



**U.S. Department of Agriculture, U.S. Forest Service  
Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest  
Butte Ranger District**

**Area– Ratio Mountain Fire**

**PROHIBITIONS**

Pursuant to 16 U.S.C. § 551 and 36 C.F.R. § 261.50(a), the following are prohibited on the National Forest System (NFS) lands in the Butte Ranger District, Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest, described below and shown on the attached map incorporated into this Order as Exhibit A (the “Described Area”):

1. To go into or be upon any area which is closed for the protection of public health and 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. Owners or lessees of land in the area.
2. Residents in the area.
3. 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).
4. Any Federal, State, or Local Officer, or member of an organized rescue or firefighting resource in the performance of an official duty.

**DESCRIBED AREA**

This closure applies to the following National Forest System (NFS) lands, approximately 15 miles north of Whitehall, MT.

1. Area Closure. All of the National Forest System lands within:

- T3N, R5W, SECTIONS 1, 2, 3
- T4N, R5W SECTION 35

## **PURPOSE**

The purpose of this Order is for public safety due to wildfire and active fire suppression activities.

## **IMPLEMENTATION**

1. This Order shall be in effect from 12:01 a.m. on August 22, 2024 through October 15, 2024, unless rescinded.
2. A map identifying the Described Area/Roads/Trails is attached and made part of this Order as Exhibit A. For a digital version of this Order Exhibit A, go to [Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest - Alerts & Closures \(usda.gov\)](#)
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 Butte Ranger District in Butte, MT, (406) 494-2147, and Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest Supervisor's Office in Dillon, MT, (406) 683-3900, for more information about this Order.
6. This Order supersedes any previous Orders prohibiting the same or similar acts in the same Described Area/Roads/Trails.

Signed and issued on August 22, 2024.

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ALFRED WATSON  
Forest Supervisor  
Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest