



## News Release

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

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### **Low Elevation Campgrounds to Open on Medicine Bow National Forest**

**(LARAMIE, Wyo.) May 19, 2014** – Despite recent spring snows, Memorial Day weekend visitors to the Medicine Bow National Forest will find typical low-elevation access for roads, trails and campgrounds.

Preparations are underway on the Brush Creek/Hayden (BCH), Douglas and Laramie Ranger Districts to open multiple lower-elevation campgrounds and day-use sites for the upcoming holiday weekend.

Campgrounds that will be open on the **BCH Ranger District** include Bottle Creek, Bow River, French Creek, Lincoln Park, Ryan Park, Six Mile, and South Brush Creek. Please call the District Office in Saratoga at (307) 326-5258 for details, road conditions and the most current recreation site information.

Esterbrook Campground will be open for Memorial Day weekend on the **Douglas Ranger District**. Access to Campbell Creek, Curtis Gulch, and Friend Park Campgrounds is questionable, but all three could be reachable this week. Officials stress that travel in the Laramie Peak area could be difficult as road conditions are unpredictable this time of year. Large, heavy, and/or low clearance vehicles are not advised. For more information and details about these recreation sites and open roads, please contact the District at (307) 358-4690.

The **Laramie Ranger District** expects to have most of its Pole Mountain recreation sites open by this weekend, including the Vedauwoo Day-Use Site, Vedauwoo Campground, Blair Picnic Area, Yellow Pine Campground, and Hidden Valley Group Site. On the Snowy Range, no recreation sites will be open in time for the coming weekend. For the most current information and details about these and other recreation sites and roads, please call the District at (307) 745-2300.

On all three districts, day-use fees are \$5.00 and daily campground fees are \$10.00. Most campgrounds will have trash and toilet services available, however, the majority do not yet have water, so campers should plan to bring their own. Please check current weather conditions before your trip.

Campground reservations may be made at some sites through ReserveUSA by phone at 877-444-6777 or online at [www.recreation.gov](http://www.recreation.gov). Where available, reservations are recommended for holiday weekends such as Memorial Day.

Recreation site information may also be found on this website, <http://fs.usda.gov/mbr>, or you can follow the Medicine Bow-Routt National Forests and Thunder Basin National Grassland on Twitter, **@MBRNFsTBNG**.

Many other campgrounds and roads are still inaccessible due to snowpack or because of ongoing work to remove beetle-killed hazard trees. Respect these closures and do not try to drive around snow banks or barriers.

Remember that weakened or dead trees can fall without warning, endangering people and blocking roads. Recreationists should be aware of high-risk trees, especially in strong winds.

Although no fire restrictions are currently in effect, visitors are reminded to be careful with campfires and follow these basic fire safety rules.

- Scrape back dead grass and forest materials from your campfire site.
- Keep your campfire small and under control; make it only as big as you need it.
- Keep a shovel and a water container nearby to douse escaped embers.
- Put your campfire dead out before leaving your campsite or going to sleep.
- Fireworks are not allowed on federal lands.

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