

ORDER NO. 02-19-13  
CLEVELAND NATIONAL FOREST  
HOLY FIRE CLOSURE

Pursuant to 16 USC 551 and 36 CFR 261.50(a) and (b), and to provide for public safety and resource protection, the following acts are prohibited within the Trabuco Ranger District of the Cleveland National Forest. This Order is effective from September 20, 2019 until September 19, 2020.

1. Going into or being upon National Forest System lands within the Holy Fire Closure Area. Private and non-federal land is excluded from the Order. The boundary of the Holy Fire Closure Area begins at the northwest corner of Section 8, Township 5 South, Range 6 West, San Bernardino Base and Meridian (S.B.M.), then continues south 2.5 miles along the eastern edge of North Main Divide Road (3S04) to its intersection with the Santiago Peak entrance road (Forest Road 3S04c), then continues due south, excluding the Santiago Peak Communications Site, to its intersection with the southern boundary of section of Section 29, Township 5 South, Range 6 West, then continues west to the southwest corner of Section 29, Township 5 South, Range 6 West, then continues south to the southwest corner of Section 32, Township 5 South, Range 6 West, then continues west to its intersection with the Cleveland National Forest Boundary, then continues south and east along the Cleveland National Forest Boundary to its intersection with the southern boundary of Section 29, Township 6 South, Range 6 West, then continues east to the southeast corner of Section 28, Township 6 South, Range 6 West, then continues north to the southeast corner of Section 16, Township 6 South, Range 6 West, then continues east to the southeast corner of Section 15, Township 6 South, Range 6 West, then continues north to the northeast corner of Section 15, Township 6 South, Range 6 West, then continues east to the southeast corner of Section 11, Township 6 South, Range 6 West, then continues to the northwest corner of the southwest quarter of Section 12, Township 6 South, Range 6 West, then continues east, excluding Falcon Campground and Falcon Trail, to its intersection with Long Canyon Road, then continues south along the eastern and northern edge of Long Canyon Road, then continues east along the southern boundary of Section 7, and 8, Township 6 South, Range 5 West to its intersection with North Main Divide Road, then continues north and east along the northern edge of North Main Divide Road to its intersection with the eastern boundary of Section 8, Township 6 South, Range 5 West, then continues south to the southeast corner of Section 8, Township 6 South, Range 5 West, then continues east to its intersection with El Cariso Road (Truck Trail), then continues south to its intersection with North Main Divide Road, then continues due east to its intersection with State Route 74 (Ortega Highway), then continues north and east along the northern edge of State Route 74 to its intersection with the eastern boundary of Section 9, Township 6 South, Range 5 West, then continues north to its intersection with the Cleveland National Forest Boundary, then continues west and north along the Cleveland National Forest Boundary to the northeast corner of Section 9, Township 5 South, Range 6 West near the mouth of Coldwater Canyon, then continues west back to its starting point, as shown on the attached map. 36 CFR 261.52(e).
2. Being on the National Forest System roads listed below, as shown on attached map. 36 CFR 261.54(e).

- a. Any National Forest System road within the Holy Fire Closure Area
  - b. El Cariso Road (Truck Trail)
  - c. Indian Truck Trail (Forest Road 5S01)
  - d. Long Canyon Road (Forest Road 6S05) from its intersection with North Main Divide Road, southwest to its intersection with the western boundary of Section 7, Township 6 South, Range 5 West
  - e. North Main Divide Road (Forest Road 3S04) from its intersection with the Santiago Peak entrance road in Section 29, Township 5 South, Range 6 West, south to its intersection with the eastern boundary of Section 8, Township 6 South, Range 5 West
  - f. Trabuco Creek Road (Forest Road 6S13)
3. Being on any National Forest System trail listed below, as shown on the attached map. 36 CFR 261.554(ea).
- a. Any National Forest System trail within the Holy Fire Closure Area.
  - b. Coldwater Trail (6W01)
  - c. Holy Jim Trail (6W03)
  - d. East Horsethief Trail (5W01)
  - e. West Horsethief Trail (6W11)
  - f. Los Piños Trail (6W06)
  - g. Trabuco Trail (6W04)

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 a permit from the Forest Service specifically authorizing the otherwise prohibited act or omission.

