



Forest Service News Release

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Bozeman Municipal Watershed Project Area Closure

Closed to all uses: Lower Moser Ridge Area, above Kirk Hill

Bozeman, MT - January 26th, 2022 — Implementation of the Bozeman Municipal Watershed Project continues, including road maintenance, temporary road construction, mechanical treatments (logging), and hauling operations. The project is situated south of Bozeman, in portions of the Hyalite and Bozeman Creek watersheds, and located in the wildland urban interface (WUI) on the Bozeman Ranger District, Custer Gallatin National Forest.

The lower Moser Ridge area above Kirk Hill, just south of Bozeman, is closed to all uses, including foot traffic. The closure area includes trail #428, which starts at the FS boundary approximately 0.5 mile from the Kirk Hill Trailhead, trail #429, along Hodgman Canyon, and a portion of FS road #6210. The closure area excludes MSU foundation land (Kirk Hill Natural Area), and the trail system managed by Gallatin Valley Land Trust. The area is closed for public safety while ground based and skyline logging and hauling activities occur. The closure begins Wednesday, January 26th and will be closed 7 days a week until logging and hauling activities are complete in the area.

“We are asking the public to respect the closure and stay out of the identified area until operations are complete,” said Corey Lewellen, Bozeman District Ranger. “We do apologize for any inconvenience this might cause, but this short-term closure is necessary for public health and safety, which is always our top priority.”

The Hyalite and Bozeman Creek drainages provide over 80% of the municipal water supply for the Bozeman community. The Bozeman Municipal Watershed Project aims to reduce the risk of severe and extensive wildfire, limit the amount of sediment and ash entering the water treatment facilities in the event of a fire, and increase public and firefighter safety while reducing risk of wildfire spread onto National Forest lands and bordering private lands.

Map of the closure [here](#). To keep informed on project implementation and progress, follow the Bozeman Municipal Watershed page, <https://bznwatershed.com/> and the Custer Gallatin National Forest on [Facebook](#). For more information, please call the Bozeman Ranger District at 406-522-2520.

A Record of Decision and Finding of No Significant Impact for the project was signed in November 2011 and is available at: <https://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=9111>.