

NEWS

LEWISTOWN BLM

U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management

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For Immediate Release
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406-538-1943, 8/14/06

Lewistown, MT----Individuals with a valid Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks Permit to Hunt from a Vehicle (PTHFV) may be allowed access to seasonally closed roads on public land within the Lower Crooked Creek Watershed Management Plan area with advance approval of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) authorized officer in the Lewistown Field Office.

This watershed area lies within Deer/Elk Hunting District 410 and Antelope Hunting District 481.

Several roads within this area were designated as seasonally closed during the hunting season between September 1 and December 1. The majority of these roads are located within the Chain Buttes Block Management Area, which is situated south and west of Charles M. Russell National Wildlife Refuge lands and west of the confluence of the Missouri and Musselshell Rivers in northern Petroleum County. This area is located in Townships 18, 19, 20 and 21 North and Ranges 26, 27, 28 and 29 East. Maps are available at the Lewistown BLM and Montana Fish Wildlife and Parks offices and also during hunting season at five map boxes located at the most common entrance routes into the area.

The PTHFV program is administered by the Montana Fish Wildlife and Parks (MFWP) and applications are available from their offices across the state. The agency encourages sportsmen and women who may qualify for a PTHFV to learn about the opportunities this program can provide.

The BLM encourages everyone to enjoy our public lands. "Providing these opportunities is an important part of travel and recreation planning, and we hope individuals who qualify will use the program. It's critical to the success of this opportunity that permit holders obtain good maps and understand which seasonally closed roads in the Lower Crooked Creek Watershed Management Area are available," offered June Bailey, the BLM's Lewistown Field Manager.

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The program does require the permit holder to be accompanied by a companion, to display orange placards (provided by MFWP) on his or her vehicle, and to abide by other MFWP and BLM rules while participating in hunting activities. The PTHFV program does not allow permit holders (or their companions) to drive off roads, to use private roads without landowner permission, to bring others along to hunt or to assume that all roads (state managed, federally managed or private) are accessible to the permit holder.

For more information on the PTHFV program or applicability to BLM lands, please contact your local Montana Fish Wildlife and Parks office or the Lewistown BLM office at (406) 538-1900.

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