

**United States Department of Agriculture
Forest Service
Northern Region—Gallatin National Forest**

OCCUPANCY AND USE RESTRICTIONS

For the purpose of minimizing adverse interactions between humans, bears and other wildlife and pursuant to Title 36 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), 261.50 (a) and (b), the following uses are restricted on the Gallatin National Forest (Exhibit B) and hereby made part of this Order. Also attached, and hereby made part of this Order, are Definitions (Exhibit A) of terms used in support of the restrictions. This Order is effective **March 1 through December 1**, annually, until rescinded.

1. Possessing or storing any food, refuse or other attractant, as specified in the Order (36 CFR 261.58 (cc)).
2. Possessing, storing, or transporting any bird, fish, or other animal, or parts thereof, as specified in the Order (36 CFR 261.58 (s)).
3. Camping as specified in the Order (36 CFR 261.58 (e)).

UNDER THIS ORDER IT IS REQUIRED THAT

1. All food, refuse or other attractants must be acceptably stored or acceptably possessed during daytime hours.
2. All food, refuse or other attractants must be acceptably stored during nighttime hours, unless it is being prepared for eating, being eaten, being transported, or being prepared for acceptable storage.
3. Any harvested animal carcass must be acceptably stored, unless the carcass is being field dressed, transported, being prepared for eating, or being prepared for acceptable storage.
4. Camping or sleeping areas must be established at least ½ mile from a known animal carcass (on the ground) or at least 100 yards from an acceptably stored animal carcass.
5. The responsible party shall report the death and location of livestock to a Forest Service official within 24 hours of discovery. Any Forest user finding dead livestock should contact the Forest Service.
6. Burnable attractants that cannot be completely consumed by fire (i.e., no post burning residue) must be packed out.

EXEMPTIONS

Pursuant to 36 CFR 261.50 (e) the following persons are exempt from this Order:

1. Persons with a permit issued by the Forest Supervisor specifically exempting them from this Order.

Occupancy and Use Order # 07-11-00-01

2. Any Federal or State officer placing baits to capture animals for research or management purposes as part of their official duties.

These restrictions are in addition to the general prohibitions in 36 CFR Part 261, Subpart A. This Order supersedes any previous Order prohibiting or restricting the same, or similar, acts in the above-described areas.

Done this day 27 of March, 2007.

/s/ **Rebecca Lockett
Heath**

REBECCA LOCKETT HEATH

Forest Supervisor

Gallatin National Forest

Any violation of these prohibitions is punishable by a fine of not more than \$5,000.00 for an individual or \$10,000.00 for an organization, and/or imprisonment for not more than six (6) months, or both (Title 16 USC 551, Title 18 USC 3571 (b)(6), Title 18 USC 3581 (b)(7)).

A copy of this order shall be posted as prescribed under 36 CFR 261.51.

