

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE Forest Service Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest WINTHROP, WA

Easy Fire Closure

Closure Order: 06-17-04-24-14

Pursuant to 16 USC § 551 and 36 CFR § 261.50(a) and (b), and to provide for public safety, the following acts are prohibited within the Methow Valley Ranger District of the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest. This Order is effective July 23, 2024 and will remain in effect through October 31, 2024 unless rescinded sooner.

PROHIBITIONS:

- 1.Entering into or being upon an area closed for the protection of public health and safety, as described below and displayed on the attached map, Exhibit A [36 CFR § 261.53(e)].
- 2. Being on a National Forest System trail, as described below and displayed on the attached map, Exhibit A [36 CFR § 261.55(a)].
- 3. Being on a National Forest System Road as described below and displayed on the attached map, Exhibit A [36 CFR § 261.54(e)].
- 4. Use of vehicle off of National Forest System Roads as described below and displayed on the attached map, Exhibit A [36 CFR § 261.56].

CLOSURE AREA DESCRIPTION:

The Easy Fire Area Closure is defined as follows:

The closure area boundary begins at the junction of State Route 20 (SR20) and the boundary of Skagit and Chelan Counties in T35N R17E Section 21, just north of the Heather/Maple Pass and Rainy Lake Trailhead. It then takes a direct bearing northwest to the summit of Fisher Peak at 8,060 feet in T35N R16E Section 11 on the border of North Cascades National Park. The closure area boundary then proceeds north following the boundary between the Methow Valley Ranger District and the National Park Service (NPS) to the junction with SR20 in T37N R14E Section 10. The closure area boundary then proceeds east following SR20 to its intersection with an unnamed creek that flows north from Bebee Mountain and enters Granite Creek just south of

its intersection with Canyon Creek in T37N R14E Section 12. SR20 is not included in the closure area. The closure area boundary then takes a direct bearing to the northeast to intersect Trail No. 754 Chancellor at 2200 feet in T37N R16E Section 17. It then follows the southern edge of Trail No. 754, excluding this trail, east to the junction with Trail No. 755 Mill Creek in T37N R16E Section 12. It then follows and includes Trail No. 755 Mill Creek south to the boundary of Whatcom and Skagit Counties in T37N R17E Section 32. It follows the Whatcom and Skagit County boundary and then the Whatcom and Okanogan County boundary east and north to a highpoint at 7125 feet on Handcock Ridge just south of Grasshopper Pass in T37N R17E Section 34. The closure area boundary then follows the high point on Handcock Ridge east and then southeast until it intersects Trout Creek in T36N R18E Section 4. It then takes a direct bearing south to a knob at 7228 feet on Delancy Ridge in T36N R18E Section16. It then follows the high point on Delancy Ridge west to the intersection with the Okanogan and Skagit County boundary line in T36N R17E Section 26. The closure area boundary then proceeds south and southwest, following the Okanogan and Skagit County boundar line and Trail No 2000 Pacific Crest Trail, whichever is farther east, until it intersects the Skagit County and Chelan County boundary line in T35N R17E Section 14. It then proceeds west following the boundary of Skagit and Chelan Counties until it returns to the starting point at the intersection of SR20 in T35N R17E Section 21.

State Route 20 (North Cascades Scenic Highway) and FSR 5310900 Canyon Creek Trailhead are not included in this closure order.

The following roads and trails are included in this closure order:

Roads Closed

- FSR 5310600 Rainy Pass (PCT North) Trailhead
- FSR 5310750 Swamp Creek Rock Pit
- FSR 5310800 Easy Pass Trailhead
- FSR 5310850 East Creek Trailhead

Trails Closed

- Trail No. 2000 Pacific Crest Trail (PCT) between Rainy Pass North Trailhead and Grasshopper Pass
- Trail No. 480 West Fork Methow from the intersection of the trail and Trout Creek to its terminus at the junction with Trail No. 2000 PCT
- Trail No. 483 from the junction of Trail No. 483A Cutthroat Lake to its terminus at the junction with Trail No. 2000 PCT
- Trail No. 728 Snowy Lakes
- Trail No. 729 Boulder Creek
- Trail No. 741 Easy Pass
- Trail No. 755 Mill Creek
- Trail No. 755.1 Azurite
- Trail No. 756 East Creek

See Exhibit A for closure map.

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 these prohibitions are punishable by a fine of not more than \$5,000.00 for an individual or \$10,000.00 for a corporation, or imprisonment for not more than six months, or both. (16 USC § 551; 18 USC §§ 3551, 3559, 3571, and 3581.)

Executed in Wenatchee, Washington this 23rd day of July, 2024.

TARA UMPHRIES
Acting Forest Supervisor
Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest