



Forest Service

Lassen National Forest
Supervisor's Office

2550 Riverside Drive
Susanville, CA 96130
530 257-2151
TDD: 530 257-2151
Fax: 530 252-6428


File Code: 2300

Date: April 8, 2022

Route To:

Subject: Forest Order 06-22-01 - Occupancy Restrictions

To: File

From: Deb Bumpus 
Forest Supervisor
Lassen National Forest

I am implementing Forest Order No. 06-22-01 to limit the number of days and individuals camping on the Lassen National Forest, pursuant to 16 U.S.C. § 551 and 36 C.F.R. § 261.50(a). The purpose of this Order is to protect natural resources by prohibiting long term or semi-permanent occupancy of National Forest System lands within the Lassen National Forest.

This Order prohibits camping for a period longer than 14 days in any developed campground, and 14 days not to exceed an aggregate of 30 days in any undeveloped location during a calendar year. It also limits the use of a single campsite to eight persons. After camping for 14 days in undeveloped sites, a camper would not be able to camp within a one-mile radius of the original site for the calendar year. The Order applies to all areas within the Lassen National Forest. The Order is effective from April 11th, 2022 through April 10th, 2024.

With the Lassen National Forest being within close proximity to Chico and Redding, the demand for recreational opportunities is high. This demand for space and opportunity has encouraged long-term occupancy in many parts of the National Forest. Areas that are occupied for extended periods of time have experienced excessive soil compaction, erosion during the winter rains, and removal of vegetation and natural ground litter within riparian zones, which adversely impacts critical habitat for numerous sensitive or endangered species. Without the normal cycle of recreational campers periodically vacating an area to allow for both managed and natural restoration, the contamination of areas and nearby water bodies is compounded. Additionally, the more people that are contained within the site, the more likely it is to experience these issues.

Extended and over-occupancy campers often create a detrimental demand for natural resources and necessities such as a need to access water for drinking, bathing, and washing. With most campsites on the Lassen National Forest adjacent to streams, these activities often occur in sensitive riparian areas causing ecological damage. Specialists have concluded that moving campers at least a mile from the original site allows the area to repair itself and reduces the strain of overuse.

Scoping efforts included discussions with California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, Lassen County Sheriff's Office, and Plumas County Sheriff's Office. I have concluded that this



decision may be categorically excluded from documentation in an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) or Environmental Assessment (EA) under the National Environmental Policy Act. This action falls within the category identified in 36 C.F.R. § 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 my decisions may begin immediately.

This Order includes an exemption for persons holding a Forest Permit for Use of Roads, Trails, or Areas Restricted by Regulation or Order (Form FS-7700-48). Authorization under this exemption will only be provided if I or my delegate determine that the risk to natural resources is reasonable considering the circumstances of the request. I hereby delegate the authority to sign Form FS-7700-48 granting an exemption to this order to the District Rangers of the Lassen National Forest.

Forest Order Number 06-22-01
Occupancy and Use
Lassen National Forest

Pursuant to 16 U.S.C. § 551 and 36 C.F.R. § 261.50(a), and to protect natural resources, the following acts are prohibited within the Lassen National Forest. This Order is effective from April 11, 2022, through April 10, 2024.

1. Camping, as follows:
 - a. For more than 14 days per calendar year in any one developed campground.
 - b. For more than 14 days per calendar year within a one-mile radius of any one undeveloped campsite.
 - c. For more than 30 days per calendar year aggregate total outside of the developed campgrounds within the Lassen National Forest.

36 C.F.R. § 261.58(a).

2. Using a single developed campground site by more than eight people.
36 C.F.R. § 261.58(f).

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

1. Persons with a Forest Service Permit No. FS-7700-48 (Permit for Use of Roads, Trails, or Areas Restricted by Regulation or Order), specifically exempting them from 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.

These prohibitions are in addition to the general prohibitions found in 36 C.F.R. 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 U.S.C. § 551 and 18 U.S.C. §§ 3559, 3571, and 3581.

Executed in Susanville, California this 8th day of April 2022.



Deb Bumpus
Forest Supervisor
Lassen National Forest