PROHIBITIONS:

Pursuant to 16 U.S.C. § 551 and 36 C.F.R. § 261.50(a) and (b), the following acts are prohibited within the area and on the roads described in this Order, all within the Wilderness and Black Range Ranger Districts, Gila National Forest, Catron, Sierra and Grant Counties within the State of New Mexico:

1. Going into or being upon the area described below that is closed for the protection of public health and safety. 36 C.F.R. § 261.53(e).

2. Using any motor vehicle on the road(s) described below. 36 C.F.R. § 261.54(a).


EXEMPTIONS:

Pursuant to 36 C.F.R. § 261.50(e), the following persons are exempt from this Order:

1. Persons with a written Forest Service authorization 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.

AREA AND ROADS DESCRIBED:

All National Forest System lands, roads and trails within the exterior boundaries of the Gila National Forest as depicted on the attached map at Exhibit A. Beginning at the intersection of Forest Road 150 (North Star Road) and New Mexico State Highway 59, encompassing the area south of Highway 59, headed east towards the intersection of Forest Road 955 (South Fence), headed northwest to Forest Trail 584 (Kennedy Canyon), continuing west on Forest Road 4052B, headed east through private and State Land just north of Adobe Ranch, connecting with Forest Trail 107 (House Mountain), continuing east to the intersection of Forest Road 4052S, intersecting with the Continental Divide trail, headed east to the intersection of Forest Trail 59 (Duck Canyon), intersecting with the eastern boundary of the Gila National Forest, then continuing south along the Forest Boundary to the intersection of Forest Trail 307 (Hermosa), headed west to the intersection of Forest Trail 123 (North Seco), headed west intersecting with Forest Trail 110 (Lake), proceeding southwest to the intersection of Forest Trail 79 (Black Range Crest), south to the intersection of Forest Trail 82 (Powderhorn Ridge), travelling west until Forest Road
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151 (Powderhorn Ridge). The boundary continues along Forest Road 151 northwest until the intersection Highway 35, continuing west along Highway 35 until intersecting with Forest Road 150 (North Star Road), headed north west along Forest Road 150 to the intersection of Forest Trail 700 (Rocky Campground), turning into Forest Trail 95 (Brannon Park), continuing west to the intersection of Forest Trail 94 (Black Canyon), headed north to the intersection Forest Trail 708 (Tom Moore), continuing north to Forest Trail 713 (Link), continuing northeast along Forest Road 609, headed east to the beginning at the intersection of Forest Road 150 and 609, continuing north along Forest Road 150 to the intersection of Forest Road 150 and Highway 59.

The following roads are closed: Forest Road 150 is closed from Highway 35 north approximately 45 miles to the intersection of Forest Road 150. State Highway 59 is closed from the intersection Forest Road 150 to the intersection of State Highway 52. All roads and trails within the closure are closed, including the section of the Continental Divide Trail listed in the order. Roads on state and private lands north of Adobe Ranch will remain open. Forest Road 151 will remain open

PURPOSE

To assure the protection of public health and safety in the Closure Area during the Black Fire activities.

IMPLEMENTATION

1. This Order will be effective on the 27th of May, 2022, at 1200, and will remain in effect until December 31st, 2022, or until rescinded, whichever occurs first.

2. A Map identifying the area closure is attached and made part of this Order as Exhibit A. For a digital version of the Order map for the NF, go to https://www.fs.usda.gov/alerts/gila/alerts-notices

3. Any violation of this prohibition is punishable by a fine of not more than $5,000 for individuals and $10,000.00 for organizations and/or imprisonment for not more than six (6) months (see 16 U.S.C. § 551, 18 U.S.C. § 3571(b)(6), 18 U.S.C. § 3581 (b)(7)).

4. Further information regarding this Order may be obtained at the Gila National Forest Supervisors office located in Silver City, NM, telephone number 575-388-8201

5. This Order supersedes any previous orders prohibiting the same act covered by this Order.

Done at Silver City, New Mexico this 27th day of May, 2022

MICHAEL MARTINEZ
Acting Forest Supervisor
Gila National Forest
1. **Background**: The Wilderness District of the Gila National Forest is proposing to temporarily close the described area from use by the public. The purpose of this order is to minimize exposure of the public to potentially hazardous conditions due to wildland fire. This area is used by recreational visitors. The restricted area is shown on the attached map, hereby incorporated into this Order as Exhibit A. An Order is needed to be able to cite persons unwilling to comply with this special order.

2. **Intent of Subpart B order**: To assure the protection of public health and safety in the Closure Area during the Black Fire activities.

3. **NEPA Compliance**: This Order falls under FSH 1909.15, 31.12, (1): “Orders issued pursuant to 36 CFR Part 261 - Prohibitions to provide short-term resource protection or to protect public health and safety”. This Order will not individually or cumulatively have a significant effect on the quality of the human environment and, therefore, is categorically excluded from documentation in an EIS or an EA. The only physical changes to the environment associated with this Order will be signs posted temporarily for the duration of the closure. No effects to extraordinary circumstances are anticipated.

4. **Civil Rights Impact Statement**: This Order does not constitute a “major action” as defined in FSH 1709.11, 31.1. It merely minimizes the dangers to human health and safety; as such, no one group is expected to be displaced or experience a disproportionate burden as a result of this Order.

5. **Enforcement Plan**: The following activities will occur in order to implement this special order in a manner that results in public acceptance and safety: Forest Service Law Enforcement Officers, Forest Protection Officers, Sheriff Deputies, Fire Wardens, Fire Prevention Technicians, firefighting crews, and New Mexico Department of Game and Fish Officers will patrol the affected area to enforce as well as educate the public on the closure area.

Potentially affected individuals and other Forest users will be notified of this Order with the issuance of a press release, which will be routed through appropriate media outlets. Furthermore, the Order will be posted on the Forest website, at the Forest Supervisor's Office, and at all ranger district offices on the Forest. When implemented, the prohibitions listed in the Order will be posted in reasonable locations including, but not limited to: fire danger signs, electronic reader boards, day use areas, developed campgrounds, visitor centers, and some dispersed camping areas.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Action</th>
<th>Responsible Official</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prepare proposed order</td>
<td>Henry Provencio, District Ranger, Wilderness RD, Gila National Forest</td>
<td>05/26/22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Review proposed order (Law Enforcement)</td>
<td>Canuto Molina, Patrol Captain, Southwestern Region, USFS</td>
<td>05/26/22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Approve proposed order</td>
<td>Michael Martinez, Acting Forest Supervisor, Gila National Forest</td>
<td>05/26/22</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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Post order in accordance with 36 CFR 261.51

Volunteers, Forest Service LEOs and FPOs, and all available staffs

Prepare news release for local media describing the order and management objectives/post to website/notify COIDC/copy to each receptionist/frontliners

Forest PAO

Notices will be used at access points advising of the closure for implementation.

Appropriate Staff
Law Enforcement Officers
Forest Protection Officers
Gila National Forest Employees & Volunteers

Enforcement Plan approved for implementation:

MICHAEL MARTINEZ
ACTING FOREST SUPERVISOR

DATE

Digitally signed by MICHAEL MARTINEZ
Date: 2022.05.27 13:18:21 -06'00'