



News Release

Medicine Bow-Routt National Forests &
Thunder Basin National Grassland
<http://fs.usda.gov/mbr>

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Pole Mountain Roads Opened in Time for Holiday Weekend

(LARAMIE, Wyo.) May 24, 2016 – Following weeks of consistent evaluation by Forest Service personnel, ground conditions have dried enough on the Pole Mountain unit of the Medicine Bow National Forest to warrant temporary, seasonal road closures being lifted.

As of today, all roads on the National Forest unit between Laramie and Cheyenne will reopen for motorized use, with the exception of the 700 Road (Vedauwoo Road) and the 707A Road.

- Repair work is still in progress on the 700 Road, but it is anticipated to also reopen prior to the coming weekend.
- The 707A Road remains impassible due to a washout. It is anticipated to be repaired this summer.

Public education on protecting roadbeds and natural resources remains a vital component of access and travel management on Pole Mountain.

Forest Service officials would like to stress that even though roads have dried and reopened; users must stay on designated routes and may not travel off-road. Help protect public lands so that they may be enjoyed by the entire public.

Those traveling through the National Forest should pay attention to signage and refer to the Pole Mountain Motor Vehicle Use Map (MVUM) for details. MVUMs are free and physical copies can be obtained at the Laramie District Office, 2468 Jackson St. in Laramie. Electronic versions of the free map are available online at <http://www.fs.usda.gov/goto/mbr/mvum/maps>.

It is the user's responsibility to know where they are and what types of restrictions there may be when accessing public lands.

The Laramie Ranger District implemented the temporary Pole Mountain road closures earlier this year due to a combination of wet conditions and years of resource damage. Motorized travel during wet times of the year has historically damaged roadbeds, and illegal off-road travel has damaged soil and vegetation resources.

Following is information on Laramie Ranger District campgrounds for Memorial Day weekend:

- Vedauwoo Campground (Pole Mountain) is open (one hand pump for water)
- Yellow Pine Campground (Pole Mountain) open this week (no water)
- Tie City Campground (Pole Mountain) is closed. Will open this summer following snow melt and clean-up.
- Willow Campground (Snowy Range) open this week (no water)
- Pine Campground (Snowy Range) open later this week (no water)

- All other campgrounds are closed.

For more information about road conditions or recreation sites, contact the Laramie Ranger District at (307) 745-2300. You can also visit our website at <http://fs.usda.gov/mbr>, or follow the Medicine Bow National Forest on Twitter, **@FS_MBRTB**.

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