

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
UNITED STATES FOREST SERVICE**

**Klamath National Forest**

**Forest Order No. 22-05-01**

**Camping Stay Limitations**

Pursuant to 16 U.S.C. § 551 and 36 C.F.R. § 261.50(a), and for the health and safety of the public and the protection of natural resources, the following act is prohibited on all National Forest System lands within the Klamath National Forest. This Order effective from JULY 15, 2022, through JULY 15, 2024.

1. Camping, as described below:
    - a. In any one location for more than 14 consecutive days.
    - b. Within the Klamath National Forest for more than 30 days per calendar year.
- 36 C.F.R. § 261.58(a).


Pursuant to 36 C.F.R. § 261.50(e), the following persons are exempt from this Order:

- a. Persons with Forest Service Permit No. FS-7700-48 (Permit for Use of Roads, Trails, or Areas Restricted by Regulation or Order), specifically exempting them from this Order.
- b. Any Federal, State, or local officer, or member of an organized rescue or fire-fighting force performing an official duty.

This prohibition is in addition to the General Prohibitions in 36 C.F.R. Part 261, Subpart A.

A violation of this prohibition is punishable by a fine of not more than \$5,000 for an individual or \$10,000 for an organization, or imprisonment for not more than six months, or both. 16 U.S.C. § 551 and 18 U.S.C. §§ 3559, 3571, and 3581.

Executed in Yreka, California this 15th day of JULY, 2022.



Rachel Smith  
Forest Supervisor  
Klamath National Forest



United States  
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**Date:** July 15, 2022

**To:** File

**From:** Rachel Smith, Forest Supervisor, Klamath National Forest

**Re:** Forest Order No. 22-05-01

This document explains my rationale and the regulatory basis for limiting occupancy and use on the Klamath National Forest.

Forest Order No. 22-05-01, which limits occupancy and use, is necessary to reduce the impacts to natural resources associated with long-term established camps and to reduce the likelihood and frequency of public safety incidents related to unauthorized, residential camping. An example of impacts to natural resources may include trail or streambank erosion which causes sedimentation into waterways or soil compaction which can lead to vegetation loss. The accumulation of personal property and/or hazardous material within a developed recreation area may impact natural resources and public safety.

The 1995 Klamath National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan (Forest Plan, as amended) includes standards and guidelines for management of the Klamath National Forest. Since the risks to natural resources and safety generally exist at a similar level as when the Forest Plan was signed, there is a continued need for an Order as an effective tool for law enforcement. The Forest Plan supports the need for issuance of this Order, as described below.

1. Manage Forest resources to provide a broad range of recreational opportunities that meet changing recreational demands. Actively utilize the Forest's Meaningful Measures methodology for establishing recreation program standards, monitoring, and reporting accomplishments. Identify, develop, and conserve recreational opportunities within developed and dispersed settings. Eliminate or restrictively manage sites that receive minimal use; or remove the facilities and manage them as dispersed spots. Develop a range of recreation opportunities withing primitive, semi-primitive non-motorized, semi-primitive motorized, and roaded natural areas. As opportunities are identified for these areas, they should be managed to reflect the needs of a multi-cultural public. Provide a variety of sites to meet visitor preferences, needs and expectations to complement opportunities within the recreation emphasis area in which the site is located (p. 4-36).
2. Base the administration, operation, and levels of maintenance for developed sites (recreation sites, campgrounds, picnic areas, trails, trailheads, and dispersed sites) on the site's capacity, site sensitivity, and seasonal use demands. As a minimum, sites should be open for public use during the recreation season. The following standards should be met at each facility:
  - a. Health and Cleanliness: Recreation sites and facilities are clean, litter-free, pest-free, and odor free. There is no threat of disease or infection.
  - b. Safety and Security: Recreation opportunities are free from the risk of crime, abusive activities, and safety hazards.
  - c. Condition of Facilities and Equipment: The facilities and equipment look good, function correctly, are appropriate to the setting and activity and are well-maintained.
  - d. Responsiveness to Visitors: Recreation opportunities meet or exceed visitor



- expectations, needs, and preferences.
- e. Setting: Site development, visual quality, resource maintenance, and user density conforms to the appropriate Recreation Opportunity Spectrum (ROS) category (p. 4-37).
  - f. Promote minimum impact use techniques (i.e., 'Tread Lightly' and 'Leave No Trace') in all activities and public contacts (e.g., written, through the media, face-to-face, and signing) (p.4-37).
  - g. Limit surface occupancy, associated with residential use and indirect support for mining and energy mineral operations, to that reasonably necessary for development and production. Surface occupancy shall be authorized under an approved Forest Service permit or plan of operations (p 4-42).

This Forest Order includes an exemption for persons with a Forest Permit for Use of Roads, Trails, or Areas Restricted by Regulation of Order (Form FS-7700-48). Authorization for entry under this exemption will only be provided if I or my delegate determines that the risk to personal health and safety is reasonable considering the circumstances of the request. We may also require appropriate personal protective equipment and other necessary safety measures. I hereby delegate the authority to sign Form FS-7700-48 granting an exemption to this Order to all Rangers of the Klamath National Forest.

I have concluded that this decision may be categorically excluded from documentation in an Environmental Impact Statement or Environmental Assessment 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.

