ORDER NO. 12-05-716
KLAMATH NATIONAL FOREST
EMERGENCY CLOSURE

Pursuant to 16 USC 551 and 36 CFR 261.50(b), and to provide for public safety, the following acts are prohibited within the Klamath National Forest. This Order is effective from August 18, 2012, until the Fort Complex wildfires are fully suppressed.

1. Being on the National Forest System trails listed below and shown on Exhibit A.

    a. Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail (Forest Trail No. 2000) from its junction with Highway 96 then north 9 miles to Lily Pad Lake.
    b. Boundary National Recreation Trail (Forest Trail No. 5254) from its junction with the Pacific Crest Trail then west 6 miles to Bailey Cabin.

    36 CFR 261.55(a).

2. Being on the National Forest System roads listed below and shown on Exhibit A.

    a. Forest Road No. 47N80 (Lily Pad Road).
    b. Forest Road No. 18N02 (Bug Creek Road).

    36 CFR 261.54(e).

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

1. Persons with a permit from the Forest Service specifically authorizing the otherwise prohibited act or omission.
2. Any Federal, State, or local officer, or member of an organized rescue or fire fighting force in the performance of an official duty.

These prohibition are in addition to the general prohibitions in 36 CFR 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 USC 551 and 18 USC 3559, 3571, and 3581.

Executed in Yreka, California, this 17th day of August, 2012.

PATRICIA A. GRANTHAM
Forest Supervisor
Klamath National Forest

Exhibit A
Emergency Closure Order No. 12-05-716

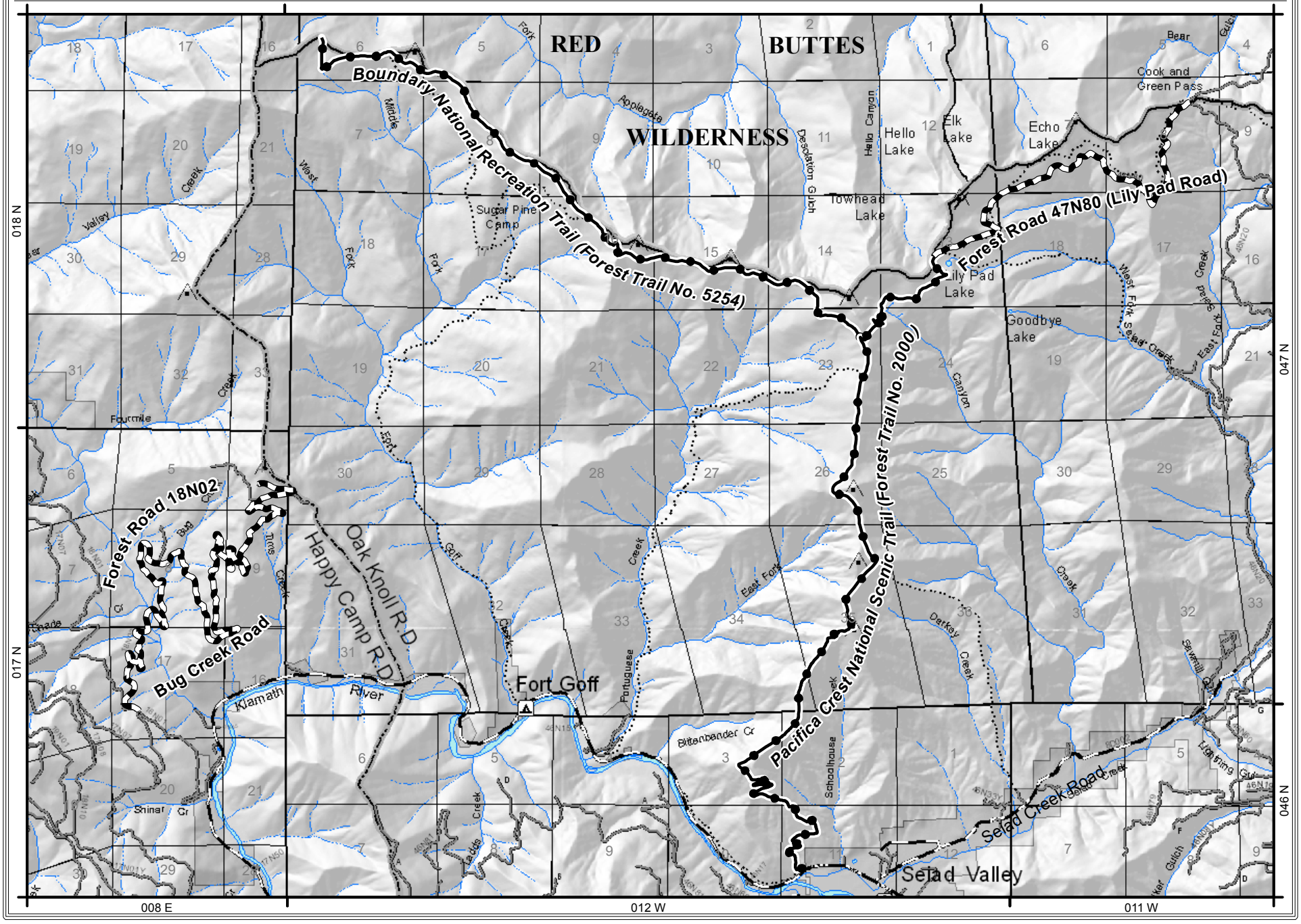
Klamath National Forest

0 0.5 1 2 Miles

Key

Closed Road

Closed Trail



Date: August 17, 2012

To: File

From: Patricia A. Grantham, Forest Supervisor

Re: Klamath National Forest, Fire Closure, Order No. 12-05-716

This document explains my rationale and the regulatory basis for closing trails and roads to public use on the Klamath National Forest: segments of two trails and one road on the Oak Knoll Ranger District, and one road on the Happy Camp Ranger District.

The Fort Goff and Portuguese Creek Trails were closed under Forest Order No. 12-05-715 on August 11, 2012. The Goff Fire has continued to grow and is now spotting east of the Portuguese Creek Trail. The Pacific Crest Trail (Forest Trail No. 2000) and the Boundary National Recreation Trail (Forest Trail No. 5254), respectively, are now the most logical control lines to the east and north of the fire.

The trail closures will keep recreationists off of the trails to avoid conflicts with the fire suppression effort and/ or keep recreationists out of the path of any fire runs. Fire runs cannot be predicted and pose a serious threat to individuals who are near an uncontrolled fire. Public use of the trails constitutes an unacceptable safety risk.

The road closures will keep recreationists off of steep narrow roads with heavy traffic of fire personnel accessing the control lines. Public use of the roads constitutes an unacceptable safety risk.

This Forest Order No. 12-05-716 is necessary to promote public safety and facilitate fire suppression in these areas for the Goff Fire of the Fort Complex. Since the steep rugged terrain is difficult to traverse, off-trail travel by the public is unlikely.

The Order will remain in effect until wildfire in the area is fully suppressed or the area is considered safe for public entry.

This action is categorically excluded from documentation in an EA or EIS (per FSH 1909.15, Section 31.12, Category 1, 36 CFR 220.6(d)(1), Orders issued pursuant to 36 CFR part 261 – *Prohibitions to provide short-term resource protection or to protect public health and safety*). This is not a project or activity implementing a land and resource management plan that is documented in a decision memo, decision notice, or record of decision. No extraordinary circumstances exist.

I have determined that the above facts are accurate and consistent with current laws and regulations.