

# White River National Forest



## Current Conditions

### Rifle Ranger District

Need Info? 970-625-2371

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**LAST UPDATED: June 14, 2018**

**This report is a general description of the broader area; all conditions are subject to change.**

**Remember to "Know Before You Go."**

**Always bring a map and compass, and be prepared for any conditions on the roads and trails.**

**Seasonal Advisory:** The summer travel season began on May 21. Motor vehicle use maps (MVUMs) are available online at <https://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/whiteriver/recreation/?cid=stelprdb5328680> or at district offices. MVUMs show forest routes that are designated as open or restricted to different types of motor vehicles. MVUMs list road opening and closing dates. Several roads remain closed until June so be informed! Expect high-elevation trails and roads to be slick and muddy in spring and early summer. If you encounter a muddy road or trail please turn around and wait until the route dries. Riding on muddy routes can cause permanent road and trail damage.

**Food Storage & Camping:** Visitors at Meadow Lake Campground, Meadow Ridge Campground, Meadow Lake Picnic Area, or Spruce Picnic Area must store food in a bear-resistant container or inside vehicles in sealed containers. Approved bear-resistant containers for backpacking can be found here: <http://igbconline.org/certified-products-list/>

**Responsible Forest Use:** Responsible use by all visitors is key to a sustainable recreation system. Follow these tips to ensure you protect the places you love to play:

- Stay on designated roads, trails, and areas as identified on the motor vehicle use map.
- Be respectful of other road and trail users.
- Respect property boundaries and know what uses are allowed if you enter non-Forest Service property.
- Do not widen trails by going around obstacles and do not create shortcuts.
- Avoid wet, muddy trails.
- Cross streams only at designated fords.

**Stage 1 Fire Restrictions** for the entire White River National Forest go into effect at 12:01 AM on **Friday, June 15<sup>th</sup>**. Please see <https://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/whiteriver/news-events/?cid=FSEPRD583478> for a complete list of restrictions and affected areas. These fire restrictions will be in place until further notice.

<b>Dirt &amp; 4WD Roads</b>	<b>Conditions</b>
<b>Rifle Area Roads</b>	
FSR 211 – Bar HL	Clear and dry
FSR 825 – Little Box	Clear and dry. Several downed trees partially obstructing roadway
FSR 832 – Rifle Creek/Coulter Mesa	Clear and dry
FSR 833 – Tangle Gulch to Bar HL	Clear and dry

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<b>Battlement Mesa Area Roads</b>	
FSR 818 – West Mamm	Clear and dry
FSR 824 – Beaver Creek	Clear and dry. Temporary road closures will begin soon; please call (970)-625-6855 for current status.
FSR 847 – Battlement Reservoirs	Not surveyed. Mud and downed trees possible. Rough and rutted road; high clearance 4WD vehicles only
<b>New Castle Area Roads</b>	
FSR 245 – Buford-New Castle (BNC): Forest Boundary to Rio Blanco Co. Line	Clear and dry
FSR 603 – Clinetop	Clear and dry
FSR 636 – Boiler Creek	Inaccessible
FSR 651 – Burnt Ridge	Inaccessible
FSR 654 – East Elk	Clear and dry
NFST 2290 – BNC Parallel Route	Clear and dry
<b>Glenwood Springs Area Roads</b>	
FSR 602 – Transfer	Clear and dry, Snow drifts possible at upper end of road.
FSR 614 – Grizzly & White Owl Lakes	Not surveyed
FSR 631 – Bowen Loop	Not surveyed
FSR 632 – Grizzly Cow Camp	Not surveyed
FSR 637 – Blue Lake	Not surveyed
<b>Southwest &amp; Central Flat Tops Area</b>	
FSR 601 (West) – Hiner Spring to Blair Mountain	Clear and dry from Hiner Spring to 823 turnoff. Not surveyed east of 823.
FSR 601 (East) – Blair Mountain to Carbonate	Not surveyed, expect mud and snow
FSR 601.2F – Cow Lake	Clear and dry

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FSR 640 – Elk Lakes to Bison Lake	Not surveyed, expect mud and snow
FSR 647 – Bench	Not surveyed, expect mud and snow
FSR 648 – West Ute Creek	Not surveyed, expect mud and snow
FSR 649 – Corral Point	Not surveyed
FSR 650 – Corral Creek	Not surveyed
FSR 821 – Meadow Creek Cow Camp	Clear and dry
FSR 823 – Meadow Lake	Clear and dry
NFST 1846 – Windy Point Bypass	Clear and dry
<b>West Divide Area Roads</b>	
FSR 800 – Cayton to Haystack Park	Not surveyed
FSR 801 – East Divide Creek	Dry, rough and rutted. High clearance vehicles only
FSR 812 – Elk Park	Not surveyed
FSR 843 – Mosquito Creek	Not surveyed
<b>Special Alerts and Notices:</b> Please drive carefully; dry roads can quickly become slick and muddy during rain storms.	

Trail	Conditions
Battlement Reservoirs/Lava Creek #2160.5	Not surveyed
Beaver Creek #2164	Clear and dry
Blair Lake #2048	Not surveyed
Cayton Gulch #2162	Not surveyed
Cherry Creek #2256	Clear and dry
East Elk (Centennial) #1841	Not surveyed
Grizzly Creek #2065	Clear and dry
Hadley Gulch #1840	Clear and dry

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Lake Park #2172	Not surveyed
Last Chance #2158	Not surveyed
Main Elk #2157	Dry. Upper end is overgrown and difficult to follow, lower end is clear
Mansfield Ditch #2291	Clear and dry
Mitchell Creek #1845	Dry, not cleared
No Name #1847	Clear and dry
Reno Gulch #2163	Not surveyed
Spring Creek #2068	Not surveyed. Extensive downed timber, navigation difficult
Three Forks #2150	Not surveyed
West Elk Stock Driveway #2152	Dry, not cleared
Zig Zag #2061	Not surveyed
<b>Special Alerts and Notices:</b> None at this time	