Order Number: 06-304

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOREST SERVICE
GILA NATIONAL FOREST
RESERVE, WILDERNESS, BLACK RANGE, AND GLENWOOD RANGER DISTRICTS
WHITEWATER-BALDY FIRE COMPLEX EMERGENCY AREA CLOSURE

PROHIBITIONS:

Pursuant to 16 U.S.C. 551, and 36 CFR § 261.53 (a), the following acts and omissions are prohibited on the areas, roads, and trails described in this Order, and depicted on the attached map incorporated into this order as Exhibit A, the "restricted area," all within the Reserve, Wilderness, Black Range and Glenwood Ranger Districts, Catron and Grant Counties, Gila National Forest, New Mexico.

1. Going into or being upon the restricted area as described in this order, 36 CFR 261.52(e)

EXEMPTIONS:

Pursuant to 36 CFR 261. 50(e), the following persons are exempt from this order:

1. Persons with a Forest Service permit specifically exempting them from the effect of this Order
2. Owners or lessees of land in the area for the sole purpose of access to their private land.
3. Residents in the area for the sole purpose of access to their residence
4. Any Federal, State, or local officer, or member of any organized rescue or fire fighting force in the performance of official duty
5. Individuals traveling on Forest Road (FR) 28 from the junction with FR141 north to the junction with FR 30, FR30, and FR 150 from junction with FR 30 south to NM 59.

AREA DESCRIBED:

Roads closed

- Bursum Road (State Highway 159) is closed from Whitewater Mesa east
- Forest Road 141 from Reserve to the junction with FR 28 (to Negrito Fire Base)

AREA CLOSED:

All National Forest System lands (NFSL), roads, and trails within the proclaimed boundary of the Gila National Forest (Exhibit A) contained within the Wilderness, Reserve, Black Range and Glenwood Ranger Districts of the Gila National Forest within the following areas:

- *The entire western side of the Gila Wilderness bounded from the northwest corner of the Wilderness (near the end of the Catwalk National Recreation Trail) south and then east along the Wilderness boundary on the Glenwood and Wilderness Ranger Districts around the Wilderness boundary on the west side of NM 15, around the Gila Cliff Dwellings National Monument, private land and Visitors Center, to the East Fork of the Gila River, thence north along the East Fork to the eastern Gila Wilderness Boundary, thence following the Gila Wilderness boundary north and west back to the northwest corner of the Gila Wilderness near the Catwalk National Recreation Trail.*
- *On Glenwood, Black Range, and Reserve Ranger Districts all NFSL lands outside the Gila Wilderness bounded by Whitewater Creek northwest along the Powerhouse Trail #810 to the Powerhouse Road #722, thence west on Bursum Road (NM 159) to the section line between sections 31 and 32 (T 10 S, R 19 West) at approximately Slaughterhouse Spring, thence north along the section line 8.75 miles to Frying Pan Canyon (Trail #504), thence east on Frying Pan Canyon Trail #504 to Forest Road (FR) 4224 thence south on Forest Road 4224 to Forest Road 626 (Sign Camp/Devil's Park Road), thence northeast along FR 626 to FR 141, thence east along FR141 to junction with FR 28, thence northeast along FR 28 to the junction with FR 30, thence east and south along FR 30 to the junction with FR 150, thence south on FR 150 to the junction with FR 686 (to Beaver Creek), thence west along FR 686 to the Gila Wilderness Boundary,*

THE GILA CLIFF DWELLINGS NATIONAL MONUMENT, AND THE GILA VISITORS CENTER REMAIN OPEN TO PUBLIC VISITATION.

PURPOSE:

1. The purpose of this order is for public safety.

IMPLEMENTATION:

1. This Forest Order 06-304 will go into effect promptly at 6:00 am on Monday, May 28, 2012 and will remain in full force and effect, unless otherwise rescinded, until 12:01 am on December 31, 2012.
2. A map identifying the closure area is attached and made part of this Order.
3. Order supersedes any previous orders prohibiting the same acts covered by this Order
4. Any violation of this prohibition is punishable by a fine of not more than $5,000.00 for individuals and $10,000.00 for organizations and/or imprisonment for not more than

six (6) months. [Title 16 USC 551, Title 18 USC 3885, Title 18 USC 3571, Title 18 USC 3581].

Done at Silver City, New Mexico this 27th day of May, 2012.

Kelly M. Russell
Forest Supervisor
Gila National Forest

Violations of these regulations is punishable as a Class B misdemeanor, by a fine of not more than $5000 for an individual or $10,000 for an organization, or imprisonment for not more than six (6) months or both; 16 USC § 551, and 18 USC §§ 3559 and 3571.

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File Code: 1010
Date: May 27, 2012

Alan and Terri Tackman
PO Box 116
Glenwood, NM 88039

Dear Mr Tackman:

This letter authorizes you and those assisting you with the management of your livestock to be within the forest closure area described in Order No. 06-304, Whitewater-Baldy Fire Complex Emergency Area Closure (see enclosed document). This authorization is for the specific purpose of managing livestock operations associated with your grazing permit (gathering and moving cattle, watering, pasture moves, etc.) on your allotment(s). This authorization is valid until Order No. 06-304 is rescinded.

Your authorization is subject to the prohibitions prescribed in any fire restrictions or closure orders that may follow.

The following requirements are also a part of this authorization:

- A firefighting tool (e.g. shovel, Pulaski, etc.) and an ABC 20 pound fire extinguisher meeting ANSI/UL standard 771 must be carried upon any vehicle.
- This letter of authorization must be in the possession of you or your representative while in the closed area. Please place a copy of this letter on the dashboard of any vehicle within the closure area. I have included additional copies for your convenience.
- This authorization is subject to modification, addition of further stipulations, or revocation at my discretion should fire conditions worsen or the need arises.

Above all, safety issues will be considered above any exemption to the Closure Order. For your safety, I encourage you to closely monitor the fire situation and to notify your local Ranger District if you are entering your allotment when fire may be expected.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Teresa Smergut at 575-388-8420 or 575-538-1157. Your local range specialist or District Ranger may be contacted a: 575-539-2481.

I appreciate your cooperation in preventing wildfire and assisting with the Whitewater-Baldy Fire Complex suppression efforts during this extremely dry time. I know you will exercise the utmost care and precaution when exercising this authorization.

Sincerely,

KELLY M. RUSSELL
Forest Supervisor

Enclosures:
Order No. 06-304