



Travel and recreate with minimum impact. Respect the environment and the rights of others. Educate yourself plan and prepare before you go. Allow for future use of the outdoors by leaving it better than you found it.

Discover the rewards of responsible recreation. For more information on Tread Lightly!, go to www.treadlightly.org or call 1-800-966-9900.

The Kootenai National Forest has cabin and lookout rentals, group day use sites and two campgrounds that offer some sites for reservations. These sites can be reserved online:

www.Recreation.gov
1-877-444-6777

For more information on rentals see: <http://www.fs.usda.gov/kootenai/>

or contact Rexford Ranger District at 406-296-2536 or Fortine Ranger District at 406-882-4451.



McGuire Mountain Lookout



This lookout was built in 1923 and actively used as an observation point for detecting forest fires for over 20 years. From this location you can see the Cabinet Mountains Wilderness, Lake Kooconusa, Purcell Mountain Range, upper Tobacco Valley, and portions of the Ten Lakes Scenic Area and high peaks of Glacier Park. Once at the trailhead, there is an easy 2.3 mile hike along the ridge to the lookout.

Mt Wam Lookout



This cabin has been used as an observation point for spotting forest fires since 1931. This lookout sits at an elevation of 7023' and is equipped with a wood stove and two twin beds.

Webb Mtn Lookout



This lookout was built in 1959 and was actively used as an observation point for detecting forest fires for over 35 years. This lookout sits approximately 10 feet off the ground, and is equipped with a woodstove, one twin size bed, 5 mattresses, table and bench.

What can I do on National Forest Land?

Brochures and information on recreation opportunities, as well as rules and regulations specific to the Kootenai National Forest are available at all Forest Service offices.

Camping Stay Limits

Camping in undeveloped or developed areas in excess of 14 days at any one campsite within any 30-day period, or leaving any equipment unattended for more than 24 hours is prohibited. Any camp relocated within a 5-mile radius shall be considered the same camp for day limit restrictions.

Campgrounds on the Kootenai National Forest will continue to be open as in previous years. Many have gates that will be closed at the end of the summer-fall recreation season, and not reopened until the next spring.

Wheeled motorized vehicle travel for camping is allowed within 300 feet of designated system routes as shown on the MVUM as long as: no new permanent routes are created; no damage to existing vegetation, soil or water resource occurs; travel off-route does not cross streams; or travel off-route does not cross riparian or wet areas.

Other Activities

Activities such as firewood gathering, mineral permits, and Christmas tree cutting are managed by a special permit system. If the permit does not specify that wheeled motor vehicles are allowed for that activity, then using a motor vehicle to carry out such activities is governed by the Motor Vehicle Use Map.

Firewood cutting is prohibited: within 100' of any running stream, pond, lake, marshy or wet area; in active timber sale units; in signed areas prohibiting it; on signed, tagged, or standing dead trees or down logs marked with paint.

BE BEAR AWARE

For your safety PLEASE keep a clean camp. Proper Storage of Food and Sanitation Required.



The safety of others depends upon you!

For Wildlife Information Visit www.lwvf.org www.bebearaware.org www.igbconline.org