Exhibit A
Special Order—Food Storage and Sanitation
Definitions

1. "Food, refuse and other attractants" means any substance, solid or liquid or refuse (excluding water, baled hay, or hay cubes without additives), which is or may be eaten or otherwise taken into the body to sustain health or life, provide energy, or promote growth of any person or animal. Also includes items such as soft drinks, alcoholic beverages, canned foods, pet foods, processed livestock feed and grains, personal hygiene products, and empty food and beverage containers.
2. "Animal carcass" means the dead body or parts thereof, of any harvested mammal, bird, or fish, including the head or skull plate with antlers or horns and hide or cape of big game animals and any domestic livestock that may be found in the restricted area. Packaged or prepared animal carcass products transported into the restricted area for consumption, game birds, small mammals, or fish harvested for consumption in the restricted area are considered food under the previous definition.
3. "Burnable attractants" include items such as food leftovers, waste products, food grease or residue, food saturated containers or other substances that will not be completely consumed by fire. To be completely consumed, there must be no residual attractant on the surface or in the soil. These items shall not be buried, discarded or burned in an open campfire, unless placed in a suitable container (i.e. tin can or fire pan) to prevent leaching into the ground, and burned over an open campfire. Any remaining attractants unconsumed by burning shall be placed with other garbage, acceptably stored and packed out.
4. "Acceptably stored" means:
 - a. Stored in bear-resistant container certified through the Interagency Grizzly Bear Committee Courtesy Inspection Program.
 - b. Stored in a closed vehicle where the storage compartment is constructed of solid, non-pliable material that, when secured, will have no openings, hinges, lids, or coverings that would allow a bear to gain entry by breaking, bending, tearing, biting, or pulling with its claws (any windows in the vehicle must be closed), or
 - c. Suspended at least 10 feet clear of the ground at all points and 4 feet horizontally from any supporting tree or pole, or
 - d. Stored within a hard-sided residence, building, or storage container subject to the terms and conditions of a special-use authorization or operating plan, or
 - e. Stored by other methods approved in a permit issued by the Forest Supervisor responsible for the area where the method is proposed for use.
 - f. Animal carcasses must be acceptably stored (a. through e. above) when located 100 yards to ½ mile of a camping or sleeping area or within 200 yards of a National Forest System Trail. Animal carcasses are not considered acceptably stored when within 100 yards of a camping or sleeping area or a National Forest System Trail. Animal carcasses more than ½ mile from a camping area and more than 200 yards from a National Forest System Trail may be left on the ground (Exhibit C).

Occupancy and Use Order # 07-11-00-01

- g. Animal carcasses killed or harvested (and parts thereof) within ½ mile of any established camping area or sleeping area must be acceptably stored, possessed, or moved to a distance beyond ½ mile from any such camp or sleeping area by the party(-ies) responsible for killing or harvesting such mammal.
- 5. "Acceptably possessed" means:
 - a. Possessed or attended during daytime by a person(s) that is physically present within 100 feet and direct sight of the accessible food, refuse or attractant or
 - b. Possessed or attended by such a person(s) for the purpose of field dressing lawfully taken animal carcasses, transporting any food or animal carcass, preparing any animal carcass or food for eating, or eating any food.
- 6. "Camping/sleeping area" means National Forest System Lands temporarily used for the purpose of overnight occupancy without a permanently fixed structure or lands temporarily occupied by unattended camping equipment.
- 7. "Daytime" means ½ hour before sunrise to ½ hour after sunset, Mountain Time.
- 8. "Night time" means ½ hour after sunset to ½ hour before sunrise, Mountain Time.
- 9. "National Forest System Trail" means a trail wholly or partly within, or adjacent to, and serving a part of the National Forest System and which has been included in a forest recreation map.

Exhibit B

**Special Order—Food Storage and Sanitation
Area of Application**

Exhibit B may be found at the following location:

http://www.fs.fed.us/r1/gallatin/resources/wildlife-birds/food_storage/Final_Exhibit_B_Map_for_FSO.doc

Exhibit C

Special Order—Food Storage and Sanitation

Proper Food Storage

Exhibit C may be found at the following location:

http://www.fs.fed.us/r1/gallatin/resources/wildlife-birds/food_storage/FSO_poster.jpg



