

Middle Fork of the Flathead River

Regulations

Pursuant to 36 CFR 261.58,
36 CFR 261.53 and
36 CFR 261.52



For information contact:
Hungry Horse Ranger District
(406) 387-3800
or
Spotted Bear Ranger District
(406) 758-5376

Regulations

Middle Fork	(1) Waste Disposal	(2) Campfire Allowed	(3) Camping Allowed	(4) Stay Limit	(5) Motor Boats 10 h.p.
Schafer to Bear Creek	Y	Y	Y	14	N
Castle River Site	Y	Y	Y	See Dates	N
Bear Creek River Access	N	**	Y	3	N
Essex Dispersed Site	N	R	Y	3	Y
Paola River Access	N	**	Y	3	Y
Cascadilla River Access	N	**	Y	3	Y
Mocassin River Access	N	N	Y	3	Y
West Glacier River Access	N	N	N	Day Use Only	Y
Blankenship NW	N	N	N	Day Use Only	Y
Blankenship SW	Y	R	Y	3	Y

Other dispersed sites along the river not listed above are available for overnight use. Campers in overnight dispersed sites must pack out solid human waste, a fire pan/blanket is recommended, and the camping stay limit is 14 days.

Boundaries Between Federal Agencies

Glacier National Park is on river right and Flathead National Forest is on river left, with the boundary being the average high-water line on river right. Rules and regulations are different between the Park and the Forest. If you plan to go ashore in Glacier National Park contact the park about specific regulations.

Special Regulations: No camping in the Bear Creek to Essex section; and no stopping within ¼ mile above or below the Goat Lick Viewpoint for the protection of the mountain goats in the area.

For the purpose of these regulations the corridor refers to the legislative Wild and Scenic River Boundary.

(1) WASTE DISPOSAL

Y - Solid human waste must be **self-contained** and packed out to an approved disposal site during **overnight** stays at locations without public toilet facilities.

This applies whether you are part of a traditional float party or vehicle supported party. Self-contained means, (1) using a washable, leak-proof, reusable toilet system - the contents must be disposed of at a proper waste facility such as an RV dump station, OR (2) a disposable biodegradable bag toilet system that is approved for landfill disposal. Bags must be self-contained within a leak or spill proof container until they are properly disposed of.

The system must be adequate for the size of the group and length of trip. Dumping solid human waste on National Forest System lands, or into a vault toilet is prohibited.

N - sites with public toilet facilities.

(2) CAMPFIRE ALLOWED

Y - Required metal fire pan or blanket.

R - Recommend fire pan or blanket.

Ash may be disposed of on site within the river corridor.

N - Campfires prohibited.

****** - Campfires are prohibited in the parking lots at the river access sites but they are permissible below the high water line.

(3) CAMPING ALLOWED

Y - Camping allowed.

N - Camping prohibited. If vehicle supported, contact the Hungry Horse/Glacier View Ranger District for information about motorized use in the river corridor.

(4) STAY LIMIT

Stay Limit in number of days.

Day use hours are from sunrise to sunset.

Castle River Site - One night maximum stay limit April 1 - July 31; two night maximum stay limit August 1 - October 31; fourteen day stay limit from November 1 - March 31. Stock containment is prohibited at the Castle River Campsite.

(5) MOTOR BOATS

Y - Motor boats allowed, 10 horse power or less.

N - Motor boats prohibited.

DISPERSED SITE - a site without developed facilities such as toilets or fire rings.