FORTINE Seasonally Designated Roads

Route Numbers	Legend	Dates Allowed
14230, 14231, 14287, 315A, 315B, 315C, 3500B, 3503D, 3506, 3506A, 3507, 3507C, 3512A, 3517, 3517A, 3520A, 3520D, 3522, 3530, 3531B, 3532, 3532A, 3532E, 3532G, 3533, 3533E, 3533F, 3533G, 3534, 3536, 3536A, 3539, 3539A, 3551, 3551B, 3550, 3560, 3560D, 3560E, 3560G, 3561, 3561A, 3561C, 3562B, 3566A, 3570, 3568B, 3568, 3568A, 3569, 3569D, 3548, 3568E, 3569, 3702, 3707, 3708, 3708A, 3708B, 3708E, 3709, 3710A, 3710B, 3710C, 3710E, 3711, 3712, 3712A, 3712B, 3713, 3713A, 3714, 3714B, 3714C, 3717, 3717A, 3723, 3723A, 3730, 3732, 3732B, 3732C, 3733A, 3733B, 3733C, 3734, 3734A, 3734C, 3735, 3735A, 3735B, 3736, 3736A, 3737, 3738, 3740, 3755, 3756, 3756A, 3701B, 3701F, 3702, 3702A, 4424R, 4424T, 494B, 7066, 7068A, 7147A, 7028A, 855E	Roads open to highway legal vehicles only, with Seasonal Designation	12/01 - 09/30
15815, 3615B, 3718, 3718A, 3719, 3719A, 3782, 3782A, 3782B, 3789, 3789A, 3789B, 7006, 7006A, 7066A, 7069, 7069E, 7069G, 7069H, 7087, 7097B, 7097C, 871, 871A	Roads open to highway legal vehicles only, with Seasonal Designation	07/01 - 10/14
3525, 3525A, 3525B, 3722, 3722A, 3725, 3725A, 3728, 3728A, 3729, 3729B, 3732, 3732D, 3733, 3770, 3772, 3780, 3781, 4437, 4437A, 7066, 865	Roads open to highway legal vehicles only, with Seasonal Designation	12/01 - 10/14
3701	Roads open to highway legal vehicles only, with Seasonal Designation	09/02 - 11/30
3770, 3770A, 3771	Roads open to highway legal vehicles only, with Seasonal Designation	05/01 - 10/14
3783	Roads open to highway legal vehicles only, with Seasonal Designation	05/01 - 11/30
3786, 3786A, 7077, 7077A, 7120	Roads open to highway legal vehicles only, with Seasonal Designation	07/01 - 11/30
3788A	Roads open to highway legal vehicles only, with Seasonal Designation	06/01 - 09/31

Help Prevent Wildfires



Smokey Says:

NEVER leave your CAMPFIRE UNATTENDED. Make sure your CAMPFIRE is DEAD OUT before leaving it.

Please remember a SHOVEL and BUCKET are REQUIRED when using a CAMPFIRE.

Food Storage and Sanitation

Your safety is important

Proper food storage will help keep you and other forest visitors safe by avoiding encounters with animals and preventing animals from being attracted to campgrounds, trailheads, picnic sites and other areas frequented by people.

All food and other items that might attract animals should be stored where animals can't access them at night and during the daytime when they are unattended. To be attended a person must be physically present within 100 feet and in direct sight of the food or carcass.

These items must be properly stored

Human food, (including canned food, soft drinks and alcoholic beverages), harvested game animals and parts, pet food, processed livestock feed and grains and personal hygiene items such as soap, toothpaste and deodorants. This also includes garbage and empty food and beverage containers.

Proper storage methods

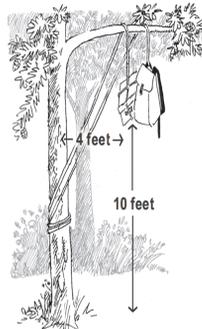
Proper storage methods include placing food and other items in bear resistant containers or hard-sided vehicles or suspending them at least 10 feet above the ground and 4 feet from any vertical support.

Bear resistant containers

Bear resistant containers include the heavy metal boxes placed in campgrounds and other approved containers such as bear resistant horse panniers and backpackers' containers that are certified through the Interagency Grizzly Bear Committee Courtesy Inspection Program. <http://www.igbconline.org/>

NOTE: Plastic or metal food coolers, backpacks and leather or canvas horse panniers are NOT bear resistant.

For more information <http://www.igbconline.org/html/safety.html>



Debris Burning Information

State of Montana Burning Permits and Airshed Restrictions

Always Check Air Quality Before You Burn

Month	Burning Permit Information	Air Quality Information
January-February	Burning Season Closed No Debris Burning Allowed	Airshed Closed No Debris Burning Allowed
March- April	Burning Permit NOT Required	Log onto www.smokemu.org Check Airshed 1 (AS1).
May - September	Burning Permit Required	May - August Log onto www.smokemu.org Check Airshed 1 (AS1). September call 1-800-225-6779 Listen for Airshed 1.
October -November	Burning Permit NOT Required	Call 1-800-225-6779 Listen for Airshed 1.
December	Burning Season Closed No Debris Burning Allowed	Airshed Closed No Debris Burning Allowed

To Obtain a State of Montana Burning Permit Please Call:
Rexford Ranger District 406-296-2536
Fortine Ranger District 406-882-4451

From March 1 through August 31 debris burners are responsible for determining favorable air quality conditions if they conduct a debris burn. From March 1 through August 31 please use the www.smokemu.org website to help determine favorable air quality conditions. From September 1 through November 30 please call the Airshed Hotline at 1-800-225-6779 before burning.