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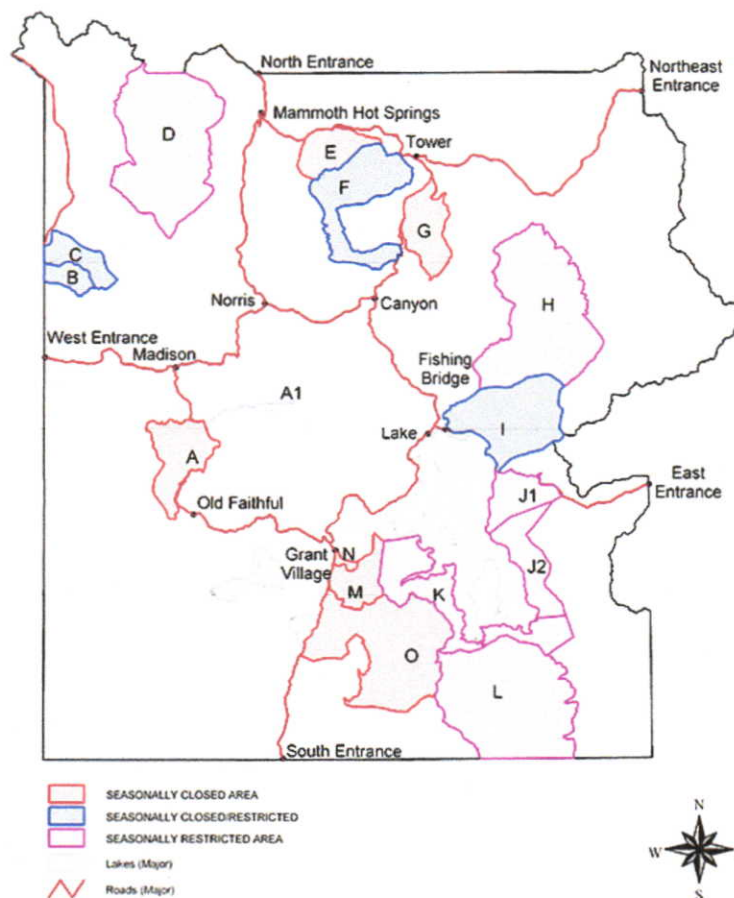
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Bear Management Areas

The purpose of bear management areas is to reduce human impacts on bears in high-density grizzly bear habitat. Eliminating human entry disturbance in specific areas prevents human/bear conflicts and provides areas where bears can pursue natural behavioral patterns and other social activities free from human disturbance. Types of restrictions include: area closures, trail closures, a minimum party size of four or more people, and travel limited to daylight hours or to established trails.

This [Bear Management Map](#) is also available in a pdf format and can viewed and printed using [Adobe Acrobat Reader](#), available free online. (1.6 MB pdf)



Yellowstone National Park

Yellowstone National Park



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Yellowstone National Park is a large area of land in the western United States. It is the first and largest national park in the world. The park is located in the state of Wyoming and is home to many different types of animals, including bison, elk, and moose. The park is also home to many different types of plants, including trees and shrubs. The park is a very beautiful place and is a great place to visit.

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A. Firehole (803 Kb pdf): Area (includes Firehole Freight Road and Firehole Lake Drive) is closed March 10 through the Friday of Memorial Day weekend. The **Mary Mountain Trail (A1)** (708 Kb pdf), from the Nez Perce trailhead to Mary Lake, is closed March 10 through June 15. Through travel from the Canyon trailhead is not allowed, however, travel is allowed from the Canyon trailhead to Mary Lake and back. Streamside use is allowed from the point where Nez Perce Creek crosses the main road to a point one mile upstream along Nez Perce Creek.

B. Richard's Pond (443 Kb pdf): Area is closed March 10 through the Friday of Memorial Day weekend. From the Saturday of Memorial Day weekend through September 30, Duck Creek, from the park boundary upstream to the Campanula Creek/Richard's Creek fork, is open to streamside travel. The area upstream from Campanula Creek/Richard's Creek fork is closed from March 10 through September 30.

C. Gneiss Creek (629 Kb pdf): Area is closed March 10 through June 30. From July 1 through November 10, travel is allowed only on designated trails (off-trail travel is prohibited).

D. Gallatin (1.4 Mb pdf): From May 1 through November 10, travel is allowed only on designated trails (off-trail travel is prohibited). A minimum group size of four or more is recommended for hiking and camping.

E. Blacktail (854 Kb pdf): Area is closed March 10 through June 30.

F. Washburn (1 Mb pdf): Area is closed August 1 through November 10. From March 10 through July 31, the area is open by special permit only. Contact the Tower Ranger Station for permit information.

G. Antelope (1.1 MB pdf): Area is closed March 10 through November 10. The Dunraven Road and related turnouts are open. From May 25 through November 10, foot travel is allowed on the old Road Trail from Tower Falls campground to the Buffalo Picnic Area.

H. Mirror Plateau (1.2 MB Kb pdf): From May 15 through November 10, the area is open to day use only with the exception that from July 1 through August 14 overnight camping is permitted for a combined total of 14 nights per summer at the 301 and 5P7 campsites.

