



**Sawtooth NATIONAL FOREST
NEWS RELEASE**
For Immediate Release
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“Know *Before* You Go” This 4th of July Holiday!

Jerome, Idaho
June 24, 2019

If you plan to visit the Sawtooth National Forest during the Independence Day holiday (July 4th), “**Know *before* you go,**” suggests Sawtooth National Forest Supervisor Jim DeMaagd. What’s important to know? Read on!

Fireworks are prohibited on all national forests year-round. Even if it’s “green,” please practice good sense by using caution with fire and smoking at all times, in all places.

Responsible Motorized Use. Please stay on designated routes and obtain the appropriate travel maps before you go. On the Sawtooth National Forest visitors should carry the FREE Motorized Vehicle Use Maps, available at Forest Service Offices throughout South Central Idaho. Digital maps for mobile applications can be downloaded at: <http://www.avenza.com/pdf-maps/store> . Please do not go around a Road Closed Sign.

Be Careful with Fire. While the Forest looks green, fire danger is an important concern. Fires can start very quickly and burn in vegetation that may seem green but is drying out at an alarming rate. There are no fire restrictions at this time. Please when leaving your campsite for the day or when leaving for home, “make sure your campfire is cold to the touch”.

Recreation Information. All campgrounds are open with the exception of the following:
Baumgartner Campground is under construction and is closed.
Thompson Flats, Twin Lakes and Lake Cleveland are closed due to snow.
Grandjean Campground is closed due to a landslide.
Stanley Lake Inlet has been removed, Stanley Lake consists of three loops that include Lakeview Campground.





Keep it Clean to Avoid Bear Encounters! Bears often develop a strong liking for human and pet foods. Store food in hard-sided vehicles or bear-proof containers; keep sleeping areas, tents and sleeping bags free from food and food odors; and wash up, change clothes and remove all scented articles nearby before going to bed. Wild bears avoid people, but bears conditioned to human food can be aggressive and may be euthanized if problems occur.

For additional information please contact any of our offices for up to date information on campgrounds, roads and trails.

The mission of the Forest Service, an agency of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, is to sustain the health, diversity and productivity of the nation's forests and grasslands to meet the needs of present and future generations. The agency manages 193 million acres of public land, provides assistance to state and private landowners and maintains the largest forestry research organization in the world. Public lands the Forest Service manages contribute more than \$13 billion to the economy each year through visitor spending alone. Those same lands provide 30 percent of the nation's surface drinking water to cities and rural communities and approximately 66 million Americans rely on drinking water that originated from the National Forest System. The agency also has either a direct or indirect role in stewardship of about 900 million forested acres within the U.S., of which over 130 million acres are urban forests where most Americans live.)

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