



Bureau of Land Management
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Fort Meade Recreation Area Newsletter

Updated May 21, 2010

February through June: Cottle Creek Stewardship Contract. The treatment is designed to retain hardwood draws by removing the more shade tolerant pine. In addition, upland stands will be thinned to reduce Mountain Pine Beetle susceptibility. Activity includes cutting and skidding of timber, log decks adjacent to and hauling. The contractor is temporarily shut down due to the soft ground, but will start up again when conditions improve.

May 20 through September(?): ROAD CLOSED The Byway will be closed M-F 7a.m. to 5p.m. for safety reasons while the American Restoration and Recovery project repairs the slump, widens several corners, and adds gravel. Watch here for information on when the Byway will be open full-time.

May 23: Alkali Creek Trailhead will be the start of the Black Hills Runners competitive run uphill into the Black Hills. Fortunately they get to run downhill all the way back to finish at the Trailhead. Expect increased traffic and parking congestion at the Campground/Trailhead.

Upcoming: The National Guard and Air Force will continue to use Fort Meade for training throughout the summer. The activity usually involves soldiers in camouflage – so you might not even see them.

Cattle will be let into the Ridge Pasture (north of the campground) the week of May 24, so please keep gates as you found them. The cattle will be rotated through multiple pastures within three allotments on Fort Meade over the summer. Rotation dates will depend on grass utilization.

The 28 volunteers on May 1 made a big difference at the Fort Meade Reservoir for National Public Lands Day. Oak, Cottonwood, Thornless Hawthorn and Tartarian Maple trees were planted to provide future shade. Come visit the reservoir for an afternoon and see the changes!