and Definitions", which defines the terms used in support of the restrictions.

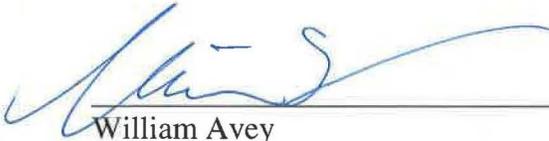
UNDER THIS ORDER IT IS REQUIRED THAT

1. All human food, pet food, or other attractants must be attended during daylight hours or otherwise acceptably stored in a bear-resistant manner.
2. All food or other attractants must be acceptably stored during nighttime hours, unless it is being prepared for eating, being eaten, transported or being prepared for acceptable storage.
3. Attractants (such as garbage, food leftovers, bacon grease, etc.) shall not be buried, discarded, or burned in an open fire.
4. Wildlife carcasses that are within 1/2-mile of any camp or sleeping area shall be stored in a bear-resistant manner during nighttime hours.

Pursuant to 36 CFR 261.50(e) the following persons may be exempt from this order.

1. Persons with a permit specifically authorizing the prohibited act or omission.
2. Any Federal, State, or local officer, or member of an organized rescue or firefighting force in the performance of an official duty.

Done this 1 day of April 2016



William Avey

Forest Supervisor, Helena- Lewis and Clark National Forest

Violations of these prohibitions are punishable by a fine of not more than \$5,000 for an individual or \$10,000 for an organization, or imprisonment for not more than 6 months, or both (16 U.S.C 551 and 18 U.S.C. 3559 and 3571).

EXHIBIT "A" – Special Order # 01-15-16-01

FOOD STORAGE SPECIAL ORDER INFORMATION AND DEFINITIONS

IT IS REQUIRED THAT:

Human pet and livestock food (except baled or cubed hay without additives), and garbage shall be attended or stored in an approved bear resistant manner when unattended.

Wildlife carcasses, birds, fish or other animal parts that are within 1/2-mile of any camp or sleeping area shall be stored in a bear-resistant manner during night-time hours. If a wildlife carcass is within an attended camp during daytime hours it may be on the ground.

Attractants may be "attended" rather than stored in a bear-resistant manner. However, it is strongly recommended that attractants and all items with odors be stored in bear-resistant containers or suspended 10 feet high and 4 feet away from the supporting structure and stored at least 300 feet from any sleeping area.

Attractants (such as garbage, food leftovers or bacon grease) shall not be buried, discarded, or burned in an open campfire.

Approved bear-resistant containers meet the following criteria: A securable container constructed of solid material capable of withstanding 200 foot-pounds of energy applied by direct impact. A bear-resistant container developed commercially must be approved by the USDA, Forest Service, Missoula Technology and Development Center (MTDC). Bear-resistant containers developed for personal use may be inspected for approval by the local District Ranger or their designated representative(s). For commercial operations, the MTDC has an impact testing machine available to evaluate containers for strength.

DEFINITIONS

-Attended: At least one adult person (attendee) is physically present within 100 feet of attractants during daytime hours. During the nighttime hours, all attractants must be stored in a bear-resistant manner.

-Attractant: Food as defined below and garbage from human, livestock or pet foods.
Food: Any nourishing substance, which includes human food or drink (canned, solid or liquid), livestock feed (except baled or cubed hay without additives) and pet food.

-Attendee: An adult (18 years of age or older) in control of attractants.

-Bear-resistant container: A securable container constructed of solid material capable of withstanding 200 foot-pounds of energy applied by direct impact. The container, when secured and under stress, will not have any openings greater than one-quarter (1/4) inch, that would allow a bear to gain entry by biting or pulling with its claws.

-Bear-resistant manner: any attractants, including food and garbage, must be stored in one of the following ways if unattended:

- secured in a hard-sided camper or vehicle trunk or trailer cab;
- secured in a hard-sided dwelling or storage building;
- suspended at least 10 feet up (from the bottom of the suspended item) and 4 feet out from any upright support, i.e. tree, pole;
- stored in a bear-resistant container, portable electric fence, or other storage device or system approved for such use by the Interagency Grizzly Bear Committee (IGBC);
- stored in any combination of these methods;
- Stored by methods other than those described in Section #6, a-f, that shall be approved in writing by the Forest Supervisor responsible for their area of jurisdiction.

Daytime: 1/2-hour before sunrise until 1/2-hour after sunset.

Nighttime: 1/2-hour after sunset until 1/2-hour before sunrise.

Livestock: A domesticated animal, such as mule, horse, llama, or goat.

Wildlife carcass: The body, or any parts of any deceased wild animal, bird, or fish.