



File Code: 2670
Route To: File

Date: July 14, 2017

Subject: Forest Order 05-07-54-17-07 – Whittier Fire Area, Road & Trail Closure

From: Merv George, Acting Forest Supervisor

I am issuing a Forest Order for public safety to close the area as a result of the Whittier Fire within the Los Padres National Forest. The Whittier Fire has been a fast growing fire and weather conditions are such that the fire is continuing to move rapidly. In addition, there is limited road access to the area creating a potential for visitors to become trapped due to the use of heavy equipment. Closure of the fire area is necessary to help ensure that no one is injured. The National Forest System roads and trails within the burned area will also be closed due to fire suppression activities that create a hazard to the public. Forest Road No. 6N04 is a main access point to the area and is closed due to staging of firefighting equipment and access for crews that could create a dangerous situation for employees and/or the public.

I have concluded that this decision may be categorically excluded from documentation in an Environmental Impact Statement or Environmental Assessment under the National Environmental Policy Act. This action falls within the category identified in 36 CFR 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. Implementation of the decision may begin immediately