Areas Open To Cross Country Travel

Travel Management Areas

Area Name	Vehicles Allowed	Season of Use
*Lake Kooconusa Drawdown Area on the Rexford Ranger District	All Motor Vehicles including both Highway legal and non Highway legal vehicles	01/01 - 12/31
Douglas Hill OHV Area South Loop	All Motor Vehicles including both Highway legal and non Highway legal vehicles	01/01 - 12/31
Douglas Hill OHV Area Central Loop	All Motor Vehicles including both Highway legal and non Highway legal vehicles	01/01 - 12/31
*Area below the high water mark with the exception of areas signed on the ground for resource protection. Lake Kooconusa drawdown on the Rexford Ranger District is not displayed on this map due to variability of available area as result of fluctuating lake levels.		

REXFORD Seasonally Designated Roads

Route Numbers	Legend	Dates Allowed
3648	Roads open to highway legal vehicles only, with Seasonal Designation	12/01 - 08/30
14052, 7236, 7236A, 7239, 7239A, 7976	Roads open to highway legal vehicles only, with Seasonal Designation	07/01 - 10/14
7301	Roads open to highway legal vehicles only, with Seasonal Designation	12/01 - 10/14
7178, 7186, 7186B, 852, 852A	Roads open to highway legal vehicles only, with Seasonal Designation	05/01 - 11/30
7223,7224	Roads open to highway legal vehicles only, with Seasonal Designation	07/01 - 11/30
7179F, 7185, 7185D	Roads open to highway legal vehicles only, with Seasonal Designation	06/01 - 08/31



The TIP-MONT (Turn in Poachers Montana) program was established in 1985 to protect Montana's fish, wildlife, parks, and forest resources. This program gives you an opportunity to help protect these resources. If the information you provide leads to an arrest, you could be eligible for a cash reward up to \$1,000.

Resource violations are serious crimes and you can help stop them. Violators, such as poachers and vandals deplete the fish and wildlife populations and destroy precious, natural habitat. Anyone can help Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks by using our toll-free number: (800) TIP-MONT (800-847-6668).

Other useful numbers:

Game Warden 406-250-1872
Montana FW&P Kalispell 406-752-5501
MT Highway Patrol 1-800-525-5555
Report a Fire 911
Montana Road Information 511

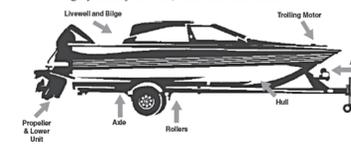
Please don't Spread Invasive Aquatic Weeds!

You may be helping the enemy...

Purple loosestrife, Eurasian watermilfoil and yellow flag iris are three invasive species that may be unknowingly transporting from one place to another. These harmful species can cling to boats, motors, waders, fishing equipment, and watercraft. Anything that touches the water has the potential to pick up these unwanted travelers.

Clean your gear to prevent their spread:

- Wash all equipment and gear, use hot water if you can. Allow it to dry out.
- Drain your live well, transom, bilge and areas that might contain contaminated water.
- Thoroughly clean your boat, water craft and trailer.



TO REPORT INVASIVE SPECIES CALL:

Lincoln County Weed District 406-293-7781 ext 260
or
Rexford Ranger District 406-296-2536 or
Fortine Ranger District 406-882-4451

Why Are Noxious Weeds a Problem?

Noxious weeds degrade the environment and wildlife habitat by reducing native forage, and other native plants. They also can increase soil erosion, and lower water quality. Although many weeds are pretty, their negative effects on the environment and the economy are substantial. Because most noxious weeds have come from other countries, there are few, if any natural controls to keep weed populations from taking over once they get established.

What can you do to reduce the spread of weeds?

- 1) Keep your vehicle and recreation gear clean of weeds and seeds.
- 2) Don't drive through or park in weed patches. Weeds or their seeds can get caught in the undercarriage, grill, bumper or tires and transported to new locations.
- 3) Don't take vehicles behind locked gates, or off-road (this is illegal, too).
- 4) Use weed seed free feed for your stock.
- 5) Don't pick weed seeds off your clothes or pets and throw them on the ground. Dispose of them properly.
- 6) Don't pick weed "bouquets" and take them home or to your campsite.

