

Fire Closure Order

KLAMATH NATIONAL FOREST

Forest Order No. 21-05-14

Pursuant to 16 U.S.C. § 551 and 36 C.F.R. § 261.50(a) and (b), and to provide for public safety, the following acts are prohibited in the Salmon River Ranger District and Scott River Ranger District within the Klamath National Forest. This Order is effective from September 15 - November 15, 2021.

1. Going into or being upon any National Forest System lands within the Salmon and Scott River Closure Area, as described below and shown on the attached map. The Salmon and Scott River Closure Area begins at the intersection of Highway 3 and Klamath National Forest and Shasta-Trinity National Forest boundary; then continues southwesterly along the boundary to the Trinity Alps Wilderness boundary; then continues westerly along the Trinity Alps Wilderness boundary to its intersection with the Salmon River Ranger District and Happy Camp Ranger District boundary; then continues northerly along the Salmon River Ranger District and Happy Camp Ranger District boundary to its intersection with the Marble Mountain Wilderness boundary; then continues easterly along the Marble Mountain Wilderness boundary to its intersection with the Forest boundary; then continues southeasterly along the Forest boundary to its intersection with Highway 3; then continues southeasterly along the western edge of Highway 3 back to its starting point. 36 C.F.R. § 261.52(e).
2. Being on any National Forest System trails within the Salmon River and Scott River Closure Area, as described above and shown on the attached map.
36 C.F.R. § 261.55(a).
3. Being on any National Forest System roads within the Salmon River and Scott River Closure Area, as described above and shown on the attached map.
36 C.F.R. § 261.54(e).
4. Entering or using any Developed Recreation Site within the Salmon River and Scott River Closure Area, as described above and shown on the attached map.
36 C.F.R. § 261.58(b)

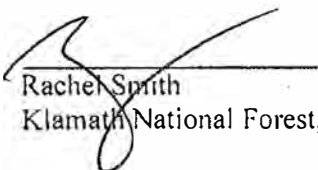
Pursuant to 36 C.F.R. § 261.50(e), the following persons are exempt from this Order:

1. Owners or lessees of land in the area, to the extent necessary to access their land.
2. Persons with Forest Service Permit No. FS-7700-48 (Permit for Use of Roads, Trails, or Areas Restricted by Regulation or Order), specifically exempting them from this Order.
3. Any Federal, State, or local officer, or member of an organized rescue or fire fighting force in the performance of an official duty.

These prohibitions are in addition to the general prohibitions in 36 C.F.R. Part 261, Subpart A.

A violation of these prohibitions is punishable by a fine of not more than \$5,000 for an individual or \$10,000 for an organization, or imprisonment for not more than six months, or both. 16 U.S.C. § 551 and 18 U.S.C. §§ 3559, 3571, and 3581.

Executed at Yreka, California this 15th day of September, 2021.


Rachel Smith
Klamath National Forest, Forest Supervisor



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

Klamath
National
Forest

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File Code: 5309

Date: September 15, 2021

Route To:

Subject: Forest Order Nos. 21-05-14

From: Rachel Smith, Forest Supervisor, Klamath National Forest

I am implementing a Forest Order closing the wilderness areas and ranger districts, including the roads, trails, and developed recreation sites within the Klamath National Forest as described in Forest Order Nos. 21-05-14, effective from September 15 – November 15, 2021.

This Order is necessary to promote public safety within the area of the River Complex Fire, which is actively burning on the Klamath National Forest. Blow-ups and fire runs are unpredictable, and they pose a serious threat to individuals who are near an uncontrolled fire. Aircraft fire suppression tactics such as retardant drops and water buckets also pose a safety risk to the public. Closing the areas, including the Forest roads, trails, and recreation sites within them, will keep the public out of the fire's potential pathway and fire suppression tactics perimeter, thereby reducing the risk of public injury or death.

The Order will remain in effect until November 15, 2021, when the conditions will be reevaluated, or until the order is terminated or superseded.

This Forest Order includes an exemption for persons with a Forest Permit for Use of Roads, Trails, or Areas Restricted by Regulation or Order (Form FS-7700-48). Authorization under this exemption will only be provided if I or my delegates determine that the risk to personal health and safety is reasonable considering the circumstances of the request. I hereby delegate the authority to sign Form FS-7700-48 granting an exemption to this Forest Order to the District Rangers of the Klamath National Forest.

Scoping efforts have included discussions with our cooperators, including CAL FIRE, local fire departments, Forest Service law enforcement, and adjacent forests of this Forest Order.

I have concluded that this decision may be categorically excluded from documentation in an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) or Environmental Assessment (EA) under the National Environmental Policy Act. This action falls within the category identified in 36 C.F.R. § 220.6(d)(1) – prohibitions to provide short-term resource protection or to protect public health and safety – and does not require documentation in a decision memo, decision notice, or record of decision. I have determined that there are no extraordinary circumstances associated with this temporary closure. Implementation of the decision may begin immediately.

