



News Release

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

Contact: Douglas Ranger District, (307) 358-4690

Road Conditions Poor in Laramie Peak Area and on Thunder Basin National Grassland

(DOUGLAS, Wyo.) May 25, 2016 –The Douglas Ranger District (DRD) is recommending limited travel on the Laramie Peak unit this upcoming holiday weekend and is warning that Thunder Basin National Grassland roads are also in rough shape.

Wet weather during the late winter and early spring have led to predominantly poor overall road conditions on both National Forest System units.

Both county and Forest Service crews are working to make repairs where possible and below are specifics on affected roads:

Medicine Bow National Forest (Laramie Peak unit)

- Various county and Forest Service roads are washed out, impassable, and/or are currently under repair.
- Recreational travel is not recommended in this area for Memorial Day weekend except to the Esterbrook area.
- Caution should be taken as road conditions are changing with each storm passing through the area.
- Significant issues:
 - La Bonte Canyon Road (Forest Road 658) is washed out and impassable. Efforts are underway to install a temporary crossing that will have weight and width restrictions until replaced by a permanent bridge.
 - County Road 24 (Cold Springs Road) has damage and washouts.
 - County Road 5 (Esterbrook Road) has damage and washouts.
 - County Road 4 (Poison Lake Road) has damage and washouts.
 - County Road 7 (Braae Road) has damage and washouts.
 - Albany and Converse counties will have completed repairs this week on County Road 61/16 (Fetterman Road).
- With the exception of Esterbrook, Laramie Peak area campgrounds are not expected to be open by Memorial Day. They can still be used before officially opened but no services will be available.
- La Prele Guard Station is not expected to be open until June 13.

Thunder Basin National Grassland

- Conditions in many places are rough – Use caution and drive slowly.

- In the mining areas, County Roads 4 and 30 have been relocated and are not accurately depicted on current maps. Do not rely on the map to determine your location. Use a GPS and/or web based mapping solutions to determine your current location.
- Forest Road 958 - Cow Creek Buttes area is permanently CLOSED.

The public is encouraged to contact the Douglas Ranger District for current road conditions. For more information, call (307-358-4690) or stop by the office at 2250 E. Richards St.

Despite the road relocations mentioned above, free Motor Vehicle Use Maps are still a good resource for Forest visitors. Hard copies can be obtained at the District Office or online versions can be found here, <http://fs.usda.gov/mbr>.

Information can also be found at the website listed above or you can follow the Medicine Bow-Routt National Forests & Thunder Basin National Grassland on Twitter, [@FS_MBRTB](https://twitter.com/FS_MBRTB).

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