



ORDER NO. 08-17

ORDER OF THE FOREST SUPERVISOR

**GROUP-SIZE LIMITATION AND AREA CLOSURES IN
BAY CREEK, GARDEN OF THE GODS
AND LUSK CREEK WILDERNESS AREAS**

Under the authority of the Act of Congress dated June 4, 1897, as amended (16 U.S.C. 551), and pursuant to the Secretary of Agriculture's Regulations set forth at 36 CFR Part 261, Subpart B (36 CFR 261.50(a) and (b)), the following acts and omissions are prohibited on the areas and trails within the boundaries of the Shawnee National Forest, said areas and trails being described and designated on the attached maps.

1. Entering or being in a wilderness area as a member of a group or party in excess of ten (10) people. This restriction applies to Bay Creek, Garden of the Gods and Lusk Creek Wilderness Areas. Wilderness boundaries are displayed on the attached maps. [36 CFR 261.57(a)]
2. Riding, hitching, tethering or hobbling a horse or other saddle or pack animal off designated or interim trails or routes in violation of posted instructions within the three area closure as shown on the attached maps. These activities are allowed only for rest stops within about 25 feet of a designated or interim trail or route. [36 CFR 261.58(aa)]
3. Hitching, tethering or hobbling a horse or other saddle or pack animal in the area of Lusk Creek Wilderness designated as "ride-through-only" in violation of posted instructions. The trail on the east side of Lusk Creek (Forest Trails 483 and a portion of 481), opposite Saltpeter Cave, is ride-through-only from its southern junction with the main Lusk Creek trail to a junction near the stock-confinement area just past Natural Bridge, as marked on the attached map of Lusk Creek Wilderness. Riders are allowed to pause briefly on the ride-through-only trail so they may view the cave and bluffs. Riders are not permitted to stop and tie horses in this area, and stock must remain on the trail. [36 CFR 261.58(aa)]
4. Camping with a horse or other saddle or pack animal in Bay Creek, Garden of the Gods and Lusk Creek Wilderness Areas. [36 CFR 261.58(e)]

NOTE: THIS ORDER APPLIES ON NATIONAL FOREST LAND ONLY.

The three closure areas (as shown on the attached maps) include:

1. Area closure including Bay Creek Wilderness

Burden Falls Road (402) from the Teal Pond Road (447) to North Bay Creek Road (1822)
North Bay Creek Road (1822) from Burden Falls Road (402) to Teal Pond Road (447)
Teal Pond Road (447) from North Bay Creek Road (1822) to Burden Falls Road (402)

2. Area closure including Lusk Creek Wilderness

State Highway 145 from the Oak Road (404) to Eddyville Blacktop Road (5)
Eddyville Blacktop Road (5) from State Highway 145 to Mathis Branch Road (1007)
Mathis Branch Road (1007) from Eddyville Blacktop Road (5) to Hippie Swim Road (1007B)
Hippie Swim Road (1007B) from Mathis Branch Road (1007) to Herod Road (162)
Herod Road (162) from Hippie Swim Road (1007B) to Potato Hill Road (162)
Potato Hill Road (162) from Herod Road (162) to the Oak Road (404)
Oak Road (404) from Potato Hill Road (162) to State Highway 145)

3. Area closure including Garden of the Gods Wilderness

State Highway 34 from South Fork Eagle Creek Road (156, 308, 112) to Karbers Ridge Road (9)
Karbers Ridge Road (9) from State Highway 34 to the Garden of the Gods Road (10 and 17)
Garden of the Gods Road (10 and 17) from Karbers Ridge Road (9) to North Colbert Hollow Road (1664B)
North Colbert Hollow Road (1664B) from Garden of the Gods Road (17) to Derby Road
Derby Road from North Colbert Hollow Road (1664B) to Eagle Road
Eagle Road from Derby Road to Gape Hollow Road (307)
Gape Hollow Road (307) from Eagle Road to South Fork Eagle Creek Road (156, 308 and 112)

These restrictions are necessary to protect National Forest property. They are in addition to the general prohibitions set forth in 36 CFR 261. The prohibitions will be in effect for three years from the date of this order.

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 firefighting force in the performance of an official duty [36 CFR 261.50(e)(4)]; and,
2. Persons with a permit that specifically authorizes the otherwise prohibited act or omission [36 CFR 261.50 (e)(1)].

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 (6) months, or both, under authority of Title 16 U.S.C. 551, Title 18 U.S.C. 3559 and 3571.

Dated this _____ day of _____ 2007, at Harrisburg, Illinois.

United States Department of Agriculture Forest Service

HURSTON A. NICHOLAS
Forest Supervisor
Shawnee National Forest