

U.S. Department of Agriculture, U.S. Forest Service Kootenai National Forest Fortine Ranger District

Road Closures

PROHIBITIONS

Pursuant to 16 U.S.C. § 551 and 36 C.F.R. § 261.50(b), the following is prohibited on the National Forest System (NFS) roads in the Fortine Ranger District, Kootenai National Forest, described below and shown on the attached map incorporated into this Order as Exhibit A:

1. It is prohibited to be upon any road which is closed for the protection of: Public health or safety. 36 C.F.R. § 261.53(e).]

EXEMPTIONS

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

- 1. Persons with Forest Service Permit No. FS-7700-48 (Permit for Use of Roads, Trails, or Areas Restricted by Regulation or Order), specifically exempting them from this Order or a written determination by a Forest Service authorized officer that a permit is not required under 36 C.F.R. § 251.50(e)(1) or (2).
- 2. Any Federal, State, or Local Officer, or member of an organized rescue or firefighting resource in the performance of an official duty.

DESCRIBED ROADS

As depicted on the map attached as Exhibit A and here by incorporated into this Order, National Forest System Road #315 (Sunday Creek Road) is closed just EAST of its junction with National Forest System Road #3729 (Tom Creek Road) proceeding SOUTHWEST to WEST to its junction with National Forest System Road #36 (Fortine Cr./Wolf Cr. Road).

National Forest System Road #3729 (Tom Creek Road) is closed at its junction with National Forest System Road #315 (Sunday Creek Road) proceeding NORTH to its junction with National Forest System Road #3732 (Sunday Mountain Road).

National Forest System Road #3710 (West Advent Road) is closed at its junction with National Forest System Road #315 (Sunday Creek Road) proceeding SOUTH to mile post 5.18 at the Kootenai National Forest and Flathead National Forest boundary.

National Forest System Road #3520 (Twin Meadows Road) is closed at its junction with National Forest System Road #315 (Sunday Creek Road) proceeding SOUTHWEST to WEST to its junction with National Forest System Road #36 (Fortine Creek Road).

National Forest System Road #3512 (Alder Slope Road) is closed at its junction with National Forest System Road #3520 (Twin Meadows Road) proceeding SOUTH to EAST to mile post 5.95 at the Kootenai National Forest and Flathead National Forest boundary.

National Forest System Road # 60 (Good Creek Road) is closed at its junction with National Forest System Road #3520 (Twin Meadows Road) proceeding SOUTH to mile post .15 at the Kootenai National Forest and Flathead National Forest boundary.

All road closures are located South of Trego, Montana.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this Order is to provide for public and firefighter safety due to active fire suppression activities on the East Fork Fire.

IMPLEMENTATION

- 1. This Order shall be in effect from August 7, 2023 through December 31, 2023 at 1800, unless rescinded.
- 2. A map identifying the Described Road is attached and made part of this Order as Exhibit A. For a digital version of this Order and Exhibit A, go to https://www.fs.usda.gov/kootenai.
- 3. Unless otherwise expressly defined in this Order, the terms used in this Order are defined by the regulations of the Secretary of Agriculture, 36 C.F.R. Chapter II, Parts 200-299. If there are terms in this Order that are not expressly defined in the Order or 36 C.F.R. Chapter II, Parts 200-299, their meaning shall be determined by their plain language definitions.
- 4. A violation of the above prohibitions is punishable as a Class B misdemeanor by a fine of not more than \$5,000 for individuals and \$10,000 for organizations, or by imprisonment for not more than six months, or both. 16 U.S.C. § 551; 18 U.S.C. §§ 3559, 3571, and 3581.
- 5. Contact the Fortine Ranger District in Eureka, MT, (406) 296-2536, and Kootenai National Forest Supervisor's Office in Libby, MT, (406) 293-6211, for more information about this Order.
- 6. This Order supersedes any previous Orders prohibiting the same or similar acts on the same Described Road.

Signed and issued on 7th day of August 2023.

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Chad W. Benson **Forest Supervisor** Kootenai National Forest

