



News Release

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

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Pole Mountain Roads to Gradually Open as Conditions Improve

(LARAMIE, Wyo.) May 2, 2014 – During the week of May 5, some roads, which have been temporarily closed on the Medicine Bow National Forest’s Pole Mountain Unit between Laramie and Cheyenne, will begin to open for public use.

Routes opening will be on the south end of the unit and will include Forest Roads 700 (Vedauwoo Glen), 705 (Blair-Wallis) and 707 (Headquarters). Most spurs off of these roads will also reopen, however, visitors will notice that some areas are still closed until further drying and road repair takes place.

Roads on the north side of Wyo. Highway 210 (Happy Jack Highway) remain closed and are being evaluated by Laramie Ranger District specialists on a weekly basis. Wheeled motor vehicles are temporarily prohibited on these roads. Non-motorized access for activities such as hiking, bicycling, hunting, skiing and rock climbing is still allowed.

The closures were implemented this spring to protect public resources during a fragile time of year, after a combination of wet conditions and years of illegal off-road travel had damaged roadbeds, as well as soil and vegetation resources.

Forest Service officials would like to stress that even with roads beginning to dry and reopen; 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.

For more information on the Pole Mountain unit, 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, @MBRNFsTBNG.

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