I. Pelican Valley (1 MB pdf): Area is closed April 1 through July 3. From July 4 through November 10 the area is open to day use only between the hours of 9 a.m. and 7 p.m.

J1. Clear Creek (1.1 MB pdf): Area J1 - From April 1 through August 10, travel is only allowed on the east shore from Nine-mile trailhead to Park Point. All other trails are closed and off-trail travel is prohibited. Campsite 5H1 is open (no travel from site). On August 11, all the campsites are open and off-trail travel is permitted.

J2 (952 MB pdf) - From April 1 through July 14, travel is only allowed on the east shore trail from Park Point to Beaverdam Creek. All other trails are closed and off-trail travel is prohibited. Open campsites are 5E2, 5E3, 5E4, and 5E6 (no travel away from campsite). All other campsites are closed. On July 15, all campsites open and off-trail travel is permitted.

K. Lake Spawn (1.6 MB pdf): From May 15 through July 14, no off-trail travel allowed and the trail between Cabin Creek and Outlet Creek is closed. Open campsites are 7L5, 7L6, 7L8, 7L7, 7M3, 7M4, 7M5, 6A3, 6A4 and 6B1 (no travel away from campsite). Only July 15 all campsites open and off-trail travel is permitted.

L. Two Ocean (1.2 MB pdf): From March 10 through July 14 and August 22 through November 10, travel is allowed only on designated trails (off-trail travel is prohibited). From July 15 through August 21, a permit is required for persons wishing to travel away from designated trails. Contact the South Entrance ranger Station for permit information.

M. Riddle/Solution (507 Kb pdf): Area is closed April 30 through July 14.

N. Grant Village (498 Kb pdf): The Grant Campground will not open prior to June 20, Actual opening dates may vary annually and are available in the park newspaper and [website](#). If bears are still frequenting the spawning streams after opening, the campground loops adjacent to the streams will remain closed until bear activity ceases. Campground closure dates are determined annually and can also be located in the park newspaper or [website](#).

O. Heart Lake (1.2 MB pdf): Area is closed April 1 through June 30.

Changing seasons ushers in new life throughout the forest

By CAVAN FITZSIMMONS | Posted: Friday, March 16, 2012 9:00 am

With all the new snow on the ground, it's hard to believe that spring is just around the corner, but, here on the forest, we're already starting to think about the turn of the season and what that means for wildlife.

Although female grizzlies are still snug in their dens and potentially nursing a cub or two (or three) at this point in the season, some male grizzlies may be stirring in their sleep. Believe it or not, male grizzlies in the Yellowstone area have been shown to emerge from their dens as early as the first week in February. For this reason, March 1 marks the beginning of the Gallatin National Forest food storage order season, which is effective through Dec. 1, each year.

The food storage order is designed to protect grizzly bears and humans by reducing the likelihood that bears will associate people with the reward of food. By minimizing encounters between bears and humans, there is the obvious decrease in the risk of injury to people, but there is just as much to gain for grizzly bears. Efforts such as the food storage order keep bears wild and dependent on their natural food sources that include berries, moths, trout, and big game. Bears that learn to associate humans with food are likely to end up being labeled as nuisance bears, and, when their risk to human safety becomes too great, they may ultimately be removed from the population.

Although we refer to the order as a "food storage" order, it applies to much more than just food. The order applies to any items that may attract bears, which can include garbage, toothpaste, deodorant, bird seed, compost, dog food or any item that has an odor that could be perceived as enticing to a bear. It even applies to canned food or food stored in coolers that may seem innocuous to the human nose, but that may still present a tempting treat to a grizzly, whose sensitive sniffer is thousands of times more powerful than that of the human.

All of these items, which the GNF refers to as attractants, must be acceptably stored or possessed while visiting the national forest and packed out of the forest, minimizing the likelihood of arousing the curiosity of a grizzly bear.

To view explicit requirements for separation between camping and sleeping areas, storage of animal carcasses and reporting livestock deaths in Gallatin National Forest, please contact the Hebgen Lake Ranger District at (406) 823-6961.

