



CUSTER NATIONAL FOREST BEARTOOTH RANGER DISTRICT INFORMATION PACKET

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BEARTOOTH MOUNTAINS



PRYOR MOUNTAINS



Did You Know?

- The highest 41 and 44 of the highest 50 peaks in Montana are in the Beartooth Mountains.
- Granite Peak is Montana's tallest peak and remains one of the most challenging high points to climb in the lower 48 states, due to the remoteness and extreme weather conditions.
- There are over 300 lakes and 10 major sub-alpine tundra plateaus in the Beartooths, with even more lakes across the Absaroka-Beartooth Wilderness.
- At 3.96 billion years old, rock samples from the Beartooths are some of the oldest rocks on Earth.
- The Beartooth Highway reaches an altitude of 10,947 ft. and is often considered one of the most beautiful roads in America.

406-446-2103 • 6811 Hwy 212, Red Lodge, MT 59068

2014 CAMPGROUND AND PICNIC AREA INFORMATION									
BEARTOOTH RANGER DISTRICT									
	Campground	# of Units	Max. Trailer Length	Dates Open (estimate - actual dates depend on snow conditions)	Elev.	Hosted* or Self-Serve	Water	Site Fee**	Extra Vehicle Fee**
Main Fork Rock Creek	Sheridan ^R	9	30'	May 15 - Sept 2	6300'	Host	yes	\$15	\$7.50
	Rattin ^{R, W}	6	30'	May 8 - Sept 22	6400'	Host	yes	\$15	\$7.50
	Parkside ^{R, W}	28	40'	May 8 - Sept 22	7200'	Host	yes	\$16	\$8
	Group Sites	A - max 50 people, 2 RV's						1-35 people	\$60
		B - max 30 people, 2 RV's						36-50 people	\$80
	Greenough ^R	18	45'	May 8 - Sept 22	7300'	Host	yes	\$16	\$8
	Limber Pine ^R	13	45'	May 9 - Sept 2	7200'	Host	yes	\$16	\$8
M-K ^W	10	20'	May 23 - Sept 1	7500'	Self-Serve	no	\$0	\$0	
West Fork Rock Creek	Palisades	6	16'	May 23 - Sept 1	6300'	Self-Serve	no	\$0	\$0
	Wild Bill Lake	4		May 24 - Sept 8	6800'	day-use only, camping only			
	Basin ^R	30	30'	May 15 - Sept 15	6800'	Host	yes	\$16	\$8
	Cascade ^R	30	30'	May 29 - Sept 2	7600'	Host	yes	\$12	\$6
East Rosebud	Sand Dunes	10		May 23 - Sept 1	5600'	day-use only, no camping			
	Jimmy Joe	10	30'	May 23 - Sept 1	5600'	Self-Serve	no	\$0	\$0
	East Rosebud ^W	14	20'	May 23 - Sept 1	6200'	Self-Serve	yes	\$9	\$5
West Rosebud	Pine Grove	46	30'	May 23 - Sept 1	5800'	Self-Serve	yes	\$9	\$5
	Emerald lake ^W	32	30'	May 23 - Sept 1	6400'	Self-Serve	yes	\$9	\$5
Stillwater	Old Nye	6		May 23 - Sept 1	4950'	day-use only, no camping			
	Woodbine ^R	44	40'	May 8 - Sept 15	5300'	Host	yes	\$17	\$9
	Group Sites	max 16 people, 3 cars						1-8 people	\$17
								9-16 people	\$34
	Initial Creek ^W	6	20'	May 23 - Sept 1	6000'	Self-Serve	no	\$0	\$0
Pryor Mtns	Sage Creek ^W	12	30'	May 23 - Sept 1	5600'	Self-Serve	yes	\$5	\$10 double
	Big Ice Cave	5		May 23 - Sept 1	7600'	day-use only, no camping			
	^R Campground with reservable sites available: 1-877-444-6777 or online at www.recreation.gov								
	^W Campground available for winter use before or after specified dates; no services, not maintained, roads not plowed. Please pack out all of your trash.								
	* Firewood available at hosted campgrounds for \$5 per bundle								
	** 1/2 price fees for Interagency Senior or Access Pass holders								

You are camping in bear country.
In a campground, you can reduce food odors by:

...putting your trash in the bear-resistant trash can provided.



...taking food and trash with you when you leave.



...storing food and trash inside a closed vehicle with a hard top.



Wilderness Restrictions and Regulations

The Beartooth Ranger District has an area of 587,000 acres. Of this, 345,000 acres are within the Absaroka-Beartooth Wilderness. The boundary of the Absaroka-Beartooth Wilderness continues west into the Gallatin National Forest (in all, the Absaroka-Beartooth Wilderness is 943,626 acres).

