

Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks

NEWS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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<u>Fishing Restrictions to be Lifted Wednesday for Bitterroot, Blackfoot Main Stem and Clark Fork Below Rock Creek</u>

Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks is lifting fishing restrictions beginning Wednesday, Aug. 19 on the Bitterroot, the entire main stem of the Blackfoot, and the Clark Fork, downstream of the Rock Creek confluence.

These rivers have been under "hoot owl" restrictions that prohibit fishing from 2 p.m. until midnight since July 3 to reduce the impact on drought-stressed fish. Now water temperatures are holding below 70 degrees, and weather conditions have moderated enough that further restrictions are not likely.

Conditions still require "hoot owl" restrictions to remain in place on the Clark Fork River from its headwaters downstream to Rock Creek and on the Blackfoot tributaries including Morrell, Gold, Belmont, Cottonwood, Copper and Monture Creeks; the North Fork of the Blackfoot River below North Fork Falls; and Landers Fork.

"Hoot owl" restrictions will also remain on Flint Creek from the Hwy 1 bridge near milepost 53, downstream to the mouth, and Silver Bow Creek from its confluence with Warm Springs Creek to the confluence with Blacktail Creek.

For up-to-date information on restrictions related to drought, visit fwp.mt.gov/news/restrictions.