



## Forest Service News Release

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### Rye Creek Area Road Improvements – Temporary Closures Planned

**Hamilton, MT, June 22** — The Darby-Sula Ranger District announced today that a road improvement project is underway on Rye Creek Road (Forest Road #75) and Two Bear Road (Forest Road #720), east of Darby. The project began this week and is scheduled to last 6-8 weeks, depending on weather and moisture conditions.

Crews will be grinding the dirt road to remove deep ruts, washboards and large rocks, along with improving stability and drainage. They will also be installing surface drainage features including water bars, drivable dips, and ditch relief culverts. The project also includes culvert maintenance and cleaning out road-side ditches.

The project is utilizing a mobile rock crusher to make in-place road surfacing improvements. The process is much cheaper and efficient than the high cost of hauling crushed gravel from a rock pit.

The work will occur on Rye Creek Road #75 between Mile Post (MP) 10 and MP 25. Crews will then move to Two Bear Road #720 and work from MP 2.5 to MP 14. For public safety, road closures are planned in the immediate vicinity of the work, during rock crushing operations.

To minimize public impacts, crews will only close 2-3 miles of road at a time and will move the closures along as the work progresses. Road closures will only occur on weekdays. The roads will be open in their entirety on weekends, as crews will not be actively crushing.

Signs and barricades will be posted in the area alerting drivers to the construction and road work. For more information, contact the Darby-Sula Ranger District at 406-821-3913 or visit [www.fs.usda.gov/bitterroot](http://www.fs.usda.gov/bitterroot) or [www.facebook.com/DiscoverBitterrootNF](https://www.facebook.com/DiscoverBitterrootNF).

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