General Use

- ✓ 15 people is the maximum group size
- ✓ 16 days at a camp site is the maximum camp stay limit
- ✓ No camping/campfires within 200 feet of a lake
- ✓ No camping/campfires within 100 feet of flowing water
- ✓ No use/possession of motorized vehicles, motorboats, chainsaws and other mechanized equipment
- ✓ Bicycles, wagons, carts, hang gliders or other mechanized equipment cannot be possessed or used
- ✓ Wheelchairs can be used where foot travel is allowed
- ✓ Dropping/picking up material from aircraft and helicopters is prohibited
- ✓ Food storage order means all food/attractants must be stored in a hard-sided vehicle, bear proof container or hung in a tree 10ft x 4ft off the ground
- ✓ No shortcuts/switch-backing of trails
- ✓ Cannot cache/store equipment, personal property or supplies
- ✓ Natural and historical items must be left for others to discover
- ✓ Open fires are PROHIBITED in the Black Canyon drainage off of the Lake Fork Trail and in the Fossil Lake/Twin Outlets Lake area of the East Rosebud Trail.

Livestock

- ✓ **East Unit** – 15 people/15 horses, **no grazing** allowed
- ✓ **West Unit** – 15 people/25 horses, **grazing** is allowed
- ✓ Horses and pack stock are restricted on some trails; contact the ranger district for specific trail information
- ✓ No tying, tethering or picketing within 200ft of lakes
- ✓ No tying, tethering or picketing within 100ft of flowing water
- ✓ Feed (processed grain, cubed hay and pellets) must be certified weed free

The Seven Principles of Leave No Trace Ethics

1. Plan ahead and prepare. (Plan your route, bring a map and compass and let others know your travel plans.)
2. Travel and camp on durable surfaces. (Stay on established trails-do not cut switchbacks. Use existing campsites in popular areas. Move your camp daily in low use areas.)
3. Dispose of waste properly. (Dispose of human waste in a 6-8 inch deep “cat-hole” at least 200 ft from water. Pack out all trash, including toilet paper.)
4. Leave what you find.
5. Minimize campfire impacts. (Use a stove. If a fire is needed, a fire ring is not needed. Use existing fire rings.)
6. Respect Wildlife.
7. Be considerate of other visitors.



Bear Safety

In the Beartooth Ranger District proper food storage is not only recommended, it is **REQUIRED** by a legally enforceable regulation (Order No. 10-08-02-02). The primary goal of “bear proofing” your camp is to minimize adverse interactions between bears and humans.

The food storage regulation requires that all unattended food and attractants (garbage, pet and livestock feed, toiletries, animal carcasses, etc) be stored in a locked

bear resistant container, stored in an enclosed hard-sided vehicle, or suspended at least 10 feet off the ground and 4 feet horizontally from any supporting tree or pole.

When setting up camp in the backcountry, select a site away from animal trails, thick brush, and natural food sources such as berry patches and fish spawning streams. Place the sleeping area at least 300 feet (100 yards) from food storage and the cooking/eating area.

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Pryor Mountains

The Beartooth Ranger District also oversees the Pryor Mountains. The Pryor Mountains are east of Red Lodge and border the Crow Indian Reservation, BLM land, and private lands. The Pryor Mountain Wild Horse Range is located in the BLM portion of the Pryor Mountains. For information on the Pryors, please contact the Beartooth Ranger District at 406-446-2103

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Other Important Contact Info

- Current fires: <http://inciweb.nwcg.gov/> ; Smoke map: <http://www.firedetect.noaa.gov/viewer.htm>
- MT road conditions: 1-800-226-7623 <http://www.mdt.mt.gov/travinfo/>
<http://roadreport.mdt.mt.gov/travinfomobile/> (map)
- WY road conditions: 1-888-996-7623 www.wyoroad.info ; <http://map.wyoroad.info/hi.html> (map)
- Yellowstone National Park road conditions: 1-307-344-2117 www.nps.gov/yell/conditions.htm
- Custer National Forest “**Walk by the Light of the Moon**” interpretive program:
www.fs.usda.gov/custer (under “Quick Links” in right hand side column.)
- Beartooth Highway: 10,947 feet. www.beartoothhighway.com
- Hiking shuttle service: Red Lodge Taxi 406-425-3091
- To volunteer with the Absaroka-Beartooth Wilderness Foundation on projects that benefit the wilderness <http://abwilderness.org/> 406-446-4582
- Absaroka/Beartooth Mountain Lakes Guide: <http://fwp.mt.gov/regions/r5/mountainlakes.html>
- For a list of local outfitters, please contact the Beartooth Ranger District (406-446-2103)
- For information on climbing Granite Peak: www.friendsofgranitepeak.com, www.summitpost.org ; maps and books can be found at Sylvan Peak outdoor store in Red Lodge (406-446-1770)