

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOREST SERVICE
PAYETTE NATIONAL FOREST
NEW MEADOWS RANGER DISTRICT
MCCALL RANGER DISTRICT

Winter Travel Restrictions
(Brundage Mountain Resort Snowcat Route Closure)

PROHIBITIONS:

Pursuant to 36 CFR 261.50 (a) and (b) the following act is prohibited **from December 15 to March 31** on the Area described in this Order, all within the administrative boundaries of the New Meadows and McCall Ranger Districts, Payette National Forest.

1. Possessing or operating any over-snow vehicle, as defined under 36 CFR 212.1, on the snowcat routes within the Area described below. **36 CFR 261.56**

EXEMPTIONS:

Pursuant to 36 CFR 261.50 (3), the following persons are exempt from this Order:

1. Persons with a permit specifically exempting them from the effect of this Order.
2. Personnel of Brundage Mountain Resort operating an over-snow vehicle as authorized in the special use authorization for Brundage Mountain Resort's Cat-Ski area.
3. Any Federal, State, or local officer, or member of an organized rescue or fire fighting force in the performance of an official duty
4. Persons crossing a snowcat route in the shortest distance possible, for the sole purpose of accessing land on the opposite side of the route.
5. Federal or State administrative personnel in the performance of an official duty.
6. Persons operating or possessing an over-snow vehicle on the shared Catskiing and Snowmobile route shown on the attached closure area map.
7. Persons operating or possessing an over-snow vehicle on the snowcat route known as "The Boulevard," which leads westerly from Goose Reservoir for 0.9 miles.

AREA DESCRIPTION:

The Brundage Mountain Resort Snowcat Route Closure is described as the over-snow snowcat routes installed by Brundage Mountain Resort within their permit boundaries, beginning at the northern edge of Sections 32, 33, 34, 35, & 36, Township 21 North, Range 2 East, and of Section 31, Township 21 North, Range 3 East; then south on the Fisher Creek Road, #281, to its intersection with Road #451 at Sater Meadows; continuing south on Rd #281 along the east side of Brundage Reservoir to the intersection with Goose Lake Road, #257; continuing north on Road #257 to the Grouse Campground and Trail #172; then westerly on Trail #172 and the Sixmile Creek drainage to its intersection with Brown Creek Road, #294; then northerly on Road #294 to its intersection with the northern boundary of Section 32, Township 21 North, Range 2 East.

The Area described above and depicted on the map attached hereto as exhibit A is within the administrative boundaries of the New Meadows and McCall Ranger Districts, Payette National Forest, Adams County, Idaho, Boise Meridian.

PURPOSE:

The closure of the snowcat routes to over-snow vehicles provides for the safety of persons recreating or using the area.

DEFINITIONS:

Over-snow vehicle – A motor vehicle that is designed for use over snow and that runs on a track or tracks and/or a ski or skis, while in use over snow. 36 CFR 212.1

IMPLEMENTATION

1. This Order will be in effect when signed and shall remain in effect through **March 31, 2026**.
2. A map identifying the closure Area is included as Attachment A, and made part of this Order.
3. Any violation of this Order is punishable by fine of not more than \$5,000 for an individual or \$10,000 for an organization, and/or imprisonment for not more than six (6) months. [Title 16 USC 551, Title 18 USC 3571 (b)(6) 3581 (b)(7)].
4. This Order supersedes any previous Orders prohibiting the same acts covered by this Order in the above-described area.
5. Further information regarding this Order may be obtained at the Payette National Forest's Supervisor's Office located in McCall, Idaho, 208-634-0700, the McCall Ranger Station located in McCall Idaho, 208-634-0400, or at the New Meadows Ranger Station located in New Meadows, ID, 208-347-0300.

Done at McCall, Idaho, this 31 day of January 2020.



