

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
UNITED STATES FOREST SERVICE  
BITTERROOT NATIONAL FOREST  
DARBY RANGER DISTRICT**

1801 N. Main Street  
Hamilton, MT 59804  
Supervisor's Order

***TRAIL RIDGE FIRE EXPANDED AREA CLOSURE***

Pursuant to 16 U.S.C. § 551 and 36 CFR 261.50 (a) and (b), the following acts are prohibited on the National Forest System (NFS) lands, roads, and trails on and within the Darby-Sula Ranger District on the Bitterroot National Forest, Ravalli County, Montana described below and shown on the attached map incorporated into this Order as Exhibit A (the "Described Area" and "Described Trails"):

**PROHIBITION**

1. Being on the Described Trails, 36 C.F.R. § 261.55(a).
2. Going into or being upon the Described area 36 C.F.R. § 261.52(e).

**EXEMPTIONS**

Pursuant to Title 36 C.F.R § 261.50(e), the following persons are exempt from this Order:

1. Persons with a special use authorization or other Forest Service authorization specifically exempting them from the effect of this Order. 36 CFR § 261.50(e)(1).
2. Any Federal, State, or local officer or member of an organized rescue or fire fighting force in performance of an official duty. 36 CFR § 261.50(e)(4)

**DESCRIBED AREA, ROADS, AND TRAILS**

Described Area: All National Forest Service Lands on the Darby-Sula Ranger District of the Bitterroot National Forest in the area boundary starting at the intersection of US Highway 93 and Montana Secondary Highway 472 "East Fork Rd". Then heading east along the "East Fork Rd" to the intersection with FS Rd 724, then heading south along FS Rd 724 to East Fork Trailhead of Trail #433, then east along Trail #433 to Forest Trail #198, then south along Trail #198 to the intersection with the Bitterroot National Forest and the Beaverhead Deerlodge National Forest Boundary, then west and south along the Forest boundary to the intersection with US Highway 93, then north along US Highway 93 back to the intersection with Montana Secondary Highway 472 "East Fork Rd".

*This includes all roads and trails within the defined area including portions of the Continental Divide National Scenic Trail (CDNST), the East Fork Trail #433 and the Buck Creek Trail #198.*

*The East Fork Guard Station rental will remain open for current reservation holders and administrative purposes only and is subject to change.*

**PURPOSE**

The purpose of this order is for public health and safety from the effects of the Trail Ridge Fire.

**VIOLATION**

Violation of these provisions is punishable by a fine of not more than \$5,000 for an individual or \$10,000 for an organization, or imprisonment for not more than six (6) months, or both (16 U.S.C. § 551 and 18 U.S.C. § 3559, 3571, and 3581).

**IMPLEMENTATION**

1. This order will be in effect September 9, 2022, and will remain in effect, until fire conditions subside, and this order is rescinded no later than Saturday, December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2022, at 11:59 pm.
2. A map identifying the Closed Area is attached and made part of this Order.
3. Further information regarding this Order may be obtained at the National Forest Supervisor's Office in Hamilton, MT, telephone number (406) 363-7100.

Done at Darby, Montana this 8th day of September 2022.

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MATTHEW D. ANDERSON  
Forest Supervisor