

KOOTENAI NATIONAL FOREST SERVICE
31374 US Hwy 2
Libby, MT 59923
FOREST SUPERVISOR'S ORDER

CLOSURE ORDER - Peregrine Falcon Activity
Area Protection

PROHIBITIONS

Pursuant to title 36, Code of Federal Regulations 261.50 (a) and (b), the following acts are prohibited on the area described in this order, all within the Rexford Ranger District of the Kootenai National Forest, in Lincoln County, Montana as depicted on the attached map as **Exhibit 1** and hereby incorporated into the order. These restrictions are in addition to those enumerated in Subpart A, Part 261, Title 36, Code of Federal Regulation, become effective when signed, and will remain in effect until rescinded.

36 CFR 261.53 (a) – Special Closures. It is prohibited to go into or be upon any area which is closed for the protection of threatened, endangered, rare, unique, or vanishing species of plants, animals, birds or fish.

AREA DESCRIBED

As provided by this order, it is hereby prohibited to go into or be upon the area described below and as specifically described on **Exhibit 1**, attached to this order

Portions of the Big Creek cliff face and the ridge top areas immediately adjacent to this face, located in Township 35 North, Range 29 West, Section 35, including:

- a. the Southwest $\frac{1}{4}$,
- b. the portion west of, but not including, the FDR road of the south half of the Northeast $\frac{1}{4}$, and
- c. the portion west of, but not including, the FDR road of the Southeast $\frac{1}{4}$.

The closure area can be roughly described as the eastern edge of the closure running along the Forest Development Road (FDR) from approximately mile marker 39 to mile 37.8, extending uphill from the road. It is approximately 0.5 miles east of Cliff Point and includes forested habitat that is intermittently dispersed with rocky cliffs. This area is 288 acres in size.

PURPOSE

The purpose and need for this Decision is to enact a closure within an area identified as a peregrine falcon nesting area. This is consistent with the goals and desired conditions outlined in the 2015 Kootenai Forest Plan. The closure was designed to eliminate the potential disturbance from recreational climbers or other recreationists on nesting peregrine falcons within the Big Creek nesting area. Disturbance can displace individuals and cause nest abandonment (USDI, 1999).

EXEMPTIONS

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

1. Persons with permit specifically authorizing the otherwise prohibited act or omission
2. Any federal, state or local officer, or member of an organized rescue or firefighting force in the performance of an official duty.

Done this 26 day of April, 2016.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Chris Savage", written over a horizontal line.

CHRISTOPHER S. SAVAGE

Forest Supervisor

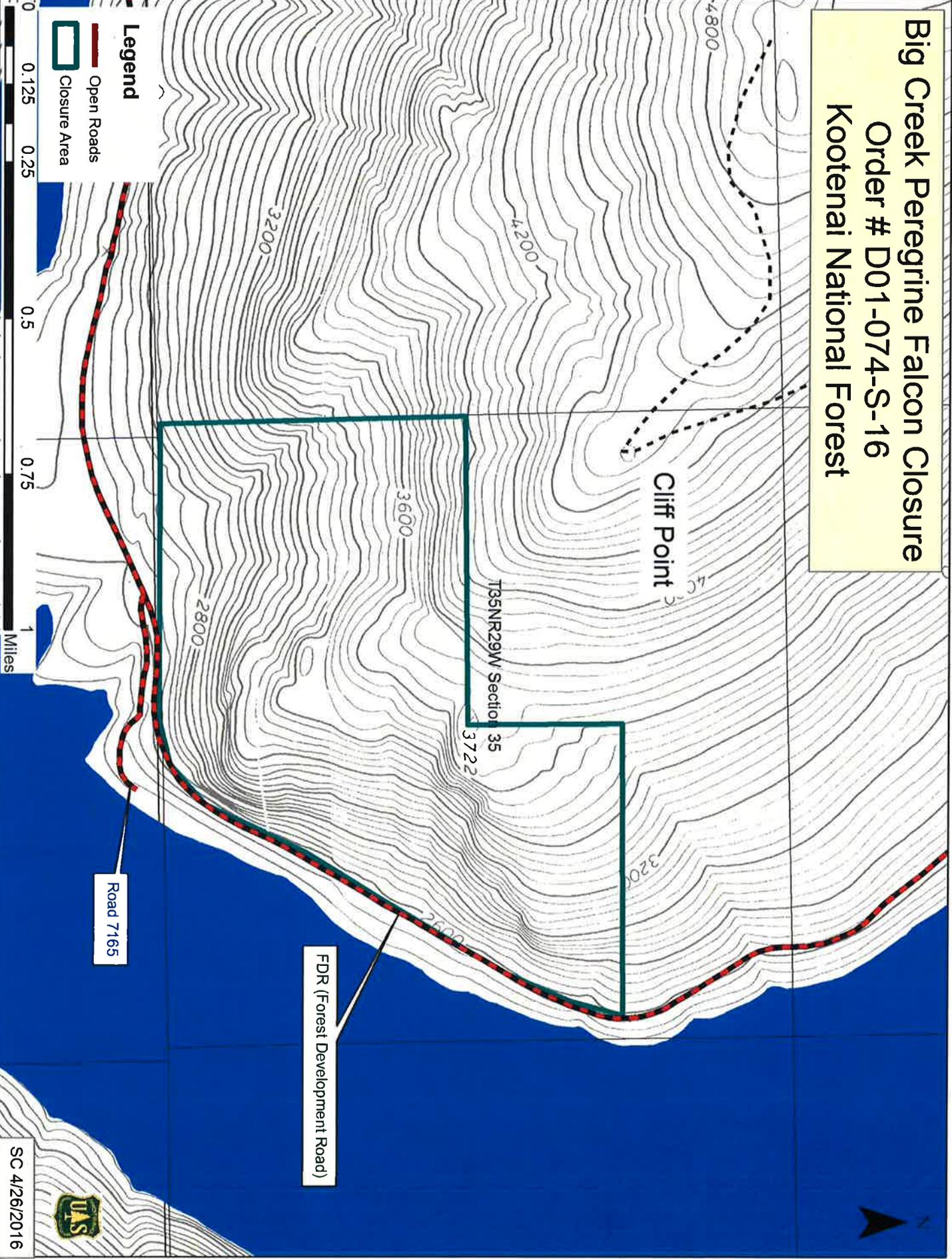
Kootenai National Forest

Penalty:

Violations of these prohibitions are punishable by a fine of not more than \$5,000 for an individual or \$10,000 for an organization, or imprisonment of not more than six months, or both. (16USC 551, 18 USC 3559 and 18 USC 3571.)

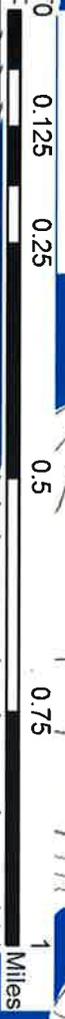
A copy of this order shall be posted as prescribed under CFR261.51.

Big Creek Peregrine Falcon Closure
Order # D01-074-S-16
Kootenai National Forest



Legend

- Open Roads
- Closure Area



Road 7165

FDR (Forest Development Road)

Cliff Point

T35NR29W Section 35

3722

SC 4/26/2016