LINDA JACKSON
Forest Supervisor
Payette National Forest

**ASSESSMENT OF NEED AND ENFORCEMENT PLAN
BRUNDAGE MOUNTAIN RESORT CAT-SKI ROUTE CLOSURE**

Background and Intent:

Brundage Mountain Resort has operated a permitted cat-ski operation on the Payette National Forest for more than 20 years. Within the permitted boundaries, Brundage Mountain Resort has installed, annually, up to 65 miles of snowcat routes for the purposes of providing cat-ski opportunities for their clients. In 2016, Brundage Mountain Resort's permit was reissued under a signed Decision Notice. During public scoping, safety concerns regarding the use of snowcat routes by motorized recreationists were brought forward to the McCall District. Specifically, the comments received by the District addressed the potential for collisions between snowmobile recreationists and the snowcat used to groom routes within Brundage Mountain Resort's permit boundary.

In the signed Decision, it was specifically stated that a response to this issue would be addressed through a Special Order. The Order would be established to close snowcat routes within the permit boundaries to motorized users as a direct line of travel. Motorized recreationists would still be permitted to cross over the snowcat routes within Brundage Mountain Resort's permit boundaries, with the exception of the Granite Mountain area. (The Granite Mountain Over-Snow Vehicle Closure #0412-546 closes a specific Area to all motorized users and falls under a different time frame. Brundage Mountain Resort's Cat-Ski permit overlaps with the Granite Mountain Area addressed in that Order.)

Over-Snow Restriction Plan

This Order implements a seasonal over-snow special Order that will restrict over-snow motorized use on snowcat routes within Brundage Mountain Resort's permit boundaries annually from December 15th to March 31st.

Monitoring:

Included in this over-snow restriction plan is continued monitoring of the effectiveness of the closure. The Payette National Forest proposes to monitor the following items each season while the Special Order is in effect. Each season, the following will be reviewed:

1. Was the Closure Order in place during the right timeframe? Should the number of days for the closure be extended? Should the number of days for the closure be reduced?
2. Did the Closure Order facilitate the safety of all recreation users?
3. Was the Closure Order effective in stopping motorized users from using the snowcat routes as a direct line of travel?

Enforcement Plan:

The Forest will have information regarding the closure, including maps on display at kiosks that are in place at West Face and Upper Elevation Parking lots, as well as other portals where recreationists congregate. Maps displaying the boundary of the closure Order will also be made available.


Brundage Mountain Resort's guides and snowcat operators will be responsible for posting the closure with signage, as well as maintaining that signage along portions of the permit boundary.

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The Forest Service OHV rangers and Law Enforcement Officers will patrol the closure area, as well as continue to provide outreach and education at parking lots and other portals. Additionally, the agency will provide information to businesses and other interested parties regarding the Closure Order.

Action	Responsible Official	Date
Prepare proposed Order	District Recreation Staff/District LEO	1/27/2020
Review proposed Order	Supervisory LEO	1/28/2020
Review proposed Order	RO RE&I and OGC	1/28/2020
Post Order in accordance with 36 CFR 261.51	District Staff	When Signed
Prepare news release for local media describing the Order and management objectives	District Recreation Staff and Forest PAO	As Needed
Compliance and Educational contacts will be made throughout closure time-period	Appropriate Staff (LEO/Field going staff)	Ongoing

Plan approved for Implementation:


LINDA JACKSON
Forest Supervisor
Payette National Forest

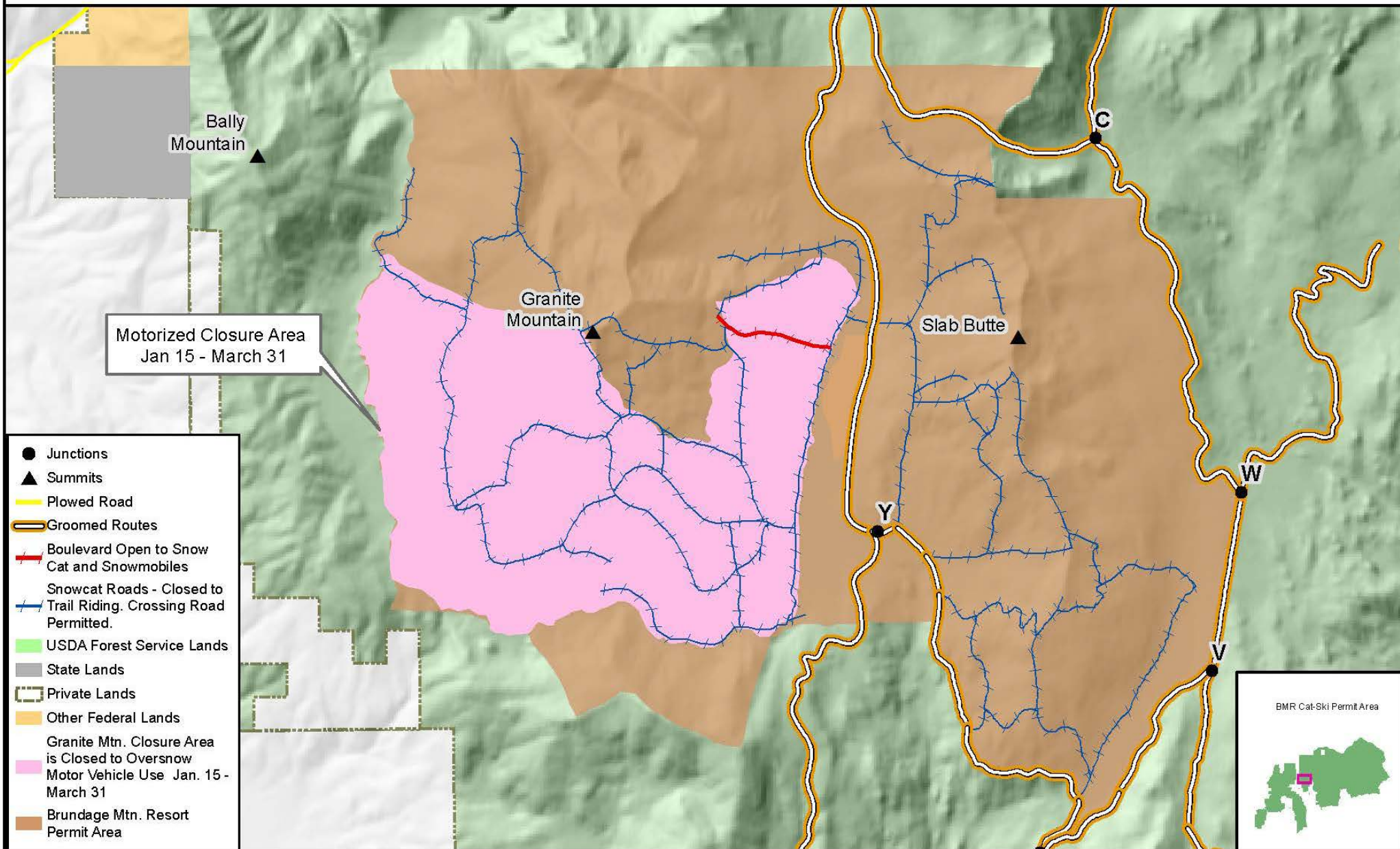
01/31/2020
DATE



USDA Forest Service, Payette National Forest

Brundage Mountain Resort Snowcat Route Closure

Closure Order # 0412-547



Prepared by: McCall Ranger District
Recreation Program

Produced: 1/30/2020

Projection: UTM 11 N, NAD83

File: T:\FSWFS\Payette\Program\2300Recreation\GIS\NewRec_Projects_20151117\WXD\Cat_Ski\BMRMapCatSkiVicinityMap_8x11Land_20200129.mxd

0 0.5 1 2 Miles



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