

Dispersed Camping on the GMUG National Forest

The majority of Forest lands on the GMUG are open to camping. There are restrictions on how far you can travel off of designated roads with a motorized vehicle to park while camping at dispersed locations. Please refer to the *free* Forest Service Motor vehicle Use maps ([MVUMs](#)) for each area (Gunnison, Grand Valley, Uncompahgre Plateau – Mountain and Plateau Division).

On the GMUG National Forest, motorized vehicles may travel up to 300 feet from an open forest road (refer to [MVUMs](#)) to park for the purpose of camping at a dispersed campsite.

Dispersed camping should not occur within 100 feet of water sources (rivers, streams, ponds, or wetlands) or in areas where camping is restricted to designated sites such as Gothic/Schofield Pass road (#317), Cement Creek road (#740) and Taylor River Canyon Corridor (CR 742) on the Gunnison National Forest.

The Forest Service typically provides no developed facilities (such as tables, fire grates, trash receptacles, drinking water, electricity or restrooms) for dispersed camping. Such amenities are only provided in Forest Service campground. There are no fees associated with dispersed camping.

The public is encouraged to camp in locations where others have previously camped and utilized existing routes (two-track trails) to those camp areas. Campers are required to leave a clean camp, not to damage vegetation or pollute streams and lakes on the National Forest and implement “Leave No Trace” practices.

Help us keep the water clean and healthy. Pack out all trash and use a toilet for solid human waste.

ProCycling Challenge Race - Forest Service Camping

Gunnison Ranger District (Gunnison and Crested Butte):

Allowed Camping Area: Dispersed camping is allowed along Forest Roads above Taylor Park Reservoir in Taylor Park, and in Union Park near Tincup (refer to Gunnison map). Designated roadside camping sites occur in the Gothic/Schofield Pass road (#317), and Cement Creek road (#740) on the Gunnison Ranger District.

Where prohibited: Dispersed camping is prohibited in Taylor River Canyon and at Taylor Reservoir (along CR 742 from Almont to River’s End campground).

Norwood Ranger District (Telluride):

Allowed Camping Area: A dispersed camping area is located on the south side of Highway 145, directly across from the Forest Service Lizard Head Overlook/Restroom. Camping can be accessed from the Forest Road that runs parallel to Hwy 145 and past the large corral ([Lizard Head map](#)).

Where Prohibited: During the ProCycling Challenge Race, dispersed camping will be prohibited on the north side of Lizard Head Pass ([Lizard Head Map](#)). Specifically it is prohibited: 1) on the north side of Highway 145 from the Forest Service Overlook/Restroom, west to the Cross Mountain Trailhead. This temporary camping closure will begin at 6 pm on Friday, August 17 and extend to 6 pm Monday, August 20. Camping is also prohibited at the East Fork Trailhead.

Ouray Ranger District (Montrose):

Dispersed camping is allowed on the Uncompahgre National Forest. Follow Highway 90 and/or Divide Road west of Montrose until you reach Bureau of Land Management or National Forest public land. Contact the Public Lands Information Center in Montrose (970) 240-5300 for more information, to purchase a Uncompahgre National Forest Visitor Use map, or to pick up a free copy of the Uncompahgre Valley Public Lands Camping Guide (2012 edition).