

CASE FILE
FOR THE SEASONAL CLOSURE OF THE LADDERS BALD EAGLE BREEDING AREA

Order Number: 09-242

ORDER
USDA - FOREST SERVICE
PRESCOTT NATIONAL FOREST
LADDERS BALD EAGLE BREEDING AREA SEASONAL CLOSURE

SPECIAL RESTRICTIONS

Pursuant to Title 36 CFR 261.50 (a) and (b), the following acts are prohibited in areas as described in this Order on National Forest System lands administered by the Prescott National Forest, in Yavapai County in Arizona, and as depicted on the attached map (the "restricted area"), hereby incorporated into this Order as Exhibit A.

PROHIBITIONS:

This prohibition is in effect for the period of December 1 to June 30 annually for the protection of rare and endangered wildlife, and will remain in effect until rescinded.

1. Go into or be upon the area as shown. **36 CFR 261.53(a) and (b).**
2. Using a vehicle on the Forest Service roads. **36 CFR. 261.54(a)**
3. Being on the road. **36 CFR 261.54(e)**
4. Being on a trail. **36 CFR 261.55(a)**

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; and
2. Person(s) with a Forest Service permit specifically authorizing the otherwise prohibited act or omission.
3. Persons floating in water-borne craft upon the waters of the Verde River. Persons may not land, beach, or otherwise delay their deliberate passage through the closure area except for emergencies and for scouting rapids.

AREA DESCRIBED:

This area is known as the Ladders area and is accessed by FR 9709R south of Camp Verde or by boating the Verde River from the Beasley Flats recreation area. The restricted area's northern boundary is adjacent the Verde Falls and follows the unnamed tributary to the west, then overland to Chasm Peak, then southwesterly along the ridge to the fence, and then south to the entry gate at the junction of Forest Road 574 and Forest Road 9709R. The eastern boundary starts along the Verde River at the Verde Falls and continues downstream about 2 miles to the Sycamore Canyon confluence. The southern boundary is opposite the Sycamore Canyon confluence overland west to the powerline and then northwest along the powerline and tying into Chasm Creek upstream to about the crossing on Forest Road 574. The western boundary is from Chasm Creek north along the fence line to the entry gate on Forest Road 9709R and continues a short distance along the fence line to the north. Road closures include all of Forest Road 9709R from the junction of Forest Road 574. Trail closures include all of Forest Trail 16 and a portion of Forest Trail 508 at the trail junction with the powerlines, north of the trailhead at Rodeo Flat Tank, to the junction with Forest Road 9709R.

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PURPOSE:

This order is needed to protect nesting bald eagles during their breeding season (December 1 through June 30).

IMPLEMENTATION:

1. This Order will be in effect on December 1, 2017 and shall remain in effect (December 1 thru June 30 every year until June 30, 2022) or until rescinded, whichever event occurs first.
2. This Order rescinds, replaces and supersedes any previous Orders prohibiting the same acts covered by this Order in that area addressed by Exhibit A.

Done at Prescott, Arizona this

day of November, 2017.



TAMERA RANDALL-PARKER
Forest Supervisor (Acting)
Prescott National Forest

Violation of this Order is punishable as a Class B misdemeanor by a fine of not more than \$5,000.00 for individuals, and \$10,000.00 for organizations and/or imprisonment for not more than six (6) months, or both. [Title 16 USC 551, Title 18 USC 3885, Title 18 USC 3571, and Title 18 USC 3581].

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