



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOREST SERVICE
MT. BAKER-SNOQUALMIE NATIONAL FOREST
ORDER #06-05-22-12
SUIATTLE RIVER FIRE CLOSURE II

Pursuant to 16 U.S.C. § 551 and 36 CFR § 261.50(a) & (b), and to provide for public safety, the following acts are prohibited within the Darrington Ranger District of the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest as described below and shown in Exhibit A. This Order is effective September 9, 2022, through December 31, 2023, unless rescinded sooner.

PROHIBITIONS:

1. **Being on a National Forest System Road.** [36 CFR § 261.54(e)]
2. **Being on a National Forest System Trail.** [36 CFR § 261.55(a)]
3. **Entering or using a developed recreation site or portion thereof.** [36 CFR § 261.58(b)]

CLOSURE AREA:

Forest System Road #26 (Suiattle River Road) from the intersection of Forest System Road #2640 to its termination at the Suiattle Trailhead within T33N, R11E, Sections 18, 19, 30, 31 & 32; T32N, R11E, Sections 5, 8, 9, 10, 11, 13, & 14; and T32N, R12E, Sections 13, 14, 15, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, & 24; Forest System Road #2640 (Grade Creek Road) from the intersection of Forest System Road #26 to its terminus, located within T33N, R11E, Sections 7, 8, 17 & 18; Forest System Road #2642 (West Grade Creek Road) from the intersection of Forest System Road #2640 to its terminus, located within T33N, R11E, Sections 6, 7 & 18, and T33N, R10E, Section 1; Forest System Road #25 from the intersection of Forest System Road #26 to the intersection of Forest System Road #27, located within T33N, R11E, Section 32 and T32N, R11E, Sections 5, 6, 8 & 17; Forest System Road #2510 (Conrad Creek-All Creek Road) from the intersection with Forest System Road #25 to its terminus, located within T32N, R11E, Sections 6, 7, 17 & 18); Forest System Road #2660 (Tenas Creek Road) from the intersection of Forest System Road #26 (Suiattle River Road), and continuing east to its terminus, located within T33N, R11E, Sections 19, 20, 21, 22, 26, 27, 29 & 30; the Boulder Lake Trail #740, at its inception, including the Boulder Lake Trailhead, and continuing northeast to its terminus, located within T33N, R11E, Sections 23, 24 & 26; Forest System Road #2680 (Green Mountain Road), located within T32N, R12E, Section 15, 16, 17, & 21; the Huckleberry Mountain Trailhead within T32N, R11E, Section 14; the Buck Creek Campground within T32N, R11E, Section 13; the Green Mountain Trailhead within T32N, R12E, Section 15; the Downey Creek Trailhead within T32N, R12E, Section 14; the Sulphur Creek Campground within T32N, R12E, Section 24; and the Suiattle Trailhead within T32N, R12E, Section 24; all as shown in Exhibit A.

EXEMPTIONS:

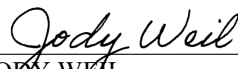
Pursuant to 36 CFR § 261.50(e), the following persons are exempt from this Order:

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

These prohibitions are in addition to the general prohibitions in 36 CFR Part 261, Subpart A.

Violations of this prohibition are 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 6 months, or both (16 U.S.C. § 551; 18 U.S.C. §§ 3551, 3559, 3571, and 3581).

Executed in Everett, Washington this ___9th___ day of **September**, 2022.




JODY WEIL
Forest Supervisor
Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest



September 9, 2022

MEMORANDUM

FROM: Forest Supervisor Jody L. Weil 

TO: FILE

SUBJECT: SUIATTLE RIVER FIRE CLOSURE II #06-05-22-12

FILE CODE: 1950/1010

ISSUE:

The intent of this memorandum is to describe the need for public use restrictions, as outlined in Forest Order #06-05-22-12. This action is categorically excluded from further analysis and documentation in an EIS or EA and does not require a decision memo (36 CFR § 220.6(d)(1)) under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). This memorandum also serves as the Civil Right Impact Analysis.

