

NEWS RELEASE



USDA Forest Service

Rocky Mountain Region

Pike & San Isabel National Forests, Cimarron & Comanche National Grasslands

Pikes Peak Ranger District

601 South Weber Street

Colorado Springs, CO 80903

<http://www.fs.fed.us/r2/psicc/pp>

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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U.S. FOREST SERVICE TEMPORARILY CLOSES MT. HERMAN ROAD FOR REPAIRS

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo., July 7, 2009 – The U.S. Forest Service, Pike National Forest, Pikes Peak District has closed a portion of Mount Herman Road (FSR 320) to vehicle traffic for public safety. The temporary closure in El Paso County began Monday and extends from the junction with Red Rocks Drive, west to the junction with FS Road 315 - about six miles. Repairs may take a month to complete.

Recent heavy rains in the last week caused a large washout on the edge of the road about five miles west of Monument. Because the washout presents a serious public hazard, the U.S. Forest Service has closed the road until repairs can be made. Repair will require heavy equipment which would also prevent public vehicle travel.

An individual was seriously injured Friday night when his vehicle went off the road at the washout and slid over 100 feet down the slope below the road.

The public is welcome to access the area by foot, horse and bicycle, but motorized vehicle traffic is currently not allowed.

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