Your help is appreciated!

For more information contact: Rexford District at (406) 296-2536 or Fortine District at (406) 882-4451.

WHAT IS EURASIAN WATERMILFOIL?

Eurasian watermilfoil (*Myriophyllum spicatum*) is an extremely aggressive non-native aquatic weed once sold in this country as an aquarium plant. Its dense weed beds grow rapidly, choke native plants and spread easily to new areas. Watermilfoil currently flourishes in Idaho, Washington and British Columbia. It is a serious threat to our rivers and lakes.

Watermilfoil was accidentally introduced to North America from Europe. Its introduction westward into inland lakes and streams is primarily attributed to boats, with some spreading caused by water birds.

Watermilfoil rapidly forms thick mats that severely hamper swimming, boating, and fishing. On some stretches of the Pend Oreille River in Washington, navigation and recreation have become virtually impossible. Watermilfoil has also caused drownings by tangling swimmers in the thick beds.

Watermilfoil alters rivers and lakes by reducing natural plant diversity, thus harming fish and wildlife habitat. Watermilfoil also invades fish spawning beds, clogs irrigation intake pipes, and hinders power generation.

In nutrient-rich lakes, it can form thick underwater stands of tangled stems and vast mats of vegetation at the water's surface. By midsummer it forms a "mat" so dense it restricts swimming, boating and fishing.

HOW DOES WATERMILFOIL GET STARTED?

Watermilfoil reproduces by a process called "fragmentation." Milfoil plants easily break into small pieces and each piece can form roots. A single wisp can multiply into 250 million new plants in one year. Milfoil is readily spread between lakes and rivers by boaters carrying plant fragments on their boats and trailers.

How to identify eurasian milfoil.

Flower spikes from above water's surface.

The upper portion of the plant often develops a reddish color.

Stems often branch several times near the surface forming a dense mat.

Leaves are arranged in whorls of 4 around the stem. Each leaf is divided into 12-24 paired leaflets.

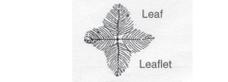
Leaf
Leaflet

Control methods:

Aside from herbicide treatments, other methods are successful, including handweeding, handpulling (by 50 cent fragments), rolling (underwater tillage), installation of bottom barriers, and diver harvesting or pulling.

A key factor in the plant's success is its ability to reproduce through stem fragmentation and underground runners. A single segment of stem and leaves can take root and form a new colony. Fragments clinging to boats and trailers can spread the plant from lake to lake. Mechanical clearing of weed beds for beaches, docks, and landings creates thousands of new stem fragments that can drift with the wind and current. Removing native vegetation creates perfect habitat for invading Eurasian watermilfoil.

HOW TO DISTINGUISH EURASIAN WATERMILFOIL FROM NATIVE WATERMILFOIL.



Each milfoil leaf is made up of pairs of small leaflets. A Eurasian watermilfoil leaf has 12 to 24 pairs of leaflets; a native leaf has only 6 to 9 pairs. The upper portion of the Eurasian watermilfoil plant often develops a reddish color. Eurasian watermilfoil has a finer, more feathery appearance.

WHAT CAN BE DONE ABOUT IT?

PREVENTION: Spread the word, not the weed. Pick off every fragment you find on your boat or trailer (put them in a garbage can). If you see Eurasian watermilfoil on someone else's boat or trailer, help them clean off the pieces. Remember...a lake can become infested by just one fragment.

OTHER CONTROL METHODS: Other control methods include mechanical harvesting or rotation, hand pulling, bottom screening (using screens to block light from plants), and herbicide application. All of these methods have benefits and impacts, and can effectively manage populations of Eurasian watermilfoil. But management of this species is expensive, and eradication of this species once established is very unlikely. Prevention is the cheapest and most effective way to manage watermilfoil.

ERADICATION AFTER INTRODUCTION IS VIRTUALLY IMPOSSIBLE!

MILFOIL MAKES GREAT COMPOST

Because milfoil is high in nutrients such as nitrogen, phosphorus and calcium it makes good composting material. If milfoil is dried for 3 to 4 days, it can be mulched directly into the soil. TAKE CARE...even dried, milfoil will regenerate if re-introduced to water.

Web sites:
www.fish.washington.edu/naturemapping/water
<http://invader.dls.sdm.edu>