



**BIG HOLE**  
WATERSHED COMMITTEE

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**BIG HOLE RIVER DROUGHT MANAGEMENT PLAN - VERSION 2016**

QUICK REFERENCE

SECTION	FLOW TRIGGERS APRIL 1 - OCTOBER 31	TEMPERATURE TRIGGERS
I: Saginaw Bridge on Skinner Meadows Road to North Fork Big Hole River Mouth	160 cfs - April 1 to June 30 target for Arctic grayling spawning. 60 cfs – Prepare for Conservation 40 cfs - Conservation 20 cfs - MFWP River Closure <i>Measured at USGS Wisdom Gage (06024450)</i>	<p><b>Step 1:</b> <b>MFWP Hoot-Owl Fishing Restrictions:</b> Hoot-owl fishing restriction will be in place when daily maximum water temperature reaches or exceeds 73° F (23° C) for at least some period of time during three consecutive days. Hoot-owl fishing closure prohibits fishing between the hours of 2:00 p.m. and 12:00 a.m. (Midnight). They will remain in place until September 15 or until re-opening criteria are met.</p> <p><b>Step 2:</b> <b>MFWP River Closure Due to High Temperatures:</b> River closure based on water temperature may be implemented if hoot-owl restrictions are inadequate to protect the fishery (e.g., prolonged period where water temperatures exceed 73° F and forecasts are not favorable for cooler temperature, thermal stress in fish observed by biologist, etc.). Closure will remain in place until September 15 or until re-opening criteria are met.</p> <p><i>Sections temperature measured at:</i> I: <a href="#">USGS Wisdom Gage</a> II: <a href="#">USGS BHR near Wise River</a> III: <a href="#">USGS Maiden Rock</a> IV: <a href="#">USGS Glen Gage</a> V: <a href="#">USGS Hamilton Ditch Gage</a></p> <p><a href="#">MFWP Statewide River Restrictions and Closures</a></p> <p>Contact: Big Hole Watershed Committee Bhwc.org <a href="mailto:info@bhwc.org">info@bhwc.org</a> 406-960-4855</p>
II: North Fork of Big Hole River confluence to Dickie Bridge	450 cfs - April 1 to June 30 target for Arctic grayling spawning. 170 cfs – Prepare for Conservation 140 cfs - Conservation 100 cfs - MFWP River Closure <i>Measured at USGS Big Hole River near Wise River Gage (06024580)</i>	
III: Dickie Bridge to MFWP Maiden Rock Fishing Access Site	250 cfs – Prepare for Conservation 200 cfs - Conservation 150 cfs - MFWP River Closure <i>Measured at USGS Maiden Rock Gage (06025250)</i>	
IV: MFWP Maiden Rock to Notch Bottom Fishing Access Sites	290 cfs – Prepare for Conservation 240 cfs - Conservation 190 cfs - MFWP River Closure <i>Measured at USGS Glen Gage (06026210)</i>	
V: Notch Bottom FAS to confluence of Big Hole River with Jefferson River	200 cfs – Prepare for Conservation 150 cfs - Conservation 100 cfs - MFWP River Closure <i>Measured at USGS Big Hole River below Hamilton Ditch near Twin Bridges Gage (06026420)</i>	