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

A violation of these prohibitions is punishable by a fine of not more than \$5000 for an individual or \$10,000 for an organization or imprisonment for not more than six months, or both 16 USC 551 and 18 USC 3559, 3571, and 3581.

Done at San Diego, California, this 19th day of September, 2019.

  
SCOTT TANGENBERG  
Forest Supervisor



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**Date: September 19, 2019**

**TO: File** *SPT 9/19/19*

**FROM: Scott Tangenberg/ Forest Supervisor**

**RE: FOREST ORDER NO. 02-19-13/ Emergency Closure**

I have decided to issue a Forest Order authorizing a temporary closure of a portion of the Trabuco Ranger District, in the vicinity of the area burned by the Holy Fire in August and September 2018. The closure will be in effect from September 20, 2019, until September 19, 2020, to address resource protection and public health and safety concerns related to the ongoing watershed emergency in the Holy Fire burn area.

The closure includes areas adjacent to and surrounding the fire as well as roads and trails that access the burned area. Private and non-federal public land is excluded from the Closure Order. The area encompasses El Cariso Road (Truck Trail), Indian Truck Trail (Forest Road 5S01), a portion of Long Canyon Road (Forest Road 6S05), portions of North Main Divide Road (3S04), Trabuco Creek Road (Forest Road 6S13), Coldwater Trail (6W01), Holy Jim Trail (6W03), East Horse Thief Trail (5W01), West Horse Thief Trail (6W11), Los Piños Trail (6W06), and Trabuco Trail (6W04). Also affected are locations adjacent to the burned area, consisting of approximately 34,790 total closed acres, as shown on the attached map.

There is a need for this action because of the threat to human life, property, and resources from the wildfire and the subsequent watershed emergency. Numerous natural hazards created by the fire still pose safety concerns, such as rolling debris, dry ravel, and unstable slopes. The topography of the area is very steep with sensitive soils, which can lead to erosion, especially when traversed by machines, vehicles, or people. Flash flooding and debris flows, caused by loss of vegetation and exposed soils, pose an additional threat to public safety and infrastructure. Due to the potentially hazardous conditions, entry into the closure area poses a public safety concern.

The time frame of a closure normally includes the first season of precipitation; however, the extended period of drought in southern California can affect regrowth of vegetation in the burned area prior to the rainy season. The widespread area of moderate to high burn severity, which causes soil disaggregation, will result in low storm intensity thresholds for triggering debris/mud flow and flooding. This, along with the forecast for potential winter storms, has lengthened the time period when severe flash flooding and/or mud flows in the burn area and adjacent areas may occur. Increases in flows and erosion rates, including debris/mud flows, are much higher than normal and are expected for several years. The greatest increases in these flows will occur during the first two years following the fire, but will eventually return to normal levels.

I have concluded that this decision may be categorically excluded from documentation in an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) or Environmental Assessment (EA) under that National



Environmental Policy Act. This action falls within the category identified in 36 CFR 220.6(d)(1) – prohibitions to provide short-term resources 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.

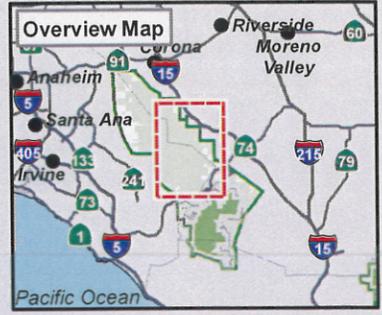
No significant issues were raised during scoping conducted with the interdisciplinary team and Trabuco Ranger District staff. This closure is consistent with the closure treatments recommended by the Burned Area Emergency Response (BAER) Team. Notification letters will be sent to potentially interested elected officials, agencies, and organizations.



**Order # 02-19-13**  
**Holy Fire Closure Area**  
**Exhibit A**

Cleveland National Forest  
 Trabuco Ranger District

- Forest Admin Boundary
- Trail
- Road
- Forest Service
- Non FS
- Closure Area (34,790 acres)



Closure Area Boundary Description Begins Here

