

**File Code:** 2670

**Date:** September 29, 2016

**Route To:** File

**Subject:** Forest Order 05-07-55-16-20 Pines Campground Closure

**From:** Kenneth Heffner, Acting Forest Supervisor

KEH

I am issuing a Forest Order for public safety to close the Pines Campground within the Ojai Ranger District of the Los Padres National Forest. The on-going drought and bark beetle infestation have killed about two dozen pine trees at the Pines Campground, a popular campsite near the Horn Canyon Trail (22W08).

This closure is essential to protect public safety and is necessary to help ensure that no one is injured from falling trees. Some dead trees have already blown over in recent wind events, but many more remain. The campsite contains a dense concentration of dead trees, creating a significant public safety situation.

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 CFR 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 the decision may begin immediately.