

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

FOREST SERVICE

MT. BAKER-SNOQUALMIE NATIONAL FOREST

ORDER #06-05-22-14

BOLT CREEK FIRE CLOSURE

Pursuant to 16 U.S.C. § 551 and 36 CFR § 261.50(a) & (b), and to provide for public safety, the following acts are prohibited within the Skykomish Ranger District of the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest as described below and shown in Exhibit A. This Order is effective September 13, 2022, through December 31, 2023, unless rescinded sooner.

PROHIBITIONS:

- 1. Entering into or being upon National Forest System Lands closed for the protection of public health and safety. [36 CFR § 261.53(e)].
- 2. Being on a National Forest System Road. [36 CFR § 261.54(e)]
- 3. Entering or using a developed recreation site or portion thereof. [36 CFR § 261.58(b)]
- 4. Being on a National Forest System Trail. [36 CFR § 261.55(a)]

CLOSURE AREA:

National Forest System lands within the following boundary: starting at the Forest boundary in T27N, R10E, Section 20 at mile 1.2 on Snohomish County Index-Galena Road, proceeding generally northeast along and excluding Index-Galena Road to mile 13.7 where it becomes Forest System Road (FSR) 63 (North Fork Skykomish River Road) in T28N, R11E, Section 25, proceeding generally east along and including FSR63 to its junction with Forest System Road 65 (Beckler River Road) in T28N, R11E, Section 25, then proceeding generally south along and including FSR 65 to the Forest Boundary in T26N, R11E, Section 25, proceeding generally southwest along the Forest boundary to its intersection with US Highway 2 in T26N, R11E, Section 26, proceeding generally northwest along and excluding US Highway 2, and the forest boundary, to the Forest boundary in T27N, R10E, Section 20, and then proceeding generally north along the Forest boundary to mile 1.2 on the Index-Galena Road in T27N, R10E, Section 20, as shown in Exhibit A.

The following National Forest System roads, trails, and developed campgrounds and sites are included in this closure, which includes all spur roads and trails leaving from those listed below:

Closed Roads

6024	6512	6546
63	6514	6548
6310	6516	6550
6320	6520	6554
6330	6522	6560
6335	6526	6570
65	6530	
6510	6540	

Closed Trails

1070 Heybrook Lookout

1055 Barclay Lake

1055.1 Eagle Lake

1055.2 Paradise Meadows

1052 Blanca Lake

1056 Evergreen Mountain

1067 Johnson Ridge

1238 Frog Mountain

DW

Closed Trailheads

Heybrook Lookout Barclay Lake Blanca Lake Evergreen Lookout Johnson Ridge Meadow Creek North Fork Skykomish Quartz Creek West Cady Ridge

Closed Developed Campgrounds

Troublesome Creek San Juan Beckler River

EXEMPTIONS:

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

- 1. Any Federal, State, or local officer, or member of an organized rescue or fire-fighting force in the performance of an official duty.
- 2. Persons with Forest Service Permit No. FS-7700-48 (Permit for Use of Roads, Trails, or Areas Restricted by Regulation Order), specifically exempting them from this order.

These prohibitions are in addition to the general prohibitions in 36 CFR Part 261, Subpart A.

Violations of this prohibition are 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 6 months, or both (16 U.S.C. § 551; 18 U.S.C. §§ 3551, 3559, 3571, and 3581).

Executed in Everett, Washington this __14th____ day of September, 2022.

Forest Supervisor

Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest



Forest Service Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest

2930 Wetmore Ave Suite 3A Everett, WA 98201

September 13, 2022

MEMORANDUM

FROM:

Forest Supervisor Jody L. Weil

TO:

FILE

SUBJECT:

BOLT CREEK FIRE CLOSURE #06-05-22-14

FILE CODE:

1950/1010

ISSUE:

The intent of this memorandum is to describe the need for public use restrictions, as outlined in Forest Order #06-05-22-12. This action is categorically excluded from further analysis and documentation in an EIS or EA and does not require a decision memo (36 CFR § 220.6(d)(1)) under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). This memorandum also serves as the Civil Right Impact Analysis.

BACKGROUND AND NEED:

The intent of this document is to identify and state the purpose and need for a temporary closure of road and trails on the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest due to the Bolt Creek Fire. This closure will provide for the health and safety of the public while allowing fire personnel to conduct fire suppression activities and monitor environmental impacts and conditions within the impacted fire area.

The Bolt Creek Fire makes public access to this area unsafe. To mitigate this risk, a temporary closure will be established in the following areas located within Snohomish and King Counties, Washington:

National Forest System lands within the following boundary: starting at the Forest boundary in T27N, R10E, Section 20 at mile 1.2 on Snohomish County Index-Galena Road, proceeding generally northeast along and excluding Index-Galena Road to mile 13.7 where it becomes Forest System Road 63 (North Fork Skykomish River Road) in T28N, R11E, Section 25, proceeding generally east along and including FSR63 to its junction with Forest System Road 65 (Beckler River Road) in T28N, R11E, Section 25, then proceeding generally south along and including FSR 65 to the Forest Boundary in T26N, R11E, Section 25, proceeding generally southwest along the Forest Boundary to its intersection with US Highway 2 in T26N, R11E, Section 26, proceeding generally northwest along and excluding US Highway 2 to the Forest boundary in T27N, R10E, Section 20, proceeding generally north along the Forest boundary to mile 1.2 on the Index-Galena Road in T27N, R10E, Section 20, as shown in Exhibit A.

The following National Forest System roads, trails, and developed campgrounds and sites are included in this closure, which includes all spur roads and trails leaving from those listed below:

Closed Roads

6022	6515
6024	6520
6028	6530
63	6540
6305	6546
6330	6548
6334	6550
6335	6554
65	6560
6510	6570
6512	

Closed Trails

1070 Heybrook Lookout 1055 Barclay Lake 1052 Blanca Lake 1506 Evergreen Mountain 1067 Scorpion Mountain

Closed Trailheads

Heybrook Lookout Barclay Lake Blanca Lake Evergreen Mountain Scorpion Mountain

Closed Developed Campgrounds

Troublesome Creek San Juan Beckler River

This Forest Order includes an exemption for persons with a Forest Permit for Use of Roads, Trails, or Areas restricted by Regulation or Order (Form FS-7700-48). Authorization under this exemption will be provided only if I or my delegate determine that the risk to personal health and safety is reasonable considering the circumstances of the request. We also may require appropriate personal protective equipment and other necessary safety measures. I hereby delegate the authority to sign Form FS-7700-48 granting an exemption to this Forest Order to all District Rangers of the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest.

SCOPING AND PUBLIC OUTREACH:

Notices and press releases articulating these prohibitions have been posted on the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest website and provided to local media outlets for distribution. Closure signage has been posted on the ground and in proximity to the affected areas. Supervisory staff of the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest have discussed the closure with potentially interested and invested cooperating parties, including Washington State DNR, Washington State Department of Transportation, Snohomish County, and King County.

REASONS FOR CATEGORICALLY EXCLUDING THE ACTION:

Based on a review of the proposed order and consultation with District and Forest resource specialists, 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, and it may be implemented immediately.

CIVIL RIGHTS IMPACT ANALYSIS:

I have determined that this closure will have no impacts on civil rights as it will apply to all individuals. No one group or person will be affected more than another group or person.



SUMMARY:

Based on my review, I have determined that this Forest Order is compliant with the Forest Order process and should be authorized.

JODY WEIL

Forest Supervisor

Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest