

**National Environmental Policy Act
and
Civil Rights Statements
Supporting the Emergency Closure Order
NATIONAL FORESTS IN NORTH CAROLINA
CROATAN RANGER DISTRICT
CROATAN NATIONAL FOREST, NORTH CAROLINA
Order #08-11-03-25-01**

National Environmental Policy Act Analysis

Section 102 of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requires federal agencies to prepare detailed statements of major proposed federal actions significantly affecting the quality of the human environment (42 U.S.C. Sec 4332). This closure order is categorically excluded from analysis in an Environmental Assessment or Environmental Impact Statement per 36 CFR 220.6(d)(1): Prohibitions to provide short-term resource protection or to protect public health and safety. This action is consistent with the Nantahala National Forest Revised Land and Resource Management Plan. No additional documentation is required to proceed with implementation of this order.

Social Economic Effects

There are insignificant social economic effects from the proposed closure that could be meaningfully evaluated and that would require analysis.

Michelle Aldridge _____ 4/29/2025
Michelle Aldridge
Planning Staff Officer

Civil Right Impact Statement

The need for conducting a Civil Rights Impact Analysis has been considered for this order. Consultation with forest personnel show no reason for me to believe that any protected groups will be in any way disproportionately impacted by the order. The proposed order will not negatively affect the rights of members of protected groups (based on their race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation or marital or family status). The effects to all, including members of the public and Forest Service employees will be increased safety. For these reasons, I have determined that a CRIA is not necessary for implementing this closure.

Michelle Aldridge _____ 4/29/2025

Michelle Aldridge
Planning Staff Officer