



NEWS RELEASE

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Seasonal Closures Now in Effect

CRAIG, Colo. – Annual winter closures begin today on certain lands managed by the Bureau of Land Management’s Little Snake Field Office to reduce stress on wildlife.

All areas south of the Ridge Trail in BLM’s Emerald Mountain Special Recreation Management Area are closed to all forms of entry from Dec. 1 through June 30 to protect elk during their sensitive winter and calving seasons. The closure includes the Beall Trail and Kemry Draw. This closure corresponds with Colorado Parks and Wildlife lands to the east of the SRMA and the Humble Ranch property to the southeast.

“We are seeing a number of violations each year, which has had significant impact on the elk in this area,” said BLM Little Snake Field Manager Wendy Reynolds. “Stress to wintering and calving wildlife poses a significant threat to their survival and we need people to respect the closure.” Violators to the closure face a \$175 fine. Reynolds recommends those wishing to enjoy Emerald Mountain during this closure visit Ridge, Rotary and Wild Rose trails that will remain open.

Maps of the closure area are available at the Little Snake Field Office.

For further information, contact the Little Snake Field Office, (970) 826-5000, or log on to <http://www.blm.gov/co/st/en/fo/lsfo.html>.

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