



Forest Service
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest – Spring Mountain National Recreation Area

Forest Service News Release

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The Spring Mountains National Recreation Area Remains Closed in the Aftermath of Flood Damage from Tropical Storm Hilary

Las Vegas, Aug. 28, 2023 – In the aftermath of significant flooding from Tropical Storm Hilary, the entire Spring Mountains National Recreation Area remains under an Emergency Closure Order for public health and safety until further notice.

The Spring Mountains National Recreation Area sustained significant damages. Specialists from the Forest Service are continuing to assess Forest roads, trails, and recreation sites to determine what repairs are necessary.

State Routes 157 (Kyle Canyon Highway), 156 (Lee Canyon Highway), and 158 (Deer Creek Highway) sustained significant damages and remain closed to the public while the Nevada Department of Transportation assesses highway damages and make repairs. Currently, there is no timeline for when those repairs can be made.

For public and employee safety. The Emergency Closure Order means that all areas, roads, campgrounds, and trails are **closed** while damages are fully assessed. This includes recreation areas outside of the Lee, Kyle, and Deer Creek Canyons, including more remote areas such as Cold Creek, Willow Creek, Mack's, Champion, Blue Tree, Potosi, Cottonwood Pass, Lovell Canyon, Wheeler Wash, Clark, Carpenter, Trout, and Wallace Canyons, Mt. Stirling and Johnny.

“Our top priority is the safety of our visitors and employees,” said Deb MacNeill, Spring Mountains National Recreation Area Manager. “We are asking the public to find other areas to recreate until we can safely reopen areas. Our daily objective, right now, is to stabilize the area as much as we can.”

The National Weather Service in Las Vegas is predicting scattered showers and thunderstorms moving into the area as soon as this Thursday and through the three-day weekend, creating the potential for additional damage and flash floods.

For additional information on the Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest, please visit <https://fs.usda.gov/htnf> or participate in the conversation at <https://twitter.com/HumboldtToiyabe> and <https://facebook.com/HumboldtToiyabeNF/>.

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The Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest's spectacular 6.3 million acres make it the largest national forest in the lower 48 states. Located in Nevada and a small portion of eastern California, the Forest offers year-round recreation of all types.