

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOREST SERVICE
RIO GRANDE NATIONAL FOREST
DIVIDE RANGER DISTRICT

**West Fork Complex
Emergency Area Closure**

PROHIBITIONS:

Pursuant to 36 CFR 261.50 (b), the following act is prohibited on the area, roads, and trails as described in this order, within the Divide Ranger District, Rio Grande National Forest until further notice:

1. Going into or being upon the fire area as described below and depicted on the attached map that is closed for the protection of public health or safety. **36 CFR 261.53(e)**
2. Being on a trail described below that is posted as closed. **36 CFR 261.55(a)**

EXEMPTIONS:

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

1. Persons with a permit specifically exempting them from the effect of this Order.
2. Any Federal, State, or local officer, or member of an organized rescue or fire fighting force in the performance of an official duty.
3. Private landowners and Lessee's of land in the area solely for the purpose of ingress and/or egress to their owned/leased property.
4. Residents in the area solely for the purpose of ingress and/or egress to their residence.

AREA DESCRIBED:

The area closure includes National Forest System lands on all or parts of the following areas: Beginning at Wolf Creek Pass at the junction of CO State Highway 160 and the Continental Divide, running northeast along Highway 160 to its junction with CO State Highway 149, turning northwest along CO State Hwy 149 to its intersection with the Coller State Wildlife Area at township 40 north range 3 east section 19 (Masonic Park), continuing northwest along the southwest boundary of the Coller State Wildlife Area to their intersection with the Rio Grande River in township 40 north range 2 east section 3, running northwest along the Rio Grande River to its junction with CO State Highway 149, running northwest along CO State Highway 149 to its junction with County Road 550 (Deep Creek Road), turn west on County Road 550 to its junction with CO State Highway 149, turning south along CO State Highway 149 to its junction with the Rio Grande River in township 41 north range 1 west section 21, traveling south and west along the Rio Grande River to its junction with Forest Service Road 522, turning north along Forest Service Road 522 to its junction with CO State Highway 149, turning northwest along CO State Highway 149 to its junction with Forest Service Road 520, turning west on Forest Service Road 520 to its junction with Forest Service Road 521 (House Canyon), follow Forest Service Road 521 to its

junction with Crooked Canyon, turning southwest following Crooked Canyon Drainage bottom to the township division line between township 40 north and township 41 north (tenth standard parallel north), turning west following the township line division (tenth standard parallel north) to its junction with Forest Service Road 520 and the upper end of the Rio Grande Reservoir, turning southeast along the south shore of the Rio Grande Reservoir to its junction with Forest Service Trail 818 (Weminuche Trail), turning south along Forest Service Trail 818 to its junction with the Continental Divide at Weminuche Pass, turning east along the Continental Divide to its junction with CO State Highway 160 at Wolf Creek Pass. T37N, R2E, and R3E; T38N, R3E, R2E, R1E, R1W, R2W, R3W, R4W, R5W, and R6W; T39N, R3E, R2E, R1E, R1W, R2W, R3W, R4W, R5W, and R6W; T40N, R3E, R2E, R1E, R1W, R2W, R3W, R4W, R5W, and R6W; T41N, R2E, R1E, R1W, R2W, R3W, R4W, R5W, and R6W; T42N, R3E, R2E, R1E, R1W, R2W, R3W, R4W, R5W, and R6W; T43N, R1E, R1W, and R2W.

All trails that are within the boundaries of this area closure are **closed** due to the West Fork Complex Fire. All roads and trails that make up the boundary of this area closure are open except along the west and south edges, as shown on the map.

The above-described areas are within the proclaimed and administrative boundaries of the Divide Ranger District, Rio Grande National Forest, Archuleta, Mineral, and Rio Grande Counties, Colorado.

PURPOSE:

This closure is necessary to provide protection to forest visitors from the current fire safety hazards associated with the **West Fork Complex**.

IMPLEMENTATION:

1. This Order will be in effect when signed and shall remain in effect until further notice.
2. A map identifying the closure area is attached and made part of this Order.
3. Any violation of this prohibition is punishable by a fine of not more than \$5,000.00 for a individual or \$10,000 for an organization, and/or imprisonment for not more than six (6) months. [Title 16 USC 551, Title 18 USC 3571 (b)(6), Title 18 USC 3581 (b)(7)].
4. This Order supersedes any previous orders prohibiting the same acts covered by this Order in the above-described area.

Done at Monte Vista, Colorado this
10th day of July, 2013.

/s/ Adam Mendonca
Adam Mendonca
Acting Forest Supervisor
Rio Grande National Forest

Order Number: RG-2013-12