BACKGROUND AND NEED:

The intent of this document is to identify and state the purpose and need for a temporary closure of road and trails on the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest due to the Suiattle River Fire. This closure will provide for the health and safety of the public while allowing fire personnel to conduct fire suppression activities and monitor environmental impacts and conditions within the impacted fire area.

The proximity of the Suiattle River Fire to Forest System Road #26 (Suiattle River Road) and its tributaries makes public access to this area unsafe. To mitigate this risk, a temporary closure will be established in the following areas located within Skagit and Snohomish Counties, Washington:

Forest System Road #26 (Suiattle River Road) from the intersection of Forest System Road #2640 to its termination at the Suiattle Trailhead within T33N, R11E, Sections 18, 19, 30, 31 & 32; T32N, R11E, Sections 5, 8, 9, 10, 11, 13, & 14; and T32N, R12E, Sections 13, 14, 15, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, & 24; Forest System Road #2640 (Grade Creek Road) from the intersection of Forest System Road #26 to its terminus, located within T33N, R11E, Sections 7, 8, 17 & 18; Forest System Road #2642 (West Grade Creek Road) from the intersection of Forest System Road #2640 to its terminus, located within T33N, R11E, Sections 6, 7 & 18, and T33N, R10E, Section 1; Forest System Road #25 from the intersection of Forest System Road #26 to the intersection of Forest System Road #27, located within T33N, R11E, Section 32 and T32N, R11E, Sections 5, 6, 8 & 17; Forest System Road #2510 (Conrad Creek-All Creek Road) from the intersection with Forest System Road #25 to its terminus, located within T32N, R11E, Sections 6, 7, 17 & 18); Forest System Road #2660 (Tenas Creek Road) from the intersection of Forest System Road #26 (Suiattle River Road), and continuing east to its terminus, located within T33N, R11E, Sections 19, 20, 21, 22, 26, 27, 29 & 30; the Boulder Lake Trail #740, at its inception, including the Boulder Lake Trailhead, and continuing northeast to its terminus, located within T33N, R11E, Sections 23, 24 & 26; Forest System Road #2680 (Green Mountain Road), located within T32N, R12E, Section 15, 16, 17, & 21; the Huckleberry Mountain Trailhead within T32N, R11E, Section 14; the Buck Creek Campground within T32N, R11E, Section 13; the Green Mountain Trailhead within T32N, R12E, Section 15; the Downey Creek Trailhead within T32N, R12E, Section 14; the Sulphur Creek Campground within T32N, R12E, Section 24; and the Suiattle Trailhead within T32N, R12E, Section 24; all as shown in Exhibit A.

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 be provided only if I or my delegate determine that the risk to personal health and safety is reasonable considering the circumstances of the request. We also may require appropriate personal protective equipment and other necessary safety measures. I hereby delegate the authority to sign Form FS-7700-48 granting an exemption to this Forest Order to all District Rangers of the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest.

SCOPING AND PUBLIC OUTREACH:

Notices and press releases articulating these prohibitions have been posted on the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest website and provided to local media outlets for distribution. Closure signage has been posted on the ground and in proximity to the affected areas. Supervisory staff of the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest have discussed the closure with potentially interested and invested cooperating parties, including Washington State Department of Natural Resources, USDI Bureau of Land Management, Skagit County, and local fire districts.

REASONS FOR CATEGORICALLY EXCLUDING THE ACTION:

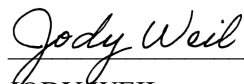
Based on a review of the proposed order and consultation with District and Forest resource specialists, I have concluded that this decision may be categorically excluded from documentation in an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) or Environmental Assessment (EA) under the National Environmental Policy 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, and it may be implemented immediately.

CIVIL RIGHTS IMPACT ANALYSIS:

I have determined that this closure will have no impacts on civil rights as it will apply to all individuals. No one group or person will be affected more than another group or person.

SUMMARY:

Based on my review, I have determined that this Forest Order is compliant with the Forest Order process and should be authorized.



JODY WEIL

Forest Supervisor

Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest