



## Custer Gallatin National Forest

10 E Babcock, Bozeman, MT 59715

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Web: [www.fs.usda.gov/custergallatin](http://www.fs.usda.gov/custergallatin)

# News Release

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## Custer Gallatin National Forest Plans to Start Opening Recreation Sites Beginning May 15

**Bozeman, MT** – Developed recreation sites, including campgrounds, rental cabins, picnic areas, and toilets on the Custer Gallatin National Forest will remain closed for the next few weeks. The Forest continues preparing and training employees and contractors to meet cleaning and disinfecting standards and ensuring we have the necessary cleaning supplies and personal protective equipment on hand to help keep people healthy.

The intention is to begin opening some sites on May 15<sup>th</sup>. Sites planned for this initial opening are concessionaire managed sites as they sites have campground hosts who will be present to ensure cleaning standards and criteria are being met. Opening these sites will also help support our local partners who work with the agency to manage some of the developed recreation sites we all enjoy.

The next round of site openings will likely be those that are managed by the Forest Service and is planned to occur on May 22<sup>nd</sup>. This will give the agency time to bring our seasonal workforce onboard – many of whom are finishing this semester of school in the next few weeks, ensure the necessary training and supplies are in place, and ensure the cleaning criteria for these sites is feasible.

The Forest is asking recreationists to please be patient while we work on re-opening the developed recreation opportunities across the Forest. We are working with communities and county commissioners to address concerns recognizing that developed sites draw people from far and wide into local areas. Forest leadership is working closely with recreation managers to develop a careful and thoughtful tiered approach to help keep people safe and healthy while they enjoy their public land.

For information on the status of developed recreation sites please visit us online at [www.fs.usda.gov/custergallatin](http://www.fs.usda.gov/custergallatin) or on Facebook at [Custer Gallatin National Forest](#).