

For Immediate Release
September 16th, 2024 1500 MDT

Gem County Road Closures Related to the Lava Fire

Having been advised by fire command, Gem County Road and Bridge Department previously made the following road closures due to fire activity and Fire Personnel, and public safety. These road closures remain in effect.

- The Sweet-Ola Highway North of High Valley Road is closed to fire and local traffic only. (BLM Law Enforcement Officers are staffing the Sweet Ola Highway and High Valley Intersection).
- Third Fork Road is closed North of Nesbit Lane to fire and local traffic only.
- Second Fork Road is closed North of Nesbit Lane to fire and local traffic only.

These closures are critical so that aviation and heavy equipment can limit fire spread, assist with the safe travel of fire personnel to and from areas around the fire and account for life and property within the fire area. Please be advised that weather conditions have caused many concerns with erosion, fallen trees, mudslides, rolling rocks, and other road obstacles necessitating road closures to the public. Additionally, Forest Service roads are closed to the public until December 31st, 2024.

For more information on road closures, visit the Lava Fire InciWeb page at <https://inciweb.wildfire.gov/incident-information/idbof-lava-fire>. Or visit the forest service web page <https://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/boise/news-events/?cid=FSEPRD1204350>

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Closure Order Expanded for Lava and Boulder Fire Areas

Release Date: Sep 11, 2024

Contact(s): [Brian Lawatch](#), 208-384-3266

BOISE, Idaho, September 10, 2024 – The Boise National Forest has issued a new Area Closure effective immediately for roads, trails, and lands encompassing the Lava Fire and Boulder Fire. The closure is enacted to protect public safety and support fire suppression activities.

Closure Description: The Lava and Boulder fires are active wildfires burning north of the town of Ola, Idaho and west of Cascade, Idaho. The closure includes Forest Service lands north of the 601 Road (approximately 7 miles southwest of Smiths Ferry) and north all the way to the northernmost extent of Lake Cascade and includes both Boise National Forest lands and Payette National Forest lands. This order, Order Number 0402-06-63, supersedes previous closure orders for the Lava and Boulder Fires.

The full legal descriptions and maps detailing the closure area boundaries are posted to the [Lava Fire InciWeb Page](#) and will soon be posted to the [Boise National Forest Alerts and Notices](#) webpage under the Emmet Ranger District. This closure will last through December unless rescinded. For the Boise National Forest Fire Info Hotline call 208-384-3266.