



United States Department of Agriculture

Medicine Bow-Routt National Forests &
Thunder Basin National Grassland
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News Release

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Medicine Bow-Routt National Forests and Thunder Basin National Grassland to begin reopening developed recreation sites after May 31

(LARAMIE, Wyo.) May 29, 2020 – The Medicine Bow-Routt National Forests and Thunder Basin National Grassland (MBRTB) will begin opening some developed recreation sites after May 31 when a Forest closure order expires. Call your [local USDA Forest Service office](#) for up-to-date and site-specific information. Recreation site information may be found on our [website](#) or you can follow the MBRTB on Twitter, [@FS_MBRTB](#).

The Forest Service is reopening its sites in a phased approach to remain responsive to local conditions. The agency is committed to maximizing public access on the national forests and grasslands while ensuring visitors and employees stay safe.

“Multiple factors will determine when and if we can open our developed recreation sites,” said Forest Supervisor Russ Bacon. “We will prioritize our efforts at high-use sites with these things in mind: on-the-ground conditions, local coordination, availability of personal protective equipment and cleaning supplies for employees, staffing resources, and maintenance needs.

“While we understand there is excitement to utilize these recreation sites, we also must balance our work with local and state governments in ways that allow us to adhere to our core value of safety,” continued Bacon. “Sites on the Medicine Bow-Routt and Thunder Basin will reopen just as soon as is safely possible.”

Visitors are asked to stay as local as possible when choosing a site to visit and to pack out everything they bring, especially trash. Visitors are also urged to take the precautions recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) along with local health and safety guidance. For tips from the CDC on preventing illnesses like the coronavirus, go to: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/about/prevention.html>.

Responsible recreation will help expand access to facilities, services and other opportunities. Certain services may still be unavailable, so visitors are asked to plan accordingly and to remain flexible.

Additional information for the Medicine Bow-Routt National Forests and Thunder Basin National Grassland is available online at <https://www.fs.usda.gov/mbr>.

Our offices are serving the public remotely and are available by phone.

- Brush Creek-Hayden Ranger District, Saratoga, Wyo., (307) 326-5258
- Douglas Ranger District, Douglas, Wyo., (307) 358-4690
- Hahns Peak-Bears Ears Ranger District, Steamboat Springs, Colo., (970) 870-2299
- Forest Supervisor’s Office & Laramie Ranger District, Laramie, Wyo., (307) 745-2300
- Parks Ranger District, Walden, Colo., (970) 723-2700
- Yampa Ranger District, Yampa, Colo., (970) 638-4516

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