

**Order Number: # 03-12-03-22-23**



**U.S. Department of Agriculture, U.S. Forest Service  
Tonto National Forest  
Mesa Ranger District**

**Emergency Closure for Water Users Recreation Site  
For Public Health & Safety**

**PROHIBITIONS**

Pursuant to 16 USC § 551 and 36 CFR § 261.50(a), the following are prohibited on National Forest System (NFS) lands in the Mesa Ranger District, Tonto National Forest, Maricopa County, State of Arizona, described below and shown on the attached map incorporated into this Order as Exhibit A (the "Described Area"):

1. Going into or being upon the Described Area. 36 CFR § 261.53(e).
2. Entering or using a developed recreation site or portion thereof.  
36 CFR § 261.58(b).

**EXEMPTIONS**

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

1. Persons with 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 or a written determination by a Forest Service authorized officer that a permit is not required under 36 C.F.R. § 251.50(e)(1) or (2)].
2. Any Federal, State, or local officer, or member of any organized rescue or fire fighting force in the performance of an official duty

**DESCRIBED AREA**

Consists of all National Forest System lands within the Water Users Recreation Site

(33° 33' 19.8" N / -111° 32' 37.6" W), within Township 3N, Range, 8E, Section 33SW ¼.

## PURPOSE

The purpose of this Order is for public health and safety, due to a flood event depositing a significant amount of debris in the Lower Salt River, pinching the flow of the river to where the water is flowing too fast with rapids moving along hanging trees making it unsafe for people floating or navigating the river.

## IMPLEMENTATION

1. This Order shall be in effect from July 30, 2022, at 8:00 AM through August 12, 2022, at 8:00 PM unless rescinded.
2. A map identifying the Described Area is attached and made part of this Order as Exhibit A. For a digital version of the Order and Exhibit A, go to <https://www.fs.usda.gov/alerts/tonto/alerts-notice>.
3. Unless otherwise expressly defined in this Order, the terms used in this Order are defined by the regulations of the Secretary of Agriculture, 36 C.F.R. Chapter II, Parts 200-299. If there are terms in this Order that are not expressly defined in the Order or 36 C.F.R. Chapter II, Parts 200-299, their meaning shall be determined by their plain language definitions.
4. A violation of the above prohibitions is punishable as a Class B misdemeanor by a fine of not more than \$5,000 for individuals and \$10,000 for organizations, or by imprisonment for not more than six months, or both. 16 U.S.C. § 551; 18 U.S.C. § 3559, 3571, and 3581.
5. Contact the Mesa Ranger District in Mesa AZ, (480) 610-3300, and Tonto National Forest Supervisor's Office in Phoenix AZ, (602) 225-5200, for more information about this Order.
6. This Order supersedes any previous Orders prohibiting the same or similar acts in the same Described Area.

Signed and issued on July 30th, 2022.

NEIL  
BOSWORTH  
Neil Bosworth  
Forest Supervisor  
Tonto National Forest

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BOSWORTH  
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