

Bankhead National Forest

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News 1650

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For Immediate Release

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Forest Service Temporarily Closes One Loop on the Flint Creek Multi-Use Trail

(Double Springs, Al) January 12, 2005 ---- Forest Service officials have temporarily closed Loop B on the Flint Creek Multi-Use Trail located in the Bankhead National Forest. According to Bankhead District Ranger Glen Gaines, the decision to temporarily close Loop B was because of safety concerns and to prevent severe damage to the entire trail. During December, the heavy use of Loop B after numerous days of rain caused unsafe tread conditions. Loop B, identified as a red diamond-shaped tag along the trail, will re-open after rehabilitation work takes place. The public can continue to enjoy Loop A along the trail which is marked with a white diamond-shaped tag.

“We are committed to offering safe, pleasurable, riding opportunities on the Forest while ensuring the protection of our natural resources,” said Gaines. Currently the district staff and equipment are focused on prescribed burns. Trail maintenance on Loop B will begin as soon as resources become available. **Forest Service officials are asking trail users to help decrease impacts to resource damage by doing the following:**

1. Ride only on designated trails marked with red or white diamond-shaped tags.
2. During rainy weather, all motorized and livestock trail users should avoid using trails to prevent erosion and resource damage.
3. Flint Creek Trail System is a Multi-Use Trail with 2-way traffic. Yield-right-of-way when meeting domestic riding livestock on a trail, dismount and stand to lower side of trail. When approaching other trail users from behind, call out a greeting and ask how best to proceed around them.

For more information about recreational opportunities in the Bankhead National Forest please call (205) 489-5111.