



MONTANA FISH, WILDLIFE & PARKS

Ennis Fishing Access Site and Valley Garden Closure Rules

I. PURPOSE

(1) The purpose of the following rules is to address public safety and access concerns on the Madison River associated with infrastructure repairs needed following ice and flooding damage at Ennis Fishing Access Site (FAS) and Valley Garden FAS in February 2021.

(2) It may be necessary to fully or intermittently close each FAS to safely assess and repair damages to each site from April 1 to December 31, 2021 to ensure public safety.

II. ENNIS FISHING ACCESS SITE CLOSURE

(1) The department may close Ennis FAS to all public occupation and recreation when:

(a) the department determines that conditions may make public occupation and recreation on site unsafe;

(b) the department determines that closure is necessary to safely complete infrastructure repairs.

(2) The department may reopen the Ennis FAS when:

(a) the department indicates that conditions are safe; and

(b) the department determines the closure is no longer necessary.

(3) The department may intermittently open and close the Ennis FAS as safety and conditions allow during the construction period.

(4) This rule does not affect any rules that may be adopted to address unforeseen temporary, emergency situations.

III. VALLEY GARDEN FISHING ACCESS SITE CLOSURE

(1) The department may close Valley Garden FAS to all public occupation and recreation when:

(a) the department determines that conditions may make public occupation and recreation on site unsafe;

(b) the department determines that closure is necessary to safely complete infrastructure repairs.

(2) The department may reopen the Valley Garden FAS when:

(a) the department indicates that conditions are safe; and

(b) the department determines the closure is no longer necessary.

(3) The department may intermittently open and close the Valley Garden FAS as safety and conditions allow during the construction period.

(4) This rule does not affect any rules that may be adopted to address unforeseen temporary, emergency situations.

IV. EFFECTIVE DATE AND EXPIRATION OF THESE RULES

(1) These rules are effective upon final approval of the commission.

(2) These rules expire on December 31, 2021

(3) These rules may be amended or repealed upon approval of the commission.

(4) Prior to expiration, the commission may extend the effective date of these rules for no more than two years.