

 The logo of the United States Forest Service, featuring a shield with a tree in the center, the letters 'U' and 'S' on either side, and the text 'FOREST SERVICE' at the top and 'DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE' at the bottom.	News Release	Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest 2930 Wetmore Ave. Ste. 3A Everett, WA 98201 425-783-6000 Fax: 425-783-0212 www.fs.usda.gov/mbs
---	-------------------------	--

Public Safety Concerns Close Area Surrounding Forest Service Road 7013 to Recreational Shooting

Area Surrounding Forest Service Road 7013 and the area generally known as the 7013 pit to be closed

Everett, Wash. July 2, 2018— Beginning today, July 2nd, the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest will close an area off the Highway 410 corridor to recreational shooting due to significant public safety concerns and resource damage issues.

The area generally known as the 7013 pit, located approx. 2.5 miles east on Forest Service Road #70 south of the Greenwater community off of Hwy 410, will be closed to recreational shooting due to continued unsafe shooting practices, resource damage, garbage left behind from target shooters, as well as shooting related safety concerns associated with a nearby subdivision. Public safety concerns at the 7013 pit have been reported to the Snoqualmie Ranger District over the last several years. Click [here](#) to review the closure order.

The Forest Service has worked extensively with the recreational shooting community to mitigate negative impacts associated with the 7013 shooting pit. These efforts included realigning the shooting area to create an adequate backstop, as well as coordinating multiple volunteer clean-up events with partners to remove garbage and debris left behind by recreational shooters. Despite these efforts, the negative impacts have continued to occur at the site.

Various alternative areas exist within a few miles of the 7013 pit with adequate backdrops for recreational shooting. Following this closure, the Forest Service will continue to engage in a public process to assess target shooting needs on National Forest System lands within the 410 Highway Corridor and implement any necessary changes.

Much of the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forests is open to recreational target shooting. It is an appropriate use of the forest, when done safely and with respect to the land and property. Learn more about safe recreational shooting practices at:

<http://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/mbs/alerts-notice/?cid=stelprdb5324910>

###