With the approach of spring, new community activities also abound on the Forest. The month of March hosts USBA Biathlon National Championships and Adaptive Biathlon National

Championships March 13 through March 18, 2012 at the Rendezvous Ski Trails and Biathlon Range, in part with the Yellowstone Ski Education Foundation and United States Biathlon Association.

The Equinox Ski Challenge will also be hosted at the Rendezvous Ski Trails on March 24.

Finally, the World Snowmobile EXPO will be taking place from March 16 through March 18, 2012. This event will take place at the old airport and spectators can catch a bird's eye view from snow bleachers of the MWR Sno-Cross, WSSRA snow drags, the WSSRA Radar Run and vintage snowmobiles, just to name a few.

Hebgen Lake Ranger District is actively involved in each of these events and invests a considerable amount of time and energy with our partners in making the events a community success.

As a reminder, if you are planning any event that may involve National Forest System lands please come in early and often to see if the event is compatible with our rules and regulations.

(Cavan Fitzsimmons is the Hebgen Lake District Ranger.)



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Grizzly Bears Leaving Yellowstone Dens

Date: March 19, 2012

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National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Yellowstone National Park
P.O. Box 168
Yellowstone National Park, WY 82190

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Al Nash or Dan Hottle
(307) 344-2015
YELL_Public_Affairs@nps.gov

YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK NEWS RELEASE

Grizzly Bears Leaving Yellowstone Dens

Bears are emerging from hibernation in the Greater Yellowstone Area, so hikers, skiers and snowshoers are advised to stay in groups of three or more, make noise on the trail and carry bear spray.

On March 12, Yellowstone National Park employees observed a grizzly bear in the north central portion of the park. Fresh tracks were also spotted during the same time frame in the Old Faithful area. There have also been several reports of grizzly bear activity in the Shoshone National Forest east of the park's boundary during the previous week.

Bears begin looking for food soon after they emerge from their dens. They are attracted to elk and bison that have died during the winter. Carcasses are an important enough food source that bears will sometimes react aggressively when surprised while feeding on them.

Updated bear safety information is available on the Yellowstone bear safety Web page at <http://www.nps.gov/yell/planyourvisit/bearenc.htm> and in the park newspaper, which is distributed at all park entrances. Yellowstone also recently produced a new video on the proper use of bear spray, which will soon be available to view on the park Web site, and interpretive park rangers will be conducting bear spray demonstrations at scheduled times throughout the park this summer season. The park also implements seasonal bear management areas closures to reduce encounters between bears and humans in areas where elk and bison carcasses are in high density. A listing of these closures can be found at <http://www.nps.gov/yell/parkmgmt/bearclosures.htm>.

Yellowstone regulations require visitors to stay 100 yards from black and grizzly bears at all times. The best defense is to stay a safe distance from bears and use binoculars, a telescope or telephoto lens to get a closer look. All visitors traveling out of developed areas should stay in groups of three or more, make noise on the trail, keep an eye out for bears and carry bear spray. Bear spray has proven to be a good last line of defense, if kept handy and used according to directions when a bear is approaching within 30 to 40 feet.

While firearms are allowed in the park, the discharge of a firearm is a violation of park regulations. Even the park's law enforcement rangers who carry firearms on duty rely on bear spray, rather than their weapons, as the most effective means to deal with a bear encounter.

Visitors are also reminded to keep food, garbage, barbecue grills and other attractants stored in hard-sided vehicles or bear-proof food storage boxes. This helps keep bears from becoming conditioned to human foods, and helps keep park visitors and their property safe.

Bear sightings should be reported to the nearest visitor center or ranger station as soon as possible.

- www.nps.gov/yell -

Twitter: @YellowstoneNPS

RSS Feed: <http://www.nps.gov/feeds/getNewsRSS.htm?id=yell>

EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA (tm)

The National Park Service cares for special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage.

Did You Know?



There are more people hurt by bison than by bears each year in Yellowstone. Park regulations state that visitors must stay at least 25 yards away from bison or elk and 100 yards away from bears.

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Last Updated: 04/27/2012

Grizzly Bears are starting to leave dens in Yellowstone

Posted: Friday, March 23, 2012 8:00 am

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