



**U.S. Department of Agriculture, U.S. Forest Service
Bitterroot National Forest
Stevensville Ranger District**

SHARROTT CREEK FIRE AREA AND TRAIL CLOSURES

PROHIBITIONS

Pursuant to 16 U.S.C. § 551 and 36 C.F.R. § 261.50(a) and (b), the following acts are prohibited on the National Forest System (NFS) lands and trails within the Stevensville 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”).

1. Going into or being upon the area described in the Order. 36 CFR 261.53(e)
2. Being on the trail. 36 C.F.R. § 261.55(a).

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 (Exhibit A)

All NFS Lands on the Stevensville Ranger District of the Bitterroot National Forest in the area bounded by the Sweathouse Creek trail #121 and the Forest boundary West along trail #121 into the Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness to the headwaters of Sweathouse Creek following the western spur of the ridge to Sky Pilot Peak; head North following the Western boundary of the Bitterroot National Forest to an unnamed peak at the headwaters of South Fork Sweeney Creek; head North and East following South Fork Sweeney Creek to the confluence with Sweeney Creek; then East following Sweeney Creek to the Forest Boundary; head South following the Forest Boundary for about 500 feet South to an unnamed stream in section 20, follow the unnamed stream West to Sweeney Viewpoint trail #399, follow to the junction of Larry Creek Trail #129; follow trail #129 South to a close road which leads to FS road #1316; follow FS road #1316 to its junction with Bass Creek Trail #4 then South to Bass Creek; head East along Bass Creek to the Forest Boundary; then follow the Forest Boundary South to Sweathouse Creek trail #121.

CLOSED TRAILS (Exhibit A)

1. **Little St. Joe, National Forest System Trail #392** From milepost 0.00 at its junction with NFSR #1136 to its terminus.
2. **Bass Creek, National Forest System Trail #4** from milepost 0.00 at its junction with NFSR #1136 to its terminus.
3. **Lappi Lake, National Forest System Trail #324** where it intersects Trail #4 to its terminus.
4. **Kootenai Creek, National Forest System Trail #53** from milepost 0.00 at its junction with NFSR #1322 to its terminus at the junction with South Kootenai Lake trail #302.
5. **Kootenai Lakes, National Forest System Trail #302** from milepost 0.00 at its junction with National Forest System Trail #53 to its terminus.
6. **St. Mary Peak, National Forest System Trail #116** from milepost 0.00 at its junction with NFSR #739 to its terminus.
7. **Big Creek, National Forest System Trail #11** from milepost 0.00 at its junction with NFSR #736 to its terminus.
8. **South Fork Big Creek, National Forest System Trail #118** at its junction with trail #11 to its terminus.
9. **Big Creek Divide, National Forest System Trail #306** at its junction with trail #11 to its terminus.
10. **Glen Lake, National Forest System Trail #232** from milepost 0.00 at its junction with NFSR #1321 to its terminus.
11. **Sweathouse Creek, National Forest System Trail #121** from milepost 0.1 at the Forest Boundary to its terminus.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this order is for public health and safety due to fire activity and related suppression activities on the Sharrott Creek fire.

IMPLEMENTATION:

This Order shall be in effect from August 30, 2024, at 0600 until rescinded or until October 31, 2024, at 0001, whichever occurs first.

A map identifying the Described Roads and Trails 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/bitterroot>

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.

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.

Contact the Stevensville Ranger District in Stevensville, MT, (406) 777-5461), or Bitterroot National Forest Supervisor's Office in Hamilton, MT, (406) 363-7100, for more information about this Order.

This Order supersedes any previous Orders prohibiting the same or similar acts in/on the same Described Area/Roads/Trails.

Done at Stevensville, Montana this 30th day of August 2024.

MATTHEW D. ANDERSON
Forest Supervisor
Bitterroot National Forest