



## News Release

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

**Contact:** Laramie Ranger District, (307) 745-2300

### **Short-Term Sand Lake Road Closure Starts July 5**

**(LARAMIE, Wyo.) June 26, 2012** – Summer recreationists should be aware that beginning July 5 and extending for a month, the first mile of Sand Lake Road (Forest Road 101), heading north from Highway 130, will be closed for road reconstruction and paving.

Access to Sand Lake Road and Fallen Pines is available from the north, via the Arlington and Elk Mountain exits off Interstate 80. The North Fork Campground will also be closed during the road reconstruction activities.

The closure prohibits all motorized travel, including bicycles, foot traffic and horseback riding along that stretch of Sand Lake Road. A complete closure is necessary to protect public safety and to allow contractors uninterrupted time to reconstruct the road.

The Sand Lake Road accesses a popular portion of the Medicine Bow National Forest on the Laramie Ranger District (LRD), but gets very rutted and rough due to heavy traffic. The road improvement will ease access for visitors.

Dispersed camping and other Forest usage will still be available along the unaffected portion of Sand Lake Road.

The improvements to Sand Lake Road are part of a larger, long-term Snowy Range Scenic Byway plan. The plan and construction funds are part of a grant from the Wyoming Department of Transportation with gas tax receipts through the Federal Highways National Scenic Byway program. Visitors have seen activity with this project and its multiple improvements over the last year.

Other projects include a new Centennial Visitor Center, improvements to the existing Brush Creek Visitor Center, and completion of the paved trail from Lake Marie to Mirror Lake Picnic Area. Work at the Brush Creek and Centennial Visitor Centers is already well underway.

The impacted turnoff to Sand Lake Road is located on Highway 130 (Snowy Range Road), about three miles northwest of Centennial, Wyo. Signage regarding the pending closure has been posted in the area and will remain in place for the full length of the project.

The Forest Service regrets any inconvenience the temporary closure causes visitors, but hopes that the road paving will prove worth the effort.

For additional information, please contact the LRD office at 307-745-2300 or visit <http://fs.usda.gov/mbr>. For information regarding this and other Scenic Byway projects or the Corridor Management Plan, contact LRD Recreation Planner Mary Sanderson at 307-745-2363.

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